

# THE MID-EASTERN BEACON

## WINTER/ SPRING 2009

*The Mid-Eastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MEAEOPP)*  
Serving Delaware / District of Columbia / Maryland / Pennsylvania / Virginia / West Virginia

### Greetings from the President, *Diane Sandefur*

Hello MEAEOPP Friends and Colleagues –

It is a true honor to recognize YOU, our MEAEOPP Members and to Thank YOU for your continued support of your regional TRIO association! Together we have moved to new heights and we continue on that path. Because of YOU the MEAEOPP Membership, we are very strong. Because of your recognition and support of what MEAEOPP provides we are able to allocate 10% of our budget to scholarships; have an annual recognition of TRIO Achievers; provide positive collaboration with our Congressional Representatives; and offer a valuable and knowledgeable professional annual conference. We have truly grown together to be where we are today. We work together to bring opportunities in order to collaborate, learn, share, unite, contribute and grow to help the students we serve. As a united region and as TRIO professionals we support our participants to move forward in their lives to be remarkable and successful individuals. As a united region we are fiscally strong, and this is a tribute to your commitment to MEAEOPP. Collectively we see the point of MEAEOPP – to support one another with the ultimate goal of strengthening our programs and supporting our amazing TRIO Students. To each of you – Thank You. As we continue on throughout the remainder of 2009 and into the Presidency of Corris Davis and 2010 let us to focus on the opportunities that lie ahead and continue to move MEAEOPP forward. We do this by examining the strategic plan that was created by former MEAEOPP Leadership, and approved by you the membership as the plan to lead us toward success:

#### MEAEOPP Strategic Goals and Selected Accomplishments

**Goal 1:** Expand MEAEOPP's Strategic Position and Financial Resources

- ◆ *We are fiscally solvent.*
- ◆ *We have secured collaborations with organizations such as Cannon Satellite and College Goal Sunday.*
- ◆ *We now offer Pay Pal as a mode of payment.*

**Goal 2:** Increase the Participation Level and Commitment of the General Membership

- *Because of the 2006 restructuring of Membership, we are at an all time high with involvement and revenue for MEAEOPP.*

**Goal 3:** Expand Training and Professional Development Opportunities

- ◆ *The Emerging Leaders Institute continue under Ollie Tolliver.*
- ◆ *We now offer Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for professional development.*

**Goal 4:** Increase Access for TRIO Students and TRIO Professionals to Advanced Technologies

- ◆ *Corris Davis continues to excel as the webmaster [www.meaeopp.org](http://www.meaeopp.org) and has uploaded all conference related materials online.*

**Goal 5:** Strengthen Partnerships with the Host Institutions, TRIO Alumni, State/District & Regional Associations

- ◆ Tom Wilson, VA President has accepted the position of Chair of Legislation and Education Committee.
- ◆ Corris Davis, MEAEOPP President-Elect will oversee the creation of an Alumni Database.

**Goal 6:** Increase MEAEOPP's Governmental Relations Efforts

- ◆ Began the necessary responsibility of the board to professionally discuss issues that affect TRIO and MEAEOPP and decide democratically how we stand on issues.

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### KEY MEAEOPP & TRiO DATES

**March 29-April 1, 2009 -**

MEAEOPP's 33rd Annual Conference,  
Hilton Hotel at Virginia Beach Oceanfront,  
Virginia Beach, VA

"TRIO GPS: Guiding Professionals to Success"  
Go to [www.meaeopp.org](http://www.meaeopp.org) for more information.



**MEAEOPP Scholarship Contributions -** Can be made by going to [www.meaeopp.org](http://www.meaeopp.org) and clicking on contributions

**June 6-11, 2009 -** COE 20<sup>th</sup> Annual National Student Leadership Congress, American University, Washington, D.C. For more information, go to [www.coenet.us](http://www.coenet.us)

**June 2009 - COE NATIONAL TRIO ACHIEVER**  
To nominate one of your TRiO Alum as a National TRIO Achiever go to <http://www.coenet.us>

**TRIO SSS applications** will likely be due to the Department of Education in Fall 2009. **TRIO ETS and EOC applications** may also be due Fall 2009.

