

# Iowa TRIO

## Newsletter

January 2012

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**It's official! IA MAEOPP has changed it's name to Iowa TRIO!**  
**Be on the lookout for details of the new logo competition.**

**Iowa TRIO State Conference**  
**Des Moines, IA April 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

**Day 1 – COE will be hosting a Priority #4 Training: Student Financial Aid, College and University Admissions Policies and Procedures.**

**Renaissance Des Moines Savery Hotel [www.renaissancesavery.com](http://www.renaissancesavery.com)**  
**The cost for the hotel per night is \$105**

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The MAEOPP Regional Conference was November 11-16, 2011 at The Abbey in Fontana, Wisconsin! The theme was “Charting Our Course Envisioning Our Future” Leading Beyond the Horizon. This was a great time for fellowship, taking advantage of break-out sessions, and attending the ELI 2011 graduation. Noted speakers at this year’s conference included: The Honorable Gwen Moore, Dr. Arnold Mitchem and Dr. Ngondi Kamatuka. The content of Dr. Kamatuka’s speech is now available on the MAEOPP website.



## **2012 \$cholarship Competition**

Coming soon! Go to [www.ia-maeopp.org](http://www.ia-maeopp.org) to look at last year’s application form. Each person who has a CURRENT membership to Iowa TRIO will be able to nominate one student.



**We are putting together the 2012 Iowa TRIO Factbook! You will be contacted very soon by us for your APR information. Please send a success story of a student you would like to see highlighted in this year’s book.**

**Thank You! Trudy Ahrens and Nicole Heng**  
**[tahrens@iowalakes.edu](mailto:tahrens@iowalakes.edu) [nheng@iowalakes.edu](mailto:nheng@iowalakes.edu)**

## A word from 2011 ELI's



Pictured left to right: 2011 IA MAEOPP President Jayna Woolridge, ELI Brad Spielman, ELI Ellie Burns, and 2012 Iowa TRiO President Kris Nerem Lowery

This year's Emerging Leaders Institute was a true exercise in self discovery and development. Over the last year our twelve member team observed the inner workings of the Mid America Association of Education Opportunity Program Personnel's board (MAEOPP), investigated the Association's rich history, identified individual leadership qualities, articulated personal commitments to the MAEOPP and TRiO missions, and along the way became life-long friends. Through the peaks and valleys that inevitably come with any new experience, we gained a deeper understanding of our profession, the MAEOPP organization, and ourselves.

Our ELI experience was more meaningful than we even imagined and for that we have many people to thank. First, a special thanks to Jayna Woolridge and Kris Nerem-Lowery for their encouragement, guidance, and most of all-their friendship. To our colleagues at Central College and Des Moines Area Community College-a sincere thank you for your patience and allowing us the time to embrace the ELI process. Finally, to all of our friends and colleagues within Iowa TRiO-thank you for your leadership and commitment. As a collective group you have shown us what it means to be a true TRiO advocate and professional, Iowa undoubtedly has the best collection of talent within the MAEOPP region!

Sincerely,  
Ellie Burns, Central College, ETS  
Brad Spielman, Des Moines Area Community College, SSS

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## HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE TRiO DAY?

### National TRiO Day Feb. 25, 2012

According to the 1986 Congressional resolution, National TRiO Day is meant to focus the nation's *"attention on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives, to the necessary investment if they are to become contributing citizens of the country, and to the talent which will be wasted if that investment is not made."* TRiO Day has been proclaimed a National Day of Service.

More details to come about an opportunity at the Capitol!

## Cash for College Financial Aid Event

Get help filling out your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) from Saturday, Feb. 18 through Saturday, Feb. 26 throughout the state.

During Iowa College Goal Sunday SM, volunteers will help families with the FAFSA, the government required form for many types of financial aid for college.

A list is available of documents you and your parents need to bring.

