



# NEWSLETTER



## National Association of Veterans Upward Bound Project Personnel December 2002

### 25th Conference "Opening Doors to Access and Opportunity"

NAVUBPP 2003  
March 19 - 23, 2003

Wyndham Washington DC  
1400 M Street, NW  
convenient to McPherson Square  
Metro Station - Blue Line

Room Rates —Single \$152.00 Double \$152.00  
plus 14.5% sales and occupancy tax

Hotel Reservations deadline:  
Monday, February 24, 2003

Individuals should call directly to the hotel to make reservations. Direct telephone number is (202) 429-1700. Reservations may also be made by calling 1-800-996-3426. Please identify yourself as part of the National Association of Veterans Upward Bound Project Personnel in order to receive the group rate.

Parking - \$23.00 per night for registered guest

**Conference Registration  
Fee \$325 •  
Pre-Registration deadline  
January 24, 2003**

### EXEC. BOARD CHANGE IN NAVUBPP

Two VUB programs have lost their funding over the past year. According to a trusted and reliable source in the U.S. Department of Ed., the program at North Dade Concerted Services and the program in Washington, DC, have lost their funding and no longer exist. We have also confirmed that Bernice Belcher has left Miami-Dade Community College and is no longer a VUB Director.

Bernice Belcher held an office on the executive board as Parliamentarian. She is no longer eligible to hold an office and has been replaced.

President Chris Chalko has appointed Jim Kopecky to serve out the remaining parliamentarian term. Jim Kopecky, Director of Veterans Upward Bound at Weber State University in Utah has accepted the appointment.



#### NAVUBPP OFFICERS



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Chris Chalko  
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**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
Betty Foster  
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**SECRETARY**  
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**TREASURER**  
Diane Sandefur  
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James Kopecky  
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**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER**  
Randy Wilson  
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**CONFERENCE CHAIR**  
Irene Bradley  
(480) 965-1290

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## NAVUBPP PRESIDENT

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As the weather gets colder, and the seasons change, so does, it seems, the pace at which our programs work. Just as the temperature begins to plummet, and the pace of our steps outside in the cold pick up, so too, does the pace of our work in our offices. All of us have grant writing on our minds, along with all of the associated worries and concerns that accompany that process. Many of us have annual reports to ready for submission, making sure that the numbers and backup documentation clearly show all of the good work that our programs do for our veterans. These are stressful times, but hang in there, and we will all get through them.

As you all should know, your association's leadership is working hard at trying to complete an updated NAVUBPP website, separate from our association's website, geared toward "advertising" your individual VUB programs to the young men and women being discharged upon the completion of their military service. This website will be linked with the Military Transition Assistance Program's website.

The response from the membership regarding our website has, unfortunately, been underwhelming. Approximately, only half of the programs responded to my plea for a brief paragraph or two about their programs, along with contact information. Randy Wilson, who has been working very hard to finalize the website, has included information about all member programs, but only those who submitted any input have something more than their contact information provided within "their" web page.

Our goal is to have the website completed, with all programs fully identified and described, as soon as possible, but not later than December 15, 2002. Check out the site at the following address, and then let me know what you think, what you'd like to see done differently, and anything else you can think about regarding our attempt to reach more veterans and potential program participants.

[http://veteransupwardbound.org/  
NAVUBPPPublicInformation](http://veteransupwardbound.org/NAVUBPPPublicInformation)

Along those same lines, I am looking for someone with some talent at creating high quality, electronic flyers that can be duplicated by the folks running the 207 transition assistance points, worldwide. If we produce the flyers advertising the availability of VUB (and, of course, where that info can be located on our website), they will be disseminated, from Washington, D.C. to the leadership of these transition sites for posting and/or dissemination. Since these flyers have to be concise, snazzy, and professional looking, I have excluded myself from being able to create them. I know someone out there in VUB-land can put together a couple of quick flyers for our benefit. Please email me your work, so that I can forward it to Washington. Your help and your work will benefit us all, and both will be greatly appreciated.

