

HISTORY

OF

**ARKANSAS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS
(AASAP)**

FROM 1965 TO 1991

FOREWORD

As Chairperson of the History Committee, it is my pleasure to present this historical record of the Association to the membership. To my knowledge, there is no formal written history of the association on file; therefore, this information will serve as the beginning of the documentation of our history.

It might be possible that some bits and pieces of information (names, events, places, dates, etc.) have been omitted; however, please accept the history herein written as the initial draft. For a factual account and documentation, please advise of any inaccuracies.

Sincere appreciation is expressed to Robbie Lyle, Vance Simelton, Cathy Masters and Mildred Simmons of Arkansas Association of Student Assistance Programs (AASAP), who provided invaluable information and service.

It is my hope that our records will be an invaluable document which will be added to the educational and historical writings of the United States of America.

Alvin Anglin
AASAP Historian
Little Rock, Arkansas
October, 1991

To accurately present the history of AASAP, one must be cognizant of its regional and national ties, because within these ties lie the past, the present, and the future of the organization.

The Arkansas Association of Student Assistance Programs (AASAP) represents an array of programs popularly known as TRIO. These programs include: Upward Bound, Talent Search, Student Support Services, Economic Opportunity Centers, Staff Development, and most recently, the Ronald McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program.

TRIO had its genesis in the Title IV Higher Education Act of 1965 which came about as a result of President Lyndon B. Johnson's "War on Poverty." The authorizing statute for the TRIO Programs provided that, in general, these programs were intended to identify qualified disadvantaged individuals, prepare these identified individuals for post-secondary education, provide special services for these qualified individuals who are currently pursuing post-secondary education, and train persons who were providing, or would provide services under these various programs.

TRIO started with two programs, Upward Bound and Talent Search. Upward Bound was the first of these program to receive an appropriation from congress for the expressed purpose of establishing pilot programs. Initially, there were eighteen (18) pilot projects set up throughout the United States of America. The College of the Ozarks at Clarksville, Arkansas, was one of the first eighteen (18) institutions selected to host a pilot project. Ouachita Baptist University at Arkadelphia and Philander Smith

College at Little Rock, were the first institutions to develop non-pilot Upward Bound Projects in the State of Arkansas. Both projects started in the summer of 1966. These projects were soon joined by programs at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff and Southern Arkansas University at Magnolia.

Funds were appropriated for Talent Search Programs in 1966. With this new appropriation, there were two (2) program focusing on the needs of an identical economic population with funds coming from two separate sources. Upward Bound funds were distributed by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) and Talent Search funds were distributed by the Office of Education (OE).

During the early years of TRIO Programs, 1966-1970, the Department of Health Education and Welfare (HEW) planned national meetings for Upward Bound and Talent Search project directors and other staff members, including tutors and counselors. These meetings were held in Dallas, New Mexico, Denver, and Washington, D.C. HEW officials encouraged the regions to organize regional associations, and the regions encouraged the states to organize local state associations.

In 1968, Congress directed the transfer of Upward Bound Programs to the Office of Education. This move was accomplished in 1969. A national steering committee, chaired by Walter Mason, was organized for the purpose of helping Upward Bound Programs make the transition from OEO to OE in HEW as smooth as possible. From Arkansas, John Phillips, Upward Bound Director at Philander Smith College, and Dr. Ted Elliott, Upward Bound Director at the

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, served on the national steering committee. These committee members encouraged by Walter Mason, served as the leaders for AASAP's beginning in 1971.

71-72
Several sources have said that AASAP was born in the office of John Phillips. The first elected officials of AASAP were Charles Chambliss, Ouachita Baptist University in Arkadelphia, President; Ted Elliott, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Vice-President; and Bobbie Hodge, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Secretary. The primary purpose of AASAP was to improve communications between project directors and staffs of student assistance programs in Arkansas.

