

TRiO PROGRAMS CAMPUS UPDATE

Educational Opportunity Centers

Western Kentucky University
107 Jones Jagers Hall
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098
charlene.manco@wku.edu
<http://www.wku.edu/eoc/>

Educational Talent Search

Western Kentucky University
100 Jones Jagers Hall
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098
martha.sales@wku.edu
270-745-3757
1-800-225-4958
<http://www.wku.edu/ets>

Student Support Services

Western Kentucky University
132 Jones Jagers Hall
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, Ky 42101
studentsupportservices@wku.edu
270-745-4308/ 270-745-6850 (fax)
<http://www.wku.edu/sss/>

Upward Bound

Western Kentucky University
100 Jones Jagers Hall
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098.
upward.bound@wku.edu
(270)745-4873 Fax(270)745-2031
<http://www.wku.edu/upwardbound>

Veterans Upward Bound

Western Kentucky University
127 Jones Jagers Hall
1906 College Heights Blvd. #11098
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1098
veterans.upward.bound@wku.edu
(270) 745-5310
<http://www.wku.edu/vub>



Dr. Ellen Bonaguro
Associate Dean,
Student Services
and Enrollment,
Academic Affairs

As the semester comes to a close we are proud to present our second newsletter outlining recent achievements of the WKU TRiO Programs. Allow me to mention a few highlights. Read articles on the successes of the Educational Talent Search (ETS), Upward Bound (UB), Veteran's Upward Bound (VUB), Student Support Services (SSS), and Educational Opportunity Center (EOC). Several of our ETS and SSS students participated in the National TRiO Day on February 27th. SSS students, Andrea Hardy and DeGerald Watson-Morton proudly represent us at TRiO Day. ETS recently reported 70 percent of their 2009 seniors enrolled in college. This year ETS juniors visited four colleges in Kentucky including WKU. VUB proudly awards scholarships developed through funds from outside sources. UB graduated the largest class in its history this year-26 students! Twenty-one of these grads will be attending WKU in the fall and will participate in the UB Bridge Program this summer. Thanks to Mr. Dale Brown, the new interim Vice-President for Enrollment Management, for welcoming guests to the Annual VUB banquet on May 7th. EOC has been busy offering Financial Assistance workshops reaching 115 participants who completed the FAFSA and enrollment forms. Hope you get a chance to read the entire newsletter so that you will see how much our TRiO Programs are doing to serve our schools and our communities. We appreciate your interest and your support.

BEST WISHES TO DR. DEAN KAHLER

Dr. Kahler has been the Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at WKU since June 1, 2007. The TRiO Programs



Dr. Kahler congratulates Veterans Upward Bound alumnus and WKU student Andrew Skinner on receiving an award at in Veterans Upward Bound.

appreciate all the help he provided us during his time in office. Dean supported TRiO staff member's attendance at conferences as well as provided programs with additional resources when necessary. Recently he upgraded the Student Support Services Program office so that they now enjoy new carpeting that was in serious need of repair. He also secured funding for additional students to attend the Upward Bound Summer Residential Program for 2010. Dean began his new Responsibilities as the Executive Director of Navitas at WKU in early May.

Dr Kahler was responsible for establishing the new Navitas program, University Pathways Program, to begin in fall 2010 at WKU. Navitas is a global education services provider and is expected to double the number of international students attending WKU over the next decade. The program will provide them with the very best educational transition into the American higher education system. The result would be that international students will be well prepared to attend WKU and pursue their degree. On behalf of all the TRiO Programs we wish Dr. Kahler the very best in his new position and we know he will continue to be an advocate for our programs.

TRiO PROGRAMS CAMPUS UPDATE

NATIONAL TRiO DAY-CELEBRATING A FEDERAL PROGRAM HELPING YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITIES TO BECOME SUCCESSFUL MEMBERS OF SOCIETY BY PURSUING THEIR DREAMS AND THE COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.

WKU Educational Talent Search students participated in National TRiO Day at Murray State University on February 27, 2010. BCHS and BCMS students, below, competed in academic competition against other Kentucky TRiO students.



(Back L-R) Daniel Hardin, Nathan Smith, Chase McCoy, Samantha Camus, Cayli Bevill, Kayley Jarboe, Alison Henderson, Tony McGranahan (Front L-R) David Key, Caitlynn Price, Joanna Hammers, Elizabeth Hilliker, Jonathan Hixenbaugh and Haley Burden

TRiO Day was established in 1986 as a day of celebration and recognition of TRiO Programs' achievements in assisting millions of promising students from disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue and obtain a college degree.

