



MAEOPP HAPPENINGS

Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

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MARCH 2014

A Message from the President Organized TRIO

Warmest greetings to the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP)! Our theme for this year stems from my belief that TRIO is the founding-father of all educational opportunity programs...we are... *Organized TRIO: Leading the way to expand educational opportunity and success.*

Throughout the year, the Association's work will focus on recognizing our past 40 years of accomplishments, on evaluating our progress toward the goals of our current strategic plan, and on proactively responding to the national college access and success movement, including priorities critical to TRIO's survival. As we continue to lead the way to expand educational opportunity, college access and success, the ten states making up MAEOPP are actively engaged in activities to promote and defend college access and success for all individuals, to provide professional development and training to our members and affiliates, and to award scholarships to students. I know, together as the MAEOPP family, we will work hard to protect over 40 years of advocacy for our students and programs.

The MAEOPP Education Foundation (MEF) will be awarding \$15,000 in scholarships during Fiscal 2014. In addition to MAEOPP Board of Directors scholarships at \$1,000/student in each of the ten states within the MAEOPP region, others will be awarded under the scholarship funds established in the names of Silas Purnell, Ralph Pruitt, Arnold Mitchem Graduate Fellowship, Emerging Leaders, and Veterans. On behalf of MAEOPP, I thank MEF President Otis Williams and the entire MEF Board for the work they do, and I extend a warm welcome to the newly elected MEF Board Member Dr. Jonathan McKenzie (Illinois TRIO Past President, MAEOPP Past President and former COE Board Chair).

MEF will also be submitting to the MAEOPP Best Practices Center the Illinois Scholarship Program (ISP) in hopes of being designated as a 'validated' program in 2014. Whether at the promising, validated, or exemplary level, consider submitting your program's best practice. There is even an administrative best practice level. To learn more, go to the MAEOPP Center Best Education Practices website at www.besteducationpractices.org. It's there that you can find all the 2013 best education practices too.

Your Chapter leaders are diligently working to communicate and connect with you and our constituents across our region to continue building the alliances that have been forged over the years. We all must do our part to have our voices heard and our data on the success of our programs understood. I encourage you to take part in chapter, regional, and national-level professional development opportunities to enable us to build our capacity to serve first generation, low income students so that they have the opportunity, support, and guidance to reach their goals of academic achievement in higher education.

One training opportunity is the MAEOPP Institute for the Advancement of Leadership and Program Management which will be held Saturday, November 8 – Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Bloomington-Minneapolis South, Minnesota. The Institute begins the Saturday before the first day of the MAEOPP conference to be held November 9 - 12, 2014. The training institute is designed to improve participants' knowledge of TRIO regulations and TRIO CAS standards and to enhance participants' management skills with the goal of improving their respective projects. Questions on the Institute, contact the Institute Director, Dr. Celerstine Johnson at johnsoncb@sbcglobal.net or 314-725-6484. For additional information on registration for both opportunities, go to the MAEOPP website www.maeopp.org. Details will be available soon.



Annette Horvat
2013-14
MAEOPP President

In closing, I encourage you to actively engage in advocacy at all levels – local, state, regional, and national - for college access and success. We must begin locally to educate others about our educational opportunity programs and build our advocacy efforts from there. Hope to see you at Policy Seminar.

Annette Horvat, MAEOPP President

The 2014 MAEOPP Board

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*Deltha Q. Colvin
was MAEOPP's
first female
President in
1982-83.*

**There are 8
chapters and 10
states in the
MAEOPP Region.**

**Indiana
Illinois
Iowa
Michigan
Minnesota
MO-KAN-NE
(Missouri,
Kansas,
Nebraska)
Ohio
Wisconsin**

State Activities

Michigan

MI-CAPP's Student Leadership Summit will be held at Grand Valley State University February 28—March 1st, 2014.

MI-CAPP's Professional Conference will be held at the Boyne Mountain Resort (*Michigan's version of the Abbey*) April 24 - 26, 2014. A relaxing venue where people can de-stress and then partake in professional development and return to work feeling like new men and women!

Minnesota

MN TRIO has been busy in recent months with Work Day, advocacy in the media, and testifying before a US Senate Committee. Each of these activities has continued the advocacy and support of TRIO and the students that we work with every day.

