MAINE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION

36TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

January 7 & 8, 2019
Black Bear Inn
Orono, Maine
WELCOME FROM OUR PRESIDENT

I would like to welcome you on behalf of the Maine Educational Opportunity Association to the 36th Annual Conference.

This year’s theme is “The Power of One, The Impact of Many.” Each individual here believes that a successful future is possible for our students. We know that one personal connection can make an impression, that repeating that contact can have a greater impact. And when each of us as individuals connects with others who also believe in a better future for our students, we are able to help students succeed on a grand scale. Maine’s TRIO and Gear Up professionals have harnessed the power of many by working collaboratively for over 36 years to share best practices in identifying and providing services to individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to Masters programs. Professionals in TRIO prove daily that choosing success and advocacy for our students over and over again leads to positive results in their lives.

The contributions of our MEEOA committee members who have been managing several projects also impacts our work. This includes strengthening and promoting our state association’s visibility, efficacy, and membership, promoting professional development and leadership, strengthening our alumni and community relationships, updating our strategic plan, and utilizing technologies to support our objectives. And most important to this event, we have an amazing Conference Committee that has worked diligently to create a program fostering collaboration, learning, and connections. We invite you to consider becoming involved with MEEOA as a board member or by serving on a committee; it is a great way to expand your TRIO knowledge as part of a supportive team while having a lot of fun.

I’d like to thank each of your for attending our conference and bringing your knowledge and enthusiasm. And I would like to thank you for choosing every day to serve students from disadvantaged backgrounds; they could not accomplish what they do without your support and leadership every day.

Mary Kate Barbosa
President, MEEOA Executive Committee

Wi-Fi Password: Blossom23!

Find more information and the 2019 MEEOA Conference Booklet at
www.meeoa.org
www.meeoa.org/conference.php
2019 MEEOA CONFERENCE COMMITTEE
Shelbie Ross, Conference Chair
   Rusty Brown
   Rebecca Colannino
   Casey Henderson
   Karen Keim
   Ginny Fowles-Ward
   Tony Staffiere
   Mary Sinclair
   Kate Walsh

2018-2019 MEEOA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mary Kate Barbosa
President

Dori Fellman
Past-President
NEOA State Liaison
Nominations/Elections Chair

(Patrick Blanchette, leaving) Vacant
Treasurer

Mary Sinclair
Secretary

Vacant
President-Elect

Shelbie Ross
2019 Conference Chair

Vacant
2020 Conference (Co)Chair(s)

Michelle Richards
Alumni Chair

Karen Keim
Development Chair

Eric Pratt
Government Relations Chair

Kate Walsh
Membership Chair

Tony Staffiere
Public Relations Chair
Hall of Flags

Sara Flowers
Fact Book

Steve Visco
Fact Book
Maine Emerging Leaders Institute Chair

Andrew Henry
Fair Share

Casey Henderson
Webmaster
# 2019 MEEOA Conference at a Glance

## Sunday, January 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00PM-7:00PM</td>
<td>Check-in</td>
<td>Lower Level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Monday, January 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30AM-9:30AM</td>
<td>MEEOA Executive Committee Meeting</td>
<td>Katahdin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00AM-10:00AM</td>
<td>Check-in</td>
<td>Lower Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:55AM-10:00AM</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM-11:15AM</td>
<td>Keynote (Yellow Light Breen)</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20AM-12:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Workshop Session #1</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The World Climate Simulation: A Dynamic Learning Opportunity (College/Pre College) - Mary Sinclair</td>
<td>Breakfast Room</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Military Education Benefits: an Alternative Approach to Funding Education (All) - Christopher McGhee</td>
<td>Katahdin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Be A Lamp, A Ladder, A Lifeboat (All) - Elyse Pratt-Ronco</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Designing Logic Models (All) - Laurie Davis</td>
<td>Mars Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Class Stewards: Online and Distance Support of Students (SSS) - Ian Magill</td>
<td>Sugarloaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30PM-1:30PM</td>
<td>Lunch Buffet</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30PM-2:40PM</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Workshop Session #2</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The Power of a Pause: Why We Need A New Approach (All) - Brittany Ray</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Selecting an Affordable School- Helping Families and Students Make an Informed Decision (All) - Mila Tappan</td>
<td>Mars Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot;No Wrong Door:&quot; A Community Advising Model (EOC) - Lisa Cooper</td>
<td>Katahdin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Finding the Gaps (Pre-College) - Chris Young &amp; Dori Fellman</td>
<td>Sugarloaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45PM-3:00PM</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00PM-4:00PM</td>
<td>COE Update</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM-5:30PM</td>
<td>Break</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30PM-6:00PM</td>
<td>Mixer, Newcomers' Reception &amp; President's Welcome (cash bar open)</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00PM-7:30PM</td>
<td>Banquet &amp; Awards Program</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30PM-9:30PM</td>
<td>Live Auction</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30PM-11:00PM</td>
<td>Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Suite 228</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Tuesday, January 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30AM-9:00AM</td>
<td>NEOA Update</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:05AM-10:15AM</td>
<td><strong>Concurrent Workshop Session #3</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Getting Ready for NexGen Accuplacer (Pre-College, EOC) - Mercedes Pour</td>
<td>Mars Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A Spatial Approach to Examining Poverty and Educational Gaps (Pre-College) - Dr. Matthew Dube</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Introductions to Counseling Techniques (All) - Samantha Prosser</td>
<td>Katahdin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Disability and Inclusion from Awareness to Action (All) - Sara Henry &amp; Andrew Henry</td>
<td>Sugarloaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15AM-10:45AM</td>
<td>Hotel Checkout &amp; Coffee Break</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45AM-12:00PM</td>
<td>Business Meeting (Raffle &amp; Silent Auction-must be present to win raffle!)</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM-1:00PM</td>
<td>Lunch Buffet &amp; Slide Show</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:05PM-2:15PM</td>
<td><strong>Program Discussions</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Educational Opportunity Center</td>
<td>Katahdin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Upward Bound, UB Math/Science, Veterans UB</td>
<td>Sugarloaf</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Student Support Services</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GEAR UP &amp; Educational Talent Search</td>
<td>Mars Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15PM-2:30PM</td>
<td>Closing Remarks</td>
<td>Cadillac</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank You to Our Sponsors for Your Support

