



# MAEOPP HAPPENINGS

*Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel*

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## A Message from the President Organized TRIO

Greetings! Summer went by quickly, and fall has been a busy time of year for the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel with four upcoming conferences and preparations for the annual General Assembly meeting on November 11, 2014. I hope I see you at one or more of these events. Read further into our newsletter for information on all of them:

- Pre-College Student Conference, October 17-19 at Pheasant Run Hotel in St. Charles, Illinois.
- Adult Student Leadership Conference October 17-19 at the Hilton Garden Inn, in St. Charles, Illinois.
- 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair, October 31 – November 2 hosted by MAEOPP and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee at Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, Wisconsin.
- MAEOPP 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Conference is November 9-12 at the DoubleTree by Hilton-Bloomington/Minneapolis South, Minnesota.

Three key highlights from the August Board Meeting that I'd like to share:

- ◇ *Creating Partnerships*: Minneapolis-based College Possible presented to the MAEOPP on their current priorities and services to students.
- ◇ *Validating Practices*: The Board approved the continuation of the MAEOPP Best Practices Center which originally was a five-year pilot project which ran from 2009-2014.
- ◇ *Teaching Advocacy*: ["How to write an effective Postcard" video](#) created by MN TRIO students.

Congratulations to Trent Ball for becoming Board Chair Elect for the Council for Opportunity in Education!



Congratulations to MO-KAN-NE for receiving COE's Rising State/Chapter Award for their strategic focus on three areas critical to becoming a model and example within the region and the nation. Over the course of this year MO-KAN-NE has implemented activities and events that center on increasing and serving the membership, fostering and supporting leadership across the chapter and providing a variety of professional development activities for the TRIO and larger EOP community.

MAEOPP was well represented at the Council for Opportunity in Education Annual Conference in September as not only attendees, but as volunteers and presenters as well. Great job, MAEOPP members, on having the highest percentage of attendees complete a 10 for 10 for the 2015 Fair Share Campaign – MAEOPP won a free policy seminar registration! (MAEOPP exceeded the 2014 Fair Share campaign goals for the overall region reaching 111% and joining eight of 10 individual states that surpassed 100%.)

We were also *in the house* for the **COE Educational Opportunity Dinner** on Tuesday, September 9th in DC. While **MAEOPP** President Annette Horvat co-presented the TRIO Achiever Awards, MAEOPP Past President Trent Ball and President Elect Kaye Monk Morgan, along with other MAEOPP members, hosted several congressional leaders. Iowa TRIO President Ellie Burns hosted Iowa **Senator Tom Harkin's** staffer Robin Juliano. WAEOPP President Donald Singleton and WAEOPP member Garry Moise hosted **Wisconsin Congresswoman Gwen Moore** and her staffer Tatiana Calderon plus Wisconsin Senator Tammy Baldwin's staffers Michael DiNapoli and Brian Moulton. Illinois TRIO President Elect Aaron Cortes and Laura Dayton hosted Illinois **Congresswoman Robin Kelly** and **Representative Danny Davis**.



Annette Horvat  
2013-14  
MAEOPP President

MICAPP's Elizabeth Coburn and Andrea Mireles hosted **Representative Bill Huizenga**. Ohio TRIO President Rabekah Stewart and Ohio TRIO President Elect Thomas Jefferson hosted **State Senator Charleta Tavares**.

It was an evening filled with celebration and hope as seven TRIO Achievers were honored. Two TRIO Achievers, LaKiesha Kurtz and Michael Muse, were nominated by members from our region and another, Carol Cheatham, gave back to TRIO in our area. Speaking of her experience as a McNair Scholar, Carol Cheatham, currently an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Chapel Hill Nutrition Research Institute, said, "I believe so much in the McNair Program that I have gone on to 'pay it forward.' During my time at the University of Minnesota and during my postdoc at the University of Kansas, I was involved in mentoring students and teaching for their respective McNair Programs."

