



# *FASAB Newsletter* *Federal Accounting* *Standards Advisory Board*

---

## **February-March 2021** **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

FASAB Celebrates its 30th Anniversary .....	1
FASAB and National Defense University Establish a Memorandum of Agreement .....	2
Board Member News .....	3
George Scott Reappointed as FASAB Chair and Gila Bronner Reappointed to Second Term .....	3
FASAB Seeks Candidates to Fill Board Member Vacancy .....	3
FASAB Welcomes Deidre Harrison as OMB Representative .....	4
Current Board Projects .....	5
Intangible Assets .....	5
Leases .....	5
Reporting Model Initiative .....	6
Note Disclosures .....	6
Technical Clarifications of Existing Standards .....	6
Debt Cancellation .....	6
Non-Federal, Non-Entity Fund Balance with Treasury .....	6
Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee .....	7
Leases Implementation .....	7
The AAPC Welcomes New Member, Troy M. Meyer .....	7
FASAB Meeting Schedule .....	9
AAPC Meeting Schedule .....	9
Security Notice for In-Person Meetings .....	9

## [FASAB Celebrates its 30th Anniversary](#)

October 10, 2020, marked the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board (FASAB or “the Board”). To celebrate, we asked current and former Board members, staff, and task force participants to answer a few questions about FASAB’s 30-year history and look towards FASAB’s future. Read our [30<sup>th</sup> anniversary newsletter](#) to see these responses as well as some special messages of congratulations and an overview of FASAB’s history.

To all of the friends of FASAB who so thoughtfully contributed their thoughts for this special edition newsletter—we thank you for taking the time to help celebrate our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and are so appreciative of your support. Thank you for being part of the federal financial community and for your continued dedication to FASAB.

### Disclaimer

The staff of the Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board publishes the FASAB newsletter following board meetings to provide highlights of recent Board actions and issues. When an article refers to a Board decision, it should be understood that this is tentative until FASAB issues a Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts (SFFAC) or Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards (SFFAS).

Please direct newsletter editorial questions to Leigha Kiger at 202-512-7358 or [kigerl@fasab.gov](mailto:kigerl@fasab.gov).

Please direct FASAB and AAPC administrative questions to Romona Parker at 202-512-7350 or [parkerr1@fasab.gov](mailto:parkerr1@fasab.gov).

Interested in more 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary content? Watch FASAB's latest [YouTube video](#) in which current Board members celebrate FASAB's accomplishments over the last thirty years and look towards the future.

## FASAB and National Defense University Establish a Memorandum of Agreement

FASAB has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the National Defense University (NDU). This agreement will permit a selected FASAB staff member to serve as Visiting Professor and FASAB representative at the CFO Academy, which is part of the College of Information and Cyberspace within the NDU.

In addition to announcing the partnership with NDU, FASAB Chairman George Scott also named Assistant Director Domenic Savini to serve as Visiting Professor and FASAB representative at the CFO Academy. Mr. Savini primarily serves the Board in the area of infrastructure, addressing such issues as deferred maintenance and repairs, asset impairment, and public-private partnerships.

The CFO Academy offers accredited, graduate-level courses in government management to military and civilian personnel working within the Department of Defense (DoD) and other federal agencies. Admitted students may complete requirements for a Graduate Certificate in CFO Leadership or complete an elective concentration in Financial Management as part of NDU master's degree programs.

As part of its mission, FASAB strives to ensure the common understanding of information provided through financial reporting by participating in educational efforts, and this MOA directly supports that objective. The Visiting Professor will support the CFO Academy through course instruction, curriculum consulting, and collaboration with CFO Academy faculty to promote effective government financial management practices, including seeking increased awareness and understanding of federal accounting standards promulgated by FASAB.

## Board Member News

### [George Scott Reappointed as FASAB Chair and Gila Bronner Reappointed to Second Term](#)

FASAB's sponsors have reappointed George Scott to serve a second term as chair of the Board, which began on January 1, 2021. Mr. Scott's second and final term on the Board will conclude on December 31, 2025.