The MEEOA Executive Committee and Conference Committee would like to thank the following organizations for their partnership in developing our conference.

We look forward to our future work together.

Machias Savings Bank – Annual MEEOA Sponsor

University of Maine at Augusta - Annual MEEOA Sponsor

Husson University - Event Sponsor

University of Maine - Event Sponsor

GEAR UP Maine – Coffee Break Sponsor

Thank you for supporting MEEOA and volunteering your services to help us give back to our dedicated association members!
Leading for People, Leading for Prosperity
Cadillac Room
Sustainable economic growth depends on developing and attracting talent, and creating a climate for investment and innovation in Maine. Breen describes how Maine Development Foundation, a public private partnership established 40 years ago, seeks to leverage trusted economic research, leadership development, and cross-sector partnerships in order to boost the conditions for economic prosperity. He will discuss the vision of MaineSpark, a statewide coalition of dozens of organizations working together around a big picture goal of 60by2025: to increase post-secondary credentials and degrees in Maine’s workforce from 43% today to 60% by 2025 — more than 150,000 Maine people.

Yellow Light Breen, President & CEO, Maine Development Foundation
Yellow’s passion is promoting economic and educational opportunity for all Mainers regardless of geography or background. He became CEO of the Maine Development Foundation (MDF) in August 2015, where he develops strategic direction, integration, and partnerships across MDF’s mission and programs. The Maine Development Foundation is a legislatively-created, non-partisan public-private partnership that drives sustainable, long-term economic growth for Maine. MDF does this through trusted research, leadership, and creative cross-sector partnerships. Yellow has a diverse background in business, public policy, and law. He spent twelve years as an executive with Bangor Savings Bank, overseeing strategic planning, marketing, online banking, community development, and charitable activities. Prior, he was a senior official at the Maine Department of Education and an advisor to Independent Governor Angus King. Yellow was born and raised in rural, central Maine, a product of Maine public schools, and earned undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard University. He has been an active volunteer in many education and economic development efforts, including the boards of the Maine Community Foundation and Educate Maine. He previously chaired Realize Maine, an ongoing initiative to attract, retain, and support young professionals. Yellow lives in Holden and loves to hike, swim, and ski with his wife and children.

Wi-Fi Password:
Blossom23!
**COE UPDATE**

**Monday, January 7 | 3:00PM - 4:00PM**

**Updates from Washington: Council for Opportunity in Education**

**Cadillac Room**

**Stephanie Salvador, Director of Congressional Affairs at COE**

Stephanie Salvador is the Director of Congressional Affairs for the Council for Opportunity in Education. Prior to her work at COE, she worked for a law firm on higher education issues. Stephanie has also interned on Capitol Hill in the U.S. Senate. She holds a bachelor’s degree from the University of Virginia and a master’s degree in government from the Johns Hopkins University. As the first in her family to graduate from college, she is passionate about helping other first generation students have access to and graduate from college.

**NEOA UPDATE**

**Tuesday, January 8 | 8:30AM - 9:00AM**

**Updates from New England: New England Opportunity Association**

**Cadillac Room**

**Jane Kimball Foley, NEOA Past-President, Program Director at York County Community College**

Jane Kimball Foley has more than 12 years’ experience in TRIO programs. She has been TRIO Student Support Services Director at York County Community College since 2013. Her previous TRIO experience includes Maine Educational Talent Search Counselor, and Maine Educational Opportunity Center Advisor. Jane twice served as Maine Educational Opportunity Association (MEEOA) president and MEEOA annual conference chair and treasurer. Other TRIO service includes National TRIO Day co-chair for New England, NEAOPP (predecessor to NEOA) Board member and on the NEAOPP annual conference committee.

