

The 45th
Annual

NEOA Conference

Re-emerging:
Defining the New Normal

April 13-15, 2022

Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside
Portsmouth, NH

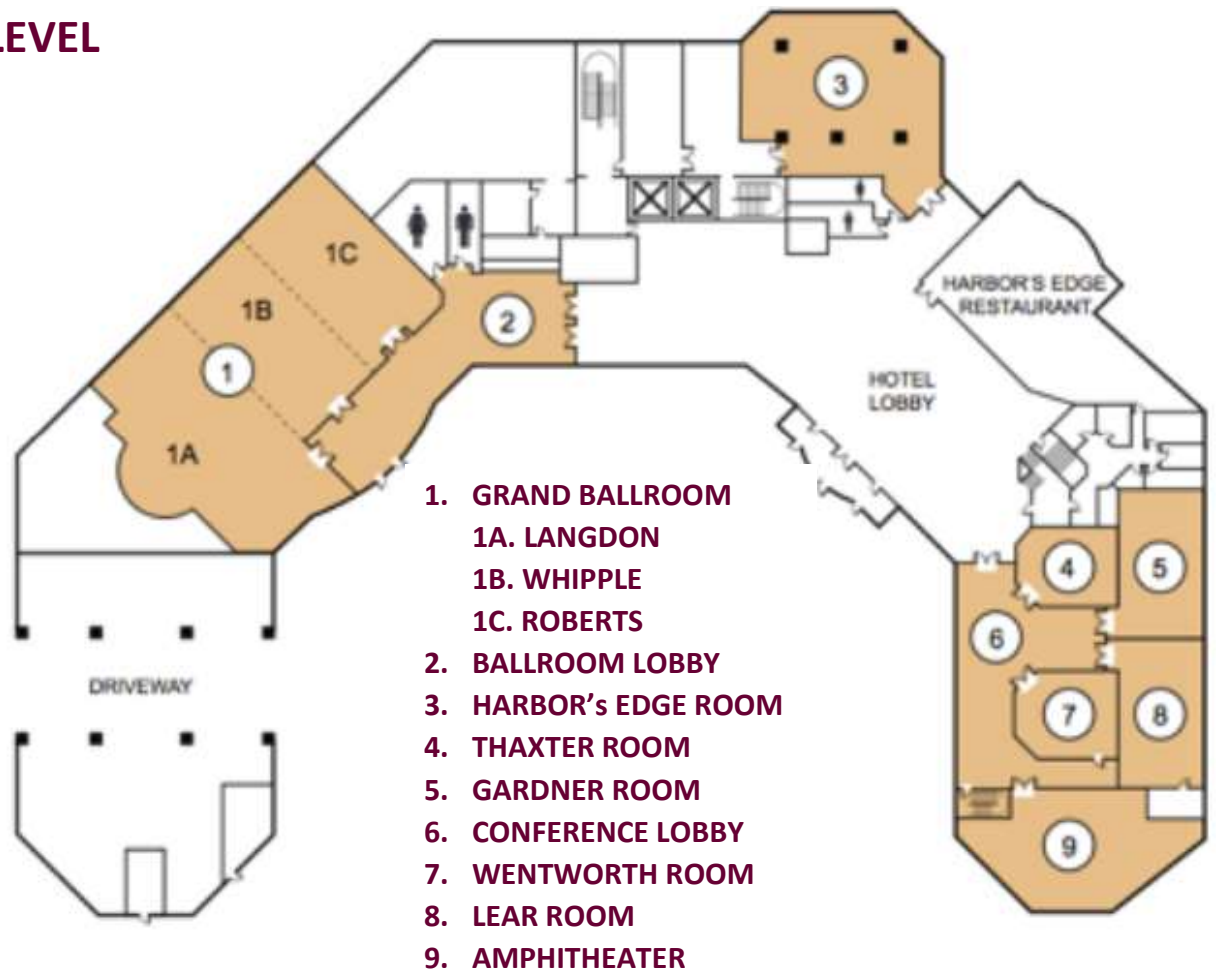
New England



Educational Opportunity Association
www.neoaonline.org

Sheraton Portsmouth Harborside Hotel

LOBBY LEVEL



MEZZANINE LEVEL

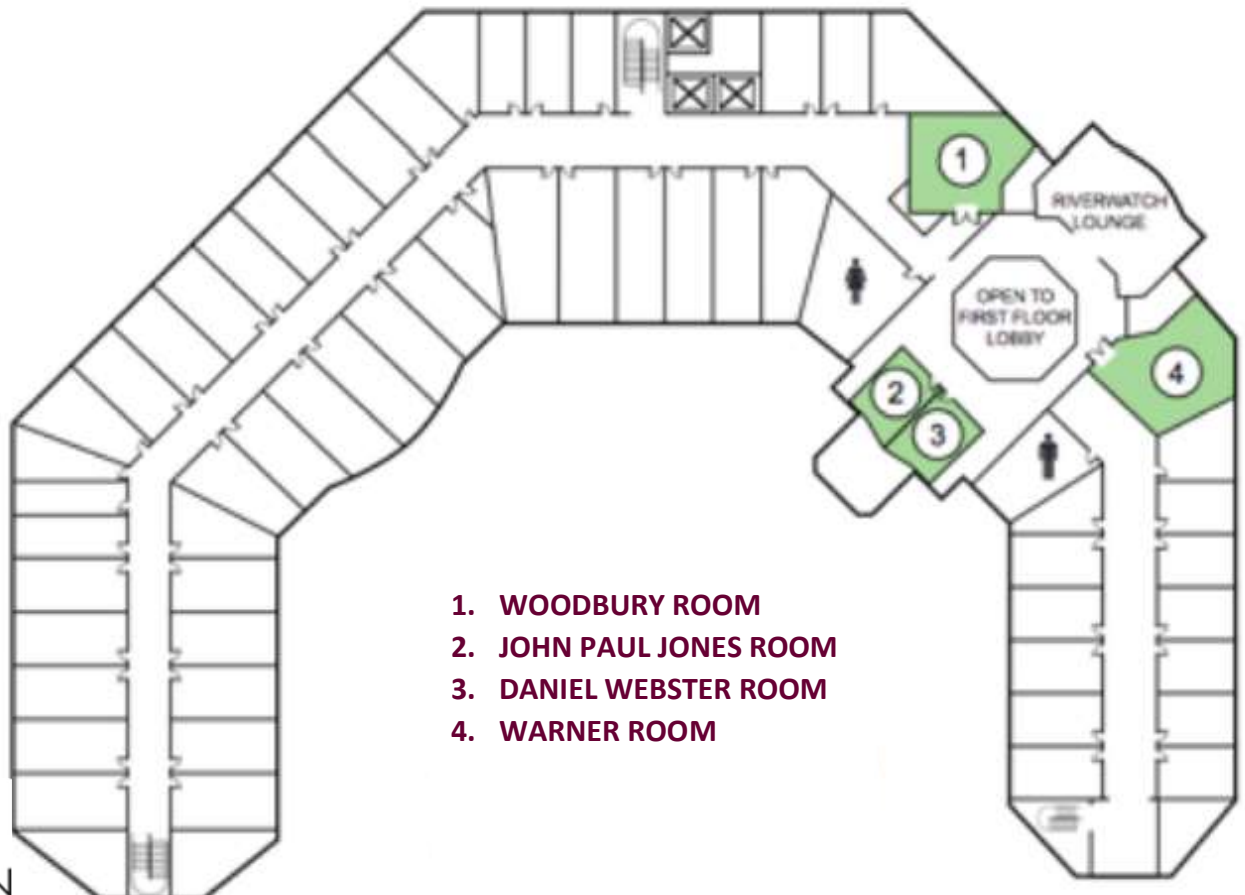


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Complimentary Conference WI-Fi

Network: **MarriottBonvoy_CONFERENCE**
Access Code: **Harborside1**

For Technical WI-Fi Assistance Please Call
(877) 777-6207





WELCOME! On behalf of the NEOA Board of Directors I would like to welcome everyone back “in-person” to scenic Portsmouth, New Hampshire, for the 46th annual NEOA Conference. Our conference theme is **Re-emerging: Defining the New Normal**. What could be more appropriate? We are emerging from our lives in isolation, working from home. We are emerging to a “new normal.” So, it is with so much joy that I welcome us back together. We have so much planned for you over the next 3 days. Please enjoy all the wonderful professional development opportunities that are being offered, the opportunity to engage and share ideas with people in your program areas, and the opportunity to network, re-establish friendships and connect with other professionals and colleagues. Huge thanks to the conference co-chairs, Taryn Tomkins and Amy Dodge, and the amazing conference committee that worked so hard to put together this wonderful experience for us.

This conference allows us to celebrate amazing alumni and to honor professionals who have committed their lives to the mission of helping low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities to enter in and complete a college education. We have faced many daunting challenges over the last two years: challenges to our health, to our communities and to our programs. We have continuously adapted and provided high quality services to our students, and we have learned new technology and new methods that make our programs more effective and inclusive. Now we are ready to honor the past and to embrace the changes of the future.

This has been a wonderful year as NEOA President. I want to thank all the NEOA Board members. Each time we have a Board meeting, it is so exciting to hear about all the work that is going on in the committees. This year we have attempted to be more inclusive and invite participation in each of the committees, and as a result we had a record number of people participating in the Board work. It was my pleasure to virtually present at the Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts state conferences. Many thanks to Brian Post for presenting in Vermont. Each state is different but there are exciting things going on at the state level.

I was very happy when I had the opportunity to travel this year to represent NEOA at the COE Board meeting in Orlando, Florida. This was such a great learning opportunity and chance to network with colleagues from around the country. Welcome to the COE President, Maureen Hoyler, and COE Board Chair, Chris George. We are honored that you can join us this year. We are all working together with our legislators to “Double TRIO, Double Pell” within 5 years, so please continue to reach out to the legislators from your state to support the TRIO mission.

Let’s take this opportunity to learn and have fun together. Enjoy all that the conference and the Town of Portsmouth has to offer. We will EMERGE stronger and better. Thank you!





Welcome to the Sheraton Harborside Hotel in Portsmouth, NH! We are excited to share the events and activities we have planned for the 46th New England Educational Opportunity Association (NEOA) Conference.

Our theme this year is, Re-emerging: Defining the New Normal. This certainly is fitting for these times. The conference committee is thrilled that we can welcome you in-person, and hope that your re-emergence feels welcoming and supportive. It is our desire that you enjoy the beautiful views, find time to connect with fellow colleagues, and discover the professional development you are seeking.

In addition to the professional development, we have arranged many fun social events such as the Alumni and Newcomers Receptions, the President's Reception, Network Suites, and new this year, Social Hour with games and music. Also, please drop by our Silent Auction and view the unique and wonderful items donated by you and your colleagues. The proceeds will benefit the work of NEOA, and we thank you!

Planning this year's conference felt challenging as we are still navigating rough seas and uncertainties of this pandemic. Therefore, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the conference committee. Your time and commitment have truly been an act of service and dedication. We also extend our thanks to the NEOA Board, the leadership of our President, Debora McCann, the exhibitors, workshop presenters, and sponsors whose participation immensely contributed to ensuring the success of this year's conference.

It has truly been an honor to have served as this year's co-chairs, and we hope that you take full advantage of the variety of features that our conference has to offer!

Finally, remember part of re-emerging includes self-care and self-reflection, take time to honor all that you have come through.



NEOA Conference Committee Members

Conference Chairs.....	Amy Dodge and Taryn Tomkins, <i>co-chairs</i>
NEOA Achievers Luncheon & Alumni Reception.....	Elyse Pratt-Ronco & Randy Schroeder
Newcomer Reception.....	Samienta Pierre-Vil
Retiring Members Reception.....	Elaine E. Leavitt
Awards.....	Debora McCann
Exhibitors/Vendors.....	Liam Danaher & Ramon Gonzalez
Tech Coordinator/Web Content.....	Rachelle Lappinen
Site Coordinators.....	Samienta Pierre-Vil & Gaelyn Hastings
Registration.....	Patti May & Kyle Somma, <i>co-chairs</i>
Dignitaries.....	Christine Scafidi, Randy Schroeder & Sarah Morrell
Fundraising Committee.....	Linda Shiller-Cormany & Ralph Hogan
Conference Booklet.....	Suzie Wagner
Workshops.....	Kim Gorman, <i>chair</i> , Linda Shiller-Cormany, Adam Howard, Sarah Morrell & Carmen Veloria
Moderators.....	Mary Colon & Donna Connolly
Keynote Speakers.....	Christine Scafidi, chair, Carmen Veloria & Donna Connolly
NEOA Past Presidents Dinner.....	Rob Pote
Conference Fundraising.....	Linda Shiller-Cormany & Ralph Hogan
Development.....	Ramon Gonzalez, <i>chair</i>
Pre-Conference.....	Taryn Tomkins
Entertainment & Hospitality Suites.....	Anthony Staffiere, Randy Schroeder & Mendrick Banzuela
Technology Team.....	Casey Henderson, Joshua Gagnon, Randy Schroeder & Melissa Goyait
Marketing.....	Tony Staffiere



Time	Event	Location
12:00pm – 5:00pm	Conference Registration	<i>Main Lobby</i>
1:00pm – 4:00pm	Pre-Conference: The Equity Agenda: From Vision to Action Dr. Patricia Marshall, Speaker	<i>Amphitheater</i>
1:00pm – 5:00pm	NEOA Board Meeting	<i>Prescott</i>



The Equity Agenda: From Vision to Action

This workshop will focus on the recommendations set forth in the *New Undergraduate Experience: A Vision for Dismantling Barriers, Recognizing Students' Cultural Wealth, and Achieving Racial Equity in Public Higher Education in Massachusetts (NUE)*. This vision document, recently passed by the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, is a collective blueprint for policies and practices needed for students to reach their goals in the Commonwealth's public higher education institutions. As a key component of the Equity Agenda, NUE is intended to inform the work of the Steering Committee developing the statewide Strategic Plan for Racial Equity. Participants will have an opportunity to take a deep dive into several components of the Equity Agenda while considering its applicability to their work with students.

