

New England Educational Opportunity Association

42nd Annual Conference



Sowing the Seeds of Leadership



April 4-6, 2018
Stoweflake Spa & Resort
Stowe, Vermont

SOWING THE SEEDS OF LEADERSHIP



TRIO



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JANE KIMBALL FOLEY | PRESIDENT'S WELCOME



Dear TRIO/Gear-Up Colleagues and Friends,

It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the 42nd Annual New England Educational Opportunity Association Conference. It is very exciting for me to know that we have such a vibrant and thriving association in New England. I am looking forward to connecting with old friends and meeting new friends this week. I hope you will do the same!

The year since our last conference has been busy. We have continued to support one another through the New England Student Leadership Conference held at Fairlee, VT in September, professional development opportunities for EOC, SSS and McNair held in Massachusetts & New Hampshire, TRIO Day held in Connecticut and by attending the 38th Annual Public Policy Seminar in Washington, D.C. in March. Now, more than ever, we must support one another from outside attacks like we saw this year against

EOC and McNair. Our programs are stronger together than we are separately! An attack on one is an attack on all!

This spring we embark on a new battle to preserve and protect TRIO/Gear-Up in the Higher Education Act (HEA) re-authorization. Remember, when we stand together, we stand strong!

My presidential year has flown by quickly. As it draws to a close next September, I want to thank all of the NEOA Board, COE Board & staff, my own staff and all of TRIO/Gear-up nation for your help and support!

A special thank you to the conference committee led by co-chairs Karen Madden and Linda Segovia Wise for their dedication and hardwork!

Everyone, please enjoy your NEOA annual conference!

Jane Kimball Foley, NEOA President

LINDA SEGOVIA WISE & KAREN MADDEN | CO-CHAIR WELCOME



We would like to welcome each of you to the 42nd Annual New England Educational Opportunity Association's Conference! We are glad you are able to join us this year and hope that you find this conference to be both energizing and educational. Many of you travel long distances and this serves to remind us all just how important our work is and how invested you are.

This year our theme is Sowing the Seeds of Leadership. Prepare yourself to be challenged, excited and inspired. With our guidance, the students we work with today could be the advocates for the students of tomorrow.

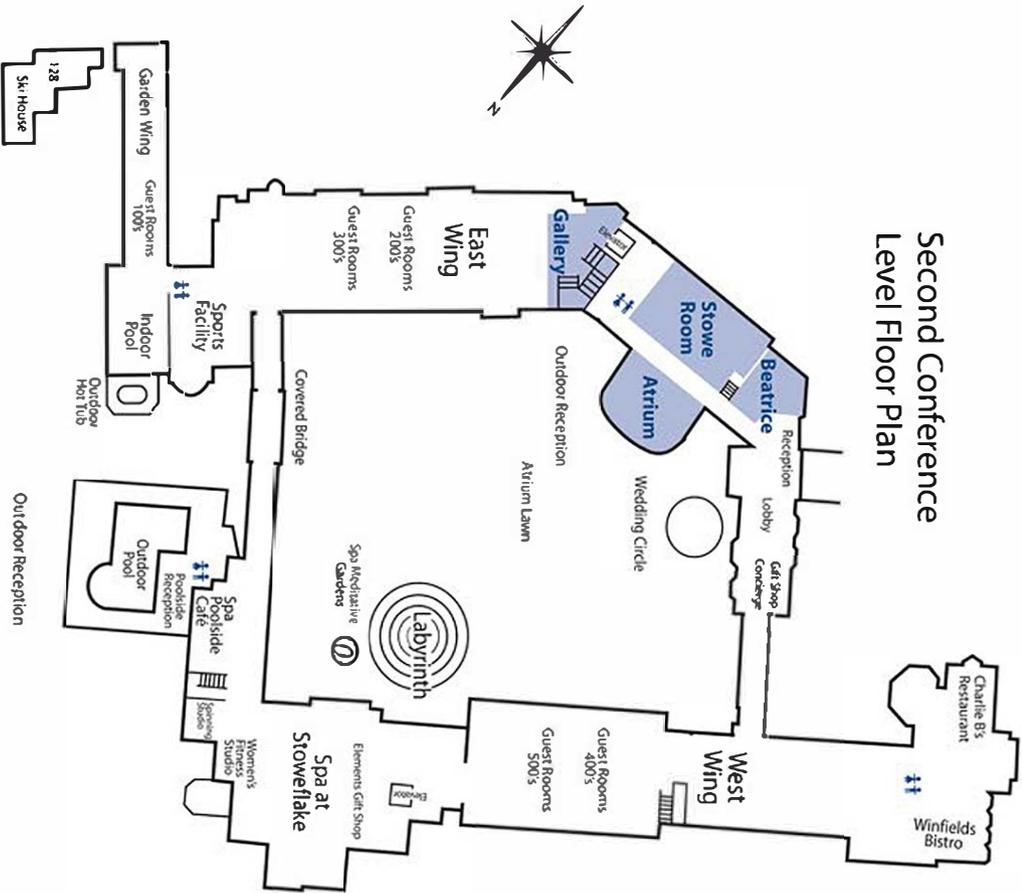
When you need a break, step out and experience all that Stowe, Vermont has to offer- hiking, biking, driving, breweries, wineries, distilleries, art shops, jewelry, hand crafted furniture, fine art, clothing and of course mountain sports! An outline of options is included in this conference booklet.

A huge thank you to all who helped make this conference possible- we especially appreciate the efforts of the conference committee and board members, who we know are very busy this time of the year!!

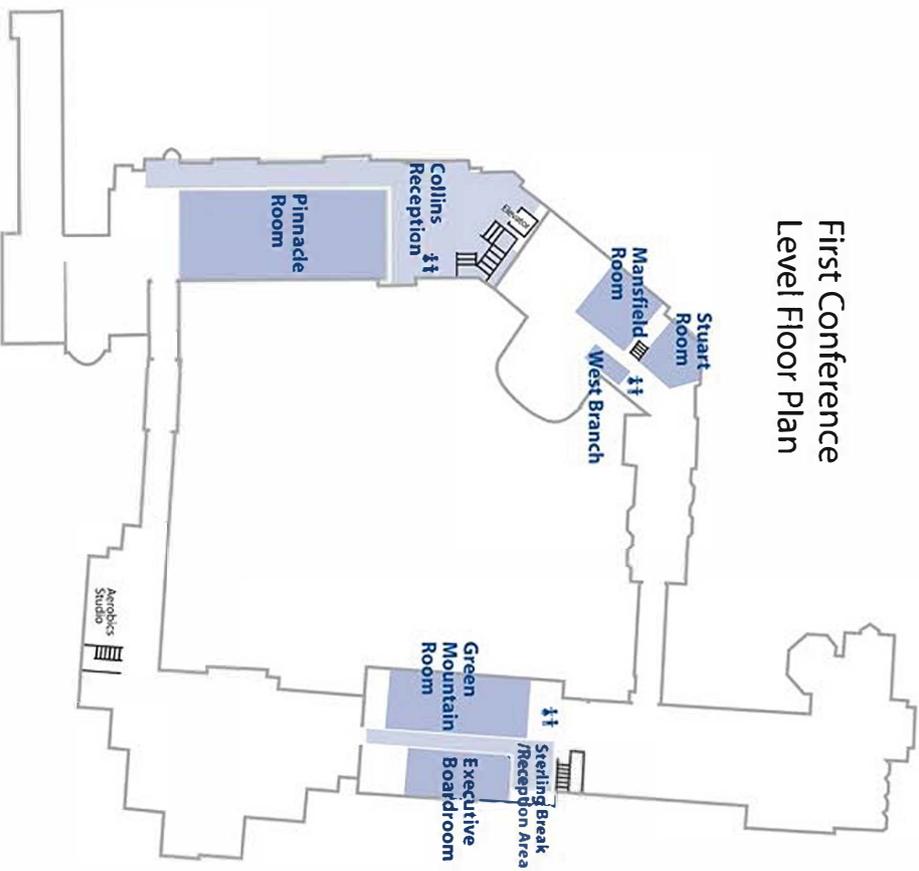
2018 NEOA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Awards	Deb McCann
Community Service	Leila Bandar
Conference Booklet	Sue Polen, Zoey St. Denis
Development/Online Auction	Reggie Jean, Gaelyn Hastings
Entertainment	Karen Madden
Evaluations	Jen Jones
Exhibitors/Vendors	Matt Mitchell
Facilities	Karen Madden, Linda Segovia
Food	Karen Madden, Linda Segovia, Skye Erskine, Monica Sargent
Fundraising	Rick Williams
General Support	Carolyn D'Luz
Moderators	Monda Kelley
Marketing/Public Relations	Sue Polen, Linda Segovia
NEOA Past Presidents Dinner	Stephanie Cruz
Participant Wellness	Registration Team, Jen Jones
Reception & Honors Registration Committee	State Presidents/Liaisons
Round Table Leaders	Brian Post, Linda Shiller, Shane Stacey, Heidi Parker, Dorothy Dahm
Silent Auction	Monica Sargent
Speakers	Linda Shiller, Matt Bourgault, Lynn Ploof
State President Expediter	Karen Madden
Technology	Karen Madden, Linda Segovia
TRIO Achievers & Alumni Reception	Casey Henderson, Robin Goodall
VIPs	Deb McCann, Randy Schroder
Workshops	Karen Madden, Clyde Stats
	Becky Eno

