New England Educational Opportunity Association

39th Annual Conference

MARCH 31 - APRIL 2, 2015
SHERATON PORTSMOUTH HARBORSIDE HOTEL
PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPshire
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For the Board of Directors of NEOA, I am extremely proud to welcome you to the 39th Annual Conference in the pearl of the New Hampshire seacoast. We hope that you take full advantage of the learning, networking, and dining opportunities to renew and recharge.

It has been a full and rich year for TRIO and GEAR UP nation in New England. We celebrated the 50th Anniversary of Upward Bound at a dazzling event at Boston University; immersed in experiential learning at the N.E. Student Leadership Conference in Fairlee, VT; engaged in well-organized professional development days for EOC and SSS; watched all six states put on vibrant, interesting, and unique annual conference-meetings to continue building their organizations; made substantial leadership contributions to Fair Share once again; braved the storm-snowy February landscape of the state of Maine for an energetic TRIO Day out of South Portland; sent a compelling delegation to the COE Policy Seminar in Washington, DC; and performed thousands of acts of service, outreach, advocacy, and encouragement in support of our students, parents, and professionals.

This year’s Conference Committee has done a fantastic job of juggling the myriad elements needed to create a successful event for more than 200 people over three days and nights. Special thanks to Debora McCann and Kristin Sweeney for their leadership and wisdom over the past nine months and the focused efforts of our Conference Committee. We are so excited to welcome President Freeman Hrabowski III as our keynote speaker, President Maureen Hoyler of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), Chairman Oscar Felix of the COE Board of Directors, and Members and Staff from the New Hampshire Congressional delegation.

We also gather this week to welcome TRIO alumni and newcomers to our family, to honor two NEOA annual award recipients, to give our very best wishes to several colleagues who have chosen to retire and pursue new life paths, to listen to the heartbeats of this year’s Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute participants, and celebrate our four stunning alumni selected as NEOA Achievers/Rising Stars. Yet, the most important thing that we do here is to fully come together as colleagues to celebrate the day and grow into the future.

May you all cultivate great dreams this week and then go out to create them!

Randy Schroeder,
NEOA President
We are so excited to welcome you to the Sheraton Harborside Hotel here in historic Portsmouth, New Hampshire. This is the 39th annual New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA) Conference. As you gaze out the window at the beautiful Piscataqua River and the Portsmouth tugboats, you can consider our theme - Charting a Course for the Future. Upward Bound celebrated their 50th anniversary last year and Talent Search is in the midst of planning their 50th anniversary celebrations. As we are celebrating many years of success for all of our programs, we must remember that change is important and necessary to remain relevant and impactful. We must be resilient and creative to meet the future needs of our students. As we celebrate what has been accomplished in our history, we must continue to look forward to the ever-changing needs of society, education, students and families.

Throughout these two and a half days you will have rich opportunities to learn from the various workshops that are being offered. There will be many opportunities to network and hear from seasoned professionals and from newcomers who all have so much to offer this organization. We hope that the variety of speakers will educate and inspire you. We also hope that you have an opportunity to have fun and enjoy the wonderful facilities in this hotel in addition to the beautiful city of Portsmouth.

Planning a conference is an overwhelming responsibility on top of all the regular work done to keep our programs running. Regardless, it is such an honor to work with all of our colleagues to make this conference happen. New Hampshire is a small state and we only have seven TRIO programs. Everyone in the state - from all of the programs - has worked together to make this conference happen. We also have additional volunteers from out-of-state who have added immensely to this team. Each person brings his or her own strengths to the process, which makes for an amazing team. This is truly a group effort and we are proud to be a part of it.

Thanks to everyone who helped make this wonderful event happen. Thanks to our exhibitors and sponsors who helped to provide this opportunity for us. Thanks to those who took out advertisements in our booklet. Thanks to everyone who donated or provided donations to our online and silent auctions. Thanks to all of the amazing presenters who have given their time to share their knowledge. Finally, a special thanks goes to our President, Randy Schroeder, for his vision and leadership.

Please enjoy your time here at the conference and we hope to see you all in Massachusetts next year!

Debbie McCann & Kristin Sweeney,
Conference Co-Chairs
# Schedule At A Glance

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<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Monday, March 30</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>5:45 p.m.</td>
<td>NEOA Board Meeting</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>8:30 p.m.</td>
<td>NEOA Board &amp; Past-Presidents’ Dinner</td>
<td>off-site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, March 31</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
<td>Hotel Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Silent Auction</td>
<td>Thaxter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Vendor Exhibits</td>
<td>Conference Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Conference Welcome</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45 a.m.</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Keynote Address: Dr. Freeman Hrabowski</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>2:00 p.m.</td>
<td>NEOA Achievers Luncheon</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions I</td>
<td>see page 16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 p.m.</td>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30 p.m.</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Shirley Chisholm Award: Senator Jeanne Shaheen</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions II</td>
<td>see page 18</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:15 p.m.</td>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>State Meetings</td>
<td>see page 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Newcomers &amp; Alumni Dinner (invitation only)</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Dinner on your own</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>11:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospitality Suite hosted by CT, ME &amp; RI</td>
<td>Townhouse TBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, April 1</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Buffet Breakfast</td>
<td>Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 a.m.</td>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Leadership Institute Gathering (All are welcome!)</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
<td>Hotel Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 a.m.</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Silent Auction</td>
<td>Thaxter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Dr. Suzanne Bouffard</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Vendor Exhibits</td>
<td>Conference Lobby</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Special Assistant to Senator Kelly Ayotte: Matthew Bartlett</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 a.m.</td>
<td>11:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions III</td>
<td>see page 20</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 p.m.</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Lunch on your own</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Program Roundtables</td>
<td>see page 24</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15 p.m.</td>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>Concurrent Sessions IV</td>
<td>see page 22</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45 p.m.</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Afternoon Snack</td>
<td>Hotel Lobby</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>NEOA Business Mtg</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>President’s Reception &amp; Retiree Recognition</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Awards Banquet</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>11:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Hospitality Suite hosted by MA, NH &amp; VT</td>
<td>Townhouse TBA</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, April 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Q &amp; A with Congressman Frank Guinta</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Department of Education Information &amp; Sharing</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Brunch, Washington &amp; COE Updates: Oscar Felix &amp; Maureen Hoyler</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 a.m.</td>
<td>12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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## Workshops at a Glance

### Concurrent Sessions I: Tuesday, 2:15 p.m. - 3:15 p.m.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>Using Student Tracking Data to Improve Your Pre-College Program: Part I</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities and Games for TRIO Curriculum</td>
<td>Harbor's Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Application Week--A National Initiative to Encourage Low-income, First Generation Seniors to Apply to College</td>
<td>Lear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaging Diverse Populations with Personal Finance</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilizing Technology to Increase Efficiency with Peer Tutoring and Mentoring</td>
<td>Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mediating Moments of Crisis: Financial Literacy in Action</td>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marketing your Program</td>
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### Concurrent Sessions II: Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using Student Tracking Data to Improve Your Pre-College Program: Part II</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
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<tr>
<td>Is Your Institution Using Social Media the Right Way?</td>
<td>Wentworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping Students Understand and Compare College Costs: Before They Apply</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“You Don’t Have to Leave Your Identity at the Door or at the Bottom of the Ivory Tower to be Successful”</td>
<td>Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>“You are indeed special and necessary.”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting Mattering and Reducing Marginality Among TRIO College Populations</td>
<td>Lear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Act Up: History, Advocacy and 50 Years of Educational Opportunity</td>
<td>Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TRIO Tales</td>
<td>Harbor's Edge</td>
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<tr>
<td>A New Model to Improve Outcomes for Low-Income Students</td>
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### Concurrent Sessions III: Wednesday, 10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Low-Cost Technology Resources for Struggling Readers and Writers</td>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions and Financial Aid: Effectively Guiding Students to the Best College Match</td>
<td>Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>True Tales of Leadership (Arnold L Mitchum Leadership Institute)</td>
<td>Lear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From “I can’t breathe” to “I can breathe”:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Helping Participants Address the Twin Demons of Racism and Climate Change</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discussing “Ready, Willing and Able: A Developmental Approach to College Access and Success,” by Savitz-Romer and Bouffard</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engaging Student Workers to Impact Programming</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Courage to Speak: Engaging Home, School &amp; Community to Keep our Children Safe From Drugs</td>
<td>Wentworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Empower: The College Readiness Analytics Solution</td>
<td>Ballroom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Concurrent Sessions IV: Wednesday, 2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Using Low and No-Cost Technologies to Streamline Operations</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundamentals of Financial Aid</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talking in Circles: Building Connection &amp; Community through Restorative Circles Practices</td>
<td>Wentworth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Tool Kit Filled With Study Skills</td>
<td>Lear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summertime and the Livin’ is Awesome</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traveling the Waters of the At-Risk Narrative: Student Stories of Resilience</td>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Intelligence: Exploring the Other Side of Smart</td>
<td>Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>StudentAccess Roundtable: Explore the many ways that TRIO staff utilize the most user friendly participant tracking and reporting solution available!</td>
<td>Ballroom</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Freeman A. Hrabowski, III, has served as President of UMBC (The University of Maryland, Baltimore County) since 1992. His research and publications focus on science and math education, with special emphasis on minority participation and performance. He chaired the National Academies’ committee that produced the recent report, Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America’s Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads. He also was recently named by President Obama to chair the newly created President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for African Americans.

