



*Unified Student Loan Policy*

### ***Meet the Executive Management Team for 2015-2016!***

The *Common Manual* Governing Board is pleased to introduce the Executive Management Team (EMT) for the 2015-2016 fiscal year, beginning August 1, 2015. The EMT provides leadership and coordinates the annual update and production of the *Common Manual*.

#### **Governing Board Chair – Rick Buckingham**

Mr. Rick Buckingham has nearly 26 years' experience working in the FFELP industry holding a number of different positions with USA Funds. He began as a Compliance Specialist, where his primary role was to conduct program reviews of schools and lenders and then worked in Finance for a number of years before returning to manage the Policy and Compliance unit. He currently serves as the Vice President, FFELP Operations and has overall responsibility for all guarantor functions including policy development and implementation. Rick received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting at Ball State University in 1987 and received his MBA in Finance at Ball State University in 1995. Rick serves on a number of NCHER workgroups and committees (e.g., Common Review Initiative, Program Regulations and Policy) in addition to his role as USA Funds' Governing Board representative for the *Common Manual*.

#### **Governing Board Chair-Elect - Vacant**

#### **Communications Director – Jennie Thompson**

Ms. Jennie Thompson is currently serving as the Common Manual Communication Director. She has been with Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency (PHEAA) for more than 18 years and is a Compliance Coordinator. She works closely with Agency staff to ensure compliance with federal and state laws in the development of internal and external communications, training, and the drafting of Agency policies. She is responsible for writing and distributing the monthly policy newsletter. Ms. Thompson also provides support to schools in the form of policy research and training. Jennie has served as the *Common Manual* Communication Director on the *Common Manual's* Executive Management Team since 2012.

#### **Treasurer - Cheryl Hughes**

Ms. Cheryl Hughes has been employed at SC Student Loan Corporation since 1981 and has held the position of Compliance Officer since January 1998. In addition to serving the financial aid community through the state association, she served as a member of the *Common Manual* Policy Committee from November 1999 through July 2004 and was co-chair of the Policy Committee in 2001-02. Cheryl currently serves on the editing subcommittee for the Policy Committee and has served as the *Common Manual* Treasurer on the *Common Manual's* Executive Management Team since 2006.