In addition, Jane has worked in a variety of grant funded poverty alleviation programs and taught in public school & adult education. Jane’s community volunteer work includes working with the Maine Children’s Cancer program, Kennebec Council of Girl Scouts and swimming and cheerleading booster clubs.

She holds a Bachelor of Science degree from University of Maine and a Master of Science in Education degree from University of Southern Maine. She has two grown daughters and three granddaughters. Currently, Jane lives in South Portland with her husband, John and her cat, Wyatt.
MEEOA ALUMNI AWARD RECIPIENTS
Monday, January 7 | 6:00PM - 7:00PM

MEEOA Achiever: Paula Alves, Upward Bound
Nominated by Ginny Ward

Paula participated in the Bowdoin Upward Bound program while in high school. Having graduated at the top of her class and been named a Mitchell Scholar, she enrolled at Colby College. She joined Students Organized for Black and Hispanic Unity, was a founding member of the Dynasty Step Team, volunteered with the Colby Fund, and worked several jobs. While in college, Paula was invited back to work with the Bowdoin UB program and spent four summers working with them. She did everything from supporting the office, to coordinating trips, to supporting students in the classroom and leading the team of TAs her final summer. As always, Paula was the consummate role model - to students and staff alike. Paula went on to work with the Sexual Assault Support Services of Mid-Coast Maine, moving up over the years to her current position of Financial Director. In 2018, Paula was nominated to represent SASSMM at the National Crimes Against Children Conference in Dallas, Texas. She is also currently attending USM’s Muskie School of Public Service for a Masters in Policy, Planning, and Management.

Aside from her stellar academic abilities, Paula has always stood out as someone who leads by example, is trustworthy, and is full of determination. A role model for younger nieces and nephews, she became someone peers looked to as a UB colleague, and she is currently the longest tenured member of the SASSMM staff.

MEEOA Rising Star: Sarah Holbrook, Upward Bound
Nominated by Darylen Cote

After graduating as the valedictorian of her class at Fort Fairfield Middle/High School, Sarah went on to the University of Maine where she also excelled in her degree program. She majored in Biology and minored in Neuroscience and Psychology, graduating Summa Cum Laude. She won many scholarships and recognitions, including a Presidential Merit Scholarship and a Mitchell Fellowship for her Honors Thesis Project. From experiments with mice at Jackson Labs to Zebrafish at the University of Maine, her fascination with biology and neuroscience is evident. Currently Sarah is enrolled in a PhD program and expects to graduate in May 2022 as a Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences.

Sarah is passionate about sharing her love of science with her peers and other students, and of paying forward the advantages she has been afforded through Upward Bound. So that she could give back to Upward Bound she spent a summer as a Counselor/Tutor. In addition to her duties in the dorm and as the math tutor she took it upon herself to do a science teaching portion at every daily Community Meeting.

She also serves her community. In high school Sarah volunteered at the local food pantry for four years. She volunteers for the American Cancer Society and the Red Cross. Additionally she is the Regional Representative for Jackson Lab for the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences and Engineering.
FROM BOWDOIN UPWARD BOUND

SPECIAL THANK YOU TO MARY KATE BARBOSA, SHELBIE ROSS, AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF MAINE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION (MEEOA)
CONCURRENT WORKSHOP | SESSION #1 DESCRIPTIONS
Monday, January 7 | 11:20AM - 12:30PM

The World Climate Simulation: A Dynamic Learning Opportunity
Breakfast Room
The World Climate simulation builds your students' leadership skills and STEM knowledge through an accessible, interactive activity. In this simulation, students take on the roles of negotiators charged with creating a sustainable future, while getting immediate scientific feedback on their decisions through an interactive computer model.

Mary Sinclair, University of Maine at Farmington
Mary joined the TRIO world nearly six years ago when she started working for the Upward Bound program at UMF in 2013. As the Student Services Coordinator with UB, Mary works directly with students year round and plans trips and events both during the academic year and summer. She also started working with the Maine Upward Bound Leadership Council almost immediately and has helped facilitate that program since its beginning. In 2016-17, Mary participated in the Arnold Mitchum Leadership Institute through NEOA and currently serves on the MEEOA Executive Board as Secretary. Mary graduated from UMF in 2005 with a degree in Rehabilitation Services before spending a year as an AmeriCorps Volunteer in Alabama. Outside of work, Mary lives in Farmington with her smart, clever, adorable wife Amanda (who did not write this) and their dog and cat, Zoe and Bandit. She loves being outside, does not hate winter, and has a love-hate relationship with the gym where she goes semi-regularly.