About Dr. Marshall

Dr. Marshall holds a BA from Colby College and a Ph.D. in Hispanic Studies from Brown University. Prior to serving as the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs at Worcester State University, she was the founding Chair of the Department of World Languages and held a tenured appointment as an Associate Professor of Spanish.

Dr. Marshall is also a founding board member of MassEdCO, a statewide network of service sites that works with economically and educationally disadvantaged students. In high school, she attended the Upward Bound Program at the University of Maine Orono and participated in Educational Talent Search. She currently serves as the Deputy Commissioner for Academic Affairs and Student Success at the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education, where she is staff to the Board of Higher Education's Academic Affairs Committee, oversees academic program approval for public as well as independent colleges and universities operating in Massachusetts, and serves as the liaison to the Chief Academic Officers at the state's public institutions of higher education.



6:30AM – 7:15AM

Morning Activity – Harbor's Edge – Create a Vision Board with Rob Pote

8:15AM – 9:30AM	8:00AM – 5:00PM	10:00AM – 10:15AM	10:00AM – 5:00PM	10:15AM – 11:00AM	11:00AM – 1:00PM
Alumni Breakfast	Conference Registration	Conference Welcome	Silent Auction	Keynote Address Dr. Lane Glenn	Achiever's Luncheon
<i>Harbor's Edge</i>	<i>Main Lobby</i>	<i>Thaxter</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>

Vendor Exhibits

Ballroom Lobby



1:15PM – 2:30PM

Concurrent Sessions I

Designing Curriculum to Align with Early College and Career Planning – Warner
Elevating TRIO Through Financial Literacy & Career Development – Wentworth
The Future of Higher Ed/Postsecondary Education: Re-Emerging from the Pandemic – Woodbury
Not a Waste of Time: Become a Better Presenter – Harbor's Edge
#GenZ: The Final Generation – Lear
High Impact Retention Practices and How to Implement Them – Gardner
StudentAccess: The Leader in TRIO Software – Amphitheater
Understanding the Racial Wealth Gap in America – Prescott
Senior Survival Assessment and Feedback Circles - Riverwatch

2:30PM – 2:45PM

Coffee Break

Ballroom Lobby

2:45PM – 3:20PM

Department of Education Update

Gaby Watts, TRIO Director Department of Education
Remote Presentation

Ballroom



3:30PM – 4:45PM

Concurrent Sessions II

Grounding Our Students: Emotional Safety in the College Application Process – *Wentworth*

What If College Isn't the Plan? Creating Alternative Career Paths for Students – *Lear*

STEM 3d Design and Print: Designing the Future – *Gardner*

Cultivating Virtual Community Amongst BIPOC Students in a Pandemic – *Amphitheater*

New Rules: FAFSA Changes are Coming – *Warner*

Put Your Head into It: Brain Science Strategies for Student Engagement – *Riverwatch*

Not Just Numbers: Using Data for Meaningful Program Change – *Harbor's Edge*

Getting Students to Events in the New Normal – *Woodbury*

Learn How to Connect Your Students to the Internet for Free – *Prescott*

5:00PM – 6:00PM

Newcomers Reception

Harbor's Edge

6:00PM – 9:00PM

Dinner on Your Own

Past Presidents Dinner

9:00PM – 11:00PM

Network Suite - Hosted by NH, MA, VT

Room 432 & Prescott Room



Listen Up! and VEOP Voices Panel (online)

What? You signed up for Listen Up as part of the VEOP Day of Celebration?

You want to participate in this event AND attend NEOA? Well, YOU CAN DO THAT!

Bring your laptop or phone to this event and log on to the Zoom Page while you are at NEOA!

April 13th facilitated discussion with program participants & cast members re: issues raised in the movie (4:00-5:00) - This takes place during one of the NEOA workshops, you will have to excuse yourself and log on for Part 2. This is our chance to ask questions, listen to cast members' stories and experiences and share how the film may impact our work, choices, and understanding of the myriad issues impacting young and emerging adults today.

Wednesday, April 13th, 4:00-5:00pm in the Hospitality Suite – (Room 432)



6:30AM – 7:15AM

Morning Activity – Harbor's Edge – Create a Vision Board with Rob Pote

7:30AM – 8:45AM	8:45AM – 10:00AM	8:00AM – 12:00PM	8:00AM – 5:00PM	10:00AM – 10:15AM
Breakfast Buffet	Plenary Session – Critical Issues for Higher Education in a Post-Pandemic World	Conference Registration	Silent Auction	Announcements
<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Main Lobby</i>	<i>Thaxter</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>



Special Note

Silent Auction closes Thursday at **5PM SHARP!**
Don't miss out on your final bids!



Vendor Exhibits

Ballroom
Lobby

10:15AM – 11:30AM

Concurrent Sessions III

Student Persistence for Life – *Wentworth*

The Top 10 Side Hustles for Students in 2021– *Warner*

The Diverse Student's Experience – *Lear*

Using Career Exploration to Close Opportunity Gaps – *Gardner*

TRIO Jeopardy – *Amphitheater*

Let's Talk Grief w/ Marti – *Woodbury*

Planting Gardens of Support – *Prescott*

Advancing Opportunities for Multilingual Learners and Students with Disabilities – *Harbor's Edge*

What Now? Incorporating Mental Health Resources within Upward Bound – *Riverwatch*



11:30AM – 1:30PM	1:30PM – 2:40PM
Lunch on your own	COE/Washington Update: Maureen Hoyler, COE President & Dr. Chris George, COE Board Chair
<i>See listing of great local lunch options!</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>

2:45PM – 3:45PM
State Meetings
Connecticut – <i>Gardner</i>
Maine – <i>Prescott</i>
Massachusetts – <i>Harbor's Edge</i>
New Hampshire - <i>Woodbury</i>
Rhode Island – <i>Riverwatch</i>
Vermont - <i>Warner</i>

3:45PM – 4:00PM	4:00PM – 5:00PM	
Afternoon Snack Break	NEOA Business Mtg	
Ballroom Lobby	Harbor’s Edge	
6:00PM – 7:00PM	7:00PM – 9:00PM	9:00PM – 11:00PM
President’s Reception	Awards Banquet	Network Suite – hosted by CT, ME & RI
Ballroom Lobby	Ballroom	Room 432 & Prescott



THE SILENT AUCTION IS CALLING

DON'T FORGET TO STOP BY **THAXTER** TO DO SOME SHOPPING AND BIDDING!! LOTS OF WONDERFUL ITEMS THAT ARE WAITING FOR YOU TO TAKE THEM HOME WITH YOU!

COME TO THAXTER AND BID ON A BASKET...OR TWO!



9:00AM – 9:45AM
Program Roundtables
Educational Opportunity Center/Veterans Upward Bound - <i>Gardner</i>
Educational Talent Search – <i>Harbor's Edge</i>
GEAR UP - <i>Woodbury</i>
McNair - <i>Riverwatch</i>
Student Support Services - <i>Prescott</i>
Upward Bound - <i>Warner</i>
Upward Bound Math/Science - <i>Wentworth</i>

9:45AM – 10:30AM	8:00AM – 12:00PM
Brunch	Pick Up Auction Items
<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Thaxter</i>

10:30AM – 11:15AM	11:15AM – 11:30AM
Closing Keynote: Dr. Arnold Mitchem – 50 Years of COE	Closing Remarks Conference Chair/NEOA President
<i>Ballroom</i>	<i>Ballroom</i>





Dr. Lane A. Glenn is President of Northern Essex Community College, with campuses in Haverhill and Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Dr. Glenn is focused on student success and is passionate about finding ways to help students achieve their educational goals, especially students who are underprepared for college. In addition, he is a strong advocate for colleges and universities as engines of economic and workforce development—particularly in Massachusetts Gateway Cities.

As a researcher, author and consultant, Dr. Glenn has also helped advance community colleges through his involvement on numerous regional and national boards. He is the chairman of the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education’s Task Force on Statewide Assessment; was appointed to the STEM Advisory Council by the Massachusetts governor; and chairs the International Advisory Board of the Chair Academy, an organization that provides leadership development programs for college and university leaders around the world.

Dr. Glenn has been described as an “optimistic thought leader” who actively promotes the community college mission in a number of publications, on social media, and through his blog, “Running the Campus.” In 2018, he was named the “Pacesetter of the Year” for his higher ed advocacy efforts by the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

He holds a PhD in Theater from Michigan State University, a master’s degree in Speech from Oklahoma State University, and a bachelor’s in English from Northeastern State University. He is proud to say he started his education at Rose State College, a community college in Midwest City, Oklahoma.

***An Optimist’s Guide to the Top 10 Trends in Higher Education
(and What They Mean for You and Your Students)***

Dr. Lane A. Glenn, President, Northern Essex Community College

For most of us, the past two years have delivered more shocking events and rapid changes than at any other time in our lives and careers in higher education: the COVID-19 global pandemic, America’s democracy under assault, the murder of George Floyd and a reckoning with our nation’s history of systemic racism, another recession and an ever-widening wealth gap, shifting demographics and enrollment declines, and much, much more.

If you want to look for the struggles and problems on our campuses and all around us, you’ll find them easily enough. As bleak as things may sometimes seem, though, the past two years have also shown us incredible acts of educational heroism, amazing student resiliency, and promising breakthroughs in technology, teaching, and learning with the potential for powerful, positive, and lasting improvements in student success.

In this keynote address, Dr. Lane A. Glenn, President of Northern Essex Community College, will share reasons for you to feel encouraged and, yes, even optimistic about the future of higher education.



Plenary Panel

NEOA Higher Education Panel: Thursday, April 14, 8:45AM – 10AM

Critical Issues for Higher Education in a Post-pandemic World

NEOA will bring together 5 leaders in higher education to discuss post-pandemic issues in higher education and provide insight and ideas for TRIO professionals moving forward. The NEOA professional development committee has invited dynamic individuals who are representative from the following areas: Enrollment Management, Student Affairs, Academic Affairs, Career Services.



Dr. Adrian K. Haugabrook

Dr. Adrian K. Haugabrook is Executive Vice President and Managing Director for the Social Impact Collective at Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) in Manchester, New Hampshire. In this role, he provides executive leadership and strategic guidance in advancing SNHUs equity and social mobility agendas by leveraging existing offerings and new innovations to learners across the globe. He has committed his over three-decade career to influencing access, equity and opportunity by leading strategy, growth, policy and change initiatives in both U.S. higher education and non-profit sectors. He is a frequent speaker on change, innovation, and the future of higher education and was a featured speaker at [TED 2021](#).

Dr. Haugabrook is a Director at Upswing (Austin, TX), an education technology that provides powerful wraparound services platform and supports for college students who are most in need, and a 2020-2021 Designer in Residence with the Education Design Lab (Washington, DC). He also sits on the boards of the Postsecondary National Policy Institute (Washington, DC); the Ascend National Advisory of the Aspen Institute (Washington, DC); and City Year New Hampshire. He is a Life Member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

A former collegiate scholar-athlete and U.S. military “brat”, Adrian received his doctorate from the University of Massachusetts Boston, masters from Georgia Southwestern State University and his bachelor’s from the University of West Georgia.





Arlene Rodríguez, Ph.D.

Dr. Rodríguez serves as the Interim Provost/Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Middlesex Community College, overseeing all academic and student support programming designed to close opportunity gaps among all our students and providing them credentials and pathways to financial mobility.

A first-generation college student, Dr. Rodríguez has devoted her 30-plus years in higher education to implementing successful equity-centered student initiatives, creating dynamic partnerships, and fundraising for scholarships. She has earned a reputation as a trusted leader, skilled at networking and building supportive environments for both campus and off-campus communities.

Fluent in Spanish, Dr. Rodríguez has been engaged in her community and has been honored with several awards, including the National Council on Community and Justice's Human Services Award, Springfield Women Commission's UnSung Hero/Woman of the Year, and Professional Women's Chamber of Western Massachusetts Woman of the Year Award.



Ryan G. Forsythe, Ed.D.

Ryan Forsythe is the Vice President for Enrollment Management at Worcester State University. He is originally from Tyngsboro and now lives in Winchendon, MA with his wife and 3 children.

