



Friday, November 16th, 2018



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NAST News

TODAY: "Lame Duck Session and an Update on the 116th Congress" - A Members-Only Call

NAST Members – Join our legislative advocates from Williams & Jensen when they discuss the Lame Duck Session and give us an update on the 116th Congress. This members-only call is on Friday November 16 at 2 pm ET/1:00 pm CT/noon MT and 11 am PT. The call in information will be send via email to all current members, along with an internal memo. There is no need to RSVP, but the number of lines are limited so we ask that you dial is from one phone per state office.

SIGN UP: Registration for the 2019 Legislative Conference is NOW OPEN, Early Bird Rate Available!

We are pleased to announce that registration for NAST's 2019 Legislative Conference is now open! The conference will be held at the historic Mayflower Hotel in Washington, D.C. The conference will begin on Sunday, February 10th and run through February 12th. For the first time ever, NAST will be offering early bird registration rates which will be available until January 7th. Additionally, NAST will be offering a Live Stream of the three sessions on Monday morning. [Please go here](#) to learn more and register for NAST's 2019 Legislative Conference!

Featured Article

PODCAST: Rethinking the First Two Years of Higher Education

The first two years of college are often treated like something you just have to get through. Even the term “general education,” as the curriculum is called at that point, feels generic—and almost like a commodity. Jennifer Schubert wants to rethink the first two years. She’s come up with a new model of a two-year college that puts less emphasis on academic disciplines and more on skills like communication and quantitative reasoning. She calls it Alder College, and it would be located in Portland, Oregon, though so far it’s just an idea and in the planning phase... EdSurge sat down with Schubert recently to talk about her idea, and about her struggle to get a new college off the ground. Listen to highlights of the discussion on this week’s [EdSurge On Air podcast](#).

State News Roundup

Arizona

GateWay Community College brings financial literacy to the foreground

Society has been making a shift lately - bringing financial literacy to the forefront – and GateWay Community College (GWCC) is ushering in the change. In August, the college’s new Center for Financial and Economic Literacy (CFEL) and online investment trading simulation were infused into Intro to Business and Economics classes. Students learn financial literacy concepts, basic principles of the stock market and fundamentals of trading in a realistic environment. — [The Arizona Republic](#)

California

New USAC workshops promote financial literacy among underserved communities

Student government and community groups shared financial literacy tips, like how to finesse free Pizookies or how to find the cheapest bus stops, at a workshop Tuesday. The Undergraduate Students Association Council’s Financial Supports Commission co-hosted the workshop to discuss how to budget wisely as a student living in an increasingly costly Los Angeles. FSC partnered with Samahang Pilipino Education and Retention and the Financial Wellness Program to create the workshop Bruins on a Budget. Jay Manzano, Financial Supports commissioner, said he geared this workshop toward both freshmen on the Hill, who may be learning about affordability for the first time, and upperclassmen budgeting for apartment living. — [Daily Bruin](#)

Illinois

Procurement Opportunities

The Illinois State Treasurer's office has posted two new Procurement Opportunities on their website. [To learn more click here.](#)

MacArthur High School students learn financial savvy

Being on your own for the first time can be intimidating, and without the right information, making mistakes is easy. At MacArthur High School, students take a course that's new this year, called

“Careers,” but the class is really life lessons to help them prepare for college, work and making their own decisions.” The goal of the district is to develop our students as a whole, and that includes college and career readiness and financial literacy,” said extended learning coordinator Ashley Grayned. — [Herald & Review](#)

Kentucky

Humana Foundation’s grant to Metro United Way aimed at promoting financial literacy

Help is on the way for Metro United Way as it tries to help Louisville residents improve their financial literacy. The Humana Foundation on Friday announced a \$750,000 grant to Metro United Way. The initiative will provide economically distressed families with coaching -- to help bring them toward financial independence -- beyond simple stability. — [WAVE](#)

Maryland

RFP: State Treasurer's Office Seeks Merchant Services

The Maryland State Treasurer’s Office is soliciting qualified offerors to provide all services necessary to process merchant card payments, to include credit cards, PIN-based debit, signature debit and electronic checks. Proposals are due by 2:00 p.m. Local Time on November 16, 2018. [To learn more click here.](#)

Maryland 529 Seeks Chief Executive Officer

The Maryland State Treasurer’s Office is also seeking a Chief Executive Officer for Maryland 529. Applications are due November 25, 2018. The Chief Executive Officer is the head of the independent State Agency that is responsible for administering three IRC Section 529 Savings Plans; the Maryland Prepaid College Trust, the Maryland College Investment Plan, and the Maryland Achieving a Better Life Experience (ABLE). [To learn more click here.](#)

Minnesota

Minnesota Commerce Department holds unclaimed property auction Back by popular demand, the Minnesota Commerce Department is holding its second unclaimed property online auction. Bidding began 8 a.m. Monday, November 12 and goes until 6 p.m. Tuesday November 27th on the Fahey Sales website. The most recent auction, held in late July and early August, collected more than \$54,000 and attracted bidders from 40 states, plus Bermuda, Canada and Switzerland. — [MYFOX47](#)

