National TRIO Day Observance

In 1986, the 99th Congress passed a resolution urging people to celebrate National TRIO Day. This observance calls attention to TRIO programs (initially just three programs) and their place in the federal strategy to ensure equal educational opportunity in higher education. These programs enable Americans, regardless of economic circumstance, race, or ethnic background, to successfully enter college and graduate.

On Wednesday, February 21, 2007 the Wichita State University TRIO Programs (i.e. Disability Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers Program (EOC), McNair Scholars Program, Student Support Services, Talent Search-Project Discovery, Upward Bound Math/Science Regional Center, Upward Bound/Wichita Prep along with GEAR UP and The Office of Disability Services) will celebrate National TRIO Day with middle and high school students from USD 259, school staff, university administrators, community representatives and TRIO alumni from the various programs.

“A Blueprint for a Lifetime of Success” is this year’s theme. All programs are in collaboration to bring keynote speaker, Dr. Emil Hamberlin, a retired Chicago school teacher, who taught science in inner-city schools, to share his experiences on how to create a “Blueprint for Success” in all students.

Now Accepting Applications

The McNair Scholars Program is looking for new participants for the 2007 - 2008 academic year. To be eligible for the Program, students must meet the following criteria: have U.S. citizen status, enrolled at WSU full-time with sophomore, junior or senior standing (between 45 - 90 cumulative hours), and have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or 3.0 in the last 60 hours. Students must also be first generation and low income or a member of traditionally underrepresented groups in graduate education (i.e., African American, Hispanic/Latino and American Indian/Alaskan Natives.)

The Program is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a doctoral degree. Support and services for graduate school planning include, but are not limited to: graduate school exploration, tutoring, research opportunities, faculty mentoring, writing assistance, GRE preparation, attending conferences, and opportunities to be published in local and regional journals.

The application period is March 1 - April 20, 2007. Students may stop by the McNair Office, located in room173B, Grace Wilkie Annex to pick up an application. Faculty and staff may also contact the office with the names of potential candidates.

Food For Thought

“The great end of education is to discipline rather than to furnish the mind; to train it to the use of its own powers, rather than fill it with the accumulation of others.”

~ Tyron Edwards
**Garst is Named Senior Honor Woman of the Year**

McNair senior, Meladee Garst, was named Wichita State’s Senior Honor Woman of the Year. Five women and men were selected for their excellence in scholarship, leadership and service. Along with this prestigious honor, Garst was also awarded the Eunice Isely Scholarship, which was awarded to three of the honorees. Garst will graduate spring of 2007 and attend graduate school for Psychology in the fall. The McNair staff and students congratulate Garst for her achievements. (Meladee is seen here with WSU’s President and Mrs. Beggs)

**WSU McNair’s Very Own to Travel Abroad**

McNair scholars Meladee Garst and Sarah Rogers have been selected to participate in the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) International Leadership Training Program—a European study program for TRIO college students. Twenty students were selected from across the country to attend the University of Liverpool, one of the leading research universities in the UK. The students will explore issues common to both the United Kingdom and the United States, meet and work with students from the surrounding communities, as well as visit other countries such as Germany and Amsterdam. Both Garst and Rogers are excited for the opportunity and look forward to traveling to another country. The McNair staff are elated that two of their own will get the opportunity to travel abroad and see the world which will enhance their knowledge base as they prepare for graduate study.

**Grammatically Speaking**

**Direct Citations**

With many students beginning their journey through the research process, this article will review an important aspect of scholarly research: *directly citing sources*. Let’s begin!

**General Rule:** When using the APA format, place double quotation marks around the material that is directly cited and place the author, year, and page number(s) in parenthesis after the quote.

**Example:** “Often, the family’s routine is predetermined to cope with behavioral problems or to minimize their occurrence” (Gray, 1998, p. 4).

**Exception:** If referencing the author, year, or page number(s) in the sentence, you do not have to place that information again in parenthesis.

**Example:** Gray (1998) stated that “Often, the family’s routine is predetermined to cope with behavioral problems or to minimize their occurrence” (p. 4).