Lastly, I want to encourage all of you to register for the March conference as soon as possible. Your participation in the conference is vital to the future health and success of our association. Your ideas, experience, skills, and talents, are needed to help the association, on the national level, and our individual programs, on the local level, to better serve our veterans. So, please, make plans to come to the conference, register (info is available on our website), and then be prepared to elect your new officers, debate the direction and focus of our organizational efforts, and have fun networking and visiting with your VUB colleagues and friends. I'm looking forward to seeing each of you at our conference, which will have some great speakers, terrific workshops, and plenty of opportunities to enjoy your stay in our Nation's capital. Please make a point of coming to the conference!

As I write this, Thanksgiving is but a few weeks away, and so I'd like to wish all of you a safe, happy, and wonderful holiday. May you enjoy the warmth of hearth and home, while basking in the love of those people most important to you and yours.

Chris Chalko, President

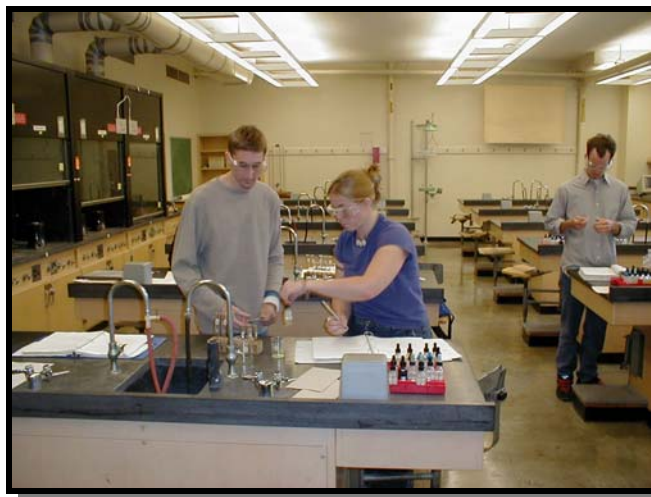
# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## HUMBOLDT VUB MATH / SCIENCE PROGRAM

Submitted by Brent Dickerson



*Oceanography students sampling the ocean floor with the Shipec grab sampler*



*Daniel Kinne and Erin Hogan in chemistry lab*

## ELECTION YEAR FOR NAVUBPP

This is the year NAVUBPP must elect officers. These officers will be voted on at the annual conference in Washington, DC and will take office before the conference ends. Look for your ballot in the mail and please take this process seriously because the future of NAVUBPP rests in

(cont. from left column)

your hands. Only paid member programs may have a voting representative involved in this election. If you are nominated, please be willing to serve and if elected, please be willing to work.

## IMPORTANT DATES

NAVUBPP 2003 Conference	March 19 - 23, 2003	Washington Wyndham Hotel	Washington ,DC
Policy Seminar	March 24-25, 2003	Renaissance Hotel	Washington, DC
Annual Relations With The Dept of Education	March 26, 2003	Renaissance Hotel	Washington, DC
NAVUBPP Silver Anniversary Conference	T.B.A. 2004	T.B.A.	Denver, CO
Policy Seminar and Relations with the Department	March 21-24, 2004	Renaissance Hotel	Washington, DC

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## GROUP TOURS CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM

Submitted by Carol Spiller

Participants in the Austin Peay State University VUB project went on a culturally rich field trip to Memphis on September 13, 2002.



The group, pictured above, toured the Civil Rights Museum and the Czars Exhibit at the Pyramid. They also enjoyed the music and entertainment on Beale Street during a meal and free time. The event was coordinated by VUB counselor Yolanda Hairston, and implemented by Hairston, Rebecca Chester (instructional aide), and Dan Dagovitz.

