COLLABORATIVE WORK
OPPORTUNITY AT IOWA AND SUPPORT SERVICE PROGRAMS

As a result of recommendations from the Diversity Action Committee, collaborative efforts are taking place to combine two programs—Opportunity at Iowa and Support Service Programs in order to:
1. Allow for better collaboration and common programming;
2. Share best practices and assessment of effectiveness;
3. Eliminate some redundancies; and
4. Facilitate institutionalization federally-supported programming.

Currently two U.S. Department of Education funded TRIO projects are under the administrative structure of Support Services Programs. Staff from Upward Bound Project and Student Support Services Project also are participating in these collaborative efforts.

The combination will create one comprehensive unit fostering diversity effort for potential and current undergraduate minority students as well as students who have participated in Federal TRIO programs; that is, first-generation (neither parent or guardian has graduated from a four-year college) and low-income (not more than 150 percent of poverty level) students.

All staff (professional and merit) participates in one or more working groups, which are:
1. Retention and success (programming and advising)
2. Outreach and recruitment
3. Technology assessments and sharing technology
4. Name change
5. Good administration
OPPORTUNITY AT IOWA AND SUPPORT SERVICE PROGRAMS

MISSION: To bring life to the University of Iowa commitment to create a diverse and welcoming climate with a critical mass of students, staff, and faculty from communities underrepresented in higher education.

Opportunity at Iowa and Support Service Programs provide leadership and coordination for:

- Pre-college student development to increase the number of minority students who graduate from high school with skills for college success
- Programs and activities that create and maintain a welcoming and inclusive environment enhancing students' educational experiences
- Academic support so students achieve academic excellence and develop a life-long commitment to independent learning

Programs and activities are often designed for groups of students to meet their specific needs.

Pre-College Programs
- Federal TRIO Upward Bound Project serving eight southeastern Iowa high schools
- Pen pal programs with select Iowa elementary schools
- Campus visits
- Select college fairs
- School and community partnerships
- Iowa First Nations Summer Program
- Life Sciences Summer Program
- Work with the Office of Admissions to increase the total enrollment of minority students, including PreView Iowa

Programs and Activities
- Orientation programs
- Faculty of color success series (Friday After Class)
- Social events, such as potlucks
- Cultural celebrations, such as Martin Luther King Human Rights Week
- Awareness newsletter
**Academic Support**

- Providing instructors for the College Transition (freshman seminar)
- Living/Learning community
- Tutoring
- Study circles
- End-of-semester study-a-thons
- Supplemental instruction (University wide)
- Academic monitoring for retention and graduation
- One-on-one consultations on personal matters
- Academic coaching for developing new learning and study strategies
- Advocacy and guidance during student administrative dilemmas
- Assistance with questions on financial aid, scholarships, and money management
- Assistance with graduate and professional study decision making
- Sensitivity to social, cultural, and ethnic issues
SUPPORT SERVICE PROGRAMS ENROLLMENT, FALL, 2006-2007

All Support Service Programs Students:
- 1,745 Number of enrolled for fall semester, 2006-07
- 1,281 Number seen at office at least once (73 percent)
- 4,265 Number of recorded face-to-face contacts
- 886 Number of phone or email contacts regarding services
  
  All SSP students have received outreach materials through emails and letters

First-Year Support Service Programs Students:
- 490 Number of enrolled for fall semester, 2006-07
- 364 Number seen at office at least once (74 percent)
- 660 Number of recorded face-to-face contacts
- 78 Number of phone or email contacts regarding services

as of 11/28/2006