In 2008, he was named one of America’s Best Leaders by U.S. News & World Report, which ranked UMBC the nation’s #1 “Up and Coming” university the past six years (2009-14). During this period, U.S. News also consistently ranked UMBC among the nation’s leading institutions for “Best Undergraduate Teaching” - in 2014, other universities on the list included Princeton, Brown, Stanford, and Yale. TIME magazine named him one of America’s 10 Best College Presidents in 2009, and one of the “100 Most Influential People in the World” in 2012. In 2011, he received both the TIAA-CREF Theodore M. Hesburgh Award for Leadership Excellence and the Carnegie Corporation of New York’s Academic Leadership Award, recognized by many as the nation’s highest awards among higher education leaders. Also in 2011, he was named one of seven Top American Leaders by The Washington Post and the Harvard Kennedy School’s Center for Public Leadership. In 2012, he received the Heinz Award for his contributions to improving the “Human Condition” and was among the inaugural inductees into the U.S. News & World Report STEM Solutions Leadership Hall of Fame.

He serves as a consultant to the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the National Academies, and universities and school systems nationally. He also serves on the boards of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, France-Merrick Foundation, Marguerite Casey Foundation (Chair), T. Rowe Price Group, The Urban Institute, McCormick & Company, and the Baltimore Equitable Society. He served previously on the boards of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Maryland Humanities Council (member and Chair).

Examples of other honors include election to the American Academy of Arts & Sciences and the American Philosophical Society; receiving the prestigious McGraw Prize in Education, the U.S. Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring, the Columbia University Teachers College Medal for Distinguished Service, the GE African American Forum ICON Lifetime Achievement Award, the American Educational Research Association’s Distinguished Public Service Award, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science’s (AAAS) William D. Carey Award; being named a Fellow of the AAAS, Black Engineer of the Year (BEYA) by the BEYA STEM Global Competitiveness Conference, Educator of the Year by the World Affairs Council of Washington, DC, and Marylander of the Year by the editors of the Baltimore Sun; and being listed among Fast Company magazine’s first Fast 50 Champions of Innovation in business and technology, and receiving the Technology Council of Maryland’s Lifetime Achievement Award. He also holds honorary degrees from more than 20 institutions - from Harvard, Princeton, and Duke to the University of Michigan, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Johns Hopkins University, Georgetown University, Haverford College, and Harvey Mudd College.

With philanthropist Robert Meyerhoff, he co-founded the Meyerhoff Scholars Program in 1988. The program is open to all high-achieving students committed to pursuing advanced degrees and research careers in science and engineering, and advancing underrepresented minorities in these fields. The program is recognized as a national model, and based on program outcomes, Hrabowski has authored numerous articles and co-authored two books, Beating the Odds and Overcoming the Odds (Oxford University Press), focusing on parenting and high-achieving African American males and females in science. He and UMBC were recently featured on CBS’s 60 Minutes, attracting national attention for the campus’s achievements involving innovation and inclusive excellence.

A child-leader in the Civil Rights Movement, Hrabowski was prominently featured in Spike Lee’s 1997 documentary, Four Little Girls, on the racially motivated bombing in 1963 of Birmingham’s Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

Born in 1950 in Birmingham, Alabama, Hrabowski graduated from Hampton Institute with highest honors in mathematics. He received his M.A. (mathematics) and Ph.D. (higher education administration/statistics) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.
Dr. Suzanne Bouffard is a researcher and writer with a background in psychology and a passion for making research accessible. She is co-author of the book *Ready, Willing, and Able: A Developmental Approach to College Access and Success* (Harvard Education Press, 2012), which nonprofits and schools around the country are using to help more first-generation, low-income, and other underserved students get to and through college. Her writing on college access, youth development, and social and emotional learning has appeared in *The New York Times, Educational Leadership, Phi Delta Kappan, The Harvard Education Letter*, and other publications, and she is the winner of a 2013 story fund grant from the Solutions Journalism Network. She has worked for the Harvard Graduate School of Education and the Harvard Family Research Project. She has taught at Boston University and Emerson College and has worked directly with children and youth from elementary school through college. She holds a B.A. from Wesleyan University and a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Duke University, where she was a University Scholar.
NEOA ACHIEVER:
BILLY V. POWERS, Ph.D.

Upward Bound
The University of Maine at Farmington
1986 - 1989

A life-changing transformational metamorphosis. This depicts my interaction with the University of Maine Upward Bound Program. College was a dream for others. Surely it was not an achievable aspiration for a homeless waif.

Strident and purposeful. This depicts my experience with the University of Maine Upward Bound Program. This vital educational program helped to place me on a college-bound trajectory. College was now more than an aspiration. It was an achievable goal. The metamorphosis: educational opportunities helped to propel me from a fractured foster care system with no home to walking the halls of Congress and standing guard at the most famous address in the world – The White House. I am a formidable example that with knowledge comes limitless opportunity.

As keynote at a recent leadership summit, I heralded the importance of mentoring. I shared that mentoring, in simplest of forms, can change a person forever. The Upward Bound Program mentoring was born around my struggle to comprehend “geometric proofs.” Proofs begin with an argument and little information and progresses through logical deductions to arrive at a conclusion. How are the two aligned? The Upward Bound Program took a malleable individual who lacked confidence, ability and financial opportunity and with logical impartations and academic mentoring, helped me to deduce that big conclusions are a result of smaller impartations. Bill Powers, PhD is product of those impartations.

With encouragement my trajectory was launched. And a life, committed to higher education and inspiring others was born. My career continues to be a storybook career. I have enjoyed opportunity to influence national policy of a federal cabinet-level agency, work as a Professional Staff Member in the United States Senate, to my current assignment as a Senior Policy Advisor for the Department of Homeland Security. Along the way, I have positioned myself for the next chapter and opportunity by maintaining keen focus on education. Therein, opportunity to “pay forward” the mentoring received as a student years ago - as adjunct faculty for three institutions, distinguished lecturer, and author, charged with imparting knowledge to the next generation of thought leaders.

There are ceaseless examples of how the Upward Bound Program transforms individuals.

What is often overlooked is the tremendous impact that opportunity provides. It is an honor and privilege to herald the impact of this tremendous program and advocate for continued resources to ensure the future viability for another young person. Socio-economic challenges should never block or hinder educational opportunity. The Upward Bound Program enabled me to break the cycle and it is through the TRIO Programs that I have come to realize - I can help create the world of tomorrow. Today, I am driven to be a strident and purposeful voice that advocates the value of education and strive to embolden the Mister [Fred] Rogers mantra “…we must endeavor to inspire and believe in the power of humanity.” The Upward Bound Program spurred a metamorphosis in the life of a malleable young man - a man who endeavors to inspire and believe that we can make a difference.

About the NEOA Achiever Award

NEOA Achiever Awards are given to outstanding graduates of New England’s regional educational opportunity programs, TRIO, GEAR UP and other educational opportunity programs alike. NEOA Achievers are truly worthy of the distinction, as they possess all of the following attributes:

- They have received a bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution of higher education.
- They are recognized as a person of high stature within their profession or they have received recognition for their outstanding academic achievements.
My bank requires answers to security questions in order to access my account. One of them is, “What is your dream job?” Every time I type the answer, I smile: psychologist. I smile because I have finally realized that dream! And, it seems such an unlikely outcome given the life I was born into. A child of two alcoholic parents, one with serious mental illness, I grew up in an atmosphere that was loving, but also often times filled with chaos and lack of resources. Although I understood my parents were doing their best, early in life I began to seek out mentors - friends' parents, teachers, coaches - to find more of the care and fulfillment I needed. In high school, I found an important mentor through my Talent Search counselor Steve McGrath, who helped me to navigate the path to college I was determined to pave. Neither of my parents earned a bachelor's degree, and at that time, I was nowhere near dreaming of becoming a psychologist - I just wanted to get to college. Steve helped me through every step of this process because my parents did not know how to lead me on this path. He helped me to decide which courses to take, and encouraged me to focus on my goals and the steps to achieve them. Through diligence in schoolwork, extracurricular activities, and sports I sought to show that I could create a different life for myself. When I was accepted to college my parents were homeless and altogether without resources. With Steve's help, I applied to 23 scholarships, received 13 of them, and obtained additional scholarships after my first year at University of New Hampshire (UNH.) Steve's mentorship was absolutely essential in this process - he helped me with scholarship applications, college applications, and figuring out financial transactions with UNH.

I felt immense gratitude to be in college given how unlikely it had seemed I would get there. Yet, it was difficult to have less class privilege than most of my peers and my family continued to lean on me for support. Again, it was essential that I seek out mentorship and support in order to meet my challenges. With the help of a therapist, and many other mentors, I transformed these experiences into empathy rather than bitterness. I also found a family of academic mentors and friends who guided and supported me each step of the way and who encouraged me to consider a doctoral degree in psychology, which I never would have imagined. One of those people was Randy Schroeder at UNH Student Support Services. Much like Steve in Talent Search, Randy helped me with every step of the applications to graduate school. He helped me study for the GRE (twice!), helped me write essays for all 13 applications to Ph.D. programs, and met with me countless times to make one of the most difficult decisions of my life - where to spend 6-8 years in graduate school. I was thrilled to have the opportunity to attend graduate school and I largely have Randy to thank for that.

