

# **IA-MAEOPP Newsletter Spring09**

**Kurt Roberts, Chair, Editorials and Publications** [kroberts@iastate.edu](mailto:kroberts@iastate.edu)

**Nicole Nechanicky, Committee Member** [nicole@iastate.edu](mailto:nicole@iastate.edu)

## **IA MAEOPP Annual Conference**

A huge thank you to all the conference committee members, moderators, registration staff, Funtivity workers and presenters who helped make the 2009 IA MAEOPP Annual Conference a great success. The conference started out with a short welcome followed by a question and answer session led by Congressman Latham. Latham agreed to be called a TRIO champion and to continue to voice support for our programs.

Jim Jelinske served as our keynote speaker and got the audience involved and laughing. A motivational speaker by trade, Jim helped start the conference on a positive note and made everyone remember that laughter is the best medicine. The first series of workshops followed the keynote address and the afternoon ended with food and conversation during the chapter reception.

Thursday morning started early for the fun run/walk participants. A nice sunny morning greeted the runners as they ran/walked 2-3 miles each. Breakfast was followed by a greeting and speech from MAEOPP President Ngondi Kamatuka. The morning concluded with the second series of workshops.

Lunch and the chapter business meeting were next on the agenda. The membership brought up concerns about the new ELI selection process and requested a review of our scholarship selection criteria. Following the chapter meeting conference attendees headed to their third and final workshop session of the week. A variety of non-TRIO professionals served as workshop presenters this year. Groups represented included: GEAR UP Iowa, ICAN, Iowa College Student Aid Commission, Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Iowa State University Financial Aid Office.

Roundtables were the final part of the afternoon. Upward Bound, Talent Search and Student Support Services all had lively and beneficial discussions on topics affecting each of their programs. Special thanks to those roundtable leaders who volunteered to lead those discussions.

Thursday evening was the highlight of the conference as we recognized scholarship winners at our banquet. Several of those winners and their family were in attendance to receive their award and to share some of their stories. They made all of us of very proud to work in TRIO.

Following the banquet everyone changed into their best 1970's attire and had a groovy time raising money for scholarships at the Funtivity. A wide variety of baskets, college items, gift certificates and hotel packages were available on the silent and live auctions. The Funtivity brought in over \$2100! Thank you everyone for your generous support and donations.

Karaoke singing filled the night as several hits of the 70's were belted out by our members. A special thanks to all those workers who helped set up, tear down and work the door for the Funtivity. Photos from the scholarship banquet and Funtivity are located on the IA MAEOPP website under the events tab.

Friday morning marked the final day of the 2009 IA MAEOPP Conference. Following breakfast, Kimberly Jones from COE spoke during a teleconference and updated the membership on topics related to TRIO and the Council. The end of the conference was marked by a variety of mixers lead by Brenda Allen of the State 4-H Office. Participants saw who could make the longest line, "go on and off" the bus, tried to draw a penny without looking and other mixers.

The 2009 IA MAEOPP Conference "Getting Connected: Staying Connected."



**2009 IA MAEOPP Scholarship Award Winners and Nominators**



**Funtivity Auction Items**



**Fabulous Mary Faber our 70's Auctioneer**



**Fabulous Faber and the Blue Bunny**



**What a groovy group!**



**Karaoke!**



**What a group!**



**More Singers**



2009 IA MAEOPP President Lynn Gallagher

(Go to [www.ia-maeopp.org](http://www.ia-maeopp.org) and click events for more photos of the 2009 IA MAEOPP Conference)

### Emerging Leaders Institute

It is time to apply for the 2010 Emerging Leaders Institute. The ELI application process has changed a bit and now applicants must submit their application ALONG WITH a recommendation by another individual in TRIO. In addition to the application and the initial recommendation, as President-Elect, I will need to submit an accompanying recommendation.

