

AIMS TIMES

DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

Happy February AIMS Family!

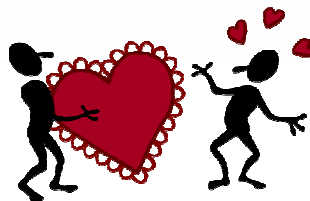
I hope each of you have a “sweet” time this month with your loved- ones! If you do not have a special someone... it’s okay! You are part of a large AIMS family that will send out lots of good thoughts and kisses from afar!

There are several exciting opportunities coming up in the next few months prior to the summer program! Remember our motto...”work hard, play even harder! Make sure that you are keeping your grades up and keeping your eyes on the prize....the road to graduation with honors!

This month we will be celebrating National TRIO Day along with the rest of the nation! We will be hosting our own reception as well as attending the State-wide TRIO Day celebration in Bowling Green later during the month. We are in the process of trying to put together a Scholars Bowl team! If interested...contact me ASAP! Take care...and look forward to seeing you soon!

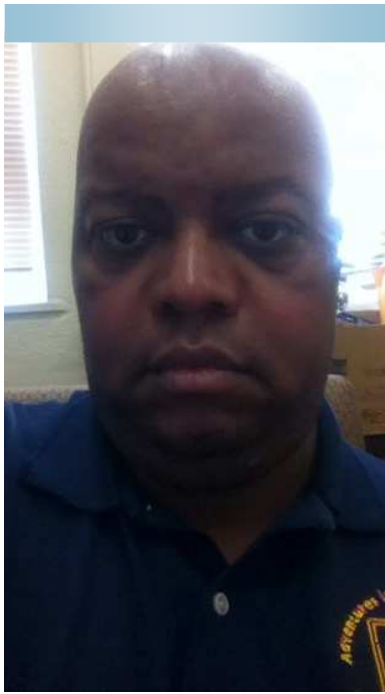
Yours in education,

Dr. Doris Clark-Sarr



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COORDINATOR'S CORNER—AIMS I

February is here and we are in full-swing preparation for the AIMS Program Summer Components! Pretty soon, new names and faces will be added to the AIMS Family so please remember that You, our returning students, are our biggest recruitment tool!

Counselors, please feel free to give out student applications and have parents and students contact me or Evan if they need assistance completing the application. If you need applications, you may print copies from the aims website: murraystate.edu/aims

or by contacting Evan or I to mail you copies.

All returning students should have received a letter regarding the summer component and the 2014 Summer Component Confirmation Form. Please mail your form back to us as soon as possible so we can hold your spot! Keep your eyes and ears open for several great activities coming your way this spring! As always, keep in touch and contact us as needed for assistance!

Stephen D. Keene

Greetings from Gail

Hello Everyone!

The year has taken off to a fast start which means the summer will be here quicker than we think.

I am certain the coordinators have mentioned this, but please go ahead and complete all the paperwork you are receiving from AIMS. This will only help us as we prepare for the summer!

I hope everyone has a nice month and a **Happy Valentine Day!**

Gail Woolridge

COORDINATOR'S CORNER—AIMS II

Hello good people!

The KAEOPP Scholar's Bowl is still scheduled for Saturday, February 22nd at Western Kentucky University. Stephen and I received a few "maybes" and a few "definites," but no one attended the information session last month! We had enough interested to have one team for sure and maybe two. So, if one of us contacted you about this and you are interested then please contact me by email or phone ASAP! If we did not initially contact you and you are interested please feel free to contact me still. We will have to get a move on and have a practice session before the 22nd so we can get familiar with the format and rules.

Hope to see you soon!

Evan O'Neal



DISCOVERY PARK OF AMERICA HAS SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Sitting in a cornfield in the middle of rural northwest, Tennessee is the nation's newest attraction, Discovery Park of America. The 50-acre complex boasts an entertaining 'grounds-and-garden' experience, as well as an iconic 100,000 square foot Discovery Center featuring ten learning galleries. "Discovery Park is unique...there's no place like it anywhere," CEO Jim Rippey said.