Attending a doctoral program as a first generation college student who came from relative poverty has been an incredible honor and a formidable challenge. My family's financial and emotional difficulties continue, and I have learned a tremendous amount from supporting them while persevering through graduate school hurdles. My experiences with psychotherapy and with poverty led to my dissertation topic on how psychologists work with low-income clients; and my relationships with family members with mental health problems have inspired me to gain the tools I need to transform that suffering while working with clients.

As a psychologist, I am now humbled to be able to use my best qualities of determination, caring, gratitude, and genuineness to make myself available to others on their own journeys. I honestly have TRIO programs to thank for helping me arrive exactly where I want to be.

- They are employed above the entry-level designation for their profession or they have received a post baccalaureate degree or are enrolled in a post baccalaureate program.
- They have made significant civic, community, or professional contributions.
- Their participation in an educational opportunity program has had a significant impact upon their ability to achieve educational and/or professional objectives (as acknowledged by the participant).
RISING STAR:
MARILYN LUPO

Student Support Services Project EXCEL
Lyndon State College
2002 - 2007

In 2002, when I entered Lyndon State College, I wasn’t sure which direction I was headed, what I wanted to do or who I was. I met a family with a daughter in Upward Bound. They referred me to Rick Williams and he referred me to the Excel program at Lyndon State College. I met and worked with the Counselor Angie Ryan-Williams. There isn’t a week that goes by, a challenge that is conquered, or a success that is enjoyed that I don’t owe some gratitude to the Excel program.

I entered college with a GED and I did not think I was going to be able to match the level of intelligence of students that had graduated from high school. I had dropped out of high school so that I could support myself and became an emancipated minor at sixteen. I was in an abusive situation at home and college was a way out for me.

I met Angie at the Excel program. The program helped me academically with tutoring, a laptop lending program and she worked with me personally to develop a sense of confidence that I was lacking. She believed in me (something I had not experienced from a background with no parents around and moving from couch to couch) and she made a point to encourage me during the many times I wanted to give up. It is with Angie’s help I was able to graduate college with a Bachelor’s Degree in Business Administration.

I was the first in my family to graduate from college. Since then my brothers have gone on to graduate from college as well. Even though we thought we didn’t have the financial resources to go to college, through grants and loans it was possible for them to attend just like I had.

Since college, there have been many challenges adjusting to life and being around some of those who hurt me many years ago. It is the skills that I was taught by Excel both personally and professionally that have helped me persevere every time.

I am currently a full time fiscal specialist at the New York State Department of Education, a job that my Bachelor’s Degree has qualified me to have. I oversee the grants and procurements that the state provides. I also currently own two businesses. One business is a deli, named Kanters Deli, located in Albany, NY on one of the busiest streets near several colleges. I have 3 staff and the deli earns several thousands of dollars weekly. The other business, Superior Servers is a traveling catering and staffing company. These two small businesses have managed to each capture a small niche in the area. They are very well known because of the great service and passion I have. I had worked in the food industry for years to pay for college and it has always been a dream of mine to own my deli. I don’t believe I would have accomplished all of this without the support of the Excel program, I learned the life skills and learning strategies to help me graduate from LSC.

Thanks to the Excel program at Lyndon State College and Angie I have been able to reach out to those youth who may have been going down the same path I was headed. I can be a mentor and a glimpse of hope for them during times they may feel trapped. I am able to donate to agencies that assist those in need. I look forward to the times when I am able to pay forward what Angie has done for me.

About the NEOA Rising Star Award

The purpose of the NEOA Rising Star Award is to identify emerging professionals who are former participants of New England’s educational opportunity programs. This award allows our region to recognize Rising Stars who have either completed their Associates degree and/or their Bachelor’s degree and are just beginning to make an impact in their careers and communities.

Rising Star Award honors emerging leaders who strive toward the highest levels of personal and professional accomplishment, who excel in their chosen field, devote time and energy to their community in a meaningful way, and serve as a role model for other low income, first generation college bound students and students with disabilities. NEOA Rising Star nominees should be worthy of the distinction and possess all of the following attributes:
RISING STAR:
KEVIN RICHARDS
Upward Bound Math and Science
The University of Maine
2000 – 2003

Limiting myself to only 500 words while trying to describe the important impact TRIO has had on my life is a significant challenge. Not only did the University of Maine Upward Bound Math and Science program help me find what I am passionate about, but it also gave me the friends, confidence and resources I needed to get where I am today. I can think of no better way to help students discover what would best make them happy and successful in life than to bring them into a program where you are surrounded by those who are doing what they love.

I could write a paragraph here about my home life and the disadvantages I faced coming from a poor household in small-town rural Maine. I choose not to for truthfully I only have admiration, love and thankfulness for the life that my parents were able to give me. We did not have a lot of money and yes pulling my 1984, Chevy Celebrity that was purchased for fifty dollars into the school parking lot next to another students BMW did present frustration and challenges. However, with the encouragement of my family and the support of the Upward Bound program, I never lost my focus on what I wanted to do with my life. With this love and support, I knew that I was going to go to college.

The Upward Bound Math Science program I attended helped me realize two important things: first, how to navigate getting into college; and second and most important, find what you are passionate about and through that passion the best direction to make a positive impact in your community, family and life. I have said since my first summer at Upward Bound that I am so lucky to have the support of two families. The family I was born with and now the TRIO family that to this day I am happy to still be involved with. I will support TRIO programs until the day I die because of what I have been able to see TRIO do for its students.

After discovering my love for providing education at Upward Bound, I went on to get my baccalaureate in psychology at The University of Maine. With the connections I was able to make through my friends and colleagues in TRIO, it was not long until I found myself working in a TRIO program at Kennebec Valley Community College. Since then I have taken the Director of Student Development position at the college. I have kept the TRIO mentality of community, opportunity and support in everything I do in my job. We handed out 65 complete thanksgiving meals to students of KVCC and set up our Holiday tree program to provide KVCC families support at Christmas time. These are the things that make me happy, which is why I love my job and will forever be grateful to TRIO for helping me along the way.

- Demonstrated excellence, creativity, and initiative in his or her profession.
- Has an Associates or Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution of higher education and 2 – 5 years professional experience in their field.
- Engages in or is developing a leadership role in civic, community, or professional development activities.
- Has participated in an educational opportunity program that has had a significant impact upon their ability to achieve educational and/or professional objectives (as acknowledged by the participant).
MARIAN BELGRAVE-HOWARD AWARD: ALAN PARKS

Committed to promoting accessibility to higher education for all students, including students with and without disabilities and lower-income and first generation students; committed to successful completion of higher education by all students.

To know Alan Parks is to know a man with great strength and character, harboring wisdom laced with warm humor, and an unmatched dedication to the people of TRIO. His own summary statement paints a clear portrait of this man and his legacy.

Alan began his 42 years in education as a high school French and Spanish teacher in a small town in northern Maine. But it didn't take him long to discover the Upward Bound program at the University of Maine. He soon became immersed in what has been the UB core for 50 years … coordinating a summer program, training student staff, hiring teachers, counseling, camping, teaching and all the good stuff of working intensely with adolescents who have a desire to move forward through education. His Upward Bound work continued as he became Director of the Classic Upward Bound and then starting and directing Math-Science UB at UMaine.

In the mid 1990's as the Internet began to explode and web sites became a typical way for programs and people to showcase their efforts, Alan caught a technology bug and began creating, developing, and maintaining the web presence for the National Council of Educational Opportunity Associations (the precursor to the current Council for Opportunity in Education) and the national Association for Higher Education and Disabilities (AHEAD) along with local TRIO Programs. True to his nature, sharing his great technology knowledge with others was a central practice.

Alan's two worlds of technology and support for individuals with disabilities became wholly integrated as he evolved into a leader in web accessibility and universal design. His primary daily focus changed from Upward Bound Director to technology guru, grant writer, consultant, and accessibility champion. But, regardless of the title on his business card, the roles of teacher and advocate continued in his core.

Moving ahead to 2007 when long-time TRIO champion Jerry Ellis announced his retirement as Director of College Success programs at UMaine. The lure of TRIO was too much for Alan to resist and he returned to lead the highly respected ONWARD and Student Support Services programs.

The Marian Belgrave-Howard Award is given for an individual’s inspiring and enduring contributions toward the achievement of NEOA’s mission and toward the expansion of equal educational opportunity. Alan Parks fully represents the spirit and heart of this award and the trail-blazing leader for whom it is named.

About the Marian Belgrave-Howard Award:
Marion Belgrave - Howard served as the first President of the New England Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel, NEAEOPP, (now the New England Educational Opportunity Association, NEOA), in 1976. This award is given to individuals for their “inspiring and enduring contributions toward the achievement of NEAEOPP’s (NEOA’s) mission and toward the expansion of equal educational opportunity.”
Jeanne Shaheen was first elected to the US Senate in 2008 and re-elected in 2014. She was a member of the NH State Senate from 1990-1996 and then became the first woman elected as Governor of the State of New Hampshire and served three terms from 1997-2003. She is a member of the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations and its subcommittee on the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies which are both critically important to TRIO Nation. She also serves on the Senate Armed Services, Foreign Relations, and Small Business and Entrepreneurship Committees.