Mr. Scott's service on the Board began on January 1, 2016. He is a retired partner of Deloitte LLP. With more than 39 years of experience at Deloitte, Mr. Scott has been actively involved in industry organizations, ranging from member to chairman, at the national and regional level and is a nationally sought after speaker. Mr. Scott is a CPA and a CGFM.

The Sponsors have also reappointed Ms. Gila Bronner to serve a second term on the Board, which began on January 1, 2021. Ms. Bronner's second and final term on the Board will conclude on December 31, 2025.

Ms. Bronner, President and CEO of Bronner Group, LLC, is a CPA and highly respected by government lawmakers and regulators as an expert on government efficiency and reform, auditor independence, and related accountability and internal control issues.

### [FASAB Seeks Candidates to Fill Board Member Vacancy](#)

FASAB is seeking your assistance in identifying qualified and committed candidates to serve as non-federal members on the Board. One new member will be selected to serve a five-year term beginning July 1, 2022, after the term of one current non-federal board member ends. Non-federal board members may not be otherwise employed by the federal government during their service to FASAB.

There are two ways you can assist us in filling these important positions:

- 1) Identify any candidates that you would like us to consider; and/or
- 2) Share our request with individuals you believe should consider the opportunity to serve.

It would be most helpful if we receive your suggestion(s) or hear directly from interested parties before **April 30, 2021**.

Please direct responses to:

Ms. Monica R. Valentine, Executive Director  
Federal Accounting Standards Advisory Board

Responses may be submitted electronically via email to [fasab@fasab.gov](mailto:fasab@fasab.gov).

If you have questions regarding this request, please contact Ms. Valentine at 202-512-7350.

Generally, non-federal board members are selected from the general financial community, the accounting and auditing community, or academia. To guide you in considering this request, please consider reviewing the most recent [annual report](#) and a statement describing [board members' responsibilities](#), conflicts of interest, and desirable attributes. (All referenced document are available on [www.fasab.gov](http://www.fasab.gov) under "About" or by clicking on the preceding links.)

We are particularly interested in candidates who have experience as:

- analysts of financial information,
- economists or forecasters,
- academics,
- auditors,
- preparers of financial information, or
- those otherwise knowledgeable regarding the use of financial information in decision-making.

It is very important that the individuals selected possess the attributes necessary to be effective board members and the willingness to commit time and energy to the Board's work. The Board generally meets for two days every other month in Washington, DC, however due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the Board is currently meeting virtually. Travel expenses are reimbursed in accordance with federal travel regulations.

Members are compensated based on current federal executive salaries. Non-federal members other than the chair are compensated for 24 eight-hour days per year.

As the body designated to establish generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for federal governmental entities, FASAB is charged with carrying out a mission that is vital to ensuring accountability of the U.S. government to its citizens. Federal accounting standards and financial reporting play a major role in fulfilling the federal government's duty to be publicly accountable and we welcome your help in locating individuals that will help FASAB continue to accomplish its mission.

### [FASAB Welcomes Deidre Harrison as OMB Representative](#)

Ms. Harrison is the Deputy Controller at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Ms. Harrison is a senior member of the OMB management team supporting the President's Management Agenda and other Administration priorities. She is responsible for overseeing the Office of Federal Financial Management's (OFFM) diverse portfolio which includes issuing government-wide policies through OMB circulars, bulletins, and memos; the Uniform Guidance for financial assistance; and other issuances.

Prior to joining OFFM she was a senior examiner in the Treasury Branch at OMB where her portfolio included various Bureaus and offices within the Department of the Treasury and branch-wide financial management policy areas including improper payments, shared services, and financial reporting and display. Prior to her federal career, she worked at an economic consulting firm where she was an Economist responsible for overseeing the design and implementation of large data analysis projects for clients to use in the courtroom and before regulatory agencies. Ms. Harrison received an undergraduate degree in International Politics and Economics from Middlebury College and a Master's degree in Public Policy from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

## Current Board Projects

(For more information, click on the title of the project to be directed to the related active project page or research topic.)

