



## Kentucky Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

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### Update from the KAEOPP President

Gera Lynn Drake

February 2007

#### Update from the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE):

The 2007 Annual Policy Seminar will be held March 11-13, 2007 in Washington, DC. Congressional visits will be scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2007. **Anyone who is planning to attend the Policy Seminar must contact KAEOPP President, Gera Drake by no later than Thursday, February 15, 2007 ([g.drake@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:g.drake@moreheadstate.edu)) to let her know you are to attend.** If your name is not submitted by this date, you will not be guaranteed that you will be scheduled for the congressional visits.

In addition, COE will also be hosting a *Leadership Summit* on March 10-11, 2007, and its *Annual Relations with the U.S. Department of Education* seminar on Wednesday, March 14, 2007, both to be held at the Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC.

#### U.S. Department of Education News:

U.S. Department of Education Federal TRIO Program Director, Larry Oxendine has taken a leave of absence of approximately two months as Director of the Federal TRIO Programs in Washington, DC. The Acting Director will be Dr. Linda Byrd-Johnson, who has served in the capacity of team leader for College-Based TRIO Programs.

According to the Department, it is proposed in President Bush's FY 2008 budget to increase the Pell Grant to \$4,600 in 2008 and to \$5,400 by 2012. This increase, if approved, represents the largest increase to the Pell Grant in over 30 years. In addition, the FY 2008 Bush Budget proposes level funding for Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Center, and McNair; a decrease for Talent Search and the Gear Up Partnership Grants, and a increase for the TRIO Staff Training and Gear Up State Grants. The charts, below, display the proposed figures for each program.

<b>Federal TRIO Programs</b> (B.A. in millions)	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008 Request</b>
Talent Search	\$149.6	\$144.4	\$142.8
Upward Bound	310.4	313.6	313.6
Educational Opportunity Centers	47.7	47.1	47.1
Student Support Services	271.4	272.0	272.0
McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement	41.7	44.2	44.2
Staff Training	3.3	3.3	4.0
Evaluation	1.3	1.8	1.5
Administration/Peer Review	2.8	1.8	3.0
Total	828.2	828.2	828.2

**Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness  
for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)**

(B.A. in millions)

	2006	2007	2008 Request
State Grants	\$115.0	\$117.4	\$122.1
Partnership Grants	186.0	184.9	179.2
21st Century Scholar Certificates	0.1	0.0	0.1
Other	2.3	1.1	2.0
Total	303.4	303.4	303.4

*Source: U.S. Department of Education, Fiscal Year 2008 Budget Summary – February 5, 2007,  
Section II.E. Higher Education Programs.*

**KAEOPP Board and Committee News/Changes:**

The KAEOPP Board and Committee Chairs have been busy, busy, BUSY since October 2006!!

The 2007 KAEOPP Spring Meeting will be held April 24-25, 2007 at Kenlake State Park in Hardin, Kentucky. As well, the 2007 KAEOPP/TASP Joint Fall Conference will be held at the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky, from October 9-12, 2007. Please visit the KAEOPP Website at [www.kaeopp.org](http://www.kaeopp.org) for more information!

KAEOPP President Gera Drake has been actively engaged in meetings with the Council for Postsecondary Education (CPE), Gear Up, KASFAA, KHEAA, and other state educational agencies exploring the formation of a statewide College Access Network. The Kentucky College Access Network would have the goals of bringing together all college access programs in Kentucky as a consortium to share information of each other's activities and services. Together, the various college access programs and agencies can all work to better serve our population, complementing and enhancing each other's services to assure that No Kentuckian is Left Behind. Discussion and plans continue through Spring 2007, with the possibility of October being designated "College Opportunity Month" in Kentucky.

Congratulations to the KAEOPP State Initiatives Committee for receiving a \$500 grant from the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE). This committee's efforts continue to be emphasized among Kentucky membership. KAEOPP State Initiatives Co-chairs Kristen Galloway (Western Kentucky University) and Annette Hines (Morehead State University) have planned the first annual Kentucky State Policy Seminar to be held on March 7, 2007, at Kentucky State University in Frankfort, Kentucky. The focus of this event will be to increase awareness of and educate our State legislators about the TRIO programs within Kentucky, and to gain their support in letter writing campaigns, etc. when issues arise. In addition, the State Initiatives Committee has planned a Student Ambassador Workshop to be held during 2007 Kentucky TRIO Day, to be held on February 24, 2007, at Morehead State University.

