

National Educational Opportunity Centers Association

2022 NEOCA Annual Conference

Hilton San Diego Bayfront, San Diego, CA

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

8:00 am (PST) * 9:00 (MST) * 10:00 (CST) * 11:00 (EST)

Celebrating

EOC's

50th Anniversary!

1972-2022



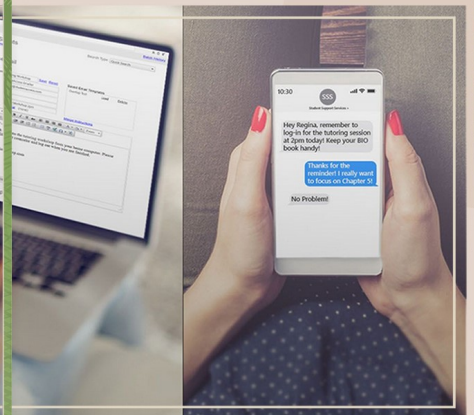
StudentAccess is the database solution to help track participant data and streamline the APR process

- Comprehensive Data Management
- Text Messaging
- Multiple Student Tool
- Online Participant Application
- Dynamic Report Generator
- Email Generator
- Data Set Editor
- Customizable Fields

Online Applications

Over 70 thousand applications submitted

Fully integrated into StudentAccess. Create and manage custom intake applications for your participants. Easily accessible both Online and in Mobile for your students, and simplified data entry for you.



Text Messaging

Over 4 million texts sent

Send individual Text Messages to participants or send a group message with our Text Message Generator! Making it easier than ever to stay in touch with your participants. You can even record the text messages as a Contact in a participant's file.

APR Generator

The APRG is a built in utility that streamlines the APR process. Easily verify your included students, check for missing data, and review data validation. We make your reporting season easier!

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September 20, 2022

Greetings!

Welcome to the National Educational Opportunity Center Association (NEOCA) annual conference and business meeting. I am thrilled that we can meet both in-person and virtually to connect, engage, learn, and celebrate accomplishments from the last year. Each Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) team member works extremely hard to help our participants thrive both inside and outside of the learning environment; often serving as advisor and cheerleader. The last fifty years of TRIO-EOC have seen highs and lows and yet we remain committed to our mission of helping the adult learner soar.



This year, our conference theme is “Education Creates Opportunity” with an emphasis on advising, mental health, and best practices. It is my sincere hope that you use the conference as an opportunity to not just refuel, but to start conversations about enhancing the work we do. Each NEOCA scholarship winner you will meet today reminds us about the importance of advocacy and how we help our participants find their voice. The Hope Center for college, community, and justice released a statistic in 2021 that said, 52% of students facing basic needs insecurity did not apply for support because they did not know how; we must continue to help our participants know how.

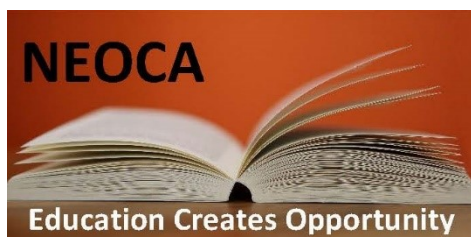
While the conference agenda looks different, I am so thankful that the NEOCA Executive Board and NEOCA Conference Committee rolled up their sleeves, used partnerships, resources, and had transparent conversations about the direction of today’s program; I know you will enjoy it. We are blessed to have the support of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) who always provides space and technology to make the NEOCA conference and business meeting a success. Booker T. Washington once said, “I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has had to overcome while trying to succeed. Despite the obstacles that each of our EOC programs have seen over the last two years, we find victory in helping our participants win. Keep striving for excellence in all you do. Happy Birthday EOC!

All the Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Williams III'.

