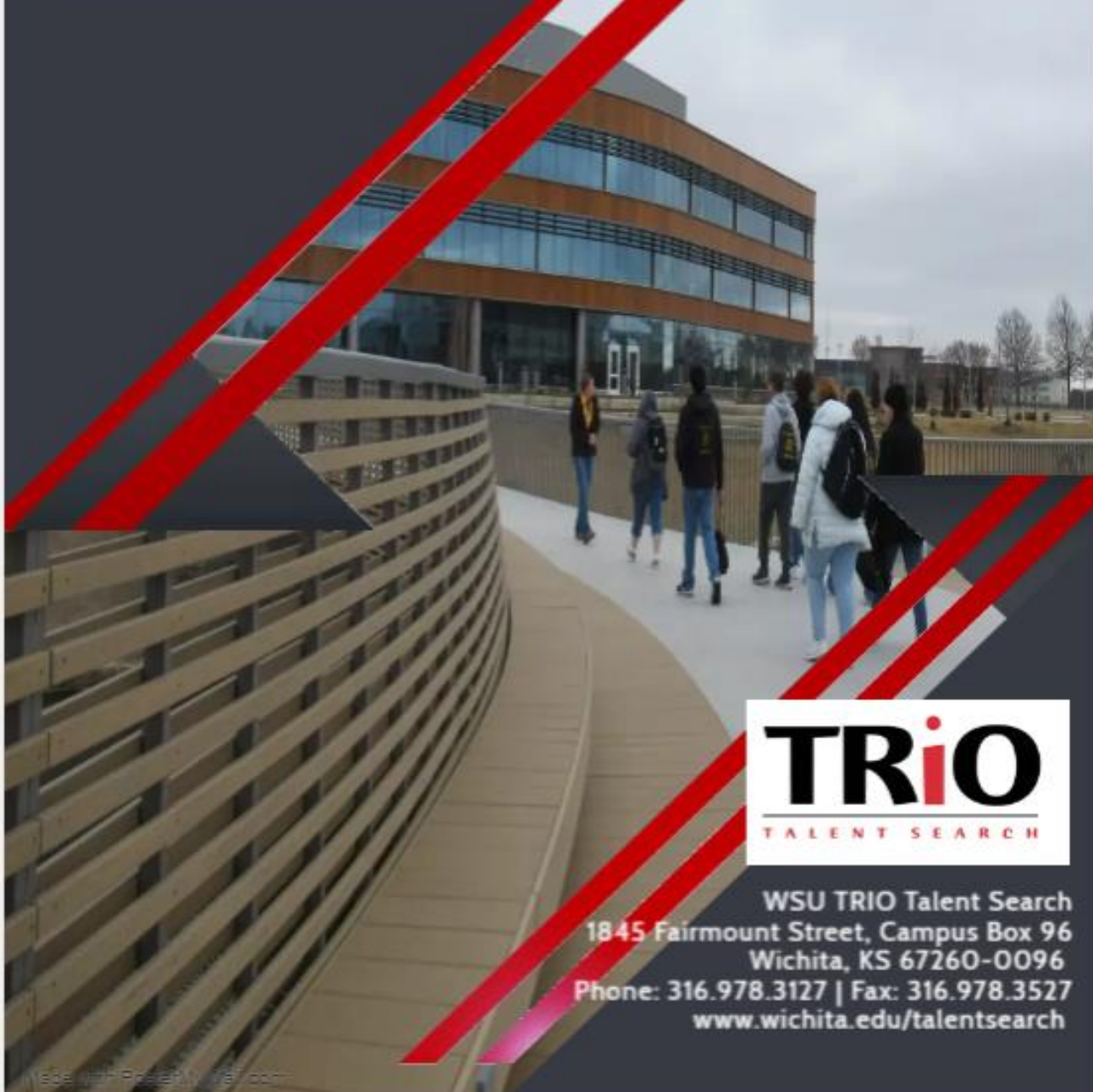


ANNUAL REPORT

2022-2023



TRiO
TALENT SEARCH

WSU TRIO Talent Search
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DIGITAL ANNUAL REPORT CONTENTS

Scan the QR code for the annual report video, detailed reports on program activities, services, statistics, and evaluations.

- Program Highlights Video
- Campus Visits
- College Readiness Activities
- Special Programs
- Professional Development Reports
- Program Statistics
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MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is with pride and great pleasure to publish this annual report that highlights many of the services, activities, and accomplishments made during the 2022-2023 grant year. This marks the second year of the five-year grant cycle. I am happy to report that the program met or exceeded all mandatory program objectives. The staff is to be commended for their hard work in motivating and encouraging students to do their best.

