2012 National TRIO Day Magazine Committee Members:
Larry Ramos-Chair, Dr. Alan Dsouza, Travis Feeney, Wilma Moore-Black and J. Logan Stork
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TRIO Day 2012 was phenomenal. Nearly 200 attendees were on hand as the programs honored Wichita State University (WSU) President Donald L. Beggs and First Lady Shirley Beggs, USD 259 personnel and community supporters for their support and contributions to the success of the programs and students. The monumental accomplishments of students were also honored.

Wichita Mayor Carl Brewer read the Proclamation from the City of Wichita proclaiming February 9, 2012 TRIO Day in Wichita. Proclamations were also received from Governor Sam Brownback, written on behalf of the State of Kansas, and WSU President Beggs, on behalf of the university. President Beggs greeted the attendees and thanked the students for their support and participation, and Wade Robinson, Vice President for Campus Life and University Relations, welcomed everyone and provided words of wisdom.

Keynote speaker Mildred Edwards, regent for the Kansas Board of Regents and former TRIO student, shared with the audience tools for success and the individuals in her life who impacted her success. She provided a compelling message that kept the audience spellbound and entertained. We are all proud of her and her many accomplishments.

This year’s Building Bridges honorees helped advance the success of the lives of individuals eligible for the programs and have been identified herein. Student achievement honorees recognized by each program for their exemplary leadership were compelling. We are honored by their commitment and exemplary support.
February 9, 2012 marked the National TRIO Day celebration at Wichita State University (WSU). This year the celebration was held at the WSU Eugene M. Hughes Metroplex in the evening and the theme was *Tools for Success*. The TRIO programs, Office of Disability Services (ODS) and the Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP program (KKGU) worked together to make the event a success. The National TRIO Day planning committee consisted of all Special Programs (SP) directors from the following programs: Communication Upward Bound (Rick Armstrong); Disability Support Services (Martha Lewis); Educational Opportunity Centers Program (Frances Ervin); McNair Scholars Program (LaWanda Holt-Fields); Office of Disability Services (Grady Landrum); Student Support Services (Deema de Silva); Talent Search (Larry Ramos); Upward Bound Math Science (Kaye Monk-Morgan); Upward Bound Wichita Prep (Rhonda Hicks); and Veterans Upward Bound (Larry Britton). In addition, Office of Special Programs Policy and Research Analyst, Alan Dsouza, and Assistant to the Associate Vice President for Campus Life, Hercilia Thompson, served on the committee. Associate Vice President for Campus Life Deltha Q. Colvin chaired the planning committee. Sub-committees were formed to organize specific components of the event such as publications, awards, speakers, decorations, registration, media relations and evaluation. Program staff from the TRIO programs, KKGU and the ODS served on the various committees. A list of all the committees and their members can be found on page 10.

The event was well attended by all sections of the TRIO community. Thirty percent of the attendees were TRIO students, and 30 percent were WSU staff and faculty. A record number of 33 percent were special guests, many of which were parents of TRIO and GEAR UP students. The grand total attendance at the celebration was 200 people. Prior to the program’s commencement, the National TRIO Day magazine committee interviewed attendees about their involvement in TRIO, their favorite aspects of participation, and a variety of other questions. When asked how TRIO has helped them become more successful in school, students commented:

“Talent Search has helped me do a lot better. For example, I am in an honors math class and the summer program helped me prepare for that a little bit more than not having it. It’s helped me stay with the course and what we are doing in school.”
-Cameron Morgan, TS student

“Provides tools and helps one understand that college is available and attainable. Upward Bound Math Science is a great program!”
-Clinton Liddell, UBMS staff member and SSS student

“To be successful in school and understand the college experience. Also, helps with time management.”
-Carson Daniels, UBWP student

“My program mostly helps me with my writing skills.”
-Amber Barker, CUB student

The evening began with a welcome by Deltha Q. Colvin. Colvin thanked the audience for their attendance and spoke to the crowd about the presence of TRIO programs around the globe, noting that there are 2,800 programs across the United States and other areas representing 850,000 students in colleges, universities, secondary schools and community agencies in all 50 states and the Marshall Islands, Guam, American Samoa and Micronesia. She also acknowledged the many TRIO alumni who were in attendance, and cited the names of notable TRIO alumni around the country. Famous TRIO alumni are pictured on page 15.

Colvin introduced WSU President Donald Beggs and Vice President for Campus Life and University Relations Wade Robinson, commending their ongoing support. Beggs and Robinson provided additional greetings. Beggs expressed his pride in the university’s TRIO and GEAR UP community and reminded the audience, “Every person in this room has fantastic potential and, more importantly, has the will to make it happen.” Robinson gave a special message to the students in the room during his welcome. He stated, “To you students, the welcome is because you hear so many times that you need us. You need us to be successful; you need Wichita State to develop what you need to be. And I’ve said it before and I will probably continue to say it, but it is absolutely not true because we need you. Wichita State needs you in order to be successful. The experience you bring, the diversity you bring and the background you bring, makes our institution better and makes the rest of our students better. So, in reality, we need you.”