Ryan attended Westfield State College, UMASS Amherst, and Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, TN where he earned his doctorate in education.

Ryan has worked in enrollment management for 20+ years. He has worked in admissions and financial aid at public institutions, private institutions, universities, a community college, Massachusetts schools, and one institution in Tennessee. Ryan is a member of the Board of Directors of Massachusetts Education & Career Opportunities, Inc. (MassEdCO) and a School Committee member.

Ryan oversees the WSU Division of Enrollment Management, which includes the Offices of Admissions, Financial Aid, Marketing, Communication, Retention, and the Registrar.





David Cedrone

David Cedrone is Associate Commissioner for Workforce Development and STEM at the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education.

He oversees the STEM Starter Academy program across Massachusetts' 15 community colleges, engaging a more diverse population of students and supporting their completion of STEM degrees and advancement to university programs or entry into the workforce.

David also administers workforce grant programs focusing on the needs of adult learners, including – Training Resources and Internships Network (TRAIN), Bridges to College and Nursing and Allied Health.



Dr. Laura A. Bayless

Dr. Laura A. Bayless currently serves as the Vice President for Student Affairs at Fitchburg State University, having served in Student Affairs positions in Wisconsin, Virginia, and Maryland.

Laura earned her BA in speech communications/mass media from Denison University, MS in college student personnel services at Miami University of Ohio, and a PhD in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from Virginia Tech. She was recently honored with the Scott Goodnight Award for Outstanding Performance as a Chief Student Affairs Officer for NASPA Region I.

Laura is a frequent presenter, consultant, and podcaster. She is passionate about the growth and development of both students and employees, fostering environments in which all contribute to the community we create and make a difference in the world.



**Maureen Hoyler**

On October 1, 2013, Maureen Hoyler assumed the position of President of the Council for Opportunity in Education, a nonprofit organization that provides professional development, program improvement, and advocacy for nearly 2,800 federally funded college opportunity programs at more than 1,000 colleges and universities nationwide.

Ms. Hoyler has been a voice for low-income, first-generation students and individuals with disabilities. As President, she oversees management of the Washington office and the fiscal affairs of the Association also while serving as the primary liaison between the Association and the United States Congress, the Executive Branch, and all Governmental Agencies. She is the official representative of the Association with all other postsecondary educational associations.

Under her leadership, the Council has launched several new initiatives, including the Executive Leadership Institute for College Opportunity Professionals, which brings educational opportunity chapter leaders to institutions such as Princeton, Cornell, and Yale for instruction in various topics such as transformational leadership and public policy as well as provides on-going mentorship by highly experienced college access and success leaders. Hoyler also spearheaded the creation of the First-Generation College Celebration, during which hundreds of campuses recognize their first-generation students and faculty on the anniversary of the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (November 8). She has brokered partnerships with corporations such as Comcast to promote careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) for underrepresented students.

Hoyler began her career at the Educational Opportunity Program at Marquette University as an assistant to the then Director, Dr. Arnold Mitchem. Ms. Hoyler moved to Washington in 1981 to establish the Council's office. As the organization's Chief Operating Officer, she has played an integral role in the growth of the organization over the past 33 years, starting from a staff of one full-time professional. Ms. Hoyler has lectured widely on federal law and regulations. Over the years, she has received numerous awards from TRIO-based associations. She received her B.A. and her law degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



**T. Chris George, EdD**

Board Chair and Director of TRIO SSS, Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College (SKY)

Dr. T. Chris George is the Director of TRIO Student Support Services in the Division of Student Success at Southcentral Kentucky Community and Technical College (SKYCTC). Chris began his professional TRIO career at Murray State University (KY) Talent Search, then worked for 17 years in TRIO at Western Kentucky University, leaving in 2020 after serving 9 years as Director of Student Support Services. In addition to TRIO, over the course of his career Chris has been a faculty member teaching University Experience for 15 years at WKU, in 2007 he was honored with the WKU First Year Student Advocate Award. He has also taught World

Civilization II at WKU and currently teaches World History I, II and United States History since 1865 for SKYCTC. George holds a Bachelor of Arts in History, Master of Arts in History, and an Education Specialist in School Leadership, all from Western Kentucky University. He also holds a doctorate in Education Leadership from the University of Cumberland.

Over the years, Dr. George has had the privilege to promote college access and success through various leadership roles. He has served on the Board of Directors for the Kentucky TRIO Association, regionally on the Board of Directors for Southeastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (SAEOPP), and nationally with the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE). He has worked as a TRIO Trainer for both SAEOPP and COE, as well as consultant with First Gen Solutions LLC. He is a co-founder of First Gen Solutions, LLC and of George Education and Events Solutions, LLC. Away from TRIO related endeavors, Chris chairs the Supervisory Committee of the Service One Credit Union and serves on the United Way of Southern Kentucky's College and Career Readiness Committee. Outside of work Chris enjoys playing slow pitch softball, fantasy football, and attending sporting events (especially baseball and football).



**Gaby Watts**

Gaby Watts is the Senior Director, Student Service, Higher Education Programs (HEP) in the US Department of Education as of December 5, 2021. Ms. Watts had served as the Director of TRIO Upward Bound and Educational Opportunity Centers Division and has worked with TRIO ED programs for over twenty-six years.

Ms. Watts is incredibly knowledgeable of all TRIO programs and a strong advocate for low-income and first-generation students. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Arts degree in Counseling from Trinity University.





Dr. Arnold Mitchem, President Emeritus of the Council for Opportunity in Education, 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 and 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.

40 Years of COE

Dr. Arnold Mitchem, President Emeritus, Council for the Opportunity in Education

On December 16-17, 1977, at the Marriott Hotel in New Orleans, a visionary and courageous group of men and women met to develop a survival strategy for the federally funded Special Programs for Students from Disadvantaged Backgrounds, now known as TRIO. Out of that meeting and others, and because of tremendous effort and sacrifice, emerged the **Council for Opportunity in Education**.

Turning 40 is traditionally a time to take stock, to measure the triumphs and lessons of past years and prepare for the challenges to come. In this, COE's 40th year, we are grateful for all we have accomplished with the help of allies who have accompanied us on our journey. Together we have made real progress in helping low-income, first-generation and minority students and students with disabilities improve their lives by attending and graduating from college.

This year we will look back, not to rest on our laurels, but for inspiration and renewal. We will reaffirm our mission of improving the lives of students and the committed professionals who guide them.

This year, we invite you to **reflect, recommit** and **celebrate** forty years of excellence!





Education has always been something important to me. The expectation was that I was going to college. When I was in junior high school, I was invited to participate in the Upward Bound Program at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth. This program provided me with a strong foundation of college expectations and study skills. Upward Bound also allowed me to have access to resources within the New Bedford Community. We were able to explore various careers and actually speak with individuals who had experience in those fields.

The skills learned in Upward Bound were skills that were transferable to not only the 6-week summer program, but to my high school years, and then into my college years. By having exposure to a rigorous curriculum and having high expectations, I was able to not only make academic progress, but excel in academia. This strong foundation gave me the skills I needed to pursue a doctoral degree.

I am an educator who has tried to embed the same skills that I learned in Upward Bound to my students when I was teaching in the classroom, and as I continue to work with students as an assistant principal. I strive to provide the best possible educational experience possible for my students as my family and those in Upward Bound had for me.





As a child I wanted to be one of those individuals that walked around NYC quickly with a briefcase and sneakers. I realized later on that I knew nothing about what their job entailed, but my childhood dream was to be a successful individual. I am the first to obtain an undergraduate and graduate degree from my immediate and extended family. Although my parents have always been very supportive, I did not have the support structure outside of campus to help with financial aid and career guidance.

Student Support Services (SSS) to me was a home away from home. Everyone in the program was extremely helpful in assisting with financial aid, selecting classes, career counseling, etc. I used to walk into the SSS office almost on a weekly basis, but no matter the obstacle that I faced SSS was always there. I remember walking into Leo Lachut's office discouraged because I applied twice to UConn's School of Business and was not accepted. I felt lost and talking to Leo made me realize that there were other options that I had not considered such as obtaining an Economics degree and applying to a School of Business for a graduate degree. I am forever thankful for this recommendation

which is the path I ended up taking. I also remember having extensive financial aid conversations with Leo. He brought to my awareness that there were so many scholarship opportunities available outside of FAFSA which I was not previously aware. This made a huge difference in my life since I had family financial responsibilities at a young age as well as paying for school. SSS was instrumental in guiding me and being a support system. SSS also opened the doors of international travel through study abroad in Liverpool, an opportunity I could have never imagined.

It has been 17 years since my first summer with SSS and I am forever thankful. I am now one of those individuals that I dreamed of as a child walking around NYC with sneakers and briefcase. I continued on to grad school to obtain an MBA from UConn while working full time. Throughout the years I have worked hard to impact others the way SSS has impacted me. I have been active in giving back to the community to assist individuals achieve higher education through Shepherds, Inc, The Cardinal Shehan Center, Big Brothers Big Sisters NYC, and Prospanica the Association of Hispanic Professionals. Two of the aforementioned programs Shepherds Inc and Big Brothers Big Sisters in specific I have felt personally connected to because their mission is to assist inner city young adults in achieving a higher education. My mentee has similar questions/concerns to the ones I had, and it feels great to be able to impact young adults the way SSS impacted me.





My name is Jerica Rich and I am a TRIO alumna. The amazing TRIO program and associated individuals that have been placed in my life have provided invaluable help, support, and a tool belt that has continued to keep on giving in my day-to-day life. The highest education level received by my parents was high school, so, when it came time to plan my next steps after high school, I started by mirroring what my classmates were doing in preparation for college. I was very blessed to learn about the ETS program and received countless hours of help from one of the academic advisors, June Hampe. After starting at UNH in the fall of 2011, I received support and a sense of community in a very new environment through the TRIO program, I worked with Kate Fukawa-Connelly and Randy Schroeder. I learned valuable study habits, time management, network-building strategies, and organizational habits. With this toolbelt, I was able to confidently seek work opportunities at the Fairchild Dairy

and Research Center and cater my educational training to take courses that supported my résumé to seek a program that best fit my next step of graduate school.

I started my master's program with a clear goal in mind, to obtain a Ph.D. and enter back into higher education, train students of my own, and pay it forward. To highlight my graduate training, critical skills that helped me complete these degrees were the confidence, communication, time management, initiative, and networking skills that were honed during my time with the TRIO program.

Friends who have described me in one word use the word “welcoming,” and I contribute that personality trait to the overwhelming support I have received through programs like TRIO. In the face of many trials, a mom who struggled with drug use and alcoholism and the loss of my father, TRIO made me believe I was worth it and that I was a valuable contributor in my field. This has allowed me to have very meaningful and intentional interactions with my students and even my colleagues; and has instilled a pay it forward type of mentality that I lead my life with.

In summary, TRIO was my support system both emotionally and financially. It provided me with a community, network, and invaluable resources to be successful in college and graduate school. As stated before, the lessons I learned have been lifelong. I was sharing a study habit learned through the TRIO program to students in my Reproductive Physiology class here at Arkansas State University where I serve as an Assistant Professor just last week. My experiences and training allow me to relate to others in such a special way as well as share valuable resources and opportunities with my students, again to pay it forward, and for that, I am eternally grateful. In closing, I have to boldly end with a phrase that my life serves as compelling evidence for, TRIO WORKS!





I graduated high school homeless, couch surfing at friends' houses. I had no idea how to be an adult. Higher education was never talked about. As a first-generation college student, the dialogue in my home was not one that included a college education.

I was a married, mother at 20, and stay-at-home mother for 10 years. My family moved from Minnesota to Toronto then finally to Maine. I thought I was doing the right things.

I met Teri at the Houlton Higher Education Program; I was 27. I was nervous and ashamed to have so little education and no support from my spouse. Teri assisted me with filling out financial aid information. I had never seen a tax document or FAFSA in my life. Teri helped show me how to apply to the nursing program and answered a thousand questions. This was a first step of many, and I took it with much trepidation. The support I received was pivotal for me to be able to feel empowered and brave enough to try to go to college as an adult.

The student loans enabled me to pay for classes, gas to commute, and a babysitter for my daughters.

When I got my first A on a paper, I cried in class. Then I got that second and third A, then Dean's list. I was the peer nominated speaker during our pinning ceremony. Me, someone who had graduated high school in ragged flip flops while couch surfing. I felt unstoppable, proud, and humbled. I was creating a new life for myself and a dialogue at home for my daughters to hear. I was breaking a generational cycle. With my education and ability to make my own money, I was also able to leave an abusive marriage and become independent.

My career as an RN has had times of struggle, growth, and success. I take immense pride in my work and feel a sense of duty to ensure the people are receiving exemplary care. Having the privilege of being trusted in people's lives during moments of vulnerability is an honor. Part of my current role involves working with patients on preventative care. To watch patients physically transform and also change their mindsets around their chronic health conditions, fills me with joy.

