

From the Desk of Your President...

A Word...

I am writing this edition of the MAEOPP Memorandum from a hotel room in Minneapolis, where I was diverted for weather after escaping the Midwest snowstorm that nearly closed down O'hare Airport. I got away from the blizzard, but not away from the impact of the storm. Even an unscheduled night away from home in an unexpected location with no luggage can dim the enthusiasm I have as a result of the work completed over the last five days on behalf of the Mid-America Association.

I had the opportunity to meet with several Mid-America leaders, in different stages of their EOP careers, to begin working on a framework for shaping the work of the MAEOPP board for the next three-five years. I was reminded of the origins of our Association over 40 years ago. MAEOPP was founded to professionalize the work we perform on a daily basis.

"Promoting research, evaluation, programmatic and fiscal planning, and training inclusive of but not limited to, conducting workshops and seminars, and educating the public and public officials to the concerns of the Association."

The writers of our constitution knew the components needed to create an association that would stand the test of time. It is that foundation that we stand on as we look forward to the next 40 years.

The drafters of our constitution and leaders of our movement took bold steps and overcame many barriers to create the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel. We have heard the stories of the battles, both internal and external, that helped create the profession that we enjoy.

I am grateful that these very giants are assisting current leadership to make bold moves in our current environment. It is the courage to make these moves now that will help TRIO and MAEOPP to not only survive the next 40 years, but thrive.

Yours In Service,

V. Kaye Monk-Morgan

MAEOPP President 2014-2015





MAEOPP leaders with COE Board Chair Oscar Felix at December COE Board Meeting.



MAEOPP leaders with Tony (former MN State Legislator) and Tallie (MN TRIO President) Sertich after the Governmental Relations Workshop in December.

Why Lead?

In a few weeks, the Nominations and Election committees all over the region will begin vetting candidates for the elected positions in our organizations. I want to encourage the membership to step up. One's service to our profession is more than helping our Association, it is a wonderful way to develop leadership skills and continuing professional development.

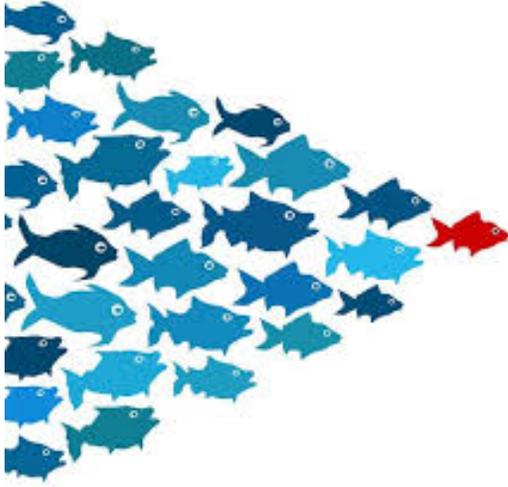
As college access and success professionals, we have the opportunity to impact the lives of persons who desire a college education. Serving as a chapter or regional leader allows one to continue that work on a different level. Just last week MAEOPP President Elect Gregg, Illinois TRIO President Aaron Cortes and I joined Council for Opportunity in Education President Maureen Hoyle for a meeting with GE Transportation leaders to discuss potential partnerships. I couldn't help feeling like Ms. Hoyle took me on a social cultural outing. As a TRIO director, I don't regularly visit with corporate VP's in downtown Chicago. I took it all in and thought, "Maureen is taking me to school!" The art, the security systems (GE Capital services is in the same building) and the fast-pace of the meeting were all a little foreign.

During the post-meeting meeting, Roxanne and I looked at each other and opined about our shared experience. We had just accompanied our national president in to a meeting with corporate vice presidents to seek support for educational opportunity programs and participants and we were now having tea in the lobby of the Palmer House Hotel. We had just experienced a different type of advocacy.

Leadership allows for a continuous acquisition of skills and offers professional development opportunities that can serve as full for one's career.

MAEOPP service requires that leaders give of themselves, but not without giving back. Growth and opportunity are yours for the taking. Please consider participating at the next level by running for office.

Choose to serve your profession.. you will be better for doing so!



Looking for a way to engage in the work of MAEOPP? The Public Relations and Communication Committee is looking for persons to serve on the social media sub-committee. Contact president@maeopp.org for contact information.

The Technology Committee is looking for persons interested in assisting with technical support for meetings, website updates and other tech focused activities. Email technology@maeopp.org to learn about opportunities.

The Annual Conference committee is looking for persons who have an interest in fundraising and sponsorships. Please contact V. Kaye Monk-Morgan at president@maeopp.org if you are interested in serving.