Second Conference Level Floor Plan



First Conference Level Floor Plan



PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, APRIL 3

Time	Activity	Location
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Implicit Bias Workshop	Stowe North
12:30 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	Pre-Conference Registration	The Gallery
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Implicit Bias Workshop	Stowe North
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Implicit Bias Workshop	Stowe South
1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Board Meeting	Beatrice

IMPLICIT/UNCONSCIOUS BIAS

Through a combination of lecture, video and exercises, this training will explore the brain science behind implicit or unconscious bias and how those biases affect our perceptions and ultimately our behavior. The session will explore how these biases play out in the larger society in ways that can interfere with interpersonal relationships based on occupation, socioeconomic status, weight, political affiliation, etc., and deny equal opportunity to those in protected status (race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, etc.). The objective is to increase conscious awareness of the nature and sources of implicit bias, to recognize that everyone has implicit bias, to recognize the implications of it within the broader society and to develop skills/strategies for reducing and overriding it.



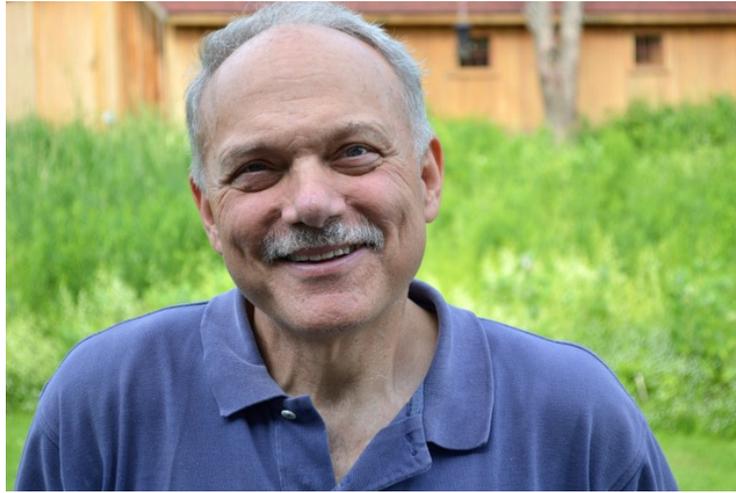
KAREN L. RICHARDS

Executive Director, Vermont Human Rights Commission

Karen Richards is the executive director and legal counsel to the Vermont Human Rights Commission (VHRC). The Commission enforces civil rights laws in the areas of housing, public accommodations and state government employment. It has four primary responsibilities: education and outreach, investigation and enforcement of complaints of discrimination, conciliation of complaints and public policy initiatives around human and civil rights. In 2014, Karen decided to create a course on implicit/unconscious bias to assist individuals in

understanding that even when they have the best of intentions and try to behave in a way that promotes equity, their unconscious biases may be leading to behaviors that have the opposite effect. The course has taken off and over the last two years, Karen has trained over 1000 people on the topic. Prior to becoming the VHRC director, Karen was the Director of the Poverty Law Project at Vermont Legal Aid for fourteen years. She is a graduate of Ohio University and has a law degree from the University of Connecticut School of Law. She has been a practicing attorney for 35 years.

PRE-CONFERENCE



Paul Marcus is a white anti-racist activist, educator and consultant. He is the Lead trainer at Community Change, Inc. in Boston, MA, an organization where served as Executive Director for 16 years. His own journey has led him to continually examine the limitations the ideological lenses he carries with him as a straight, white, male in a society that structurally privileges people with those identities. Foundational to all of his work is making visible the systemic reality of racism and other forms of oppression – you can't challenge something if you don't know it exists.

He co-taught and taught the "History and Development of Racism in the U.S." at Boston College for 16 years and is an adjunct faculty member at the Simmons School of Social Work where he teaches "Dynamics of Racism and Oppression." He also coordinates the "Reading Frederick Douglass Project" for the Vermont Humanities Council.

Paul has extensive experience planning and conducting workshops and trainings for wide variety organizations and communities. He has worked with organizers and educators from all across the country exploring and challenging the role of white people in perpetuating and maintaining white supremacy, racism and white privilege.



Patricia Shine, M.S.W., is a Professor of Human Services at Lyndon State College where she has taught for the past 15 years. She has been chair of Lyndon FAIR, the college's social justice group, for the past five years and teaches the course, "Exploring Race & Challenging Racism in the U.S."

Prior to Lyndon State, Pat worked as a clinical social worker in the Greater Boston area. In addition, she served as an adjunct faculty member at the Boston University School of Social Work where she taught the course, "Implications of Racism for Social Work" for eight years.

Pat has facilitated trainings and workshops related to racism and white supremacy throughout New England for the past 20 years.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4

Time	Activity	Location
8:00 AM- 9:30 AM	Alumni Breakfast	Beatrice
8:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Vendor Exhibits	Collins
9:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Conference Registration	Gallery
10:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Silent Auction	Collins
10:00 AM- 10:15 AM	Conference Welcome	Pinnacle
10:15 AM- 11:00 AM	Keynote Address	Pinnacle
11:00 AM- 1:00 PM	Achievers Luncheon	Pinnacle
1:15 PM- 2:30 PM	Concurrent Sessions I	
	Power to the Peer Mentors!	Stuart
	The World Climate Simulation	Stowe South
	Hope is Not an Emotion	Stowe North
	Ephebagoogy: Leading the budding citizen and emerging adult	Beatrice
	Financial Aid: Always in Season	Green Mountain A
	Cracking the SAT	Green Mountain B
2:30 PM- 2:45 PM	Break (Afternoon Snack)	Pinnacle
2:45 PM- 3:30 PM	Washington Update	Pinnacle
3:30 PM- 4:45 PM	State Meetings	
	Vermont	Beatrice
	New Hampshire	Stowe North
	Massachusetts	Stowe South
	Maine	Green Mountain A
	Rhode Island	Green Mountain B
	Connecticut	Stuart
4:45 PM- 5:00 PM	Break	Collins
5:00 PM- 6:00 PM	Welcome/Newcomers' Reception	Atrium
6:00 PM- 9:00 PM	Dinner on Your Own	
6:00 PM- 9:00 PM	Past-President's Dinner	Off Site
9:00 PM- 11:00 PM	Networking Suite - Hosted by MA, NH & VT	Condo 648

THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Time	Activity	Location
7:30 AM- 8:45 AM	Breakfast Buffet	Pinnacle
8:00 AM- 12:00 PM	Conference Registration	Gallery
8:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Vendor Exhibits & Silent Auction	Collins
8:00 AM- 5:00 PM	Silent Auction	Collins
9:00 AM- 10:00 AM	Plenary Session- Dr. Jason Garvey	Pinnacle
10:00 AM- 10:15 AM	Announcements	Pinnacle