Dr. Chambliss served the association as President from 1971-73; John Phillips, served from 1974-75. Other Presidents of AASAP were Ted Thedford, Southern Baptist University, Walnut Ridge, 1975-77; Ida Moose, PLAN, Inc., Little Rock, 1977-78; Robbie Lyle, Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, 1978-80; and Charles Latham, Southern Arkansas, Magnolia, was elected in 1980-91; however, Latham resigned to leave the state. Diane Miller, Arkansas State University, served as President during 1980-81; H.L. McGill, College of the Ozark, Clarksville, 1981-83; Arnell Willis, Phillips County Community College, Helena, 1983-84; Fred Oakley, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1984-85; Linda Swofford, Garland County Community College, Hot Springs, 1985-86; John Sutton, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, 1986-88; Gary Hageman, Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia, 1988-89; Shauna Sterling, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, 1989-90; and Kathy Masters, Arkansas

State University, Jonesboro, 1990-present.

With the organization of the Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs (SWASAP) in 1972, it became more apparent that politics was the game that all TRIO organizations would have to learn to play. The AASAP leaders worked to define their role in this political structure that would well affect the existence of projects in Arkansas; hence, AASAP members became active participants at the regional level.

In 1973, Bobbie Hodge was elected Vice-President of SWASAP; however, she did not serve as president because she left TRIO to begin her career in the public schools of Pine Bluff. In 1977, Fred Oakley was elected treasurer and served two (2) years. Mr. Oakley also served as a member of the Board of Directors for approximately six (6) years.

There have been numerous representatives on the SWASAP Board from Arkansas, some of whom were: Ted Elliott, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; George Randal, Arkansas College; Bobbie Hodge, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff; Charles Chambliss, Ouachita Baptist College; Ida Moose, Plan, Inc.; Ted Thedford, Southern Baptist College; Leo Williams, Philander Smith College; Ann Thomas, Southern Arkansas University; Harry Budd, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; Robbie Lyle, Arkansas State University (SWASAP President, 1980); Charles Latham, Southern Arkansas University; Ben Pickard, Arkansas State University at Beebe; Dorothy Arnett, Philander Smith College; Diane Miller, Arkansas State University; Charles Skelton, Arkansas State University at

Beebe; Vance Simelton, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; John Sutton, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; Linda Swofford, University of Arkansas at Little Rock; H.L. McGill, College of the Ozarks; Arnell Willis, Phillips County Community College; Gary Hageman, Southern Arkansas University; Shauna Sterling, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville; Addie Stepp, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Ida Moose was the first real politician from AASAP to join the national scene for TRIO. She was one of the first members of the National (Coordinating) Council for Education Opportunity Programs, which was the informal version of the National Council, our national body. Ms. Moose's involvement took her to Washington, D.C., in 1977 to lobby Education Opportunity Programs. She and Fred Oakley, apparently, were the first representatives from Arkansas appointed by a SWASAP president to serve on the National Council.

In 1975, Arkansas had seventeen (17) TRIO projects (TS-3, UB-8, SSS-6) but, Arkansas suffered the loss of nine (9) of its seventeen (17) projects during the 1976 funding process. It was conceded that Arkansas did not receive its portion of the funds allocated to Region VI mainly due, according to HEW officials, to the quality of proposals submitted. A concerted effort was made to improve the quality of proposals from Arkansas. Proposal Writing workshops were held in Arkansas and Dallas, Texas. AASAP members attended as many sessions as possible. As a result of these workshops, TRIO projects increased from eight (8) to fifteen

(15) in 1977; to nineteen (19) in 1978; to twenty-one (21) in 1979; to twenty-five (25) in 1980-81; to twenty-two (22) in 1984; and twenty-six (26) in 1989.

Our history includes 6-TS, 12-UB, 16-SSS projects at a funding level of approximately \$27 million. Four (4) of the Talent Search projects were located at: University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Leo Collins, Director; Little Rock Urban League, Howard Love, Director; Little Rock-Project A-Set, later known as the Arkansas Plan, Ida Moose, Director; and Philander Smith College, Vance Simelton, Director. Presently, we have six Talent Search Projects. These projects are located at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Vance Simelton, Director; North Arkansas Community College, Pamela Richiert, Director; Ouachita Baptist University, Lewis Shepherd, Director; University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Leo Collins, Director; University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Shauna Sterling, Director; Mississippi County Community College, Suzanne Westbrook, Director.