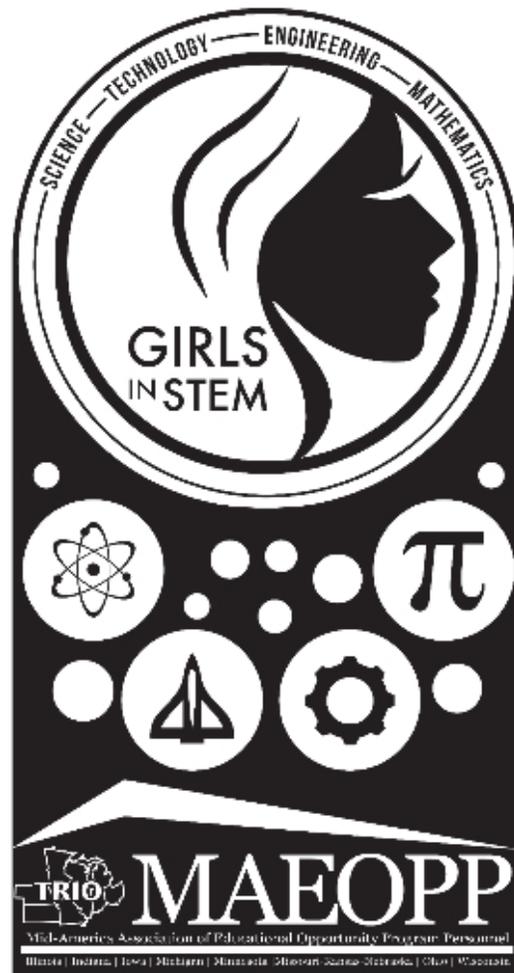
Board meeting updates:

- The MAEOPP board recently voted to contract with ClubExpress to begin implementation of the new Membership Management System. The new portal will provide access to membership information, allow for independent membership renewal and will save costs on conference registration.
- In keeping with the current MAEOPP Strategic Plan, the MAEOPP board and requisite committees are bidding services to undertake a branding campaign to include the creation of a new MAEOPP logo for all MAEOPP entities. Bids will be submitted to the executive committee and work will begin in this spring.
- The Annual Conference Committee is working to secure speakers for the annual conference and hopes to have information out to the membership soon. Registration rates will remain the same for 2015, \$495.
- The MAEOPP Finance committee submitted a budget to the board for approval. A thorough review of financial trends including expenses, revenues and account balances was performed prior to the board's vote to approve the proposed budget. Efforts to contain cost while completing the work of the Association will be key to remaining within budget this year.
- Last year, MAEOPP spent \$26,000 on fees levied by credit card companies for payments made with credit cards. These fees are paid to the individual credit card companies for all purchases. When a member registers for the MAEOPP conference and pays \$495 using a credit card, \$15 per registration is paid to the company, reducing the net revenue per transaction to \$85 rather than the budgeted \$100. Effective February 1, 2015, the 4% processing fee charged on purchases made to MAEOPP when a credit card is used, will be passed on to card user. This step will allow MAEOPP to keep registration rates at current level for the year.

The inaugural MAEOPP Girls In STEM conference will be held at Indiana University - Purdue University Indiana May 29th - 31st. Chaired by President-Elect Roxanne Gregg and Misty Williams, registration will open to the membership by February 14, 2015.

MAEOPP members can nominate young women, 9-11th grades, to participate in this hands-on scientific, three-day experience.

Questions can be forwarded to rgregg@maeopp.org.



MAEOPP Chapter Upcoming Events:

- MKN Annual Conference - Kansas City, MO April 1-3rd
- Ohio TRIO Annual Conference - Columbus, OH April 8-10
- MN TRIO Annual Conference - Walker, MN April 13-15
- Iowa TRIO Annual Conference - Iowa City, April 15-18
- WAEOPP Annual Conference - Appleton, WI April 22-24
- MICAPP Annual Conference - Boyne Mt., MI April 23 - 25
- IL/IN TRIO Annual Conference - South Bend, IN May 18 - 22

INDICATORS

OF HIGHER EDUCATION EQUITY
IN THE UNITED STATES



THE PELL INSTITUTE
for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education

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Alliance for Higher Education and Democracy

**45 YEAR
TREND REPORT**

**Shaping the New Landscape:
Transforming Advocacy into Action**

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) invites you to the annual summit to gain insights of its members to address your Member's concerns about the **TRAIL BLAZER LIP** and college access and success programs or help us to advance the interest of innovation and best practices, models, and evidence-based research.



COE
Council for Opportunity in Education

Register Online at
www.coeonline.org

**National College Opportunity
Program (Trailblazer LIP)**
March 20-21, 2015
- National College Opportunity Program
- Emerging Leadership Training
- Emerging Leadership Day

COE 50th Annual Policy Summit
March 22-23, 2015
- National College Opportunity Program
- Trailblazer LIP
- Emerging Leadership Training
- Emerging Leadership Day
- National College Opportunity Program
- Emerging Leadership Training
- Emerging Leadership Day

**50th Annual Summit with the
U.S. Department of Education**
March 23-24, 2015
- National College Opportunity Program
- Trailblazer LIP
- Emerging Leadership Training
- Emerging Leadership Day
- National College Opportunity Program
- Emerging Leadership Training
- Emerging Leadership Day



save the date

November 15-18, 2015

Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

Amway Grand Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI

Annual Conference