

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS I:

## WEDNESDAY 4/3, 1:15PM-2:30PM

### Creating Social Change Through Understanding the Challenges that Muslim Faith Background Students Face in Schools & How to Help them Succeed

In the current Islamophobia climate, many of our American Muslim youth struggle to maintain their Muslim identity due to the social, cultural, and religious stereotypes faced in their schools and communities. This workshop will discuss challenges identified by Muslim youth on the lack of understanding and support experienced in schools/ home life, issues of forming a positive identity in the discriminatory media, difficulty practicing religious beliefs, and struggles with community inclusion due to mistrust. The aim of this workshop is to gain an understanding on the daily obstacles and stereotypes Muslim youth go through and strategize ways to empower them, so that they can feel accepted, respected, and supported in order for students to succeed.

**Location:** Bristol A  
**Presenter:** Sajeda Khalifa, Career Development Counselor, Upward Bound Program, Middlesex Community College  
**Target Audience:** All

### Breaking the Cycle “What’s One Mo Rep?”

When life is hard and you believe that you have given it all you got, and you have tried over and over to get a little closer to your goals, but you believe quitting isn't an option, come find out why you are closer than you think. It is always hard, but what's one mo rep!

**Location:** Bristol B  
**Presenter:** Akeem Lloyd, Co-Founder of A Leadership Journey  
**Target Audience:** All

### BLUMEN – TRIO Community’s First Choice (Best Database for all TRIO)

Don't miss this session if you wish to see why Blumen & BOT are # 1 Software used by the TRiO community.

Exclusive BOT features you will be introduced to:

- APR – Multi-tier error checking tools & yearly updates to sync with DoEd. requirements
- BULK TEXTING – Send personalized text messages to your students
- MOBILE APP – Access your data on your smart devices (iPhone, iPad, Android)
- WALLET – NEW FEATURE – Upload and store student's documents (all formats)
- BOLT – Self Lab Log In for students for activity/service tracking
- PE POINTS – Tool to check objectives to ensure maximum Prior Experience Points
- NSCH – Accurate alumni tracking with National Student Clearing House interface
- BATCH DATA PROCESSING – Save time & effort with multiple batch data wizards

**Location:** Wickford  
**Presenter:** Robert Vassar, Blumen  
**Target Audience:** All

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS I:

## WEDNESDAY 4/3, 1:15PM-2:30PM (Continued)

### Leadership & Culture: Curriculum for Young Scholars

This session will inform college personnel of the ways in which culture influences the leadership development of our youth. This workshop will also provide participants with specific ways in which they can include the concept of culture to create inclusive, research-based leadership workshops and activities for their students. In addition, the presenter will provide various examples of how facilitators can use a wide array of free online leadership development resources that can be customized to fit the needs of any student age group.

**Location:** Newport  
**Presenter:** Jess Evora, Founder, RANJAnow.org (an initiative to celebrate the diversity and the impact of young professionals in RI)  
**Target Audience:** All

### In the Country of the Blind, the One-Eyed Man is [not] King: The Social Model of Disability

There are (at least) two ways to understand disability and what it means in education and in society: the medical model of disability and the social model of disability. According to the medical model, disability is a deficit in the mind or body of the individual that must be addressed medically if the individual is to succeed. According to the social model, however, disability results from the interaction between a difference in the individual and the individual's educational and social context. These two models have very different consequences: they lead us to competing views of disability and how we should interact with disability in education. In this workshop, we will learn about the social model of disability and explore what it means for our work as TRIO professionals. In particular, we will use H.G. Wells' captivating short story "The Country of the Blind" to illuminate the social model.

**Location:** Salon IV  
**Presenter:** Kevin Murray, College Success Advisor, Student Support Services, York County Community College  
**Target Audience:** All

### Bridging the Gap Among Students and Teachers for Student Success

The purpose of this Roundtable is to find out ways and means to get connected with the students by bridging the gap among the teachers and students for achieving higher academic grades. This will help the students feel comfortable and safe in their classroom environment, get engaged and learn more. Keeping in mind that inclusive education is a child's right, and not a privilege we should try to integrate technology in the form of smart board, YouTube or computer animation only to make the lesson plans more interactive and interesting. Instagram is a nice way to get connected both with the students and parents. Necessary steps should be taken to celebrate student's academic, non-academic success and birthdays.

