

News and Updates From The Region

From the Director's Clipboard By Heather Campbell



The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) is a non-profit organization dedicated to furthering the expansion of educational opportunities in the United States. The Council works with colleges, universities, and agencies that host TRiO programs, like Upward Bound and Student Support Services, to help TRiO participants obtain a postsecondary education.

Welcome to the latest edition of the St. Olaf TRiO Upward Bound Graduate Messenger, a newsletter dedicated to our graduates. We want to keep you informed of St. Olaf UB events, activities or legislation affecting TRiO programs on the local and national levels, and keep you connected to your TRiO peers. If you have suggestions about the newsletter's content, or would like to contribute articles, let us know!

Currently, COE is seeking information on TRiO programs and their successful alumni to eventually be shared with the public, members of Congress and other policy makers, opinion leaders and members of the press.

TRiO alumni are being asked to do the following to help COE achieve its goal:

- Visit the COE website (www.coenet.us) and take part in a

short Alumni Survey. When you visit the site, look for the **TRiOWorks: Celebrating Successful TRiO Programs** graphic/link to access the survey.

The Alumni Survey is 19 questions, which will allow successful alumni to share their stories and career accomplishments. TRiO alumni who graduated from college before the year 2000 are encouraged to visit COE to complete this survey.

Making a Difference By Ben Dieterich

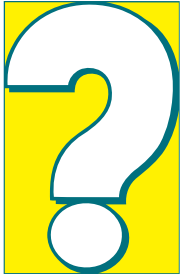
The annual conference of the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP) was held from November 7-10 at the Abbey on Lake Geneva in Wisconsin. MAEOPP is the association of TRiO personnel in the Mid-West. TriO programs include Upward Bound, Educational Talent Search, Student Support Services, Ronald E. McNair, UB Math & Science and Equal Opportunity Centers. It is a great opportunity for TRiO staff to meet other dedicated members of the TRiO community, learn about the successes of programs throughout the Mid-West, and learn about the current

legislation at the National Level affecting TRiO. This year's theme was... *Making a Difference*. MAEOPP celebrated 30 years as an organization focused on making improving education opportunities for all.

Every six years, the legislation TRiO is funded through is up for re-authorization, and the end of this six-year cycle has passed. Little action has been taken in Congress over the past year in this area, but it is likely to be an important issue

when the next Congress begins in January. For more information on current legislation, please visit www.trioprograms.org or www.coenet.org. The annual conference is a great opportunity for us as TRiO personnel to share ideas and learn from each other in order to improve our programs. This allows us to go back to our individual programs and continue to... Make a Difference.





Do you know where any of these UB graduates are? If so, send us their contact information (look on Page 3 for more information on contacting UB).

Class of 2003

Elecia Thomas (Central)

Class of 2002

Zong Lor (Central)
Lue Thao (Humboldt)

Class of 2001

Tiesha Bell (Humboldt)
Danielle Henderson
(Central)

Class of 2000

Katie Beck (Red Wing)
Matt Sumter (Red Wing)

Class of 1999

Belen Cabrera-Tellez
(Humboldt)
Abe Garcia (Humboldt)
Yasmin Garcia (Humboldt)
Shataia Stallings (Central)
Na Thao (Humboldt)
Shanta Thomas (Central)

Class of 1998

Nelson Lo (Central)
Joey Mendoza (Central)
Jim Vang (Red Wing)
Stephan Weissmann
(Red Wing)

Class of 1997

Carlos Fuentes (Humboldt)
Tyshanna McKamie
(Central)

Class of 1996

Derrick Montgomery
(Central)
Daleny Savandy (Humboldt)

Class of 1995

Zahilya Austin (Central)
Patrick Eide (Central)
Leti Fuentes (Humboldt)
Tabitha McDonald (Red Wing)
Ker Moua (Humboldt)
Gabriela Romo (Humboldt)
Angelica Ruiz (Humboldt)
Malee Vang (Humboldt)
Jackson Vu (Central)

Class of 1994

Elise Clemens-Langner
(Red Wing)
Kristina Dupris (Central)
Adama Hicks Wagner
(Central)
Richard Reeves (Humboldt)
Leondra Slaughter (Central)
Ron Staples (Humboldt)
Nhia Thao (Humboldt)
Jenne Wroge (Red Wing)

Class of 1993

Marissa Branch (Central)
Adrian Contreras
(Humboldt)
Antonio Contreras
(Humboldt)
Amara Forest (Central)
Xiomara Garcia (Humboldt)
Toya Hodges (Central)
Kou Lee (Humboldt)
Uyen (Vicky) Uyen
(Humboldt)
Shawn Stites (Red Wing)
Lauhn (Pao) Thao
(Humboldt)
Jamila Thomas-Giles
(Central)

Class of 1992

Carrie Benedict (Red Wing)
Sue Cha (Humboldt)
Toria Collins (Central)
Shelly Dow (Humboldt)
LaTonju Edwards (Central)
Tawana Holtz (Central)
Yolanda Lolar (Central)
Lucy Lozano (Humboldt)
Tran (Sarah) Nguyen
(Humboldt)

Alicia Ramos (Humboldt)
Jason Whitney (Central)
Bao Yang (Humboldt)

Class of 1991

Harvey Hammick (Central)
Shadee Hardy (Central)
Tomas Silva (Humboldt)
Patricia Swan-Wooten (Central)

Several UB grads have also expressed interest in having an Upward Bound Class Reunion. If you have ideas, or may be interested on serving on a planning committee, forward your suggestions to UB.

