



MAEOPP NewsBLAST

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Meet the 2011 MAEOPP Board

SPRING, 2011

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What the MAEOPP Board is doing.....

It's time for MAEOPP to chart a vision of success for the coming years! We're embarking on the creation of a new strategic plan and Ms. Tiffany J. Davis is assisting us in our efforts. A long-time friend of TRIO, Ms. Davis has served the TRIO community in a variety of ways: a former Upward Bound instructor, former Assistant Director of the McNair Scholars Program at Bowling Green State University, two time presenter at MAEOPP, and more recently as the Chair for the Newcomer's Workshop during the 2009 MAEOPP Conference. She is currently a doctoral student at the University of Georgia and serves as a Doctoral Intern for Student Affairs Assessment and Staff Development. She brings her understanding of TRIO and her prior academic study in organizational development and change within higher education to the strategic planning process.

The MAEOPP strategic planning process is slated to be a collaborative and transparent process for the executive board and membership. Members of MAEOPP will be provided an opportunity to provide feedback on the future of the organization during Summer 2011 and conference sessions on the completed direction of MAEOPP are planned for the 2011 Conference. Ms. Davis will assist MAEOPP in the coming months through the stages of the strategic planning process including the initial review of the most recent plan, drafting goals and performance measures, gathering member feedback and creating an assessment plan to evaluate our progress and alignment with the new plan.





Marathon runner, food pantry volunteer, and all-around good guy, Ramon Martinez will be part of a team that bikes from coast to coast this summer, assisting affordable housing efforts throughout the nation. In his application essay for the Bike and Build Program, Martinez wrote: “The idea that excites me the most is that I would be around a group of individuals just as crazy, if not crazier than me!”

As participants travel, they stop and talk with people about the program and also take breaks to work on construction sites. Martinez shares his reasons for participating: “Pedaling for affordable housing means taking your mind and body to new horizons; the B&B experience will set new paths towards experiences that many will not get to undergo in a lifetime. It means displaying first-class stewardship. It gives individuals the opportunity to help combat the existing housing crisis by helping fund affordable housing projects

throughout our country, which will help the many families who are being affected by the recession.” Martinez is an SSS participant at Viterbo University in LaCrosse, WI. “Setting goals is vital to ensure overall success in whatever task is at hand. It is important to set short-term goals on a daily basis, so over time, that particular long-term goal can be accomplished.”

MAEOPP 36th Annual Conference 2010: An Evaluation

Executive Summary by Alan Dsouza

Introduction: The key phrase to understand the evaluation of the 36th MAEOPP Annual Conference is “Taking leadership to the next level.” This initiative was reflected in the conference objectives of professional development, increased awareness about and affecting MAEOPP, call to action, and networking opportunities. Findings: A total number of 294 out of 404 attendees filled out the online surveys providing a response rate of 72.77%.

Concurrent Sessions: Most responses to the concurrent sessions were positive and satisfactory (80% to 95%). In the open-ended section, certain respondents suggested more intensive and information-loaded sessions, diversity of sessions to address programmatic concerns beyond traditional Upward Bound and Student Support Services programs, a better use of presentation technology, and bigger and more comfortable rooms for presentations (some attendees could not attend some sessions since the sessions could not accommodate them).

1. The most attractive part of the conference were the numerous plenaries offered to the participants. Dr. Mitchem’s Plenary was well received by 94% of the attendees. Dr. Julian Earls, Ranjit Sidhu, and Mateo Arteaga (Chair, COE Board) also presented well appreciated plenaries. 2. Regarding the updates from the Department of Education, the information was found useful (76.7%); however, some shared their frustration as to the inability of the speaker to address concerns other than some specific programs, and sharing information that was already known by the attendees. 3. Regarding the installation ceremony, most respondents (72.8%) found the ceremony a good mixture of sobriety and professionalism. 4. Regarding the new President’s address, most (76.3%) attendees found the remarks motivating.

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