

# Welcome!

## Thank you for joining us for the 2023 GSA Financial Aid Business Meeting & Community Call.

### The program will begin shortly.

You will not hear the audio until we begin.  
If you have technical questions, please  
email [aamc@commpartners.com](mailto:aamc@commpartners.com).

## February 15, 2023

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Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures®

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Association of  
American Medical Colleges

# Housekeeping Reminders

- Your line will be **muted upon entry**. All participants have the ability to unmute and mute their mics throughout the call.
- Please **turn on your video** if you feel comfortable.
- If you have **questions or comments**, please enter them in the chat.
- For **technical assistance**, please send a message to [aamc@commpartners.com](mailto:aamc@commpartners.com) aamc



# AAMC GSA Committee on Student Financial Assistance

## *Financial Aid Business Meeting & Community Call*

February 15, 2023  
3:00 to 4:00 p.m. ET



Tomorrow's Doctors, Tomorrow's Cures®

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American Medical Colleges

# COSFA Chair's Welcome & Committee Introductions



**Cynthia Gonzalez**

COSFA Chair

Assistant Director of Financial Aid  
Northwestern University Feinberg  
SOM

# COSFA Business Meeting Agenda

- COSFA Chair's Welcome & Committee Introductions
- COSFA Chair, Regional Representative & Liaison Reports, Working Group Updates
- AAMC and GSA Overview
- Legislative & Regulatory Updates
- Consideration of Race in College Admission Decisions (SFFA v Harvard, SFFA v UNC)
- 2023 Health Professions Financial Aid Administrators Meeting Updates
- Open Forum & Questions





# Committee on Student Financial Assistance



**Cynthia Gonzalez**  
(Nov. 2021-Nov. 2024)  
COSFA Chair  
Northwestern University  
Feinberg SOM



**John Stiles, M.Ed., AFC®**  
(March 2022 – November 2024)  
CGSA Rep.  
Director, Student Financial Serv.  
University of Cincinnati COM



**Michael Sabara, MEd**  
(Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2024)  
NEGSA Rep.  
University of Pennsylvania  
Perelman School of Medicine



**Alberto Diaz, PhD, MS**  
(Nov. 2022-Nov. 2025)  
SGSA Rep.  
Florida International Univ.  
Herbert Wertheim COM



**Jessica Le Duc**  
(Aug. 2022-Nov. 2023)  
WGSA Rep.  
The University of Arizona  
College of Medicine—Tucson



**Hilit F. Mechaber, MD**  
(Nov. 2022 – Nov. 2023)  
GSA National Chair  
University of Miami Miller  
School of Medicine



**Ranna Nash, PhD**  
(November 2022 – November 2025)  
COSDA Liaison to COSFA  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Med. Ed.  
Director, Academic Support Program  
Keck SOM, University of Southern  
California



**La Shaundria L. Thomas,  
MSM**  
(Nov. 2022-Nov. 2024)  
COSFA Liaison to COSR  
Heersink School of Medicine  
The University of Alabama at  
Birmingham



**Kris Slaney, MBA**  
(Nov. 2019-Nov. 2023)  
COSR Liaison to COSFA  
Director, Academic Affairs  
University of Arizona Health  
Sciences

**TBD**  
OSR Rep.- MD  
Student  


# COSFA Chair, Regional Representative, & Liaison Reports

- GSA SC – Hilit Mechaber, MD
- Chair Updates – Cynthia Gonzalez
- CGSA – John Stiles, MEd, AFC®
- NEGSA - Michael Sabara, MEd
- SGSA – Casey Wiley, MEd/ Alberto J Diaz, Jr., PhD, MS
- WGSA – Richard Ronnestad, MS, CFP/ Jessica R. Le Duc, MS
- COSDA Liaison to COSFA - Donna Jackson, EdD/ Ranna Nash, PhD
- COSR-COSFA Liaisons - Kris Slaney, MBA / La Shaundria L.Thomas, MSM / Wendy Clark

# GSA National Chair



**Hilit F. Mechaber, MD**  
(Nov. 2022 – Nov. 2023)  
University of Miami Miller School of  
Medicine



# GSA Chair Welcome

GSA National Steering Committee Goals:

**Equity, Safety and Wellness Across the Continuum**

Within this Framework:

- What would be most helpful/valuable to your office and students as a next step for GSA
- Are there specific deliverables (resources, guides, webinars) that you envision to be most helpful to you/staff/colleagues?
- What other priorities should the GSA leadership consider?