Lee Williams III

NEOCA President



2022 NEOCA Annual Conference Agenda

Hilton San Diego Bayfront, San Diego, CA
Tuesday, September 20, 2022

8:00 am (PST) * 9:00 (MST) * 10:00 (CST) * 11:00 (EST)

Breakfast on your own

Room: **Aqua Salon AB**

- 8:00 a.m. PST Registration
- 8:45 a.m. PST Virtual Conference Room Opens / Mix and Mingle
- 9:00 a.m. PST Introductions and Opening Remarks
 Mr. Lee Williams III, NEOCA President
 Texarkana College, Texarkana, Texas
- 9:10 a.m. PST Keynote: Appreciative Advising Model
 Ms. Mykel Beorchia, Executive Director of University and Exploratory Advising
 Utah State University
- 10:30 a.m. PST EOC Share Sessions - Round Table Discussions
 Mrs. Tonya K. Harris, NEOCA Vice President
 Arkansas Northeastern College, Blytheville, Arkansas
- 11:30 a.m. PST Mental Health and Working with Immigrant/DACA Adult Populations
 Melissa Rosa-Alvarez and Robin Thorne
 Seminole State College, Florida
- 12:00 p.m. PST Lunch Buffet
- 1:00 p.m. PST NEOCA Scholarships Presentation
 Ms. Ikisha Cross, NEOCA Secretary
 Opportunity Resource Services, Cleburne, Texas
 NEOCA Business Meeting
 Mr. Lee Williams III, NEOCA President
 Texarkana College, Texarkana, Texas
- 2:00 p.m. PST COE Update
 Dr. Maureen Hoyler, President Council for Opportunity in Education
 Washington, DC
- 2:30 p.m. PST NEOCA Business Meeting - Conclusion
 Mr. Lee Williams III, NEOCA President
 Texarkana College, Texarkana, Texas

NEOCA Executive Board 2021 - 2023



President: Lee Williams III
Executive Dir. of Student Success Retention & TRIO EOC
Texarkana College
Texarkana, TX
lee.williams@texarkanacollege.edu



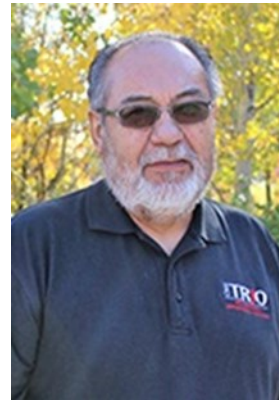
Vice President: Tonya K. Harris
TRIO Activity Specialist EOC, ETS, & SSS
Arkansas Northeastern College
Blytheville, AR
tharris@smail.anc.edu



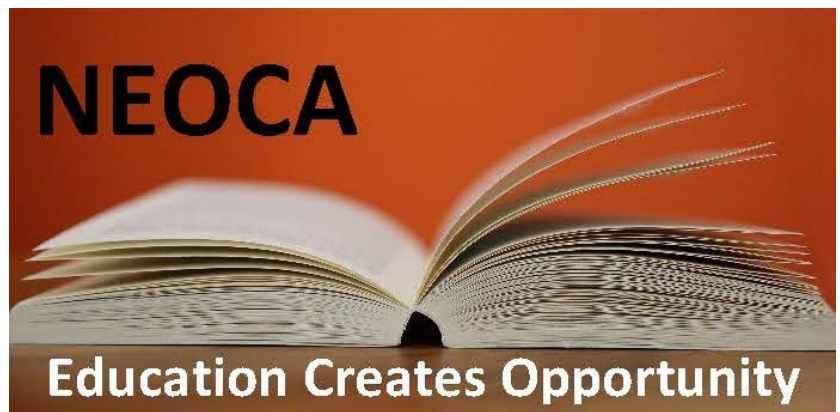
Secretary: Ikisha Cross
Assistant Director EOC—Tarrant County
Opportunity Resource Services
Cleburne, TX
ikisha.cross@orstx.org



Treasurer
Matthew Donovan
Director of Educational Access Programs
Morehead State University
Morehead, KY
medonovan@moreheadstate.edu



Past President
Mateo Arteaga
Program Director CWU-TRIO-EOC
Central Washington University
Yakima, WA
mateo.arteaaga@cwu.edu



