



Legislative Update

January/February 2009

Welcome to the first edition of the Ohio TRIO Legislative Update. Ohio TRIO will provide monthly updates to our state and federal legislators on behalf of the over 25,000 first-generation, low income students TRIO Programs serve in Ohio. We believe this partnership is invaluable and that together we can continue to work to increase opportunities in education for Ohio's families. We welcome feedback, questions, or submissions. Please e-mail dlawless@kent.edu or fax 330-672-8681.



Students In Action: This photo highlights the TRIO 2008 Student Leadership Award Winners. These are students who excel academically and in their communities. Students were recognized during Ohio TRIO's annual Student Leadership Conference, bringing together over 400 pre-college and college students in Ohio.

OHIO TRIO TO VISIT STATE LEGISLATORS FOR SECOND ANNUAL OHIO TRIO POLICY DAY

For over forty years, Ohio TRIO has advocated on behalf of first-generation, low income families in Ohio to access education and create opportunities for their future. Ohio TRIO has always had a strong relationship with state and federal leaders who work to establish policies that impact TRIO families. In 2008, Ohio TRIO started the State Policy Day in tandem with our annual trip to DC where we meet with federal congressional leaders.

The State Policy Day allows Ohio TRIO families, students, and staff to meet with state legislative leaders. The purpose is to raise awareness of TRIO, issues that impact our families and discuss opportunities on behalf of our students.

The State Policy Day will take place on Wednesday, February 11. We look forward to meet many or reconnect with many of our state legislative partners in Columbus on that day.



Congratulations to Ohio Wesleyan Upward Bound students Satara Corley and Cierra Light. They were selected to represent Columbus, their schools and Upward Bound in DC during the historic inauguration ceremonies of President Obama. See more by visiting www.dispatch.com

GARY WILLIAMS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF OHIO TRIO

Gary Williams, Director of Outreach Programs at Washington State Community College, is the new President of Ohio TRiO, formerly known as the Ohio Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel. Ohio TRiO is the state professional advocacy and support organization representing students and staff serving over 83 programs and 26,000 income eligible and first generation students throughout Ohio. TRiO programs include Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math Science, Educational Talent Search, Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers, Ronald B. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Programs, and Veterans Upward Bound. These programs are located at 31 two and four year public and colleges and universities across the state and are funded by the U.S. Department of Programs are also run by several community-based organizations including the Cincinnati Youth Collaborative, Cleveland Scholarship Program, and Educational Partners, Inc. TRiO programs are funded through the U.S. Department of Education for the purpose of the number of underserved students and adults to enroll and succeed in secondary education.



In addition to serving as Director of Outreach Programs at Washington State Community College, Williams directs the Upward Bound College Prep Academy program, the Washington-Morgan-Meigs College Tech Prep Consortium, and the Ohio College Access Network (OCAN) College Partnership grant at Washington State Community College. He has served as President – Elect of the Ohio Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel, Legislation and Educational Chair, Professional Conference Co-Chair, and Ohio Policy Day Chair. He also served as Ohio team leader and state legislative liaison for the Washington D.C. Council for Opportunity in Education and currently serves on the Member Advisory Committee in the Ohio College Access Network and southeast representative for the Ohio Diversity Officers Collaboration. Gary received his Bachelors Degree from Rio Grande College and his Masters Degree from Ohio University. He is working in his 43rd year in the field of education and has worked at all levels of public education including elementary teacher, middle and high school guidance counselor, and adjunct faculty and administrator in higher education. He is the recipient of the Ohio College Access Network “William Over College Access Collaboration Award of Excellence” in 2006 and was named Community Leader of the Year by the Marietta Area Chamber of Commerce Telesis Group in 2002.

OHIO TRIO FACT

Ohio TRIO programs support students in from middle school through doctoral degree attainment! Programs target 6th graders through graduate students, veterans and adults. To learn more visit www.oaeopp.org.

SAVE THE DATES:

- TRIO State Policy Day, February 11, Columbus, Ohio
- TRIO Federal Policy Day, March 24, Washington, DC
- TRIO Access & Success Partners Breakfast, April 1, Columbus, Ohio