**Pell Institute -** for valuable information and resources go to <http://www.pellinstitute.org/>

**September 9-12, 2009 -** COE 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Grand Hyatt, San Antonio, TX

## In The States and the District – Statistics from MEAEOPP Membership Roster and the U.S. Dept. of Education (3/2009)

Unless otherwise noted, articles were submitted by the respective State Association President

### DELAWARE (Delaware State TRIO Organization - DSTO)

#### State Stats

# of TRIO programs: 14, # of students served by TRIO: 2, 467

TOTAL FUNDING \$4,128,815

TS - 2 programs, 1,350 students served, \$616,122 funded

UB - 4 programs, 252 students served, \$1,293,428 funded

UBMS - 3 programs, 174 students served, \$898,579 funded

VUB - 0 programs

EOC - 0 programs

SSS - 3 programs, 640 students served, \$864,686 funded

McNair - 2 programs, 51 students served, \$456,000 funded

**President:** *Tonya Perry-Conley*

**President-Elect:** *David Dunnington*

**Fair Share: Received** \$8,300

**Budgeted** \$6,261

**Difference** +\$2,039

**Percentage** 133%

- DSTO has increased their scholarships to \$1500!
- Provided a successful Fall 2008 Professional Development Conference with U.S. Representative Tom Carper in attendance.
- DSTO now has an Alumni FaceBook account!

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA (District of Columbia Consolidation of Educational Services - DCCES)

#### State Stats

# of TRIO programs: 20, # of students served by TRIO: 6,318

TOTAL FUNDING \$7,029,445

TS - 2 programs, 1,800 students served, \$673,058 funded

UB - 13 programs, 831 students served, \$3,966,711 funded

UBMS - 1 program, 68 students served, \$338,593 funded

VUB - 0 programs

EOC - 1 program, 3,020 students served, \$926,768 funded

SSS - 2 programs, 575 students served, \$904,314 funded

McNair - 1 programs, 24 students served, \$220,000 funded

**President:** *Marlene A. Guy*

**President-Elect:** *Saundra Carter*

**Fair Share: Received** \$15,542

**Budgeted** \$12,616

**Difference** +\$ 2,926

**Percentage** 123%

- Held DCCES newcomers Orientation was held on February 19<sup>th</sup> for 6 new TRiO personnel.
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual DCCES Student Leadership Conference is planned for April 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>, at the National 4-H Youth Conference Center in Chevy Chase, Maryland.
- DCCES Annual Conference will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> at the University of the District of Columbia.

### MARYLAND (Maryland Executive Council for Educational Opportunities - MECEO)

#### State Stats

# of TRIO programs: 36, # of students served by TRIO: 10,536

TOTAL FUNDING \$12,500,413

TS - 6 programs, 4,425 students served, \$1,963,434 funded

UB - 12 programs, 865 students served, \$4,192,471 funded

UBMS - 3 programs, 180 students served, \$917,940 funded

VUB - 0 programs

EOC - 2 programs, 2,000 students served, \$489,647 funded

SSS - 13 programs, 2,975 students served, \$4,118,137 funded

McNair - 3 programs, 91 students served, \$818,734 funded

**President:** *William Southerland III, PhD*

**President-Elect:** *Tracee Matthias*

**Fair Share: Received** \$24,508

**Budgeted** \$29,092

**Difference** \$ 4,584

**Percentage** 84%

- November 2008 Annual State Conference served as an opportunity for professional development. Topics included eProfiles, CAS "standards," and FERPA issues within TRiO.
- Maryland has developed a wonderful website: <http://www.meceo.org/>

**PENNSYLVANIA** (Pennsylvania Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel - PAEOPP)

**State Stats**

# of TRIO programs: 78, # of students served by TRIO: 25,979  
 TOTAL FUNDING \$24,337,708  
 TS - 16 programs, 12,741 students served, \$5,070,051 funded  
 UB - 21 programs, 1,597 students served, \$7,466,833 funded  
 UBMS - 5 programs, 270 students served, \$1,344,068 funded  
 VUB - 1 program, 120 students served, \$358,696 funded  
 EOC - 4 programs, 6,225 students served, \$1,549,872 funded  
 SSS - 27 programs, 4,916 students served, \$7,548,188 funded  
 McNair - 4 programs, 110 students served, \$1,000,000 funded