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

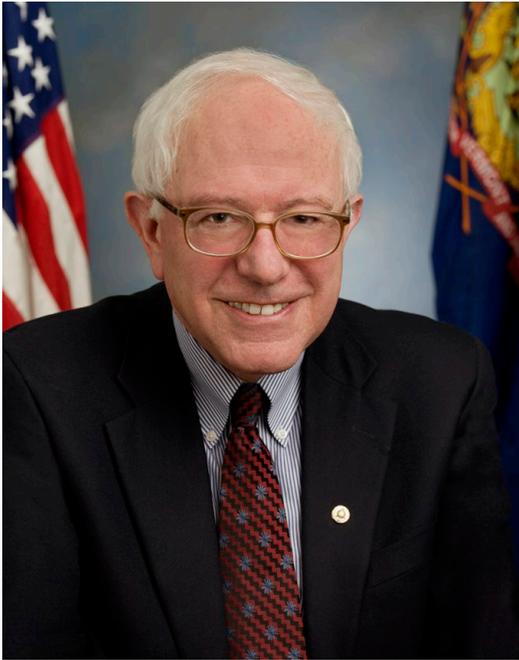
THURSDAY, APRIL 5

Time	Activity	Location
10:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Concurrent Sessions II	
	Promoting Trans Student Success	Beatrice
	No Girl Left Behind	Green Mountain A
	Rethinking the Traditional College Panel	Green Mountain B
	SALT Courses and Workshop Resources	Stowe North
	Keys to Navigating a TRIO Career	Stowe South
	Sowing the Seeds for Our Students to Grow	Stuart
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.	Lunch On Your Own	
1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.	Program Roundtables	
	Educational Talent Search	Stuart
	Educational Opportunity Center/Veterans UB	Mansfield
	Upward Bound/Upward Bound Math Science	Stowe South
	Student Support Services	Stowe North
	GEAR UP	Beatrice
	McNair Scholars	Green Mountain B
	Educational Opportunity Programs: Non-TRIO	Green Mountain A
2:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.	Concurrent Sessions III	
	Why Disadvantaged Students Melt After High School Graduation	Beatrice
	Developing Leadership Skills Through Overcoming Adversity	Green Mountain A
	IRT: The Trusted Source for the Next Generation of Educational Leaders	Green Mountain B
	Nourishing the Adult Learner	Mansfield
	Financial Reality Fair	Stowe North
	We Are All in Transition	Stowe South
3:45 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Break (Afternoon Snack & Prize Drawings)	Pinnacle
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	NEOA Business Meeting	Stowe
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	President's Reception	Atrium
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Awards Banquet	Pinnacle
9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.	Networking Suite Hosted by CT, ME, & RI	Condo 648

Friday, April 14

Time	Activity	Location
8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Pick Up Auction Items	Collins
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Breakfast Buffet	Pinnacle
9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Announcements	Pinnacle
9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.	Plenary Session - Dr. Hal Colston	Pinnacle
10:45 a.m. - 11:15 p.m.	COE Update	Pinnacle
11:15 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.	Closing Remarks by Conference Chair	Pinnacle

SENATOR BERNIE SANDERS | KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Bernie Sanders is serving his second term in the U.S. Senate after winning re-election in 2012 with 71 percent of the vote. His previous 16 years in the House of Representatives make him the longest serving independent member of Congress in American history. Born in 1941 in Brooklyn, Sanders attended James Madison High School, Brooklyn College and the University of Chicago. After graduating in 1964, he moved to Vermont. In 1981, he was elected (by 10 votes) to the first of four terms as mayor of Burlington. Sanders lectured at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard and at Hamilton College in upstate New York before his 1990 election as Vermont's at-large member in Congress. The Almanac of American Politics calls Sanders a "practical and successful legislator."

Throughout his career he has focused on the shrinking American middle class and the growing income and wealth gaps in the United States. As chairman of the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Sanders in 2014 passed legislation reforming the VA health care system. Bernie has been called a "practical and successful legislator" and he was dubbed the "amendment king" in the House of Representatives for passing more amendments than any other member of Congress. Congressional Weekly said he was able "to bridge Washington's toxic partisan divide and cut one of the most significant deals in years." Today, Sanders remains on the veterans committee and was tapped by Senate leadership to be the ranking member of the Senate Budget Committee. He also serves on the Environment and Public Works Committee, where he has focused on global warming and rebuilding our nation's crumbling infrastructure. He is a member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, where he has championed efforts to transform our energy system from fossil fuels to renewable power sources like solar and wind. He also sits on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, where he has fought for greater access to affordable health care and improved education programs from pre-K to college.

Bernie lives in Burlington, Vermont with his wife Jane. He has four children and seven grandchildren.

PLENARY SPEAKERS

Queering/Querying Student Success: Educational Opportunities for Queer and Trans Students

DR. JASON GARVEY

Assistant Professor of Higher Education and Student Affairs, UVM

Dr. Jason C. Garvey (he/him/his) joined the UVM HESA faculty in 2016 after serving as a faculty member in the Higher Education program at The University of Alabama. His teaching, scholarship, and service are all tied inextricably to his educational journey as a gay/queer person, and it is through these contexts that he has established his queerness as the lens through which he views his personal and professional narrative. Prior to his faculty appointments, Jay worked in student affairs across a variety of functional areas, including LGBTQ student involvement, student affairs assessment, academic advising, and undergraduate research.



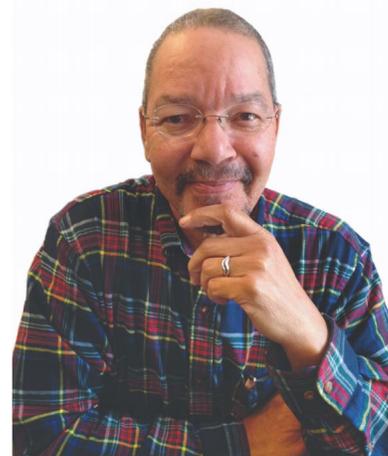
9:00 - 10:00 AM, Thursday, Pinnacle

Not About Us Without Us

DR. HAL COLSTON

Director, Partnership for Change

Hal spent 17 years in the culinary field as a chef culminating in a teaching position at New England Culinary Institute (1989) after attending the University of Pennsylvania (1975). Transitioning to social services in 1993, Hal created the Good News Garage (1996) and NeighborKeepers (2006) as a social entrepreneur. He received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from Saint Michael's College (2000) for creating Good News Garage. Appointed by Governor Peter Shumlin in 2011 as Executive Director of SerVermont, Hal now serves as Partnership for Change Director since 2013. Hal was named the 2014 "Vermonters of the Year" by the Burlington Free Press.



Hal has served on many non-profit boards such as the HowardCenter, United Way of Chittenden County, VNA of Chittenden and Grand Isle Counties as chair, and Vermont Health Foundation as chair. He is board chair for the Center for Whole Communities and serves on the board of the Richard and Barbara Snelling Center for Government, VT PBS, Flynn Center for the Performing Arts, Vermont College of Fine Arts as well as the United Way of Northwest Vermont Community Investment Committee. Hal lives in Winooski, VT married 40 years to Beverly Colston and moved to Vermont from Philadelphia, PA in 1989 with their three children Craig, Alex, and Marissa. Hal is committed to social justice and has engaged our community in many different ways over the years to help it become what it ought to become, a beloved community for all.

9:45 - 10:45 AM, Friday, Pinnacle



PRESIDENT, COUNCIL FOR OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION

Maureen Hoyler has served as the President of the Council for Opportunity in Education since 2013. COE is a nonprofit organization that advocates for low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities who aspire to enter and graduate from college. The Council also provides professional development, program improvement services and research for the educators and institutions that serve these young people and adults.

Ms. Hoyler began her career at the Educational Opportunity Program at Marquette University as an assistant to the then Director, Dr. Arnold Mitchem, the founding President of COE. Ms. Hoyler moved to Washington in 1981 to establish the Council's office. Prior to becoming President, as the organization's Chief Operating Officer, she played an integral role in the growth of the organization. She received her B.A. and her law degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI.

ABOUT THE COUNCIL FOR OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) is a nonprofit organization, established in 1981, dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income, first-generation students, and students with disabilities. Through its numerous membership services, the Council works in conjunction with colleges, universities, and agencies that host Federal TRIO Programs that help approximately 810,000 low-income students and students with disabilities each year receive college access and retention services.

DR. ARNOLD MITCHEM & KRISTIAN WILES | COE UPDATE



Dr. Arnold Mitchem (President Emeritus, COE) has been a voice for low-income, first-generation students and individuals with disabilities his entire career. Thanks to his work, the federally funded TRIO Programs have expanded by nearly 400% and now serve more than 872,000 students at 1,200 colleges and universities.

He began his career on the History faculty at Marquette University in Milwaukee and was named the Director of the Educational Opportunity Program in 1969. He relocated to Washington, D.C. in 1986 to serve as President of the Council for Opportunity in Education until October 2013.

Dr. Mitchem has been awarded Honorary Doctorates from eleven universities: CUNY-Lehman College in New York; DePaul University; University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana; University of Liverpool, England, Marquette University; Marycrest College; University of Massachusetts at Boston; Lewis University; St. Joseph University in Philadelphia; St. Louis University; and SUNY Buffalo State.



Kristian Wiles is the Executive Director of Retention and Academic Support Programs in the Office of Minority Affairs & Diversity at the University of Washington. In this role, Mr. Wiles oversees programs and teams that provide holistic advising and academic support to 5,100 students annually, including students participating in the Educational Opportunity Program (EOP), two TRIO Student Support Services programs, the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP), and the Champions Program that serves alumni of foster care. Kristian has focused his efforts in higher education and community settings toward supporting underrepresented and TRIO eligible students through direct service and larger collaborative initiatives. He currently serves as Chair Elect on the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) Board of Directors representing TRIO nationally.