(Continued on page 3)
Following the greetings was the presentation of the City of Wichita National TRIO Day Proclamation. Read by the Honorable Carl Brewer, mayor of Wichita, the proclamation recognized TRIO and the Special Programs for “providing academic services to help disadvantaged students of limited income, first generation and disability.” Brewer told the students in attendance, “You have an impact on this entire community and the people that you will come in contact with tomorrow and the ones you’ll come in contact with years from now. So, thank you students for making the decision that you have made today.”

Kaye Monk-Morgan, director of Upward Bound Math Science, presented the Wichita State University Proclamation and introduced the State of Kansas Proclamation which was read by Governor Sam Brownback via recorded video. During Monk-Morgan’s introductions of both proclamations, she stated, “TRIO Day is not just about the students and staff that we serve; it takes a village. You have heard that saying many times before but it indeed, in our case, takes a state in order to do some of the things that we do here at Wichita State.” Each proclamation can be viewed beginning on page 16.

After the proclamations were shared, Riccardo Harris, regional coordinator at KPKG, offered words of inspiration and thanks prior to the buffet dinner which included BBQ meats, green salad, potato salad, steamed vegetables, dinner rolls, chocolate cake and cheesecake.

The second half of the evening began with three inspiring student speeches. The first student to take the podium was Upward Bound Math Science high school senior Shauntel Pearson. Pearson began her rousing speech with the statement, “I don’t have any fancy degrees under my name yet, but I’ll be future president of the United States. In 2036 you can vote for me.” The crowd roared and Pearson continued with her description of typical UBMS students. “Upward Bound Math Science kids are definitely a unique group of individuals. While most kids are asleep on Saturday mornings, we attend workshops on how to take notes and studying tips. During wild, crazy high school parties we’re attending FAFSA competition parties. And in the summer while teens are sitting on the couch wasting away, we are sitting in classrooms working on science fair projects.” She also stated that thanks to the UBMS summer program, she has been on “top of her game” and credits UBMS director Kaye Monk-Morgan and former UBMS Curriculum Coordinator Julie Scott for being of great support during the past four years. Pearson ended with, “I know that where I’m from does not define me, but where I’m going does define me.”

Next were Michael McClellan and Kimberly Grimes. Both students focused on how the TRIO programs that they have participated in, Disability Support Services and the McNair Scholars Program respectively, have helped in their journey through postsecondary education. McClellan, a WSU senior graduating in May with a bachelor’s degree in political science, let the audience know, “DSS has helped me in so many ways to achieve my goals and acquire my degree.” Grimes, who currently teaches classes at the WSU Elliott School of Communication, described how much McNair has assisted her along her path to success. She acknowledged that the program has opened doors for her and that “It is the best thing I ever did in my academic career.”

Rhonda Hicks (left) and Frances Ervin (right) pose with keynote speaker Dr. Mildred Edwards

Mildred Edwards, executive director for the Kansas African American Affairs Commission (KA AAC), Kansas Board of Regents member, TRIO alumna and passionate community leader, was the evening’s keynote speaker. Edwards was introduced by LaWanda Holt-Fields, director of the McNair Scholars Program. She focused her speech on tools for success. Reflecting on her days as an elementary school student at Kellogg Elementary in Wichita, KS, Edwards emphasized how there were certain people in her life that she considered “change agents” and that these change agents had provided her with the tools she needed for success. Some of these tools included perseverance and persistence, having personal accountability and acknowledging one’s uniqueness. Edwards also talked about her personal experiences during the time she worked under Deltha Q. Colvin at Upward Bound Wichita Prep in the 1980s. Edwards explained, “My life

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was changed through TRIO and many of the lives that you touch and many of you represented here have been changed and the equity of our state changes as a result of the TRIO programs’’ Edwards ended with the statement, ‘‘Every one of you is unique and divinely made. Perhaps there is someone here that needs to hear that. You must be the writer and producer of your own life’s script.’’ She received a standing ovation for her powerful message.

Proceeding Edwards’ speech, the award portion of the evening began. Frances Ervin, executive director of the Educational Opportunity Centers Program, presented the 2012 Student Achievement Award recipients who were personally selected from each program. The students received a certificate of achievement from Colvin recognizing their hard work and dedication. Recipients included Garrett Allen (UMBS), Laura Barber-Thomas (EOC), Justice Z. Brown (UBWP), Shelby Gallagher (VUB), Rachel Jacobs (MCNAIR), Evan Wainwright (DSS and ODS), Emmanuel Opuk (KKGU), Jennifer Phan (SSS), Hayley Shahankary (CUB), and Alexander Sheppard (TS), who was recognized posthumously. Information on each recipient can be found beginning on page 6.

