



ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019



**WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
*DIVISION OF DIVERSITY AND
 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT*
TRIO Talent Search

TRIO Talent Search

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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Larry Ramos, Director

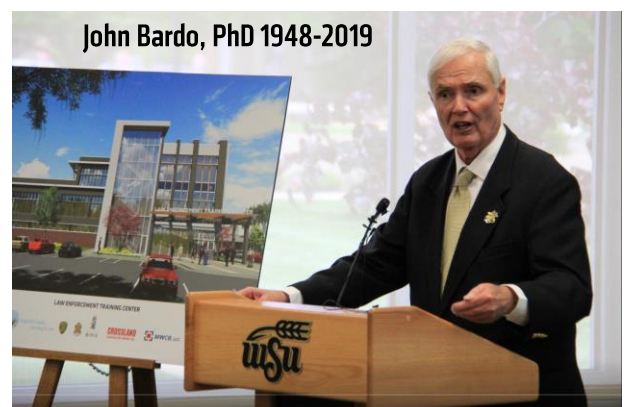
Greetings! Thanks for taking the time to read the Wichita State University Talent Search annual report. Whether reading it from cover to cover or simply viewing the interactive CD, it is sure to be impressive. The Talent Search staff contributed a year's worth of photos, reports, and video to make this document possible. Senior Administrative Assistant **Sharon Robertson** led the effort in the document's creation and design. She is to be commended for tweaking it each year, adding minor changes that make it easier for readers to peruse its contents. Thanks to all who made this document possible.

Other program staff include **Manivone Souriya**, associate director/statistician, who is responsible for program evaluation, student data, technical support, and administrative oversight of database management. She is also responsible for project development, coordinating campus visits for students, staff monitoring, and reporting services. Her leadership role is important in the efficient operation of program activities. **Stephanie Haynes**, middle school director, is responsible for all middle school programs and activities. She ensures that target middle schools are visited several times a week for students to receive advice, guidance, and support for their educational success. She is also responsible for tutoring activities, including the program's after-school tutoring program, and the enormously popular Middle School Summer Enrichment Program. Program Educational Advisors **Sara Baltazar**, **Vivian Pham** and **Myron Richard** support the middle school and high school components by working with students on their postsecondary education plans. Whether it is assisting with ACT registration, completing the FAFSA, mentoring, or supervising campus visits, these individuals break down the world of higher education into manageable pieces for students and their parents.

The Talent Search program has been in existence since 1977. Associate Vice President for Special Programs **Deltha Q. Colvin** has been the backbone of the program's success since its inception. Her support and expertise are unmatched. She provides grant writing support, program management, and technical support to Talent Search, other TRIO programs, and GEAR UP programs at Wichita State. The university is fortunate to have a person of this caliber.

TRIO Talent Search is housed in the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement under the leadership of Vice President **Marche Fleming-Randle, PhD**. As a result, the program receives institutional support and commitment as well as resources that assist the program in achieving its mandated goals and objectives.

Finally, when the university lost President **John Bardo, PhD** to an unexpected illness, the program lost an ardent supporter and community champion who will be deeply missed. His work in making WSU a major research institution and in realizing the innovation campus is his legacy which will continue for decades. This issue is dedicated to his tenure as Wichita State's thirteenth president and for the support that he provided to the program during his presidency. Interim WSU President **Andy Tompkins, PhD** continued the administration's support of the program by attending TRIO events and speaking at the Academic Awards and Talent Showcase sponsored by the program.



PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

TRIO Affiliation

Talent Search is the TRIO program created under the Higher Education Act of 1965. The program 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, Upward Bound Math-Science, Upward Bound Wichita Prep, Veterans Upward Bound, and Upward Bound Empowerment.

