The Blueprint for a Lifetime of Success

Deltha Q. Colvin, Associate Vice President for Campus Life and TRIO Director, Wichita State University

The Office of Special Programs is excited to prepare for National TRIO Day 2014. The staffs have worked diligently to make sure that a quality, top notch program is ready. The Office of Special Programs includes TRIO programs (Talent Search, Communication Upward Bound, Upward Bound Wichita Prep, Upward Bound Math-Science, Veterans Upward Bound, Educational Opportunity Centers, Disability Student Support Services, Student Support Services, and the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program); Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP); Office of Disability Services (ODS); and eight College Access Challenge Grants (CACG). The programs serve over 2,853 students in Wichita and the state of Kansas; and all programs are hosted by Wichita State University (WSU).

Each program works to provide quality services to students. Talent Search provides middle school students a summer program that helps them stay academically fit during the time they are out of school. Communication Upward Bound helps students who have an interest in communication areas to pursue media as a career. Upward Bound Wichita Prep provides activities from tutoring to academic classes to ensure students graduate from high school and go on to college. Upward Bound Math-Science ensures that students develop their skills in STEM subjects to improve their skills and to pursue math, science, engineering, or technology in college. Veterans Upward Bound helps those who are or have been in the military to prepare to enter college and receive a degree. Educational Opportunity Centers provides technology assistance and instruction to help adults feel the success of his/her efforts. Disability Student Support Services allows individuals with disabilities know how important it is for them to get a college education and learn about programs that ensure their success.

Student Support Services provides students the tutoring needed to ensure they make the grade to pass a college course and graduate from WSU.

Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program effectively garners the support of the faculty to prepare students for graduate school and think of obtaining a doctoral degree. Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs helps students in foster and adoptive care to see the importance of college and identify positive ways to successfully transition to college. The Office of Disability Services assists individuals with disabilities successfully navigate at WSU. The eight College Access Challenge Grants are funded by the Kansas Board of Regents and awarded to the pre-college programs to implement programs designed to improve students’ skills.

The Office of Special Programs is looking forward to sharing the success of the programs and the impact made on the state of Kansas. WSU President John Bardo, First Lady Deborah Bardo, and Vice President for Campus Life and University Relations Wade Robinson have provided support to ensure the university and community are aware of the programs’ successes.

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