

ILAEOPP NEWS

Illinois
Association of
Educational
Opportunity
Program
Personnel

November 2006

From the desk of Shawn L. Govan
ILAEOPP President 2005 - 2006



As the 2005-2006 President of **ILAEOPP** I have been provided with personal and professional experiences that I will not soon forget. Having sat among my peers throughout this great region, exchanged ideas, views and opinions, in addition to representing the “*Super Bad*” state of Illinois, I have been provided one of my most notably, marked professional achievements. The knowledge that I have gained, the laughs that I have shared, the tears that I have shed (be they ever so few because we all know with my kind of make-up, I’d look just like Tammy Faye Baker - smile) and the “knocks” that I have taken have humbled me in a way that no other experience could have ever provided. Having been cushioned by my Past-President, Alfred Jackson with his wisdom, knowledge and understanding along with my President-Elect, Viola Gray, who brought not only a strong history of **ILAEOPP**, but tales of the “days of yesteryear” and serving as an invaluable reservoir of resources in terms of **MAEOPP** and COE protocol, politics and practices, I, personally, could not have been President at a better time. I would be remiss if I did not give kudos to our **MAEOPP** Presi-

dent, “Mr. Fred” Williams, whose phone was always answered, emails always responded to, and his possession of the perfect balance of the “human/business” function of any successful organization. And last, but definitely not least, my Executive Board, Committee Chairs/Members, and **ILAEOPP** Constituency, and definitely, “my true-blue soldiers and partners in crime” (also known as *DeSean Coleman, Bammeke Jenkins, Jeanette Molden, Pinkey Stewart, Dr. Sandra Kato, and the infamous KoRush*), I not only thank but salute you. A head can not function in isolation of the body and in the words of our own Past-President, Alfred Jackson and the spirit of the 70’s R&B group, “Sister Sledge”, “**WE ARE FAMILY!**”

It has truly been my honor and pleasure to have served as the 2005 – 2006 President of this beautiful Association and as I make my exodus, I urge all of you to support the works and the efforts of the incoming President, Ms. Viola Gray as she continues to hold up the torch in the state of Illinois for those students who are low-income, first-generation, and disabled, along with the professionals, in the trenches, who work with them day by day.

May God bless each of you in his own special way and reward you so that you may see the fruits of your labor at some point and time in your life for plethora of lives that you have not only touched, but in many cases, positively changed, through **TRiO**.

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ILAEOPP



PERPETUATING
SUCCESS AND EXCELLENCE
IN EDUCATION



GSU student honored as McNair Scholar

Viola Gray

University Park, July 24, 2006—Governors State University student Joseph S. Brown Jr. of Glenwood has not let months of service as a Sergeant in the Illinois Army National Guard in Afghanistan followed by a tour in Iraq deter him from his educational goals.

"I was supposed to graduate in 2002, but I was pulled out of school to be deployed. My life was frozen in time so I was eager to get started again when I got returned."

Brown now sees the delay in a beneficial light. Since returning from the service, he has become a scholar in the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate

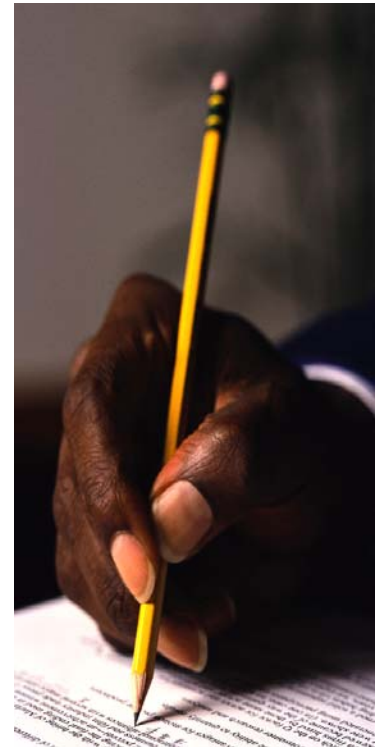
Achievement program.

