



April 8, 2014

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NEOA HONORS SENATOR CHRISTOPHER MURPHY WITH THE 2014 SHIRLEY CHISHOLM AWARD**  
This Prestigious Award Recognizes National Commitment to TRIO Program Clients

Senator Christopher Murphy will be presented with the Shirley Chisholm Award at the New England Educational Opportunity Association's (NEOA) 38<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, "Paradigm Shifts in Training and Education: Standing Strong Together" at 9 o'clock in the morning at The Holiday Inn Bridgeport, 1070 Main St., Bridgeport, CT on Friday, April 11, 2014.

The Shirley Chisholm Award was founded in 1983 to recognize individuals who have demonstrated outstanding commitment and active support for the clients served by TRIO Programs. Former Congresswoman Chisholm was a strong and active national advocate for TRIO programs during her tenure in the House of Representatives. This award has enabled our association to recognize the contributions and support of individuals outside the TRIO community. Senator Murphy serves on the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee, the Foreign Relations Committee, and the Joint Economic Committee. Senator Murphy recently sponsored the College Affordability and Innovation Act of 2014 that creates a new evidence-based grant program to promote greater experimentation in delivering higher education to middle and low-income students.

Prior recipients of the Shirley Chisholm Award include Sen. Christopher Dodd, Sen. Edward Kennedy, Cong. Gwen Moore, and Sen. Olympia Snowe. A full list of recipients can be found on our website at [http://www.neoaonline.org/i\\_awardwinners.php](http://www.neoaonline.org/i_awardwinners.php).

The New England Educational Opportunity Association, or NEOA, works to advocate for access to and success in postsecondary education for low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and students with disabilities; and to develop the skills and knowledge of educational opportunity professional working with these populations.

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If you would like more information about this topic, or to schedule an interview with Sen. Christopher Murphy, please contact Angela Quitadamo at 508/929.8325 or via e-mail at [angela.quitadamo@gmail.com](mailto:angela.quitadamo@gmail.com). For more information on NEOA or the Shirley Chisholm award, go to [www.neoaonline.org](http://www.neoaonline.org)