Maureen Hoyler, President Council for Opportunity in Education

On October 1, 2013, Maureen Hoyler assumed the position of President of the Council for Opportunity in Education, a nonprofit organization that provides professional development, program improvement, and advocacy for nearly 2,800 federally funded college opportunity programs at more than 1,000 colleges and universities nationwide. Ms. Hoyler has been a voice for low-income, first-generation students and individuals with disabilities. As President, she oversees management of the Washington office and the fiscal affairs of the Association also while serving as the primary liaison between the Association and the United States Congress, the Executive Branch, all Governmental Agencies. She is the official representative of the Association with all other postsecondary educational associations.



Under her leadership, the Council has launched several new initiatives, including the Executive Leadership Institute for College Opportunity Professionals, which brings educational opportunity chapter leaders to institutions such as Princeton, Cornell, and Yale for instruction in various topics such as transformational leadership and public policy as well as provides on-going mentorship by highly experienced college access and success leaders. Hoyler also spearheaded the creation of the First-Generation College Celebration, during which hundreds of campuses recognize their first-generation students and faculty on the anniversary of the signing of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (November 8). She has brokered partnerships with corporations such as Comcast to promote careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) for underrepresented students.

Hoyler began her career at the Educational Opportunity Program at Marquette University as an assistant to the then Director, Dr. Arnold Mitchem. Ms. Hoyler moved to Washington in 1981 to establish the Council's office. As the organization's Chief Operating Officer, she has played an integral role in the growth of the organization over the past 33 years, starting from a staff of one full-time professional. Ms. Hoyler has lectured widely on federal law and regulations. Over the years, she has received numerous awards from TRIO-based associations. She received her B.A. and her law degree from Marquette University from Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.



Appreciative Advising and the Art of the Possible

NEOCA Conference, September 20, 2022

We work in higher education because we want to make a difference in the lives of our students every day. What would it look like to articulate positive outcomes and help students leverage their experiences as inspiration and motivation? How can we create inspiring teams that help students align their plan with purpose? This keynote will address the Appreciative Advising framework and demonstrate theory-to-practice examples of how individuals and systems can help students optimize their educational experiences.



Mykel Beorchia, Executive Director of University and Exploratory Advising at Utah State University (USU).

She serves as a liaison between academic advising and campus partners, ensuring advisors have the resources they need to support students' growth as learners and citizen scholars. She leads

initiatives focused on helping students maximize their educational opportunities.

Prior to her current role, she served as Director of the Academic Service Center for the Quinney College of Natural Resources. Mykel used the Appreciative Advising framework to help students discover their strengths and connect them with academic programs to help them move toward their dreams, improving retention and completion rates in the college.

Mykel serves as on the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA) Communities Division as chair of the Appreciative Advising community. She is a facilitator at the Appreciative Advising Institute at Florida Atlantic University. She has served on steering committees with the Utah Advising Association (UAA) and NACADA Region 10. She received the Utah State University Advisor of the Year (2014) and NACADA Professional Advisor Certificate of Merit - Primary Role (2015). Mykel holds degrees in Family, Consumer, and Human Development (B.S.) and Psychology-School Counseling (M.S.) from USU.



Appreciative Advising and the Art of the Possible

Session Materials



Presenter

Mykel Beorchia

Executive Director, University
and Exploratory Advising

Utah State University

mykel.beorchia@usu.edu

O: 435-797-3394

C: 435-757-4774

We work in higher education because we want to make a difference in the lives of our students every day. What would it look like to articulate positive outcomes and help students leverage their experiences as inspiration and motivation? How can we create inspiring teams that help students align their plan with purpose?

