

From the Desk of Your President...

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Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

Illinois | Indiana | Iowa | Michigan | Minnesota | Missouri-Kansas-Nebraska | Ohio | Wisconsin



MAEOPP President  
V.Kaye Monk-Morgan



On April 23, 2015, I had the honor of representing the Association and it's

## What's in a name?

When I married my husband, Derek, I chose not to change my last name completely, rather to add his surname to mine. I wanted to maintain a certain independence and acknowledgement of who I was as a woman prior to meeting him, while indicating to the outside world that I intended to share my life with Derek, thus sharing his name. This was a major decision for me. My paternal grandmother was not supportive of “this hyphenating thing.” My mother didn’t care. My maternal grandfather asked me to remain a “Monk” because my siblings and I were the last of his bloodline. Names have meaning! Our names root us in an origin.

During the discussions with vendors regarding the MAEOPP branding campaign. Each vendor asked, albeit in a different way, about the origin of MAEOPP and our roots. One vendor asked if “MAEOPP was a tree with many branches or an umbrella for many different entities?” I replied, “per our constitution and history, we are a tree with eight branches.” The graphic designer then asked, “what fruit has different fruit on its branches? Why do your branches have names that differ from its source?” The answer to that question and a series of others that follows has led your board into discussions about the identity of MAEOPP and its affiliated entities.

membership at the home-going celebration of MAEOPP Past President, Tendaji Ganges (1985-1986). Mr. Ganges was laid to rest in Trenton, NJ.

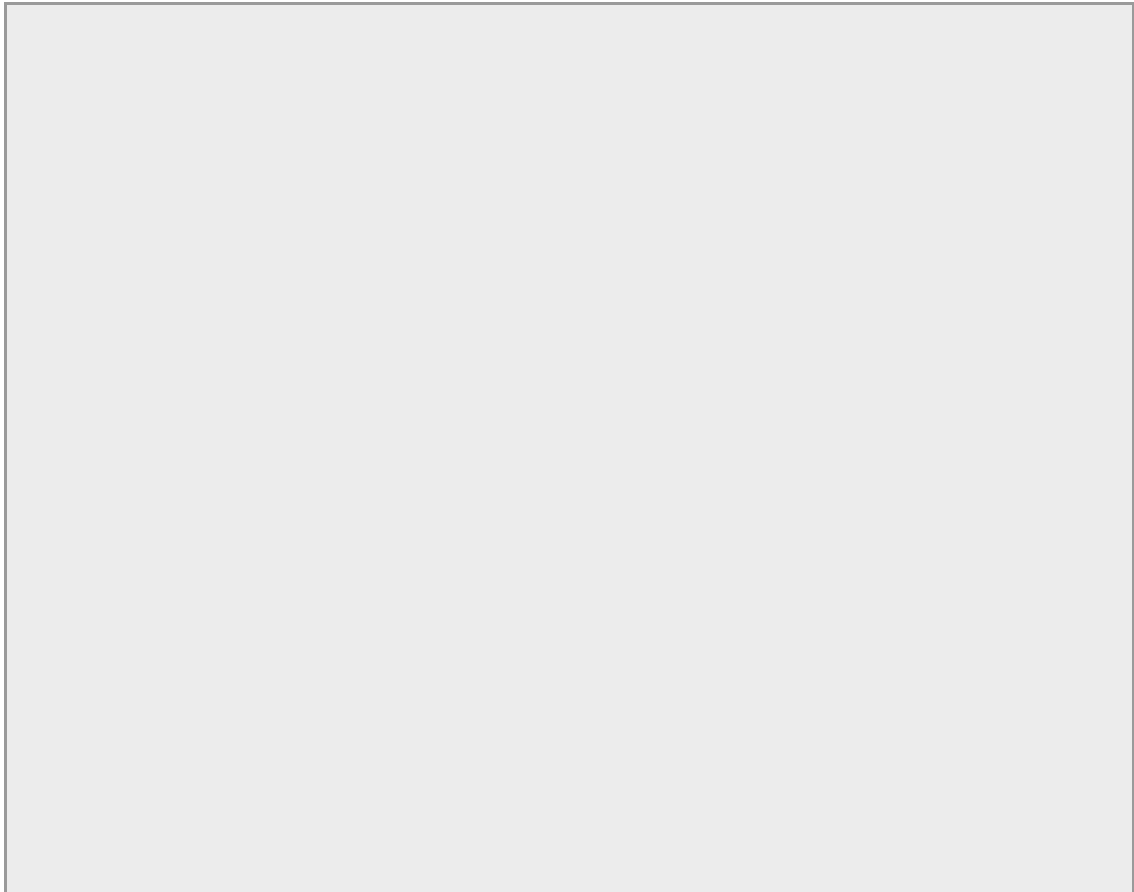
The memorial service was well attended by the family, friends, staff and students. Tens of MAEOPP members, including MEF Board Chair Otis Williams and several MICAPP Past Presidents were present. Mr. Ganges will be sorely missed!