DESI NESMITH | NEOA ACHIEVER



Thinking back to the day my father dropped me off for the Student Support Service (SSS) summer session, I was filled with excitement and anxiety. It was the summer before my freshman year at the University of Connecticut. It was my first time away from home. So many thoughts flooded my mind. “These six weeks will help you prepare for you for college,” my father assured me. In hindsight, never could I have imagined back then the impact SSS made on me long after those six weeks were over.

Those weeks were filled with an eagerness of living on campus and meeting new people coupled with arduous classes during the day and evenings booked with mandatory study halls. While the weeks were filled with writing English papers, solving complex math problems, and numerous study skills courses, there were many other lessons I learned that could not be taught in a book. The relationships I built that summer, unknowingly, became a support system I would carry with me throughout my educational and professional career.

From day one, SSS quickly became a home base for our cohort of students. Once you were in SSS, you were a part of that family for life. Whether you needed assistance in scheduling classes, applying for financial aid, or simply having a thought-partner for everyday life, SSS was there. Although we all had our assigned counselor, every person connected to SSS supported every student. I can still remember walking into SSS and sharing my frustration of not being able to find a work-study position. Within 15 minutes of hearing the conversation, Dr. Martinez offered me my first job at SSS. No matter the challenge, the SSS family came through. That job eventually led me to additional work experiences such as Upward Bound and Mentor Connection, both of which aim to enhance young adults’ opportunities while preparing them for the college experience, just as was done for me.

Throughout my years, the skills I learned and the connections I’ve made have been an integral part of who and where I am today. No matter the position I was in or the role I held, SSS came through. Whether it was Leo Lachut helping me facilitate a team building activity with my fifth grade students at Mayberry, or giving me the opportunity to expose my lead teachers and myself to present in a professional learning forum during my principalship at Metacomet, SSS has remained a constant in my life.

Fast forward 21 years from that first summer of SSS, I feel as much connected to that family today as I did back then. We’ve traveled to D.C. together to lobby for funding for TRIO Programs, mentored other SSS students along the way, and celebrated the 50th Anniversary of the Trio Program this past fall together. You see, whether I was that young freshman just beginning his journey or the Chief Turnaround Officer for the Connecticut State Department of Education that I am today, SSS has been there supporting me every step of the way; for that, I will forever be thankful. My life’s work, whether at the classroom- school- or state-level, continues to center around making that kind of impact on others, the way SSS has done for me.

SARAH PERRY | NEOA ACHIEVER

When I began the Upward Bound program, I was grieving the loss of my mother, a single woman who worked hard in a shoe factory in Bridgton, Maine, and struggling to find a way forward into a positive, stable life. My mother had been murdered three years earlier, in our home, by an assailant who would not be identified until I reached my mid-twenties. I had spent a couple years living with an aunt in Texas before returning to Maine to live with another aunt, Carol, and her husband, also named Carroll. They tried to support me, but it was difficult to be back in Maine, with the killer not yet found, and my family, in general, doesn't talk very much about feelings. I felt very alone. I was in a new school district, about an hour from where Mom and I had lived. Still, my classmates knew I had lost my mother to a violent crime, and they didn't always know how best to respond to me. After a year back in Maine, I attended the Upward Bound program, and there I found the strength and support (both personal and academic) I had been looking for. My fellow UB students were intelligent and driven and compassionate. Many of them had suffered losses and difficulties of their own.



Some lived with relatives who didn't understand them; many worried whether they would ever find happiness, meaningful work, and stability when they reached adulthood. But together we were all so happy and positive, capable and strong, and suddenly I could see the future so much more clearly, and it looked so much better. The program is designed to give students a glimpse of college (and prepare them for its challenges) and it absolutely did that. That glimpse, during my first summer in the program and during my second, was what kept me going during the school year. That, and the support and inspiration, and, I must say, genuine friendship and love I received from both UB summer instructors and counselors, and, most notably, Chris Yardley, with whom I had meetings once a month during the year. Chris kept me on track, and was so invested in and sure of my future that I would go to an excellent college, that I would do work that was important to me that I knew I would make it through. I went on to receive a BA in English from Davidson College, a very competitive school in North Carolina. After working for five years at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in a steady, stable administrative position, I attended Columbia University, earning my MFA in nonfiction writing. I have since secured a literary agent and published a book with a major publisher, titled *After the Eclipse*. In writing, researching, and revising *After the Eclipse*, I was guided by the commitment to positive social change that is at the core of Upward Bound and other TRIO programs. The book has received positive reviews in the *New York Times*, *Slate*, the *Portland Press Herald*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *W Magazine*, and *Kirkus*, but the true measure of its success is the evidence that this harrowing, sad, difficult story is useful. *After the Eclipse* tells the story of my mother's murder, the search for her killer, and my coming of age in that shadow, but it also makes clear that Mom's killing, and those like it, aren't "random acts," but rather the predictable outcomes of the confluence of everyday misogyny, poverty, and toxic masculinity. I am now working in an administrative role at Columbia while applying for teaching jobs. People often ask me how I managed to get here, how I went from the grieving daughter of a struggling factory worker to a nationally-recognized author with a terminal degree from an Ivy League institution. While I worked very hard, I had a lot of help along the way, and Upward Bound—the program itself, as well as the people I met there—is a huge part of the answer.

SAM PORTERA | NEOA RISING STAR



Upward Bound has played a pivotal role in shaping my life and making me the person I am. On January 9, 2010, I became homeless. At that time, as a senior in high school, I moved into the college dorms at UMaine Presque Isle, received college credit, and was a university sophomore before I finished high school, all thanks to Upward Bound. The program also lined up my first internship, which led me to the career path I'm still on today.

UB didn't just play a significant role in what I do, but in who I am. I moved around as a child, but always to places that were less than tolerant of people who were different. As incredible as it sounds, UB's summer program was the first place I ever went as a student where a person would get in trouble for using derogatory terms about LGBT people. For high schoolers, the culture of "us vs. them" is universally powerful, but UB was able to create a unique environment that made us feel safe and equal among our peers, regardless of our differences.

Right after I graduated college at age 20, thanks to the college credits UB helped me earn, I was able to go to work at age 21. However, Maine is one of the states that didn't expand Medicaid under the ACA, and I got very sick between graduation and my health insurance kicking in through work. Had I gotten that sick during the coverage gap while I was still in college, it would have been impossible for me to finish school. In fact, there's a very good chance that I would be on disability today.

Now, I love what I do. I change the world every day. In my nearly 5 years with the Maine People's Alliance, I've helped thousands of Mainers get healthcare, and millions more keep it. I've worked to give everyone a voice in our democracy and in their workplaces. We secured raises for 160,000 Maine workers, and secured another \$170 billion in education funding. We fought discrimination in employment, housing, reproductive rights, marriage, and medical treatment. Most recently, in November of 2017, Maine became the first state in the country to expand Medicaid at the ballot box after we collected over 70,000 signatures and won the referendum by the largest margin of any Maine citizen's initiative in nearly two decades.

This now means that thousands of Maine college students from low income homes or of non-traditional ages will be able to have Medicaid while they are in college, meaning that the next generation of Upward Bounders might have it just a little bit easier than we did, and that their futures are just a little bit brighter.

Upward Bound at UMaine Presque Isle

JUSTIS LOPEZ | NEOA RISING STAR

Thank you. Two of the most powerful words in the English dictionary, for what comes after them shapes your entire reality. These are the words that I never thought I would hear coming from The President of The United States to me. Yes, it was because of an internship that I was able to obtain through SSS that this dream became a reality. I stood face to face with President Barack Obama and extended that very same sense of gratitude back to him. It is in that same spirit that I am thankful to be a part of the SSS family and be nominated for the NEOA Rising Star Award.



Growing up as a first generation college student I quickly felt and understood the importance of an education. The effects that dropping out of high school to complete a GED had on my father were physically and emotionally altering to his life. That coupled with watching my mom work up to 3-4 jobs at a time to support the family, created a deep appreciation of what the power of a college education could do to transform the legacy of my family lineage.

My life changed when I received my SSS UConn acceptance letter. I am thankful for my SSS family for providing me with the social, emotional and academic support that I needed to successfully complete college and beyond. It is easy to get lost as a freshman and the summer program provided me with the much needed foundation that I built my college career off. It was in this program that I met my best friends, I learned how to advocate to professors, manage my time, and gain the skills that I needed to succeed throughout college.

SSS inspired me to want to recreate this experience for other students. I became involved and served as a mentor and hall director. It was in these roles that I felt most alive because I was empowering people through meaningful relationships, workshops and field trips. This role was heightened when I had the opportunity to serve as an advisor for a study abroad trip to Europe. For majority of the students it was the first time leaving the country; and we came back we were transformed individuals. We learned how to adapt, appreciate different cultures, and became global citizens. All lessons that I carry with me to this day.