Inside Discovery Center there are ten unique galleries. *Natural History* features dinosaurs, geodes, rocks and minerals. *Regional History* boasts a 22,000 gallery aquarium, an oral history exhibit and an earthquake simulator. The *Native American Gallery* has a unique deer diorama and thousands of Indian artifacts. Children love to climb in the Vietnam War era helicopter in the *Military Gallery*, while gazing at the PT-17 Stearman hanging from the gallery's ceiling. There's a beautiful display of antique automobiles in the *Transportation Gallery*, and a suit of armor located in *Enlightenment*. For a little more hands-on fun, younger guests head to the *First State Bank Children's Exploration Gallery* where they can climb, play, build and slide down the leg of the iconic giant human slide. The *Space Science Technology Gallery* allows visitors to blast off in the Star Ship Theater, taking a unique adventure through outer space. The *Energy Gallery* helps guests get their exercise as they create enough energy to see a Jacob's ladder shoot from the top of the energy tower. And, beginning later this year, the *ATA Traveling Exhibit Hall* will house temporary exhibits on a regular basis.

Outside, over one and a-half miles of sidewalk wind through The Settlement, The Barn, Mill Ridge, The European Garden, The Maze, The Japanese Garden, Freedom Square, The Train Depot, The Chapel, The American Garden and The Covered Bridge.

In addition to the 50-acre venue itself, Event Director Melissa Caldwell has big plans for Discovery Park when it comes to events. "We plan to have music in the park every other week throughout the summer," Melissa said. "We are hoping to have a couple of big concerts on the Great Lawn. We are discussing festivals, fireworks displays and other compelling events. We are going to give people from all around this region and beyond a reason to keep coming back to Discovery Park."

And the Education Department has begun to offer classes on a regular basis

at Discovery Park. "We are hoping to have a wide variety of educational classes in our classroom at Discovery Park," said educational assistant Chris Gunlefinger. From drawing to potter, tours to lectures...a list of classes and learning opportunities offered can be found on the park's website. "We will continue to grow and expand in this area," Gunlefinger said.

It is a big story for a small town in rural west Tennessee, located at least two hours from a major metropolitan area.

"Memphis is two hours south, and Nashville is about 2 ½ hours southeast of Union City," Rippey said. "We have something that will catch the eye of the nation here, maybe even the world."

From the entrepreneur spirit of its founder, Robert Kirkland, to the unique design and experience of the park itself, Discovery Park of America is a unique human interest story and a delightful place to visit. It captures the heart of America, combining the essence of our historical past with the interactive and technological visions of the future. It's history and technology on display, it's educational and fun. For more information about Discovery Park of America, visit the website at www.discoveryparkofamerica.com.



LUCAS REED—US SENATE PAGE

The AIMS Program is very proud to announce that our very own, Lucas Reed was selected and is currently serving as a Senate Page to Senator, Mitch McConnell. He headed to Washington, D.C. in mid-January and will be joining us for the AIMS Summer Component in mid-June. Below is information about the Senate Page Program and what Lucas will be doing over the next few months. The AIMS Staff wishes Lucas the best of luck as he represents KY in this prestigious position.

Summary

For more than 180 years, messengers known as pages have served the United States Congress.

Pages must be high school juniors and at least 16 years of age. Several incumbent and former

Members of Congress as well as other prominent Americans have served as congressional pages.

Senator Daniel Webster appointed the first Senate page in 1829. The first House pages began their service in 1842. Women were first appointed as pages in 1971.

In August 2011, House leaders announced the termination of that chamber's page program.

Senate pages are appointed and sponsored by Senators for one academic semester of the school

year, or for a summer session. The right to appoint pages ro-

tates among Senators pursuant to criteria set by the Senate's leadership. Academic standing is one of the most important criteria used in the final selection of pages. Selection criteria for House pages was similar when the page program operated in that chamber.

Prospective Senate pages are advised to contact their Senators to request consideration for a page appointment.

Senate Pages

There are 30 Senate page positions, 16 for the majority party and 14 for the minority party. The office of the Sergeant at Arms supervises the Senate page program.

The Senate page program consists of four quarters, two academic year sessions and two shorter summer sessions. It is administered by the Senate Sergeant at Arms, the Senate page program director, and the principal of the Senate page school. Senate pages are paid a stipend, and deductions are taken for taxes and residence hall fee, which includes a meal plan.⁷

Pages must pay their transportation costs to Washington, DC, but their uniforms are supplied. The uniforms consist of navy blue suits, white shirts, red and blue striped tie, dark socks, and black shoes. (continued pg. 5)

Duties

Pages serve principally as messengers. They carry documents between the House and Senate, Members' offices, committees, and the Library of Congress. They prepare the Senate chamber for each day's business by distributing the Congressional Record and other documents related to the day's agenda, assist in the cloakrooms and chambers; and when Congress is in session, they sit near the dais where they may be summoned by Members for assistance. In the House, pages also previously raised and lowered the flag on the roof of the Capitol.



CAREER PROFILE: ENGINEERS MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Imagine having both the passion to make a difference in the world and the technical know-how to achieve it—that’s what engineering is all about.

- Engineers are at the center of innovation, from increasing a person’s life expectancy and quality of life to creating and improving the communication systems that keep us all connected.
- Engineers’ work drives our economy and many experts worry that America needs to produce more engineers in order to stay competitive in the global marketplace.
- Engineering is a versatile degree. More than half of the people who have an engineering degree work in other areas like medicine, law, investment banking, and consulting, prompting many experts to call engineering the new liberal arts degree.

Average Salary

The average engineer’s salary in 2011 was \$99,738¹. New engineers—those who have just graduated from college—were among the highest paid in the class of 2013, averaging a \$62,535 annual salary². And it doesn’t stop there. Over the course of a lifetime, engineering majors will [earn](#) 1.4 million more dollars than a liberal arts major³.

Of course, average income for engineers varies depending on discipline, qualifications, experience, and location. Check out [Career Options](#) and learn about the various engineering disciplines.

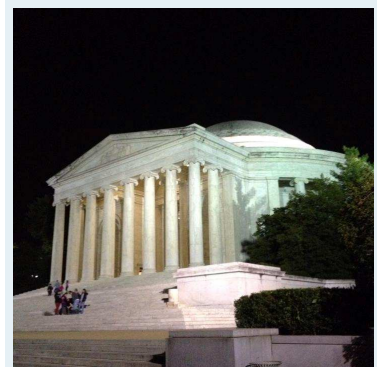
Hiring Trends

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics the field of engineering is expected to grow by 10 percent in the coming decade. In recent years, the prospects for college graduates have been fair at best, but engineering graduates experience a much more favorable job market. Why?

Experts say demand for engineers will [continue](#) to grow as governments and industry work to meet the challenges of a growing global population and dwindling resources.

Senate Pages (continued)

The senate provides its pages education and supervised housing in the Daniel Webster Page Residence near the Hart Senate Office Building. The Senate Page School is located in the lower level of Webster Hall. Pages who serve during the academic year are educated in this school, which is also accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The junior-year curriculum is geared toward college preparation and emphasis is given to the unique learning opportunities available in Washington, D.C. Early morning classes are held prior to the convening of the senate.



KY TRiO Day!

TRiO Day 2014 will be at Western Kentucky University on February 21st - 22nd, 2014.

TRiO

Day Tentative Agenda
Friday 2-21-14

7:00-7:20pm- Scholars Bowl Orientation

7:30-9:20 pm- Scholars Bowl Preliminary Competition

Saturday 2-22-14

7:30-8:00am- Registration (All)
[Downing Student Union]

***8:30-8:45am**- Preview of the day (Orientation) for student not competing in Student Initiatives

9:00-9:45am- Concurrent Sessions (TBA)/Campus Tours 1

10:00-10:45am- Concurrent Sessions (TBA)/Campus Tours 1 1

8:30-11:30am- Student Initiative Competitions

Locations TBA: Academic Bowl, Debate, High-Q & Scholars Bowl

11:00am-12:30pm- Lunch

12:45-1:45pm- Awards/Cultural event/Program

2:00pm- Lady Toppers Basketball Game*

2:00pm- Campus Tours for Student Initiatives Students (by request)

Please note that Western Kentucky University will not be providing breakfast or lunch on TRiO Day, but food services on and off-campus will be available on TRiO Day.