The Building Bridges Awards, recognizing those who have contributed greatly to the TRIO and GEAR UP programs, were presented by Veterans Upward Bound Director Larry Britton. Recipients recognized by the Office of Special Programs included Charles F. McAfee, Donald L. Beggs, Shirley Beggs and Loretta Brown. Recipients selected by individual programs included Sherri Carter-Marks (TS), Loretta Jackson (VUB), Charles Jenkins (UBWP), Oleta Faust-Goudeau (EOC), Tom Racunas (ODS), Robert Rozzelle (DSS), Vanessa Rodriguez (UBMS), Marlene Schommer-Aikins (MCNAIR), Janice Thacker (OSP), Rhonda White (KKGU) and LaVonta Williams (OSP). Information on each recipient can be found beginning on page 8.

Vice Mayor of Wichita LaVonta Williams provided a tribute to the student honorees and the Building Bridges honorees. She commended the programs for their work and stated, ‘‘Those who have been impacted, I challenge you to change the world.’’

As the end of the evening grew near, Corinne Nilsen, director of KKGU, came to the podium to provide acknowledgement to the committees who helped make National TRIO Day 2012 a success and recognized the staff members of each program. She included a thank you to the six student ambassadors who had been placed at the VIP tables in the room. The ambassadors included Nick Cox (CUB), Billy Dempsey (TS), Carson Daniels (UBWP), Olivia Graves (TS, SSS and MCNAIR), Clinton Liddell (UBMS and SSS) and Danielle Shahankary (CUB). Alan Dsouza, Office of Special Programs policy analyst, then instructed the audience to complete an event evaluation and lastly, Colvin provided closing remarks drawing an end to the celebration.

Immediately following, the NTD magazine committee asked several individuals what they felt the highlight of the evening was. Below are some of the comments received:

- ‘‘The guest speaker, Mildred Edwards. She was very motivating, inspirational, and funny. Also, being able to sit with the ‘big shots’ like the mayor.’’
  - Carson Daniels, UBWP student

- ‘‘It was fantastic. Dr. Edwards was wonderful and inspiring. And I will be voting for Shauntel in 2036!’’
  - Dr. Rhonda Lewis, WSU professor

- ‘‘I thought it was fantastic. I’ve never been and so it was nice to see all of the programs, and the impact that they’ve had on the students.’’
  - Alicia Newell, Office of Multicultural Affairs

- ‘‘I liked it. The students are spectacular every year. The food is always really good and the speakers are always nice and down to earth and they kind of try to relate everything together and get us inspired to do more.’’
  - Allison Eckus, UBMS

- ‘‘I loved it. It was so unexpected. I didn’t know that I was actually going to win an award or anything like that. It was a big surprise.’’
  - Garrett Allen, UBMS

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“I thought the program was very inspirational. I myself am a returning adult student. Hearing Dr. Edwards tonight was inspiring. And we all know and we tell the kids every day, ‘you can do it-you can do it’ so going back to do it myself and hearing that story has given me motivation to finish the story.”
-Lydia Santiago, UBMS

“I thought it was very well put together. I enjoyed it.”
-Jennifer Phan, SSS

“I thought everybody was great. The speeches were so inspirational. It really gives me motivation for the future and makes me really want to help people in the future and to do great things like this and see all people achieve and go on and do great things.”
-Shauntel Pearson, UBMS

“I liked it a lot. It was very informational and I learned stuff from all of the programs because I really didn’t know about Upward Bound, all of them. It was a good learning experience and I would definitely come again.”
-Jennifer Nguyen, UBWP

“Dr. Edwards. I liked how she was talking about how she was growing up and how people who inspired her kind of like to keep on track and do what she wants because she said it is what it is. And those words have really affected and are going to probably stick with me the rest of my life.”
-Hayley Shahankary, CUB

“I thought it was an excellent program. I think the students did an excellent job of conveying their experience with the programs. I think all of the Building Bridges honorees were exceptional. And it was that they all truly appreciated being recognized. I don’t think there were any glitches or problems as far as the program was concerned. I think that it was truly one of our better TRIO Day programs.”
-Deltha Q. Colvin, Associate Vice President for Campus Life

“I liked it. It was definitely a lot better than I expected it to be. It was a lot more entertaining. I like the speakers. I was impressed.”
-Danielle Shahankary, CUB alumna and TRIO Day Ambassador

“I think tonight’s program was absolutely awesome. There was a question on the survey that asks me why I came. One, I am an alum. Two, but most importantly- because I believe in the success of the programs and the stories tonight are a testament to the fact that TRIO works.”
-Carmon Hytche, Director of Special Events, WSU
Student Achievement Awards

Ten exceptional students received Student Achievement Awards this year. Frances Ervin, director of the Equal Opportunity Centers Program presented the awards and Deltha Q. Colvin granted each student with a certificate of achievement that read, “The TRIO-Special Programs at Wichita State University Recognizes……….., as TRIO Achiever of the Year, exemplifying the TRIO spirit of excellence and achievement. Presented at the National TRIO Day Celebration on this February 9, 2012.”