Program Educational Advisors Suresh Menon, Thip Phichith, Kate Radley, and Emily Roets-Estevéz worked with the students and staff at North, Southeast, and West High Schools on the ACT, financial aid, and other services including visits to college campuses throughout the year. In addition, Stephanie Haynes led our middle school efforts including the ever-popular Middle School Summer Enrichment Program. Students were selected from Brooks, Curtis, Gordon Parks Academy, Hamilton, Jardine, and Mayberry.

Associate Director Manivone Souriya and Administrative Specialist Sharon Robertson worked behind the scenes to ensure that the program's operations and evaluation components were efficient and strong. Finally, university administrators including WSU President Richard Muma, Ph.D., Provost Shirley LeFever, Ph.D., and Associate Vice President Deltha Q. Colvin provide unwavering support and technical assistance to ensure the program remains a viable and effective entity at the university. Thanks to all the public school staff who collaborate with the program to ensure that low income and potential first-generation students are served well by the program.



- Larry Ramos, Executive Director

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

TRIO Affiliation and Brief Historical Perspective

Talent Search is housed on the Wichita State main campus. Other TRIO programs at Wichita State University include Communication Upward Bound, Disability Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers, McNair Scholars Program, Student Support Services, Talent Search-South, Upward Bound Math-Science, Upward Bound Wichita Prep, and Veterans Upward Bound.

On November 8, 1965, President Lyndon Johnson signed into law the 1965 Higher Education Act (HEA), which included several programs that have changed the landscape of education in this nation. Major pillars of that law included access, equal educational opportunity, increased financial aid for students (work study, low interest student loans, Pell Grants, and strengthening resources to higher education institutions). The Talent Search program was the first TRIO program authorized under the HEA in 1965. The Upward Bound Program preceded Talent Search in 1964 (Upward Bound was established under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964). The amended HEA of 1968 authorized the third of a series of educational opportunity programs, the Student Support Services Program, originally named the Special Services for Disadvantaged Students. By the late 1960s, the term “TRIO” had become the umbrella identifier of these programs.

Nationally, there are eight TRIO programs that annually serve approximately 850,000 low-income and first-generation students. Millions of students have been nurtured, assisted, and supported through TRIO programs and resources initiated in the 1965 HEA and subsequent amendments. The TRIO programs have had a major effect on millions of low-income and first-generation students, moving them from poverty to middle class, from limited access to postsecondary education, to graduating from colleges and universities. The students have succeeded in unimaginable ways and have become leaders, teachers, entrepreneurs, doctors, and social justice engineers on a global scale. These remarkable individuals include television icon Oprah Winfrey, academy award-winning actress Viola Davis, political strategist Donna Brazile, astronauts Franklin Chang-Diaz and Bernard Harris, congresswoman Gwendolynne Moore, former U.S. congressman Henry Bonilla, to name a few, and millions of other trailblazers and achievers. They are evidence of TRIO’s transformational and global impact. TRIO is the bridge that moves students from where they are to where they want to be. TRIO programs have been a critical tool in actualizing and maximizing the benefits of the 1965 HEA for low-income and first-generation students throughout the United States. “TRIO Works,” and thousands of students achieve and succeed because of TRIO every day.

- Excerpts from Jerry Lewis, Executive Director, Academic Achievement Programs, 2022

Daily Operations

The program employs an executive director, associate director/statistician, middle school director, three program educational advisors, an administrative specialist, as well as part-time tutors and student assistants. While most of the grant funds were allocated to services provided to students, funds were included for allowable professional staff development, equipment, supplies and other operating expenditures to enable the program to serve students at a high level.

Grant Funding

For the 2022-2023 academic year, Talent Search was awarded funding in the amount of \$624,429 from the U.S. Department of Education. This grant supports the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP), campus visits, workshops on financial literacy and ACT preparation, the After School Tutoring Program (ASTP), and other services and activities offered throughout the academic year.



The **mission** of the TRIO Talent Search program is to identify, encourage and assist low-income and potential first-generation college students to complete a secondary education, enroll in post-secondary education, and complete a postsecondary program.

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

Since 2016, the program has responded to the mandatory program objectives developed by the U.S. Department of Education.

Secondary
School
Persistence:

Ninety-eight percent of non-senior participants served each project year will complete the current academic year and continue in school for the next academic year, at the next grade level.

The program achieved 100 percent.



Secondary
School
Graduation:

Eighty percent of seniors served during the project year will graduate during the project year with a regular secondary school diploma within the standard number of years.