The Kentucky TRIO Alumni Society has a new co-chair: Kim Cox (Morehead State University Talent Search I program). Kim will join Amanda Keller in the planning and implementation of the Kentucky TRIO Alumni Luncheon to be held during Kentucky TRIO Day in February 2007. If you are (or you know someone who is) a alumnus of a Kentucky TRIO program, please forward

their name and contact information to either Amanda ([a.keller@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:a.keller@moreheadstate.edu)) or Kim ([k.cox@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:k.cox@moreheadstate.edu)).

KAEOPP's Strategic Planning Committee has completed the KAEOPP Strategic Plan. This guiding document will be for a five-year period beginning May 2007, and will be presented to membership at the 2007 February Business Meeting in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. The KAEOPP Board extends a special thanks to Gregory Marable and Darla Pearson, co-chairs of this committee, for their hard work in developing KAEOPP's first ever Strategic Plan!

### **The 2006-07 Fair Share Campaign:**

KAEOPP's 2006-07 Fair Share contribution currently stands at 39%, the lowest in the SAEOPP region. As, we did not meet our expected contribution for the 2005-06, with only 83%, this is an area of utmost importance that we must all focus our attention. The expected Fair Share contribution is based on a formula that is based on the number of TRIO programs in each state. In Kentucky, Fair Share is based on 59 individual TRIO programs...so...if your program has not yet fulfilled its Fair Share obligation, we will not meet our expected contribution...for the second year in row.

**Fair Share is *absolutely crucial* to COE's ability to advocate for the TRIO Programs in Washington and keeping the programs at home here in Kentucky abreast of important developments occurring in Congressional offices.** Without the unrestricted funds that come from Fair Share (Equality subscriptions, COE institutional members, and individual contributions), COE will be severely impaired in their ability to help us ensure the survival of TRIO! The 2006-07 Fair Share campaign will end on June 30; however, it is imperative that you check to make sure (1) that your host institution has paid the Institutional Membership to COE and (2) that your program has renewed its Equality subscription!!

KAEOPP's goal this year is to see that every institution hosting a TRIO program becomes an institutional member and that every Kentucky TRIO program renews or purchases an Equality subscription. As well, personal tax-deductible contributions are vital. Your support is appreciated! So, be prepared...during the months of February and March, you will be hearing from me!! **Please do your duty and fulfill your program's/institution's Fair Share obligation.**

### **Leadership Opportunities in KAEOPP!**

KAEOPP's Nomination Committee (Darla Pearson) continues to solicit nominations for KAEOPP offices. Nominations will be accepted on the floor at the State Business Meeting at the SAEOPP Conference on February 13, 2007 at 1:00 pm. At that time, the official slate for KAEOPP offices will be finalized and presented to Membership. Ballots will be distributed to KAEOPP Membership for a vote. Those new officers elected will be installed during the Business Meeting at the Spring Meeting in April 2007. If you are interested in holding a KAEOPP office, please contact Darla Pearson, KAEOPP Nominations Chair, at [darla\\_pearson@berea.com](mailto:darla_pearson@berea.com) or 859-985-3920.

The Kentucky Emerging Leaders Institute was again be held immediately preceding the 2006 Joint Fall Conference on Wednesday, October 18, 2006, in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Sharee St.

Louis Smith ([sh.smith@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:sh.smith@moreheadstate.edu)) and Paula Maier ([paula.maier@wku.edu](mailto:paula.maier@wku.edu)) co-chaired this event. As a result of this institute, three individuals have been nominated and selected to participate in the regional SAEOPP Emerging Leader Institute (ELI). Tammy Blackburn (EOC) and Ashley Cooper (UBMS) of Morehead State University and Valerie Rister (SSS) of the University of Kentucky will participant in the First-Year SAEOPP ELI, while Western Kentucky University's Tamika Dobbins and Kristen Galloway and Amanda Keller and Amanda Lewis of Morehead State University will return for Year Two of the SAEOPP Institute.

### **KAEOPP Membership!**

If you still have not submitted your 2006-07 KAEOPP membership, it is not too late to pay your dues. Your support and membership is needed! Remember...***KAEOPP is your state Professional Association.*** For more information, you can contact KAEOPP Treasurer, Annette Hines at [a.hines@moreheadstate.edu](mailto:a.hines@moreheadstate.edu) or (606) 783-2140. **Please send your membership payment today ... and ... I challenge each member to encourage a non-member to become a "Card-carrying" KAEOPPian!!!**