Military Education Benefits: an Alternative Approach to Funding Education
Katahdin Room
Did your parent ever serve in the military? Did you ever consider serving in the Military? These are important questions to ask as they may open up financial opportunities for students you are working with to pay for college. Through discussion you will gain an understanding of federal, state, and scholarship opportunities for veterans and their dependents. You will be provided an overview of programs available for students who wish to serve in the military either before or after post-secondary education. Finally, you will gain awareness of social, medical, and support services available to veterans and their families throughout Maine.

Christopher McGhee, University of Southern Maine
Chris joined the USM TRIO program as a VUB Advisor in December of 2018. Chris retired from the Air Force in March of 2018 after serving 20 years working in F-16 aircraft maintenance. Chris completed his undergraduate degree at Columbia Southern University, making him a first generation college graduate himself. While serving in the Air Force, Chris realized he had a passion for helping people outside mission requirements. He was selected on multiple occasions for First Sergeant duty to act as an enlisted advisor to his commander, and to provide advice and support to the unit’s enlisted personnel. Chris also spent 3 years as a Maintenance Training Instructor teaching detailed technical tasks and procedures to assigned personnel. Chris moved to Scarborough Maine after his retirement where he gets to spend much more time with his lovely wife Miranda and his two daughters Alexandra and Alyssa. He is further flanked by an array of animals to include 3 dogs (Roxy, Olivia and Jackson), 3 cats (Freddy, Baxter, and Sam), and a Chilean Rose Hair tarantula (Betsy).
Be A Lamp, A Ladder, A Lifeboat
Cadillac Room
College access professionals know that relationships are the most important aspect of the work they do. This workshop will bolster that belief with supporting research on the significance of relationships for students’ resilience and success. Participants will examine the nature of relationships they already develop with students and learn ways to strengthen those relationships with practical skills. Finally, participants will think critically about how they can take care of themselves so they can continue to do their best work.

Elyse Pratt-Ronco, University of Maine at Farmington
Elyse Pratt-Ronco has worked for eighteen years with low-income students from the Upward Bound program. She is currently the Assistant Director of Upward Bound at UMF. In addition to her work at Upward Bound, she volunteers for a tri-county sexual assault helpline and facilitates grief groups. She also teaches courses on Poverty and Education, and Risk and Resilience. As a consultant, Elyse works state-wide with schools and organizations to deliver professional development and research-based workshops. Elyse received her Bachelor’s Degree in Elementary Education from UMF. She earned her Master’s Degree in Developmental and Educational Psychology from Boston College and her Doctorate in Applied Developmental and Educational Psychology from Boston College. Her research on rural poverty and resilience has been recognized by the American Educational Research Association.

Designing Logic Models
Mars Hill Room
Along with many foundation funders, the U.S. Department of Education is increasingly including a logic model as part of grant applications for TRIO Programs. Last June’s Veterans Upward Bound application included a logical model and it is likely that upcoming TRIO grant applications may include one as well. What is a logic model? This workshop will explore these visual diagrams that are designed to communicate your project’s operations, activities, and goals. Through sharing examples and templates, you will learn how to build your own logic model and use it to improve your program planning, evaluation, and grant applications.

Laurie Davis, University of Southern Maine
Laurie has served as Executive Director of TRIO Programs at the University of Southern Maine for eleven years. Laurie administers three TRIO college access and success programs for 404 low-income and first-generation students and veterans: Upward Bound, Student Support Services, and Veterans Upward Bound. Since 2007, Laurie guided USM in doubling the number of TRIO grants received, increasing funding for TRIO programs to over $1.1 million dollars per year. She has written Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math/Science, Veterans Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Student Support Services grants. Laurie served as President of the Maine Educational Opportunity Association in 2016-2017 and 2009-2010; and on the Executive Board of the New England Educational Opportunity Association in 2016-present and 2009-2011. Laurie holds a B.S. in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University, and a M.S.Ed. in Educational Leadership, with a concentration in Educational Policy and Law from the University of Southern Maine.
CONCURRENT WORKSHOP | SESSION #1 CONTINUED

Class Stewards: Online and Distance Support of Students
Sugarloaf Room
UMA serves students across the state of Maine and the country. To better serve these students, UMA developed the Class Steward program to deliver resources to these students.

Ian Magill, University of Maine at Augusta
Ian is currently a Coordinator of Student Success at the University of Maine at Augusta. He oversees the Class Steward program and serves as an academic advisor, primarily for the Business and Public Administration programs. He is also the co-advisor for the Jobs for Maine’s Graduates club. Ian recently co-lead the implementation of EAB’s Student Success Collaborative products at UMA.

He is continually amazed at the resilience of UMA’s student body and is inspired to continue to develop supports for first-generation students.

Ian previously worked in the Academic Success Center at Immaculata University outside of Philadelphia, and holds a B.A. in History from Arcadia University and an M.S. Higher Ed Counseling/Student Affairs from West Chester University of Pennsylvania. He lives in Augusta with his wife Rachael, daughter Effie, dogs Nelly and Oliver, and cats Sidney and Ravi.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP | SESSION #2 DESCRIPTIONS

Monday, January 7 | 1:30PM - 2:40PM

The Power of a Pause: Why We Need a New Approach
Cadillac Room
Educators are compassionate individuals; yet, we often fall back on traditional methods of discipline. Why is that? How can new information encourage us to consider a different approach?