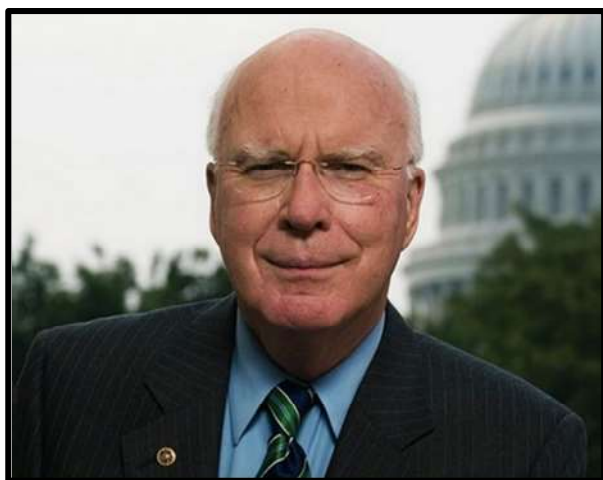
I am currently working towards receiving my PhD in Nursing. I want to know more, to grow my critical thinking skills and be part of a program that teaches me how to be a leader for the patients in this rural and underserved community. To be able to give back to a community at a micro and macro level is intensely meaningful to me. This journey would have never been possible without the programs offered through Houlton Higher Ed. The support, encouragement and funding are a beacon of hope for people. I am honored to have been a part of it and am intensely grateful for the opportunity it has given to me and my daughters.



The Claiborne Pell Award is established to recognize those rare individuals whose pioneering leadership and vision have made an indelible mark on the struggle for equal educational opportunity. It was Pell's leadership and vision that led to the creation of the Basic Educational Opportunity Grant (BEOG). Now called the Pell Grant, the BEOG was designed to be the backbone of the federal government's financial aid program. Pell recognized that the future of the country was dependent on an investment in the development of low-income students.

The Pell Award is given to individuals whose work the President, and the Board of Directors believe is breaking new ground in the effort to provide greater educational opportunity to people from low-income backgrounds. The Board considers the following criteria:

- Vision - conceiving innovative future solutions to problems.
- Leadership - is able to bring together a broad-based coalition to implement solutions
- Broad Impact - large numbers of students are affected by the individual's work; institutions are also impacted.



Senator Leahy has done everything the TRIO Community has asked of him since he arrived in Congress in 1974 and worked closely with Senator Claiborne Pell. Not only has he supported our programs, but he has continually reached out to our programs supporting students' post-secondary goals. Senator Leahy is a firm believer in the importance of a college education, as well as the doors it can open for a person's future. He believes no student should be denied the opportunities of a college education because of their family's financial resources. That is why Senator Leahy is a consistent supporter of financial aid programs and providing students with access to affordable loans, increasing funding for Pell Grants and

federal work-study programs.

Senator Leahy believes that the federal government must rise to the challenge and improve our financial aid programs to ensure that college is an affordable option for all qualified students. He was proud to cosponsor the Bank on Students Emergency Loan Refinancing Act, which would have provided for the refinancing of certain federal student loans, and he was also a proud cosponsor of the Student Loan Affordability Act, which would have extended reduced interest rates for recipients of Federal Direct Stafford Loans.

Senator Leahy has long supported the TRIO and GEAR UP programs and their efforts to increase disadvantage students' secondary school completion and postsecondary enrollment. Additionally, as this award is named for, he has been a pivotal supporter of the PELL Grant. The Federal Pell Grant Program authorized by the Higher Education Act (HEA) is the single largest source of grant aid for post-secondary education. Pell Grants are need-based aid intended to be the foundation for all federal student aid awarded to undergraduates. Senator Leahy has vigorously fought for funding and support for the Pell Grant Program.



Each time a VEOP, TRIO or GEAR UP program visits DC, Senator Leahy always takes time to meet with our students, whether it is the National Policy Seminar or talking to 200 Upward Bound students on a Leadership Trip to the Nation's Capital. Not only does he show up, but he engages the students, tells them stories and supports their goal to become the first in their families to attend college. In my years with TRIO and attending the National Policy Seminar – there was only one time when he missed our appointment – that was the day he was standing next to President Obama as he signed the Affordable Care Act!

In 2016 the NEOA TRIO Day was hosted in Vermont. United States Senator Patrick Leahy attended the conference, spoke to more than 600 students, posed for pictures with every student who asked him and also talked with several students about his role in the Batman Movies! He captivated students, he encouraged them to follow their educational path and encouraged them to take responsibility to make the most of their TRIO experience.

This is the type of person Senator Leahy is – a caring, involved, and very thoughtful citizen of Vermont and an outstanding national representative for educational opportunity programs. And as Senator Leahy announced his retirement at the end of his term, this award is a very fitting “thank you” to one of our strongest supporters.

Senator Leahy 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. He is the senior-most member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and of the Senate Agriculture Committee. Leahy is the Ranking Member of the Appropriations Subcommittee on State Department, Foreign Operations and Related Programs. He ranks first in seniority in the Senate



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.



Congresswoman Katherine Clark proudly serves the Fifth District of Massachusetts. She was first elected in a special election in December of 2013.

Katherine's career in public service is driven by her commitment to helping children and families succeed. She is a vocal advocate for ending wage discrimination, protecting women's health care, access to affordable, high-quality childcare, paid family leave, safer schools, and other reforms to address the challenges women and families face. She believes that Congress must work to end the glaring disconnect between the needs of families at home and priorities in Washington.

In Congress, she brings her experience as a state senator, state representative, general counsel for the Massachusetts Office of Child Care Services, and policy chief for the state attorney general.

Katherine represents a diverse district comprised of 24 cities and towns that stretch from the coastal communities of Revere and Winthrop through the economic engine of MetroWest.

In fall 2020, she was elected by her colleagues to serve as Assistant Speaker of the 117th Congress after serving as the Vice Chair of the House Democratic Caucus during the previous session. Additionally, she serves as a member of the Steering and Policy Committee within the Caucus.

Katherine is a member of the U.S. House Committee on Appropriations and three subcommittees within Appropriations: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies; Legislative Branch; and Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies.

Katherine is a proud member of several caucuses in Congress, including the Congressional Progressive Caucus and the Women's Caucus.

Katherine, her husband Rodney, and their three children Addison, Riley, and Nathaniel live in Melrose.



About the Marion Belgrave-Howard Award

In 1976, Marion Belgrave-Howard served as the first President of the New England Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (NEAEOPP), which became the New England Educational Opportunity Association, (NEOA). This award is to individuals for their “inspiring and enduring contributions toward the achievement of NEOA’s mission and toward the expansion of equal educational opportunity.”



Education has been an important part of my life. Coming from a low-income family in rural northern Maine, I was the first person in my family to earn a college degree. I always knew I wanted to go to college; I didn’t know how the process worked but knew it would happen. After earning a bachelor’s degree in Political Studies from the University of Maine Presque Isle, I found myself applying for a position as Education Advisor with the Maine Educational Talent Search (METS) Program. I thought I could help others preparing for college. I worked with METS for six years.

I left TRIO for five years but learned it was to be my career. When the University of Maine Presque Isle (UMPI) Upward Bound Program sought a new Director, I knew it was for me. During this period, I grew the UB program, increasing both funding and the number of students. I implemented home visits with each family to ensure we were working together for the student. I then began to look for ways to expand my knowledge and expertise. Thus began my involvement with NEOA (NEAEOPP at the time. I spent

several years on the NEOA Board as President of the Maine Association, liaison, and conference chair. I was eventually elected President-Elect of NEOA and sat on the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) Board of Directors. I served three years on the COE Board and chaired the Bylaws Committee that oversaw significant changes. I chaired the first national conference after 9/11 in Washington DC. During the time I was engaged with NEOA and COE, I spent considerable time, locally and in Washington DC, talking with elected officials about the importance of TRIO Programs and the need for increased funding.

I was next hired and began overseeing TERI’s TRIO Programs; two Talent Search, one Upward Bound and two EOCs, along with GEAR UP and a College Planning Center. Seven years later, my team of about 30 managers and education advisors moved to American Student Assistance (ASA). I was with ASA for another six years before retiring. While at ASA, I successfully wrote a funding proposal for a new EOC.

Over my TRIO career, I have written many TRIO funding proposals and oversaw programs that assisted thousands of students and adults and their families. Growing up in rural Maine I saw the limited options for hard-working and minimally educated people and I know that if not for education, that too would be me.

I retired from ASA in 2018 and relocated to St Augustine, Florida. Here I’ve engaged with the American Association of University Women (AAUW), St Augustine Branch serving as secretary and Co-President. I’m a member of the Democratic Women’s Club of St Johns County and treasurer for the Democratic Women’s Club of Florida, Region V. I’ve worked the polls in both the 2018 and 2020 elections and am the secretary of the Covenants Committee of our Condo Owners Association. Life in retirement is busy!





Marian Belgrave-Howard was born in Harlem during the Great Depression. Her birth mother died when she was eight months old and she was adopted by a loving couple, eventually moved to Greenwich, CT where she grew up. She tried one year of college after high school and decided that she had other adventures to pursue at that time. She returned to NY City to work at the Children's Aid Society in East Harlem for 12 years. Deciding then that earning a degree was essential for her professional paths, she returned to Southern Connecticut State College in her early 30's focusing in education, sociology, and psychology. Working in their admissions department after graduation introduced her to TRIO people and programs. She became the Director of the Connecticut Talent Assistance Cooperative, Inc. (CONNTAC) TRIO Educational Talent Search (ETS) project from 1970 to

1978. In 1976 she became the first President of the New England Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (NEAEOPP.) Marian was central to the organizing and development of NEAEOPP in coordination and collaboration with Dr. Arnold L. Mitchem, Maureen Hoyler, and many others at the national and regional levels. In 1999 the name was streamlined to the New England Educational Opportunity Association and our familiar NEOA.

Since 1991, an award has been bestowed in Marian's name 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." However, Marian was not aware of the Award in her name until she was located by organizers of the annual NEOA Conference in April, 2014 slated for Bridgeport, CT. Being an East Hartford, CT resident, she was delighted to attend that Conference with her daughter Claudine. Ever since then she has renewed her bonds with our TRIO family and has joyfully participated in multiple NEOA and CT events. She continues to feel humbled in seeing her named Award bestowed upon so many wonderful professionals who have had a deep impact on so many other students and peers.



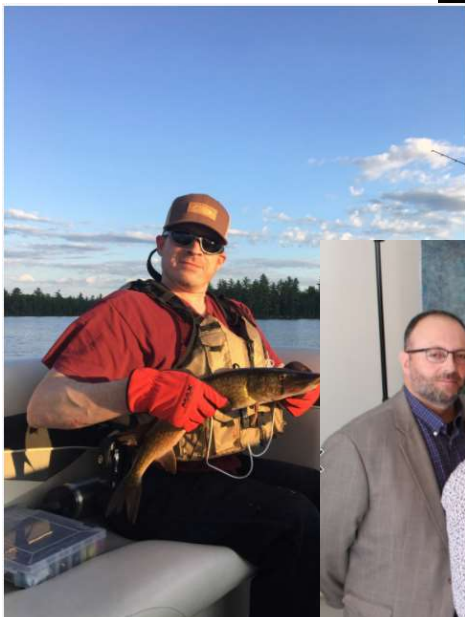


Casey Henderson is the Technology Coordinator of the Educational Opportunity Center and Educational Talent Search programs at the University of Maine (METS and MEOC).

Casey was born and raised in Houlton Maine, with two parents who worked in secondary education. During college, Casey worked at Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math-Science. After graduating from the University of Maine in 2002, Casey found his way to METS and MEOC. In 2011 Casey completed a second bachelor's degree in Business Administration. In 2005, Casey took over the role of Technology Chair for NEOA and has since made it his own. Anybody who has attended either an NEOA or MEEOA event since 2005 has probably been either directly or indirectly a beneficiary of Casey's quiet brand of leadership. Casey also was a

participant in the Arnold Mitchem Leadership Institute in 2016-2017.

In his free time, Casey enjoys spending time with his family, his cat Bernadette, testing out new recipes, and fishing.





Born in Charleston, South Carolina, Richard Haynes was a first-generation student who was strongly encouraged by his middle school teacher to continue his education. He earned a BFA from Lehman College, and an MFA from Pratt Institute after serving in the Air Force during the Vietnam war.

Richard is the recipient of the President's Excellence through Diversity Staff Award, the Social Justice Award, and the Presidential Staff Award of Excellence, at the University of New Hampshire; the NEACAC IDEAL Award; the Baha'i Faith Vision of Race Unity Award; New Hampshire Magazine Best of New Hampshire *Renaissance Man* (with a citation from New Hampshire Governor Craig R. Benson); and the

2003 Individual Artist Fellowship from the New Hampshire State Council on the Arts, State of New Hampshire and the National Endowment for the Arts. He was also a nominee for Educator of the Year Award at McIntosh College where he was a professor.

Richard is a renowned artist, nationally recognized for his paintings and photographs. His work is in the permanent collections of the Currier Museum of Art, Historic New England, Massachusetts General Hospital, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Proctor Academy, the University of New Hampshire, and many other public and private collections. He has been an artist-in-residence in New Hampshire public schools, *Historic New England*, University of New Hampshire, and the Currier Museum of Art. Additionally, Richard is cited in and has contributed to the following published works: "Regalia, Native American Dance," "Strawberry Bank, A Seaport Museum 400 Years in the Making", "Portsmouth Unabridged: New Poems for an Old City," and "The Great Shape Hunt".

His work derives from memory and nostalgia, brightly colored with undeniable hope. Like Walt Whitman, Richard celebrates what it means to be an American in an era of significant National transformation. Like Whitman, Richard tells our stories. Unlike Whitman, he does so not with words, but using shape and hues. It is a style that is instantly familiar yet surprisingly new.

A sought-after speaker, Richard enjoys the ability to inform others about the importance of educating the young and letting them know that they can do the impossible - "Never say Never." It is his determination to continuously reach out to students to help them in issues shaping their educational endeavors. Richard does not hesitate to tell young people the truth of what they must do so they can become successful in life. He has inspired students to believe in themselves and stay in school.

"Higher education is a must" is the message Richard Haynes gives to all students. His ability to connect with students is unmatched, and his insight has touched many. He becomes a mentor to the students he meets, and Richard's passion for all young people to succeed is undeniable. Through encouragement, he has inspired many to go to college.

Richard is currently the Associate Director of Admissions for Diversity at the University of New Hampshire.



Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute

Established in 1998, the Arnold L. Mitchem 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 14 members a year-long 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 educational 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. The Leadership Institute occurs once every two years and 2021 marked the completion of its 16th year.



Designing Curriculum to Align with Early College and Career Planning

Learn how to use an online tool to assist students with identifying their individual interests and skills at an earlier age in order to enhance the relevance of their learning opportunities, their opportunity to build skills such as self-exploration and career exploration and planning, and to align those interests and skills with a solid, informed, postsecondary plan. This session will highlight and exhibit online activities that participants can use to help students to align themselves to an educational and workforce plan that fits them best. The use of structured lesson plans and activities in a virtual workshop setting will be highlighted.

Location: *Warner*

Presenters: **Jennifer Bento- Pinyoun**, Director and Manager, MEFA Pathways, MA Education Finance Authority, and **Apelila Joseph**, MEFA Program Manager

Elevating TRIO Through Financial Literacy & Career Development

This interactive workshop will focus on how, in a post-pandemic world, participants can provide sustainable tools for their students to become financially literate and develop pathways to secure financial stability while in, after, and attending postsecondary study. Learn how to make Financial Literacy an engaging and hands on experience for your students. By focusing on entrepreneurship and technology, participants will leave with interactive and engaging resources that will help to prepare students for post-secondary study and additional career options, while also increasing their annual student participation.

Location: *Wentworth*

Presenter: **James Prince, Jr.**, Director, TRIO Partnerships, Nucleus Courses

Not a Waste of Time: Become a Better Presenter

“Well, that was a waste of time!” Have you ever feared people would say that when you present? Participants will have the opportunity to think about how they present, understand key questions to consider when planning a presentation, and discuss and learn strategies for making presentations and workshops more engaging and impactful for attendees, whether you are presenting to a group of 10 or 100.

Location: *Harbor's Edge*

Presenter: **Matt Beagle Bourgault**, Director, Talent Search, VSAC

#GenZ: The Final Generation

Come and learn about Generation Z and why they are known as “The Final Generation” from a #GenZ presenter. What are their characteristics? What drives them? How do they differ from other generations? How can you effectively educate, motivate, and relate to them if you are a Millennial or Gen Xer? This session is geared towards those who works with #GenZ and wants to better understand, connect with, and support them.

Location: *Lear*

Presenter: **Bryan Landgren**, Academic Counselor, UB, Suffolk University

Understanding the Racial Wealth Gap in America

What is the racial wealth gap in America and how does it impact our lives? As housing, rent, and food prices soar in our communities, how can we prepare our TRIO students and staff to build generational wealth? Join us for a vibrant, fun and interactive session full of proven, wealth-building strategies that every TRIO student

Location: *Prescott*

Presenter: **Robert Dais**, Director Statewide GEAR UP MA, DHE



The Future of Higher Ed/Postsecondary Ed: Re-Emerging from the Pandemic

The pandemic has challenged countless TRIO and GEAR UP projects in the areas of recruitment, service delivery, equity, as well as meeting project goals and objectives. Our projects are being challenged by dynamics that may be out of our control, like demographics, pandemic reverberations (food and housing insecurities, mental health decline, vaccination protocols), economic recession, qualified staffing, etc. We'll take a closer look at each of these issues, how they're trending in the various New England states and, through a facilitated discussion format, share what projects are experiencing and how they're managing (or not) to meet their project's goals and objectives. Participants should be prepared to share what's trending in their states. This session will present a birds-eye view of each New England state's data, current and projected, relevant to serving our TRIO and GEAR UP clientele.

Location: *Woodbury*

Presenter: **Mark Bilotta**, CEO, MassEdCO

High Impact Retention Practices and How to Implement Them

Effective retention at any college or university equals success – ideally progression toward graduation – academically and socially. What drives higher retention is easy to articulate but hard to do well. This is hard work. This workshop will 1) outline documented high impact retention practices (HIRP), and 2) introduce a Retention Self-Assessment Survey (RSAS) process that can lead to higher retention and thus “total” success for all concerned.

Location: *Gardner*

Presenters: **David Johnston & Alan Kramer**, Center for higher Ed Retention Excellence

StudentAccess: The Leader in TRIO Software

What is StudentAccess and how can it help you manage your participant data? Used by many TRIO and GEAR UP projects across the nation, StudentAccess allows you to efficiently manage data, create custom reports and online applications, and keep in contact with your participants. StudentAccess follows the Department of Education reporting requirements for all grant types, ensuring Annual Performance Report data is up to date.

Location: *Amphitheater*

Presenters: **Alex Grote**, Vice President, Heiberg Consulting, Inc.

Terri Morgan, Senior Director of Programs, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Suamy Ventura, Director, Upward Bound, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Senior Survival Assessment and Feedback Circles

Have you ever wondered if your student has the skills and confidence to be successful in their freshman year of college? Invite them to take this assessment and find out! An assessment developed by this presenter will cover topics like GRIT, study skills, financial literacy, emotional intelligence, and interpersonal skills.

Location: *Riverwatch*

Presenter: **Monda Kelley**, Talent Search Counselor, VSAC



Wednesday, April 13

3:30PM – 4:45PM

Concurrent Session II

Grounding Our Students: Emotional Safety in the College Application Process

We know that students want to go to college, but when it's time to do the work, we see some not fully engaged or opt-out altogether. In this session, participants will learn the components of our nervous system, how it can help identify when students fight, flee, or freeze in the college application process, and how we can help students resolve what feels “scary”. Participants will learn to include mental well-being in the conversation as they assist students in designing and executing their dreams and leave with a strategy toolkit to lead students back to emotional safety so they can confidently apply to the school of their dreams.

Location: *Wentworth*

Presenter: **Tiffany Green**, Founder/CEO, Uprooted Academy

Target Audience: ETS; GEAR UP; Upward Bound; Upward Bound/Math-Science; Gateway to College; Middle/High School Personnel

What If College Isn't the Plan? Creating Alternative Career Paths for Students

If you work for Upward Bound, Talent Search, GEAR UP, or other access programs, your goal is to get students into college. But what do you do in an upside down, almost post-pandemic world when college may not be the best plan for every student? In this workshop, we will explore other career pathways and resources for students, including community partners. We will also discuss what this means for the future of TRIO and other programs like it. Join us for this important and valuable conversation.

Location: *Lear*

Presenter: **Christine Scafidi**, MA Dept. of Higher Education

STEM 3d Design and Print: Designing the Future

In this hands-on session, you will learn 3d design and print your own 3d designs live. We will start with TinkerCAD, learn materials, printers, and software that can be used through this project, which connects relevant career fields, university studies, and STEM in one workshop.

Location: *Gardner*

Presenters: **Chris Scott**, Director, Woven Learning and Technology

Target Audience: ETS; GEAR UP; Upward Bound; Upward Bound/Math-Science; Gateway to College; Middle/High School Personnel



Wednesday, April 13 3:30PM – 4:45PM

Concurrent Session II - Continued

Cultivating Virtual Community Amongst BIPOC Students in a Pandemic

It can be challenging to develop a deep sense of belonging and community through virtual programming, especially for BIPOC students who encounter myriad systemic inequities in our educational system. Through small group discussion and surveys, participants will learn how to identify the most effective strategies for engaging BIPOC students virtually while cultivating a strong sense of community within a cohort of students. The presenters, who have first-hand experience working with BIPOC students through the Institute of Recruitment of Teachers (IRT), will share how they developed an interpersonal, virtual engagement process between students, advisors, and faculty and facilitated more access to a consortium of graduate school deans and administrators. IRT supports over 100 BIPOC students across the country and internationally each year as they pursue graduate degrees

Location: *Amphitheater*

Presenters: **Brittany Zorn** and **Leslie Godo-Solo**, Institute for the Recruitment of Teachers, Phillips Academy

New Rules: FAFSA Changes are Coming

As we settle into our new normal, we will eventually have to get used to a new financial aid application process as well. This session covers the latest in pending changes to federal student aid programs focusing on the changes that will impact TRIO and GEAR UP students most, including the simplified FAFSA, the new SAI instead of EFC, and Pell Grant and Direct Loan eligibility.

Location: *Warner*

Presenter: **Joanne Dashiell**, Chief Marketing Officer
Tuition Plan Consortium/Private College 529 Plan

Put Your Head into It: Brain Science Strategies for Student Engagement

When it comes to college prep and success for students, put your head into it! Integrating brain science into your curriculum and workshops can have a dynamic impact on engagement, deeper learning, and overall success. This interactive session combines discussion with hands-on, brain-centered activities to demonstrate innovative strategies for mindful student instruction. Discover best practices for incorporating neuroscience into curriculum, assessments, and engagement activities.

Location: *Riverwatch*

Presenter: **Aimee Gutowski**, Co-founder & co-owner of DreamCatcher Curriculum LLC



Not Just Numbers: Using Data for Meaningful Program Change

Logic Models. Evaluation Plans. Now what? This interactive session will help participants explore how they can use data they already collect to inform programmatic change and tell compelling stories. Participants will also look at new methods to easily collect, manage, and analyze data to drive decision making and share information with stakeholders. No statistical knowledge or passion for data necessary.

Location: *Harbor's Edge*

Presenter: **Elyse Pratt-Ronco**, Asst Director, UB, University of Maine at Farmington

Getting Students to Events in the New Normal

Covid didn't change our need to engage students, just how we do that. This is a highly interactive session where Paradigm Shift shares the best strategies for improving event attendance and engagement in 2022 and beyond. Three lucky programs in attendance will receive free promotional videos for their summer programs.

Location: *Woodbury*

Presenters: **Kyle Price** and **Emma Baker**, Head Trainer and Lead Facilitator, Paradigm Shift

Learn How to Connect Your Students to the Internet for Free

We will give an overview of Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), our Internet Essentials and Xfinity Mobile offers. We will also run through the Internet Essentials application/ACP sign up process, and provide additional resources that you can use to help sign students and families up for the program.

Location: *Prescott*

Presenter: **Fernando Cardenas**, Director of Partnerships Development, Comcast Internet Essentials Program and Lift Zones Initiative



Student Persistence for Life

This presenter, a leader in TRIO for over a decade, has just completed a dissertation study on determining how protective factors, specifically sense of belonging and self-efficacy, impacted persistence of low-income, first-generation college students from rural communities (LIFGRS). Participants will learn how institutional practice can foster self-efficacy and sense of belonging among LIFGRS to help them persist beyond the first year of college and through graduation, despite the barriers they have faced, including COVID-19. Participants will hear a brief interactive presentation of this research focusing on what was learned from the voices of the 10 students who were interviewed for the study. Expect to leave with a greater understanding of how our students overcome obstacles in the face of adversity, how the needs of low-income first-generation college students compare whether they are from rural or urban communities, and how institutions, faculty/staff, and those that support these students can help them to not only survive but thrive!

Location: *Wentworth*

Presenter: **Melissa Goyait** Assistant Director, TS, UNH

The Top 10 Side Hustles for Students in 2021

Do you have a side hustle? I'll bet your students do! The pandemic has created more financial strain than ever before, so most students are looking for a flexible, side hustle to earn money. This engaging session will show you the Top 10 Side Hustles for Students in 2021 and teach you how to guide students to maximize their earning potential both now and in their future careers.

Location: *Warner*

Presenter: **Robert Dais**, Director, Statewide GEAR UP, MA Dept. Of Higher Education

The Diverse Student's Experience

Today, universities and colleges invest thousands of dollars to increase the diversity of their student population and create elaborate campaigns to promote diversity on campus, despite not always having the fundamental groundwork and structures in place to fully provide support, services, and programs for many of our students once they get there. Today's session takes an integrative approach to exploring the diverse student's experience, in order to gain a better understanding of the challenges and successes that BIPOC students, students who can be classified as low-income on their FAFSAs, and first-generation college students experience while they navigate the higher education system. This session aims to provide how-to's to better support, serve, and celebrate the diverse student's experience. Join to learn and share best practices, knowledge, strategies, and our own experiences on how to better support this inspiring student population.