## VUB PARTICIPANT VOLUNTEERS TIME

Submitted by Marcia Stuckey, WNCC

Veterans Upward Bound participant Kristopher Pyle got the opportunity to show Mitchell Elementary students, Matt Powell and Charity Fox, how to hold the fire hose during Fire Prevention Week. Kristopher is a volunteer fireman in Mitchell and dedicates a great deal of time to training and responding to fire calls. One of Veterans Upward Bound's new participants this year, Kristopher is also a veterans work-study assistant at the Guadalupe Center and in the TRIO office. Community involvement is important to Kris and is also reflected by his choice of a secondary education major. He also participated in

the September 11<sup>th</sup> observation on campus by presenting the national colors in the program and will be involved in VUB's observation of Veteran's Memorial Day. Kris will drive the WNCC Veterans Upward Bound vehicle in the parade on November 11<sup>th</sup>.



Photo by Star-Herald reporter Kay Grote. Left to right: 4<sup>th</sup> graders Matt Powell, Charity Fox and Kristopher Pyle

## TRIO SUPERVISOR AT ETSU IS ELECTED SAEOPPP REGIONAL PRESIDENT

Dr. Ronnie Gross, TRIO Supervisor at East Tennessee State University, has been elected to a two year term as President of the 8 state region of the Southeaster Association of Educational Opportunity Programs Personnel. New officers will be installed at the Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA, March 2-5, 2003.

ETSU has a VUB program and Dr. Gross is a firm supporter of VUB at the regional level.

## APPOINTMENT OF FEDERAL TRIO PROGRAMS DIVISION DIRECTOR

Submitted by Diane Sandefur

Arnold Mitchem, President of COE recently announced:

"I am pleased to inform you that Larry Oxendine has accepted the appointment of Director of the Federal TRIO Programs Division within the Department of Education on a permanent basis. We look forward to working closely with him to improve and expand services for TRIO eligible students."

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION EDUCATOR RECEIVES STATE AWARD

Submitted by Alan Caldwell

Alan Caldwell, director of the Menominee Culture Institute and Veterans Upward Bound Program at the College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, Wisconsin, was one of six recipients of the "State Superintendent's Friend of Education Award". Caldwell received his award on September 26, 2002 at the annual State Superintendent's District Administrator's Conference at Memorial Union on the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

He was honored for his work with American Indian educators and veterans. He directs the highly successful Wisconsin Professional Development Teacher Training Program which trains and places American Indian teachers in the classroom. He also provides training for Menominee language teachers through the Culture Institute as an assist to the Menominee Tribe in the preservation and promotion of the local native language.

He also provides leadership for the annual Wisconsin American Indian Studies Summer Teacher Institute. The institute is designed to assist public school educators and teacher training program faculty with information and resources on the history, culture and tribal sovereignty of Wisconsin's federally recognized tribes. Public schools and teacher training programs are required by state mandate to provide this instruction in the K-12 and teacher training programs. Caldwell was the American Indian education consultant, and an originator of the legislation, when he worked for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction from 1984 to 1991.

He is involved in his local veterans organization the Veterans of the Menominee Nation composed of local Menominee Indian WWII, Korean, Vietnam, Desert Storm, peacetime and Operation Enduring Freedom

veterans. He has a leadership role in getting more veterans involved in their local schools as speakers, volunteers and mentors. The Veterans of the Menominee Nation serve as role models and provide leadership to the schools by providing color guards for such events as homecoming parades and athletic events. The association has for the past seven years lead the annual Flag Raising Ceremony on the first day of school at the Menominee Indian High School, Keshena Primary School and Menominee Tribal School.

Caldwell is the former commander of the association and is a U.S. Army veteran serving during the Vietnam Era. He is also the co-chair of the annual Menominee Nation Veterans Day Powwow Planning Committee.



NAVUBPP

Congratulates 1991-92

University of Tennessee - Knoxville

Veterans Upward Bound alumnus...

U. S. Navy Veteran

and

Juris Doctor with Distinction and Master of Laws  
graduate of the

University of Missouri Kansas City School of Law



**MR. MARK KLINKENBERG**

2002 TRIO Achievers National Award  
Honoree *Honored September 12, 2002*  
*at the COE National Conference*

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## UTK-VUB Vet Holly Kemp wins TVHRA \$2000 Academic Scholarship

Submitted by Joel Coates

U.S. Navy veteran Ms. Holly Kathleen Kemp been awarded the inaugural \$1000-per-semester Tennessee Valley Human Resource Association

scholarship, for the 2002-2003 academic year. Holly received back-to-school academic refresher and advising services from the UT



Knoxville Veterans' Pre-College Program (VPC) starting in June 2001. She went on to enroll at The University of Tennessee-Knoxville in the Fall 2001 semester in the College of Human Ecology's Human Resource Development (HRD) Department. [Since that time the HRD Department has moved into the College of Business Administration.]