**Location:** Salon V  
**Presenters:** Saleh Mahmud Jahangir, Academic Advisor, Upward Bound, Stamford High School  
**Target Audience:** All

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS I:

## WEDNESDAY 4/3, 1:15PM-2:30PM (Continued)

### The Empowered Student- A Tool Box for Student Success

Through extensive research on scholarly articles, interviews with credible academic professionals, and the identification of best practices, we will explore three essential topics to enable student's success, inclusiveness, and leadership. This presentation will address these topics from both the faculty/staff and student perspectives. Presentation main topics to be discussed are as followed; How to enable students to discuss and handle controversial yet imperative conversations, being able to represent the student through the course curriculum and the important implications of multicultural perspectives in the classroom.

**Location:** Kingston  
**Presenter:** Lisa Giudici, Academic Advisor, University of Rhode Island  
Tre'quan Armstrong, Johnson & Wales University Undergraduate Student,  
Upward Bound Alumnus  
**Target Audience:** All

### One is the Lonelist Number: Building Institutional Support for Dialogue Across Difference

In this session, you will learn how the University of Miami (UM) promoted evidence-based intergroup dialogue methods and created strong alliances for launching a campus-wide Intergroup Dialogue program. Participants will be able to identify critical allies at your institution and learn how methods from UM could be employed to develop similar initiatives. Lastly, attendees will learn how UM adapted the University of Michigan's evidence-based Intergroup Relations model to fit the unique context and diversity of their campus and how this process helped build a network of committed stakeholders.

**Location:** Tiverton  
**Presenter:** Christopher Hartnett, Institutional Culture, Belonging, Inclusion, Diversity;  
Senior Learning and Facilitation Specialist, University of Miami  
**Target Audience:** Educational Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, Student  
Support Services / College-Level Programs, Diversity and/or Inclusion  
Support Officers and Programs

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS II:

## WEDNESDAY, 4/3 3:30pm-4:45pm

### Leadership Institute Spotlight

NEOA's Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute (AMLI) Class of 2018-19 will present a multi-faceted, interactive workshop which will engage attendees in a sampler of some of the highlights from their year-long experience. Topics spotlighted will include Making Powerful Presentations, Managing Conflict through the metaphor of Aikido, and working effectively with a variety of Work Styles. Attendees will learn about NEOA's leadership institute (now in its 15th year), and hear examples of how the experience impacted the lives of some of this year's participants.

**Location:** Bristol A  
**Presenter:** Craig E. Werth, Director of the Leadership Institute  
Leadership Institute Participants of the NEOA AMLI Class of 2018-19  
**Target Audience:** All

### Finding the Missing Piece to Student Success

We do a wonderful service getting our students into college by pushing them to achieve a solid SAT score, completing college applications, and applying for financial aid. Yet many of our students still struggle to complete their college education. What is the missing piece? Could non cognitive factors play an important role in the ongoing success of our students? These essential skills allow our students to be faced with challenges and not give up.

**Location:** Bristol B  
**Presenter:** Rockell Bartoli, Speaker and Author  
**Target Audience:** GEAR UP Programs, Student Support Services / College-Level Programs, Upward Bound

### Confronting the Gap Together: Partnering with College Counselors in the Pursuit of Equity in Access to Higher Education

Helping students navigate various pathways to college requires an understanding of the forces that have created and sustained opportunity gaps in higher education. Achieving equity in access to higher education will require us to reconstruct the definition of "college readiness". Higher education has historically been an upper-middle class and white space that embodies the values of the dominant population. Colleges must take the lead in redefining our understanding of "college readiness" by adopting more holistic approaches to evaluating applications. In this workshop, we will train a critical eye on systems and policies that narrow pathways to higher education for underrepresented students and explore how admissions officers and secondary school counselors/advocates can better partner to work towards more equitable access to higher education in the 21st century.