From the early days to the present, Arkansas has established twelve (12) Upward Bound Projects: Arkansas College, Batesville, Harold McDonald, Director (Marilyn Chlebak, current Director); Ouachita Baptist University, Arkadelphia, Dr. Charles Chambliss and John Small, Directors (Lewis Shepherd, current Director); Philander Smith College, Little Rock, John Phillips, Director (Naomi Cottoms, current Director); University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Guy Nelson, Director (Shauna Sterling, current Director); Southern Baptist College, J.C. Thedford, Director (defunct); Philander

Smith College (Veteran Upward Bound), Otis Tyler, Director (defunct); University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Fred Oakley, Director (defunct); University of Arkansas at Monticello, Maudie Anderson, Director; Arkansas State University, Jonesboro, Robbie Lyle, Director; Phillips County Community College, Helena, Betty Darnell, Director; Southern Arkansas University, Magnolia, John Gatlin, Director.

Over the years, we have received funding for sixteen (16) Student Support Services Programs. The original six (6) SSS Projects were located at Henderson State University, Dr. Clarence Botsford, Director (Kathy Muse, current Director); Phillips County Community College, Dr. Robert Goldman, Director (Carolyn Quarrells, current Director); Southern State College (presently called Southern Arkansas University), Ralph Wilson, Director (Dr. Bob Terry, current Director); University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Fred Oakley, Director (Dr. Carol Snelson, current Director); University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Bobbie Hodge, Director (Leo Collins, current Director); and University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, Dr. Harry Budd, Director (Dr. Addie Steppe, current Director). Other Student Support Services Programs are: Arkansas State University, Robbie Lyle, Director; East Arkansas Community College, Ted Thedford and Dr. Norma Strickland, Directors (Johnnie Hicks, current Director); Garland County Community College, Charlotte Hologood, Director (Linda Swofford, current Director); North Arkansas Community College, Cindy Zupka, Director; University of the Ozarks, Charlotte Hologood and H.L. McGill, Directors (Janet

Curb, current Director); Rich Mountain Community College, Sue Rowe, Director; University of Arkansas at Monticello, Rita Wade, Director; Ouachita Baptist University, Charles Chambliss, Director (Lewis Shepherd, current Director); Philander Smith College, Dr. Dorothy Arnett, Director; Southern Arkansas University, El Dorado, Bill Costley, Director; and Harding University, Searcy, Linda Thompson, Director.

Recently, Arkansas received its first Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program. This program was funded at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock in 1990. Dr. Carol Snelson is the current Director of this Program. Funding has also been received for two (2) Upward Bound Math/Science Centers in 1991. These two programs are located at Ouachita Baptist University, Lewis Shepherd, Director; and Arkansas College, Batesville, Robert Carius, Director.

AASAP has accepted its responsibilities in all aspects of TRIO's existence in the state. It has educated our United States Congressmen, governor, legislators, county and city officials, state higher education officials, and campus administrators and faculties.

Much of AASAP's history is yet to be told. Yet, the past in this organization is a torch that is held high so it can light the way for those who are new to TRIO as well as for those who will join the ranks in the future.

1999 Linda Barker
1998 Jerry Thomas
1997 Lucy Jones
1996 Tammy Jolley
1995 Paula Bradberry
1994 John Henneberg
1993
1992 Kathy Masters
1991 Wendell Williams
1990 Kathy Masters
1989 Shauna Sterling / Kathy
1988 Gary Hageman 87
1987 John Sutton 48
1986 John Sutton 87
1985 Linda Stumbaugh 46
1984 Fred Oakley 16
1983 Arnell Willis 44
1982 H.L. McGill 82
1981 H.L. McGill
1980 Charles Latham
1979 Robbie Lyle
1978 Robbie Lyle
1977 Ida Moose
1976 Ted Thedford
1975 Ted Thedford
1974 John Phillips
1973 Charles Chambliss
1972 Charles Chambliss