**President:** *Angela Steffy*  
**President-Elect:** *Margot Myers*

**Fair Share: Received:** \$41,800  
**Budgeted:** \$67,559  
**Difference:** \$25,759  
**Percentage:** 62%

- The PAEOPP Board is working to establish a PA ELI program, and an Ad-hoc committee was established for this.
- PAEOPP developed a PA fact poster for Policy Seminar to be distributed in all PA legislator’s offices.

**VIRGINIA** (Virginia Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel - VAEOPP)

**State Stats**

# of TRIO programs: 49, # of students served by TRIO: 14,007  
 TOTAL FUNDING \$15,285,086  
 TS - 6 programs, 4,900 students served, \$1,934,994 funded  
 UB - 20 programs, 1,277 students served, \$6,371,331 funded  
 UBMS - 1 programs, 50 students served, \$250,000 funded  
 VUB - 1 program, 120 students served, \$249,274 funded  
 EOC - 2 programs, 3,820 students served, \$706,770 funded  
 SSS - 18 programs, 3,815 students served, \$5,547,717 funded  
 McNair - 1 program, 25 students served, \$225,000 funded

**President:** *Mia Horace*  
**President-Elect:** *Letitia Pulliam*

**Fair Share: Received:** \$33,750  
**Budgeted:** \$44,204  
**Difference:** \$10,454  
**Percentage:** 76%

- VAEOPP established an ad-hoc committee to strengthen pre-training for VAEOPP officers.
- Virginia completed a state fact booklet for the “Walk on the Hill” and other pertinent efforts.
- VAEOPP established a TRIO Alumni Affairs committee for Virginia to coordinate with MEAEOPP.

**WEST VIRGINIA** (Virginia Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel - WVAEOPP)

**State Stats**

# of TRIO programs: 30, # of students served by TRIO: 8,316  
 TOTAL FUNDING \$9,015,797  
 TS -3 programs, 1,850, students served, \$724,659 funded  
 UB - 10 programs, 748 students served, \$3,452,169 funded  
 UBMS - 1 programs, 50 students served, \$250,000 funded  
 VUB - 1 programs, 120 students served, \$355,666 funded  
 EOC - 3 programs, 3,500 students served, \$883,770 funded  
 SSS - 10 programs, 1,995 students served, \$2,866,085 funded  
 McNair - 2 program, 53 students served, \$483,448 funded

**President:** *Gene Ochsendorf*  
**President-Elect:** *Sarita Rhonemus*  
**Treasurer:** *Tira Runyon*  
**Secretary:**

**Fair Share: Received:** \$15,200  
**Budgeted:** \$23,460  
**Difference:** \$ 8,260  
**Percentage:** 65%

- WVAEOPP has a CEU task force will be established in WV under the leadership of Sarita Rhonemus.
- A WVAEOPP TRIO Alumni database is being developed by Carol Suder-Howes.

## In The Region



Delaware  
 District of Columbia  
 Maryland  
 Pennsylvania  
 Virginia  
 West Virginia

## REGIONAL CONTRIBUTION CAMPAIGN 2008-2009

THIS IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPLEMENT YOUR MEMBERSHIP OR TO INSPIRE OTHER MEMBERS OF OUR REGION TO CONTRIBUTE TO MEAEOPP. PLEASE JOIN WITH OUR INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS AND STATE ASSOCIATIONS THAT ARE COMMITTED TO ADVANCING EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY AND PROMOTING DIVERSITY IN AMERICA'S COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION \_\_\_\_\_

PROGRAM OR PROJECT \_\_\_\_\_

STREET ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ FAX \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION

MY PERSONAL CONTRIBUTION OF \$ \_\_\_\_\_ TO FURTHER SUPPORT MEAEOPP IS ENCLOSED.