**Location:** Kingston  
**Presenters:** Omar Reyes, Associate Director of Multicultural Admissions, Fitchburg State University  
Brian Stevens Assistant Director of Admissions, Rhode Island College  
**Target Audience:** Educational Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, GEAR UP Programs, Student Support Services / College-Level Programs, Upward Bound

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS II: WEDNESDAY, 4/3 3:30pm-4:45pm (Continued)

### **Institute for Recruitment of Teachers: Why Diveristy is Essential to Excellence**

Given the dearth of diversity in the teaching workforce and an anticipated increase in market demand for teachers, IRT addresses the diversity gap in graduate school, the teaching profession, and educational leadership pipelines (like NEOA). For 28 years, the IRT has worked with underrepresented students as they navigate the graduate school application process on their path to careers as educators and professionals in K-12 schools and higher education institutions. Through hands-on counseling, one-on-one statement of purpose advising, GRE preparation, professional development workshops, and guidance on funding negotiation, the IRT prepares undergraduate juniors and seniors, graduates, and working professionals to earn graduate degrees within education, arts, and humanities fields. To date, over 2,000 IRT alum are leading programs, departments, and institutions, as Associate Directors, Directors, Deans, Principals, Superintendents and even Campus Presidents. Participants will leave this workshop with a more robust understanding of the growing need for recruiting and retaining diverse educators and leaders in education, and will newly be able to identify the IRT as a resource for and a partner in closing the diversity gap in our education system.

<b>Location:</b>	Newport
<b>Presenter:</b>	Brittany Zorn, Arts & Sciences Program Specialist, Insitute for Recruitment of Teachers Monica Reum, Recruitment & Admissions Programs Specialist, Institute for Recruitment of Teachers
<b>Target Audience:</b>	All

### **Quality of Program Design Logic & Models**

Along with many foundation funders, the U.S. Department of Education is increasingly including a logic model as part of grant applications for TRIO Programs. The most recent TRIO competition (Veterans Upward Bound) included a new application section called “Quality of Program Design” worth 5 points, and which required a logic model. It is likely that future TRIO grant competitions will include this new section as well. What is a logic model? This workshop will explore logic models that are designed to communicate your project’s strong theory through a visual display of the proposed project’s operations, activities, and goals. By sharing examples and templates, you will gain understanding of how to build a logic model and use it to improve program planning, evaluation, and grant applications.

<b>Location:</b>	Salon IV
<b>Presenter:</b>	Laurie Davis, Executive Director of TRIO Programs, University of Southern Maine
<b>Target Audience:</b>	Student Support Services / College-Level Programs, All

### **It Take A Village! Innovative College Readiness and Retention Programming for At Risk College Freshman. Best Practices in Action**

Investing in freshman readiness and college preparedness is crucial to increasing at-risk students’ overall retention, persistence and graduation. This workshop showcases the process, design, and implementation of the CCRI Gateway to Success Program. We will share how collaborative efforts of multiple support services programs coming together as one village can play a crucial part in supporting our students and maximizing their success. The session will focus on the best practices behind creating Gateway to Success as well as current and future components and delivery

modalities. We will explore how mentoring, student engagement, career services, study skills, self-development, and “adulting” skills can come together to empower at risk college freshmen’s academic experience. There are many lessons learned that will only enable us to achieve better outcomes. We will share it all!

**Location:** Salon V  
**Presenters:** Shanna Wells, M.Ed, Coordinator, Community and Social Resources, CCRI  
Naglaa Gaafar, Coordinator, Student Retention Studies, CCRI  
**Target Audience:** All

## Supporting All Students: A Primer in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

In this interactive workshop, we will be exploring the basics of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) as they relate to our work in helping our student access and persist through higher education. Participants will define DEI and begin to develop an understanding how DEI approaches can support our students in their pursuits of higher education. In addition to the general overview, resources will be shared for independent learning for those seeking to expand their expertise. This workshop is designed primarily for new professionals as an introduction to DEI, but may also serve as a refresher for more seasoned professionals.