According to Viola Gray, coordinator of the program at GSU, "Students with a 3.0 grade point average and the desire to do research and continue their education join the McNair Scholars program (currently Brown has a 3.9). It prepares them as undergraduates to pursue advance degrees through academic advising, faculty mentors, research opportunities, and conference presentations."

As he works toward this goal, Brown has enjoyed success through his participation in the program. At the McNair Scholars Research Conference in Nashville, Tennessee, Ten-

nessee in June, Brown "took third place for his research and presentation on the study of bacteria in local urban and rural waterways

"The McNair Scholars program at GSU has opened doors and given me experiences that will help me accomplish goals."



McNair Scholar



Todd Byrd, Assistant Director, Educational Talent Search, Kankakee Community College and Chair, African-American Male Think-Tank "B.O.A.Z Project

Pictured left: Past President, Alfred Jackson

Building On Ancestral Zeal (B.O.A.Z.)

Todd Byrd

ILAEOPP sponsored two African-American Male roundtable discussions during the annual Student Leadership and Professional Conferences in Springfield, Illinois. They were facilitated by Alfred Jackson, ILAEOPP Past President and Todd Byrd, Chairman "B.O.A.Z." Project.

The roundtable discussion held during the Student Leadership conference was attended by approximately 40-45 TRiO students and professionals, while the Professional Conference discussion was attended by more than 55 TRiO professionals. In attendance at both roundtable discussions was a leg-

islative aide from the Governor's liaison office. The facilitators solicited input and feedback from participants on a variety of issues and concerns.



CONGRATULATIONS—ILAEOPP ELECTION RESULTS

Bammeke Jenkins recently received the honor (or duty) of being elected as ILAEOPP's next President-Elect. Viola Gray takes the reigns as presiding president this month. Izola Woods continues in her second term as treasurer.



Bammeke Jenkins,
Assistant Director Edu-
cational Talent
Search, Chicago State
University



Izola Woods, Assis-
tant Director Educa-
tional Talent Search,
University of Illinois at
Chicago

"Having sat among my peers throughout this great region, exchanged ideas, views and opinions, in addition to representing the "Super Bad" state of Illinois, I have been provided one of my most notably, marked professional achievements."

Shawn Govan,
ILAEOPP PRESIDENT
2005-2006

2006 SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

MAEOPP BOARD SCHOLARSHIP	
Ryan Bernales	SSS Carl Sandburg
CELERSTINE JOHNSON SCHOLARSHIP	
Tricia Willis	SSS Parkland College
-	
ILAEOPP SCHOLARS	
Megan Knight	SSS Highland
Shannon Smith	SSS Sauk Valley
Naketa Ross	SSS SIU-C
Crystal Prather	ETS John Wood

ILAEOPP SCHOLARS CONTINUED	
Lorraine Hinton	UBMS SIU-C
Cheryl Lynn	SSS Oakton
Megan Morgan	SSS EIU
Quinton Wilson	UB Rend Lake
Mayra Loera	UB NIU
Herbert MacFaun	VUB Roosevelt
The Scholarship Committee is composed of Terry L. Chambers (chair), Tracy Cureton, Laura Dayton, Angela Weekley, and Donnell Wilson	



Terry Chambers, , Director Student Support Services, Moraine Valley Community College

Illinois Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

Submit news worthy articles to

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Newsletter Editor



“GET CONNECTED”

Jerry Wright 2006 Eastern Illinois University Hall of Fame Inductee



Jerry Wright

Jerry Wright is the Director of Student Support Services at Northern Illinois University. On September 9, 2006 he joined five other of his fellow Eastern Illinois University Alums to be honored in the EIU Athletic Hall of Fame.

A wide receiver, **Wright** is a two time All-American earning both American Football Coaches Association First Team honors and Associated Press Third Team mention in 1984 and AP Honorable Mention in 1983. He had a free agent tryout with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers in 1985. He still ranks .

in EIU's 'Top Five' for pass receptions in a game, season and career and receiving yards in a season and career.

ILAEOPP is greatly proud of Jerry Wright and all he does and has done in our association.