AIMS FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

WILLIAM COOPERMAN

KEYVAN GARDNER

BLAKE DENSON

LAUREN KELLY

CARLOS EASLEY

ARIEL VINES

CODY EASLEY

ELEALEH VINES

DARIAN FOUNTAIN

DAKOTA TUCKER



PAUCAH 2014
YOUTH SCIENCE SUMMIT

Kentucky Science Center's 2014 Youth Science Summit
Saturday, March 22, 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
Presented by Lourdes Hospital and Mercy Medical Associates
Ages 11-18 divided into Middle and High School tracks

The world is changing and today's youth boast the big voices and big ideas that will create tomorrow's leaders. At the 2014 Paducah Youth Science Summit, students ages 11-18 will dialogue on hot science topics, interact with leading professionals in speed mentoring sessions and hands-on industry labs, and advocate for advancement in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Presented by
LOURDES **MERCY**
Medical Associates

Hosted at
West Kentucky
West Kentucky Community and Technical College
4810 Alben Barkley Drive
Emerging Technology Center
Paducah, KY 42001
270-554-9200

With support from Harrah's Metropolis

\$25 per student (breakfast, lunch and t-shirt). For more information or to register, please call 502.561.6100 or visit KYScienceCenter.org.

PARENTS' CORNER: How does the nature of work affect the planning process?

- Understand and accept the fact that the future will be fast-paced, ever changing, and high-tech. Those who can't adapt will be left behind!
- Careers used to be clear cut, obvious, understandable, accessible. Choices were limited but straightforward and clear cut. *Our children* face a very different set of circumstances (Johnston). They need to understand that there are literally thousands of [jobs](#) out there, and that they should prepare themselves for a cluster of jobs in order to be versatile and “light on their feet” once they enter the job market.
- Our children must prepare for a fluid, often unstable job market by acquiring technical skills as well as the “soft skills”: skills like problem solving, team work, communications, critical thinking, leadership and management, allocating resources, using information and technology, etc.
- No matter how many jobs are out there, your child will not be happy if she is in a job that is not interesting to her or appropriate for her personality. So don't let your child choose a “hot job” or “trendy” job, just because the pay is high or there will be a lot of them. Help your child choose the [best career](#) path for her but also make sure she understands today's job market and where she will fit in.
- Remember that the future belongs to the technologically prepared. [Courses](#) in math, science, technical reading and writing, and the technologies will be vital to being prepared! Help your child choose courses that will prepare him for the future!
- Think differently – “People can no longer think about simply ‘finding a job.’ Instead, we must learn to ‘create a livelihood’” (Quattrociocchi)



TRIO DAY CELEBRATION SET ON MSU CAMPUS FOR FEBRUARY 17, 2014



The Murray State University (MSU) TRiO programs Adventures in Math and Science (AIMS) I & II, Student Support Services (SSS) and the McNair Scholar's Program will host a reception on Monday, Feb. 17, from 1-3 p.m. on the campus of Murray State University, 248 Blackburn Science Building. Faculty, staff, students, area school personnel and Murray community leaders are invited to attend. The reception gives the university an opportunity to showcase its TRiO program's accomplishments and participants.

Because access and retention services are essential components of the federal strategy to ensure equal educational opportunity, Congress established the TRiO programs more than 45 years ago. These programs enable Americans, regardless of economic circumstances, race or ethnic background, to enter college and graduate and to pursue advanced degrees.

TRiO programs identify promising students and assist them in achieving a college degree. All services are free to qualified participants. Participants in each program must meet the same federal criteria. The majority of participants must demonstrate financial need and/or be the first in their family to receive a four-year college degree. In addition to students who meet the first-generation college, low-income criteria, undergraduates who are from groups that are underrepresented in graduate school are eligible for participation in the McNair Scholars program. The four TRiO programs on the Murray State University campus serve more than 400 students.

Student Support Services is a retention program that offers academic support to students enrolled at Murray State. This program, designed to increase the retention and graduation rates of qualifying participants, has been serving disadvantaged MSU students since

1974 and currently serves 176 students. Participants in SSS qualify by demonstrating a need for academic support and meeting mandated federal guidelines. Participants must be low-income, first-generation college students or students with disabilities.

SSS participants benefit from a variety of services that include academic tutoring; advice and assistance in postsecondary course selection; information on both the full range of student financial aid programs and benefits and resources for locating public and private scholarships; assistance in completing financial aid applications; education and/or counseling services designed to improve financial and economic literacy; and assistance in applying for admission to graduate and professional programs.

The SSS project also provides individualized counseling for personal, career and academic information; activities and instruction designed to acquaint students with career options; and exposure to cultural events and academic programs not usually available to disadvantaged students. The staff of Student Support Services is eager to meet with students and assist them in reaching their educational goals. For more information, contact Shanna Burgess, SSS director, at msu.sss@murraystate.edu or call 270.809.4327.