### Intangible Assets

FASAB staff commenced the intangible assets research effort by hosting the first task force meeting on February 17, 2021. During the meeting, staff established initial task force objectives, discussed potential federal intangible assets, and presented a draft version of the task force survey. After considering feedback from task force members, staff made further edits to the survey and issued the final version for task force members to complete.

Visit the [intangible assets research task force webpage](#) for further information, including the meeting agenda and minutes.

Point of Contact: Josh R. Williams, 202-512-4051, [williamsjr@fasab.gov](mailto:williamsjr@fasab.gov)

### Leases

The leases implementation task force held two meetings, on February 22 and March 2, following the comment period for *Implementation Guidance for Leases & Omnibus Amendments on Leases-Related Topics: A Joint Exposure Draft*. At those meetings, staff presented its analysis of comment letters and recommended actions. The task force provided insightful feedback and improvements to staff on those recommended actions.

The Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee (AAPC) met on March 11 to discuss comment letters on the proposed implementation guidance (see [below](#)). The Board will discuss comment letters on the proposed omnibus amendments at its April meeting.

Visit the Board's [leases project page](#) and the AAPC's [leases implementation project page](#) to learn more.

Point of Contact: R. Alan Perry, Jr., 202-512-5720, [perryra@fasab.gov](mailto:perryra@fasab.gov)

## Reporting Model Initiative

### Note Disclosures

At the February 2021 Board meeting, the members continued the discussion on the proposed note disclosures amendments to Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Concepts 2, *Entity and Display*.

Visit [the note disclosures project page](#) to learn more.

Point of Contact: Monica Valentine, 202-512-7350, [fasab@fasab.gov](mailto:fasab@fasab.gov)

## Technical Clarifications of Existing Standards

### Debt Cancellation

At the February 2021 Board meeting, the Board considered a revised exposure draft (ED) Interpretation titled *Debt Cancellation: An Interpretation of SFFAS 7, Paragraph 313*.

Since the December 2020 meeting, FASAB staff had coordinated with OMB staff and determined that eliminating the sub-categories “Budgetary Financing Sources” and “Other Financing Sources (Non-exchange)” presented under the Cumulative Results on the SCNPF from the A-136 form and content requirements would enhance clarity and ensure consistency with GAAP. OMB plans to propose removing the sub-category classifications in the next A-136 update.

Additional narrative was included in the Interpretation to explain that the budgetary accounting and reporting for debt cancellation should be based upon language provided in the enacted legislation canceling the debt and that guidance would be provided by central agencies.

The Board agreed to move forward to a pre-ballot ED Interpretation titled *Debt Cancellation: An Interpretation of SFFAS 7, Paragraph 313*, pending incorporation of additional edits as agreed to by members.

Visit the [debt cancellation project page](#) to learn more.

Point of Contact: Melissa Batchelor, 202-512-5976, [batchelorm@fasab.gov](mailto:batchelorm@fasab.gov)

### Non-Federal, Non-Entity Fund Balance with Treasury

At the February 2021 Board meeting, the Board considered the comment letters, staff analysis, and staff’s recommendations on the proposed Interpretation *Clarification of Non-federal Non-entity FBWT Classification (SFFAS 1, Paragraph 31): An Interpretation of SFFAS 1 and SFFAS 31*.

The Board agreed to move forward to ballot the proposed Interpretation *Clarification of Non-federal Non-entity FBWT Classification (SFFAS 1, Paragraph 31): An Interpretation of SFFAS 1 and SFFAS 31*. Following the February meeting, staff provided a ballot and the proposed Interpretation electronically for the Board to review. The Board approved the Interpretation and the Interpretation was submitted to the members representing the sponsor agencies for 45 days. If within the 45 days none of the members object, then it will be published by FASAB.

Visit the [non-federal, non-entity fund balance with Treasury project page](#) to learn more.

Point of Contact: Melissa Batchelor, 202-512-5976, [batchelorm@fasab.gov](mailto:batchelorm@fasab.gov)

## [Accounting and Auditing Policy Committee](#)

### [Leases Implementation](#)

At the March 2021 AAPC meeting, the Committee reviewed and discussed comment letters on the leases implementation guidance ED. Staff presented proposed action items and recommended improvements in response to comment letters. The Committee generally concurred with the staff- and task-force-developed action items.