Location: *Lear*

Presenter: **Marianne Calara**, Assistant Director, Bowdoin College

What Now? Incorporating Mental Health Resources within Upward Bound

Prioritizing social emotional learning and access to mental health resources is critical to the success of pre-college programs and the students they work with. The impact of the pandemic is long lasting, but educators have the obligation to ensure that students have a chance for college access and opportunity. The workshop will provide attendees with examples of SEL curricular and extracurricular programming, including adding a summer wellness staff position.

Location: *Riverwatch*

Presenter: Reggie Jean, Boston University Upward Bound



TRIO Jeopardy

Can you name all five TRIO alumni serving in the U.S. Congress? What IS advocacy, anyway? Am I even allowed to do it? Designed for both beginners and more experienced TRIO professionals, this fun, interactive session breaks down the political process, provides the latest information about what's happening on Capitol Hill, and gives you the tools you need to advocate successfully for TRIO.

Location: *Amphitheater*

Presenter: **Kimberly Jones**, Executive VP, Council for Opportunity in Education

Let's Talk Grief w/ Marti

This workshop was developed to help professionals understand the impact of grief on the lives of those with whom we work and those who we serve as TRIO & GEAR UP professionals. The goal is to begin to comprehend the importance of being trauma informed in our work, and to understand what grief is, how it shows up in our lives, where it comes from, its impact, and how we manage grief. Participants will gain an understanding of how grief impacts others, and intersects with education and training, career aspiration, and general life choices. The “who what where why and how” of grief support will also be addressed. The workshop is not intended to teach in-depth concepts about grief. The hope is that it will move participants to seek more in-depth knowledge about being a trauma-informed professional.

Location: *Woodbury*

Presenter: **Marti Kingsley**, EOC Counselor, VSAC

Planting Gardens of Support

This session provides an opportunity for colleagues to get creative while having informal time to talk about their programs, institutions, best practices, and lessons learned. Our discussion will be organic - literally and figuratively - as participants will each “make your own plant” to take back to your office. Our goals are to plant seeds for student success, get creative and sprout some ideas together.

Location: *Prescott*

Presenter: **Kristen Arnold**, Director, SSS, Northern Essex Community College

Target SSS; College Personnel

Audience:

Advancing Opportunities for Multilingual Learners and Students with Disabilities

In this session, we will share how our Talent Search program uses research and data to develop and implement equity-minded and anti-racist programming to multilingual learners and students with disabilities. We will share lessons learned, how we responded, and what this has taught us about our communities.

Location: *Harbor's Edge*

Presenters: **Mai Pham**, Assistant Director, TS, UMass Boston

Andrea Dawes, Senior Director of Programs and Partnerships, UMass Boston

Lorena Fuentes-Lopez, Director of Pathways and Multilingual Programs, UMass Boston

Target ETS; GEAR UP; Upward Bound; UBMS; Gateway to College; middle-high

Audience: school, personnel





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 1976, NEOA has membership of more than 300 educators throughout the six New England states: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont.

Over 125 federally funded educational opportunity programs assisting almost 50,000 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 of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel.

What We Do

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



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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Karen Madden

Student Support Services 2001 to 2021

While working on my dissertation, I applied for and was hired for a one-year position as the Academic Skills Advisor at Johnson State College in July 2002. I spent twenty-one wonderful years working with dedicated colleagues and amazing students. After a few years, I “jumped” in with both feet and served as an officer in both VEOP and NEOA.

Terry Callahan convinced me to follow in her footsteps and run for the VEOP presidency and two years later, Linda Shiller persuaded me I was ready to run for President of NEOA. I served as VEOP president for two years from 2006 to 2008. I learned a lot from my colleagues and enjoyed this new kind of responsibility. I began my tenure as NEOA president-elect in September 2008, President in September 2009

and completed my work on the NEOA Board as past president in August 2011.

I have enjoyed serving on the NEOA Board in various positions including Finance Chair for many years, NEOA Conference co-chair twice and a few other roles to support the work of NEOA.

My three years on the COE Board was one of the best learning experiences in my career. I have enjoyed working with so many colleagues across the country. I served on various committees to support the work of COE. I also worked with Maureen Hoyler and Board members to help develop some online training opportunities.

My most rewarding experience was to serve as the Political Advocacy Chair for VEOP. The work was always easy because we have such strong supporters in Senator Leahy, Senator Sanders, and Congressman Welch. Every one of the Education Aides, was an amazing advocate for Vermonters and developed strong connections to Vermont TRIO programs.





Randy Schroeder

Student Support Services 1997 to 2021

Randy retired from the University of New Hampshire in July 2021 after 35+ years as an academic counselor, program director, and administrator. It was critical to his professional paths that he left UNH twice and kept returning, the second time to TRIO Student Support Services with Len Lamberti in 1997 and never looked back. He relished his training through the UNH Counseling Center and individual student support work. He was fortunate to also have the roles as math instructor and tutor and developed multiple services and programs for students taking the GRE and preparing for graduate school and creating/editing personal statements. UNH is home to four TRIO Programs, and Randy feels blessed to have served as an Upward Bound teacher and ECLIPSE Coach, as a McNair Instructor for 23 years, and many roles with Educational Talent Search. He cherished his

relationships with the many wonderful TRIO folks past and present at UNH. Randy was chosen as NEOA President-Elect in 2013 and served four years on the COE Board of Directors opening all kinds of big doors for connecting with TRIO Alumni, cultivating rich relationships with TRIO folk all over the country, and honing his legislative advocacy skills.

Randy fell in love with the energy of TRIO Day in 2012 and continued to be a part of it ever since that fun February in Connecticut. He's been very fortunate to continue serving on the NEOA Board this year as Alumni Chair, being involved in planning the annual NEOA Conference for this month and continuing with photographing TRIO people and events. He continues to do pro bono work with some of his UNH students and alumni.

Randy makes his home close by North Beach in New Hampshire where 'everybody' surfs, so he's followed the pull of the ocean nearby on his long board. He also immersed in a nearby hot yoga studio along with his Planet Fitness Black Card membership and the stunning bike rides on Route 1A along the scenic NH coastline. His summer gardens get more of his attention now as do his nearby grandchildren. He recently returned from travel to Denmark and Barcelona, Spain and has set his sights on Cuba and other Spanish-speaking cultures.

A big believer in *TRIO Works!*, Randy continues to feel huge gratitude for his many, many wonderful relationships and experiences.





Ann Buskey

Student Support Services, Middlesex CC

Ann Buskey will retire this year from the position of Director of the TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) Program at Middlesex Community College in Lowell and Bedford, Massachusetts. Prior to this position, Ann was Director of TRIO Programs and Services at the college and oversaw the SSS, Talent Search and Upward Bound Programs. Ann began her TRIO career in 2000, participated in the NEOA Leadership Institute in 2001-2002, and has worked with over 2000 low income, first generation high school and college students, and individuals with disabilities.

Before joining TRIO, Ann served as the Executive Director of two School to Work Partnership Programs based at Middlesex that supported over 20 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. Her earlier

work includes teaching in the K-12 system, working as a Legislative Aide at the Massachusetts State House, and serving as an elected member of her community's School Committee.

Ann has worked with school and legislative leaders, community organizations, and colleagues to deliver exceptional service to the students, the college, and the region, and has supervised over 200 full- and part-time professionals, as well as numerous student employees. She is retiring with over 35 years of experience in public service. TRIO has provided her many rewards especially watching her students continue to reach their educational, personal, and professional goals including many individuals who are now employed at the college as faculty members and advisors.

Ann holds a master's degree in Education from Tufts University and a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education/Journalism from Suffolk University. She is a Board-Certified Life Coach, a Myers-Briggs Type Indicator® Step I™ and II™ Practitioner (*MBTI*®), a True Colors® Personal Success and Teambuilding facilitator, Seven Habits of Highly Effective People® facilitator at Middlesex Community College, Narrative 4 Story Exchange facilitator, and an Energy Leadership Index™ Master Practitioner.

Upon retirement, Ann plans to provide coaching and consulting on a part-time basis allowing time for travel, gardening, her family, and continuing her life-long learning journey.





Dr. Bidya Ranjeet

Dr. Bidya Ranjeet has dedicated her entire career to advancing educational access and equity. After earning a bachelor's degree in education from Tribhuvan University in Nepal, she began teaching at Siddhartha Vanasthali High School before co-founding, at age 24, the Indreni Elementary School in Kathmandu, where she was also Principal. Indreni provided quality education to students from all ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds, along with full

scholarships to support students whose families could not afford tuition.

At age 27, Bidya left Nepal for the United States to earn a graduate degree in education at the University of Connecticut. It was as a graduate assistant with the Center for Academic Programs (CAP) that she found the department which would become her home and passion for the next thirty years. Bidya held many positions within CAP, including graduate assistant, Upward Bound advisor, Student Support Services counselor, Upward Bound director, SSS director, and eventually CAP and McNair Scholars director.

Through her work at the University, Bidya has been integral in providing access to higher education for students from Connecticut's urban centers. She has made significant contributions to the University's mission of promoting diversity through her collaboration with other campus departments, and by developing innovative programming to aid in the retention and graduation of low-income and first-generation students. Her commitment to students extends beyond just ensuring their success at the University; she is the primary force behind the creation of the UConn SSS Education Abroad Programs, which has provided hundreds of students with life transformative education.

Bidya has served as President of the Asian American Faculty and Staff Association at the University and the Nepali Women Global Network, and as Senior Vice President of the Non-Resident Nepali National Coordinating Council, USA. Her volunteer and professional involvement in these organizations, and her tireless advocacy on behalf of advancing the interests of underrepresented groups within her local and the world-wide South Asian communities, has provided countless people with opportunities to learn, grow, and improve their lives.

Bidya's efforts extend to scholarly contributions as well. She co-authored a chapter, "Creating Study Abroad Opportunities for First-Generation College Students," in *The Handbook of Practice and Research in Study Abroad*. She is also one of the first Nepali women living in America to shed light on issues confronting women of South Asian heritage. Her academic work on these topics can be found in her contributions to two anthologies, *Body Evidence* and *Living our Religion*.





Mrs. Awilda Saavedra- Reasco

Director of Central Connecticut State University's Pre-Collegiate and Access Services.

Mrs. Awilda S. Reasco has 35 years of experience in public schools and higher education. She is the Director of Pre-Collegiate and Access Services at Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) which houses Educational Opportunity Program, (EOP) and Central's Academic Readiness and Engagement Program, (CARE Scholars). Mrs. Reasco leads a college preparatory program for high school seniors who have the potential and

desire to attend the university, but do not meet the university's regular admissions standards. CCSU's college preparatory program provides academic preparation to do college level work, courses in personal and professional growth. Also, she directed an Upward Bound, ConnCAP, Airbridge Program, and a Saturday New Britain Mathematical Program for middle schooler at the CCSU.

Mrs. Reasco served as the Special Counsel to the President on Latino Affairs and Chair of the Latino Administrators at CCSU. She has been appointed by the Governor Lamont to serve as a Commissioner for the Connecticut State of Education and served on the Latino and Puerto Rican Affairs Commission.

Mrs. Reasco participates in several community service groups involving race relations, YWCA, consultant on diversity issues, member of the Connecticut Association of Latin American in Higher Education, and member of Connecticut Association of Educational Opportunity Program (CAEOP). She has been the recipient of awards by the YWCA with the Women Leadership Award, the CCSU chapter of the NAACP with the Dedication Awards, Advisor of the Year for CCSU's Latin American Student Organization and Career Beginnings Community award, member of the National Education Opportunity Program, and 50th Anniversary Educational Opportunity Program Award. She is a strong advocate for first generation and low-income students and under-represented populations along with their families.

Mrs. Reasco earned a B.A. in psychology from Central Connecticut State University, and M.S. in Social Work- Administration from the University of Connecticut.

She is married to Carlos and has a daughter (Kayla). She enjoys dancing to all types of music, reading, swimming, attending church, and spending time with her family and friends.





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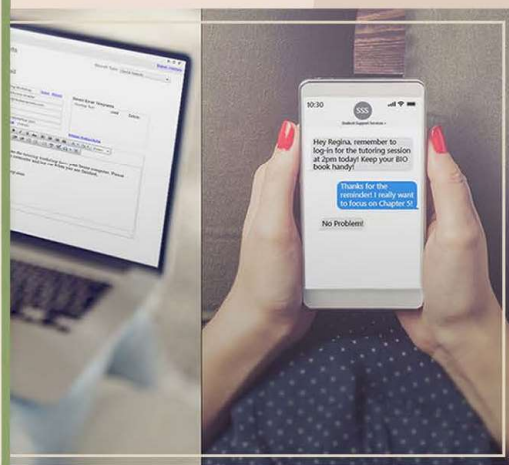
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Congratulations to former CAP director

Dr. Bidya Ranjeet

on her recent retirement after over 30 years of
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The CAP staff is forever grateful to Bidya for her
leadership, passion, innovation, and tireless
advocacy on behalf of CAP students.