The 2012 National TRIO Day student achievers are as follows:

**Upward Bound Math Science**

Garrett Allen is the 2012 Student of the Year because of his metamorphous. He is a four year participant in the UBMS program and a senior who will be graduating this spring from Northeast Magnet High School. Allen was full of untapped potential when he enrolled in UBMS. Over the years he has grown, literally and figuratively, by feet, not inches. Allen has learned to work through personal disappointments, set goals and built his self-esteem by conquering fears and making the best of his opportunities. He has been challenged during his tenure in UBMS and overcame many obstacles. Today he is successful because of his hard work and dedication. Allen plans to enroll at Kansas State University where he will begin studies to become a professional pilot.

**Educational Opportunity Centers Program**

Laura Barber-Thomas is a dynamic testimony to the adage that “it’s never too late for adults to enter college.” She identified herself as a displaced worker, the proud parent of five children, and a person desiring to get all the education she could. Her first educational goal was to stabilize her economic situation by earning a certificate and to re-enter the workforce. Two years later, Barber-Thomas had earned that certification as a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA). Now, with this milestone realized, Barber-Thomas continues her educational journey to earn a RN in Pediatric Nursing. Currently a university student, Barber-Thomas maintains a GPA of 4.0.

**Upward Bound Wichita Prep**

Justice Z. Brown has been in the Upward Bound Wichita Prep program since 2008. When Brown was nominated to become a UBWP student, her nominator said, “Justice has a wonderful attitude about school and a great work ethic which matches her high intelligence level.” Throughout her high school career, Brown has maintained a 3.50 or better GPA with a committed desire to go into the medical field. Brown is an avid participant in community service events at school and through UBWP. She is a great example that high achievement is possible when one studies and works hard.

**Veterans Upward Bound**

The future for Shelby Gallagher is already beginning to shine. Gallagher is a student in the pre-dentistry program at Wichita State University. She maintains a 3.43 GPA and makes education her priority. She has served in the United States Army Reserves for the past six years, serving in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Gallagher is a great example of a student veteran who is making her “Blueprint for a Lifetime of Success”.

**Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program**

McNair Scholar Rachel Jacobs participated in the program from 2009 – 2011. She majored in analytical chemistry, where she was one of few undergraduate students who taught chemistry lab courses as a senior. Jacobs participated in research with Francis D’Souza where they studied sustainable energy. She received numerous honors and awards in chemistry and won first place in the WSU Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Forum. At the 2011 Annual Closing Symposium, Jacobs received the Excellence Award, for one who produces quality work, goes above and beyond, exceeds expectations, and achieves high standards. Jacobs graduated with her bachelor’s in science in the fall of 2011.

**Kansas Kids@GEAR UP**

Emmanuel Opuku was enrolled in Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP in the spring of 2011. He is currently a senior at Highland Park High School in Topeka, KS. Opuku is a unique student not only because he comes from another country, but he is also ranked top in his class. He is taking advantage of his opportunity of having a better education by earning straight A’s. Opuku has a passion for knowledge and values education. He has been accepted at St. Louis University but he is waiting to see what his options are. His first choice would be to attend Yale University and study to become a neurosurgeon. He says he sees no boundaries in this country and is grateful to be in Topeka. “If a student wants something for himself, he has to work for it,” said Opuku. “If you work for it, opportunities will come.”

**Student Support Services**

Jennifer Phan was recently accepted into the School of Nursing at Wichita State University. Despite the rigorous course load, she maintains a 3.5 GPA. She is a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, the

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National Society of Leadership and Success, and the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

**Communication Upward Bound**

Hayley Shahankary stands out among her peers because she exemplifies a consistent hard-working student who wants to succeed. Shahankary’s actions in being assigned to advanced math classes in the summer residential program demonstrated how she could excel in challenging situations beyond her imagination. She has continued to take extra preparation to improve her ACT scores and GPA at South High School. Shahankary wants to be a positive role model. She is on course to graduate from high school and is headed towards a postsecondary institution. She has been in the CUB program since it started in 2008.

**Talent Search**

The Talent Search staff was fortunate enough to have known Alexander Sheppard since the 7th grade. Sheppard’s zeal for life was what separated him from the other students. A consistent B student, Sheppard was one of the hardest working and most positive students in the program. He attended Brooks Middle School before moving on to Heights High School where he graduated in 2005. Under the advice of his Talent Search counselor he decided to enroll at Hutchinson Community College. He was paying for college expenses by working as a server when he fell ill. His plans were cut short in 2010 and although he was not able to finish his educational and career plans, the manner in which he lived out his dreams still serve as an example for all students to emulate. For those who knew him, there was so much more to Sheppard than what was in his obituary.