# Student Financial Assistance Teams Feedback

- Academic Calendars and non-term enrollment
- LCME expectations
- Cost of attendance growth, loan burden
- FAFSA Simplification; Federal updates
- Residency Loan Repayment and Refinance/Relocation Loans

# COSFA Chair's Report



**Cynthia Gonzalez**  
Assistant Director of Financial Aid  
Northwestern University Feinberg SOM

# Committee Transitions – Completed Terms of Service

- Thank you to our committee members who completed their terms for the hard work and dedication to our community!

They have all served as exemplary leaders

- Casey Wiley (Southern Region Representative)
- Rich Ronnestad (Western Region Representative)
- Wendy Clark (COSFA/ COSR)
- Donna Jackson COSFA/COSDA)
- Kathleen Kashima (GSA SC)

# Committee Transitions-Welcome

- GSA National Chair
  - Hilit Mechaber, MD (November 2022 – November 2023)
- Committee on Student Diversity Affairs (COSDA) Representative
  - Ranna Nash, PhD (November 2022 - November 2025)
- COSFA Liaison to Committee on Student Records (COSR)
  - La Shaundria L. Thomas, MSM (November 2022 - November 2025)
- Southern Region (SGSA) Representative
  - Alberto J. Diaz Jr., Ph.D. (November 2022 - November 2025)
- Western Region (WGSA) Representative
  - Jessica R. Le Duc, MS (November 2022 – November 2025)



# Staffing Survey

- Led by Damien Jackson (Past National COSFA Chair)
  - Final stages of the review process
  - Looking to highlight the most important data points
- Executive summary will be drafted in the near future
- Goal is to help FAO's with how to use the data
  - To advocate for additional resources
  - Impacts on LCME surveys and visits.
- A session will also be presented at the upcoming conference.

# Financial Aid Equitable Access Working Group

- Led by Donna Jackson (COSFA/COSDA Liaison) and Damien Jackson (Past National COSFA Chair)
- Review and identify gaps and participation barriers in federal financial aid policies and funding opportunities from a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens
  - To develop federal program recommendations with a goal to improve medical student body diversity and enrollment.
- A session will also be presented at the upcoming conference.

# LCME Working Group

- Led by Casey Wiley (Southern Region COSFA Chair)
- Working to develop a guide of best practices to assist schools with LCME visits.
  - Toolkit will include:
    - Timeline
    - FAQ
- A session will also be presented at the upcoming conference.

# COSFA Priorities

- Inflation impacts on financial aid
  - Increased borrowing
  - Impacts on GQ or LCME Visits
- Staffing Shortages
  - Budget Cuts
  - Burnout/Stress
- Main Campus Financial Aid
  - Hurdles; they don't understand medical school financial aid
- Engagement
  - Community Calls
  - Regional chats

# CGSA Representative



**John Stiles, M.Ed., AFC®**  
(March 2022 – November 2024)  
Director, Student Financial Services  
University of Cincinnati COM



# Central Region Report

## Student Information System Survey

Central region financial aid administrators polled in late 2022

18 responses → 83% using either PeopleSoft or Banner

Responses shared with respondents to promote future collaboration

## ‘Coffee Break’ Meetings

1-hour zoom calls with FAAs across the central region

Open agenda format

Topics have included: federal loan cancellation, travel reimbursement processing, financial literacy efforts, Step 1 testing delays, and much more

# NEGSA Representative



**Michael Sabara, MEd**  
(Nov. 2021 – Nov. 2024)  
University of Pennsylvania  
Perelman School of Medicine

# Northeast Region Report

Fin Aid System Survey (FASS):

Banner - 14

PowerFAIDS - 3

PeopleSoft - 3

Empower - 1

Coffee Break announcement in mid-March

# SGSA Representative



**Alberto Diaz, PhD, MS**  
(Nov. 2022 - Nov. 2025)  
Director of Financial Assistance  
Florida International University,  
Herbert Wertheim College of  
Medicine



**Casey Michael Wiley, MEd**  
(Nov. 2019 – Nov. 2022)  
Manager of Financial Aid and Registration  
University of South Carolina College of  
Medicine

# Southern Region Report

Thank you, Casey Wiley, for your service!

