

ACN Meeting Minutes: April 18, 2017

Members present: M. Camacho, R. Carr, E. Cobb, S. Conway, G. Cooper-Sperber, J. Cummins, K. DeMartino, G. Dorantes, C. Faurote, J. Hardy, N. Heinen, K. Hildebrandt, A. Hirschman, C. Hunt, T. Kelly, A. Kowaliczko, A. Lopez, J. Maisells, A. Maldonado, J. Martin, T. Martin, M. Moore-Geissler, O. Navarro, C. Pahl, C. Parks, S. Peek, S. Perkins Simmons, M. Poytinger, R. Reece, L. Roohr, T. Rufer, A. Sadowsky, T. Smith, S. Terry, A. Troiano, A. Vansistine, C. Wolf

Total: 37

TRIO Programs: April Holland

- Holland presented on the TRIO programs, pre-college programs that are offered at UWM.
- The TRIO programs provide services to students throughout the educational pipeline, from middle school to high school.
- The goal of the programs is to increase the post-secondary enrollment, persistence, and graduation rates of low-income first generation students.
- The programs address social and cultural barriers to students gaining an education.
- The programs prepare and assist middle schoolers and high school students.
- The programs also aid graduate and PhD students as well.
- Upward Bound
 - First TRIO program, established in 1964.
 - Part of President Johnson's war on poverty, which included the Economic Opportunity Act, Job Corps, Head Start, Legal Services, and VISTA.
 - Program is administered by the Office of Economic Opportunity.
 - Started with 17 pilot programs in 1964 at different colleges in the U.S. The first one in Wisconsin was at Ripon College in 1965.
- Talent Search, the second program, was established by the Higher Education Act of 1965.
- Student Support Services was established in 1968.
- After this, the programs were referred to as "TRIO" because there were three of them.
- Now, however, there are 7 programs.
- All of these programs are funded by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Currently, the TRIO office at UWM is in the process of writing to renew their grants. Holland said they are not sure what funding might look like in the next several months, but they are optimistic and hopeful.
- All seven of the federal programs are offered at UWM. Other programs include:
 - Veterans Upward Bound, created in 1972.
 - Ronald E McNair Program, created in 1989.
 - Upward Bound Math and Science, created in 1990.
- UWM is one of the only six institutions in the U.S. that house all seven of the programs
- That is partly due to the goal of a past TRIO administrator. He wanted to have all seven programs at UWM, and he created a grant-writing team to start these programs.

- Holland outlined some quick facts on students participating in TRIO programs:
 - 37% are white, 35% are African American, 19% are Hispanic, 4% are native, 4% are Asian American
 - UWM serves nearly 4,771 students a year with over \$2 million in funding.
 - TRIO programs have brought over \$104 million to the UWM campus.
 - Notable TRIO alumni include John Kionis, Viola Davis, Senator Gwendolyn Moore, Angela Bassett, and more (see slide on popwerpoint). Many are still involved by donating dollars.
- Holland then gave information on the individual programs at UWM.
- Upward Bound:
 - Serves 110 students in grades 9 through 12. They target nine high schools in Milwaukee and recruit students to be a part of this program. For 6 weeks in the summer, students are on campus. They get a jump start on the courses they are registered to take in fall.
 - The program includes tutoring in all core subjects as well as intensive academic advising.
 - Students get an opportunity to get a feel for what college is like. Many teachers are from MPS, but there are also teachers from UWM's master's and doctoral programs.
 - **If you know a good student needing a summer job**, this program is still looking to hire a residential counselor for the summer.
- Educational Talent Search
 - Large program—serves 700 students in grades 6 through 12.
 - This program works with students to help them understand the college admission process, how to file for financial aid, and how to find information about scholarships. This program also offers tutoring Monday through Thursday from 4 to 7 p.m. in math, writing, and reading.
 - The program also works with the students' parents. Many of the parents want to go to college. Through the M-cubed initiative, TRIO staff are assisting them with the same processes they use with the students.
- Upward Bound Math and Science
 - Serves 60 students grades 9 through 12.
 - Exposes students to STEM careers.
 - Helps students realize their potential in math and science.
- Student Support Services
 - This program is not housed under Holland; it's housed under AOC.
 - Serves 250 students enrolled at UWM.
 - Program advisors provide academic advising and planning as well as financial aid and scholarship information.
 - Also offers a free laptop loan program and a summer bridge program for new freshmen.
 - Advisors work with students for their first 40 to 60 credits to be sure they are ready to move into their major.
- Education Opportunity Center
 - Serve 1,000 students.
 - UWM houses the only EOC program in Wisconsin.
 - This program is for adults—people who dropped out of high school or college and want to return.