**Disability Support Services & Office of Disability Services**

Evan Wainwright is a senior in the WSU Criminal Justice Program and will be graduating this semester. He transferred to WSU from Florida in the fall of 2009 and has participated in the Disability Support Services program since then. He was the student of the month in December of 2011 and has volunteered in the DSS office. After graduation he hopes to be an advocate for persons with disabilities who are in the criminal justice system. Wainwright said that he could not have come this far without the help of the DSS program and the staff who encourage him daily. He wants to help change the worldview regarding people with disabilities.
Fifteen outstanding individuals who support the TRIO, ODS and GEAR UP programs were honored with a Building Bridges Award. Larry Britton, director of Veterans Upward Bound, called the recipients forward and provided the audience with information about each individual.

The National TRIO Day 2012 Building Bridges Award recipients from the Office of Special Programs are as follows:

**Dr. Donald L. Beggs**, as the 12th president of Wichita State University, has set exemplary standards for the office of the presidency. President Beggs has provided support and advocacy for the TRIO, GEAR UP and ODS. He has consistently voiced his support and commitment to the mission of the programs and their role in the mission of Wichita State University. Those who have met Beggs have found him to be a good listener, have a quiet strength, and possess the ability to understand the concerns of others. Beggs is a strong supporter of equal educational opportunity.

**Shirley Beggs**, as first lady of Wichita State University, has provided unwavering support that has inspired staff and students. It has been the quiet, loving understanding of First Lady Beggs along with her outlook and energy that has motivated so many to believe that they could realize their dreams. Beggs has distinguished herself through her community and university involvement and leadership. She never fails to remember a name. Beggs is a source of strength and admiration.

**LaVonta Williams**, as vice mayor of the City of Wichita, has attended and given support and remarks at events hosted by the TRIO programs. Vice Mayor Williams shares the importance of involvement and commitment to the issues of the city and community. Her dedication and support of her community and education is exemplary. Her commitment to students has given them hope for the future and the realization that success can be a reality.

**Janice Thacker**, as a lifelong educator, illustrator, artist, and community activist for positive change in youth in Wichita, has taken on the Boley Project. A labor of love for the city where she was born, she has taken on the challenge to document the pictorial history of Boley, Oklahoma. The opportunity to be involved in the project has been an extraordinary learning and teaching experience that has been rewarding to students. Thacker loves to work with students and support their learning.

**Office of Special Programs**

**Loretta Brown**, as program specialist, Federal TRIO Programs, U.S. Department of Education, has supported the development and clarified the rules and regulations for TRIO Programs. Brown had been assigned to the Wichita State University pre-college programs (Upward Bound, Talent Search and Educational Opportunity Centers) for some 30 years during her career with the U.S. Department of Education. TRIO is honored by her support and work to aid in the accomplishments of limited-income, first generation and disabled individuals. Brown was a dedicated partner in the cause of equal educational opportunity for all students.

The National TRIO Day 2012 Building Bridges Award recipients selected by individual programs are as follows:

**Communication Upward Bound**

**Charles F. McAfee** of McAfee3 Architects, provided Communication Upward Bound students inspiration, motivation and direction to further their education beyond high school. He volunteered as a role model, workshop presenter for the “Where’s the Money” series, and career advisor to many students in CUB.

**Disability Support Services**

**Robert Rozzelle**, director of technology and academic advisor at the WSU Liberal Arts Advising Center, has been a true champion for TRIO for many years. He has assisted in training DSS staff in academic advising and has advised numerous DSS participants throughout its more than 10 year history. He has been a tireless supporter always available to give his time and talents to advise, instruct and coach. Whenever Rozzelle has been called upon to assist DSS staff or program participants, he has done so willingly and with enthusiasm.

**Educational Opportunity Centers Program**

**Senator Oletha Faust-Goudeau**, of the Kansas 29th District, has truly been an advocate for TRIO. To underscore her support of TRIO programs, she served as a sponsor for the First Kansas TRIO Leadership Day at the Kansas State Capitol. This was a monumental event wherein TRIO professionals from all over the state of Kansas traveled to Topeka, for a day of professional development and networking. Senator Faust-Goudeau has made numerous visits to meetings to encourage and support the staff and advisory board members of the Educational Opportunity Centers program. At community gatherings and other events, she continues to pause to commend EOC for its work in making college possible for adults.