When we understand how ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) impact behavior and learning, it allows us to change the question. “What is wrong with that student?” is no longer the question. Instead, a trauma informed lens allows us to ask, “What might have happened to this student and why am I seeing this behavior?” Once this mindset shift is made, educators can explore the next steps in creating trauma informed environments which truly support all students and families. These next steps are best explored with a deeper understanding of cortisol, oxytocin, and the power of relationships. Individuals attending this session will explore the hopeful POWER of the PAUSE.

Brittany Ray, Transforming Rural Experience in Education (TREE)
Brittany Ray was born and raised in Washington County. She graduated from Narraguagus High School in 1989 and attended Colby College in Waterville, Maine. After Colby, Brittany was excited to pursue her passion for education, and she returned to Washington County where she spent the next 13 years teaching English.

In 2007 Brittany was named Maine Teacher of the Year, becoming the first teacher to represent Washington County in over 25 years. This same year Brittany transitioned from the classroom to administration when she was hired as the Narraguagus (cont.)
Brittany Ray, continued: High School Guidance Director/School Counselor. In 2009 Brittany Ray received her Master of Science in School Counseling from Husson University in Bangor, Maine.

Her experiences in the classroom and in school counseling fueled her passion for building relationships and developing strategies to help mitigate poverty and trauma related barriers for her students. In January of 2016 Brittany heard about an exciting new initiative called TREE: Transforming Rural Experience in Education. She knew this initiative could be the key to helping those students experiencing the most adversity. 6 months later she found herself as the TREE Director. Her goal of supporting schools and communities which are poverty, trauma, and equity informed continues today. Transforming Rural Experience in Education uses a coaching model to work intensively within three pilot schools in Washington County. TREE is also a member of a Research Practice Partnership with UMaine and Colby. Combining brain science and best practices in education and human development, TREE seeks to improve education for ALL learners, while at the same time enhancing the voice of rural education throughout the United States.

Brittany resides in Milbridge, Maine with her husband, Ron Smith. Together they have four children.

Selecting an Affordable School- Helping Families and Students Make an Informed Decision

Mars Hill Room

While there is certainly more to school selection than affordability, too often it seems students are deciding to attend schools that make little sense financially. The end result is that many end up borrowing more than they should or having to transfer to a more affordable school. In this session we’ll discuss concepts (like Net Price and ROI) and share information and tools that can help students and families have increased choices and be better prepared to make informed decisions.

Mila Tappan, Finance Authority of Maine

Mila joined the Finance Authority of Maine in July 2008. She is currently the Manager of College Access and Outreach. Her areas of expertise include FAFSA completion, the financial aid process, and preparing to pay for education after high school. She provides this information and guidance - all with an emphasis on financial literacy - to school counselors, college access professionals, financial aid professionals, students, and families. She also provides outreach and support for NextGen 529 and the Harold Alfond College Challenge Program.

Prior to joining FAME, Mila worked as an Associate Director of Financial Aid at the University of Maine, where she was employed for sixteen years. Mila was an active member of both the Maine Association of Financial Aid Administrators and the Eastern Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, where she served as MASFAA President and EASFAA Leadership Committee chair. Before working in financial aid, Mila worked for the Maine State Legislature in the Office of Policy and Legal Analysis as a Research Assistant.

Mila is a graduate of the University of Maine and holds a B.A. in Public Management. Additionally, she has completed extensive master’s level coursework in public administration and higher education. She lives in Bangor with her husband, Robert, and youngest son, Noah, who is working on his undergraduate degree at Eastern Maine Community College. Her oldest son, Alex, lives in Boston and is pursuing his Master’s Degree at Northeastern.
"No Wrong Door:" A Community Advising Model
Katahdin Room
The statewide MaineSpark Initiative is focused on developing and strengthening Maine's workforce through connecting people to the right resources. As part of that work, Maine's Adult Promise is working to create a network of professional navigators. We envision a 'community advising' model that includes partners from throughout a region. This session highlights MaineSpark Adult Promise; explains the role (as we see it) of the MaineSpark Navigator; and, shares how getting everyone connected will ensure that within a community an aspiring adult doesn't need to worry about opening a wrong door when starting on a successful education and career path.

Lisa MacDonald Cooper, Education & Workforce
Lisa joined the Foundation in 2017 as Program Director for Education and Workforce, continuing the work that MDF has done to support collaborative industry, education, and community efforts to align workforce educational credentials and skill attainment with the current and future needs of Employers in Maine. Lisa has a long professional history in relationship building between diverse stakeholders. Her aim: facilitate connections, get everyone on the same page, and work toward common goals. As the previous Director of two University College Centers in Western Maine, Lisa’s main focus was working with Community Partners to strengthen relationships with the University of Maine System. Prior to that, Lisa gained experience as the Director of Outreach for Central Maine Community College. She has several years in as a college instructor, was an Associate in Cyon Business Solutions developing appropriate-sized marketing strategies for local farms and small businesses, worked as a Project Administrator for an Environmental Consulting firm, and as a Regional Marketing Coordinator for Stantec Consulting, an international Engineering firm. Lisa holds a BA in English from Bates College, and a MA in Composition Studies from the University of North Carolina-Wilmington.