Committee members provided feedback on certain implementation issues that require additional research and action, including: (1) further developing omnibus candidates and conforming changes to the technical guidance related to sale-leasebacks, (2) providing the Board with information related to certain implementation issues of which the Board should be made aware, and (3) implementing certain clarifying edits and changes discussed at the meeting. Committee members also discussed additional omnibus candidates identified by staff in response to comment letters and generally agreed with those candidates.

Staff will finalize omnibus recommendations for the Board's April meeting and incorporate the feedback received from the Committee on those items. The Committee will discuss and seek to resolve a majority of these outstanding items at its May meeting, once staff has taken additional actions and received feedback from the Board.

Visit the AAPC's [leases implementation project page](#) to learn more.

### [The AAPC Welcomes New Member, Troy M. Meyer](#)

Mr. Troy M. Meyer currently serves as the Acting Deputy Inspector General for Audit and Principal Assistant IG for Audit at the DoD Office of Inspector General (OIG). He leads a comprehensive global auditing program consisting of 600 auditors and other professional and technical staff who assess the efficiency and effectiveness of DoD programs and operations; express an opinion on whether DoD financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with GAAP; evaluate DoD capabilities to prevent,

detect, and respond to information security incidents; and detect and deter fraud, waste, and abuse.

Mr. Meyer was appointed to the Senior Executive Service in September 2014, and brings nearly 30 years of federal experience in the IG community. Prior to joining the DoD OIG, he served as the Assistant IG for Audit of the Small Business Administration OIG. Prior to that, Mr. Meyer was a Regional Audit Manager with the Department of Justice OIG. Mr. Meyer has been honored for his contributions to the OIG community, receiving Awards for Excellence from CIGIE in 2009 and 2011.

Mr. Meyer earned his Master of Business Administration and Bachelor of Business Administration from Pace University. He is a Certified Public Accountant, Certified Internal Auditor, Certified Fraud Examiner, and Certified Government Financial Manager.

Mr. Meyer fills the seat vacated by Mr. Elliot Lewis, who retired from federal service on December 31, 2020. Ms. Patricia Layfield also retired from federal service on March 31, 2021. Her replacement will be announced in the April-May edition of this newsletter. FASAB and the AAPC thanks Mr. Lewis and Ms. Layfield for their years of service and wishes them all the best.

AAPC Staff Liaison: R. Alan Perry, Jr., 202-512-5720, [perryra@fasab.gov](mailto:perryra@fasab.gov)

Until further notice, FASAB and AAPC meetings will be held via teleconference. If you wish to observe a FASAB meeting via teleconference, the telephone number and observer passcode are available on the posted agendas.

## FASAB Meeting Schedule

2021

April 27-28

June 22-23

August 24-25

October 26-27

December 14-15

Until further notice, meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m.

Agendas and briefing materials are available at <https://www.fasab.gov/briefing-materials/> approximately one week before the meetings. Agendas include conference line information for those interested in observing the teleconference meetings.

## AAPC Meeting Schedule

2021

May 6

August 12

November 18

AAPC meetings prior to October 1, 2021, will be held via teleconference and WebEx. Agendas are available at <https://fasab.gov/about-aapc/aapc-meetings/> approximately one week before the meetings. Agendas include conference line information for those interested in observing the teleconference meetings.

## Security Notice for In-Person Meetings

FASAB and AAPC meetings will be held via teleconference until further notice. When in-person meetings resume and you wish to attend, please pre-register on our website at <https://www.fasab.gov/pre-registration/> **no later than 8 a.m. the Monday before the meeting to be observed.** GAO, which provides space for our meetings, has increased its security procedures, and your name must be provided in advance to the GAO security force before you can enter the building. **When you arrive, please advise the security officer that you are attending either a FASAB or an AAPC meeting. Doing so will assist the officer in locating the correct security list.** Thank you.