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Kansas Kids @ GEARUP

As a counselor at Pittsburg High School, Rhonda White is the person Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP – Region 1 depends on to make things happen for KKGU at the high school. White is always willing to send emails to teachers regarding KKGU events, give KKGU staff suggestions on who to go to for different activities, and to partner with KKGU on workshops for parents and students. She is exactly what the title of this award suggests because she is the one who built the bridge to success between KKGU and Pittsburg High School.

Office of Disability Services

Tom Racunas, director of the Ministry with Persons with Disabilities for the Catholic Diocese of Wichita, was instrumental in helping to establish the Access College Today campus visitation program for students with disabilities at WSU. He also worked to develop transition services for students with disabilities in USD 259 as they transition from high school to postsecondary education.

McNair Scholars Program

As a College of Education professor, Marlene Schommer-Aikins has taught the Summer Research Seminar for the McNair Scholars Program since its inception in 1996, working to assist students in dispelling the myths and learning the nuances of conducting scholarly research. She provides the students with a pre-test and chapters to read prior to the three-day seminar. At the conclusion of the seminar the students have produced a research proposal and complete a post-test. Each year students walk away with a much clearer understanding about research and some even decide that they like it. Schommer-Aikins has shown great dedication and commitment to the success of McNair Scholars over the past 15 years. She has helped McNair students build bridges in the world of academia.

Upward Bound Wichita Prep

The operative word for Charles Jenkins is dedicated. He has served the Upward Bound Wichita Prep program honorably and unselfishly for over 40 years as the Saturday sessions’ coordinator and the summer program’s United States government teacher. Jenkins is applauded for his commitment to UBWP program and the many students he has served over the years.

Veterans Upward Bound

Loretta Jackson has supported Veterans Upward Bound since its early beginnings at WSU. She has been a valuable source of information and experience that she has shared freely with veterans and Veterans Upward Bound. She has worked hand-in-hand with the VUB staff and connected the organization with community resources and activities. Her professionalism and dedication allowed Veterans Upward Bound and Veterans Services to join to become Veterans Affairs for Wichita State University. VUB thanks Jackson for her generous and abundant support.

Talent Search

Sherri Carter-Marks, counselor at West High School, is a TRIO alum who thinks outside the box. Using her 37 years of experience as an educator, she ensures that her students are connected to Talent Search and other TRIO programs. Her vast energies have and will continue to make a powerful impact on everyone she ventures to serve. Carter-Marks has taught Talent Search students during the past three Summer Enrichment Programs as the study and life skills instructor.

Upward Bound Wichita Prep

Vanessa Rodriquez is the director of Housing and Residence Life at WSU. Like many of her peers, she has spent the better part of her life developing young college students who live in the residence halls that she manages. Her determination to make a difference doesn’t start and stop with those students who live in her building. She has extended herself to the TRIO community, collegiate and pre-college programs. She partners strategically to bridge students from the TRIO programs to WSU and Fairmount Towers by providing staff resources, funding for housing scholarships and even serving as a summer program mentor. Rodriquez has proven herself a valiant member of the TRIO village and students are better off because of her involvement.
National TRIO Day is made possible with the hard work of the following committees:

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<td>Frances Ervin—Chair (EOC), Doris Anton (EOC), Diane Ridpath (EOC)</td>
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Program Organization
The National TRIO Day program organization got a thumbs-up from the attendees. Consistently, the attendees were impressed by the planning, the dinner arrangements, and the information about the programs and services provided. Almost all of them found the awards ceremony informational and motivating.

Speakers
The National TRIO Day program attendees found the featured speaker, Mildred Edwards, appealing. The student speakers were equally impressive, and a very high percentage of attendees found them successful in communicating the impact of the TRIO/GEAR UP programs on their lives.

Impact of TRIO programs
Although the TRIO/GEAR UP and Disability Services programs always believe in long-term impacts of their services, the immediate impact of National TRIO Day did not go unnoticed. While 98 percent of attendees felt that the celebrations were meaningful to them, a record number of 93 percent indicated that they would like to attend this event again.
Student Profiles

CUB

Leila Durch-Anderson, a senior at South High School, exemplifies determination and success. She pushes herself with such motivation as, “I plan to go to college and graduate no matter what it takes.” Wichita State University is the target for her current postsecondary goal and she is interested in becoming an American Sign Language interpreter and an emergency medical technician. With a 3.8 GPA and ranking 21st among her high school senior class, she is equipped to handle the challenges of college coursework.

As Durch-Anderson put it, “I have always been keen on learning because I am so naturally curious about everything. I see education as a tool to make me a better person and it is through education that I will achieve my goals, whether it is obtaining a stable, well paying job that I love, or just quenching my thirst for knowledge.”

She has witnessed her parents struggle to pay the bills and make career choices. Those are two reasons why she values the college campus visits and residential experiences offered by the Communication Upward Bound program. Taking advantage of the academic support and tutoring services have been a big plus for Durch-Anderson, who does not take getting good grades for granted.