Senator Shaheen is a member of TRIO Caucus and signs on to letters supporting TRIO appropriations requests. Her Washington legislative staff has been tremendously aware of TRIO and NEOA, responsive to our inquiries, and supportive of initiatives to enhance our work. She has been an ongoing supporter of efforts to make college more affordable, increase access to higher education, maintain low rates for Stafford Loans, and was a strong advocate for the Pay As You Earn Loan Repayment Plan. She was a cosponsor and advocate for the Bank on Students Emergency Loan Refinancing Act to help borrowers manage student loan debt by refinancing at lower interest rates and fought to increase the maximum Pell Grant.

Senator Shaheen has supported increases in funding for Head Start and quality child care. In her first term as Governor she made tremendous strides in moving New Hampshire public schools to expanding kindergarten to tens of thousands of New Hampshire children. She initiated a statewide campaign which incorporated the business community in forming the Business Partners for Early Learning to enhance the "quality, accessibility, and affordability of early care and education." In 2011 and 2013 Senator Shaheen introduced the Innovation Inspiration School Grant Program Act to award grants to schools to promote STEM access and programs in secondary schools and after school programs. Language in the bill gave priority to rural or urban schools and schools with a high proportion of students eligible for free or reduced lunches.

It is clear that as State Senator, Governor, and U.S. Senator, Jeanne Shaheen has been a long time and ardent supporter of promoting greater access to quality education, especially for low income students, families, and schools, and in reducing the impact of high student loan debt. While she is well known for her decades of political leadership, her roots as a classroom teacher are deep and strong. As we call on the spirit and memory of Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm we are very pleased to honor Senator Jeanne Shaheen with this Award.

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About the Shirley Chisholm Award:

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 and GEAR UP 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.

Adam J. Shaughnessy  
College and Career Advisor | Upward Bound  
Center for Academic Access and Opportunity  
Suffolk University, Boston

Breyana Roman  
Springfield Academic Advisor  
Upward Bound Program  
Northfield Mount Hermon

Elizabethe G. Plante, M.S.  
Education Advisor  
Educational Talent Search  
Massachusetts Education & Career Opportunities, Inc. (MassEdCO)

Erica Coleman  
Lead Educational Counseling Coordinator/  
Public Relations Specialist  
CONNTAC- Educational Opportunity Center

Heather Schneider  
Academic Program Coordinator  
Vermont State GEAR UP

Holly Kreidler-Phaneuf  
Assistant Director  
North Central Educational Opportunity Center

Jacqueline J. Mane’  
Associate Director  
Access  
Community College of Rhode Island

Melissa Goyait Azzaro  
Associate Director  
Educational Talent Search  
University of New Hampshire

Patrice Lincoln  
Dean  
Access & Transition (GEAR UP, ETS, UBMS)  
Mount Wachusett Community College

Ralph L. Hogan III  
Student Activity Officer  
Upward Bound Math & Science  
Mount Wachusett Community College

Stephanie M. Cruz  
Director  
Access  
Community College of Rhode Island

Teri Morse  
Advisor  
Maine Educational Opportunity Center  
Aroostook, Northern Penobscot and Northern Washington Counties

Craig Werth  
Director  
Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute
WASHINGTON UPDATE: MAUREEN HOYLER

Before assuming the role of President, Maureen served as the Council for Opportunity in Education’s Executive Vice President and oversaw the Council’s operations including Public Policy and Communications, Program and Professional Development, Business and Finance, Fundraising, and the Pell Institute for the Study of Higher Education. She also fostered the establishment of the Louis Stokes Institute for Opportunity in STEM Education, and an I3 grant, from the U.S. Department of Education and GE, which grew into a multi-state, whole school model program known as GO College.

Ms. Hoyler has lectured widely on federal law and regulations. Her publications include “Collaboration to Widen Participation in Higher Education” (The European Access Network) and “Expanding College Access and Success – The Chicago Model” (with George Lowery). She received her B.A. in English, theology, and anthropology and her law degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI.

COE UPDATE: OSCAR FELIX

Oscar Felix serves as the Associate Vice President for Diversity, Enrollment and Access, under the Office of the Vice President for Diversity at Colorado State University. Oscar also serves as Executive Director of the Access Center, which includes EOC, Educational Talent Search, Upward Bound, Bridge Scholars Program, and institutionally-funded programs with similar missions- Alliance Partnership, Dream Project and Reach Out. He has worked in the TRIO/College Access and Success field for over 25 years. He has served as state and regional ASPIRE President, regional conference chair, and served as faculty on several TRIO Training Grants and ECMC’s Persist college retention training team. Currently he co-leads Colorado’s State Initiatives efforts to increase opportunities for all students across the state. As Assistant Professor in the Student Affairs in Higher Education (SAHE) masters program, Oscar serves as advisor and co-instructor for the Ethics and Global Perspectives on Student Affairs & Services courses, and a workshop on Access and Opportunity in Higher Education. The Global Perspectives course prepares SAHE students to participate in international field experiences focusing on higher education, student affairs, and student services in Canada, Qatar, China, and Morocco. For the past two years, Oscar served as Director of NASPA’s International Symposium, and presented at the two-day intensive NASPA International Student Services Institute in Abu Dhabi and Al Ain in the United Arab Emirates. Oscar earned his Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from U.S. International University, and his Masters in SAHE and Ph.D. in Education at Colorado State University. His dissertation studied success factors of under-prepared students attending an institution with selective admissions standards.
In a time of increased accountability for student outcomes, it is important to use data beyond the APR to improve programmatic efforts and practice. TRIO access programs collect a wealth of data that is submitted to the Department of Education each year to provide evidence that programs are effective and successful. But what else can this data be used for to help your program? If TRIO professionals can use this information to identify the root of educational challenges and track progress, they can more readily develop action plans that will have a positive impact on their students. This two part session will cover ways to translate data into goals, priorities, and strategies that are clearly linked to planning and decision making processes. Come explore ways that data that TRIO programs are already collecting can be used to leverage your programs internally and externally. You will walk away with a plan along with tools and resources to turn this plan into reality. Please note: participants will need to join for Part I and Part II.

Location: Gardner
Presenters: JeanMarie Spinetti
Associate Vice-Provost, Academic Support Services and Undergraduate Studies, University of Massachusetts-Boston
Amy Verlanic
Executive Director of the Institute for Educational Opportunities, Montana Tech of the University of Montana

Target audience: ETS/GU/UB/UBMS

Activities and Games for TRIO Curriculum
Join us as we show you how to invest fun and teamwork into your TRIO program. You will experience a wide range of new and classic activities allowing counselors to facilitate name games, icebreakers, leadership initiative and team building activities centered around TRIO’s core curriculum. You will leave being able to use these nearly prop-less activities at your next school meeting or workshop, gaining rapport with your students and creating an environment of success and achievement.

Location: Harbor’s Edge
Presenter: Jerrod Murr
Speaker, Cultural Entrepreneur, and Leadership Enthusiast

Target audience: All

College Application Week – A National Initiative to Encourage Low-Income, First Generation High School Seniors to Apply to College
Learn how NH joined this national initiative designed to increase the number of low-income, first generation high school students pursuing a postsecondary education by having students submit at least one college admission application during the school day with the support of their high school and local higher education professionals.

Location: Lear
Presenter: Tori Berube
Assistant Vice President, College Planning & Outreach, The NHHEAF Network Organizations’ Center for College Planning
Dr. Ed MacKay
Director, New Hampshire Division of Higher Education

Target audience: All
**Engaging Diverse Student Populations with Personal Finance**

Financial literacy has become a key part of student success for many institutions of higher learning in the United States. However, without a clear plan for implementation and student engagement, schools may waste time and resources on ineffective financial education initiatives. This session will introduce a strategic framework that faculty and staff can use to introduce personal finance concepts to their students and give examples of things peer institutions are doing to build financial capability on their campuses.

**Location:** Woodbury  
**Presenter:** Amy Marty  
Program Manager, National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE)  
**Target Audience:** EOC/McNair/SSS

**Utilizing Technology to Increase Efficiency with Peer Tutoring and Mentoring**

This session will explore various free technology resources utilized by the Keene State College Aspire Program to streamline peer tutoring and mentoring practices as well as administrative duties. Resources include a tutor resource website and an online tutor request form.

**Location:** Warner  
**Presenter:** Katie Robinson  
Educational Program Coordinator for TRIO at Keene State College  
**Target Audience:** McNair/SSS/College Personnel

**Mediating Moments of Crisis: Financial Literacy in Action**

We’ve all heard the stories. Your heart breaks and your mind aches as you struggle to help another student understand their financial choices. This session will take participants through an exploration of research on today’s financial realities for students, and discuss programs and initiatives that seek to help mediate these moments of crisis. Participants will also have the chance to discuss best practices with colleagues, which they can put into use when they return home.

**Location:** Amphitheater  
**Presenter:** Joanne Dashiell  
Manager of Partner Engagement at American Student Assistance (ASA)  
**Target Audience:** All

**Marketing Your TRIO Program**

TRIO has a song to sing! But to have it catch on, we must ensure our lyrics are set to the right beat and played to the right audience. This interactive session explores various types of media outreach that TRIO professionals can engage in to get the local media covering their program and student accomplishments. It explores the fundamental question of why engage the media and provides the tactical skills to do so effectively. This comprehensive media focused workshop includes examples of how to write an op ed to engage your community in grassroots advocacy and how to use social media tools to improve student participation.