Grant Funding

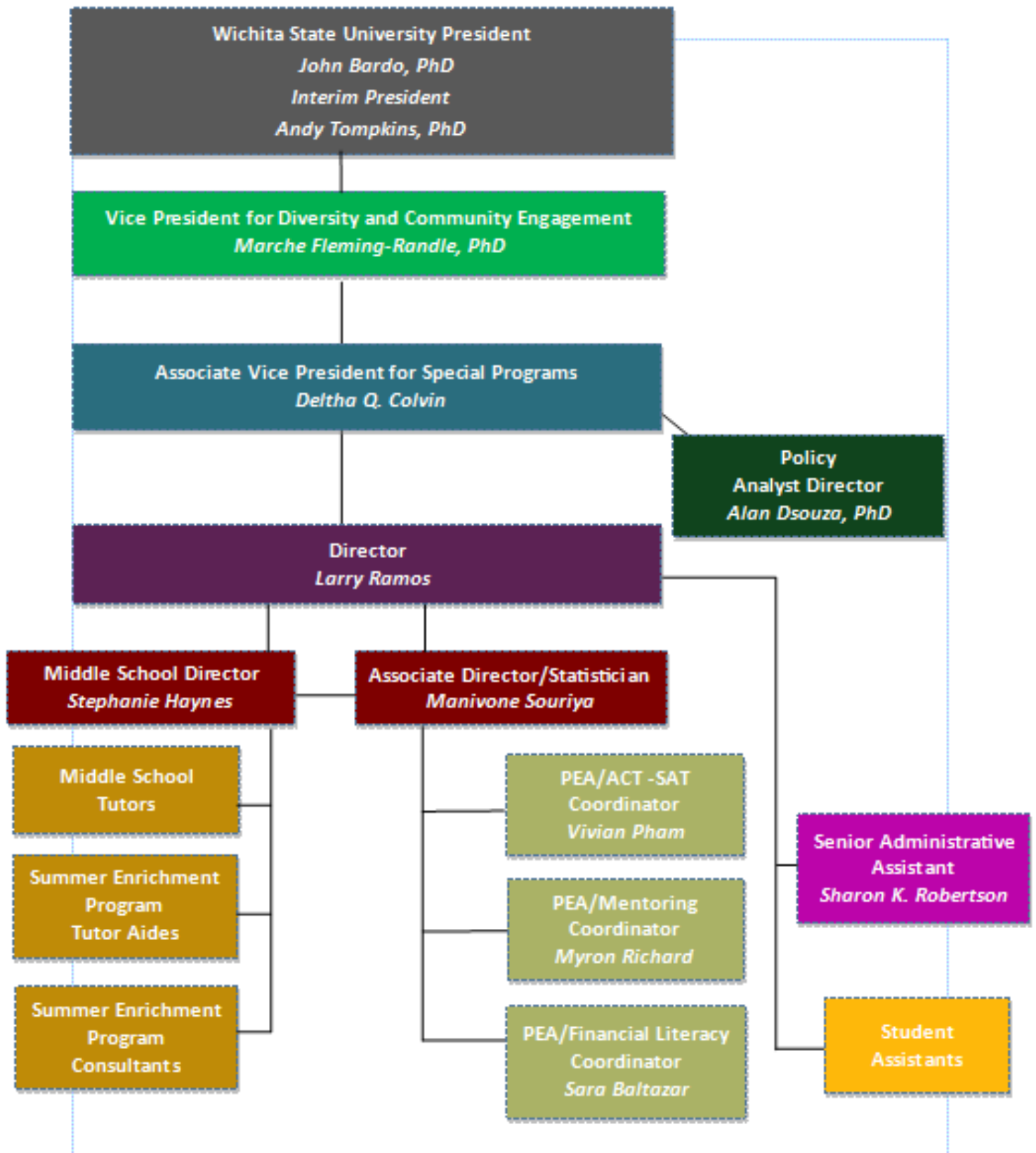
For the 2018-2019 academic year, Talent Search was awarded funding in the amount of \$597,540 from the U.S. Department of Education. This grant supports the Middle School Summer Enrichment Program, campus visits during the academic year, workshops on financial literacy and ACT preparation, services provided during the After School Tutoring Program, and nutritious breakfasts to students attending the Summer Enrichment Program.

Daily Operation

The program employs a full-time director, associate director/statistician, middle school director, three program educational advisors, a senior administrative assistant 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.

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.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

As of 2016, the program must respond to the mandatory program objectives developed by the U.S. Department of Education.

Secondary School Persistence:

Ninety-five 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 99.90 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 97.73 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 28.03 percent.



**Postsecondary
Education
Enrollment:**

Sixty-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 68.22 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 45 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 counselors advised students on rigorous pre-college curriculum to ensure postsecondary eligibility. A month-long summer program on high school preparation assisted eighth grade students in making a successful transition from middle school to high school. Graduating seniors were advised of college course offerings and possible majors. Juniors and seniors were advised on the procedures to take classes for college credit while still in high school.