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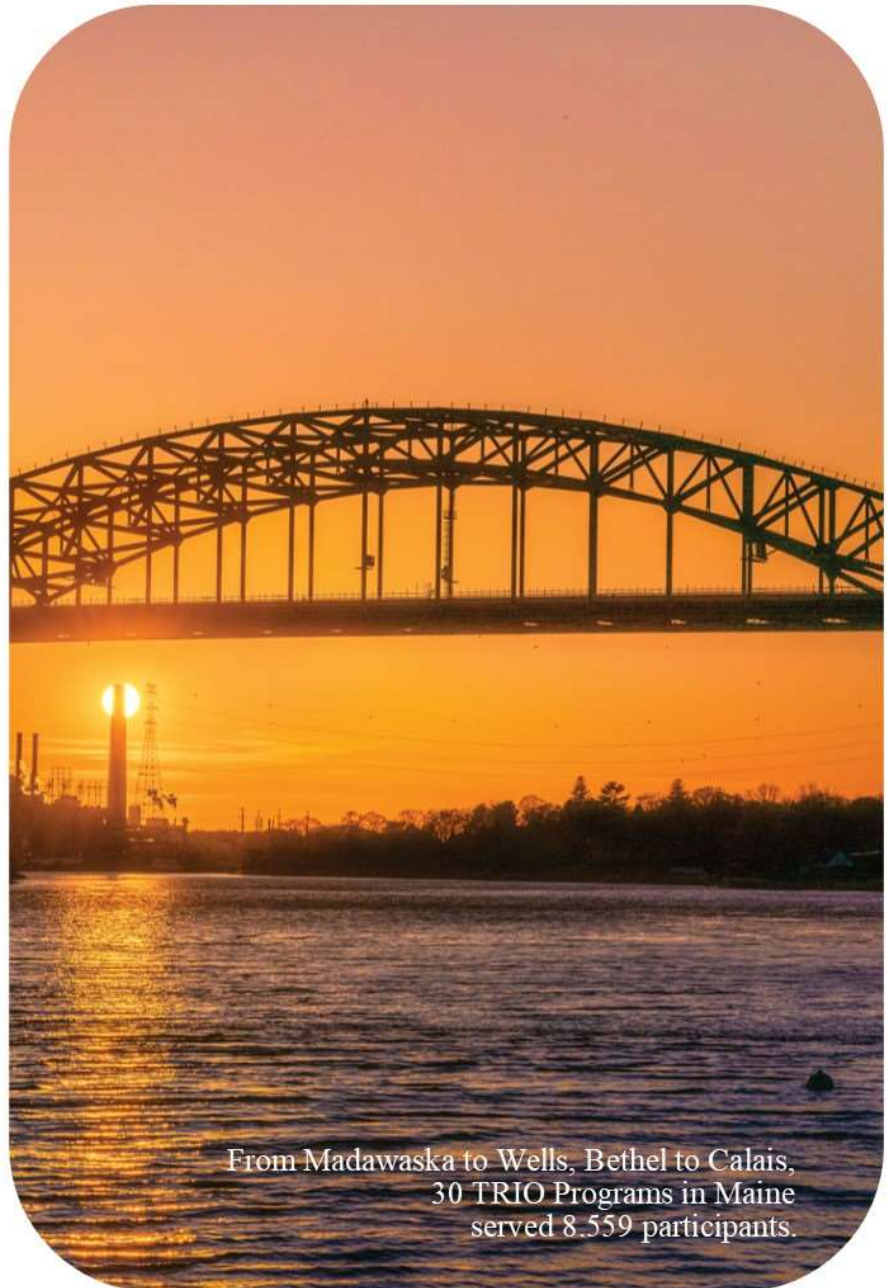
WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO THANK BOTH NEOA PRESIDENT DEB MCCANN AND PAST PRESIDENT BRIAN POST FOR HANDLING THE MOST CHALLENGING PERIOD IN ASSOCIATION HISTORY. YOUR LEADERSHIP IS TO BE COMMENDED!

2021-22 MEEOA Executive Committee:

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For more information on MEEOA:
[@meeoa22](#) on Instagram
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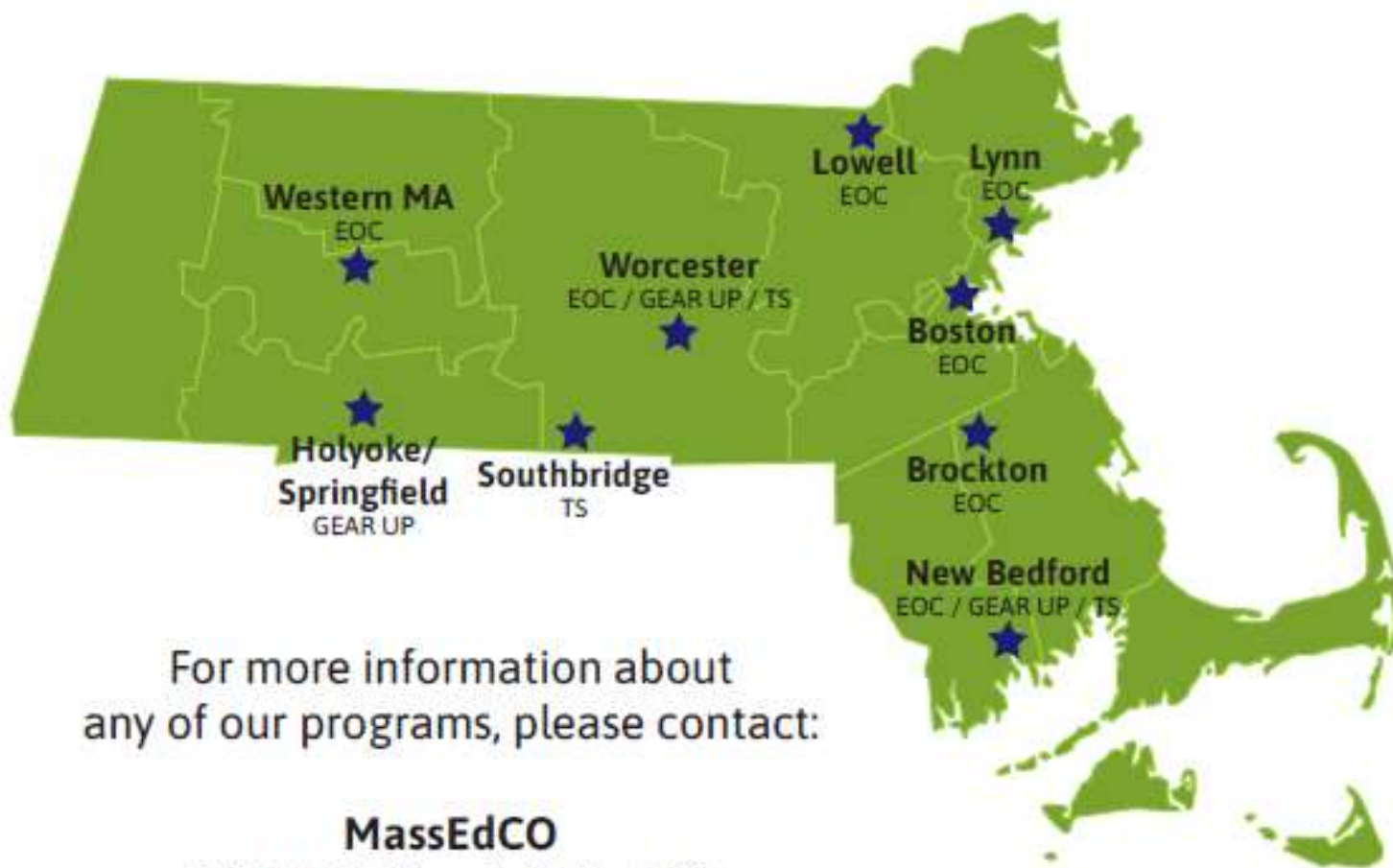
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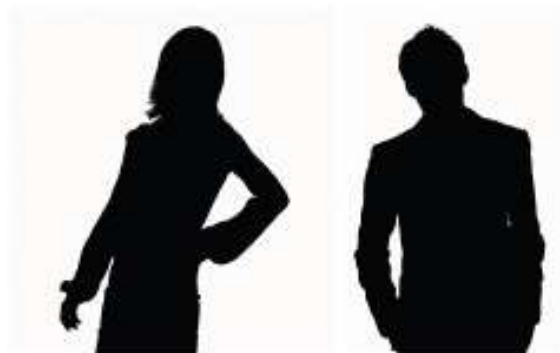
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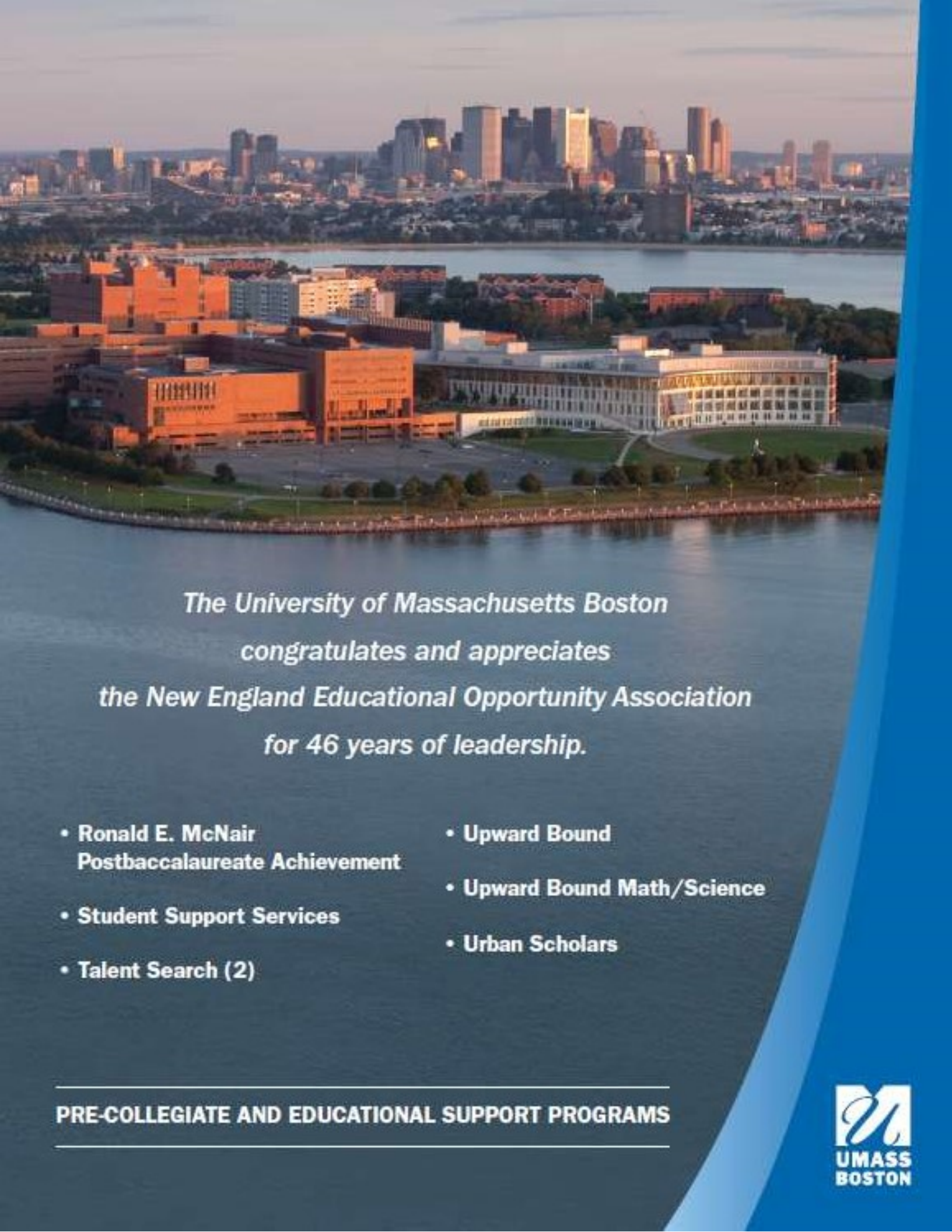
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Congratulations to the Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership (AMLI) Class of 2020-21!



Lindsay Carpenter, Michele Feiner, Katie Rose Gergosian, Adam Howard, Lindsey Kreckler, Amy Lewis, Kevin Linton, Nate Obin, Mai Pham, Terri Plummer, Alyssa West, Sara Williams, Hillary Wolfe, and Chris Young.
Such brilliant participation under very challenging circumstances. – Craig Werth, Director

Announcing “AMLI 2022-23”

Application for the *Arnold L. Mitchem Leadership Institute* will open May 1st.

Director, Craig Werth, will be at our conference. Look for his presentation at the banquet, for his pizza making (with Randy) at hospitality, and feel free to reach out, at any other time, to learn about this tremendous opportunity. Here are the past participants.

Talk with any of us to find out if AMLI may be a fit for you this year.