- Provides counseling and information on admissions to adults who want to pursue post-secondary education.
 - Provides basic academic instruction to get them back into school.
- Ronald E McNair Program
 - This program is not housed under Holland; it's housed under UWM's Graduate School.
 - Created in 1989; it's one of the first 14 programs in the country.
 - The goal of the program is to increase the attainment of Phds among students from underrepresented segments of the population, including low income, first generation, and racial and ethnic groups historically underrepresented in graduate programs.
 - Provides academic advising and advice on applying to graduate programs, including going to visit graduate schools.
 - Provides summer research project funding and advising.
- Gear Up
 - This program is offered in partnership with MPS in specific MPS high schools (see powerpoint). Students from these schools become more knowledgeable about college, and the goal is to increase student access to college.
- The programs mentioned above are federally funded programs. Holland said her office is currently applying for the federal grants needed to continue these programs at UWM.
- Holland noted that there are also some state-funded programs. These include Future Success, Knowledge is Power, Planning for the Future, Mini-courses, and Quest.
- Future Success Program
 - This program is much like Upward Bound.
 - It includes a summer program where students develop mentorships with faculty members to prepare for college courses. The summer program includes instruction in STEM electives in IT, architecture, business, and engineering.
- Knowledge is Power
 - Holland created this program to increase the Hispanic population involved in pre-college programs.
 - The program works with students in grades 9 through 12 at Escuela Verde, supporting them to help them graduate from high school and go on to college. Provides classroom materials, tutoring, career counseling, and other services.
- Planning for the Future
 - Serves middle school students (grades 6 through 8) and helps them get ready for college.
 - Includes tutoring in STEM courses as well as leadership skills workshops.
 - Students in this program then move on to Future Success or other TRIO pre-college programs.
- Mini-courses
 - This is a really dynamic program that provides academic preparation for the ACT and various classes that will assist students in developing their strengths.
 - This program also coordinates free campus tours for elementary and middle school students. Each year the number of elementary schools wanting tours grows. They go until late May with tours.
- Quest

- Dr. Ruth Williams co-authored a grant to receive funding from UW System to educate and motivate middle and high school students and parents to do college.
- Quest provides tutoring and workshops on resume writing, college searches, self-esteem, and more.
- TRIO results:
 - In the TRIO classes of 2013, 2014, and 2015, out of the 432 TRIO program graduates, 347 went on to college (80%) and 88 (25%) attended UWM.
- Holland noted TRIO works; pre-college programs work. Yes, they would love for their numbers to increase—they are working on that—but she shares with her students that they all are a success story.
- Holland also said thank you to all the colleagues that believe in these programs. She appreciates the support. She said that it's amazing when she gets to go to the students' high school and college graduations.
- Chris Parks added a comment on the McNair program. He noted that it's been really interesting in to watch the results. He said it's a relatively small group of students, but they get a really intense experience with research during the summer research program. He said the end of summer, they have a symposium on the projects, and it's an interesting symposium.

First-Year Research Experience (FYRE): Nigel Rothfels, Office of Undergraduate Research

- Rothfels noted that their office has had a lot of requests from in-coming freshmen for undergraduate research opportunities.
- They have been somewhat successful to find opportunities for new freshmen but want to find more.
- The issue is that they don't have enough faculty to meet the demand.
- They came up with the idea to have a course-based research class—and therefore, faculty could work with more than one student.
- They then were granted some money from CEMAT as part of a retention initiative
- The idea was to create 10 to 12 courses a year for several years.
- They would like to pitch the courses to high-achieving students, although they are still working on how to define “high-achieving”—is it based on high school GPA or test scores or other elements?
- They have 10 courses in mind for fall. He didn't bring a list of the courses but will email a list to ACN.
- The courses are in areas such as chemistry, biology, physics, engineering, public health, architecture, and history.
- Some of the courses in L&S are designated as First Year Research Experience (FYRE) courses, but not all are.
- They are still working out the details of one in chemistry that could be counted as a GER or toward the degree in chemistry.
- Two courses are in the Honors College.