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 and to complete the FAFSA. Program counselors reviewed applications and students were advised of admission application fee waivers and grants for TRIO participants available at many colleges and universities. Workshops were offered throughout the year providing students information on financial literacy, scholarships and other related topics. TRIO Talent Search held two informational sessions in the months of November and December for the Give Something Back scholarship opportunity, which provides full-ride scholarships to 50 first-generation WSU students who face challenging circumstances for them to attend college. Talent Search also participated in Apply Kansas: College Application Month, a state-wide initiative in partnership with the American College Application Campaign whose goal is to ensure 60 percent of Kansas residents earn a college degree or credential by 2020. TRIO programs again collaborated with Kansas Kids at GEAR UP and WSU's Office of Financial Aid to host the financial aid FAFSA Finish Line workshop.

Assistance in Preparing for College Entrance Examinations

Program counselors advised students on preparing for the ACT and SAT exams. The program's computer lab and After School Tutoring Program/College Resource Library houses study guides and practice test materials. Counselors advised students on test taking strategies, good study habits, what to expect on exam day, and other topics in order to help prepare students for exams. ACT and SAT registration fee waivers were provided to students who met limited income guidelines. The program collaborated with the WSU Counseling and Testing Center to register numerous students for ACT test preparation workshops held throughout the year.

Mentoring and Career Counseling

Students met with program staff for mentoring relationships after school. Students could talk about any concerns they had regarding school, home life, or express their ideas for future goals. Workshops were conducted in middle schools, high schools and community agencies on career and educational opportunities. Talent Search also hosted a College Kick Off event to assist seniors in making sure that their FAFSA, college admissions and housing applications were complete and that they were scheduled for college orientation.



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

Program counselors offered advice to students who had dropped out of high school to re-enter school or enroll in an alternative education program. The purpose of this support was to assist students in receiving their high school diplomas, high school equivalency, or GED so that they could become eligible to apply to postsecondary institutions.

Tutorial Services and Summer Enrichment Program for Middle School Students

Tutoring and homework assistance was provided to program students. The program maintained a staff of six tutors for math and other subjects. During the summer, 30 students were selected for the program's Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) held on the WSU main campus. Students attended classes for math, science, language arts, theatre arts, financial literacy/life skills and computer technology. Students attended educational field trips and campus visits while motivational speakers challenged students. At the end of the summer program, students participated in a talent showcase/awards and recognition ceremony.



Campus Visits

Students had the opportunity to go on campus visits throughout the year to learn about admissions, financial aid, housing options, majors and other college-related matters. The program took students to in-state and out-of-state postsecondary institutions. Campus destinations included: Baker University, Butler County Community College, Cowley County Community College, Emporia State University, Hutchinson Community College, Kansas State University, Newman University, University of Kansas, Wichita State University, and WSU Tech.



YEAR AT A GLANCE

Talent Search participates in various educational and cultural activities.

This timeline highlights some of this year's activities.



Clockwise: Sept – Jump Start Your Future; Oct – Apply Kansas: College Application Month; Nov – National First Generation Celebration; Dec – Give Something Back Scholarship Informational Session; Jan – Hutchinson Community College Campus Visit; Feb – National TRIO Day Celebration

Thanks to all who support TRIO Talent Search!



Clockwise: **Mar** – Baker University Campus Visit; **Apr** – Middle School Leadership Conference; **May** –High School Graduations; **Jun** – Middle School Summer Enrichment Program (SEP) Guest Speaker Hon. Jennifer Jones, City of Wichita Chief Municipal Court Judge, Division III; **Jul** –SEP Talent Showcase Rehearsal; **Aug** – Program Educational Advisor Meetings with Students

PROGRAM STAFF

Stephanie Haynes,
Middle School Director



Mani Souriya,
Associate Director/Statistician



Myron Richard,
Program Educational
Advisor/Mentoring
Coordinator



Larry Ramos,
Director



Sharon Robertson,
Senior Administrative Assistant



Sara Baltazar,
Program Educational
Advisor/Financial Literacy
Coordinator



Vivian Pham,
Program Educational
Advisor/ACT & SAT Coordinator



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.

TRIO Talent Search is 100% funded by the United States Department of Education and is hosted by WSU. Funding for 2018-2019 is \$597,540.

ANNUAL REPORT VIDEO CONTENTS

- Highlighted Campus Visits
- College Readiness Activities
- Special Programs
- Professional Development
- Program Statistics
- Program Evaluations
- A Movie in Pictures

This CD features an audio introduction