BENEFACTOR FOR MEAEOPP (\$500 AND ABOVE)       CHAMPION FOR MEAEOPP (\$400 TO \$499)  
 PATRON FOR MEAEOPP (\$251 TO \$399)       ADVOCATE FOR MEAEOPP (\$100 TO \$250)  
 PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL FOR MEAEOPP (\$51 TO \$99)       FRIEND FOR MEAEOPP (\$5 TO \$50)

### STATE / DISTRICT ASSOCIATION CONTRIBUTION

DELAWARE \$ \_\_\_\_\_ DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

MARYLAND \$ \_\_\_\_\_ PENNSYLVANIA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

VIRGINIA \$ \_\_\_\_\_ WEST VIRGINIA \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### WHY SHOULD I CONTRIBUTE?

By contributing to MEAEOPP (through personal or State Association Contributions) you are essentially contributing to the success of TRIO. Only with your support can the Mid-Eastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel effectively carry out four activities that are crucial to your program and your students:

Consistently working to provide scholarship funds that support outstanding TRIO students in their quest to attain the academic goals that they, and YOU, have diligently worked towards.

Consistently working towards the mission of assisting low-income and first generation students in overcoming the economic, physical, academic and social barriers that make accessibility to higher education difficult, if not impossible.

Consistently working to provide TRIO students with the support services needed to successfully enroll in and graduate from post secondary institutions, thus advancing equal educational opportunity and promoting diversity in America's colleges and universities.

Consistently working to bring together program professionals who have shared interest in the educational and cultural development of TRIO Program students. The association offers the opportunity for growth through staff development to ensure continuing quality of program personnel.

MAKE TAX-DEDUCTIBLE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **MEAEOPP**

PLEASE GO TO: [WWW.MEAEOPP.ORG](http://WWW.MEAEOPP.ORG) TO MAKE A SECURED PAY PAL CONTRIBUTION (note in Pay Pal that it is a contribution)

An Association of Federal **TRIO** Programs

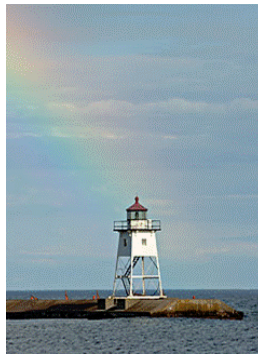
## In The Region

Continued

# "TRIO GPS: Guiding Professionals to Success"

March 29, 2009-April 1, 2009

Hilton Hotel, Virginia Beach, VA



## How YOU can make the 2009 Conference a Success:

- ◆ Consider running for a MEAEOPP Office. MEAEOPP Members can run and vote for President-Elect and Treasurer.
- ◆ Purchase Continuing Education Units with Old Dominion University.
- ◆ Participate in the Fun Run/Walk.
- ◆ Contribute to the Community Outreach Project: *For kids is an organization in the Virginia Beach area that provides shelter and assistance to homeless kids and families. More information can be found at [homesforkids.org](http://homesforkids.org). At this time they are most in need of snacks, and they would also like to stock school supplies for the upcoming school year.*
- ◆ Participate in the Silent Auction and 50/50 Raffle Sale.
- ◆ Purchase Development Items.

## Conference Highlights:

- ◆ Christine Harris, Psy.M. offers Opening Keynote Speech
- ◆ Dr. Arnold Mitchem and Mr. Dave Megquier brings Washington D.C. Updates
- ◆ Dr. Linda Byrd-Johnson brings Department of Education Updates
- ◆ Julia Tower and Angelica Vialpando from COE present workshops.

## In The Region

Continued

**MEAEOPP MEMBERSHIP**

For information on how to join MEAEOPP, contact Marline Paramour,  
Membership Chair at [mparamour@ccp.edu](mailto:mparamour@ccp.edu)  
or go to [www.meaeopp.org](http://www.meaeopp.org) for a membership form

NOTE: You must first be a member of a state or district association before joining MEAEOPP.