Her words of wisdom are priceless because she knows that one needs a plan of action and resources to enjoy while attending college. Besides getting prepared for life after high school, Durch-Anderson enjoys track and field and supporting the Students Against Drunk Driving (SADD) program.

KKGU

DeShawn is a senior at Hutchinson High School and is excited about graduating and beginning a new chapter in his life. DeShawn has been living in foster care for several years. He credits his foster parents for their support and help in continuing his education and states that they have been very supportive of him and his brother, who graduated from high school last year. He believes that without their support, he probably would have chosen a different course in life. He believes that he would have been in trouble, cut school, and other things. He also credits his social workers at Youthville in helping him to know what he needs to do to continue his education.

DeShawn met with Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP staff at HHS and learned of the importance of looking for other avenues for scholarships. Although he has a full athletic scholarship to North Dakota State to play football, DeShawn was advised on the importance of keeping an open mind to other scholarship options because injuries could happen and potentially ruin his ability to play. DeShawn is thinking about the future and is heavily leaning towards studying construction management, but would like to explore more options before he settles into a major field of study. The students and staff of Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP extend their congratulations to DeShawn for overcoming obstacles, putting his education first and getting accepted to North Dakota State for the 2012-2013 academic year.
Garrett Allen is a four year participant in the Upward Bound Math Science Center. He will graduate this spring from Northeast Magnet High School and move on to Kansas State University where he will begin studies to become a professional pilot. Allen is the 2012 Student of the Year because of his metamorphous. Upon enrollment, he was full of untapped potential, lacked focus and personal motivation. Over the last four years he has grown, literally and figuratively, by feet, not inches. He has learned to work through personal disappointments, set goals and built his self-esteem by conquering fears and making the best of his opportunities.

Change Thru Challenge was one of the recent programmatic themes. Allen has lived this experience first-hand. He has overcome many challenges and decided to change his life trajectory. Allen himself summed up his UBMS experience in a scholarship essay about his TRIO experience.

“When I joined UBMS I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life. I had no goals. I didn’t know how to get into college, to be honest, I didn’t know what college really was; all I knew was that my parent said that I need to go to college. When I joined UBMS I learned about so many different majors and careers. I’ve learned about what I need to do to be admitted to a college.

UBMS has helped me decide what I want to be in life. When I joined UBMS I learned something about myself; I learned that I love aviation and aeronautics. I have decided that I want to be a professional pilot and I know that I couldn’t have made that decision without UBMS.

UBMS has made me a better person. Without their help I probably would have given up on my life a long time ago. UBMS has motivated me to get my education, educated me to help with my academics, and stimulated me to get my college degree. UBMS is the reason to why I try harder in everything I do. Without the experiences that they have offered me, I would have been just another person trying to get through life. I am very thankful for all of the things UBMS has done for me.”

It is for these reasons that Allen represents the 2012 graduating class as the UBMS Student of the Year.
Justice Z. Brown has graced the Upward Bound Wichita Prep (UBWP) program since 2008 when, as a freshman, she was making her own way into the new world of high school. When Brown was nominated to become a UBWP student, her nominator said, “Justice has a wonderful attitude about school and a great work ethic which matches her high intelligence level.” Her high school transcript reflects her love of math and science as well as her scholarly achievement in other subjects as well.

Brown is self-motivated, determined and very serious, expressing that she wants to make her parents, neither of which were fortunate to achieve their academic goals, proud. Throughout her high school career, Brown has maintained a 3.5 or better GPA with a committed desire to go into the medical field with an emphasis in obstetrics and gynecology. She is a great example that high achievement is possible when one studies and works hard.

Brown also has a great desire to help others, which is why she has chosen the medical profession. She is an avid participant in community service events at school and at UBWP where one can usually find her at the head of the line doing whatever is needed to help someone or a cause. A born leader, she gladly takes on any challenge. Because of her determination, perseverance, self-sacrifice and high standards, Brown is forging her way to becoming a strong, caring and very capable presence.
Famous TRIO Alumni

Viola Davis, Actress and Oscar Nominee

Dr. Franklin Chang-Diaz, First Hispanic Astronaut

Joe Rogers, Former Lieutenant Governor, Colorado

John Quiñones, Correspondent, ABC News

A.C. Green Jr., Former NBA Player, The Lakers

Barbara Harmon-Schamberger, First Female Rhodes Scholar from West Virginia

Dr. Bertice Berry, Author and Actress

Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis, Music Producers

Taye Diggs, Actor
TO THE PEOPLE OF KANSAS, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, the 1986 Congressional Resolution designated the last day of the month of February of each year, to be National TRIO Day; and

WHEREAS, The Special Programs for Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds, commonly known as the TRIO Programs, are integral to the federal strategy aimed at advancing equal opportunity in postsecondary education; and

