

Introduction



Deltha Q. Colvin, Associate Vice President for Nontraditional Students

(focusing on students in foster care), Upward Bound Wichita Prep, Upward Bound Math Science, Veterans Upward Bound, Communication Upward Bound, Educational Talent Search, Educational Opportunity Centers, Student Support Services, Disability Support Services, and the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program.

GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) is also hosted by WSU. These competitive matching discretionary grant programs are seven-year grants to provide services in high-poverty schools. The grants serve a cohort of students in middle school and continue academic support through the first year of college. The programs are designed to raise the expectations of low-income students, improve their preparedness for postsecondary, and increase college attendance and success rates among these students.

Kansas Kids @ GEAR UP, a statewide grant, provides early intervention services to 2,500 students in foster care and administers a scholarship component. In addition, WSU hosts four partnership GEAR UP programs-- South Wichita GEAR UP, North Wichita GEAR UP, West Wichita GEAR UP, and Southeast Wichita GEAR UP. Each provides early intervention services to 925 students in the Wichita Public Schools. The West and Southeast GEAR UP programs were newly funded by the U.S. Department of Education in 2017.

The hard work and efforts of all the programs are appreciated and highlighted in this issue. Also, the magazine committee and each of the committees are to be commended for planning a great TRIO day celebration.

TRIO Day is February 13, 2018. The TRIO and GEAR UP Programs are under the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement at Wichita State University. The Office of Special Programs is excited to be hosting the students and former participants of the programs.

The TRIO and GEAR UP programs are federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. Services assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to graduate school. TRIO began with Upward Bound, which emerged out of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 in response to the administration's War on Poverty. In 1965, Talent Search was created as part of the Higher Education Act. Student Support Services, originally known as Special Services for Disadvantaged Students, was authorized by the Higher Education Amendments in 1968. In 1972, Educational Opportunity Centers was authorized and the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program was added in 1986. Additionally, in 1990, the Department created the Upward Bound Math-Science program to address the specific need for instruction in the math and science fields.

Wichita State is host to the following TRIO programs: the newly funded Upward Bound Empowerment Program



Alan Dsouza, PhD (policy analyst director),
Hercilia Thompson (administrative specialist)