“Re-Visioning” was the theme of MN TRIO’s Work Day which was held on December 6th. MN TRIO President Dory Pohl encouraged the 55 attendees to think beyond what’s been done and to look at things from a fresh perspective. How can we move forward to be the most effective and efficient we can be? Attendees had a choice to participate in sessions addressing re-visioning future Work Days and the Annual Conference or help the association in strategic planning or legislative and education efforts. One of President Pohl’s goals was to orient new professionals in the history of past efforts and activities while moving everyone into the future together.

While at Work Day some attendees wrote a response letter, published on December 13th, to the Star Tribune Opinion editors about the successes of the MN TRIO pre-college programs. This letter was written in response to an article that was published on December 4th that highlighted the successes of two college access programs but failed to include TRIO. This letter prompted Dr. O’Brien, Interim Vice Chancellor of Academic and Student Affairs and Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, to send MN TRIO a letter applauding us for our work with low-income and first-generation students.

In January, MN TRIO President Elect Tallie Sertich was chosen to testify before the US Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions regarding TRIO and the Higher Education Reauthorization. President Elect Sertich spoke eloquently about the struggles that TRIO students face, especially the TRIO students in rural areas which demonstrated the need to continue funding and supporting TRIO programs.

MN TRIO continues its efforts supporting the low-income and first-generations students in our programs. We also continue our advocacy for all TRIO.



Kaye Monk-Morgan
MAEOPP President-Elect

MO-KAN-NE

Kaye Monk-Morgan was only 26 in 1997 when Wichita State University hired her to direct its Upward Bound program.

It is a fiercely demanding job. Her students say she made it more so. In many ways, in the years since then, analysts say her job has become a critical factor in whether Wichita keeps growing.

Morgan grew up gifted but poor not far from North High School. Upward Bound coaxes such kids to take difficult courses, then attend college. This is where the really demanding part comes in.

One of Morgan's lifelong mentors, James Rhatigan, the former dean of students at WSU, said poverty tends to teach some poor children to say no to themselves, to say no to people trying to help them.

Morgan's students say that what happened after they hired her is the stuff of WSU Upward Bound legend.

"The true test of someone is what you do after the entire system around you says no to you," Rhatigan said. "That's when we find out who you really are."

Read more here: <http://www.kansas.com/2014/01/19/3238291/wichita-states-upward-bound-director.html#storylink=cpy>

Ohio

OSU TRIO Upward Bound Program attended a Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration on January 16, 2014. The event was sponsored by the Office of Diversity & Inclusion and included vocal performances, a video presentation on the history of the Civil Rights movement, and a keynote address. The keynote speaker was TRIO Alum, Donna Brazile. The TRIO Upward Bound Director and current President of the Ohio TRIO Association, Rabekah Stewart, made a gift presentation to Donna while she and the students posed for a photo with her. Donna's message for the young people was for them to go out in the world and take their place, "even if they have to bring in their own chair." TRIO Works and Donna is an excellent example of this!

Sinclair's TRIO Upward Bound Program enjoyed an exciting past few months! In November, students attended the Dayton Playhouse's presentation of "Death Trap," with its unpredictable and action-packed plot.

For December, the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company (DCDC) performed an interactive diversity appreciation piece in Sinclair's Blackbox studio.

Students also experienced DCDC's evening holiday performance, "In His Presence," featuring recording artist Shirley Murdock, a local gospel choir and flag corp. The culminating holiday event was community service at Friendship Village Retirement Community in Trotwood, Ohio. While singing Christmas carols, students distributed hand-made cards, ornaments and candy canes to residents.

On January 20, students participated with area TRIO programs in the Martin Luther King, Jr. walk.

University of Cincinnati Second Annual McNair/TRIO Research Symposium, October 10—12, 2014

Emerging Leaders Institute 2014

The Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI) is an innovative program that was designed by MAEOPP leaders who recognized the need to strengthen the association by developing potential leaders.