Along the way, the Veterans' Pre-College Program employed Ms. Kemp as an administrative assistant Veteran Work-Study, between October 2001 and May 2002. There, Holly provided exemplary services to the project and to other fellow veterans seeking more education. VPC is a Veterans Upward Bound project, funded by a grant to The University of Tennessee by the U.S. Department of Education.

In May 2002 Holly accepted a student assistant position with the University's Department of Human Resources at the downtown Knoxville Henley Street Conference Center, where she is gaining hands-on experience related directly to her HRD academic major. The Veterans' Pre-College Program joins TVHRA in congratulating Holly Kemp, who...when she's not being a college student or an HR student

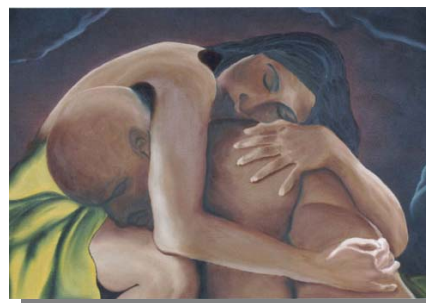
assistant... "triples" as a single parent to her daughter, Abbi, at their home in Alcoa, TN.

Holly served her country as a U.S. Navy damage control specialist at the Naval Air Station, Pensacola FL. She was awarded the National Defense Service Medal.

## VUB GRADUATE BECOMES PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Submitted by Penny S. Eubanks - Okaloosa-Walton Community College

"I've always had a love for art. Initially, after graduation, my plan was to go to Savannah College of Art & Design. Money was an issue, so I did what any other young person in my position would do; I enlisted in the United States Air Force. I completed seven and a half years of active duty service before I began to pursue a college education. I opted not to do them both full time so I became a reservist for the United States Air Force Reserves. I am also enrolled in school full time with the help of a Fine Arts Scholarship, Veterans Upward Bound, and



the Vocational Rehabilitation Program. I'm grateful to all (especially Mr. Rod Williams, my case manager) who believe in me. Keep the

motivation coming!" --- Trinka Matthew

*You can see more of Ms. Matthew's work at <http://members.cox.net/tdmat/>*

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## STEWART W. WELLS WINS \$800 TASP ADULT LEARNER'S SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Stewart Wells is a mature and dedicated professional with over twenty-one years experience as a program manager in operations involving



aircraft, weapons systems, manpower, resources, funding, and facility management.



This retired U.S. Air Force veteran has 30 hours left to earn his baccalaureate degree in Communications and Art in Broadcasting at Lincoln Memorial University in Tennessee. Stewart is

an alumni of the East Tennessee State University Veterans Upward Bound program.

### **Veterans Upward Bound and it's Impact on My Future**

Submitted by Stewart W. Wells, 2002 TASP Adult Learners' Scholarship Winner

Since the day I retired from the United States Air Force in 1994, I had no idea what I would do with the rest of my life. At my age, employment was looking like a thing of the past. The positions I had held while in the military could not be easily transferred to any civilian positions. Sure, I could get jobs working at convenience stores, or as a construction laborer, and even as a part time factory line work. But, nothing captured my attention or caused enthusiasm within me like

the jobs I had while I was in the military. That is until I traveled to Johnson City, Tennessee for medical treatment at a local Veterans Administration Medical Center and was introduced to the Veterans Upward Bound at East Tennessee State University (ETSU).

While at the Medical Center, I heard rumors of a Federally Funded Program at ETSU that would help Veterans like myself get into college to obtain the necessary education to compete in today's job market. That program was called Veterans Upward Bound.