**Location:** Ballroom  
**Presenter:** Karen Keim  
Associate Director, University of Maine EOC & ETS; co-chair of COE's Communications Committee  
**Target Audience:** All
Using Student Tracking Data to Improve Your Pre-College Program: Part II

Workshop continued from Concurrent Session I. To attend, participants should have been present for Part I.

Location: Gardner

Presenters: JeanMarie Spinetti
Associate Vice-Provost, Academic Support Services and Undergraduate Studies, University of Massachusetts-Boston

Amy Verlanic
Executive Director of the Institute for Educational Opportunities, Montana Tech of the University of Montana

Target audience: ETS/GU/UB/UBMS

Is Your Institution Using Social Media the Right Way?

During this session, Jason Boucher and Tyler Wentworth will share some successful social media strategies and campaigns from the University of New Hampshire. They’ll also provide an overview of how UNH uses social media and introduce you to some of the leading social media management tools that can help you rise above the noise.

Location: Wentworth

Presenters: Jason Boucher
Manager of Social Media, Communication and Public Affairs, University of New Hampshire

Tyler Wentworth
Senior Producer, Communications and Public Affairs, University of New Hampshire

Target audience: All

Helping Students Understand and Compare College Costs - Before They Apply

Not all colleges are able to provide students with all of the financial aid they need. While some schools have excellent financial aid, others struggle to provide students with sufficient funding. In this session we’ll explore college costs and share tools to help students get a sense of which schools may be a good financial fit.

Location: Woodbury

Presenter: Mila Tappan
Manager of College Access and Outreach, Finance Authority of Maine (FAME)

Target audience: ETS/GU/UB/UBMS

“You don’t have to leave your identity at the door or at the bottom of the ivory tower to be successful”: Beyond Tolerance, Acceptance and Inclusion in Higher Education

This workshop will focus on how important it is for educational institutions to move beyond assimilationist and pseudo-independence stage of development (Helms, 1990) inspired practices to address academic “success” for students from underrepresented groups. How might practices within the educational system allow for students to maintain positive cultural identity as they pursue academic success and excellence?

Location: Ballroom

Presenter: Dottie Morris
Chief Officer for Diversity and Multiculturalism, Keene State College

Target audience: All
"You are indeed special and necessary:" Promoting mattering and reducing marginality among TRIO college student populations

Schlossberg’s theory of mattering and marginality (1989) can help us understand how students relate to the college environment. Research shows mattering to be a motive for continued engagement in learning. How can TRIO professionals promote mattering and reduce feelings of marginality through advising, programs and services, and cross-campus collaboration?

Location: Lear
Presenter: Katherine Julian
Program Advisor, Student Support Services, Brandeis University
Target audience: EOC/McNair/SSS

Act Up: History, Advocacy, and 50 Years of Educational Opportunity

This presentation will share the tremendously successful approach UMF's Upward Bound program took to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Upward Bound. Students used interviews with alumni, well-known figures in the TRIO community, and others to craft a theatrical piece that was part documentary, part fiction, and part epic theater. Further, this presentation will explore how programs can use similar approaches to highlight the history of their work, engage alumni, and involve current students in co-creating experiences that celebrate their programs and continue to advocate for their success. Participants will leave with ideas and inspiration to take back to their programs.

Location: Warner
Presenters: Elyse Pratt-Ronco
Assistant Director, UB Programs, University of Maine at Farmington
Lynn Ploof-Davis
Director, UB Programs, University of Maine at Farmington
Target audience: All

TRIO Tales

What do you get from almost 90 years of working with TRIO? TRIO tales: true experiences of Upward Bound and SSS directors. The good, bad, funny and sad. We will relate our many and varied experiences and encourage participants to share their own.

Location: Harbor’s Edge
Presenters: Elaine Leavitt
Director, UB, University of Vermont
Bob McCabe
Director, SSS, Lyndon State College
Rick Williams
Director, UB, Lyndon State College
Target audience: All

A New Model to Improve Outcomes for Low-Income Students

The pressure is ever increasing for post-secondary degree attainment from the President’s 2020 goal, to the Department of Education’s increased accountability for UB and TS with no increase in services or funding, and major foundations like Lumina’s Big 2025 Goal and Gates’ education reform. With added pressure comes the necessity to become more efficient in our program practices to ensure students are selecting their best fit college, making better financial decisions to stay in college and graduate with less debt, and to be prepared for the workforce. This session will introduce a new and innovate model being developed to increase your students’ outcomes in each of those areas and give you the opportunity to shape your profession.

Location: Amphitheater
Presenter: Heath Alexander
Senior Consultant, Polymath LLC
Target audience: ETS/GU/UB/UBMS/SSS
## Low Cost Technology Resources for Struggling Readers and Writers

Learn about the best educational technology resources to support students in reading, writing, research and/or study skills. All apps and extensions demonstrated are free or low cost!

**Location:** Amphitheater  

**Presenters:**  
Alyssa Marinaccio  
Assistant Technology Coordinator, Office of Disability Services, Keene State College  
Diana Petschauer  
Founder and CEO of Assistive Technology for Education, LLC  

**Target audience:** All

## Admissions & Financial Aid: Effectively Guiding Students to the Best College Match

The cost of college is rising. Student loan debt is at crisis levels. Yet most students are still approaching the college application process the same old way: apply to reach, target, and safety colleges and hope you get enough financial aid. In today's economy, we need to do more than cross our fingers and hope. We need to help our students be strategic and informed about all aspects of the college application process.

**Location:** Warner  

**Presenters:** Jodi Then  
College Planning Center, American Student Assistance (ASA)  

**Target audience:** All

## True Tales of Leadership (Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute)

In the format of a live radio program, the 2014-15 class of the NEOA Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute (ALMLI) will present a sampler of short stories and micro presentations from their perspectives as leaders through the lens of the ALMLI experience. Topics are likely to include elements of conflict management, motivation, assessment/evaluation, leadership styles and more.

**Location:** Lear  

**Presenters:** Craig Werth  
Director, NEOA Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute  
2014-15 Leadership Class  

**Target Audience:** All

## From “I can’t breathe” to “I can breathe”: Responding creatively to the twin demons of racism and climate change

Young people are deeply troubled – if not traumatized – by the twin issues of Racism and Climate Change, brought to national attention recently by the deaths of Michael Brown and Eric Garner on the one hand, and the growing awareness of the adverse impacts of climate change on the other. It is sadly ironic that Eric Garner’s last words so eloquently capture both threats to their future. The session will encourage TRIO professionals to look into how best to address both issues in order to encourage students to be proactive rather than despairing about their future in society as well as on planet Earth.

**Location:** Woodbury  

**Presenter:** Dan Gordon  
Director, Upward Bound, University of New Hampshire  

**Target audience:** All
Book Discussion of “Ready, Willing, and Able: A Developmental Approach to College Access and Success” by Mandy Savitz-Romer and Suzanne M. Bouffard

To conclude the NEOA Book Study that has been taking place electronically for the past few months, participants will meet for a live discussion. Through this discussion, participants will gain a deeper understanding of the book and have an opportunity to share best practices and ideas that have been stimulated by reading this book together.

Location: Gardner
Presenter: Andrew Goodwin
Director, GEAR UP, Mount Wachusett Community College
Target audience: Must have read book.

Engaging Student Workers to Impact Programming

This session will look at how college student workers can impact and influence the work you do in your college access program. How can you utilize this untapped resource to improve your programming and relationship building with your program participants?

Location: Harbor’s Edge
Presenters: Andrea Dawes, Director Admission Guaranteed Program & ETS, UMass Boston
JeanMarie Spinetti
Associate Provost, Academic Support Services, UMass Boston
Target audience: All

The Courage to Speak Presentation: Engaging Home, School and Community To Keep Our Children Safe From Drugs

Nationally renowned speaker and author Ginger Katz has given over 1000 presentations to students, parents, educators, and state/national conferences. Reaching hundreds of thousands of people nationwide, she shares the story of her son Ian’s losing battle with drugs, empowering others to find healthy solutions in their schools and communities.

Location: Wentworth
Presenter: Ginger Katz
CEO & Founder, The Courage to Speak Foundation Inc.
Target audience: All

EMPOWER: The College Readiness Analytics Solution

EMPOWER is a secure, cloud-based suite of tools using best-in-class technology to help community partners, college coaches, administrators, and other stakeholders access and analyze data. EMPOWER was developed by COE - the voice of college opportunity, with a thirty-year track record of commitment to college access and success.

Location: Ballroom
Presenter: Patricia Mahomond
Empower Specialist, COE
Target audience: All
Using Low and No-Cost Technologies to Streamline Operations

With less money and greater demands on our time, we’re always looking for ways to streamline communicating with our students and families. Join us to learn about low and no-cost tech options for streamlining operations and communicating with students. Even the most tech-phobic TRIO staff can use these tools!

Location: Woodbury

Presenters:
- Austin Mirasolo
  Director, TRIO Chelsea, Bunker Hill Community College
- Handine Jean-Marie
  Outreach Specialist, TRIO Chelsea, Bunker Hill Community College
- Herman Perez
  Outreach Specialist, TRIO Chelsea, Bunker Hill Community College

Target audience: All

Fundamentals of Financial Aid

Financial aid helps students attain their dream of receiving a college education. Learn the basics of financial aid, why students may or may not qualify for a Federal Pell Grant, the limits on the Federal Direct Loan and how to best advocate for your students through this oftentimes overwhelming process.