In 2009, WKU-ETS saw 142 seniors graduate high school. Of those 142 students, 93% completed a college application, 81% completed the FAFSA and 70% enrolled in college! Way to go 2009 Seniors and great job WKU-ETS!

For more information on WKU-ETS or other TRiO Programs at WKU, please visit <http://www.wku.edu/ets> or <http://www.wku.edu/eep/>. You may also chose to contact us via email at ets@wku.edu or toll free at 800.225.4958.

ETS AMBASSADORS 2009-2010

The ETS Ambassador program allows students the opportunity to participate in various public relations, recruiting, and leadership activities in their county. Some of the things our ambassadors will help with this year are:

- Special events
- Community outreach
- Recruiting
- Be available to represent ETS program
- WKU Leadership Conference



Congratulations to the 09-10 ETS Student Ambassadors!!

EDUCATIONAL TALENT SEARCH COLLEGE VISITS 2010

During the 11th grade year, ETS students get to visit a college campus. The schools that were visited this



year were WKU, BGTC, Kentucky Wesleyan College, and Campbellsville University. Students got to tour the campus, eat lunch, and attend an information session on the school. Some students even got to sit in on a college Psychology class! What a great experience for students!

TRIO PROGRAMS CAMPUS UPDATE

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND STUDENTS SUPPORTED BY SCHOLARSHIPS

In 1998 Veterans Upward Bound, with the support of the American Legion and VFW in Bowling Green, and a few personal donations, established a small scholarship account. The seed money was closely monitored so that it was not depleted before it could start growing interest, from which



Joanna Jones receiving the Military Officers of America scholarship.

came the scholarships.

Over the years The American Legion and the VFW, and now the Military Officers Association of America in Bowling Green, have provided donations to the account and occasionally we have had small donations for individual. This seed money now earns enough money to provide a \$300 scholarship to one



Lt. C. Mike Kenney, Retired, introducing the American Legion scholarship.

participant. The three major donors now also provide scholarships that no longer go into the scholarship pool but

goes directly to the scholarship winners each year. Allowing more students go receive scholarship aid.

We are very grateful to the three organizations listed above. Their generosity helps those



David Phelps receiving the VFW scholarship.

veterans whose finances are most strained when they must pay the bills for education.

VUB is happy to accept donations. If you wish to make a donation to our scholarship we urge you to contact Randy Wilson at randal.d.wilson@wku.edu or e-mail veterans.upward.bound@wku.edu .

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES DO WELL AT STATE ACADEMIC COMPETITION

Andrea Hardy and DeGerald Watson-Morton (below) represented WKU's Student Support Services Program at Trio Day* 2010. They placed second, and represented WKU with professionalism and good will. All participants enjoyed meeting other contestants from Universities all over Kentucky.



Andrea is a Sophomore who plans to major in Broadcasting, in the school of Journalism and Broadcasting. Her home is Indianapolis.



DeGerald is a Freshman from Louisville, Kentucky. He also plans to major in Broadcasting. They made a remarkable team!

**TRIO Day is a gathering of TRIO Programs in*

Kentucky that takes place each summer. Several of the kinds of programs, such as Student Support Services, Upward Bound or Talent Search, have academic competitions. This is the initial step in selecting students to compete at the regional completions the following spring.

"The school is the last expenditure upon which America should be willing to economize." -- Franklin D. Roosevelt

TRIO PROGRAMS CAMPUS UPDATE

TRIO CONTINUES IN THE FACE OF REPEATED LEVEL FUNDING

Budget woes afflict all areas of education and TRIO is no exception to these difficult times. For two grant cycles now TRIO programs have only received insubstantial funding increase the first year of the grant cycle and had to live with that same amount of money for the remaining 4-5 years of their individual cycles. Those of you with any budget knowledge can realize that this does not keep up with the cost of living and does not even allow most programs to offer any form of raises. Worse, most programs have to make cuts just to continue offering quality services to students.

In Upward Bound alone this coming cycle the Council for Opportunities in Education estimate 200 programs less than we have now will receive funding due to the cuts by the government and by Senators and Congressman that continue to fail to value our programs. TRIO is serving approximately 41,400 fewer students in FY 2009 than it did in FY 2005. The WKU Upward Bound program has already had to trim staff so that they provide services with less staff than any other Upward Bound program in the state.

Upward Bound and Veterans Upward Bound have learned that we are not grant writing until a year later than expected which may have an unexpected drain on programs designed to run a year less than expected.

It is expected that the House Appropriations Subcommittee will "mark up" its Fiscal Year 2011 funding bills for TRIO and other federal education programs in mid-May. Therefore, it is critical that members of the TRIO community, and friends of TRIO, continue to reach out to their congressional offices about the need for increased funding for TRIO in the coming year.