**Note:** Quotes can occur in the middle of a sentence, which aids sentence variety.

**Example:** When applied to the children portrayed in horror films, the notion that “some complex behaviors can be produced only through the aid of modeling” (Bandura, 1977, p. 12) offers a seemingly valid interpretation of why characters behave in a particular manner.

**Punctuation:** *Commas* and *periods* are placed inside the quotation marks while *colons* and *semicolons* are placed outside of quotation marks; the parenthetical information is placed between the end quotation mark and the appropriate punctuation (see prior examples).

To cite a sentence in which quotation marks are already present, you need to offset the interior quote with single quotation marks.

**Example:** “‘Gee!’ he said in a hushed voice, as if he had just awakened, ‘it doesn’t seem like I’ve been away from there for twenty-six years!’” (Cather, 1926, p. 414).


**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

The staff would like to wish a Happy Birthday to those celebrating spring birthdays in March, April & May!

*Cynthia Salas - 3/16*

*Jessica Hutton - 4/17*

*Kayla Nash - 4/27*
**Vocabulary Builder:**
Latin or Greek Endings

Most words of Greek and Latin origin that end in *um* or *on* form their plurals by dropping the *um* or *on* and adding an *a*. There are, however, a few of these words that form their plurals by adding an *s* to the singular form. What you want to avoid, is adding both an *a* and an *s*. That would form, in effect, a double plural.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Singular</th>
<th>Plural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>addendum</td>
<td>addenda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>criterion</td>
<td>criteria (not criterias)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>curriculum</td>
<td>curricula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>datum (rare)</td>
<td>data (always plural)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>erratum</td>
<td>errata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medium (used in connection with communication)</td>
<td>media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>medium (connection with communicating with the dead)</td>
<td>mediums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>memorandum</td>
<td>memoranda or memorandas (but not memorandums)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>phenomenon</td>
<td>phenomena (never phenomenas)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ultimatum</td>
<td>ultimatus</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


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**Quoting For Effect: Not a “good” idea**

Avoid the practice of putting words in quotes merely to draw attention to the idea the word is meant to convey. Be especially careful about using quotation marks to tell your reader that you are using a particular word in order to be humorous or sarcastic (as in the above title.)


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**Events to Come**

1. **McNair Applications Available**
2. **Faculty-led Seminar**
   - 10 - Noon, Room 106, Devlin Hall
   - Dr. Rhonda Lewis-Moss, Psychology
   - “What it Took to get my Doctorate”
3. **Spring Break - Enjoy!**
4. **Student Group Meeting**
   - 2 - 3 p.m., Room 206, Heskett Center
   - Connie Dietz, Cooperative Education
   - “Portraying a Professional Image”
5. **Research Assembly Meeting**
   - 3 - 4 p.m., Room 206, Heskett Center
6. **Student Group Meeting**
   - 2 - 3 p.m., Room 206, Heskett Center
   - Doris Burgert, College of Education
   - “Critical Thinking”
7. **Research Assembly Meeting**
   - 3 - 4 p.m., Room 206, Heskett Center
8. **Faculty-led Seminar**
   - 10 - Noon, Room 106, Devlin Hall
   - Ms. Victoria Jackson, Retired School Math Teacher
   - “GRE Preparation - Math”
9. **McNair Applications Due**
10. **Wichita State University Undergraduate Research and Creative Forum, Hughes Metroplex**
11. **Student Group Meeting**
   - 2 - 3 p.m., Room 206, Heskett Center
   - Shukura Bakari-Cozart
   - “Closing the Semester”
12. **Research Assembly Meeting**
    - 3 - 4 p.m., Room 206, Heskett Center
13. **Study Day!**
14. **Final Exams**
15. **Spring Commencement**
16. **Memorial Day**
Someone Like Me?