Location: Gardner

Presenter:
- Val Castonguay
  College Outreach Specialist, Center for College Planning, NHHEAF

Target audience: All

Talking in Circles: Building Connection & Community through Restorative Circles Practices

Peacemaking Circles, the foundation of Restorative Practices in schools and communities, have the power to build relationships, solve problems, and heal wounds. This workshop will explore the core elements of Circles practices and ways that Circles can be an effective way to build community, strengthen relationships, and process difficult issues from conflict to grief to larger situations of harm.

Location: Wentworth

Presenter:
- Ginny Fowles Ward
  Bowdoin Upward Bound, Bowdoin College

Target audience: All

A Tool Kit Filled With Study Skills

Are your students success-ready? Do they understand what study skills will enable them to be successful in the classroom? Do they know their strengths and weaknesses in their study habits? Participants will have the opportunity to examine a study skills assessment and curriculum designed to help students create success in the academic setting.

Location: Lear

Presenter:
- Monda Kelley
  ETS Outreach Counselor, Vermont Student Assistance Corporation (VSAC)

Target audience: All
**Summertime and the Livin’ Is Awesome!**

There are all kinds of summer programs out there. Summer Links at Keene State College has developed a model that they’re ready to share. Learn about the ways Links integrates its components and builds community, all while supporting the students as they earn nine college credits in six weeks. We’ll outline the structure of the program, as well as provide outcomes and data. Our hope is you’ll leave this session with best practices you can adopt or adapt for your own summer bridge program.

**Location:** Harbor’s Edge  
**Presenters:** Maria Dintino, Jeanne Hearn  
Aspire SSS, Keene State College  
Mark Schmidl-Gagne  
Aspire SSS, Keene State College  
**Target audience:** SSS

**Traveling the Waters of the At Risk Narrative: Student Stories of Resilience**

When working with historically underrepresented students, colleges and universities often contextualize those efforts in “at-risk” and “deficit” discourses. Yet what assumptions can underlie the language of “at-risk?” How might higher education institutions’ assumptions about historically underrepresented students actually position them as less-than? In this session, I will share my research with a group of American Indian students, who, despite considerable obstacles, have thrived in educational border spaces. I will discuss both the processes through which I worked with those student to collect their stories as well as my findings and recommendations.

**Location:** Amphitheater  
**Presenter:** Jaime Nolan  
Associate Vice President for Community Equity and Diversity, University of New Hampshire  
**Target audience:** All

**Emotional Intelligence: Exploring the Other Side of Smart**

Emotional Intelligence is a critical component to successfully working with your students and your team. In this session, you will understand what emotional intelligence is and learn the key competencies of your ‘other’ intelligence. Build awareness around emotional hijackings and develop strategies for improving emotional intelligence in you and those around you.

**Location:** Warner  
**Presenter:** Bradley Finger  
Assistant Director of Financial Aid, University of New Hampshire  
**Target audience:** All

**StudentAccess Roundtable: Explore the many ways TRIO staff utilize the most user friendly participant tracking and reporting solution available!**

Our roundtable discussion will be an informative discussion about the many ways that StudentAccess can help your TRIO program with data management, reporting tasks, and streamlining the Annual Performance Reporting process. In this session we will encourage attendees to participate in sharing how they utilize StudentAccess as well as answer questions about common features and time saving tips and tricks. We will cover both StudentAccess Online and Desktop platforms. Join us to help you decide with platform best fits your needs and learn how your peers make the most of their StudentAccess experience.

**Location:** Ballroom  
**Presenter:** Tony Golobic  
Senior Vice President, StudentAccess  
**Target audience:** All
STATE MEETINGS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Connecticut</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maine</td>
<td>Warner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Hampshire</td>
<td>Lear</td>
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<td>Rhode Island</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
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<td>Vermont</td>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
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PROGRAM ROUNDTABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROGRAM</th>
<th>LOCATION</th>
<th>FACILITATOR</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Educational Opportunity Centers</td>
<td>Lear</td>
<td>Erica Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Educational Talent Search</td>
<td>Amphitheater</td>
<td>April Brown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEAR UP</td>
<td>Woodbury</td>
<td>Mary Callan</td>
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<tr>
<td>McNair</td>
<td>Gardner</td>
<td>Renee Gilberti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Support Services</td>
<td>Harbor’s Edge</td>
<td>Patti May</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upward Bound/Upward Bound Math-Science</td>
<td>Warner</td>
<td>Brian Post</td>
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</table>
# NEOA Board Members

## Board Officers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Randy Schroeder</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Keim</td>
<td>Past President, Chair, Nominations &amp; Elections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debora McCann</td>
<td>Vice President, Co-chair, Annual Conference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gaelyn Hastings</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kristin Hagopian</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## State Presidents & Liaisons

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aamna Qureshi</td>
<td>State President, CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renee Gilberti</td>
<td>State Liaison, CT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Chair, Public Relations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly Ilseman</td>
<td>State President, ME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chris Turner</td>
<td>State Liaison, ME</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gisele L’Italien</td>
<td>State President, MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecia Sligh</td>
<td>State Liaison, MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Mielke</td>
<td>State President, NH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Melissa Azzaro</td>
<td>State Liaison, NH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephanie Cruz</td>
<td>State President, RI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April Brown</td>
<td>State Liaison, RI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elaine Leavitt</td>
<td>State President, VT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monica Sargent</td>
<td>State Liaison, VT</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Standing Committee Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Karen Madden</td>
<td>Finance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Morrell</td>
<td>Advocacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ramon Gonzalez</td>
<td>Membership &amp; Credentials</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lindsay Jones Carpenter</td>
<td>Alumni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Staffiere</td>
<td>TRIO Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Goodwin</td>
<td>Professional Development</td>
</tr>
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</table>

## Ad Hoc Committee Chairs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Chair</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Casey Henderson</td>
<td>Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Williams</td>
<td>NEOA Achievers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig Werth</td>
<td>Director, Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ROLE</th>
<th>MEMBERS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-Chairs</td>
<td>Debora McCann</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Kristin Sweeney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>Beth Zinn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference Booklet &amp; Advertiseent</td>
<td>Laura Mielke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development</td>
<td>Randy Schroeder</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Karen Keim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dignitaries</td>
<td>Karen Keim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>Kathleen Maceda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Liz Werth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitors</td>
<td>Mark Schmidl-Gagne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fairshare</td>
<td>Joshua Gagnon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Legislative Representation</td>
<td>Randy Schroeder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>Renee Gilberti</td>
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<tr>
<td>Moderators</td>
<td>Dan Gordon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEOA Achievers</td>
<td>Rick Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newcomers &amp; retirees</td>
<td>Evette Layne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online Auction</td>
<td>Karen Keim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Past Presidents' Dinner</td>
<td>Karen Keim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plenary Speaker</td>
<td>Andrew Goodwin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Janice Carlson</td>
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<td>Chris Lee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Silent Auction</td>
<td>Andrew Goodwin</td>
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<td>Site Coordinator</td>
<td>Erin Varsalone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Technology</td>
<td>Casey Henderson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Melissa Azzaro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workshops</td>
<td>Tammy Gewehr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Maria Dintino</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION

FINANCIAL REPORT

AUGUST 31, 2014 AND 2013
INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS’ REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
New England Educational Opportunity Association
77 Massachusetts Ave.
Rm N52-130
Cambridge, MA 02139

We have reviewed the accompanying statements of financial position of New England Educational Opportunity Association (a non-profit corporation) as of August 31, 2013 and 2014, and the related statements of activities and changes in net assets, functional expenses, and cash flows for the years then ended. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of Organization management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is to express and opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America and for designing, implementing, and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance that there are no material modifications that should be made to the financial statements. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our report.