Finding the Gaps
Sugarloaf Room
GEAR UP ME will follow GEAR UP Maine graduates from the class of 2020 from graduation through the summer and first year of postsecondary. Through an active research project currently being conducted with graduates from six Aroostook County High Schools, we are realizing a contributing factor after a student graduates from high school in the 8 weeks before they step on campus. There are myriad obstacles and potential barriers that may cause students not to attend. Many are simple fixes and yet some are more complex.

In this session we will share our initial insights and summary findings that have helped students over the summer and through their first semester. This session will be an open discussion learning from each other on how we all can help students make a successful transition from high school to post-secondary. Small groups will form and will work through one specific problem facing students as they transition and then share with the group.

Chris Young, Syntiro
Chris joins the Syntiro Staff after more than 25 years working with Maine High School and College students. For the past twelve years Chris taught Social Studies at the East Grand School in Danforth, Maine. He will be working with the Aroostook Scholars Program and GEAR UP.
CONCURRENT WORKSHOP | SESSION #2 CONTINUED

Finding the Gaps, continued
Dori Fellman, Syntiro

Dori Fellman is the College Transition Coordinator for GEAR UP Maine. Dori was formerly the Cornerstone TRIO Student Support Services Director at University of Maine at Augusta. Her previous experience is as a College Access Counselor and Director of UMF Partnerships for Success (GEAR UP, MELMAC and Nellie Mae grants). Dori has served as both president and secretary of MEEOA and currently is the State Liaison to NEOA. Other College Access activities include MaineCAN and Reach Higher steering committees. Dori holds a Bachelor of Arts from University of Maine at Farmington and a Master of Education from the University of Southern Maine. She has 2 grown children: a daughter who is an educator and a son who is a Harley Davidson technician.

CONCURRENT WORKSHOP | SESSION #3 DESCRIPTIONS

Tuesday, January 8 | 9:05AM - 10:15AM

Getting Ready for NexGen Accuplacer
Mars Hill Room

Maine’s community colleges are working together to increase access and success for Maine’s adult students. As adults transition to our colleges, we want to place them in appropriate courses while also honoring their lived experience. This workshop will be a practical and succinct overview of the Next Generation Accuplacer tests to help those who work with adult students prepare for both the tests and the new state-wide community college readiness expectations. The final portion of this session will be dedicated to hearing from adult educators.

Mercedes Pour, Maine Community College System

Mercedes works as the Director of College Access for the seven colleges in the Maine Community College System. She began her career in education as history teacher and academic dean in preparatory boarding schools in New England, but transitioned to the public sphere and the Community College of Vermont in 2011. She continues to teach online for CCV just to stay close to the student experience. When family (and the ocean) drew her to Maine four years ago she was thrilled to find a system with a similar mission in Maine. Mercedes serves as the state director for Embark – the MCCS high-school-to-college transition scholarship program and our early college program. She also enjoys learning from and collaborating with secondary, CTE, Adult Ed, and access partners. Mercedes finds her own balance on some kind of board – surf, paddle, or boogie – each summer weekend with her kids, Zachary and Finn. Mercedes earned her BA from the College of William and Mary, her MA from the University of Illinois, and is scheduled to complete her doctorate from the University of West Georgia with research in student engagement and experiential learning in online classes.
A Spatial Approach to Examining Poverty and Educational Gaps
Cadillac Room
The grant writing process for Upward Bound and Talent Search is a difficult one. In this workshop, the presenter will walk through some tools that can be used to think about poverty and education from a spatial lens, using that knowledge to try to discover future sites for programs in the region and across the country through the use of data mining. The presenter will introduce his ongoing project, currently in the data collection process, and participants will be able to use the concept of spatial lag to explore demographics of interest from the American Community Survey to look at communities in the state of Maine in greater detail and in the context of the many communities around them.

Dr. Matthew Dube, University of Maine at Augusta
Dr. Matthew Dube is Assistant Professor of Computer Information Systems at the University of Maine at Augusta and has worked with the Upward Bound Math-Science Center at the University of Maine for eight summers as a course instructor in mathematics, computer science, oral communication, and collegiate preparation. His research in data science focuses on applications of demographic geography to redistricting and homelessness, geographic reasoning, and large-scale data processing methods. Dr. Dube’s degrees are in Spatial Information Science and Engineering (Ph.D. and M.Sc.), Sensor Informatics (IGERT), and Mathematics and Statistics (B.A.). Dr. Dube teaches collegiate courses in data science techniques, human-computer interaction, programming, and geography. He strives to encourage students to better appreciate the interconnectedness of academic disciplines, leading to rich learning opportunities. While he is not in a classroom or doing associated work, you can find him as a baseball umpire at all levels in the state of Maine.