The program achieved 96 percent.



Secondary
School
Graduation
(Rigorous Secondary
School Program of Study):

Twenty-five percent of seniors served during the project year will complete a rigorous secondary school program of study and will graduate during the project year with a regular secondary school diploma within the standard number of years.

The program achieved 59 percent.



Postsecondary
Education
Enrollment:

Fifty-five percent of participants, who graduated with a regular secondary school diploma, during the project year will enroll in an institution of higher education by the fall term immediately following high school graduation or will have received notification, by the fall term immediately following high school, from an institution of higher education, of acceptance but deferred enrollment until the next academic term (e.g. spring term).

The program achieved 61 percent.




Postsecondary
Attainment:

Forty-five percent of participants served during the project year, which enrolled in an institution of higher education, by the fall term immediately following high school graduation or by the next academic term (e.g. spring term) as a result of acceptance but deferred enrollment will, complete a program of postsecondary education within six years.

The program achieved 54 percent.



Please note the following definition:

Enrolled – a participant who has completed the registration requirements (except for the payment of tuition and fees) at the institution that he or she is attending.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

To ensure students achieved their educational goals, the program offered a wide array of services and activities during the grant year to meet their needs. The following provides a brief overview of the services and activities provided by the program.

Academic Advising, Assistance in Pre-College and Rigorous Course Planning and College Course Selection


Program Educational Advisors advised students on rigorous pre-college curriculum to ensure postsecondary eligibility. Students were given the opportunity to view online lessons and connect weekly with their Talent Search advisors to discuss college plans and receive academic support. Graduating seniors were advised of college course offerings and possible majors. Senior-level students received assistance with applying to postsecondary institutions, completing the FAFSA and scholarship applications, registering for courses and campus orientation, arranging for housing, and identifying a college advisor. Juniors and seniors were advised on the procedures to select classes for college credit while still in high school. Middle school students were offered the opportunity to participate in the summer enrichment program to help them make a successful transition from middle school to high school.

College Jump Start: ACT Prep



Assistance in Completing College Admission Applications and Financial Aid Forms

Students received technical assistance in completing college admission applications and financial aid forms. A computer lab was available for program students to complete online applications including the FAFSA. Program advisors reviewed applications and students were provided admission application fee waivers and grants offered at many colleges and universities for TRIO participants. Online and in-person workshops were offered throughout the year providing students information on financial literacy, scholarships, and other related topics. The financial literacy coordinator also published a periodic scholarship newsletter. TRIO Talent Search also posted scholarship information, such as the Educational Opportunity Association Scholarship and the DreamCatcher Scholarship, on its Facebook page.





Scholarship Newsletter
December 2022

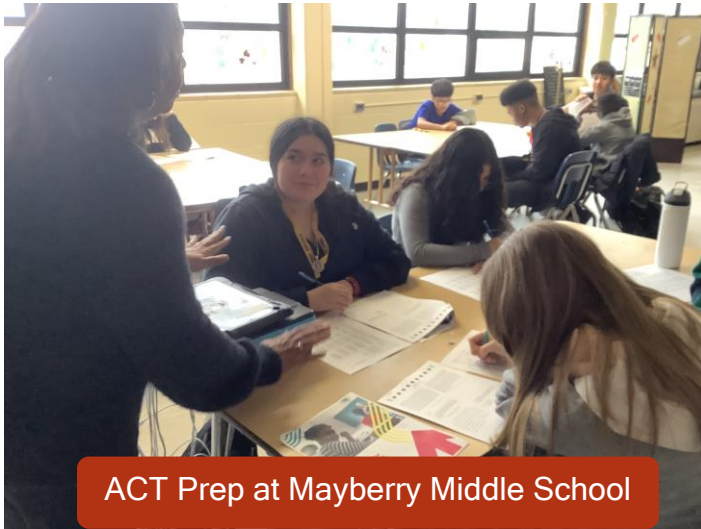
TRIO Talent Search
Mrs. Estevez
emily.roets-estevez@wichita.edu

Tips

- Check for scholarships at your bank, church, athletics team, or parent's place of employment
- Check Xello or with your CCC for local and national scholarships
- See if your clubs and organizations have scholarships
 - Examples: National Honor Society, Kansas Honors Scholar







ACT Prep at Mayberry Middle School

Assistance in Preparing for College Entrance Examinations

Program advisors showed students how to prepare for the ACT and SAT exams. The program's College Resource Library houses study guides and practice test materials. Academic resources such as rack cards and pamphlets on money management, financial aid, college admissions, the FAFSA, goal-setting, and college preparation were provided to students.