WHEREAS, The 2,947 TRIO Programs- Educational Opportunity Centers Program, Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program, Student Support Services Program, Talent Search, Upward Bound, Upward Bound/Math Science, Veterans Upward Bound, and TRIO Staff Training presently provide more than 798,000 disadvantaged youth and adults the upward mobility afforded by higher education; and

WHEREAS, forty-two TRIO Programs in the State of Kansas serve over 12,469 students with $13,910,051 in federal support funding, and

WHEREAS, nine TRIO Programs at Wichita State University serve over 2,863 students in Wichita and the State of Kansas with $2,818,892 in federal support funding, and

WHEREAS, TRIO programs are targeted upon students whose family incomes fall below 150 percent of poverty where neither parent graduated from a 4-year college; and

WHEREAS, thirty-seven percent of TRIO students are White; 35 percent are African-American; 19 percent are Hispanic; 4 percent are American Indian; 4 percent are Asian; and

WHEREAS, The TRIO Programs are an important retention mechanism for physically handicapped students in higher education, currently serving more than 22,000 disabled students; and

WHEREAS, TRIO Programs have a record of success in providing students information about college, motivating them to attend college and enabling them to succeed in college; and

WHEREAS, The TRIO programs in the last three decades have several thousands of educational success stories including two Rhodes Scholars and the first Hispanic astronaut:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sam Brownback, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF KANSAS, do hereby proclaim February 9th of 2012, as

National Trio Day

in Kansas and ask that all citizens join in this observation.

DONE: At the Capitol in Topeka
under the Great Seal of the
State this 29th day of
January, A.D. 2012

BY THE GOVERNOR:

Sam Brownback
Secretary of State

Brenda Bryant
Assistant Secretary of State
PROCLAMATION
of
The City of Wichita, Kansas
Founded in 1870

Whereas, education should be made accessible to anyone who desires the opportunity to learn and expand their knowledge, and to enhance their experiences in order to seek a postsecondary degree; and

Whereas, Wichita State University (WSU) TRIO programs such as Communication Upward Bound, Disability Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers, Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery, McNair Scholars, Student Support Services, Upward Bound Math/Science, Upward Bound Wichita Prep, Veterans Upward Bound, as well as the Special Programs such as Kansas Kids@GEAR UP and the Office of Disability Services, have concentrated their efforts in making available those educational and accommodative opportunities that students have in the past been denied in reaching their academic goals; and

Whereas, in recognition of these TRIO & Special Programs that provide such academic services to help disadvantaged students of limited income, first generation, and disability; and

Whereas, WSU TRIO and Special Programs deserve recognition for their dedication in assisting members of Wichita and the surrounding communities with the educational needs of its citizens;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved, that I, Carl Brewer, Mayor of the City of Wichita, Kansas, do hereby proclaim Thursday, February 9, 2012 as

TRIO Day for Wichita State University

and encourage citizens to join TRIO & Special Programs directors, staff, and students in paying special tribute to WSU President, Dr. Don Beggs.

February 9, 2012

Date

[Signature]

Mayor, City of Wichita
PROCLAMATION

NATIONAL TRIO DAY

WHEREAS Congress established a series of programs known as the TRIO Programs, to help low income, first generation students and persons with disabilities enter college, graduate and move on to participate more fully in America’s economic and social life, and

WHEREAS 2,947 TRIO Programs nationwide currently provide over 798,000 disadvantaged youth and adults the upward mobility afforded by higher education, and

WHEREAS, Wichita State University is committed to providing comprehensive educational opportunities through teaching, scholarship, and public service, and

WHEREAS, Wichita State University hosts nine TRIO Programs: Communication Upward Bound, Disability Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers, Ronald McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program, Student Support Services, Talent Search/Project Discovery, Upward Bound Math Science, Upward Bound Wichita Prep and Veterans Upward Bound, and

WHEREAS, nine TRIO Programs at Wichita State University serve over 2,853 students in Wichita and the State of Kansas with $2,818,892 in federal support funding, and

WHEREAS, A 1986 Congressional Resolution designated the last day of the month February of each year to be National TRIO Day, and

WHEREAS, Governor Sam Brownback and Mayor Carl Brewer have proclaimed February 9, 2012 as National TRIO Day in the State of Kansas and the City of Wichita,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that I, Dr. Donald L. Beggs, President of Wichita State University, do proclaim February 9, 2012 as National TRIO Day at Wichita State University and do encourage all WSU faculty and staff to participate in the TRIO Day celebration.

FURTHERMORE, I offer my thanks to all who work for and with the WSU TRIO Programs to help make the dream of higher education a reality for all the citizens of Wichita and Kansas.

Donald L. Beggs
Dr. Donald L. Beggs, President
Wichita State University
Signed this 9th day of February 2012