## Project Update:

LCME Accreditation Toolkit

## Future Collaborations:

Build support around the SGSA Research and Collaborative Scholarship Opportunities

Quarterly southern region calls:

- Next call March 2023
- Incorporate hot topics found within the financial aid community.
- Collaboration with other groups [ie. COSR, COSD]



# WGSA Representative



**Jessica Le Duc**  
(Aug. 2022 - Nov. 2023)  
The University of Arizona College of  
Medicine—Tucson



**Rich Ronnestad, MS, CFP**  
(Nov. 2020 – Aug. 2022)  
Director of Financial Education,  
Scholarship Support  
Washington State University Elson  
S. Floyd College of Medicine

# Western Regional Report

## Outgoing & Incoming

- Rich Ronnestad – thanks for his service!
  - Leader in financial education initiatives

## Future Plans

- Quarterly regional informal Zoom meetings
  - 1st session in December & next in March
- Develop list of trending topics unique to the region & nationally to support COSFA
- Support PDI initiatives and networking within region

# COSFA - COSR Liaisons



**La Shaundria L. Thomas, MSM**  
(Nov. 2022 - Nov. 2024)  
COSFA Liaison to COSR  
Heersink School of Medicine  
The University of Alabama at  
Birmingham



**Kris Slaney, MBA**  
(Nov. 2019 - Nov. 2023)  
COSR Liaison to COSFA  
Director, Academic Affairs  
University of Arizona Health  
Sciences



**Wendy Clark**  
(Nov. 2020 – Nov. 2022)  
COSFA Liaison to COSR  
Financial Aid Administrator  
University of Utah School of  
Medicine

# COSFA-COSR Liaisons' Report

## \* Historical Work

- Collaborate with AAMC to create a "basecamp" where all prior presentations and work can be stored and accessible to both COSFA and COSR communities.

## \* Upcoming Projects

- Academic breaks, LOA's & periods of non-enrollment
- Remediation policies – explore how institutions are managing students that need to remediate coursework.
- This topic is affecting both COSFA & COSR communities as well as the financial stability of our students.

# COSDA Liaison to COSFA



**Ranna Nash, PhD**

(Nov. 2022 – Nov. 2025)

Assistant Professor of Clinical Medical  
Education

Director, Academic Support Program  
Keck School of Medicine of the  
University of Southern California



**Donna Jackson, EdD**

(Nov. 2019 – Nov. 2022)

Assistant Dean for Admissions  
Director, Student Outreach Programs  
School of Medicine  
Virginia Commonwealth University



# AAMC & GSA Overview



**Irena Tartakovsky, MD, MS**  
Director, Constituent Engagement, GSA  
AAMC



An aerial, black and white photograph of a large, open grassy field. Numerous groups of people are scattered across the field, some sitting on the grass, others standing. The field is bordered by trees on the left and right sides. The overall scene suggests a large gathering or event in a park-like setting.

## MISSION

The AAMC leads and serves academic medicine to improve the health of people everywhere.

## VISION

A healthier future through learning, discovery, health care, and community collaborations.



# A Healthier Future for All: The AAMC Strategic Plan

## 10 PLANS FOR ACTION

No. 1

Strengthen the Medical Education Continuum for Transformed Health Care and Learning Environments

No. 2

Extend the AAMC's Leadership Role in Helping Students Progress Through Their Medical Professional Journey

No. 3

Equip Medical Schools and Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems to Become More Inclusive, Equitable Organizations

No. 4

Increase Significantly the Number of Diverse Medical School Applicants and Matriculants

No. 5

Strengthen the Nation's Commitment to Medical Research and the Research Community

No. 6

Enhance the Skills and Capacity of People in Academic Medicine

No. 7

Improve Access to Health Care for All

No. 8

Advance Knowledge Through the AAMC Research and Action Institute

No. 9

Launch the AAMC as a National Leader in Health Equity and Health Justice

No. 10

Adapt the AAMC to the Changing Needs of Academic Medicine

[strategicplan.aamc.org](https://strategicplan.aamc.org)



# How Our Constituents Engage

Council of Deans	Council of Teaching Hospitals and Health Systems	Council of Faculty and Academic Societies
Organization of Resident Representatives	Organization of Student Representatives	Forum on Conflicts of Interest in Academe
Chief Medical Officers Group	Compliance Officers Forum	Group on Business Affairs
Government Relations Representatives	Graduate Research, Education, and Training Group	Group on Faculty Affairs
Group on Diversity & Inclusion	Group on Educational Affairs	Group on Institutional Advancement
Group on Faculty Practice	Group on Information Resources	Group on Research Advancement and Development
Group on Institutional Planning	Group on Regional Medical Campuses	Group on Women in Medicine & Science
Group on Resident Affairs	<b>Group on Student Affairs (GSA)</b>	