Nelson Mandela once said that, "Education is the most powerful weapon a person can use to change the world". This is the reason why I am currently a teacher in the poorest congressional district in America in the South Bronx. Yet it is the richest in so many other ways. I teach here not because of the circumstances, but to provide liberation to students who have similar stories to mine. I teach to transform misunderstood communities into spaces of love. I teach because those before me have taught. I teach because it is what SSS has taught me to do.

Upward Bound, UConn

LINDA SHILLER | MARIAN BELGRAVE-HOWARD AWARD



Linda worked with the Vermont Student Assistance Corporation for more than 33 years providing access and equity to Vermont's first generation low income students. Her work includes direct service to countless low-income, first-generation college students, countless hours dedicated to building a regional infrastructure to advocate for their needs, and leadership at the national level with both the Council for Opportunity in Education and GEAR UP - in fact, she worked closely with Senator James Jeffords to bring GEAR UP to fruition in the 1990s.

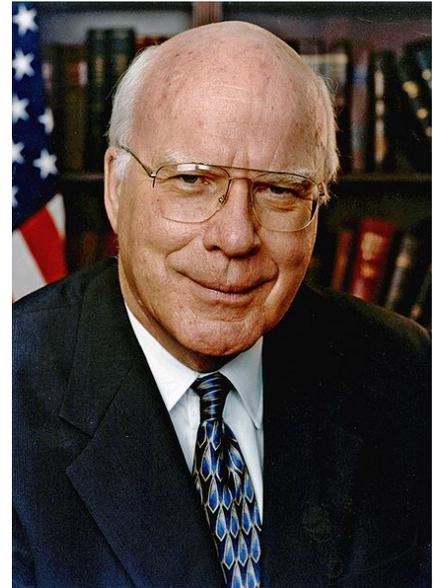
In Linda's thirty-plus year tenure in TRIO she was the President, Parliamentarian, Conference Chair of NEOA, and served twice, once as Chair for the Council for Opportunity in Education and GEAR UP. She has worked as NEOA Strategic Planning Committee chair to help strengthen the long term direction for the NEOA Board. In Vermont and throughout New England, she has also served as a mentor to hundreds of young professionals. Outside of New England, she is well known in DC for her depth of knowledge, grant writing ability, and overall grasp of education issues, in particular with TRIO and GEAR UP students. Before her retirement, she was consistently on a first name basis with the education professionals in DC and in all of the congressional offices and was always at the table with the Vermont Agency of Education.

ABOUT THE MARIAN BELGRAVE-HOWARD AWARD

Marian 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."

SENATOR PATRICK LEAHY | SHIRLEY CHISHOLM AWARD

Senator Patrick Leahy was born in Montpelier and grew up across from the Vermont State House. A graduate of Saint Michael's College in Colchester (1961), he received his Juris Doctor from Georgetown University Law Center (1964). He served for eight years as State's Attorney in Chittenden County where he gained a national reputation for his law enforcement activities and was selected as one of three outstanding prosecutors in the United States in 1974. He was elected to the United States Senate in 1974 and remains the only Democrat elected to this office from Vermont. At 34, he was the youngest U.S. Senator ever to be elected from the Green Mountain State. Leahy is the Vice Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, the senior-most member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and of the Senate Agriculture Committee, and the Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on State Department, Foreign Operations and Related Programs. He is currently the most senior member of the United States Senate, and has made support for TRIO one of his top 4 priorities for almost 2 decades.



In 2009, Senator Leahy helped to establish the Patrick and Marcelle Leahy Center for Rural Students at Lyndon State College in an effort to improve the factors which influence the educational and occupational aspirations of rural, first-generation students. Since its founding, the Leahy Center has been instrumental in supporting the educational and economic aspirations of Northeast Kingdom residents.

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 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.

ARNOLD L. MITCHEM LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Established in 1998, the NEOA Leadership Institute is designed to provide participants an opportunity to build strong leadership skills and, in turn, enhance their ability to expand educational opportunities for the students with whom they work. The Institute will provide up to 15 members a yearlong exploration of leadership styles and practice, working with experts from both within and outside the TRIO/GEAR UP/EOP community. Participants will engage in a variety of topics, designed to strengthen their abilities and the programs they serve. They will work collaboratively with EOP professionals from across New England; examining their careers and achievements; setting and/or rededicating themselves to short-term and long-term goals; and confronting professional challenges with new insights, creativity and confidence.

As part of its mission to provide professional development opportunities for members of the TRIO and educational opportunity community in New England, the New England Education Opportunity Association (NEOA) began offering a yearlong Leadership Institute in 1998-99. The Leadership Institute accepts people with varying years of experience in TRIO/EOPs: mid-career professionals who have been with TRIO/EOPs for a number of years and are looking for a reinvigorating professional development experience and emerging leaders who may be newer to our programs but have demonstrated their motivation and commitment through work within their state.

The Leadership Institute convenes three times each year that the Institute operates, and provides participants the opportunity to develop greater expertise and skill as leaders in the field and to enhance their ability to expand education opportunities for the students with whom they work. The aim of the Institute is to provide participants and the programs they serve with a strong and effective core of leadership theory and skills.

This institute occurs every other year; the next iteration will be in 2019.

CONCURRENT SESSIONS | WEDNESDAY 1:15PM-2:30PM

Power to the Peer Mentors!

In this presentation, we will trace the journey our Academic Support Center has taken in turning over more and more of the development, management, and facilitation of our peer mentoring programs to the peer mentors. You'll hear from two of our peer mentors about their involvement in the transition - and about how the experience has affected them and their mentees.

Location: Stuart

Presenters: Becky Eno, Castleton University Academic Support Center; Christin Martin, TRIO Program Assistant; Ethan Cameron-Vaupel, TRIO Mentor

The World Climate Simulation

Build your students' leadership skills and STEM knowledge through an accessible, interactive activity: the World Climate simulation. This workshop will enable you to bring leadership development skills and STEM-rich content to your students through the World Climate simulation. In World Climate, students take on the roles of negotiators charged with creating a sustainable future, while getting immediate scientific feedback on their decisions through an interactive computer model.

Location: Stowe South

Presenters: Juliette Rooney-Varga, UMass Lowell; Reggie Jean, Boston University

Hope is Not an Emotion: Understanding the Cognitive Process and How to Build Its Capacity

This presentation will explore Snyder's Hope Theory and its three elements as a cognitive process. Participants will think about direct applications of this theory to their practice. Concrete strategies for building cognitive capacity for hope and resilience will be discussed.

Location: Stowe North

Presenters: Elise Pratt-Ronco, University of Maine at Farmington

Ephebagogy: Leading the Budding Citizen and Emerging Adult

We frequently refer to our work as pedagogy, but we fall short of capturing the uniqueness of learners who are not children. In adult education, we use the term andragogy, but there is another layer of learning that happens in between; the citizen building of the Ephebus - the youth.

Location: Beatrice

Presenter: Sara M. Fawcett, Ph.D., University of Maine at Augusta TRIO Scholars Program

Financial Aid: Always in Season

In EOC programs, financial aid applications are completed on a year-round basis. As TRIO professionals, all can benefit from having an in-depth and current knowledge of financial aid. However, it is challenging to maintain this with continuing changes in policy and procedure while serving our students and managing our programs. This session will offer an overview of financial aid followed by an interactive discussion of issues and concerns.

Location: Green Mountain A

Presenter: Monica Sargent, Lead Counselor, Educational Opportunity Center Program, VSAC

Cracking the SAT

This workshop will highlight techniques and strategies to help students improve their performance on the SAT. The presenters will take attendees through the test-taking strategy for each section of the test and strategies to tackle each question.

Location: Green Mountain B

Presenter: Rick Williams, Lyndon State College; Bill Goldsworthy, LSC; Tim Ulrich, Lyndon Institute

CONCURRENT SESSIONS II THURSDAY 10:15AM-11:30AM

Promoting Trans Student Success Through Inclusive and Equity-Driven College Environments

As noted by Marine (2011), "transgender students are not a problem to be solved." Rather, administrators must promote change within campus environments and recognize resilience among trans collegians. In this workshop, we will envision strategies for more inclusive and equity-driven campus environments to promote trans student success.

Location: Beatrice

Presenter: Dr. Jason C. Garvey, University of Vermont

No Girl Left Behind: Understanding the Experiences of Young Women Who Re-engage in Alternative Education

This presentation focuses on young women's perceptions of the factors that influenced their lack of success in traditional high school settings and the factors that lead them to enroll in and complete the Gateway to College program. The data collection consists of interviews of young women graduates from Holyoke Community College Gateway to College program.

Location: Green Mountain A

Presenters: Dr. Jada J. Waters, Holyoke Community College

Rethinking the Traditional College Panel

Are you tired of putting on the same version of the college panel every year? Want ideas on how to make college and career events more relatable to students? Come learn about how we developed the "First Gen to First Job" symposium at UMass Boston.