2012 Iowa College Goal Sunday SM, will be held in these locations:

Calmar (Northeast Iowa Community College)  
Cedar Rapids (Kirkwood Community College)  
Centerville (Indian Hills Community College)  
Clarinda (Iowa Western Community College)  
Clinton (Clinton Community College)  
Council Bluffs (Kaplan University)  
Creston (Southwestern Community College)  
Davenport (Scott Community College)  
Davenport (St. Ambrose University)  
Denison (Western Iowa Technical College)  
Des Moines (AIB College of Business)  
Des Moines (Des Moines Central Library)  
Des Moines (Forest Avenue Library)  
Des Moines (Grand View University)  
Dubuque (University of Dubuque)  
Emmetsburg (Iowa Lakes Community College)  
Fort Dodge (Iowa Central Community College)  
Iowa City (Kirkwood Community College)  
Iowa Falls (Ellsworth Community College)  
Marshalltown (Marshalltown Community College)  
Mason City (Northern Iowa Area Community College)  
Monticello (Jones County Reg. Education Center - Kirkwood Comm. College)  
Muscatine (Muscatine Community College)  
Ottumwa (Indian Hills Community College)  
Perry (DMACC at Perry VanKirk Career Academy)  
Sheldon (Northwest Iowa Community College)  
Sioux City (Western Iowa Tech Community College)  
Storm Lake (Buena Vista University)  
Waterloo (Hawkeye Community College)  
Waverly (Wartburg College)  
West Burlington (Southeastern Community College)

More information

Visit [www.IowaCGS.org](http://www.IowaCGS.org) or contact the Iowa College Access Network (ICAN) at (877) 272-4692 or e-mail [CGS@ICANSucceed.org](mailto:CGS@ICANSucceed.org).

## Participate in Iowa's \$10 for 10 Challenge!

Greetings from the Iowa TRIO Fair Share Committee! Did you know that we are already **HALFWAY** through our 2011-2012 Fair Share Campaign? We are once again embarking on our challenge to increase our personal contributions by 10% this year. We did so great last year that this means we need to raise \$3,690.50 through personal contributions by June 30, 2012! **YOU** can make a difference.

The "10 for 10 Challenge" is a commitment to contribute \$10 per month for 10 months to the Council for Opportunity in Education. Ultimately, the goal is to individually contribute \$100, which can be done with a one-time payment OR by evenly dispersing payment between the remaining months. We understand that there aren't 10 months left between now and June, but there is still time to make a commitment to this challenge – do not wait until the Spring Conference!

Though we appreciate gifts in any amount, we encourage you to commit to a donation of \$100. Please consider joining Iowa TRIO in our quest to meet our goal. Remember, we are always striving to be leaders in MAEOPP - let's show the rest of the region how great Iowa truly is in our commitment to preserving and protecting our TRIO Programs.

To contribute to COE online using an automatically deducted monthly payment plan, please visit:  
[http://www.coenet.us/ecm/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Fair\\_Share](http://www.coenet.us/ecm/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Fair_Share)

To contribute to COE using a one-time payment, please visit:  
[http://www.coenet.us/ecm/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Donate\\_Online](http://www.coenet.us/ecm/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Donate_Online)

All contributions are greatly appreciated by IA-MAEOPP and COE. If you would like more information about Fair Share or the "10 for 10 Campaign" please contact Katie Whipple at [whipplek@central.edu](mailto:whipplek@central.edu) or (515) 628-7524, or Chantel Olufsen at [olufsen@nicc.edu](mailto:olufsen@nicc.edu) or (563) 562-3263.

## Fair Share FAQs

### What is Fair Share?

Fair share is the amount of money the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) asks each state chapter to raise in a given year. Fair Share is made up of three components: institutional memberships, subscription packages, and personal contributions to COE.

### What are Fair Share funds used for?

Your fair share contribution goes toward protecting your TRIO Programs (up-to-date information on appropriations, reauthorization, and other issues affecting TRIO students; round-the-clock advocacy on Capitol Hill and with the Department of Education; bringing students to speak to legislators and other concerned citizens, and proposal writing workshops).



**Jessie McCormick had an OpEd published in the Sioux City Journal.**  
**Check it out on the COE Website or at**  
**[http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/opinion/columnists/federal-government-must-protect-investment-in-trio/article\\_93ea13b9-9b16-567e-8a83-3c4523d13940.html?mode=story](http://www.siouxcityjournal.com/news/opinion/columnists/federal-government-must-protect-investment-in-trio/article_93ea13b9-9b16-567e-8a83-3c4523d13940.html?mode=story)**

# Updates - Updates - Updates

## COE Update

House and Senate Agree on TRIO Funding for School Year 2012-2013  
December 15, 2011

Dear TRIO Colleagues:

Today, Congress introduced its final agreement for the FY 2012 appropriations, which includes a \$13.4 million increase for TRIO over last year's appropriation (\$826.5 million), for a total funding level of \$839.9 million. Limited information is available about specific funding for all higher education programs at this time, but it is our understanding that GEAR UP took a slight cut and, while the maximum Pell Grant was maintained at \$5,550, Congress instituted several cost-saving measures to achieve this, such as reducing eligibility.