- The budget is through the Undergraduate Research Office. The faculty member has defined a research project he/she wants students to work on for the semester. They have a brief description of each of the projects.
- The theater course involves taking students to dinner and a show every week and then discussing it.
- All the first year seminar numbers will be GERS.
- The classes are capped at around 10 students.
- There are one or two that are fewer than 8 due to limited physical space in a lab.
- They are imagining the courses as an entry way for students who are really interested in that area.
- They want to put some restrictions on students who are allowed to take the course—they want to be sure they get students who understand that the course is an undergraduate research course and that these students want this research opportunity.
- Question: Are these courses open to students beyond first year? No, because it was CEMAT money that is used with the intention that these will be first-year courses. They will, however, offer courses in fall and spring. There will be two to three courses in spring. One of the Honors courses is in spring.
- They will be serving about 100 students total. Some students have already reached out to the office to be included in these classes.
- Question: If there are students who we've already noted are interested in doing research, how do we save a spot for them? I can see these classes filling up quickly with the good students who register in first. Answer: Rothfels hopes they will fill. However, the classes may be a bit hard to schedule since they take a chunk of time in a freshmen's schedule—sometimes a three-hour block.
- The office tried a course like this a couple of years ago and had students who ended up in the class and didn't know what it was. Rothfels wanted to get input on how to manage enrollment in the course.
- He also noted that some will be off campus. One in the freshwater sciences will need to go to that building near the lake. The audience noted that he should note that in the Schedule of Classes on PAWS.
- Question: Are new courses still being developed? Christine Wolf noted that CIE would be interested in developing a course like this.
- Rothfels noted that he sent out information about developing these courses to department chairs and asked them to share with faculty. He didn't get many that responded.
- Question: Do you envision this going on for 4-5 years? Yes.
- Most faculty are doing it as an overload. There is a little budget for each course, which they can use for lab supplies, etc.
- Question: Are they open to international students? Yes.
- The office is still determining how to define "high-achieving students." They do note that they want students with an ACT above 25. They feel it's less about set standards and more about high ambition.
- A couple of the faculty wanted their students to have a certain level of math background for sciences.

- CEMAT provided funds with the intention that these courses would attract people with higher ACT scores because people with higher ACTs tend to be retained better.
- Rothfels noted he will gather more information on the courses, including a list of courses, and will email ACN.

General Announcements

TESOL Career Panel (Allegra Troiano): The English as a Second Language program is holding a TESOL Career Panel on Wednesday, April 26, from 2 to 3:30 p.m. in Lubar S171. See the attached flyers for details and please share with interested students.

Financial Aid: For students receiving summer financial aid: Financial aid will be awarded for summer in the first week of May and disbursed 10 days before a student's summer course begins.

Athletics (Clare Faurote): Athletic forms are due May 11. Thank you to those who have already turned them in. Contact Clare with any questions.

Office of the Registrar (Kristin Hildebrandt): Enrollment has started for fall. We had 5,520 undergraduates completing the checklist, and 775 students using the new Schedule Planner software.

Testing Center (Sarah Perkins): Placement test results will start to post soon on PAWS. However, not all placement indications are triggered yet. They are still working with UITS on how results are displayed, so students and advisors know which class students should take. Hopefully that will be resolved by the end of May. Sarah will also let us know in May about the Panther Math Prep course.

Accessibility Resource Center (Aura Hirshman): The center is still having students come in for services this semester. Please let students know they can come in any time—it doesn't have to be at the start of the semester.

One issue the center has been dealing with more recently is that there are more animals on campus. They are dealing with decisions around what is a service animal versus a comfort animal versus an animal brought on campus for stress reduction, etc. There is also a new student org that is addressing how animals are being treated on campus. The center is working on doing more education on campus around service animals.

PASS (Nicole Heinen): A lot of tutors are graduating, so PASS is looking to hire more tutors for fall. Send interested and/or high-achieving students to PASS for information. Also, before NSO, PASS will have a list of which instructors will have SI sections.

LGBT Resource Center (Jeanette Martin): The Resource Center is holding a 6-day-5-night summer camp for high school students. If you have any students who want to work with high school youth, please refer them to the Center. The student doesn't have to identify as LGBTQ—the student can be an ally. You can find more information on Pantherjobs.

Student Involvement (Kristin Demartino): Thank you for submitting applications for the student excellence awards. If you nominated a student, we would like you to attend the award ceremony with the student.

Also, regarding **Fall Welcome**, the deadline to submit signature events for fall welcome is next Friday. Also **Rebecca Grassl** is setting up a Panther listserv for those interested in getting updates on fall welcome. Volunteer sign-up will be start in May.

WACADA One-day Professional Development: Gary Cooper-Sperber encouraged colleagues to get involved with WACADA. WACADS is offering a workshop at Whitewater. See the recent email sent by Gary for more information on registering for the workshop. (UPDATE: Workshop is now full.)

Next ACN Meeting: Tuesday, May 16, 8:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. in Union 191.