Program advisors connected with students using Remind™, emails, text messaging and other social media on test taking strategies, effective study habits, and other topics related to being better prepared for coursework and exams. ACT and SAT registration fee waivers were obtained and provided to students who met eligibility guidelines. The program also conducted ACT workshops in the schools.

Mentoring and Career Counseling

Students met with program staff for mentoring via phone calls, Remind™ messaging, video conferencing, other available media, or at the target schools. Students could express any concerns they had regarding school, home life, or their ideas for the future. Presentations on career and educational opportunities were conducted for middle schools, high schools, and community agencies. Talent Search also hosted a College Jump Start event at the Marcus Welcome Center on the WSU main campus to introduce high school students to the FAFSA, the college admissions process, campus housing options, college orientation programs, and the state requirements for completing the qualified admissions curriculum.

Gordon Parks Academy recognized the program as a Community Hero for sponsoring these activities.



Guidance on Secondary School Re-Entry or Entry to Other Programs Leading to a Secondary School Diploma or Its Equivalent

Program advisors provided information to individuals, who had dropped out of high school, on how to re-enter school or enroll in an alternative education program. The purpose of this service was to support students in completing their high school diplomas, high school equivalency, or GED so that they could become eligible to apply to postsecondary institutions. Individuals were also referred to the Educational Opportunity Centers program for assistance.

Campus Visits

The program partnered with TRIO Talent Search-South to offer high school students campus visits throughout the academic year to learn about admissions, financial aid, housing options, majors, and other college-related matters. Campus visits included Butler Community College, Cowley College, Emporia State University, Kansas State University, Newman University, Oklahoma State University, University of Kansas, Wichita State University, and WSU Tech.



Program educational advisors also chaperoned middle school students on campus visits. Mayberry and Jardine Middle School students visited Wichita State University and program participants were also offered the chance to attend Wichita State University's TRIO/GEAR UP Day.



Tutorial Services and Summer Enrichment Program for Middle School Students

Tutoring and homework assistance was provided to program students. A tutor was assigned to several of the target middle schools and high schools to aid in math and other subjects. In June and July, 25 middle school students were selected to participate in the Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) held on the main campus of WSU. Teaching consultants provided class instruction for English, math, science, performing arts, and life skills and financial literacy. Science included robotics lessons by Nucleus Inc. Fun, interactive educational activities were held on Wednesdays and Fridays. Campus visits included Southwestern College, Langston University (HBCU), and Fort Hays State University. Motivational guest speakers came from WSU Counseling and Prevention Services, Meritrust Credit Union, authors of Protect Your Mind, and the WPD Mounted Police Patrol. Field trips were taken to the Sedgwick County Zoo, Worlds of Fun, Titanic Museum, and Silver Dollar City. Students also participated in an academic awards recognition and talent showcase. In the final days, students attended college road trips to Johnson County Community College in Kansas City, Mo and College of the Ozarks in Branson, MO.



YEAR AT A GLANCE

Talent Search participates in various educational and cultural activities.

Below are highlights from some of those events...



Sept. – MKN Student Leadership Conference; College Jump Start; COE Annual Conference

Oct. – Expanding Your Horizons STEM Workshop

Nov. – TRIO/GEAR UP Day; EOA Conference

Dec. – WSU Winter Holiday Party; Jolly Jamboree Staff Professional Development Retreat; OSP Holiday Gala

Jan. – Staff Planning Meetings

Feb. – Black Educators Hall of Fame Induction; iDig TRIO Biological Sciences Student STEM Conference; Paradigm Shift Professional Staff Presentation

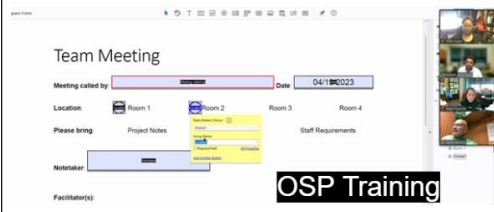




St. Patrick Catholic School Presentation



Anastasia Music Theater Production



OSP Training



MKN Conference



MKN

Mar. – St. Patrick Catholic School Presentation;
Anastasia Music Theater Production
Apr. – MKN Conference;
OSP Training