UB Alumni News and Notes

Gina Robinson (Central, 1997) finished a Master's Degree in Spanish through Middlebury College School in Spain, and spent a year in Madrid. Gina is also certified to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) and will be moving to Guadalajara, Mexico to teach until she begins graduate school again next fall.

Jessica Lee (Central, 2000) graduated from St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

Donnita Osborn (Central, 2000) graduated from the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Ying Yang (Humboldt, 2001) is busy raising a daughter and newborn son. Ying is also starting a small business involving "healthy" coffee. More information about Ying's business is available at: www.myganoexcel.biz/yingyang

Cheng Seng Vang (Humboldt, 2003) will be spending his January St. Olaf term at the University of Washington studying engineering.

Why Graduate School?



By Kathy Glampe
St. Olaf College,
Student Support
Services

A graduate degree can influence how fast and far you can advance in your career. It can increase your earning power, job satisfaction, amount of responsibility you assume and the freedom you have to make your own decisions.

A graduate degree may also give you greater flexibility to change careers. Earning an advanced degree demonstrates your ability to master complex topics and carry out projects on your own initiative. These qualities are attractive to employers, and they may make it possible for you to find jobs in areas other than those you have specifically studied.

In many fields, especially technology, teaching and business, a BA degree is an entry-level degree. As more people go to college, it becomes what the high school diploma used to be. You must have it to get a good job.

Higher-level positions and the decision-making power often go to people who have gone beyond undergraduate education.

If financing a graduate degree is an issue, consider that many graduate students cover part of their tuition costs with grants or fellowships, or earn money through part-time teaching or research. If you must borrow money, it becomes an investment in your future income level. As you move up the educational ladder, the salary you command often moves up as well.

For more information about Graduate Schools, check out these websites:



Council of Graduate Schools (CGS):
www.cgsnet.org

Peterson's Guide to Graduate Schools:
www.petersons.com/gradchannel

Educational Testing Services (help with local testing sites): www.ets.org

Project 1000 (graduate school application fee waivers for underrepresented minority students):
mati.eas.asu.edu:8421/p1000/index.html

Guides, GRE, SAT or ACT preparation: www.number2.com

UB COLLEGE GRADS

Interested in being a mentor to current UB Students? Our program now has a component where you can do just that. UB Mentoring consists of monthly e-mail letter exchanges with your mentee, and two-three fun activities scheduled during the year. For more information, contact Mari Tototzintle at tototzin@stolaf.edu

As you know, UB must follow-up with its program graduates. We must account for the numbers of UB students who have graduated or dropped out of high school, and those who have pursued education after high school, including the military, college or vocational school. UB must update this information for a least six years from the time of your graduation.

To make the follow-up process easier, we encourage you to keep us informed about changes in address, phone number and e-mail. You can send changes to us via our website, www.stolaf.edu/services/upward, and clicking the "Graduate Update and Current Student Address Corrections" link.

Remember, UB loves to hear from its graduates. Although you're no longer an active participant in UB, we can still help you sort through financial aid, scholarship applications and other college-related things.

You can find us at your old high schools on the following days and times:

Humboldt: Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; (651) 293-8600, x2251

Central: Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; (651) 632-6000, x5530

Red Wing: Tuesdays, 9:00 am - 3:00 pm; (651) 385-4600, ask for the CFI

Be sure to call first so we know you're coming (and to be sure we're at the school)!



UB Holiday Party, 2004

When: Saturday, December 4th, 12-3 pm

Where: Humboldt High School, 30 E. Baker Street, St. Paul

What: A potluck and carnival celebration with food, games and activities!

Grads, if you'd like to attend, or need more information about the potluck celebration, contact Ben Dieterich at:
dieteric@stolaf.edu





St. Olaf College
TRiO Upward Bound Graduate Messenger
Established 1989

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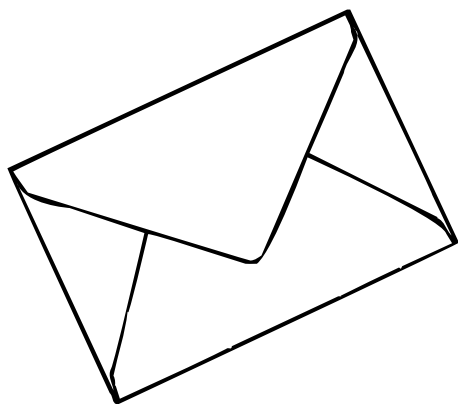
Kevin Cheatham, Editor and Layout

The St. Olaf College TRiO Upward Bound Graduate Messenger is published several times annually, and sent via e-mail. Editors reserve the right to add, change or delete articles for spacing and clarity. All inquiries should be addressed to Heather Campbell, Director of St. Olaf Upward Bound, St. Olaf College, 1520 St. Olaf Avenue, Northfield, MN 55057-1098.

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