

## DIRECTOR ADVOCATES FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID



Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Director of Financial Aid Cheryl De Paolis will attend

the 2012 NASFAA (National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators) Leadership and Legislative Conference as one of two nominated representatives. De Paolis serves as the Pennsylvania Financial Aid Training Chair for PASFAA (Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators). In that role she oversees the training that takes place throughout the state.

During the Legislative Symposium at the conference, participants will learn more about the latest legislative and policy updates directly from members of the Obama Administration, members of Congress, and other thought-leaders in higher education policy.

The capstone activity of the Leadership Conference will be a visit to Capitol Hill, where conference participants will advocate directly with their congressional delegation on behalf of their students. Recent legislation eliminated the Federal Subsidized Loan for graduate students and the 0.5 percent Loan Origination Fee Rebate. Although graduate students can continue to borrow a Federal Direct Loan at a fixed 6.8 percent interest rate, the interest begins accruing when the loan is disbursed. On the table is also talk of eliminating the six month grace period that graduating students have before going into repayment.

De Paolis has served with PASFAA for 11 years and this is the first time she will attend the annual event, held March 4-6, 2012, in Washington, D.C.

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary is a graduate professional institution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A). Founded in 1794, the Seminary is located in Pittsburgh, Pa. and approximately 310 students are enrolled yearly in the degree programs. The Seminary prepares leaders who proclaim with great joy God's message of good news in both word and deed. PTS is rooted in the Reformed history of faithfulness to Scripture and commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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