**Location:** Tiverton  
**Presenter:** Ralph Hogan, Student Activity Officer, Mount Wachusett Community College  
**Target Audience:** Educational Talent Search, GEAR UP Programs, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science

## OnTrack - College Readiness Curriculum Provided for FREE by a Non-Profit to TRIO Programs

OnTrack to Post-Secondary Education is a free, online college readiness curriculum used by more than 80 pre-college UB, UBMS, and ETS programs around the country. OnTrack is designed to help students and parents successfully navigate the post-secondary education obtainment process. Through weekly grade-specific video modules, OnTrack provides 9th-12th grade students with the knowledge and confidence to complete their high school experience and create a viable post-secondary education plan. Session participants will be taken through the OnTrack platform from a student, mentor and staff perspective.

**Location:** Wickford  
**Presenter:** Andrew Zivic, Director of College Readiness, Uncommon Individual Foundation  
**Target Audience:** Educational Talent Search, GEAR UP Programs, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science

## From Prep to Empowerment: Transforming the Whole Person through College-Readiness Test Prep

An important milestone in a student’s high school career is taking a college and career readiness test. Whether it is the SAT or the ACT, most students have preconceived ideas about these tests. In this session, we will discuss the nature of misconceptions that students have related to college-readiness tests, the pedagogy of college-readiness test prep, and the effects of college readiness test prep on the Whole Person.

**Location:** Grand Ballroom  
**Presenters:** Stan Carter, BBA, MS, Strategic Market Development Consultant at MasteryPrep  
**Target Audience:** Pre-College Programs

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS III: THURSDAY 4/4, 10:15AM-11:30AM

### The Rural Reality of TRIO in New England

This workshop will focus on "The Rural Segment of TRiO". New England's unique landscape brings with it unique challenges for our rural residents. This workshop will unpack the demographic data of New England and provide an understanding of the three types of rurality and the respective impact on college access for adults residing in these areas.

**Location:** Bristol A  
**Presenter:** Marti Kingsley, EOC Career & Education Counselor, Vermont Student Assistance Corporation  
**Target Audience:** Educational Opportunity Centers, Student Support Services / College-Level Programs, All Programs

### Making Space for Families: The Role of Parents and Families in Higher Education and Student Success

As institutions have begun to recognize that family support is a critical factor in student success, colleges are finding it essential to consider ways to support parents and family members, along with students. This workshop will explore the role of parents and families in higher education and their impact on the college transition and student success. Participants will discuss parent and student relationships and family involvement in the higher education experience. Best practices designed to engage families in an effort to support student success outcomes will be considered.

**Location:** Bristol B  
**Presenter:** Stephanie Carter, Director of the Academic Center for Excellence, Bryant University  
**Target Audience:** All

### Connecting with Resistant and/or Disengaged Students

This workshop will guide participants through the process of engaging with those students who are often marginalized, disengaged, and appear disinterested. Workshop participants will practice engaging students on the student's level – language, interests, goals – and developing shared goals that help students move successfully through the academic pipeline – at any level. Workshop attendees will explore thinking outside of the box, self-reflecting, and asking the right questions to increase student buy-in, participation, and success.

**Location:** Kingston  
**Presenter:** Angele Goss, Former Director of UBMS & TS, Mount Wachusett Community College  
**Target Audience:** Educational Talent Search, GEAR UP Programs, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science

## **CONCURRENT SESSIONS III:** **THURSDAY 4/4, 10:15AM-11:30AM (Continued)**

### **We Are In It To Win It: One Person's Perspective on the Upcoming Student Support Services Competition**

This workshop will focus on strategies for writing Student Support Services Proposals while also providing new considerations for the need, objectives, plan of operation, budget and the evaluation sections. We also brainstorm topics for the unannounced competitive preference priorities. Additionally, we will consider the requirements of a proposal grant reviewer, which is probably as important as the writer. Finally, we will introduce participants to Workplace, the new grants.gov submission tool. Participants will gain confidence about the federal TRIO proposal process and learn better how to prepare and sustain themselves through the grant writing process.

