



national association of state student grant and aid programs

[www.nassgap.org](http://www.nassgap.org)

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**Bart Astor**  
Director, Washington Office

### PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Presented by  
**Mary Ann Welch**  
October 21, 2007

Highlights of activities:

- Examining Leap report distributed with press release to various entities
- Refund policy established for conference registrations
- NASSGAP signed on to a letter opposing denying federal aid to students with drug convictions
- Letter sent to Secretary Spellings highlighting the states’ outreach initiatives.
- Three conference calls with Kristin Conklin of the USDE.
- Friends of NASSGAP includes retired presidents and nominated past members. (27 to date)
- NASSGAP represented at negotiated rulemaking for General Provisions
- Simplification Ad Hoc Committee formed.
- NASSGAP represented at the Secretary of Education’s Education Summit.
- Letter sent to Under Secretary Tucker promoting LEAP/SLEAP and the Grants for Access and Persistence Bill.
- Polling function on the web was enhanced. (41 polls to date) Web site continuously updated
- Lumina Foundation’s 3R Grant – Recession, Retrenchment & Recovery completed.
- Provided Title IV reauthorization recommendations to House and Senate Committees on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.
- NASSGAP Executive Committee held its annual meeting in New Orleans, LA on March 29 and 30.
- 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Survey Report on State-Sponsored Student Financial Aid was released.
- Membership Directory Updated
- User Guide Updated
- New slate of officers recruited, nominated, and elected
- NASSGAP Spring Conference was held in Washington, DC from May 27 – 30
- Numerous meetings with congressional staff and Washington Director / Washington Update
- Signed on to a CEF letter urging passage of the FY08 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill
- Treasurer’s reports continuously updated – budget on track
- NASSGAP representation with FAFSA redesign
- NASSGAP representation at Research Conference
- New members recruited / membership dues collected
- NASSGAP represented at signing of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act
- NASSGAP Fall Conference held in Park City, Utah from October 21 - 24

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