Mississippi

School's student-run credit union teaches financial literacy

A Mississippi high school is allowing some students to run an on-campus credit union in the hopes of teaching financial literacy at an early age. WDAM-TV reports Columbia High School has partnered with Ferguson Credit Union to provide the union, which is one of only two student-run federal credit unions in the state. The president of the credit union's board of directors, Lynell James, says the business wants to help students learn about finance management before graduation. — [Education Week](#)

State treasurer speaks to Rotary Club

Mississippi State Treasurer Lynn Fitch was the guest speaker for the Rotary Club's meeting Wednesday afternoon. "We talked about financial education, TEAM initiative and all of the good things happening. I wanted to express those with the members that are here and talk about what we can all continually do strategically together," says Fitch. She also talked about the many different things the treasurer's office is doing, including College Savings Mississippi and the TEAM initiative programs. — [WTOK-TV](#)

Missouri

MOST 529 Savings Plan maintains status as one of best in nation

An investment research firm has once again recognized Missouri’s MOST 529 Savings Plan as one of the best programs in the nation. Morningstar Investment Research analyzes and assigns ratings to college savings plans across the nation every year based on cost, performance, tax benefits and other factors.

This week, Morningstar confirmed the MOST 529 Plan earned and maintained its Silver Medal status.
— [Daily Star Journal](#)

Nebraska

Chadron State helps teach high school students financial literacy

Chadron State College partners with Ramsey Solutions' Foundation to offer personal finance curriculum to 19 high schools in three states including Nebraska. Scottsbluff, Ogallala, Mullen and Chadron High schools are just a few that will receive the easy to use turn-key school curriculum that will teach students the value of saving, spending and giving. Over four million students have already taken advantage of the program in the country. — [KOLN](#)

Nevada

Clark County preparing for government surplus auction Saturday

The preview and pre-registration period for Saturday's government surplus auction will be open through Friday, Nov. 16, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., daily on site at 4320 Stephanie Street, off East Flamingo Road near Dog Fancier's Park. The auction starts at 8 a.m. Saturday at the same location. The fall auction is the largest of the year. This season's features 435 vehicles for sale and 1,100 lots of miscellaneous items used or acquired by area police departments, local cities, the state of Nevada, Clark County School District and other government agencies. Popular items to be sold include furniture, computers, bicycles, electronics and unclaimed property from McCarran International Airport's Lost and Found division. — [KTNV-TV](#)

Oregon

This state is trying to help more people save for retirement

Oregon just opened its state-sponsored retirement plans to another two groups of workers without access to a 401(k): the self-employed and freelancers. OregonSaves, the state's retirement savings program, announced on Tuesday those not in a traditional job will now have access to a "workplace" retirement plan. Previously, only employees at companies that did not offer 401(k) or similar accounts were able to participate in OregonSaves. The program provides employees portable individual retirement accounts they can take with them throughout their careers, and includes automatic contributions from their paychecks. — [MarketWatch](#)

Pennsylvania

American Legion, VFW Posts with Unclaimed State Property

Pennsylvania State Treasurer Joe Torsella tells us several local American Legion and VFW chapters have money or property waiting for them. It's part of the Pennsylvania Treasury's Unclaimed Property Program. One in 10 people in our state have money or property waiting for them. "In addition to people, institutions have unclaimed property, too. We don't think of that a lot, but they do. So, churches, and nonprofits, and fire companies, and hospitals, and associations, all have unclaimed property," said Treasurer Joe Torsella. — [WNEP-TV](#)

Vermont

Does Vermont owe you money? \$88.5M is held in unclaimed funds

The State of Vermont holds \$88.5 million in unclaimed funds. Treasurer Beth Pearce said she anticipates her office completing 18,000 claims in this fiscal year. The average claim amount is \$389, totaling \$7 million returned last year. "The Treasurer's Office works to put more dollars in Vermonters' pockets by identifying and returning money to its rightful heir or owner," Pearce said. "The number of individual claims and dollars paid out increased last year, setting new records. These successes accrue to the benefit of Vermont citizens, allowing you to claim more of your missing money." — [WPTZ](#)

Virginia

Junior Achievement brings financial literacy courses to Roanoke City Schools

Managing money early, that's the goal for third graders across the Roanoke valley next week, thanks to Junior Achievement of Southwest Virginia. If you're in the financial field and passionate about teaching

savings, investing, becoming your own boss, you're needed as volunteer in the classroom next week. Starting Wednesday, Math will take on new meaning for third grade students in the valley. For one day, leaders and professionals will take over the classroom to teach money management and financial literacy. — [Virginia First](#)

West Virginia

State Treasurer announces new gift cards for college savings

West Virginia Treasurer John Perdue was in Morgantown to announce an expansion to the Smart 529 college savings program. The state is now offering gift cards in stores around West Virginia to easily put money into an account for a child's college education. The gift cards are just one of many ways that Perdue's office encourages smart financial decisions to build kids' futures, something he feels strongly about. — [WBOY-TV](#)

TOP TWEET: Good news about the growth of education savings and 529 plans from [@StateTreasurers](#) and [@USAToday](#) — [@JH Investments](#)

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