**Location:** Newport  
**Presenter:** Donna Thompson, President, Thompson & Associates Inc.  
**Target Audience:** Student Support Services / College-Level Programs

### **How To Talk About Graduate Admissions: Preparing UB, SSS, and All TRIO Students for Continued Success**

While many TRIO students across all programs are excellent candidates for graduate school, most are not eligible or do not have access to the services of a McNair Scholars Program or similar designated graduate preparatory program at their institution. As part of this discussion, a panel of TRIO professionals with significant experience in the graduate admissions process will discuss how you can most effectively nurture the aspirations of UB, SSS, and other students as they continue their education as lifelong members of the TRIO community.

**Location:** Wickford  
**Presenters:** Reid Brechner, M.F.A, Assistant Director, McNair Scholars, Castleton University  
Amanda Richardson, Director, McNair Scholars, Castleton University  
Cammi Valdez, Ph.D, Director, McNair Scholars, Wellesley College  
Tammy Gewehr, M.Ed, Director, McNair Scholars, UNH  
Selina Taylor, MPA, Associate Director, McNair Scholars, UNH  
**Target Audience:** Educational Opportunity Centers, GEAR UP Programs, Student Support Services / College-Level Programs, Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, Veterans Upward Bound

### **“Tell Us About A Time”: Using Behavioral Interviewing in the Hiring Process**

This interactive workshop will introduce participants to the method of behavioral interviewing, a technique that asks applicants to reflect on past experiences through storytelling. Rather than posing “what-if” scenarios, employers can craft questions that will elicit detailed responses from applicants that are better indicators of future behavior on the job. Workshop participants will have an opportunity to design new questions (or adapt current questions) that serve their own hiring purposes and practice the follow-up technique. Presenters will also share their success and challenges using this method in hiring TRIO professionals.

**Location:** Salon V  
**Presenters:** Lynn Ploof Davis, Director of TRIO Programs, University of Maine at Farmington  
Elyse Pratt-Ronco, Assistant Director, UB, University of Maine at Farmington  
**Target Audience:** All

# CONCURRENT SESSIONS III:

## THURSDAY 4/4, 10:15AM-11:30AM (Continued)

### What's STEM Got to Do With It? Making STEM Fun and Approachable

Developing STEM curriculum can sometimes be challenging. This workshop provides tried and true methods for creating and delivering ridiculously fun and informative science, technology engineering and math activities.

Learning Objectives:

1. Best practices for creating and delivering STEM content.
2. Apply student engagement techniques to make STEM for students and staff alike.
3. Learn 5 activities that excite students and encourage STEM exploration.

**Location:** Tiverton  
**Presenters:** Jerrod Murr, Paradigm Shift, CEO/Founder  
**Target Audience:** All

### Underprivileged and Underserved

This workshop provides educators with the opportunity to understand poverty and addressing its impacts. Rooted in lived experience and research, the seminar is designed to shatter stereotypes with facts about poverty and to implement concrete tools and ideas for creating programs and best practices that are responsive to the needs of people living in poverty conditions.

**Location:** Salon IV  
**Presenter:** Dima Hendricks, Randolph Public School Homeless Liaison  
**Target Audience:** Student Support Services / College-Level Programs

### StudentAccess: Tour the Tools for TRIO Available in StudentAccess!

StudentAccess is the answer to daily data management and reporting tasks for TRIO programs. The StudentAccess team has over twenty years of TRIO experience to help reduce the stress of managing participant information. Your TRIO program's needs are met with unlimited support, training opportunities, and the Annual Performance Reporting process is streamlined with user-friendly online and desktop platforms available. StudentAccess is not only an effective data management program, it's the best solution for your program.

**Location:** ELMS Board Room  
**Presenter:** Alex Grote, Vice President, Heiberg Consulting Inc./Student Access  
Becca LaPole, Sales & Marketing Manager, Heiberg Consulting Inc./Student Access  
**Target Audience:** All

*End of Sessions*