While we regret that Congress did not fully embrace the \$920.1 million (or 8%) increase recommended by President Obama, we take heart in knowing that this bill will provide funding for approximately 40 Upward Bound and McNair programs that otherwise would have been lost next year. COE wishes to acknowledge the strong support of our allies in the House of Representatives, most notably Representatives Tom Cole (R-OK), Mike Simpson (R-ID), Rosa DeLauro (D-CT), Gwen Moore (D-WI), and Bobby Scott (D-VA), who fought hard to achieve increased funding.

Thank you for everything you did to realize this goal.

Sincerely,

Arnold Mitchem  
President

## **32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Policy Seminar**

**Sunday — Tuesday | March 11-13, 2012 | Renaissance Washington D.C. Hotel | Washington, D.C.**

<b>National College Opportunity Programs Leadership Summit</b>	<b>Policy Seminar</b>	<b>Seminar on Relations with the U.S. Department of Education</b>
Saturday, March 10 – Sunday, March 11, 2012	Sunday, March 11 – Tuesday, March 13, 2012	Wednesday, March 14, 2012

## Upcoming Prof Dev't/Trainings

<b>February 17-18, 2012</b>	<i>Improving College Admissions Outcomes, Securing Financial Aid, and Increasing Financial and Economic Literacy</i>
<b>February 21-23, 2012</b>	<i>Legislation and Regulations Seminar for Individual Managers</i>
<b>April 2, 2012</b>	<i>Improving College Admissions Outcomes, Securing Financial Aid, and Increasing Financial and Economic Literacy</i>
<b>April 5-6, 2012</b>	<i>Legislation and Regulations Seminar for Institutional Teams</i>

Go to [www.coenet.us](http://www.coenet.us) for more information





## **President's Blog: January, 2012** **Greetings Iowa TRIO!**

It is an honor and a privilege to serve as the Iowa TRIO President this year! I hope you will find 2012 to be an exciting year of change and growth for you in your programs and in your professional lives!

I would like to share with you my Presidential goals for the year 2012.

Goals for 2011-2012

1. Increase Iowa TRIO membership to include new Active members as well as Affiliate members.
2. Increase the Professional Development opportunities for Iowa TRIO members.
3. Encourage Iowa TRIO membership to share resources for cost savings.
4. Assist in recruitment of ELI candidates and Active members to attend the MAEOPP Institute for Leadership and Program Management.
5. Expand Iowa TRIO's media campaign and explore the use of a Public Relations professional (pro bono).
6. Begin the implementation of the Marketing plan for Iowa TRIO.
7. Partner with COE to include an increase of 10% Fair Share contributions from the Iowa TRIO chapter and increase state involvement in advocacy efforts.
8. Create and update the alumni database for TRIO Alumni in Iowa.
9. Support the work of the MAEOPP Education Foundation (MEF).

Iowa TRIO professionals are leaders for our MAEOPP region! We have so many talented staff with years of experience and best practices. Please take time to network with each other and support each other as we continue to serve our students. I encourage you to share resources and ideas, and find new and innovative ways to expand your professional development. Keep yourself updated on new technologies and continue to excel in what we do best: Helping students achieve their potential.

I would encourage you all to get involved on a state and regional level to advocate for our students! Right now our state needs ACTION! You are the people to make things happen! Please consider writing an Op-Ed for Iowa, holding an office in MAEOPP or Iowa TRIO, serving on a committee, donate to FAIR SHARE or MEF, or supporting other opportunities for action. We need each one of you to embrace this movement: FIGHT FOR TRIO!

**TRIO WORKS!**

All the best in 2012,  
Kris Nerem-Lowery  
Iowa TRIO President

## **2011-2012 Iowa TRIO Board of Directors**

Kris Nerem-Lowery, President, Iowa Central Community College

[lowery@iowacentral.edu](mailto:lowery@iowacentral.edu)

Jen Schuller, President-Elect, DMACC Urban

[jlschuller@dmacc.edu](mailto:jlschuller@dmacc.edu)

Jayna Woolridge, Past-President, Briar Cliff University

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TJ Thayer, Treasurer, Iowa Lakes Community College

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Jennifer Patterson, Member at Large, North Iowa Area Community College

[pattejen@niacc.edu](mailto:pattejen@niacc.edu)

### **Working Board Meeting:**

Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

DMACC – Ankeny, Iowa

**Have something you want to see in the next newsletter?  
Contact Trudy Ahrens at [tahrens@iowalakes.edu](mailto:tahrens@iowalakes.edu)**

**TRiO**

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