As a mechanical components engineer at the Boeing Company, LaKiesha Kurtz is not likely to forget the critical role that Student Support Services played in her life at Saint Louis University. Taking advantage of learning opportunities early, as a freshman, she accessed SSS tutoring in math several times a week and the hard work put her ahead of the curve in her engineering classes. By her junior year, she was a tutor herself, providing support to SSS students. LaKeisha believes that being a part of TRIO "was instrumental to my success," and is grateful for the resources and support granted to her through TRIO.

The final recipient of the evening, Michael Muse, has a remarkable and varied career that includes industrial engineering, radio guest commentating and political fundraising. He is co-founder of Muse Recordings, a now celebrated record label that has included partnerships with Sean "Diddy" Combs and rap artist Nelly on social awareness projects as well as the United Nations "Standup" concert in Time Square, New York. Michael credits his experience at the Upward Bound Program at Michigan State University at Lansing and the mentorship and guidance of Sandra Firestone (program coordinator) and Director Glenda Hammond. He traces his success to the creation of an environment where he could be his authentic self as both his leadership skills and his independence were manifesting. It gave him the guidance that brought out the best in him. "This is TRIO. This is Upward Bound. This is the impact," he said.

Mr. Muse's quote is a good way to end this letter and I also encourage you to continue reading the news and updates from around the region.

Sincerely,

Annette Horvat, President

**Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel  
40<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Conference  
November 9-12, 2014**

“Organized **TRIO**: Leading the Way to Expand Educational Opportunity and Success”

Join other educational opportunity professionals at the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (**MAEOPP**) 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Conference entitled “Organized **TRIO**: Leading the Way to Expand Educational Opportunity and Success.” Register today and reserve your room at the DoubleTree by Hilton-Bloomington/Minneapolis South which offers a free, short shuttle ride to the Mall of America (**MOA**) in addition to courtesy pick-up at the MSP airport.

Register: <https://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventId=1564845>

Make hotel reservations: [https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome\\_gi\\_new&groupID=28428252](https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupID=28428252)

Check out the Mall of America: [www.mallofamerica.com](http://www.mallofamerica.com)

***MAEOPP 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala***

As a registered conference attendee, you will have a ticket for the Association’s 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration to be held on Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. If you are not able to register for the conference and would like to attend only the Gala, go to our Online Registration link above and select banquet only.

**Sunday, Opening Plenary** *40 Years of Advocacy as Organized TRIO*: MAEOPP’s 1<sup>st</sup> President, COE President Emeritus Dr. Arnold Mitchem; MAEOPP Past Presidents Deltha Colvin, Ngondi Kamatuka, and Dr. Michael Jeffries; and advocates Bruce and Sharyn Schelske

**Monday Plenary** *Next 40 Years in Higher Ed*: Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Senior Vice Chancellor John O’Brien

**Tuesday Plenary** *Unlinking Policy to Reality In Opportunity for Higher Education*: Thomas G. Mortenson, Senior Scholar at [The Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education](http://ThePellInstitute.org) in Washington, DC. and an independent higher education policy analyst living in Isle, Minnesota

**Wednesday Breakfast Plenary** *Updates from the Council for Opportunity in Education*: COE President Maureen Hoyler and COE Board Chair Oscar Felix

**Wednesday Plenary** *TRIO – Equity in Action*: MN District 5 Congressman Keith Ellison

*Additional opportunities you don't want to miss out on!*

**Institute for the Advancement of Leadership Program Management** is designed to improve the specific project of the participant; increase knowledge of TRIO legislation, federal regulations and CAS standards; and improve the management skills of the project director. Also, the Institute is designed to increase the credibility of educational opportunity programs to their institutions. *The Institute begins Saturday, November 8, 2014 at 1:00 pm* at the conference hotel and will continue throughout the conference during the times that concurrent sessions are being held. For questions on the Institute, contact the Institute Director Dr. Celerstine Johnson, via email at [johnsoncb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:johnsoncb@sbcglobal.net) or call 314-725 6484. When you register for the conference, you can select the Institute as a pre-con, **but be sure to complete and submit the separate application** which can be found here: <http://www.maeopp.org/#!/institute-for-the-advancement-/ci6h>

*Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup> Pre-Conference Workshops to be held 1-4 pm*

*When registering for the conference, you may add either the SSS Innovative Practices Forum or the Best Education Practices Center!*

**SSS Innovative Practices Forum** - This pre-conference workshop, led by Dr. Jonathan McKenzie and other TRIO professionals, will focus on enhancing your program design by learning about different strategies and emphasis on how to incorporate required services. Participants will weigh the strengths and limitations of these approaches with your colleagues from our region. Begin your professional development with this workshop and continue through the SSS strand of concurrent sessions.

**MAEOPP Best Education Practices Center** - The MAEOPP Best Education Practices Center features practices that support the success of low-income and first-generation students. This resource identifies *What works* and *"How to do it"*. In this pre-conference workshop we will develop best practice research.

If you have any questions regarding the professional conference, please contact our 40th Annual MAEOPP Professional Conference Chairs, Kris Nerem-Lowery ([lowery@iowacentral.edu](mailto:lowery@iowacentral.edu)) and Mari Tototzintle ([tototzin@stolaf.edu](mailto:tototzin@stolaf.edu)).

## “Organized TRIO: Leading the Way to Expand Educational Opportunity and Success”

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17 – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2014  
St. Charles, IL

### MAEOPP Pre-College Student Leadership Conference Pheasant Run

#### ***Pre-College Conference Highlights:***

- Concurrent sessions presented by TRIO and educational professionals on topics such as preparing for college, financial literacy, leadership, social media, college life and youth violence.
- Featured TRIO Alumni motivational speaker
- Celebrating 50 Years of TRIO Think Tank Competition
- The opportunities for students to interact with peers across the region

### MAEOPP Adult Student Leadership Conference Hilton Garden Inn

#### ***Adult Student Conference Highlights:***

- Concurrent sessions presented by TRIO professionals and subject matter experts
- Featured speakers from the Council for Opportunity in Education and the U.S. Department of Education
- Opportunities for students to interact with peers across the region

### 23rd Annual McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair

October 31 – November 2, 2014 in Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan, Wisconsin  
Presented by MAEOPP and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

The 23rd Annual National McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair will take place October 31st to November 2nd at the Lake Lawn Resort, Delavan WI. The conference is presented by MAEOPP and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.

We have a very exciting program, including the Fireside chat with Carl McNair (brother of Dr. Ronald E. McNair). A highlight of the event will be the Keynote address by urban farming guru Will Allen of Growing Power in Milwaukee. A former NBA player, Will Allen has met President Obama, has survived an appearance on the *Colbert Report* and was highlighted in the 2010 *Time Top 100* most influential people.

This is a great Conference for students to present their research in a nurturing environment while providing opportunities for career networking. The Graduate Fair provides a venue for students to interact with representatives from well-known schools of higher education.



**Bobby Beavers**  
**MAEOPP President**  
**1994-1995**

## Past President's Corner

### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Developed a Training Institute that focused on total quality management and the use of multicultural competences to address the needs of students and staff concerning multicultural enrichment and personal empowerment.

Also, identified and addressed the training and educational needs of the membership in the areas of assessment and evaluation, technology, and total quality management technology.

The Annual Conference had workshop “tracks” for the conference attendees to choose from—for the first time—as part of their professional development during the MAEOPP Conference.

The MAEOPP Board of Directors received “in-service” training from Dr. Patricia Arredondo, Multicultural and International Counseling Academy, on the use of multicultural counseling competencies and techniques.

### CHALLENGES:

Helping and leading the association in achieving the MAEOPP “Fair Share” goal, particularly in getting 100% participation from all of the chapters, in the NCEOA Phone-a-thon.