Trainers

Ashley C. Benson
North Central State College

Andrew Cseter
Metropolitan State University



ELI Class by State

Derrick Gunter
Illinois
Loyola University Chicago

Lolita L. Mack
Illinois
Southeastern Illinois College

Nicholas Gray
Indiana
Indiana-Purdue University Fort Wayne

Brittany Rigdon
Iowa
Iowa State University

Nicole Clements
Michigan
Oakland University

Matthew Kruger
Minnesota
Dakota County Technical College

Hien Studniski
Minnesota
CSB/SJU

Anna McDonald
MO-KAN-NE
Avila University

Ashley Salazar
MO-KAN-NE
Garden City Community College

Jasmina D. Nolan
Ohio
Kent State University

Jacob Conklin
Wisconsin
Beloit College

Karen Smolarek
Wisconsin
University of Wisconsin - Stout

ELI was part of a five-year plan implemented under the presidency of Dr. Celerstine Johnson 1990-91.

Department of Education Update

Annual Performance Reports Due Dates

- The Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math/Science APRs will not be due until sometime in the spring of 2014. ED has posted all of the materials for UB/UBMS programs to prepare. The information can be found at: <http://www2.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/report.html>.
- Veterans Upward Bound 2nd Comment Period was to open before the new year. As of this morning it was not published.
- McNair will be due sometime between February and March. No further updates from ED have been given.

In 1980, the Council for Opportunity in Education held the first Policy Seminar.

COE Update

Report after report confirms that increased educational achievement correlates with increased civic engagement. Alumni of the Federal TRIO Programs prove that to be the case as many of them emerge from these programs and join the fight for equity and opportunity.

Come to COE's 34th Annual Policy Seminar to hear from a special panel of TRIO alumni who now work for change in such areas as healthcare, policy, and higher education.

Council for Opportunity in Education's 34th Annual Policy Seminar
March 23-25, 2014
Renaissance Washington DC Hotel
Washington, DC

MAEOPP Conferences

Adult Student Leadership Conference

October 17—18, 2014
St. Charles, IL

McNair Research Conference

October 31—November 1, 2014
Delevan, WI

Pre-College Student Leadership Conference

October 17—18, 2014
St. Charles, IL

Professional Conference

November 9—12, 2014
Bloomington, MN



Dr. Arnold Mitchem
First MAEOPP President
1974-76

***There have
been 38
MAEOPP
Presidents
since
Dr. Mitchem.***

Past President's Corner

Dr. Arnold Mitchem has been a voice for low-income, first-generation students, individuals with disabilities, adult learners, and veterans throughout his career.

Dr. Mitchem was the founding president of the Mid America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel from 1974-1976.

Formally established in 1975, the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP) is a recognized 501(c)3 non-profit consortium of professionals with the specific purpose of leveling the playing field of educational opportunity for first-generation, low-income, and disabled students. MAEOPP is the representative professional body for colleges, universities and agencies that host federally-funded TRIO educational opportunity programs within ten states in the great Midwest.

MAEOPP advocates on behalf of those persons least likely to enroll in and obtain a college degree at our nation's higher education institutions and is a member organization of the internationally recognized Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), also founded by Dr. Mitchem.

Dr. Mitchem has received many awards for his accomplishments. Some of them include:

- Arturo Schomburg Distinguished Service Award from the Association for Equality and Excellence in Education, Inc.
- The 2013 Award for Advocacy of Independent Higher Education from the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU)
- The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) Award of Excellence (2013).

“If you begin to lose respect for your fellow man, get out of the game. “

-Dr. Arnold Mitchem

MAEOPP Membership Moments

Member Online Service

Every current MAEOPP member will receive a MAEOPP Account that will allow access to MAEOPP organizations tools such as documents, training sites, membership directory and other tools. Our new MAEOPP account is powered by Google under our Non-For-Profit grant service.

This MAEOPP Google Account will replace the current MAEOPP user accounts that previously allowed access to the MAEOPP membership directory and organization documents.

Every MAEOPP current member will receive an individual email to their institutional address with the new user name and instructions on how to use the new services.



Technology Support

The new services will provide our associations with innovative methods for collaboration and communication. The technology committee will be available to support your needs during this transition. In order to serve our members efficiently we will be available for questions and support via our email technology@maeopp.org and for emergencies via our Google voice (708)303-83725-3456. We have also created a resource website that provides tutorials and step by step procedures to use your new Google tools. [google-maeopp-apps-learning-center >>](#)