Introductions to Counseling Techniques
Katahdin Room
Sometimes all a student really needs is to know they are heard by someone they trust. Oftentimes, the professionals in TRIO and Gear Up are that exact person for students. Come learn some basic techniques to show your students that you are listening, you hear what they are saying, and that you support them. Be ready to practice with a partner!

Samantha Prosser, University of Southern Maine
Sam’s history with Upward Bound programs reaches back to 2012 when she was a summer guide for an Upward Bound program in Worcester, Massachusetts for three summers. She is now an Upward Bound advisor at the University of Southern Maine, where she is in the Counselor Education Master’s program, training to be a certified School Counselor. Aside from her busy schedule of full-time work and a part-time graduate program, Sam loves spending time with her dog Bull and teaching him new tricks (he just learned “paw”). She enjoys being outside and stays active by going for long walks with Bull, running with friends and coworkers, and even indoor rock climbing. Sam’s deepest passion lies in guiding young people on a path toward emotional well-being and health, and most enjoys her time with UB students when they can talk candidly about things other than academics. The summer program is Sam’s favorite time of the UB calendar, since she gets the opportunity to see students outside of the school setting.
Disability and Inclusion from Awareness to Action
Sugarloaf Room
Disability awareness training helps people to understand disability from a humanistic perspective. It is effective in helping staff and organizations reflect on their own biases, examine and reduce attitudinal barriers. This will be an interactive workshop in which participants will dig into activities and discussions that further knowledge about disability as a social construct and examine our own thoughts and beliefs about disability and difference. We will conclude by considering ways how we as individuals and our organizations can move toward being more inclusive and reduce barriers.

Sara Henry, University of Maine
Sara hails from Massachusetts and attended the University of Vermont where she earned a B.S. in Elementary Education and M.Ed. in Reading and Language Arts at the University of Vermont. Sara’s career in higher education began in 1991 at Johnson State College working at the Trio Student Support Services program. She has worked at UMaine since the fall of 2000 when she began working with the UMaine Student Support Services program. Sara has experience working with students who have learning and attention problems and all types of disabilities. She is the past president of Vermont Educational Opportunity Programs (VEOP), past president of the Maine Educational Opportunity Association (MEEOA), former secretary of the New England Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD NE), and former vice president of the New England Educational Association (NEOA). Sara is co-founder of the Maine Emerging Leaders Institute (MELI), a multi-day program designed to support emerging leaders in Trio programs in the state of Maine. Sara enjoys hiking, gardening, biking and making pasta from scratch. She loves working at the University of Maine and gets up every day looking forward to driving onto the campus to work with the students, faculty and staff there.

Andrew Henry, University of Maine
Andrew Henry is an Advisor for the Maine Educational Talent Search Program through the University of Maine. He covers the Corinth Newport and Searsport school districts. He currently serves on the Maine Educational Opportunity Association board as the Fairshare Coordinator. He participated in the Maine Emerging Leaders Institute in 2018, and is currently participating in the Arnold Mitchem Leadership Institute.
The Upward Bound and Johnson Scholars Programs of the University of Maine at Farmington congratulate the hard work of Shelbie and the conference volunteers. Thank you for an excellent conference!

Just one person can make profound changes.

Upward Bound
UNIVERSITY OF MAIN At FARMINGTON

Johnson Scholars
UNIVERSITY OF MAIN At FARMINGTON
MAINE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION
MEMBER PROGRAMS

Bowdoin College
Upward Bound
Project Director: Bridget Mullen
bmullen@bowdoin.edu

Central Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Terry Charlton
tcharlton@cmcc.edu

Eastern Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Katie England-Lawler
kenglandlawler@emcc.edu

Kennebec Valley Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Lisa Black
lblack@kvcc.me.edu

Maine Community College System
Embark
Project Director: Mercedes Pour
mpour@mccs.me.edu

Northern Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Tammy Nelson
ntnelson@nmcc.edu

Southern Maine Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Katherine Lualdi
klualdi@smccme.edu

Syntiro
GEAR UP Maine
Project Director: Noelle Federico
noelle@syntiro.org

Thomas College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Amanda Favreau
favreaua@thomas.edu

University of Maine at Augusta
Student Support Services
Project Director: Sara Flowers
sara.flowers@maine.edu

University of Maine
Maine Educational Opportunity Center
Educational Talent Search
Project Director: Karen Keim
kkeim@maine.edu
Student Support Services
Project Director: Eric Chapman
echapman@maine.edu
Upward Bound
Upward Bound Math Science
Project Director: Rebecca Colannino
rebecca.colannino@maine.edu

University of Maine at Farmington
Student Support Services
Upward Bound
Project Director: Lynn Ploof-Davis
lynnp@maine.edu

