



## **Cheryl Watson to head Nelnet Investor Relations division**

(Lincoln, NE) -- Today, Nelnet (National Education Loan Network) announced the appointment of Cheryl Watson as head of the organization's Investor Relations division. Ms. Watson will serve as Executive Vice President and as a member of Nelnet's Board of Directors. Cheryl will be based at Nelnet's Indianapolis, IN office where she will coordinate the organization's international investment relationships, in addition to participating in strategic planning and capital markets initiatives.

Ms. Watson joins Nelnet with an extensive background in developing, negotiating, and managing financial instruments. Formerly employed with Sallie Mae, Inc. and USA Group, Inc., she has held financial service positions in education lending and private industry for over 18 years.

"Cheryl possesses a thorough understanding of financial markets and a proven record for building banking, investor, and rating agency relationships," commented Mike Dunlap, President and Chief Executive Officer of Nelnet, Inc. "We view this type of expertise as not only valuable to our organization, but to the continued success of the student loan industry as a whole."

Watson is a graduate of Indiana University and holds a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in accounting. She is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Indiana CPA Society.

Nelnet is a vertically integrated educational finance organization dedicated to providing products and services that facilitate education finance for students, schools, lenders, and guarantors. Nelnet offices are located in Boise, ID; Denver, CO; Indianapolis, IN; Jacksonville, FL; Lincoln, NE; Phoenix, AZ; Portland, ME; St. Paul, MN; Tulsa, OK; and Washington, DC.

With \$8 billion in total assets, Nelnet originates in excess of \$2 billion for itself and its service partners annually, and services, or provides servicing software for, more than \$25 billion in student loans. Nelnet ranks among the nation's leaders in terms of total student loan assets managed.

Additional information regarding Nelnet's services is available at [www.nelnet.net](http://www.nelnet.net).