Location: Green Mountain B

Presenters: Naomi E Brown-Jones, UMass Boston; Urban Scholars

SALT Courses and Workshop Resources: Financial Literacy Tools for Your Program

SALT is a comprehensive financial literacy program that is available to all TRIO programs at no cost thanks to a partnership between COE and ASA. In this session, we will provide a SALT demo featuring resources for both pre-college and college-based programs and showcase best practices for incorporating the resources into your program.

Location: Stowe North

Presenter: Joanne Dashiell, ASA; Gaelyn Hastings, Y.O.U., Inc.

Keys to Navigating a TRIO Career: Lessons From A Panel of Seasoned TRIO Professionals

This panel of long-standing professionals will respond to questions relating to their career as a TRIO professional. Questions will elicit useful information for the novice as well as the seasoned TRIO professional. This will be an interactive workshop. The panel consists of New England TRIO professionals representing UB, TS, SSS, EOC, and GU.

Location: Stowe South

Presenter: Marti Kingsley, VSAC, Career & Education Outreach

Panel: Jack Anderson, Maria Carvalho, Evette Layne, Debora McCann, Bidya Ranjeet, Monica Sargent

Sowing the Seeds for Our Students to Grow: Applying the Growth Mindset to College Students

This session presents an approach to promoting a growth mindset in one SSS program. Attendees will learn the basics of growth mindset and ways to integrate this literature into curriculum, peer advising programs, tutoring, and workshops. Materials will also be provided from the presenter's course, "The Mindset for Personal Growth."

Location: Stuart

Presenter: Chelsea Cichocki, University of Connecticut SSS

CONCURRENT SESSIONS III THURSDAY 2:30PM-3:45PM

Why Do Disadvantaged Students Melt After High School Graduation?

Why do some low-income, first generation minority students fail to follow through with their college plans? Research indicates that there are seven barriers to postsecondary non-enrollment that increase the likelihood that at-risk students fail to enroll in college. This presentation will explore these barriers that increase students' chances of experiencing summer melt.

Location: Beatrice

Presenter: Colleen M. Winn, Middlesex Community College

Developing Leadership Skills Through Overcoming Adversity

As students with disabilities learn about their disabilities, acknowledge their limitations, and "claim" their strengths, they also learn to evaluate situations to identify resources and strategies that they can use, and to advocate for themselves. We can help them learn to use the insight they have gained to be effective leaders.

Location: Green Mountain A

Presenters: Mary Etter, NVU - Lyndon; Michele Feiner, NVU - Johnson

IRT: The Trusted Source for the Next Generation of Educational Leaders

The Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers (IRT) contributes to the diversity of educators, administrators, and counselors working in education by assisting underrepresented students in applying to graduate school. For 27 years the IRT has been the leading resource for prospective graduate students on their path to becoming educational professionals.

Location: Green Mountain B

Presenter: Brittany Zorn, Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers

Nourishing the Adult Learner

Adults inherently possess many of the "essential skills" valued in institutions. Drawing on some of the work in life-span psychology and life-course sociology, this presentation will focus on the integration of adult developmental perspectives into everyday EOC programming in order to better address the needs of an adult population.

Location: Mansfield

Presenter: Carmen N. Veloria, American Student Assistance

Financial Reality Fair

A Financial Reality Fair is an interactive financial literacy tool for students. The Reality Fair is an opportunity for students to experience some of the financial challenges they will face when they start life on their own. It's a hands-on experience in which students are assigned a career and starting salaries, and then complete a budget sheet requiring them to live within their monthly salary while paying for basics such as housing, utilities, transportation, clothing, and food.

Location: Stowe North

Presenters: Mallory Suprenant and Erin Thompson, North Country FCU

We Are All In Transition: Supporting LGBTQ+ Students in Our Programs Beyond the Basics

This workshop will explore working with LGBTQ+ students in our programs. Drawing on case studies from our Upward Bound program, we will discuss how similar situations would be handled in your program and what we learned from our experiences. This session will focus on students who are transitioning and how to revise forms and communication, housing, and preferred names and pronouns.

Location: Stowe South

Presenter: Eric Pratt, U Maine Farmington UB

NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION NEOA

Who We Are

The New England Educational Opportunity Association, or NEOA, is an organization of professionals who are actively interested in insuring equal educational opportunities in higher education. Founded in 1972, NEOA has membership of more than 300 educators throughout the six New England states.

Almost 100 federally funded educational opportunity programs assisting almost 59,000 middle school, high school, and college students are supported by NEOA members in both urban and rural communities throughout the region. Combined, these programs receive federal funding of over \$20 million a year to promote access to and success in higher education.

Prior to April 1999, NEOA's name was NEAEOPP, which stood for the New England Association Educational Opportunity Program Personnel.

What We Do

The mission of NEOA is to advocate for access to and success in post-secondary education for low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and students with disabilities and to develop the skills and knowledge of educational opportunity professionals working with this population.

COUNCIL FOR OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION COE

Who We Are

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) is a nonprofit organization, established in 1981, dedicated to furthering the expansion of college opportunities for low-income, first-generation students, veterans, and students with disabilities in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., the Federation States of Micronesia (FSM), Palau, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Its membership includes more than 1,000 colleges and agencies.

What We Do

Through its numerous membership services, the Council works in conjunction with colleges, universities, and agencies that host TRIO programs to specifically help low-income students enter college and graduate. 810,000 low-income students and students with disabilities each year receive college access and retention services through our member colleges and agencies.

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Chair, Newsletter	Elaine Leavitt

NANCY SCHWARTZ

Career and Education Counselor, Outreach Programs,
Vermont Student Assistance Corporation



Years of service in educational opportunity programs: 1988-present
Career and Education Counselor 1988-present: Educational Talent Search, VSAC
Career and Education Counselor 2000 – present: Gear-Up, VSAC

Local, state, regional, national memberships/leadership positions~
VEOP member; served as President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Conference Chair for VEOP.
NEOA member; NEOA Leadership Institute 2000-2001; State Liaison; Vice-President and Conference Chair 1992.
Established the charter for the Vermont School Counselor Association in 1992, last of the 50 states to have an ASCA state charter;
Vermont School Counselors Association member;
American School Counselors Association member.

Extra service activities
Established the VSAC "ALANNAS" Scholarship - 2017, in honor of parents-Alan and Ann Schwartz, for Vermont first generation college-bound students.
Most recently, Nancy provided Outreach services to the New American population in Chittenden County which she hopes to continue doing on a volunteer basis. She organized multiple college planning activities and events as well as helped coordinate in-school college fairs for Burlington High School, Essex High School, BFA Fairfax High School, and the Center for Technology-Essex.

Plans for the immediate future
Maintain work with the New American population; enroll in classes at UVM; and enjoy time with friends, family, travel, and dance.

Congratulations on your retirement, Nancy!



VSAC recognizes the following individuals on their retirements!

- Terry Callahan** Former Director, Talent Search
Michele Delhaye Former Counselor, Educational Opportunity Center
Nancy Schwartz Counselor, Talent Search & GEAR UP

Together, these professionals have provided over 75 years of service to VSAC, TRIO, and most important, Vermont students and families. We're humbled by and grateful for their contributions!

Thank you for your years of dedication and service.



UNH Educational Talent Search
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**STEVE
McGRATH**

on his upcoming retirement.

Steve has helped thousands of ETS students since 1985!



*We hope you take
some time to enjoy life,
travel, ski & have fun.
You have earned it!*



*Thank you for your years of dedication
and passion. Your advocacy on behalf
of low income and first generation
students will have a lasting impact!*



TRIO Scholars

If you are a TRIO professional, please let your students know about PSU's TRIO Scholars program.

