



## **Student Government Resolution 120.014**

### **A Resolution Proclaiming February 27, 2021 as TRIO Day**

**Sponsored by Warren Barge, Student Affairs Committee Chair; Kennedy Cooper; Diversity Committee Chair; Shania Montúfar, Diversity Committee Associate**

WHEREAS,

- The Student Government is the official governing body of the Student Association and exists to represent the present and long-term best interests of the Student Association in the formulation of University policy and in the fulfillment of the University's mission; and
- The TRIO Programs are federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for highly qualified, eligible students from disadvantaged backgrounds. TRIO includes eight programs targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs<sup>1</sup>; and
- In February of 1986, concurrent resolution H. Con. Res. 278<sup>2</sup> declared that February 28, 1986, should be designated "National TRIO Day" and that the achievements of the TRIO programs should be regularly recognized<sup>3</sup>; and
- Since then, the fourth Saturday of February has been designated as National TRIO Day. February 27th, 2021 marks the 34th anniversary of National TRIO Day; and
- National TRIO Day represents an "an opportunity to focus the nation's attention on the needs of disadvantaged young people and adults aspiring to improve their lives"<sup>4</sup>; and
- Truman State University houses two TRIO organizations: Upward Bound and the Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program; and
- Upward Bound has assisted "qualifying (NEMO) high school students in building the skills and motivation necessary for college success" through year-round tutoring, college assistance, and cultural exposure since its charter in 1966; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/trio/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.c-span.org/congress/bills/bill/?99/hconres278>

<sup>3</sup> [https://coenet.org/files/national\\_trio\\_day\\_action\\_packet\\_2021.pdf](https://coenet.org/files/national_trio_day_action_packet_2021.pdf)

<sup>4</sup> <http://bit.ly/372sq61>

- Upward Bound students are four times more likely than students from similar backgrounds to earn an undergraduate degree<sup>5</sup>; and
- The Ronald E. McNair Scholars program has helped to make graduate studies possible for 431 highly qualified Truman students through faculty-mentored research experiences and graduate admission assistance since its charter in 1992; and
- Seventy-five percent of Truman McNair Scholars have earned a graduate degree or are currently enrolled in a graduate program;
- Nationally, McNair program scholars are almost six times as likely to enroll in graduate school compared to students from similar backgrounds<sup>6</sup>;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT:

- Proclaims February 27, 2021 as TRIO Day; and
- Calls upon the Truman community to observe this day by:
  - Seeking to learn more about the work of TRIO students and programs on Truman's campus and across the United States
  - Pursuing opportunities to learn more about the inequities and barriers in education attainment faced by many Americans; and
- Commends Upward Bound and McNair Program staff, mentors, and students for continually working to confront critical social, economic, and cultural barriers to higher education; and
- Vows to support TRIO programs by:
  - Collaborating with Truman's TRIO programs on projects and initiatives that support the University's diversity, equity, and inclusion goals
  - Using the skills and strengths of a public liberal arts and sciences learning environment to support Truman's vision of "education for the benefit of all."<sup>7</sup>

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT DIRECTS THAT,

Additional copies of this resolution are disseminated to Dr. Sue Thomas, President; Jennifer Kopp Dameron, Chair of the Truman State University Board of Governors; Dr. Janet Gooch, Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs; Janna Stoskopf, Vice President of Student Affairs; Scott Alberts, President of Faculty Senate; Dr. Heather Cianciola, McNair Project Director; Sarah Hass, Upward Bound Project Director; Jonathan Vieker, Director of Retention & Student Support; Ryan Myzak, Director of Admissions; All Department Chairs and Secretaries; the Truman Media Network and the University Archives.

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<sup>5</sup> <https://ub.truman.edu/historical-information/>

<sup>6</sup> <https://doi.org/10.3390/educsci10010016>

<sup>7</sup> <https://www.truman.edu/about/mission-vision/vision-statement/>

Passed by unanimous consent, February 21, 2021.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katelyn Alexander". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Katie Alexander, President of the Student Association