From the Director

Larry Ramos

On behalf of the staff at Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery at Wichita State University, I’d like to extend our wishes on a successful year to all of our students. It’s hard to believe that one year has passed since I began my new position with the program. But lo’ and behold, we embark on another year. Needless to say, this has been an eventful year. The year started off with the terrorists attacks against our great nation. Most of us will never view the world in the same way. In the wake of the anthrax poisonings our grant proposal to the United States Department of Education to continue funding of this program was quarantined in Washington, D.C. for several months while health officials ‘disinfected’ the mail. We ended up having to resubmit the grant proposal last December.

We welcomed several new staff members including Heather Ybarra and LouJana Wylie. We also hired on a permanent basis Stephanie Haynes and Gael McCully. We now have a strong and steady group of professionals assisting students in realizing their educational aspirations. We did say goodbye to our homepage manager, Dev Prasad, who transferred to another university in New York. We will miss his enthusiasm and expertise.

June and July proved to be our busiest months of the year with our Summer Enrichment Program.

Nearly fifty students participated in the summer program. We also heard some very good news from Congressman Todd Tiahrt that our grant proposal was funded. Not only were we pleased to be funded, but our proposal received a five-year award. Special kudos to Deltha Q. Colvin, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs, for writing a proposal of this quality.

Now that the new year is here, I want to encourage each student in the program to utilize their Project Discovery counselor to the fullest. In particular, I challenge the seniors to begin planning for college NOW! Take the ACT, apply for admission to college, and apply for federal financial aid and scholarships. It is surprising how fast the senior year goes by, so start EARLY.

To all the seniors, I wish them good luck. To all of our middle school students, and freshmen, sophomores, and juniors, dream about your future, keep working hard and good things will follow. I look forward to meeting many of you this school year.
WELCOME BACK!

By Darryl Neighbor, Assistant Director

Here it is. Another school year. And a new program cycle for Project Discovery. We are glad you are a part of Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery which is one of the federal TRIO programs funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

This year promises to be an exciting one. We are off to a good start, with our Jump-Start Seminar which was held on August 22. Fourteen people participated. Participants were new seniors and their parents. They learned what to expect this senior year. ACT registration deadlines, some tips for taking the ACT, about scholarship searches, basic principles of financial aid, how to prepare an activities chart or resume to use for scholarship applications, how to look out for financial aid and/or scholarship scams.

Participants also learned about the Project Discovery campus tours which are free to you. We provide all transportation and lunch. Your only cost is your time and some money for snacks. Watch your mail for announcements and please RSVP right away.

Colleges need to know how many students to plan for and we need to plan transportation.

Please plan to participate in at least one tour this year. You get a chance to tour the campus, talk to admissions and financial aid representatives, and in many cases, talk to professors and students. You also get a chance to sample some of the food.

Also, watch for our ACT strategies workshops, financial aid workshops and scholarship search workshops. Your Project Discovery counselor will keep you informed throughout the year.

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Campus visits for the first semester are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>University of Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Kansas State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>Emporia State University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>Wichita State University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Second semester we will visit:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Butler County Community College</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Langston University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Pittsburg State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Coffeyville and Independence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Colleges</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Cowley County Community College</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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A New Year
by Gael McCully

If you attend East, South, Metro Boulevard, or Metro Meridian, and are receiving this newsletter, you will probably see me this school year. My name is Gael McCully and I am an Educational Development Assistant (counselor) for the Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery program. I will bring you information on, and assistance with, ACT testing, federal grants, scholarships, FAFSA, college admissions, Kansas Regents’ Qualified Admissions Curriculum, and college campus tours.

How much does all this great information and assistance cost? IT’S FREE!!! I’ll come to your school and share it with you. At East High, you will be called to the Student Counseling Center (SCC) and I will meet you there. At South High, you will be called by the counseling office, but I will meet you in the library. If you are a student at Metro Boulevard or Metro Meridian I will come to your classroom and take you to the library. I am in the schools before noon, so look for me then.

When will I be seeing you? It will depend on your classification (grade). I will work with the seniors first. They have the most work to do and the least time to do it. If you have an immediate need, give me a call at 978-6756. If I am out of the office when you call, leave a message on the voice mail and I will get back to you.

A Financial Aid Workshop will be presented for you and your parents/guardians. It is an opportunity for you to learn even more and have them hear the same information. There will be handouts and refreshments. The Financial Aid Workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, December 5th, 7:00 to 8:30 in the evening. It will be at our offices at Wichita State University. More information and directions will be forthcoming. I hope to see many of you there.

Let’s make this a fantastic school year. Last year we all started with a heavy heart. This year let’s resolve to make it the best year ever.
**In the spot light**

La Nora Lowe is off to a new start. She faced many obstacles along the way before taking off on a new start. La Nora lost her mother in her senior year while she was attending East High School and she also became a mother. She was overwhelmed with all the things that had happened to her so she dropped out of school. A year or so later, La Nora decided that she would need to complete high school.

She returned to the Urban League Learning Center in Wichita. La Nora was able to graduate in June 2002 with her high school diploma. I have worked with La Nora and I knew that she was a good candidate to go on to pursue her dream and goal of attending Wichita State University. La Nora is now a full-time student at Wichita State University and she tells me that everything is going fine and she enjoys her classes for the most part.

The staff and I at Talent Search/Project Discovery want you to know that we are proud of you. Continue to be strong and determined and you will surely find success at the end of the road.

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**Activity Chart Information**

The beginning of the school year is a great time to set goals for the upcoming year. Let one of your goals be to get a firm grasp on your activity chart. Seniors will be all too familiar with the numerous requested activity chart by the end of this year. For those of you who have not had the chance to put an activity chart together or are in the process of putting the finishing touches on yours here are some helpful tips.

**Q.** What are the activities that need to go on my activity chart?

**A.** Sports, clubs, community involvement, volunteerism, honors/awards, high school attended, as well as paid employment.

**Q.** How far back in my high school career do I need to document?

**A.** Freshman through senior year.

**Q.** Can I handwrite my activity chart?

**A.** No!! No!! and NO!! If at all possible a typed activity chart is desirable if not required. Don’t forget the computer labs at the Project Discovery office is open Monday through Friday 8-5 with extended hours on Wednesday and Thursday till 7pm.

**Q.** Do I only have to do an activity chart once?

**A.** An activity chart is an ever-changing document that reflects your life as it grows and encapsulates all your experiences. An activity chart should be updated at least once a semester.

**Q.** Who can help me with my activity chart?

**A.** Your Educational Talent Search/Project Discovery Counselor.
Come said the wind to
the leaves one day,

Come o're the meadows
and we will play.

Put on your dresses
scarlet and gold.

For summer is gone
and the days grow cold.

-A Children's Song of the 1880's