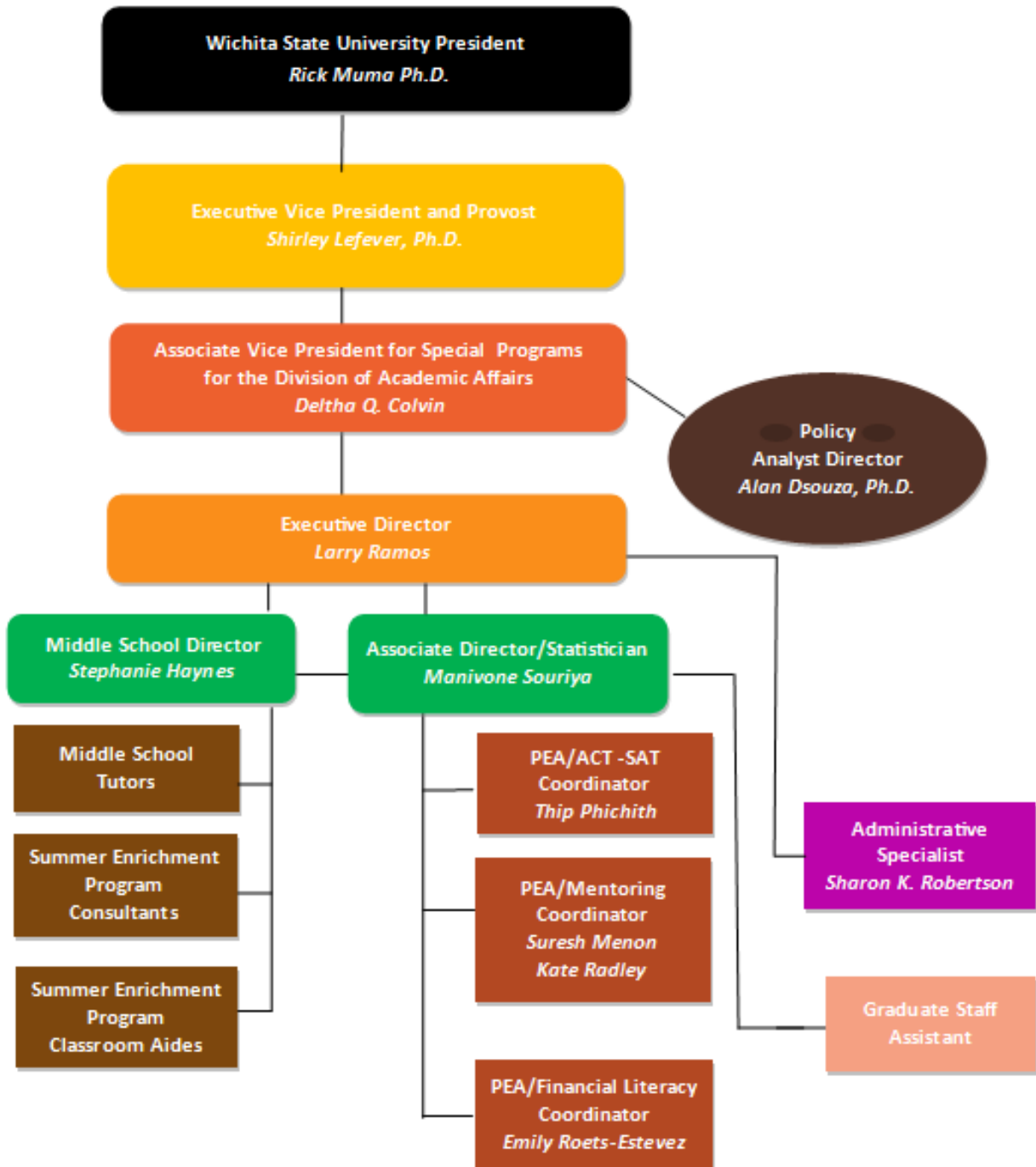
May – Graduation

Jun.- Jul. –Middle School Summer Enrichment Program

Aug. – Staff Planning Meetings



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PROGRAM STAFF



Larry Ramos,
Executive Director

Manivone Souriya,
Associate
Director/Statistician

Stephanie Haynes,
Middle School Director

Thip Phichith,
Program Educational
Advisor-ACT & SAT
Coordinator



Emily Roets-Estevez,
Program Educational
Advisor-Financial Literacy
Coordinator

Kate Radley,
Program Educational
Advisor-Mentoring
Coordinator

Suresh Menon,
Program Educational
Advisor-Mentoring
Coordinator

Sharon Robertson,
Administrative Specialist

Notice of Nondiscrimination: Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age (40 years or older), ancestry, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita, KS 67260, telephone 316-978-3187. **Funding:** TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by WSU. Funding for 2022-2023 is \$624,429.