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

\[Signature\]

February 22, 2015
## CONTENTS

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<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES AND CHANGES IN NET ASSETS</td>
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<td>STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</td>
<td>6-7</td>
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</table>
NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AUGUST 31, 2014 and 2013
SEE INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ASSETS</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$112,476</td>
<td>$86,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - Short Term</td>
<td>$31,365</td>
<td>$18,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Assets</td>
<td>$143,841</td>
<td>$105,022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments - Long Term</td>
<td>$45,052</td>
<td>$57,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Assets</td>
<td>$188,893</td>
<td>$162,951</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NET ASSETS</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted</td>
<td>$188,893</td>
<td>$162,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Net Assets</td>
<td>$188,893</td>
<td>$162,951</td>
</tr>
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</table>

See notes to financial statements.
# Statements of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

For the years ended August 31, 2014 and August 31, 2013

*See Independent Accountants’ Report*

## Support and Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Conference</td>
<td>$73,956</td>
<td>$62,891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Trio Day</td>
<td>47,160</td>
<td>39,955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member and State Dues</td>
<td>17,230</td>
<td>14,695</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Grant Income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Institute</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Development Reg Fees</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous Income</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>1,074</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest Income</td>
<td>179</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Foundation Support</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>149,449</strong></td>
<td><strong>138,575</strong></td>
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</table>

## Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Conference</td>
<td>33,595</td>
<td>41,677</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council for Opportunities in Education</td>
<td>31,846</td>
<td>36,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Trio Day</td>
<td>22,722</td>
<td>17,229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Institute</td>
<td>2,558</td>
<td>14,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
<td>32,786</td>
<td>43,787</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>123,507</strong></td>
<td><strong>153,713</strong></td>
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## Increase in Net Assets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase in Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>25,942</td>
<td>(15,138)</td>
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## Net Assets, Beginning of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, Beginning of Year</td>
<td>162,951</td>
<td>178,089</td>
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## Net Assets, End of Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets, End of Year</td>
<td>$188,893</td>
<td>$162,951</td>
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</table>

See notes to financial statements.
NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION  
STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES  
FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2014 and AUGUST 31, 2013  
SEE INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS’ REPORT  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Conference</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hotel</td>
<td>$25,950</td>
<td>$37,985</td>
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<tr>
<td>Speaker Fees</td>
<td>4,899</td>
<td>1,041</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hotel Deposit</td>
<td>1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Refunds</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>1,275</td>
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<tr>
<td>Printing</td>
<td>481</td>
<td>570</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supplies</td>
<td>293</td>
<td>255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Entertainment</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Committee Expense</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>551</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postage</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Annual</strong></td>
<td>33,595</td>
<td>41,677</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Council for Opportunities in Education |        |        |
| Policy Seminar                  | 17,097 | 17,382 |
| Travel                          | 7,799  | 9,715  |
| Dues                            | 4,000  | 4,000  |
| Fair Share Contribution        | 2,500  | -      |
| Advertising                     | 300    | 300    |
| Gift Basket                     | 150    | 163    |
| Table Purchase                  | -      | 5,000  |
| **Total Council**               | 31,846 | 36,560 |

| National Trio Day             |        |        |
| Food and Entertainment        | 14,617 | 7,991  |
| Transportation                | 4,800  | 4,276  |
| Hotel                          | 941    | 1,635  |
| Miscellaneous                  | 939    | 1,101  |
| Overnight Supervision          | 800    | 950    |
| Speaker Fees                   | 366    | 1,100  |
| Refunds                        | 259    | 176    |
| **Total National**             | 22,722 | 17,229 |

| Leadership Institute           |        |        |
| Director Contract              | 2,500  | 5,000  |
| Travel                         | 58     | -      |
| Hotel                          | -      | 5,175  |
| Faculty                        | -      | 3,947  |
| Miscellaneous                  | -      | 338    |
| Refunds                        | -      | -      |
| Food                           | -      | -      |
| **Total Leadership**           | 2,558  | 14,460 |

| General and Administrative     |        |        |
| Board Meetings                  | 10,218 | 12,062 |
| Professional Fees              | 4,942  | 10,712 |
| Board/Committee Travel          | 4,675  | 6,299  |
| Member Professional Development | 2,400  | 2,023  |
| Bonding and Insurance           | 2,271  | 2,084  |
| Committee Expenses             | 1,663  | 3,974  |
| President Account              | 1,370  | 1,714  |
| Bank and Paypal Fees            | 1,131  | 978    |
| President - Elect              | 883    | 1,254  |
| Miscellaneous                  | 785    | 418    |
| TRIO Alumni Society             | 630    | 311    |
| NEOA Achiever Expenses         | 612    | 363    |
| Association Awards              | 533    | 630    |
| Affiliate Memberships           | 500    | 500    |
| Treasurer                      | 121    | 65     |
| Board Orientation              | 52     | 400    |
| **Total General**              | 32,786 | 43,787 |
| **Total Functional Expenses**  | $123,507 | $153,713 |

See notes to financial statements.
NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION

STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEARS ENDED AUGUST 31, 2014 and AUGUST 31, 2013

SEE INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in Net Assets</td>
<td>$ 25,942</td>
<td>$(15,138)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adjustments to Reconcile Excess of Support and Revenue Over Expenses to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Cash (Used In) Provided by Operating Activities</td>
<td>25,942</td>
<td>$(15,138)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Increase)/Decrease in Short-Term Investments</td>
<td>(13,057)</td>
<td>23,776</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decrease/(Increase) in Long-Term Investments</td>
<td>12,877</td>
<td>(24,083)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Cash Used for Investing Activities</td>
<td>(180)</td>
<td>(307)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash</td>
<td>25,762</td>
<td>(15,445)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH, Beginning of Year</strong></td>
<td>86,714</td>
<td>102,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH, End of Year</strong></td>
<td>$112,476</td>
<td>$86,714</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

See notes to financial statements.
NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Operations:

New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA) is a Massachusetts not-for-profit corporation chartered in 1976. NEOA’s mission is to advocate for access to and success in postsecondary education for low income individuals, minority group members, first generation college students and college students with disabilities. NEOA also works to develop the skills and knowledge of educational opportunity professionals working with this population.

NEOA qualifies as an organization exempt from income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Accounting policies:

A summary of the Organization’s significant accounting policies applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements follows:

A. Basis of accounting

The Organization maintains its books and recorded on an accrual basis of accounting, which recognizes expenses as incurred and income as earned, and accordingly reflects all significant receivables, payables and other liabilities.

B. Basis of presentation

In accordance with Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Accounting Standards Codification, the Organization reports information regarding its financial position and activities according to three classes of net assets: unrestricted net assets, temporarily restricted net assets, and permanently restricted net assets.

C. Investments

Short-Term Investments are comprised of Certificates of Deposit with maturity dates of one year or less. Long-Term Investments are comprised of Certificates of Deposit with a maturity date of more than one year.

D. Advertising

The production costs of advertising are expensed as incurred.

E. Use of estimates

In preparing financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles, management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and revenues and expenses during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

F. Donated Services

No amounts have been reflected in the financial statements for donated services. NEOA generally pays for services requiring specific expertise. However, many individuals volunteer their time and perform a variety of tasks that assist NEOA with its charitable mission.
NOTE 2. CASH

An analysis of cash as of August 31, 2014 and August 31, 2013 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cash in bank and deposits in transit</th>
<th>Less outstanding checks</th>
<th>Carrying amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014 Checking account</td>
<td>$120,530</td>
<td>$8,054</td>
<td>$112,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$120,530</td>
<td>$8,054</td>
<td>$112,476</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 Checking account</td>
<td>$91,061</td>
<td>$4,347</td>
<td>$86,714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$91,061</td>
<td>$4,347</td>
<td>$86,714</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 3. INVESTMENTS

An analysis of investments as of August 31, 2014 and August 31, 2013 is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Certificates of Deposit - Short-Term</td>
<td>$31,365</td>
<td>$18,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificates of Deposit - Long-Term</td>
<td>45,052</td>
<td>57,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total investments</td>
<td>$76,417</td>
<td>$76,237</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE 4. FEDERAL DEPOSITORY INSURANCE CORPORATION (FDIC)

The bank balances (Cash and Investments) are covered by the Federal Depository Insurance Corporation (FDIC) to the limit of $250,000 per bank at August 31, 2013 and 2012. This limit was not exceeded at August 31, 2014 and 2013.

NOTE 5. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Organization’s management has included in the financial statements all contingencies and significant transactions that might influence the user’s conclusions about the Organization’s Statements of Financial Condition, Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets, Statements of Functional Expenses, and Statement of Cash Flows, through and as of February 22, 2015 the issuance date of the Independent Accountants’ Report.
Many Thanks to Karen Keim & The NEOA Board!

From Bowdoin College Upward Bound

CAEOP
CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAMS

The Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunity Programs

Visit us at caeopct.org

Congratulates the New England Educational Opportunity Association on its 39th Annual Conference!
Congratulations to the New England Educational Opportunity Association for its 39th annual conference!

Castleton State College
Johnson State College
Southern Vermont College
SUNY—Plattsburgh
Vermont Technical College
Community College of Vermont
Lyndon State College
SUNY—Adirondack
University of Vermont
Vermont Student Assistance Corporation

More than 7,000 Vermont students are served by the 14 Vermont TRIO and Gear Up programs: Educational Opportunity Center, Gear Up, Student Support Services, Talent Search and Upward Bound.

2014-2015 Board of Directors:
Front Row: Matt Mitchell and Rick Williams
Back Row: Sue Polen, Monica Sargent, Elaine Leavitt, Linda Segovia, Karen Madden and Jennifer Jones

Coming Soon:
TRIO Day 2016 in Vermont!

THANK YOU TO OUR VENDORS:
ASA Proudly Supports TRIO and GEAR UP Programs

American Student Assistance® (ASA) has 50+ years of proudly supporting college access and success. Through its TRIO Educational Opportunity Centers in Boston and Brockton, Talent Search in Boston and Brockton, and Upward Bound in Brockton programs; GEAR UP in Boston; Success Boston; and College Planning Centers in Boston and Brockton, students and families get the information and assistance they need to plan for, enroll in, and complete higher education. Through its SALT™ program, college students and alumni get assistance with successfully managing their student loans.