Please make sure you contact me prior to sending in your materials, as I will need to have my letter written by the 30th as well. **The application and nomination forms are found on the IA-MAEOPP website under professional development.**

Please fill out these forms and submit them to me, Katherine Whitsitt, at [whitsittk@portal.nicc.edu](mailto:whitsittk@portal.nicc.edu), **NO LATER than May 30, 2009!!**

### TRIO Training Opportunities for 2009

Go to: <http://www.ed.gov/programs/triotrain/opportunities.html> for information on the various TRIO training opportunities remaining for 2009 for TRIO personnel.

### TRIO Alumni

Be sure to have your TRIO alumni visit the IA MAEOPP website and click on the alumni link. There they can fill out a survey and become part of our alumni listing. This is a great opportunity to get our alumni involved in making TRIO stronger!

### Upcoming IA-MAEOPP Events

The 2009 IA MAEOPP Drive In will be held on the campus of North Iowa Area Community College in Mason City on October 9, 2009. More details on this year's drive in will be coming in the future.

The 2009 IA MAEOPP Student Leadership Conference will be held on the campus of Central College in Pella on October 19, 2009. Matt Diehl and his committee are working to line up speakers, workshop presenters and a great day for our TRIO participants. More details will be coming out soon.

## IA MAEOPP Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the 2009 scholarship winners of the MAEOPP Board of Directors Scholarship and the IA-MAEOPP Achievement Awards.

### **MAEOPP Board of Directors Scholarship - \$1000**

Kim Julius  
Iowa Central Community College  
Upward Bound

### **IA-MAEOPP Achievement Awards - \$500 each**

Micah Hayek  
Iowa State University  
Educational Talent Search

Weston Miller  
Iowa Lakes Community College  
Educational Talent Search

Cindy San  
Luther College  
Student Support Services

Amanda Herzberg  
Southwestern  
Student Support Services

Amanda Whittle  
Central College  
Student Support Services

Lacey Combs  
Briar Cliff  
Educational Talent Search

Nick Lynn  
Northeast Iowa Community College  
Upward Bound

## Mixers from IA MAEOPP Conference

Here are details on some of the mixers shared by Brenda Allen of the State 4-H Office during our final session at the 2009 IA MAEOPP Conference:

Longest line: Divide teams into two groups and ask them to form the longest line. They can use articles of clothing, jewelry, belts, shoe strings, etc to make the longest line. Just make sure they don't become inappropriate when it comes to the use of clothing. The group with the longest continuous line wins.

Drawing a Penny: Divide into groups of two. Hand out a sheet of paper with two equal circles on one side of the paper. Ask the groups to draw the front and back of a penny without looking at the actual coin. They should draw any items or words on the coin. See which group had the best memory and ask what was hard and easy about the task. Was it easy to work as a team?

Get on, off the Bus: Draw an imaginary line down the middle of the room. Tell the group they will either need to go to the right or left depending on their agreement or disagreement with each statement you read. For example: "Do you believe youth should serve in hiring TRIO staff?" If yes they go to the right of the line, if no, they go to the left of the line. Develop a list of potential questions that reflect what area of topics you want to cover with the activity. Great for staff development, training new staff, working with adults and youth.

2 Circles: Divide the group into two and have them form two circles. The two circles should be facing each other. Then ask the inner circle to move a few persons to the left or right. Then have that pair tell about each other by answering 3 previously selected questions. Examples: "favorite food, dream vacation, favorite school subject" Then have the outer circle move a few steps left or right to get a new partner and ask 3 new questions for them to answer to each other.

Next IA-MAEOPP Board Meeting: August 28<sup>th</sup>, Iowa Central Community College, Ft. Dodge, IA

Upcoming Events: IA MAEOPP Drive-In, NIACC, Mason City, IA, October 9<sup>th</sup>  
IA MAEOPP Student Leadership Day, Central College, Pella, IA, Oct 19<sup>th</sup>  
MAEOPP Annual Conference, Pheasant Run Resort, St Charles, IL,  
November 8<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup>