

MAE

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From the Desk of Your President...

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Standing on the edge of change...

The MAEOPP Board has worked for months to prepare the Association to move towards the adoption of a new name. A name that reflects the history of our Association, honors the veterans of the TRIO/College Access and Success movement and puts us on the precipice of success for the next forty years. The decision to adopt Educational Opportunity Association as the new name for the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel is one that your Association leadership believes leverages our strength and tells the story of our passion and our purpose.

Your opportunity to speak on this issue is presented in the form of a vote on the constitution. The Board voted to send several proposed constitutional amendments to the membership for consideration. Voting on these amendments begins September 9 and will run until September 23, 2015. Links to two documents that help explain these amendments are included below. One of the linked documents states the six amendments that will appear on the ballot in September. ([Click here to review](#)). The other is a copy of the MAEOPP Constitution that details how the proposed changes will impact the Association's constitution. ([Click here to review](#)).

If you have any questions about the amendments, please contact your respective Chapter representatives to the MAEOPP Board or one of the co-chairs of the Legal Concerns and Constitutional Issues Committee (Ce Merrigan at merrigan@wncc.net or Shanna Eggers at seggers@emporia.edu).

To vote, you MUST be an active MAEOPP member (those members entitled to a vote). If you need to renew your membership, go to www.maeopp.org. If you need your MAEOPP.org login and password, please go to our website and click on Member Login in the top right corner. Then click on "Forgot My Username/Password" (right below the login and cancel buttons). If you have questions, contact technology@maeopp.org.

It is often said that membership has it's privileges. Membership has it's responsibilities too. Please engage in this important leadership activity. Your Association will be better for it!

Kaye



Join thousands of students, parents, teachers, partners and college access professionals from across the nation to celebrate GEAR UP !

National GEAR UP Week is an opportunity to raise awareness about the positive impact GEAR UP is having locally and nationally. It's a time to engage stakeholders - local, state and federal elected officials, funders, partners, as well as local, state and regional media - and share the program's accomplishments. Let's commemorate the work and the progress students are making



MAEOPP is excited to host its National McNair Student Conference and Graduate Fair from **October 30 to November 1, 2015** at the Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, WI. The conference is designed to provide undergraduate students the opportunity to present their research in a professional environment. Workshops, panel discussions and activities will introduce McNair Scholars to the nature of graduate study as well as provide helpful tips and suggestions in writing an effective graduate admissions application. Register at www.maeopp.org.

towards achieving their life-long
dream of going to college!



U. S. Department of Education's Sixth Annual Back-to-School Bus Tour

Secretary Arne Duncan and senior staff will be hitting the road for the Sixth Annual Back-To-School Bus Tour. There will be eight stops in the MAEOPP region during the week of September 14-18.

- Woodland Early Learning Center, Kansas City, Missouri
- North High School, Des Moines, Iowa
- Roosevelt Middle School, Cedar Rapids, Iowa
- Williamsfield Community Unit School District, Williamsfield, Illinois
- University of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois
- Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
- Crispus Attucks High School, Indianapolis, Indiana
- Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, Cincinnati, Ohio

The theme of this year's tour is "Ready for Success." At each stop there will be a celebration of how states and local communities are working to increase access and opportunity from early learning to college. Let's make sure that TRIO and GEAR UP are represented at every stop!

Stay connected with this year's tour by [signing up for bus tour email updates](#), and follow the tour on social media with #ReadyForSuccess.

News from the August Board Meeting

The following actions were taken by the Association board at the August Board meeting:

- The Emerging Leaders Institute Evaluation and Enhancement committee made a recommendation to the Association board to suspend the Emerging Leaders Institute for the 2015-2016 year after a thorough examination of the current curriculum and the some of the most recent outcomes. The Emerging Leaders Institute has produced some of the strongest and most impactful leaders in our Association, the nation and the college access and success movement. In fact, the 2014-2015 cohort promises to continue that pattern. Those candidates that were selected by their respective chapters but not voted on by the MAEOPP Board of Directors will have first priority for the 2016-2017 cohort. The committee sighted the following as rationale for the the hiatus:
 - A desire to standardize the selection process across the chapters who recommend ELI participants and gain a better understanding for the recognized patterns of ELI who leave the Association within five years of "emerging."
 - A desire to revise the current curriculum to include better integration of technology
 - A seeming trend of ELI participants who don't complete the process and a desire to better understand the persistence issue.
- The Association Planning and Development committee presented for Board approval a strategic plan for the Association spanning 2016-2019. This work was began by Tendaji Ganges and completed by Dr. Micky Johnson with the help of T Ulrich and the other committee members. The new strategic plan will be placed on the MAEOPP website soon.
- The Public Relations Committee presented their recommendation for a new Association logo. The board approved the committees recommendation with suggested modifications. The logo will debut at the Annual Conference and will

be placed on the MAEOPP website, along with a guide detailing the appropriate use, in November.

- The Board heard a report from the MAEOPP Best Educational Practices Center leadership, on ways to increase the viability of the Center. Board members agreed to submit best practices to support the Center. In fact, a Board retreat has been planned to support the process.

This just in...

Lynn Mahaffie, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning and Innovation for the U.S. Department of Education drafted a "Dear Colleague" letter on July 29th clarifying "institutional and applicant roles and responsibilities related to Title IV dependency determination for unaccompanied youth." There are several clarifications made. Chief among them is that Financial Aid Administrators can determine whether a student is an unaccompanied youth who is homeless or at risk of being homeless based on information provided by TRIO or GEAR UP staff.

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