I had not been in a college atmosphere for years and was reluctant to attend school at my age. I felt intimidated by the mere thought of sitting in a classroom with seventeen, eighteen, or nineteen year-olds and me being forty years old. But I decided to make an appointment with an Upward Bound Counselor. I was administered an aptitude test to determine the areas I needed refresher courses in to get my learning abilities up to college level. To my amazement, I only needed a refresher course in Pre Calculus. I completed the semester of Pre Calculus and enrolled into ETSU as a sophomore in Computer Graphics and Design in Animation. I have since transferred to Lincoln Memorial University to obtain a BA Degree in Communications of Arts in Broadcasting. I can better utilize my digital media experience from ETSU in this field.

Where am I today? I am two semesters from graduating from LMU. I am getting ready to intern at a local television station for the experience, school credit, and possibly even a future job opportunity. Am I enthused about my future now? You better believe it!

Had Veterans Upward Bound not been there for me, I'd still be working behind the counter of some convenience store somewhere. But now my future holds limitless possibilities for me.

Thank you Veterans Upward Bound!

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## WESTERN NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S VUB STUDENTS LEAD 9-11 REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

Submitted by Rhitta Ann Smith-Bounds

Wednesday, September 11, 2002, was a day of honor for the Veteran Upward Bound Students at Western Nebraska Community College. For many it has been more than twenty years since they had stood in formation and marched as a unit into the Commons Area to begin the 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony. Leading the detail were two of our Veterans Upward Bound Participants, Kristopher Pyle and Kelly Karns. The third member of the Color Guard was Navy Recruiter, Randall Bonine who offered his services to make our color guard complete.



Proudly wearing VUB insignia were Patrick Allen, William Clark, Robert DeMaranville, Crystal Hyde, Barbara Kvale, Keith Radomski, Roxanna Tice, Rick Smallfoot, Jeremy Wilson and VUB Student Advisor Rhitta Bounds.

When asked to share his feelings concerning the ceremony, Kristopher Pyle responded, " Being given the opportunity to step back into uniform and escort the national colors on Sept 11 was a true honor and it meant a whole lot more than just putting on a show for the student body. It was a reminder to me and the detail of veterans that so proudly fell into formation behind me to thank God

every day that we were fortunate enough to make it home safely, and are proud to be Americans. For many of them it has been decades since they have stood at attention in a military formation but all stood with pride and dignity because of the gratitude displayed by the student body. We as veterans were able to see the love and support that the members of our armed forces and innocent civilians that were so less fortunate than us never got to see. For this I want to thank all who showed their support, and all who lost their lives on Sept. 11. May God bless you all."

Lukas Benzel who played the sad, soft notes of TAPS to honor all past and present soldiers, firemen, police officers, and all American Civilians who have lost their lives on September 11, 2001.

Day is done, gone the sun,  
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky;  
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.

Go to sleep, peaceful sleep,  
May the soldier or sailor,  
God keep.  
On the land or the deep,  
Safe in sleep.

Fading light, dims the sight,  
And a star gems the sky, gleaming bright.  
From afar, drawing nigh, falls the night.

Thanks and praise, for our days,  
'Neath the sun, 'neath the stars, neath the sky;  
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.

Sun has set, shadows come,  
Time has fled, Scouts must go to their beds  
Always true to the promise that they made.  
While the light fades from sight,  
And the stars gleaming rays softly send,  
To thy hands we our souls, Lord, commend.

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## A FEW THOUGHTS ABOUT VUB

Submitted by Tony Waupochnik

I would like to share a few of my thoughts with you about my experience in the Veterans Upward Bound program at the College of Menominee Nation. The VUB staff is committed to providing and helping the veterans who are starting college and those who are continuing their college education.

Personally, I feel that if it weren't for the VUB staff that have supported, befriended and treated me like family right from the start, I would never have attempted to seek a college education.