# GSA Leadership Structure: Steering and National Committees

## National GSA Steering Committee

**Student Records (COSR)**

**Admissions (COA)**

**Diversity Affairs (COSDA)**

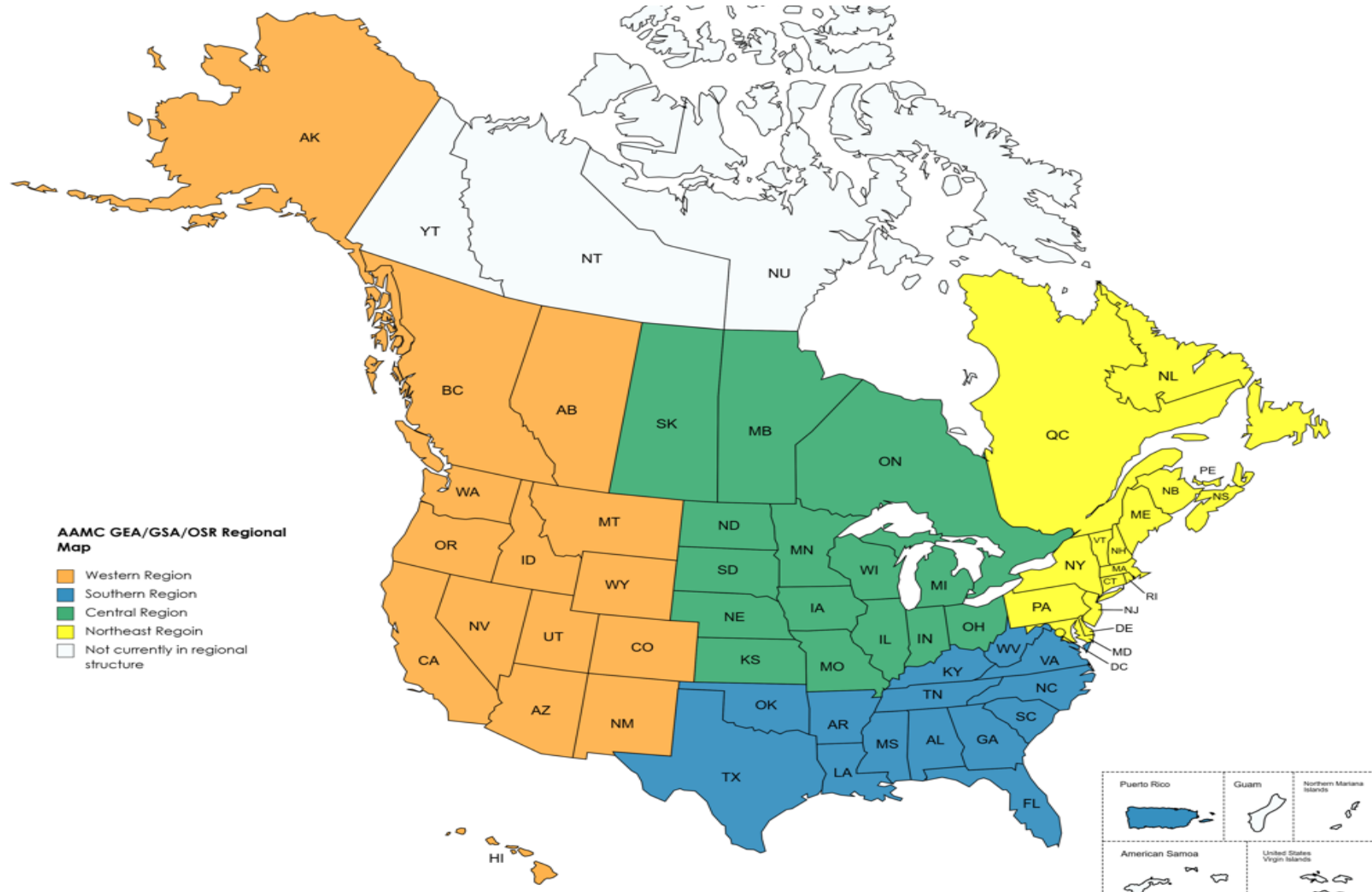
**Student Affairs (COSA)**

**Financial Assistance (COSFA)**

Current rosters are available at

<https://www.aamc.org/professional-development/affinity-groups/gsa>

# GSA Regions



# GSA Leadership Structure: Regional Representation

## Northeast

Chair  
Chair Elect  
Vice Chair  
Immediate Past Chair  
Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
COA Rep  
COSA Rep  
COSDA Rep  
COSFA Rep  
COSR Rep  
OSR Rep  
Member at Large (4)  
COSA Wellbeing (2)  
PDI Co-Lead (2)