1998-99, Sonia Gomez-Barrey, Paul Besaw, Laura Blackwell, Alicja Czerwinski, Veronica Gill, Dianne Griggs, Tracy Karasinski, Amy Lechko, KD Maynard, Bob McCabe, Sarah Morrell, Cherylann Rosenberger, Karen Scott, Kolu Sharpe, Nicholas St. John, Katherine Veilleux, Lillie Squires-Wright, Dena Winslow York, Helen Pelletier, Director, 1999-2000, Chris Anderson, Dana Cole, Mel Donovan, Becky Eno, Jess Giesenkirchen, Pat Hailoran-Cooke, Keith Jones, Shelley Jones, Deborah Linnehan, Ann Meservey, Meredith Maust, Jacqueline Phillips, Nancy Schwartz, Craig Werth, Pat Zell, Director, 2000-01, Bruce Kaplan, Cary LaCourse, Debora McCann, Martha McCauglin, Steve McGrath, Maureen McMahon, Gaelyn Sibbath, Kunthary Thai, Patricia Wolfe, Kathy Obeir, Director, 2001-02, Archana Allawadi, Ann Buskey, Charlie Castelli, Becky Colaninno, Maria Dintino, Carolyn Donahue, Erin Dunn, Dian Durtanleau, William “Wge” Ellis, Beverly Hunter Daniel, Betty McCue-Herlihy, Dianne Olsen, Robert Sigh Searles, Linda Shiller, Heather Raymond, Erin Stevens, Jerry Ellis, Director, 2002-03, Marielle Blais, Jeffrey Faulkerson, Virginia Fowles, Andrea Gould, June Hampe, Kristen Hunt, Cathy Hunter, Reggie Jean, Gisele Litalon, Brenda McGill, Laura Melika, Amanda Powell, Jerry Ellis, Director, 2003-2004, Faith Erhardt, Robin Goodall, Craig Jewell, Kevin Johnson, Monda Kelley, Dianne Luz, Julia Nesbitt, Karoline Olivera, Tom Som, Donna Thompson, Steve Visco, Jerry Ellis, Director, 2005-06, Dan Boyce, Ramon Gonzalez, Faith Litchcock, Tracy Lopez, Karen Medden, Keller Magenau, Megan Manley, Katherine Perkins, Monica Sargent, Vanessa Tran, Jerry Ellis, Director, 2006-07, Rusty Brown, Eric Chapman, Karen Clark, William DelGaudio, Elsa Jimenez, Samkhann Khoun, Eric Klein, Kristin Swasey-Moore, Matthew Patry, Elizabeth Paterson, Sandra Caceres-Tijerina, Claude Winship, Jerry Ellis, Director, 2008-09, Shawn Barry, Santos Coyetano, Kelley Gilmour, Gaelle Gourgues, Sharmese Gunn, Heidi McLaughlin, Angela Quitadamo, Alvin Riley, Gil Rose, Channa Srey, Memlyn Tatarczuch-Koff, Harriet Williams, Sigh Searles, Director, 2010-11, Matt Bourgault, Georgiana Chevy, Rashad Cope, Leola Silgh, Shawn Graham, Jennifer K. Jones, Sajeda Khalifa, Maria Muocio, Brian Post, Anthony Semidey, Clyde Stats, Jasmine Toussaint, Tamika Williams, Ellen Wright, Sigh Searles, Director, 2012-13, Terry Callahan, Andrea Dawes, Kate Guyotte, Kelly Ann Iselman, Margaret Irving, Rosa Modry, Michelle Richards, Christine Sadler, Sigh Searles, Director, 2014-15, Adam J. Shaughnessy, Breyana Roman, Elizabeth G. Plante, Erica Coleman, Heather Schneider, Holly Kreider-Phaneuf, Jacqueline J. Mane, Melissa Goyatt, Patricia Lincoln, Ralph L. Hogan III, Stephanie M. Cruz, Ted Mann, Craig Werth, Director, 2016-17, Terry Charlton, Casey Henderson, Vincent Kioskowski, III, Katie Morrison, Cathy Printon, Mona Savastano, Mary Sinclair, Shane Stacey, Matthew Wagar, Craig Werth, Director, 2018-19, Danella Ajaezi, Grace Ajayi-Adenigba, Jannie Durr, Julie Finnegan, Martine Francois, Tammy Gewehr, Andrew Henry, Rachelle Lappinen, Ryan Mitchner, Susan Polen, Eric Pratt, Samantha Prosser, Craig Werth, Director, 2020-21, Lindsay Carpenter, Michele Feiner, Katharine Gergosian, Adam Howard, Lindsey Kreckler, Amy Lewis, Kevin Linton, Nathan Obin, Mai Pham, Theresa Plummer, Alyssa West, Sara Williams, Hillary Wolfe, Chris Young, Craig Werth, Director

Ask Craig for application information • craigwerth.leadership@gmail.com • 603-327-9792



Congratulations!
Dr. Melissa Goyait
on successfully defending
your dissertation

The UNH ETS staff are so proud of your achievement and look forward to presentations of your research and seeing your findings published.

Thank You!
Adam Howard
for your leadership as
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Preparing students for college and a brighter future





Serving Vermont & Northern New York

In spite of COVID, we are still here and we honor our VEOP community and celebrate their accomplishments!



We celebrate **50 years** of NVU-Johnson Upward Bound and honor Ted Turtle and Tony Blueter

Congratulations to the 2022 VEOP Award Winners:
-Wayland Cole
-Peg Hale
-Danielle Hume
-Jessica Smith

We **honor** Jack Anderson and the 28 'Jack Anderson' Award winners over the years



Congratulations to the alumni who attended the 2022 Policy Seminar:
-Jack Gallagher
-Mia Hawlk
-Ryan Fauci



We **Honor** VEOP Retirees

2022: Karen Madden

2021: Andrea Gould

2020: Clark Amadon

Monica Sargent

Ellen Wright

- **Congratulations** to VEOP President-Elect, Monda Kelley, and her committee on a meaningful VEOP celebration.
- We **honor** all the EOP professionals in NEOA for your dedication to the important work you do.
- **Congratulations** and many thanks to NEOA President, Debbie McCann, on a successful year of leadership.

65+

FINE & PERFORMING
ARTS EVENTS

28

NCAA DIVISION III
ATHLETICS TEAMS



75+

PROGRAMS
OF STUDY

50+

MINORS



50+

STUDENT CLUBS
AND ORGANIZATIONS

18.1

STUDENT-FACULTY
RATIO



1

Vermont's
First College

Established in 1787



Castleton University

LEARN MORE AND APPLY TODAY | [CASTLETON.EDU](https://castleton.edu)



MasteryPrep is proud to be distinguished as COE's only preferred provider for ACT® and SAT® readiness.

Are you ready to provide your students with the ultimate blended learning experience proven to boost scores?

Every student deserves to graduate high school with a college-ready score, but many students don't have access to the right resources or opportunities. We are here to change that! Our full-range of virtual and in-person solutions are designed to help ALL students attain the skills and knowledge needed for complete college readiness.

Our different solutions include: ACT curriculum, SAT curriculum, virtual classes, online courses, Boot Camps, practice testing and analysis, and professional development.

We can help your students score better on the:

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- ✓ ASPIRE®
- ✓ WORKKEYS®
- ✓ TSIA2™
- ✓ SAT®
- ✓ PSAT®
- ✓ END OF COURSE

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Maine Educational Opportunity Center
A Federal TRIO Program | 1991-2021

The Maine Educational Opportunity Center is celebrating 30 years of helping Maine adults find their postsecondary path. We have advisors available throughout the state, who each year work with thousands of adults.

Our participants run the gamut from folks looking to go back to college after some time away, recently high school graduates who need help finding a postsecondary program that's a good fit, adults who are working on their HiSET and would like to know their next steps, and many, many more.

Do you know someone who fits this description? They can register for a session with our advisors at any time at the following address, or using this QR code!



<https://meoc.maine.edu/sessions/>



Thank you to Casey Henderson for your board service!

Find us for more information:
1-800-281-3703

<https://meoc.maine.edu>

<https://www.facebook.com/MaineEducationalOpportunityCenter>

TRIO
EDUCATIONAL
OPPORTUNITY CENTERS



PRE-COLLEGIATE & ACCESS PROGRAMS

***Educational Achievement & Access (EA²P) Bridge Program** *Promoting Academically Successful Students (PASS) * **The Danbury Collaborative** *ConnCAP * **Upward Bound** * Excel
***Computer Science Pipeline** * Minority & Bilingual Teaching Pipeline *

Pre-Collegiate & Access Programs congratulates the New England Educational Opportunity Association on providing 46 years of leadership!



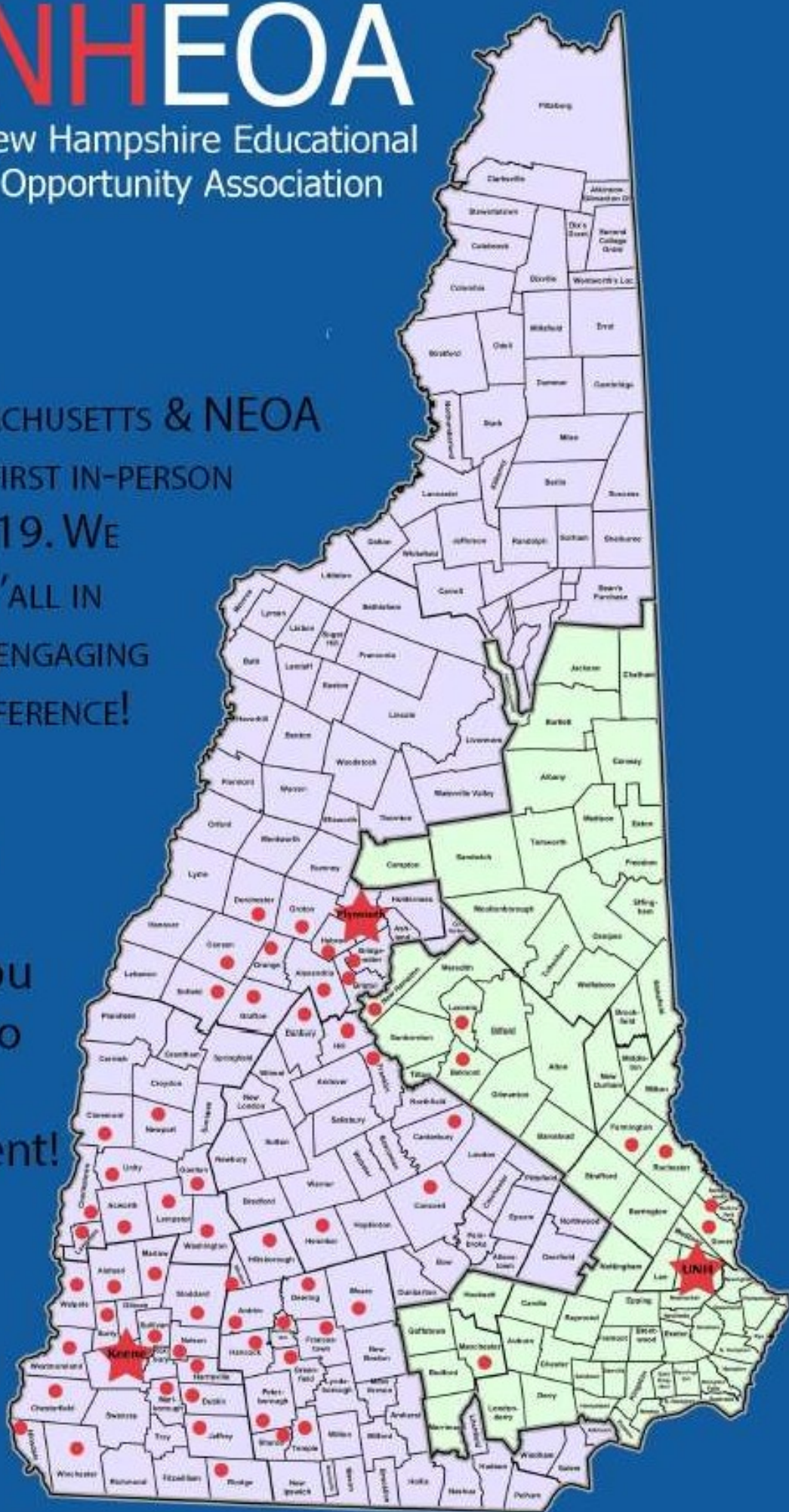


NH EOA

New Hampshire Educational
Opportunity Association

THANK YOU TO MASSACHUSETTS & NEOA
FOR PUTTING ON OUR FIRST IN-PERSON
CONFERENCE SINCE 2019. WE
ARE EXCITED TO HAVE Y'ALL IN
PORTSMOUTH FOR AN ENGAGING
AND REVITALIZING CONFERENCE!

...We would also
like to offer a
special thank you
and recognition to
Debbie McCann,
our NEOA president!



thank
you

For joining this year's NEOA Conference!

Your feedback will help us build an even better
conference for next year!

Please help us by completing the following evaluations



Workshop Evaluations

*(Please complete an evaluation
for each workshop you attended)*



Conference Evaluation

(Don't worry, only do 1 of these!)