Websites

- Appreciative Advising:
<https://www.appreciativeadvising.net/>
- Florida Atlantic University Office of Appreciative Education:
<https://www.fau.edu/education/centersandprograms/oae/>
- Journal of Appreciative Education:
<http://libjournal.uncg.edu/jae/index>

Mental Health and Working with Immigrant & DACA Adult Populations

Presenters



Melissa Rosa-Alvarez
Central Florida

Melissa Rosa-Alvarez currently serves as the Project Manager of TRiO Connections for Central Florida. Ms. Rosa-Alvarez earned her bachelor of Psychology from Penn State University in 2005. She earned her master's degree in Mental Health Counseling from Nova Southeastern University in 2012. Melissa has worked in higher education for over 15 years serving in various capacities within Student Services. She is a bi-lingual licensed Mental health Counselor who began her tenure at Seminole State in 2017, working as

the Educational Planner/Outreach Coordinator for the TRIO grant and then earned the Project manager role. Under her leadership, the grant has exceeded the US Department of Education's objectives and targets. As a result of her team's performance, the grant was renewed for a second five-year term. The current grant project focuses on the adult learners population.



Robin Thorne
Central Florida

Robin Thorne currently serves as Educational Planner/ Outreach Coordinator of TRiO Connections for Central Florida. Robin has been a part of the TRiO team for three years and serves Seminole, Orange, and Volusia counties. Robin earned her bachelor of Psychology and master's degree in Clinical Psychology from the University of Central Florida. Along with experience in guiding adults to higher education, Robin has experience working in community mental health and at inpatient mental health facilities. She is currently a Registered Mental Health Counseling Intern and works with adults with varying

mental health diagnoses. Robin supports individuals experiencing homelessness, acute crises, and other special circumstances. Robin is a member Florida TRiO Student Initiative Committee.

NEOCA Annual Business Meeting Agenda
San Diego, CA
September 20, 2022

- 1:20 p.m. PST Meeting Called into Session
- Call Meeting to Order - Mr. Lee Williams III, NEOCA President
 - Roll Call - Ms. Ikisha Cross, NEOCA Secretary
 - Approval of the Minutes from 2021 - Ms. Ikisha Cross, NEOCA Secretary
- Reports from Officers
- President's Report - Mr. Lee Williams III
 - Vice President's Report - Mrs. Tonya K. Harris
 - NEOCA 2022 Conference Chair
 - Treasurer's Report - Mr. Matthew Donovan
 - Secretary's Report - Ms. Ikisha Cross
 - NEOCA 2022 Scholarship Committee Chair
 - Past President's Report - Mr. Mateo Arteaga
- Old Business
-
- 1:40 p.m. PST New Business
- NEOCA COE Fair Share Donation - Mr. Matthew Donovan
- 2:00 p.m. PST Adjournment of Business Meeting or break if the meeting is not finished
- 2:00 p.m. PST COE Update with Maureen Hoyer, President, Council for Opportunity in Education
- 2:30 p.m. PST Conclusion of the NEOCA 2022 Business meeting if needed

NEOCA Officer Reports

Lee Williams III, NEOCA President's Report

- Presided over the NEOCA Executive Meeting Zoom calls
- Assisted in 2022 NEOCA Conference planning
- Participated in the COE EOC 50th Anniversary celebration planning meetings
- Worked to streamline the NEOCA conference budget and agenda
- Determined the best method for NEOCA Website update
- Participated in the EOC blog for COE website

Tonya Harris, NEOCA Vice-President's Report

- Participated in NEOCA Executive Meeting Zoom calls
- Helped with Treasury before position was filled by Matthew Donovan
- Assisted Treasurer with deposits and paying invoices
- Updated the NEOCA Constitution and Bylaws with voted changes from 2021 conference
- Submitted updates for the NEOCA website, www.neoca.us
- Chaired the 2022 NEOCA Conference Committee
- Assisted in 2022 NEOCA Conference planning
- Put together the 2022 Conference booklet
- Prepared the 2021 NEOCA Business Meeting Minutes
- Participated in the COE planning committee for the EOC 50th Anniversary celebration