## Central

Chair  
Chair Elect  
Vice-Chair  
Immediate Past Chair  
Previous Past Chair  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
COA Rep  
COSA Rep  
COSDA Rep  
COSFA Rep  
COSR Rep  
Member-at-Large (4)  
GSA-PDI Lead  
OSR Rep

## Southern

Chair  
Chair Elect  
Vice-Chair  
Immediate Past Chair  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
COA Rep  
COSA Rep  
COSDA Rep  
COSFA Rep  
COSR Rep  
GSA-PDI Team Lead (2)  
Member-at-Large (2)  
OSR Rep  
COSA - Working Group  
Med Student Wellbeing (2)  
COSA - Working Group  
Med Student Civil Advocacy (4)

## Western

Chair\*  
Chair Elect  
Immediate Past Chair  
Executive Secretary/Treasurer  
COA Rep  
COSA Rep  
COSDA Rep  
COSFA Rep  
COSR Rep  
Member-at-Large (2)  
OSR Rep  
PDI Lead

*\*Two-year term for WGSA Chair; No Vice-Chair*

# GSA Listservs

Email [gsa@aamc.org](mailto:gsa@aamc.org) to subscribe or request more information.

Subscription to the following GSA lists is open to all and automatically assigned based on your area of expertise:

- GSA-Admissions Listserv
- GSA-Student Affairs Listserv
- GSA-Student Diversity Affairs Listserv
- **GSA-Student Financial Aid Listserv**
- GSA-Student Records Listserv
- **GSA Regional Listservs (Northeast, Southern, Central, Western)**

**Before sending any messages to the listserv, please review GSA Listserv Rules and Etiquette: <https://www.aamc.org/professional-development/affinity-groups/gsa/listserv>**



# Constituent Engagement: GSA Team



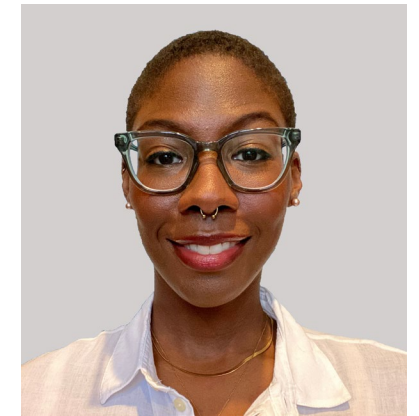
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# Legislative & Regulatory Updates



**Matthew Shick, JD**  
Senior Director, Government Relations  
& Regulatory Affairs  
AAMC



**Kristen Earle**  
Director  
Student Financial Services  
AAMC

# Upcoming Regulatory Changes on Jul. 1, 2023

- Regulations to “streamline and improve” federal student loan debt relief measures to take effect on **July 1, 2023**.
- Authorizes improvements to PSLF and incorporates elements of the now-expired limited waiver.
- Provides for a one-time account adjustment for IDR & PSLF past periods of repayment, deferment, and forbearance that would otherwise not qualify.
- Makes changes to interest capitalization policies for the benefit of the borrower.

# Capitalization Policy Changes on Jul. 1, 2023

- Direct Grad PLUS Loans will continue to capitalize when a borrower enters repayment as the Higher Education Act requires capitalization after an in-school deferment (statutory).
- Capitalization will not occur as it had in the past for Direct Unsubsidized Loans due to upcoming regulatory changes that remove all non-statutory instances of capitalization.
- Changes remove non-statutory of instances of capitalization, including:
  - Failure to recertify enrollment in PAYE or REPAYE;
  - Leaving PAYE or REPAYE, or annually after periods of negative amortization in ICR;
  - Exiting forbearance or when first entering repayment;
  - When a borrower is repaying under an alternative repayment plan; and
  - When a borrower no longer has a partial financial hardship under the PAYE repayment plan.