Visit our website: asa.org/plan

American Student Assistance, ASA, SALT, Money Knowledge for College—and Beyond, and corresponding logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of American Student Assistance. ©2015 American Student Assistance. All rights reserved.
BOT-Blumen Online for Trio

Access Anytime Anywhere

- Cloud Based
- Alumni Tracking
- PE Points Calculator
- No Installation Needed
- Business Level Data Security
- Unlimited Customized Fields
- Mobile App For Smart Phones
- Unlimited Customized Reports
- Customized Drop Down Lists
- Annual Performance Report
- No Update To Download
- Platform Independent
- Batch Processing
- Bulk E-mails

Call us for your FREE DEMO

TOLL FREE 1.800.597.8204 www.compansol.com support@compansol.com
As always . . .
charting our course for success!

Since 1973, we’ve provided educational access services in Massachusetts through a growing number of programs:

★ Educational Opportunity Centers (EOC) for Massachusetts
★ Educational Talent Search (ETS)
★ GEAR UP
★ Central Massachusetts Educator & Provider Support Network
★ CollegeAccess (CACG)
★ Collegiate Success Institute (CSI) Worcester
★ On Our Way (new program supporting teen moms as they plan for their future)

Mass.EdCO
Helping you find your future . . .

MassEdCO, Inc.
higher education access locations and programs

Massachusetts Education & Career Opportunities, Inc.
484 Main Street - Suite 500 | Worcester MA 01608 | 508.754.6829
www.massedco.org
The Maine Educational Opportunity Association wishes to thank these dedicated TRIO professionals for their commitment to college access. Together, they represent over 170 years of unwavering service to Maine students.

Congratulations to each of you on your retirement! We won’t be the same without you!

David Megquier  
University of Maine  
Director, Maine Educational Opportunity Center and Maine Educational Talent Search

Claire Nelson  
University of Maine Farmington  
Director, Student Support Services

Alan Parks  
University of Maine  
Director, Student Support Services

Ann Smith  
University of Maine  
Director, Disability Support Services

Susan Spaulding  
University of Maine  
Administrative Specialist, Disability Support Services

In 2014-2015, our 22 TRIO Programs combined to work with over 6,700 adults and youth from all over the state of Maine.

For more information, please go to our website: www.meeoa.org

2014-2015 MEEOA Executive Committee

President Kelly Ilseman  
Past-President Chris Turner  
President-Elect Teri Morse  
Treasurer Dan Barton  
Secretary Christy Le
Congratulations and thank you to Randy Schroeder for a very successful year as NEOA President!

Upcoming MEOA Events - Mark your calendars!
April 13th Professional Development Day—Suffolk University, Boston
May 11th State Advocacy Day—Boston State House
May 29th —Student Scholarship Deadline
October 9th —Annual MEOA Conference, Devens Center
See www.meoahome.org to learn more and to become a member.

MEOA is sponsored by the
Massachusetts Educational Finance Authority (MEFA)
and American Student Assistance (ASA)
Congratulations
New England Educational Opportunity Association

MIT/Wellesley Upward Bound Program
congratulates
NEOA and President Schroeder
on a successful
39th Annual Conference
“Charting a Course for the Future”

We thank you for being providers of:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Advocacy</th>
<th>Leadership</th>
<th>Commitment</th>
<th>Dedication</th>
<th>Support</th>
<th>Educational Opportunity</th>
<th>Equitable Access</th>
<th>College Success</th>
<th>Professional Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Proudly serving North Central Massachusetts' low income, first generation students.

Academic Pathways to Success
College Access Challenge Grant
Commonwealth Dual Enrollment Program
Educational Talent Search
Gateway to College
GEAR UP
MCAS Works!
North Central Massachusetts Talent Search
Pathways Early College Innovation School
Summer Programs
Upward Bound Math and Science

Mount Wachusett Community College
ACCESS AND TRANSITION

444 Green Street, Gardner, MA 01440
Phone: (978) 630-9248
Fax: (978) 630-9400
Website: mwcc.edu/access/
The New Hampshire Educational Opportunity Association congratulates

Debbie McCann & Kristin Sweeney

2015 NEOA Conference Chairs
The StudentAccess Scholarship is an exciting opportunity available to students currently receiving services from a TRiO program.

The StudentAccess Scholarship selection criteria is not based on academic performance, as GPA is only one measure of potential. The scholarship criteria includes overcoming adversity, taking on challenges and the desire to achieve. Applications are submitted by a sponsoring TRiO staff member, and there are no limitations on how funds are used.

For more information on The StudentAccess Scholarship, or to nominate one of your TRiO students, please visit our website.

www.studentaccess.com  info@studentaccess.com
Supporting Students 24/7

- Unlimited access 24/7
- Printable certificates of completion
- Monthly usage reports
- Web portal & LMS integration
- We host the site & provide technical support
- Branded marketing materials
- Action plans & resources

FREE Trial - www.studentlingo.com/spring2015

Innovative Educators
www.innovativeeducators.org
303.955.0415
University of Connecticut Center for Academic Programs

María D. Martínez
Assistant Vice Provost, Institute for Student Success and CAP Director

congratulates

The New England Educational Opportunity Association

on its

39th Annual Conference
Charting a Course for the Future

Student Support Services
Bidya Ranjeet, Director

Educational Talent Search
Nella Quasnitschka, Director

High School Initiatives
(ConnCAP, First Star Academy)
Susana Ulloa, Director

McNair Scholars Program
Renée Gilberti, Coordinator

The Center for Academic Programs (CAP) increases access to higher education for high-potential students who come from underrepresented ethnic or economic backgrounds and/or are first-generation college students.

University of Connecticut

Celebrating 48 Years of Student Success in Partnership with TRIO

368 Fairfield Way, Unit 4170
Storrs, CT 06269-4170
Phone: 860-486-4040
Fax: 860-486-4024

www.cap.uconn.edu
The Maine Educational Talent Search would like to congratulate Project Director David Megquier on his upcoming retirement!!!

In the 36 years that David has been the Director of the Maine Educational Talent Search, almost 4,000 METS students have enrolled in Postsecondary education!!!

Congrats Dave, and thanks for your many years of leadership on the COE, MEEOA, and NEOA Boards.

In 2014:
1,024 (100 percent) of METS non-seniors continued on to the next grade level;
135 (100 percent) of METS Seniors graduated from high school;
120 (89 percent) of METS students successful enrolled in postsecondary education.

Since 1977, Talent Search programs in Maine has assisted over 10,000 participants in enrolling in postsecondary education.

For more information on METS, please go to our website: http://mets.maine.edu or call us toll free at: (800)540-0493.

We’re especially proud of Associate Director Karen Keim and Technology Specialist Casey Henderson for their service to the NEOA Board this year!
Congratulations to NH for a Great Conference!
From The University of Maine at Farmington TRIO Programs
Home of Claire Nelson who invented TRIO
(Retiring after 40 years of Educational Opportunity for UMF Students!)
Thank you Claire!

A wise woman suggested I start a war on poverty.
Thanks LBJ!

Claire, please watch your language.
The University of Massachusetts Boston and its Pre-collegiate and Educational Support Programs would like to thank the New England Educational Opportunity Association for 43 years of advocacy and support.

- Upward Bound
- Veterans Upward Bound
- Admission Guaranteed
- Project REACH—Talent Search
- Student Support Services
- Upward Bound Math-Science
- Urban Scholars
Congratulations TRIO for a successful 50 years!

UNH is Proud of Our TRIO Programs

Upward Bound
Educational Talent Search
Student Support Services
McNair Scholars Program

unh.edu
Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
Career and Education Outreach Programs

Educational Opportunity Center
Talent Search
and
Vermont State GEAR UP

Congratulations to NEOA and President Randy Schroeder
on a great year and an outstanding 2015 conference from
VSAC Career and Education Outreach!

Vermont Student Assistance Corporation
10 East Allen Street, PO Box 2000
Winooski, VT 05404-2601
1-800-642-3177
www.vsac.org
In 1991, David Megquier wrote the original grant to bring MEOC to Maine. In 2015, Dave will be retiring. In that time, MEOC has helped more than 15,000 Maine Adults find their way to college!!!

Thank you Dave for your many years of leadership, and good luck in retirement!

In 2014, MEOC:
Served 2,283 adults from all over Maine;
Partnered with over 50 different agencies to provide workshops;
Helped over 1,300 adults file FAFSAs;
and 646 participants went to college for the first time.

For more information on MEOC, please go to our website: http://meoc.maine.edu
or call us toll free at: 1(800) 281-3703.

Thank you Deb, Kristin, and the 2014 Conference Committee for a great conference!
Deb McCann & Kristin Sweeney
and the 2015 Conference Committee

Congratulations on a stellar conference.

We're grateful for the wonderful professional development and collegial exchange.
—UNH TRIO

Thank you Randy

Thanks for your wonderful leadership.
Congratulations on a successful conference and a fantastic year!

With gratitude from your UNH family, NEOA, and all your TRIO colleagues and friends.
The TRIO programs at Keene State College proudly support NEOA, President Randy Schroeder, Conference Co-chairs Debbie McCann & Kristin Sweeney, and thank

Maria Dintino

for her years of dedicated service.
HOTEL INFORMATION

PARKING
Please note conference parking is free in the gated lot across from the hotel entrance.

Sheraton Guests:
Your room key will work at the kiosk to allow you to come and go at will.

Day Registrants & Conference Attendees Staying Elsewhere:
Please visit the registration table for complimentary parking passes.

WIFI
Complimentary wireless internet is available by using the following passwords:
March 30-31: welcome3
April 1-2: welcome4

NOTES