



As part of the National TRIO Day festivities on February 21, 2017, the Office of Special Programs is planning to host a free conference designed for WSU faculty, staff, public school educators, administrators, and community agency professionals. The College Access, Retention and Success Conference (CARS Conference) will be held from 10am to 1pm at the Rhatigan Student Center, 2nd floor, on the campus of Wichita State University. The topics will range from strategies to effectively address issues regarding middle school students to college students.

The presentations will be led by TRIO, GEAR UP, and Office of Disability Services staff. Many of the ideas suggested have been designated as best practices in the field, especially those that address problems typically associated with low-income, first-generation, foster care youth, returning adult students, veterans, and students with disabilities.

The tentative schedule for the CARS conference will include short sessions designed to provide lots of information and opportunities to ask questions. Each program will have a table on the 2nd floor for attendees to visit and receive additional information. There will also be door prizes for those who visit the tables. A webpage has been developed for the conference updates, information on registration, and to contact programs for information.

For more information and to receive latest update on the CARS conference, please visit wichita.edu/cars.



Delinda Royse,
Director of
Development for
the Division of
Student Affairs at
Wichita State

As the director of development for the Division of Student Affairs at Wichita State, Delinda Royse sees her role as a support person to enhance the programs under the Office of Special Programs. She tirelessly works to provide resources and other promotional items to help make learning more attractive to students.

Royse says, “I have always felt that any and all requests regardless of size will eventually benefit one of our students. If it makes a student want to be here and participate (in the programs), it is worth looking for it.” Her passion for helping those with few resources began when her children were going through the public school system. She witnessed students who didn’t have school supplies or money for field trips. She helped one particular little girl who “disappeared” from the school roles. She often wonders what happened to this child but she sees her role now as another opportunity to help students.

Prior to coming to Wichita State, Royse worked for the United Way of Plains, then in national sales. She was very successful in these roles but lacked a certain personal reward that her work with WSU has now filled. “Every time I see the passion you all have for your students, I know I am in the right place,” Royse exclaims.