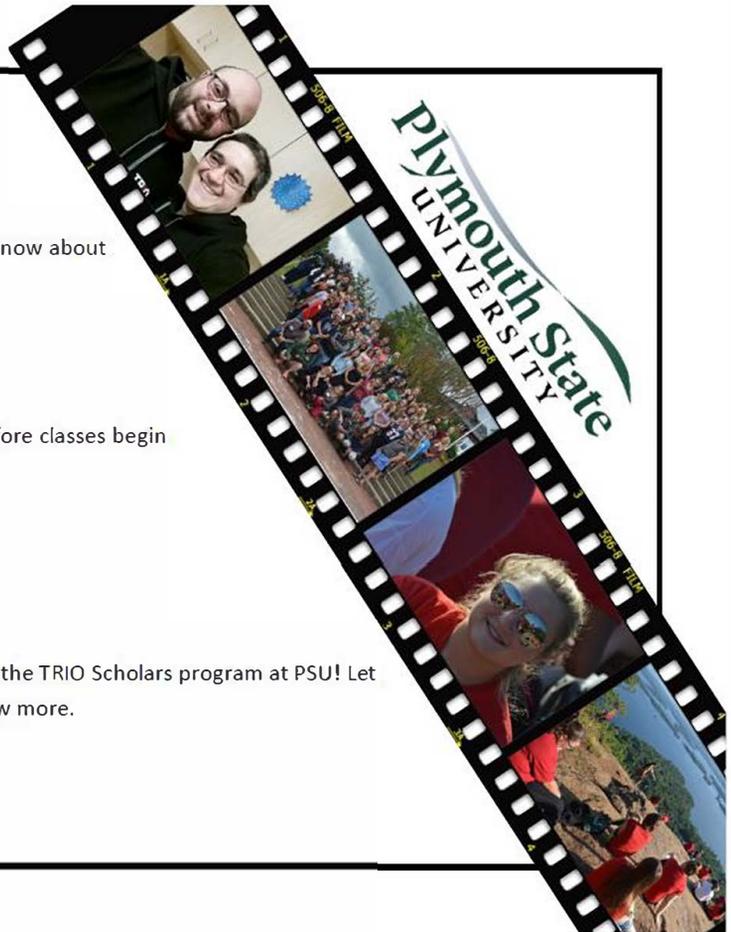
TRIO Scholars program benefits include:

- ◆ Peer Mentoring
- ◆ One-on-One and Group Meetings
- ◆ TRIO Connection Days in the Fall and Spring before classes begin
- ◆ Cultural and Social Events
- ◆ Workshops
- ◆ Priority Registration for Classes
- ◆ Priority Hiring within our office

Applications due: **Thursday, May 18th**

Thank you for taking the time to spread the word about the TRIO Scholars program at PSU! Let me know if you have any questions or would like to know more.

Chris Lee
Educational Coordinator
603.535.2453
c_lee@plymouth.edu



Congrats!

NEOA

for another successful year and conference! Thank you Jane Kimball Foley for an outstanding year as NEOA President.

OCTOBER 19, 2018

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L-R: Marti Kingsley, Matt Mitchell, Lindsay Carpenter

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and



Justis Lopez

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María D. Martínez

Assistant Vice Provost, Institute for Student Success

congratulates

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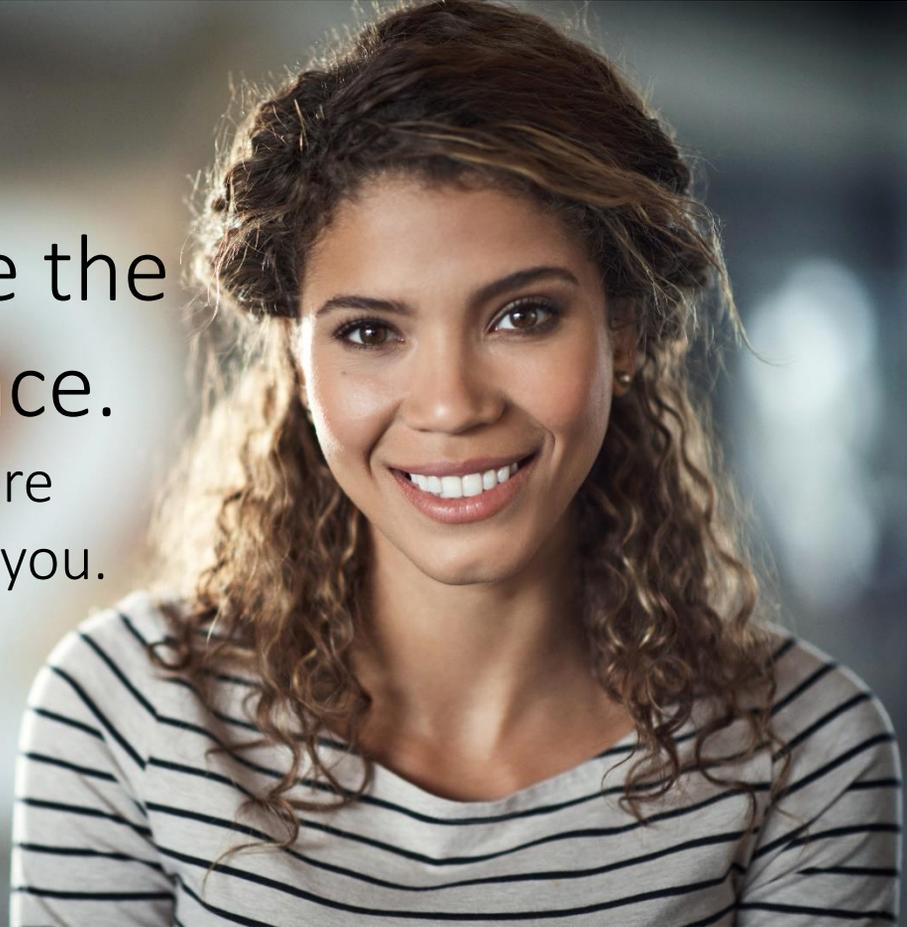
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-Beth Clemens, Ivy Tech Community College's Fort Wayne Campus

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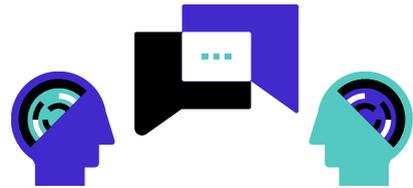
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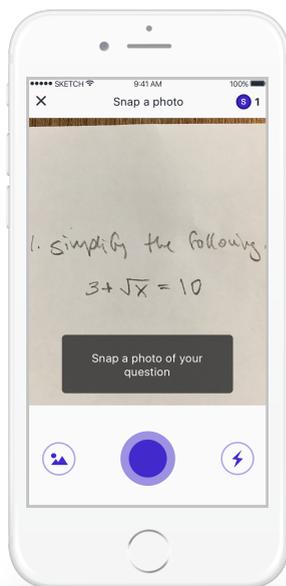
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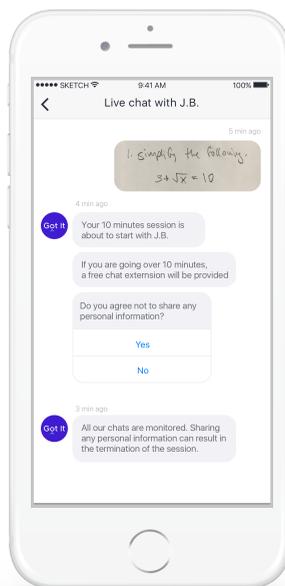