When I started the fall semester of the 2001-2002 school year I was apprehensive and nervous and I did not think that I could cut the mustard. The VUB staff stood by me and told me that I could do it, I could succeed. They pointed me toward the pre-college classes that gave me the foundation to excel in areas that I have historically been weak. When I needed additional help with my classes the staff set me up with a tutor and I was able to succeed. Now that I have begun the second year of work toward my degree I feel confident that I will graduate with the grades that reflect my hard work and dedication.

The time is flying by and as I reflect back on what I have accomplished I realize that the VUB staff have stood by me throughout, by listening to my complaints about an assignment, or just helping me relax and put things in an orderly perspective. There have been times when I have been at the college from 7am to 7pm and was short of money to eat so guess where I went and they helped me out. I could go on and tell you more about what the VUB staff has done for me in so many ways but I think that you have gotten the idea.

The people who represent the VUB program at the College of Menominee Nation not only excel at their objectives with the VUB program but are also involved with the Menominee community as

well. Alan Caldwell, the VUB Director, is involved with the Veterans of Menominee Nation and he is committed to improving education through out the Menominee community. Tony Waupochnik the Counselor/Advisor along with working with the VUB participants also helps in the community by serving on the tribal government. Romona Webster, the administrative assistant, always has time to greet people with a warm smile.

Each one of these individuals, in their own way, has not only proved that they are a positive influence for the VUB program but they have also enriched this community. To me they are not just VUB program representatives but good people that I am proud to say are my friends.

Best wishes,  
Jeff Barwick

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## VUB DIRECTOR WINS STATE AWARD

During the 2002 Joint conference of TASP and KAEOPP that was held in Nashville, TN, the last week of October, Randy Wilson, Director of Veterans Upward Bound at Western Kentucky University, was presented the Paul Luxmore Outstanding Service Award For Professional Excellence.

This is a memorial award presented once a year to one individual who has provide outstanding service and continued involvement within the organization.



Michelle Jones,  
KAEOPP President  
is pictured with  
Mr. Randy Wilson  
holding the Paul  
Luxmore  
Outstanding  
Service Award for  
Professional  
Excellence

# NAVUBPP NEWSLETTER December 2002

## VETERANS FAIR

Submitted by Laura Hernandez

Congressman Solomon P. Ortiz (front row, third from left) is shown with volunteers during the Congressional Veterans Summit and Fair September 22, 2002 at the UTB/TSC West Campus. More than 700 veterans and their families took part in the event, which featured information on housing, transportation, employment, health, social services, education, and veteran's services and organizations. It was sponsored by Ortiz and UTB/TSC's Veterans Upward Bound Program.



The volunteers are participants in the VUB program and staff members. They are (front row, from left) Eddie Cardona, Jaime Urbina, Veterans Upward Bound Coordinator David Rivera, Abel Farias, Jaime Herrera, Felipe Herrera and Robert Vela. Back row: VUB Student Development Specialist Priscilla Martinez, VUB Administrative Assistant Laura Hernandez, Daniel Bustinza, Claudia Hawkins, Isaias Medellin, Rosendo Robledo and Mark Boswell.

## WKU VUB IN VETERANS DAY PARADE

Submitted by Randy Wilson

Pictured in the next column is staff and participants of the Western Kentucky University VUB program who participated in the 2002 Veterans

Day parade that is held in Bowling Green, Kentucky. This annual event has grown in popularity after having been revived a few short years ago.



## NEW NAVUBPP WEBSITE

<http://veteransupwardbound.org>

A new website has been created that includes more information for the organization's members in one section and contains a new public information section that is intended to showcase each VUB program in every state. The new website is capable of frequent updates and is slated to expand as more information is available with new administrations and the continuation of activities already in progress under the current board.

Please address any suggestions to Randy Wilson, NAVUBPP webmaster.

We owe a note of thanks to Joel Coates, the founder of the original NAVUBPP website and current listserv manager. Without Joel's foresight this website would probably not exist today.

## COE CONFERENCE FUTURE DATES

As reported on the TRIO Listserv 10-23-02, the future COE Conference dates are: 2003--San Diego; 2004--San Antonio; 2005--Washington, DC; 2006--Chicago (tentative); 2007--New Orleans.