# Income-Driven Repayment Plan Draft Rules

Amends existing Revised Pay as You Earn (REPAYE) plan to:

- Increase the non-discretionary income threshold from 150% to 225% of the Federal Poverty Guideline (from \$20,400 under current regulations to \$30,600 annually).
- Reduce the percentage of discretionary income when determining loan payments to 5% for undergraduate and 10% for graduate loans with a weighted average calculated for borrowers with both loans.
- Cease charging any remaining accrued interest each month after applying a borrower's payment.
- Forgive any remaining loan balance after 20 years of repayment (unless the amount loan debt is \$12,000 or below where the repayment period will be 10 years).
- Limit future enrollment in non-statutory IDR plans, like PAYE & ICR.

**Timeline:** following public comments, Department expects to finalize the regulations later this year, could early implement some provisions.

# Biden Administration Student Debt Relief Proposal on Hold

- Several active lawsuits seeking to block Biden Administration's debt relief plan.
- Plan currently on hold with no applications being accepted.
- Supreme Court to hear oral arguments on February 28.
- Repayment tied to legal decision.

## **Student Loan Debt Relief Is Blocked**

**Courts have issued orders blocking our student debt relief program. As a result, at this time, we are not accepting applications. We are seeking to overturn those orders.**

# Student Loan Moratorium Still in Effect

- Existing pause on federal student loan payments and interest in effect through “no later than June 30, 2023.”
- Allows borrowers to continue in a paused repayment & interest status while appeals process move forward.
- Payments will resume 60 days after the Department is permitted to implement the program or the litigation is resolved.
- September 1, 2023 is latest student loan payments could restart under existing guidance unless further extension is authorized.

# Legislative & Regulatory Conference Plenary

## Regulatory & Legislative Roundup: Recent Actions and Future Implementation

Wednesday, March 1 – 9:15 – 10:30 am CT



**Johnathan Fansmith**  
Assistant Vice President, Government  
Relations  
American Council on Education



**Matthew Shick, JD**  
Senior Director, Government  
Relations & Regulatory Affairs  
AAMC



# Consideration of Race in College Admission Decisions (SFFA v Harvard, SFFA v UNC)



**Heather Alarcon, JD**  
Senior Director, Legal Services, AAMC

# 2023 Health Professions Financial Aid Administrators Conference Updates



**Irena Tartakovsky, MD, MS**  
Director, Constituent Engagement, GSA  
AAMC



**Kristen Earle**  
Director, Student Financial Services  
AAMC

# 2023 Health Professions Financial Aid Administrators Professional Development Conference

February 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	1	2	3	4

**Registration open and  
online agenda available**

**Register today!**

**New Orleans Marriott  
New Orleans, LA**





**2023**

Health Professions Financial Aid  
Administrators Conference

## General Information & Features

- Taking place February 27 – March 1, 2023 in New Orleans
- **First in-person meeting since 2019!**
- Three days of in person professional development on key topics including cost of attendance, career pathways, debt management, financial literacy, and more.
- Multiple plenary and concurrent session options for in person learning and connections.
- Introduction to the AAMC and GSA, and Financial Aid 101 for new colleagues.
- Exhibit Hall, service project and extensive networking and engagement opportunities available.

**2023**

Health Professions Financial Aid  
Administrators Conference

## **Key Sessions, Topics, and Activities**

- Keynote address from Dr. Reynold Verret, President, Xavier University of Louisiana
- Updates from key federal student loan repayment and scholarship providers (NHSC, HRSA)
- Professional development training around “Responding to Microaggressions as an Ally” and “Unconscious Bias in the Health Professions”
- Discussions on financial aid career pathways and continuing education
- Updates from key COSFA workgroups
- Regional and career level networking
- Mentoring and community service opportunities

# Spring GSA 2023 Regional Meetings

## CGSA/COSR and SGSA/SOSR Joint Meeting

- March 30 - April 1, Loews Hotel, **Kansas City, MO**

## NEGSA/NEOSR

- April 21 - 23, Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University, **Philadelphia, PA**

## WGSA/WOSR and WGEA

- April 14 - 17, Hilton Hawaiian Village Waikiki Beach Resort, **Honolulu, HI**

# Questions and Open Forum



# AAMC Staff Presenter Contact Information

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[mshick@aamc.org](mailto:mshick@aamc.org)

**Heather J. Alarcon**

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**Kristen Earle**

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