**MEAEOPP DEVELOPMENT**

This year MEAEOPP Development will include a variety of items for sale to support your TRiO program. Additionally, there will be interesting and valuable items available for you to win through a silent auction. As always we will have the State and District Baskets available for you to win through a silent auction and 50/50 raffle tickets. Lastly, as many TRiO Conferences offer across the country, we are asking YOU to bring interesting items from your TRiO Program, your institution and your community to donate to MEAEOPP as a part of a LARGE Silent Auction!

Please begin to collect these items to bring with you or to send to the MEAEOPP Conference in Virginia Beach!

**MEAEOPP ELECTIONS**

*Have you thought about running for a MEAEOPP Office? Responsibilities of the upcoming open offices are:*

**President -Elect**

(a) The President-Elect shall perform the duties of the President in his/her absence and shall assume the Office of President at the expiration of his/her term.

(b) The President-Elect shall be the chairperson of The Association's Annual Conference Committee.

(c) The President-Elect shall represent The Association on the Executive Board of the Council for Opportunity in Education beginning with the New Board Member Orientation.

*The President-Elect office is a three year commitment, with President and Immediate past-President to follow.*

**Treasurer**

(a) The Treasurer shall represent The Association in assuring that the receipts and expenditures of funds are in accordance with the directives established by The Association. He/She shall submit a full financial report to the Executive Board and at the Annual Business Meeting of The Association, and such interim reports as the Executive Board of The Association may direct.

(b) The Treasurer shall be responsible for arranging an annual audit of The Association's finances and for arranging for the completion of Federal Tax Forms.

(c) The Treasurer shall be under such bond as may be determined by the Executive Board.

Go to [www.meaeopp.org](http://www.meaeopp.org) for more information!

## In The Nation

President Obama has signed the FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations bill into law. The bill, which will fund many federal agencies through September 30, 2009, will provide a \$19.9 million increase for the TRIO programs (for a total of \$848.1 million) and a \$9.8 million increase for GEAR UP (for a total of \$313.2 million) for FY 2009. It is important to remember that these numbers are a reflection of President Bush's final Budget (FY 2009) in which his Administration level funded many education programs, including TRIO and GEAR UP. The final \$19.9 million allotted for TRIO was the difference in the House and Senate bills released last year (approximately a \$30 million increase in the House and a \$10 million increase in the Senate). The Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education bill (which provided those funds) was never conferenced and sent to President Bush for a vote because he threatened to veto most spending increases in education and health care.

Congress will now begin work on President Obama's first Budget (FY 2010). Last week the Obama Administration released their FY10 Budget Outline, which includes \$46.7 billion for education initiatives. Although specific numbers for the TRIO and GEAR UP programs were not released (his complete education budget will be released in April), there were some details included. The budget proposal would make all Pell Grant aid mandatory, rather than subject to a congressional allocation year after year. It would begin with a maximum Pell grant award of \$5,550 for the 2010-2011 school year. After that, the maximum award would be increase by inflation + 1%. The budget proposal also provides \$2.5 billion for an access and completion incentive program (\$500 million a year for five years) that would give grants to states and other entities to pay for programs designed to increasing students' success in college.

Because this initiative has not yet been authorized in Congress, it is still unclear how these programs will be determined but the Council for Opportunity in Education is working with the Administration and Congress to ensure that TRIO programs, where applicable, play a large role in this plan.

**Negotiated Rulemaking.** Negotiated rulemaking to determine the new TRIO regulations kicked off with a three-day session in late February. Negotiators include TRIO personnel, community and university officials, and even college students. Topics of discussion include the meaning of branch campuses, new definitions, revised outcome criteria, and required/permisible services. Two more session will be held during March and April. The Department expects to release draft regulations during the summer for public comment and produce final regulations by November.

**Student Support Services Competition News.** Although no formal date has been set, the next competition for Student Support Services (SSS) will take place this fall and the Department expects to impose a 50-75 page limit on applications. The Department expects to fund 975 five-year grants. Campuses will be able to apply for the SSS programs in the following student categories categories: (1) Traditional SSS, (2) Disabled, (3) ESL, (4) STEM, (5) Teacher Preparation, and (6) Health Careers. There will be no limit on the number of categories a campus can apply for. The minimum amount to be awarded will be \$220,000 and there may be a slight reduction in the required minimum number of students.