Does the name "MAEOPP" accurately reflect the organization that we have grown into? Does it reflect what it is that we do and why what we do is important? Does our name reflect who we want to be in the college access and success market?

These questions and more were the topic of discussion as I traveled to six chapter conferences in the month of April.

Your MAEOPP board requests your help in this matter. If you want to have a preliminary voice in the discussion about the alignment of chapter and regional names, please take a minute to complete a quick [survey](#) here. You are also welcome to share your thoughts with me [[president@maeopp.org](mailto:president@maeopp.org)] your chapter leadership. We look forward to hearing from you!

Thank you for your engagement and attention as we work through this exciting time in our Association's history! We owe it to our founders and those who will come behind us to be intentional in our decision making!





REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

The MAEOPP Association is excited to host the inaugural MAEOPP 100: Men of Excellence Conference from July 23-25, 2015 at Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, OH. This conference, inspired by President Obama's My Brother's Keeper Initiative, is targeted to young men of color, but open to all young men involved in educational opportunity programs in the region. Forty young men chosen from pre-college programs, 40 young men from collegiate programs, and 20 young professionals from the region will work with TRIO/higher education professionals on personal/college planning and life skill development.

**DATE OF CONFERENCE:** July 23 - 25, 2015

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** May 15, 2015

**REGISTRATION COST:** \$300 per participant, which includes all meals, t-

shirt, conference materials, and lodging.

**QUESTIONS?** Contact [maeopp100@maeopp.org](mailto:maeopp100@maeopp.org)

**MAEOPP FAIR SHARE UPDATE as of May 1, 2015: 75%  
Just 25% or \$179,549 to go!**



**Our final 2015 Fair Share Campaign started recently** – the **Spring Campaign** for Institutional Membership. Any institution whose membership expires between July 1, 2015 and December 31, 2015 is eligible to save \$300 **if payment is received by May 31, 2015**. Last week, all Fair Share leaders received a monthly report which included information about the institutions that are eligible for this discount. If you would like to receive this information, or any other details you may need, please contact Jesse Baker at [jesse.baker@coenet.us](mailto:jesse.baker@coenet.us) or (202) 347-7430 and he will be happy to assist you.

#### MAEOPP Best Practice Center

Congratulations to Dr. David Arendale, Dr. Wallace Southerland and the MAEOPP Best Practice Center supporters! The committee has been hard at work, leading the way in research and evaluation of college access, success and retention practices. In addition to distribution of the MAEOPP Directory to all MAEOPP members, it has been downloaded more than 350 times by colleagues in the U.S., Canada, China, France, Germany, India, and the United Kingdom.

On April 23, David Arendale conducted an online workshop with the Michigan MAEOPP Chapter on use of the directory and procedures for submitting their best practices to the center and on April 29, Arendale will shared about the MAEOPP Directory via a nation-wide webinar hosted by the U.S. Department of Education focused on approaches to increase access to college.

#MAEOPpleads #TRIOworks

Congratulations, Tracy Abler! WAEOPP and MAEOPP are proud of you! On April 23, 2015, Tracy, won the very prestigious Marian University Social Justice Award. Unfortunately, she was not there to receive the award. She was attending the annual conference of the Wisconsin Association for Educational Opportunity Program Personnel with several other Wisconsin TRIO and EOP professionals.



Thank you for your support of the Inaugural Girls in STEM conference. Over 125 applications were accepted from TRIO/GEAR UP and EOP programs from all over the United States! Help me thank President Elect Roxanne Gregg and GIS Co-Chair Misty Williams for their hard work. This MAEOPP Initiative will be held May 29-31, 2015.



1 regional president,  
1 regional president elect  
2 leadership workshops,  
6 chapter conferences,  
14 flights (United, American, Delta)  
1096 road miles driven  
1 more to go!

Many thanks to the chapter leadership and conference chairs [Kristi Bolen (MKN), Kia Thao (MN), Pamela Rogers (OH), Kelly Kowzan (IA), Heidi Wituki (MI)] for their hospitality during my visits to chapter conferences this month. Thanks to Roxanne Gregg for stepping up and offering to attend the WAEOPP conference while I represented the Association at Mr. Ganges Memorial service in Flint, MI. It is not small feat to plan and implement a chapter conference. The efforts made to make Roxanne and I feel welcome are appreciated!

**NEXT UP... Illinois and Indiana TRIO!**

**he Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP) is excited to host its 41st Annual Professional Conference from November 15-18, 2015 at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan.**



**Conference Registration is coming soon. Reserve your room at the Amway Grand Hotel now.**

*Have you set up your profile on [www.maeopp.org](http://www.maeopp.org)?*



### Upcoming Events:

- MAEOPP Board Meeting - St. Louis, MO - May 7-9
- GIS Conference - Indianapolis, IN - May 29-31
- Indiana and Illinois TRIO Conference - South Bend, IL May 17-18
- COE Board Meeting - Washington, DC - May 18 - 23
- MAEOPP 100 - Bowling Green, OH - July 23 - 25

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