You can read more about TRIO programs at the Council for Opportunities in Education at <http://www.coenet.us>.

OFFICE ASSOCIATE TRAINING

An office associate training was held on April 30, 2010 in Academic Advising and Retention Center. Individuals present were:

Carolyn Boards and Jennifer Gregory from Student Disabilities Services, James Hume and Laura Johnson from Academic Advising, Bertha Hunter from Veterans Upward Bound, Carol



Lee from Educational Talent Search, and Dr. Ellen Bonaguro Associate Dean Student Services and Enrollment. Topics covered involved budget responsibilities, purchasing policies, and customer service. James helped facilitate discussion regarding important banner screens to look at regarding grant indexes, dos and don'ts involving procard guidelines, and beneficial information regarding grant accounts. Dr. Ellen Bonaguro gave information concerning customer service strategies and best practice tips for associates.

UPWARD BOUND SUMMER PROGRAM PREPARED TO BEGIN

The Upward Bound (UB) staff has visited their students at Allen, Butler, Edmonson, Hart, Logan and Russellville twice a month as well as hosting one Saturday session a month on campus.



During school visits and Saturday sessions students had the opportunity to hear presentations about overcoming test anxiety, improving study skills, scoring higher on the ACT, choosing a college and major, completing college applications, filing their FAFSA, personal responsibility, and becoming better citizens.

The 2010 UB graduating class consists of twenty six students, the largest graduating class in the history of the program. Twenty one of those students will be college freshmen on WKU's campus this summer as part of the UB Bridge Program. Students will take six hours in the summer to help them get a jump start on their college career and become acclimated to college life.

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Our remaining fifty students will arrive on June 12th for the six week summer residential program. During these six weeks our students will be taking academic classes Monday thru Thursday. Fridays are reserved for cultural or community service activities. Our summer program is designed to simulate a college going experience for our students. They gain knowledge that will improve their grades back in their high schools and expose them to different activities that will broaden their minds culturally and socially.

UB has several objectives that must be met through the US Department of Education. We must retain our students in the program, we must enroll them into postsecondary education, and they must persist in postsecondary education. For 2008-09 which is the latest reporting year, we retained 94.5% of our students in the program, 93.3% of our seniors enrolled in postsecondary education after high school graduation, and 78.5% of our college freshmen remained in college after their first year. All of these numbers exceed our objective numbers.

We are proud of our students' successes and look forward to our 2010 summer program!

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND HOLDS ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

This years annual Veterans Upward Bound banquet was held May 7th at Mariah's Restaurant.

Mr. Dale Brown, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management in Academic Affairs was on hand to greet the attendees.



Through generous donations from several organizations, including the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Military Officers Association of America and private donations, Veterans Upward Bound was happy to award \$2,700 for participants and alumni who will attend school in the fall of 2010.

VUB had a banner year with 26 participants enrolling in postsecondary school. Seventeen, 66% of those participants came enrolled at WKU; 5 enrolled in KCTCS;

and the rest enrolled in schools outside the south central Kentucky area.

Ms. Penny Allison, currently a VUB alumni who is attending WKU, was chosen the Student of the Year for her excellent academic record and amazingly positive attitude toward her education.



FASFA WORKSHOPS AT THE WKU GLASGOW REGIONAL CENTER

Barren County, located in the target area for the WKU Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC), has a high unemployment rate because of multiple factory closings. In order to assist with this crisis, Kathy Fraim, an EOC Counselor at the Glasgow Regional Center, is helping individuals enroll at a post-secondary educational program. Recently, Kathy, along with EOC Coordinator David Carner, conducted two Financial Assistance workshops. Over 115 participants attended the workshops and completed the FAFSA and enrollment forms. As of May, Kathy has provided assistance to 328 participants, and the WKU EOC project has met its target number of 1000 participants for the current fiscal year.



Glasgow Regional Center EOC Workshop Participants Completing FAFSA and Enrollment Forms

The Educational Opportunity Centers help participants with college admission, financial aid application and career assessment. In addition, the project assists participants with student loans which must be made through the Direct Loan Program (DLP) beginning July 1, 2010. This means that any participant who has not signed a Master Promissory Note through Direct Lending at studentloans.gov will need to complete the process to continue to receive federal loan dollars. Participants are encouraged to come to an EOC office when they need help completing the enrollment process.

Educational Opportunity Centers / Educational Talent Search / Student Support Services / Upward Bound / Veterans Upward Bound
All programs are located in Jones-Jaggers Hall

The TRIO Campus Update Newsletter is compiled and published by Randy Wilson, Director of Veterans Upward Bound