**2009 TRIO Low Income Levels**

<http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/incomelevels.html>

**2008-09 TRIO Training Opportunities**

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/triotrain/opportunities.html>

Program Profiles can be found at:

TS	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/highered/talentsearch/index.html">http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/highered/talentsearch/index.html</a> <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/triotalent/tsinterimreport2002-04.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/triotalent/tsinterimreport2002-04.doc</a>
UB	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/ubprofile-00-01.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/ubprofile-00-01.doc</a>
UBMS	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomathsci/ubmsprofile2000-01.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomathsci/ubmsprofile2000-01.doc</a>
VUB	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/vubprofile2000-01.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioupbound/vubprofile2000-01.doc</a>
EOC	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioeoc/eocinterimreport2002-04.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/trioeoc/eocinterimreport2002-04.doc</a>
SSS	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/sss-interim2002-04.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/triostudsupp/sss-interim2002-04.doc</a>
McNair	<a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/mcnairprofile1997-2002.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/mcnairprofile1997-2002.doc</a> <a href="http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/mcnair2004-05facts.doc">http://www.ed.gov/programs/triomcnair/mcnair2004-05facts.doc</a>

**MEAEOPP BEACON**

The Mid-Eastern Beacon is developed by the MEAEOPP editorial and publications committee and published twice annually for distribution to its membership. If you have suggestions, contributions, or would like to join the publications committee, contact [sandefur@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:sandefur@pobox.upenn.edu)

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*The Mid-Eastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MEAEOPP) is a regional association of educational opportunity program personnel from Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and West Virginia. MEAEOPP's mission is to promote equal educational opportunity and greater accessibility to higher education for non-traditional students, who, by reason of socio-economic status, ethnic definition, physical handicap, and/or restricted cultural-educational experience, find themselves in a disadvantaged position with traditional or conventional students.*

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**MEAEOPP Executive Board 2008–2009****President**

Diane Sandefur, Director  
TRiO Veterans Upward Bound  
University of Pennsylvania  
220 S. 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 260  
Philadelphia, PA 19104  
Office: 215-898-6892  
Fax: 215-898-9301  
[sandefur@pobox.upenn.edu](mailto:sandefur@pobox.upenn.edu)

**Past President**

John Jay Wright  
Director  
TRiO Talent Search  
Marshall University  
One Marshall Drive  
Huntington, WV 25101  
Office: 304-696-2443  
Fax: 304-696-3271  
[wright5@marshall.edu](mailto:wright5@marshall.edu)

**Parliamentarian**

Ollie W. Tolliver, Director  
TRiO Upward Bound  
Old Dominion University  
Academic Skills Center, Room 111  
Norfolk, Virginia 23529-0069  
Office: 757 683 - 4315  
Fax: 757 683 - 3201  
[otollive@odu.edu](mailto:otollive@odu.edu)

**President-Elect**

Corris Davis, Director  
TRiO Upward Bound  
University of MD, Baltimore County  
1000 Hilltop Circle  
Math/Psychology Building, Room 007  
Baltimore, MD 21250  
Office: 410-455-2700  
Fax: 410-455-1062  
[cdavis4@umbc.edu](mailto:cdavis4@umbc.edu)

**Treasurer**

Lesa Garland  
Administrative Assistant  
TRiO Programs  
Howard University  
MSC 590486  
500 Howard Place NW  
Washington DC 20059  
Office: 202-806-5132  
Fax: 202-806-5148  
[lcgarland@Howard.edu](mailto:lcgarland@Howard.edu)

**Secretary**

Janice Satterthwaite, Academic Coordinator  
TRiO Educational Talent Search  
Hampton University  
P.O. Box 6183  
Hampton, VA 23668  
Office: 757-727-5662  
Fax: 757- 728-6734  
[janice.satterthwaite@hamptonu.edu](mailto:janice.satterthwaite@hamptonu.edu)