Keeping the diverse membership together in response to some very disparaging and insensitive remarks that were made during a presentation at the 1995 Student Leadership Banquet. I assured the membership that my administration embraced a philosophy of and a commitment to celebrating a nurturing and healthy exchange of intellectual ideas; celebrating cultural diversity; and promoting multiculturalism.

Leadership is about “servanthood”—serving others—and not about wielding power.

*-Dr. Bobby Beavers*

# The MAEOPP Institute for the Advancement of Leadership and Program Management

The 30<sup>th</sup> Annual MAEOPP Conference will once again host a spectacular Pre-conference Institute led by Dr. Celerstine Johnson. Over the four days of training, participants and faculty members enjoy an exciting exchange of ideas and knowledge. After learning about CAS standards, TRIO leadership learn how to develop an action plan. Lively discussions and sharing of best practices create a very cohesive group. Participants also enjoy camaraderie and good food together. As a result, participants tend to leave feeling good about going back to their programs with some great ideas for assessment.



**2013 Institute participants were:**

Cliff Adams – Kansas, Val Bronston – Cincinnati, James Griffin – Illinois,  
Mulu Negash - Kansas, Rouzell Porter – Missouri, Kenny White – Illinois,  
Nicci Wiltse – Kansas, Heidi Witucki – Michigan, Joe Zerbst – Michigan

We hope to see you and your colleagues at the November 2014 Institute and MAEOPP Conference in Bloomington, MN – a wonderful city!



## Emerging Leaders Institute (ELI)

ELI is an innovative program designed by MAEOPP leaders who recognized the need to strengthen the association by developing potential leaders.

The Emerging Leaders Institute is a year long leadership development program that is designed to inspire and cultivate strong leadership within the association. The program's design combines professional development, networking opportunities, and hands-on experiences that prepare participants for greater involvement in MAEOPP and their respective chapters.

### Components of the ELI training experience:

- Leadership Styles
- Team Building
- Time and Project Management
- Parliamentary procedures
- MAEOPP Constitution and History
- MAEOPP Board operations
- MAEOPP Education Foundation
- COE history
- Advocacy efforts

### 2014 ELI Presentation and Graduation

**Where:** MAEOPP Professional Development Conference—Bloomington, MN

**When:** Sunday, November 9, 2014

**Time:** 6:00-7:00 PM

**Hope to see you there!**

## COE

### U.S. Department of Education Hosted First SSS Technical Writing Workshop in Washington D.C. on September 10

The U.S. Department of Education (ED) hosted its first SSS Technical Writing Workshop on Wednesday, September 10, in Washington, D.C.

ED will host **9 additional workshops**, most likely 2 on-site and 7 webinars in the coming months. No information is available on these workshops at this time. Once they are set, more information will be posted at (<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/workshops.html>).

**NOTE** — This is only a draft application. The draft application for comment and the final application will be coming out soon. Stay tuned.

### Senator Durbin *Discusses Issues Important to TRIO*



Senator **Dick Durbin** (D-IL)

On Tuesday, September 9, 2014, Senator Dick Durbin of Illinois offered a stirring address to the 1,500 TRIO educators, students and alumni present at the Council for Opportunity in Education's 33rd Annual Conference in Washington, D.C. In particular, Senator Durbin reflected on the unique contributions of the graduates of the McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement program, which was created through the joint efforts of TRIO leaders from Illinois and his predecessor, mentor, and friend, Senator Paul Simon (D-IL), whose seat he assumed in 1996. Interweaving a bit of the story of his parents' own emigration to the United States, Senator Durbin also addressed his work in creating pathways to citizenship for students through the DREAM Act. The Senator also discussed his work to protect students from predatory practices by for-profit institutions.

# MAEOPP Membership

## 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 Not-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 current MAEOPP member will receive an individual email to their institutional address with the new user name and instructions on how to use the new services.



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](mailto: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 >>](#)