Ikisha Cross, NEOCA Secretary's Report

- Participated in NEOCA Executive Meeting Zoom calls
- Prepared minutes from NEOCA Board Meetings
- Chaired the NEOCA Scholarship Committee
- Organized the 2022 NEOCA Scholarship Presentation
- Assisted in 2022 NEOCA Conference planning

Matthew Donovan, NEOCA Treasurer's Report

- Attended monthly NEOCA Executive Board Meetings
- Worked with outgoing Treasurer Tonya Harris to train on the treasurer duties
- Created JotForms for Annual Conference registration and Membership
- Created social media presence for NEOCA
- Worked with President Williams to implement new ideas to make NEOCA more financially secure
- Made deposits and invoices as needed for membership dues and conference registrations
- Maintained NEOCA financial obligations and security
- Worked with executive board to save technology costs for annual meeting
- Provided Treasurer Reports for meetings
- Provided and set up the virtual platform for the 2022 NEOCA Conference
- Assisted in 2022 NEOCA Conference planning

Mateo Arteaga, NEOCA Past President's Report

- Participated in NEOCA Executive Meeting Zoom calls
- Assisted in 2022 NEOCA Conference planning
- Participated in the COE committee for the EOC 50th Anniversary video interviewing of candidates
- Moderated EOC roundtables for Washington State TRIO Association (WSTA)

NEOCA Proposed Budget 2023

Revenues:

NEOCA Memberships 15 @ \$100	\$ 1,500.00
NEOCA affiliate Memberships 1 @ \$75	\$ 75.00
NEOCA Conference Registrations (Early Bird) - 60 @ \$350	\$ 21,000.00
NEOCA Conference Registrations (Standard) - 40 @ 400	\$ 16,000.00
Sale of extra NEOCA conference gifts	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Total Anticipated Revenues:	<u>\$ 38,675.00</u>

Expenses:

NEOCA Conference (meals, shipping, printing, etc.)	\$ 26,550.00
NEOCA Conference items 125 @ \$25 per registrant	\$ 3,125.00
Scholarships (GED) 3 @ \$1000 each	\$ 3,000.00
Scholarships (high school) 3 @ \$1000 each	\$ 3,000.00
COE Policy Seminar	\$ 2,000.00
NEOCA Donation to COE Fair Share	<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
Total Anticipated Expenses:	<u>\$ 38,675.00</u>

NEOCA 2022 Scholarship Winners

Dae'jah Heath (postsecondary)

Texarkana College

Program Director: Tenequa Martin



Jennifer Paul (postsecondary)

CT Talent Assistance Cooperative

Program Director: Cecilia Nugent

Monique Smith (postsecondary)

The University of Kansas

Program Director: Kathy Bryant



Congratulations to all the NEOCA 2022 Scholarship Winners!

Special Recognition of EOC Personnel



Tom Rowland

Morehead State University, KY

Congratulations on your retirement!

Thank you for the many years of work, service, and dedication to the TRIO EOC programs and the NEOCA organization. You will be missed.

Special Thank You to the 2022 NEOCA Conference Committee:

Mrs. Tonya Harris, chair, Arkansas Northeastern College

Dr. Elijah M. Scott, Cuyahoga Community College

Ms. Ashley Childs, Texarkana College

Dr. Tracy Lyons, The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Special Thank You to the 2022 NEOCA Scholarship Committee:

Ms. Ikisha Cross, chair, Opportunity Resource Services

Melody Lawrence, University of Kansas

NEOCA 2022 Annual Conference Evaluation Form

Please complete after the conference has concluded.

Below is the link and the QR Code for the NEOCA 2022 Conference Evaluation Form.

The evaluation will open on Tuesday, September 20 at 12:00 p.m. CST and will close on Tuesday, September 27 at 5:00 p.m. CST

<https://forms.office.com/r/u5AbiZEm4D>



NEOCA Website: [Http//neoca.us](http://neoca.us)

Join NEOCA Listserve and/or NEOCA Facebook from the home page of the NEOCA website.