University of Maine at Fort Kent
Student Support Services
Project Director: Nikolas Lallemand
Nikolas.lallemand@maine.edu

University of Maine at Presque Isle
Student Support Services
Project Director: Mary Kate Barbosa
mary.barbosa@maine.edu
Talent Search
Upward Bound
Project Director: Darylen Cote
darylen.cote@maine.edu

University of Southern Maine
Student Support Services
Veterans Upward Bound
Upward Bound
Project Director: Laurie Davis
laurie.j.davis@maine.edu

Washington County Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Bernadette Farrar
braffar@wccc.maine.edu

York County Community College
Student Support Services
Project Director: Jane Kimball Foley
yjfoley@yccc.edu
### MAINE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984-1985</td>
<td>Jerry Ellis, UMaine SSS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985-1986</td>
<td>Ludger Duplessis, Bowdoin UB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986-1987</td>
<td>Claire Nelson, UMF SSS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987-1988</td>
<td>Dave Megquier, UM EOC and ETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988-1989</td>
<td>Scott Bradley, Bowdoin UB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989-1990</td>
<td>Lynn Ploof-Davis, UMF UB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992-1993</td>
<td>Jane Kimball-Foley, UM ETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994-1995</td>
<td>Kristi Pierce, UMPI UB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995-1996</td>
<td>Jane Kimball-Foley, UM ETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996-1997</td>
<td>Carol Brush</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997-1998</td>
<td>Judy Look, UM ETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998-1999</td>
<td>Maureen Ferriter, UM SSS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999-2000</td>
<td>Dave Megquier, UM EOC and ETS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>Johannah Burdin, USM UB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001-2002</td>
<td>Michelle Melanson, Bowdoin UB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2003</td>
<td>Sara Henry, UM SSS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>Teresa Smith, KVCC SSS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2004-2005 Ginny Fowles-Ward, Bowdoin UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2005-2006 Faith Erhardt, UM UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2006-2007 Danette Madore, UMPI UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2007-2008 Steve Visco, UM EOC and ETS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2008-2009 Linda Rottmann, UM SSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2009 Sarah Sockalexis, UM ETS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2009-2010 Laurie Davis, USM SSS and UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2010-2011 Dori Fellman, UMF GEAR UP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2011-2012 Jess Berry, UMF UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2012-2013 Shawn Graham, UMFK SSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2013-2014 Chris Turner, USM UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2014-2015 Kelly Ilsemann, UM UBMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2015-2016 Teri Mann, UM EOC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2016-2017 Laurie Davis, USM SSS and UB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2017-2018 Dori Fellman, Syntiro GEAR UP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2018-2019 Mary Kate Barbosa, UMPI SSS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2019-2020 Your Name Here</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If anyone has corrected information regarding dates or names, please email mary.sinclair@maine.edu

### NEW ENGLAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY ASSOCIATION (NOEA) PRESIDENTS FROM MAINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1984 – 1985</td>
<td>Doris Vladmiroff</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992 – 1993</td>
<td>Jerry Ellis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999 – 2000</td>
<td>Kristi Pierce</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 – 2006</td>
<td>Dave Megquier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013 – 2014</td>
<td>Karen Keim</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016 – 2017</td>
<td>Jane Kimball Foley</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005 – 2006</td>
<td>Dave Megquier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### THE COUNCIL FOR OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION (COE) CHAIR FROM MAINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>President</th>
<th>Institution</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005 – 2006</td>
<td>Dave Megquier</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MEOC would like to congratulate Shelbie Ross and the
the 2019 MEEOA conference committee for a great
conference! Thank you for all of your hard work!

In 2018, MEOC assisted more than 1,300
participants in applying for their FAFSA.
506 MEOC participants enrolled in
college during the past year.

Since 1991, Maine Educational
Opportunity has helped more than 17,000
Maine adults find their path to college.

Project Director: Karen Keim
Assistant Director: Steve Visco
Administrative Specialist: Laurel Dean
Technology Specialist: Casey Henderson
Compliance Specialist: Sandra Tijerina

Advising Staff
Christy Le
Teri Mann
Myles Ouellette
Randi Paine
Shelbie Ross
Kate Walsh

Find us online at: http://meoc.maine.edu
WE’RE LOOKING FOR NEW BOARD MEMBERS!

Positions are open and we are looking for enthusiastic, driven, and organized individuals to join NOW!

OPEN POSITIONS INCLUDE PRESIDENT ELECT AND TREASURER.

Email Mary Kate Barbosa at mary.barbosa@maine.edu to express interest and find out more information.

Professional Development Opportunities

Did you know that you can apply for financial support from MEEOA for professional development opportunities?

If you have a conference you wish to attend or a workshop you’d like to go to, please send an email to Mary Kate Barbosa to get more information about the application process. We would love to help you out!
Please remember to fill out your conference evaluation. It will be emailed to you.