The McNair Scholars Program seeks to help undergraduates realize their full potential by encouraging and preparing them to pursue a Ph.D. Eligible students include those from low-income, first-generation college families and students from groups underrepresented in graduate education.

McNair participants have a unique opportunity to engage in an in-depth, faculty-guided research project that gives them an edge

MSU TRiO Day (continued)

when applying to graduate school. This edge often enables students to secure financial support that will fully pay for their graduate education. While at Murray State, McNair Scholars receive a \$2,800 research project stipend, scholarship support, travel support for conferences and for visits to graduate schools, tutoring, and a GRE preparation class, among other support.

The current McNair Scholars Program at Murray State University was refunded by the U.S. Department of Education at \$900,000 for a six-year period starting in October 2013. Murray State will provide over \$250,000 in additional support throughout the 2013 to 2019 time period. The McNair Program supports 28 scholars annually and is open to students in any discipline that can lead to a Ph.D.

Anyone interested in additional information should contact John Mateja, McNair Scholars director, or Leslie Furches, associate director, at msu.mcnaair@murraystate.edu or call 270.809.2951. The program is actively seeking new scholars at this time.

Dr. Doris Clark-Sarr directs the Adventures in Math and Science Programs I and II. This program is designed to enhance math and science skills of students by allowing 120 high school students per year to participate in a school year academic program as well as a six-week enrichment camp. Participants must have a desire to pursue a math or science career in the future.

Participants attend classes in foreign language, literature, math, science, computers and fine arts. The major emphasis of the curriculum, however, is math and science. Each student is given a research project to work on during the program with a supervising faculty member acting as a guide. Four years ago, the AIMS program was selected as one of the top math and science programs in the nation. A representative from the Pell Institute in Washington, D.C., visited the program to research best practices for math and science programs.

AIMS students have presented their research at a regional level with other TRiO programs. Science- or math-related field trips to such places as MSU's Hancock Biological Station illustrate how the concepts they learn in class are applied.

Throughout the school year and at the end of every summer, AIMS takes the students to

other places, visiting science- or math-related sites. Students will be touring colleges in Kentucky, Tennessee and mid-Florida, as well as touring the NASA Space Center, where they will have lunch with an astronaut. Several students will also be taking a trip to St. Louis to see the Science Center, Grant's Farm and the St. Louis Zoo.

Students in the AIMS target areas of western Kentucky, northwest Tennessee and eastern Missouri are those who score lower than the national average in math and science, but still have an interest in those fields. The program is designed to help those students increase their understanding of these subjects in order for them to achieve their academic and career goals.

"Currently there are approximately 25 graduates from our program attending Murray State University," Clark-Sarr said. "We are required to track our students until they either graduate from college or decline to participate in our follow-up study. So far, we've established over a 96 percent retention rate for our students."

The AIMS program was recently funded by the U.S. Department of Education to serve its target area for the next five years.

For more information on the AIMS program at Murray State, contact Clark-Sarr at dclarksarr@murraystate.edu or 270.809.3367.



Murray State University

AIMS Program

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Murray, KY 42071

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SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

February

2nd—5th SAEOPP
Conference New Orleans,
LA

8th ACT Test Date

9:00am—1:00pm

251 Blackburn Science
Bldg

22nd KY TRiO Day and
Scholars Bowl Competi-
tion @ WKU

March

TBA Cultural Outing

17th—21 MSU Spring
Break

22nd KY Science Center's
Youth Science Summit

29th Bridge Enrichment
Workshop VII—The Final
Countdown

April

12th ACT Test Date

19th AIMS Orientation

251 Blackburn Science
Bldg

May

26th—29th AIMS Staff Re-
treat Eminence, MO

26th Bridge Move In Day

2:00pm

27th Bridge Classes Begin

June

2nd AIMS Pre-Assignments
Due Date

3rd—5th Bridge Surprise Trip

6th—8th Bridge Weekend

8th Undergraduate Move-In
Day & Cook-Out

2:00pm

9th Undergraduate Classes
Begin

11th AIMS Testing & Carni-
val

14th ACT Test Date

18th AIMS College Tour & Cul-
tural Outing (TBA)

20th—22nd Bridge St. Louis
Trip

25th Venture River Day &
Bridge Graduation
27th Closing Symposium &
Move-Out Day
28th—July 2nd
End Of Year Trip (TBA)