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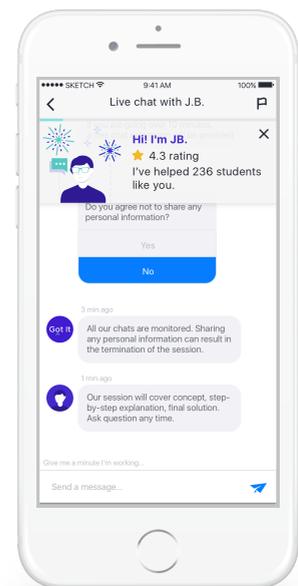
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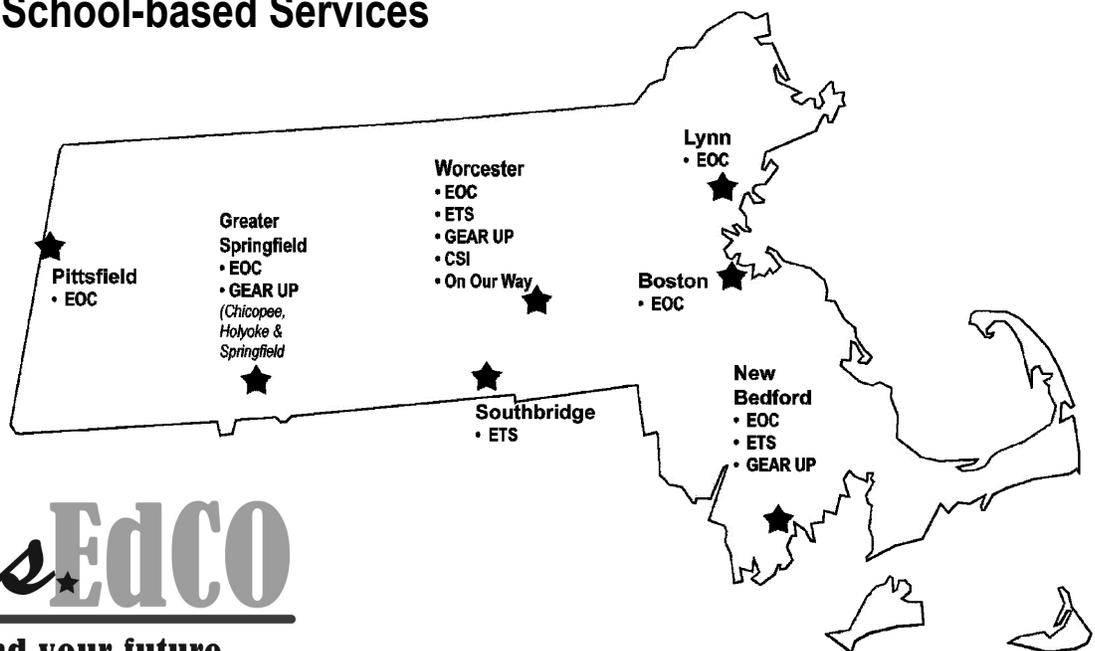
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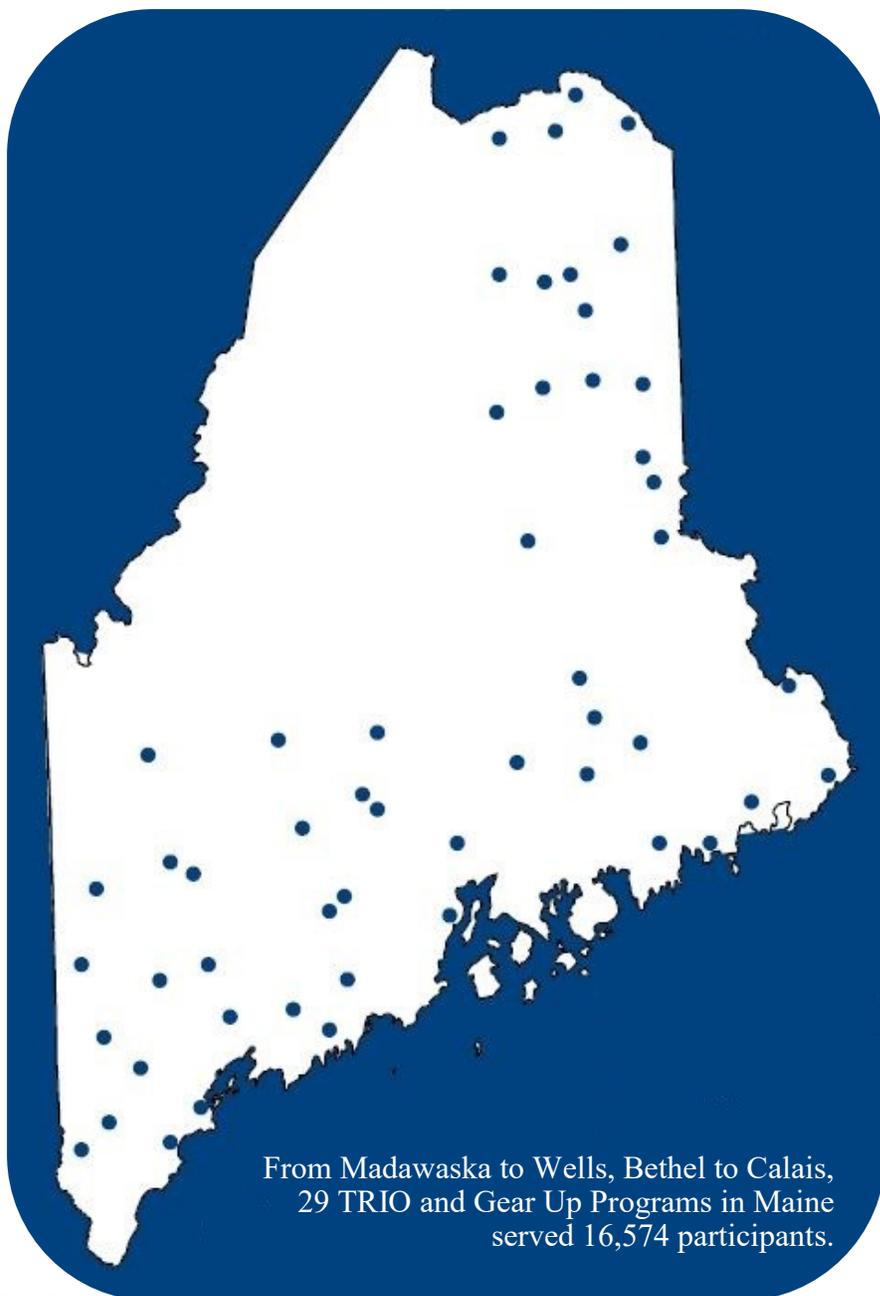
WOULD LIKE TO CONGRATULATE OUR VERMONT FRIENDS ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2018 ANNUAL CONFERENCE. OUR THANKS FOR ALL OF YOUR HARD WORK!

WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK NEOA PRESIDENT JANE FOLEY FOR A TERRIFIC YEAR, CONGRATULATE AND THANK PAST-PRESIDENT RAMON GONZALEZ FOR HIS GRACIOUS LEADERSHIP!

2017-18 MEEEOA Executive Committee:

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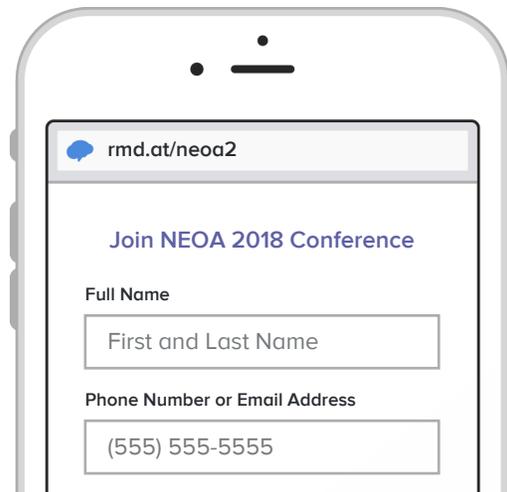
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NOTES:

THINGS TO DO AROUND STOWE

The Stoweflake is located about a mile up what is known as "The Mountain Road" in Stowe. This stretch of road, extending another six miles upward before you arrive at Vermont's largest ski resort, has a good mix of restaurants, bars, and shops. Below we have indicated a few of the local attractions.

ACTIVITIES	LOCATION	HOURS
Stowe Bowl	1613 Mt Rd (5-min walk)	2 - 11 PM
Stowe Cinema 3Plex	454 Mt Rd (1.3 mi)	
Gentle Giants Sleigh & Carriage Rides	4000 Mt Rd (2 mi)	open from 11 AM
Stowe Recreation Path	1 mile to nearest access point	

RESTAURANT	LOCATION	HOURS
Idletyme Brewing Company	1859 Mt Rd (0.2 mi)	11 AM - 9 PM
Sushi Yoshi	1128 Mt Rd (0.5 mi)	11:30AM - 10 PM
Tres Amigos	1190 Mt Rd (0.5 mi)	4 PM - 10 PM
The Bagel	394 Mt Rd (1.3 mi)	6:30 AM - 3:30 PM
The Bench	492 Mt Rd (1.3 mi)	4 PM - 10 PM
McCarthy's Restaurant	454 Mt Rd (1.3 mi)	6:30 AM - 2 PM
Doc Ponds	294 Mt Rd (1.4 mi)	4 PM - 12 AM
Harrison's Restaurant	25 Main St (1.8 mi)	4:30 PM - 9:30 PM
Whip Bar & Grill	18 S Main St (1.8 mi)	11:30 AM - 9:30 PM
Plate Restaurant	91 Main St (1.8 mi)	5 PM - 9 PM
Butler's Pantry	128 Main St (1.9 mi)	8 AM - 12 PM

LIBATIONS	ADDRESS	HOURS
The Alchemist Brewery (home of Heady Topper!)	100 Cottage Club Rd (0.5 mi)	11 PM - 7 PM
Rock Art Brewery	632 Laporte Rd, Morristown (10 mi)	10 PM - 6 PM
Green Mountain Distillers	171 Whiskey Run, Morristown (8 mi)	12 PM - 7 PM Th & F

HEADING TOWARD RT 89 & WATERBURY	ADDRESS	HOURS
Cold Hollow Cider Mill	100 Cottage Club Rd (8 mi)	11 AM - 7 PM
Lost Nation Brewing	87 Creamery Rd, Morrisville (10 mi)	11:30 AM - 9 PM
Black Diamond BBQ	639 Morristown Corners Rd (10 mi)	12 PM - 7 PM Th & F
Ben & Jerry's	1281 Waterbury-Stowe Rd (10 mi)	9 AM - 6 PM
Lake Champlain Chocolates/Cabot Cheese	2657 Waterbury-Stowe Rd (10 mi)	9 AM - 6 PM

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