

# Michael J. Bennett

## SUMMARY OF KEY EXPERIENCE

- Proven Leader at campus, state, regional and national level
- Exceptional communicator and collaborator with experience working with Trustees, Board of Directors, Committees and Volunteers
- Financial Aid administrator with 46 years of experience in Education (42 years in Financial Aid) who has worked as Teacher, Adjunct Faculty, Guidance Counselor and Coach
- Nationally known for expertise in financial aid systems (PeopleSoft\PowerFAIDS, ChatBOT Use and Integration), and Texting

## EDUCATION

### **Widener University (1976)**

Chester, PA

BA, Science and Literature  
(Teacher Certification)

### **Rowan University (1979)**

Glassboro, NJ

MA, Student Personnel Services  
(Guidance Certification)

## CAMPUS COMMITTEE INVOLVEMENT

- President's Cabinet
- Admissions Committee
- Administrative Computing Steering Committee
- Assessment and Institutional Effectiveness Committee
- Enrollment Management Committee
- Marketing Committee

## PROFILE

*Proven Leader in Senior Management at Large Institutions of Higher Education.*

**Financial Aid Professional whose 46 years of experience and qualifications include a BA in Science and Literature and an MA in Student Personnel Services.**

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**2009-Present** St. Petersburg College, St. Petersburg, FL  
**Associate Vice President**

Responsible for redesigning and re-engineering a 60 employee FAS office creating state of the art automation and business partnerships that provide superior service, timely delivery and audit and fiscal controls.

**1985-1989** Brookdale Community College, Lincroft, NJ

**1990-2009** **Director of Financial Aid**

Responsible for designing, implementing, and maintaining highly automated "paperless" Financial Aid Office with superior service, delivery, and fiscal controls.

**1989-1990** NJ Higher Ed. Student Assist. Authority, Trenton, NJ

**Program Officer – Network Services**

Responsible for coordination, planning, training and system documentation of NJ State Agency's grant and loan computer link to college campuses. Chaired committee to develop specifications and edits for using FAFSA data for state grant eligibility determination.

**1984-1985** Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ

**Director of Financial Aid**

Responsible for clean-up operation and assessment at four-year private institution. Designed Financial Aid Packaging Module and "Early Aid Estimate" program to complement existing mainframe processing.

- Placement Committee
- Retention/Attrition Committee
- Student Development Committee
- Student System Implementation Team

**1980-1983**

Gloucester County College, Sewell, NJ

**Advisor, Admissions/Financial Aid**

Responsible for day-to-day management of Admissions/Financial Aid Office.

**THE COLLEGE BOARD**

2021-2022 Colloquium Planning Committee

2014-2016

1995-1997 CSS National Council  
Community College Advisory Board

1998-2001 Middle States Regional Council

1986 – 2006 Consultant

1994-2001 & 2003-2006 Power-FAIDS Advisory Board  
Power-FAIDS Conference Presenter

1986-1987 MICRO-FAIDS National Conference, Chair

2004-2007 Sallie Mae Financial Aid Advisory Council

1992 Presenter

2005-2006 Wrote two Lumina Foundation Grants and was awarded a total of \$119,250; Designed College Goal Sunday web site and formed a 22 member College Goal Sunday Steering Committee.

**SALLIE MAE**

**LEAGUE FOR INNOVATION**

**COLLEGE GOAL SUNDAY**

## **AWARDS RECEIVED**

### **St. Petersburg College**

- Titan Award – Innovation

### **Brookdale Community College**

- Administrative Excellence Award
- Board of Trustees – Leadership Award

### **New Jersey Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators – (NJASFA)**

- President's Award
- Arthur E. Richmond Distinguished Service Award
- Lifetime Membership Award

### **New Jersey Educational Opportunity Fund**

- EOA Champion Award

### **Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (EASFAA)**

- William B. Murphy Distinguished Service Award (received twice)
- Leadership Award
- Distinguished Service Award
- President's Award
- Lifetime Membership Award

### **National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)**

- Committee of the Year (Electronic Initiatives Committee)
- Committee of the Year (Association Governance Committee) – National
- Regional Leadership Award
- Distinguished Service Award

## **SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **AACC Advisory Group on Student Financial Aid Issues – 2023**

### **National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (NASFAA)**

- FAFSA Simplification Implementation Working Group (2021-Present)
- Executive Leadership Community Thought Force (2021-2022)
- Models of Innovative Learning Task Force, Chair (2014-2015)
- Prerequisite Coursework Discussion Group, Chair (2016-2017)
- NASFAA National Chair (2007-2008)
- Board of Directors (1997-2001, 2005 – 2010)
- Commission Director (2003)
- Conference Presenter (1999, 2003)
- Awards Committee (2005, 2010)
- Association Governance Committee (2003, 2006, 2007, 2008)
- Best Practices Task Force (2002, 2003)
- Electronic Initiatives Committee (1996,2003)
- Finance & Audit Committee 2008-2009
- Journal of Financial Aid Editorial Board (2003)
- Research Committee (2003)
- Strategic Long Range Plan (2000)
- Student Aid Transcript Editorial Board (2003)
- Created and maintained a bi-weekly National Chair Blog

### **Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators**

- President (1999-2000)
- EASFAA Council (1993-1995); 1996-2001)
- Conference Committee (2003, 2004)
- Non-Traditional Concerns Chair (1994-1995)
- Electronic Services Committee (1996-1997)
- Designed EASFAA Website (1996)
- Conference Presenter (1988, 1992, 2000, 2003)

### **New Jersey Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators**

- President (1993-1994)

**TESTIMONY to U.S HOUSE of REPRESENTATIVES**

**COMPLIANCE**

**PUBLISHED WRITING**

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

- Board of Directors (1996-2003)
- Association Governance, Chair (1993-1994)
- Constitution and Bylaws Committee (1998)
- Early Awareness Committee, Chair (1993)
- Nominations and Elections Committee, Chair (1995)
- Training (1986, 1988, 1991)
- Representative-at-Large (1987)
- Conference Committee, Chair (1986, 1988)
- Conference Presenter (1981-1999, 2003, 2004)

**Committee on Education and the Workforce Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training (March 17, 2015)**

- Topic: Simplification of Application Process, Loan Repayment, and Overborrowing/Loan Counseling

**FEDERAL PROGRAM REVIEW**

- St. Petersburg College (4/15/2022-3/2/2023)  
**Determination:** No Liabilities or Fines
- *Inside Higher Education*
- *NASFAA Student Aid Transcript*
- *NASFAA - Student Aid Perspectives*
- *NASFAA - Voices from the Aid Offices*
- *EASFAA Quarterly*
- *NJASFAA Newsletter*
- *College Board's On-Target*
- California Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (CASFAA)
- Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (EASFAA)
- Florida Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA)