Spring is upon us which means the end of another school year is right around the corner. First, congratulations are in order to the following Talent Search seniors for receiving the TRIO/GEAR UP Scholarship that includes a full-ride scholarship for their first year at WSU. The students include: Dorothy Ayon (Northwest), Olivia Graves (South), Brennan Harris (Northwest), Christa Martinez (North), Sanjiv Patel (South), Ashley Petty (East), Emily Snyder (South), Thuy Vu (West), Magda Carlos (East), and Donna Nguyen (West). These students are to be congratulated for their hard work since this scholarship is based on merit which makes this recognition even more significant.

On February 18th two Talent Search students received awards and special recognition at the National TRIO Day celebration. Faith Shellman (Heights) received a palm pilot for winning the National TRIO Day Essay Contest and Nelson Ross (Northeast) was recognized as the Student of the Year. Both of these students are to be congratulated for their outstanding efforts. Also at National TRIO Day, Amy Alvarez, counselor at Southeast High School was recognized for her exceptional support of TRIO, and specifically, the Talent Search program.

All of the graduating seniors are to be congratulated for completing an important chapter of their life. Getting through twelve years of formal education was tough. Not only were these students expected to learn the basics, they were expected to make some decisions about the rest of their lives. For the vast majority of the Talent Search graduates college is the next step. With a worsening economy, the decision to not delay entering college is a wise and sound investment for the future. The Talent Search counselors are equipped to help those students who are still unsure of their plans for next Fall.

Finally, I’d like to thank the Vice President of Campus Life and University Relations, Dr. Ron Kopita. His unwavering support of TRIO and the Talent Search program over the years will be missed. Through his efforts, Talent Search was able to upgrade its facilities and become more fully integrated into the university community. Vice President Kopita ensured that the successes of Talent Search were heard at the administrative level and that new resources were made available to the program. The TRIO/GEAR UP Scholarship is but just one example of how he opened up new opportunities for the students. While his presence at the university will leave a huge void to fill, all of the staff at Talent Search wish him the best in his retirement.

~ Larry Ramos
**Campus visits**  
*Mani Souriya, Assistant Director/Statistician*

The first campus visit of the year began in October with a trip to Hutchinson Community College where Talent Search students met with counselors, talked with admissions and financial aid representatives, toured the dorms, and learned about the academic programs offered. Following the campus visit to Hutchinson Community College, Talent Search took students to Emporia State University, Kansas State University, University of Kansas, Butler Community College, Wichita State University, Newman University, and Friends University. One student who attended the University of Kansas campus visit said, “I learned everything that I wanted to know and more.” The goal of campus visits is for students to experience the college environment and get an idea of the many opportunities that await them. For more information on campus visits that the program offers, please contact Talent Search!

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**Updates**  
*Myron Richard, Educational Development Counselor, Mentoring Coordinator*

Myron Richard is proud of the Talent Search students from the schools he serves that will receive the TRIO/ GEAR UP Scholarship next year. Special recognition is given to these students for staying focused and meeting all priority deadlines, great job!

Now that the end of the year is approaching, Mr. Richard will be working with seniors to complete their FAFSA as well as contacting each college financial aid office to make certain everything is complete. Find out what else is needed to do to establish and maintain eligibility for financial aid. Be sure to keep copies of any forms/letters submitted to the financial aid office at the school(s) applied to.

Mr. Richard would also like to thank the staff and volunteers that made National TRIO DAY a success, especially the transportation committee which worked to get students to and from their schools to the Hughes Metroplex at Wichita State University.
Faith Shellman is a senior from Wichita Heights High School. She wants a career in Interior Design and Business. She plans to attend Butler Community college and then transfer to Kansas State University. A caring, joyful and determined Talent Search participant, Faith is very involved in her community and in the program.

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**National TRIO Day Essay Contest Winner: FAITH**

Faith Shellman is a senior from Wichita Heights High School. She wants a career in Interior Design and Business. She plans to attend Butler Community college and then transfer to Kansas State University. A caring, joyful and determined Talent Search participant, Faith is very involved in her community and in the program.

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**WSU ACT Prep Workshop**

**Cost is discounted for Talent Search / Project Discovery Participants**

_Tia Owens, Educational Development Assistant, ACT Coordinator_

To help students prepare to take the ACT, Wichita State University offers an ACT test preparation workshop during the year and would like to invite high school students to register for and attend one of the workshops. Each workshop will provide information and samples for all 4 sections of the exam – English, Math, Reading, and Science.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACT Prep Workshops (8 a.m. to noon)</th>
<th>ACT Dates for 2009</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, May 9, 2009</td>
<td>June 13, 2009</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday, April 4, 2009</td>
<td>Aug. 8, 2009</td>
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Students wishing to attend should complete a registration form. This form can be found on the Talent Search website at [www.wichita.edu/talentsearch/ACTapplicationform](http://www.wichita.edu/talentsearch/ACTapplicationform) or can be provided by a Talent Search Educational Development Assistant (EDA) and returned to the EDA by the Monday before the workshop.

The reduced fee for Talent Search students is $15.00 (regular cost is $28.00)

A Talent Search staff member will sign the completed registration form and send it to WSU Counseling and Testing Center by the day before the workshop along with a check or money order made payable to: ACT Prep Workshop.
Attention
Middle School Students
What R U Doing This Summer?

Stephanie Haynes, Middle School Director

Students are invited to become a part of the TRIO Talent Search Summer Enrichment Program (SEP). This summer is going to be filled with fun learning activities. The aim of the SEP is to enhance students’ skills in English, math, computer technology, Spanish and life skills. There will be educational field trips, college visits, and much more.

The first session will begin in June. This session is for 8th graders who are going to begin high school in the Fall. The second session will begin in July. This session is for students who will be entering or currently attending middle school.

The cost to attend is FREE. Applications will be available beginning April 1, 2009. Parents, please contact Ms. Haynes @ 978-6758 or stephanie.haynes@wichita.edu for an application or for more information. The student’s TRIO counselor or school counselor also has application information. There is limited space, so don’t delay...sign up today!!!!!!

C U this summer!

National TRIO Day
2009

Key note speaker Marcus Engel inspired the audience with his story of strength and hope.

Students attend the High School session, How to Be Great Just Being Yourself.

Ms. Holt-Fields introduces Dr. Kopita