Dr. Zulma Toro-Ramos - Dean of Engineering

In a society where glass ceilings, inequality and attainment is limited due to established traditions in some academic disciplines, Zulma Toro-Ramos has found herself to be one of “the first” on more than one occasion. After receiving her bachelor’s degree in industrial engineering from the University of Puerto Rico and her master’s in industrial and operations engineering from the University of Michigan, Toro-Ramos was an instructor and graduate research assistant at the University of Puerto Rico. She soon realized that if she wanted to stay in academia, she had to pursue a PhD. She applied and was accepted at Georgia Institute of Technology in industrial engineering. Georgia Tech proved to be one of the most important experiences in her life. She was the first woman to earn a PhD in industrial engineering as it was a male dominated institution.

In order to overcome the status quo, Toro-Ramos felt that she had to work twice as hard as any other person in the program. Her hard work paid off, launching her to become the Chair of the Department of Industrial Engineering, acting Dean of the College of Engineering to eventually becoming the first female chancellor of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez. From there, she forged ahead accepting the post as Dean of Engineering at the University of New Haven to accepting her current position as Dean of Engineering at Wichita State University since August 2005.

The one thing that motivates Toro-Ramos is her belief that she can serve as a role model for other generations of female and Hispanic students. She fully understands the lack of diversity in engineering programs and feels that more should be done to attract minorities and females to the field of engineering. Every time Toro-Ramos sees her students--whatever their sex, ethnicity or academic discipline--receive their degrees at commencement, she swells with pride. It is those students who look to her as an inspiration, because she has helped to pave the road to success with her determination, intelligence and leadership.

Source: IIE Solutions, Follow the Leader, July 2002.

http://webs.wichita.edu/insidewsu/show/article.asp?543

Zulma Toro-Ramos, PhD Published Works (A small selection of publications)

PhD Dissertation
Novoa, C., 2005. Static and Dynamic Approaches for Solving the Vehicle Routing Problem with Stochastic Demands, PhD Dissertation, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA.

Articles in Refereed Proceedings


It’s All About the Doctorate!

As students get closer to completing their bachelor’s degree and preparing for graduate school, many dream of getting their doctorate, but what does that really mean or entail? Below is an overview of what it actually means to earn the doctorate.

What is the doctoral degree?
The doctoral degree is the highest academic credential possible to earn. Whether it is a research PhD (Doctor of Philosophy,) arguably the most prestigious degree in existence, the DA (Doctor of Arts), the EdD (Doctor of Education), the EngD (Doctor of Engineering), the PsyD (Doctor of Psychology), or some other variant, the doctoral degree is earned by few with only one in 100 Americans calling themselves “doctor.”

To get a doctoral degree, students enter a graduate program that will, on average last three to six years. They must complete a course of study, which typically takes three to four semesters of full-time study. Once coursework is completed and written and/or oral qualifying exams taken, the student then becomes a doctoral candidate proving that they have sufficient background to proceed with independent research.

The doctoral candidate formulates a dissertation committee of three to five program professors that agree to guide the candidate’s research. The doctoral candidate pursues an original research project, depending on the discipline, to write a book-length dissertation that must be orally defended before the committee. When the candidate successfully defends, the title “doctor’ has been earned.

Earning Power:
According to the U.S. Census Bureau, those who receive doctorates earn approximately $32,265 more each year than those with bachelor’s degrees.

Accreditation:
Due to the seriousness and prestige of obtaining the doctorate, accreditation becomes important. Prospective students should carefully assess the credentials of any university before fully committing to a graduate program. Any school offering a quick and easy doctorate program should be checked into carefully by looking into any professional organizations associated with the program, board of licensures and accrediting agency along with the U.S. Department of Education.

Mentoring:
Mentoring is a crucial part of doctoral study. Faculty who serve on the candidate’s dissertation committee also write letters of recommendation that eventually get the candidate a job. One of the lessons of doctoral work is: Work best with people.

Regardless of the chosen field of study, a doctoral degree is challenging to earn, but deeply satisfying to achieve. Doctoral researchers take their places in the global intellectual community and doctoral degree holders both create new knowledge and share that knowledge with professional peers—they shape the world in which we all live and help us to understand it.

Source: http://www.worldwidelearn.com/online-doctorate/index.html