



MI-CAPP Recap

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MICHIGAN COLLEGE ACCESS PROGRAMS & PERSONNEL

A Chapter of the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel

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MI-CAPP 2017 SPRING CONFERENCE

MI-CAPP appreciates President-Elect Robert Ross and Development Chair Heidi Witucki for laying the groundwork; and appreciates 2017 Conference Co-Chairs Ava McDowell and Melissa Merkel who solidified the framework and facilitated the plan for a successful 2017 MI-CAPP Professional Development Spring Conference, April 19-22, at Boyne Mountain Resort in Boyne Falls, Michigan. President Cooper's vision resulted in a great conference! (Research & Evaluation will report evaluation outcomes at the next General Assembly meeting.) See the Conference highlights listed below.



2017 MI-CAPP EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

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MI-CAPP

www.micapp.org

- COE President Emeritus Arnold Mitchem keynoted the opening session
- COE President-Elect Monk-Morgan & MI-CAPP Past President Tandy introduced Strategic Planning; the MI-CAPP body developed strategies
- EOA President-Elect Andrew Cseter keynoted the President's Banquet
- SCHECHs offered for teachers' continuing education for the first time
- Funtivity raised \$1,200 for scholarships and \$230 for Fair Share which was at 95% before Funtivity
- Graham Pay-It-Forward Initiative launched with book donations
- Five MI-CAPP Past Presidents attended
- About 50% of registrants were first-time MI-CAPP Conference attendees

2017 MI-CAPP STUDENT LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

2017 MI-CAPP SLS SESSION: ROADMAP TO COLLEGE



February 24-26 a whopping 282 TRIO participants and Professionals attended the 2017 MI-CAPP Student Leadership Summit at the Double Tree by Hilton in Grand Rapids, MI! An additional 23 attended for one day on Saturday and six more came to the Educational Foundation Banquet. This attendance breaks all recent registration records and it exceeded all projections for this conference. Way to go Charles!

President Rhondo Cooper greeted registrants the first night; after that they learned about TRIO Day and then participated in a get-acquainted icebreaker led by Kailee Laplander. Following dinner, Funtivity options included the Games Room, Movie, or Swing Dancing demonstrations/lessons by the Grand Rapids Original Swing Society. What fun!

RED CARPET ARRIVAL



High school and college students had separate breakfast sessions on Saturday – a college panel and a Simon Sinek TED talk video on inspirational leadership respectively. Concurrent session topics included financial aid, college challenges and success, personal branding, and more. Siena Heights Upward Bound/TRIO Alumnus Jesus Solis keynoted Saturday's luncheon. He is an EOA 2016 Professional Achiever of the Year and is currently ETS Program Advisor at Grand Valley State University.

At Saturday evening's MI-CAPP Educational Foundation Banquet, 15 scholarships of \$500 each (totaling \$7,500) were awarded to high school seniors and college students. In addition, two college students received study-abroad scholarships. Scholarship recipients certainly had something to celebrate at the dance that followed!

CELEBRATING TRIO DAY!



2017 SLS Student Ambassadors



MI-CAPP Historian, Magnolia Jones, Teaches dance to Summit participants

EDITORIAL



MI-CAPP President Elect Ross & MI-CAPP President Cooper At Spring Conference sharing their excitement about the future of MI-CAPP

To continue the nautical theme begun at the Spring Conference: Rhondo Cooper was tossed into leadership at a time when the waters surrounding MI-CAPP were turbulent and the ship was perceived to be sinking. However, during times of threat and danger, a good captain stays with the ship, protects the crew and passengers, allays everyone’s fears, and keeps the focus on the mission of staying afloat. Rhondo Cooper has done that for MI-CAPP. Through his leadership, the winds have died down so that the sails are no longer flapping aimlessly, and the seas have calmed so that the waves are no longer lashing at the hull and flooding the decks. Calm has been restored to the MI-CAPP vessel.

While our anchor is holding, to remain afloat MI-CAPP will have to grab ahold and grip firmly the strategic plan life-line that “Captain” Cooper threw out at the 2017 Spring Conference; for it will be the rudder that keeps MI-CAPP on course to embracing the vision of reclaiming and advancing our legacy of greatness. The Spring Conference crew (Board) and passengers (registrants) enthusiastically embraced the tasks of swabbing the decks and repairing torn sails by updating its Constitution and developing proactive strategies to right the ship and move it forward. Once the Board develops tactics to facilitate the strategies, an efficacious strategic plan along with a rejuvenated Constitution and Bylaws will protect MI-CAPP against future threats.

At the conference, the positive energy was invigorating; the ideas were creative, imaginative, innovative, and flowing freely. Every single person was engaged; and each person’s contributions were valued. I know I speak for many when I say we left Boyne Mountain Resort excited about the future of MI-CAPP and ready to do the work necessary to make the strategic plan a reality. Thank you, Mr. President!

Geri Graham, Past President

CONGRATULATIONS!

Well done Cindy Cowell and Finlandia University SSS Team. By faculty recommendation, SSS participant, Matt McLaughlin, was selected as Class Representative for last Saturday’s graduation! Matt is a man of many talents: NCAA Division 3 Hockey Player, ROTC and now U.S. Army Commissioned Officer; and, *he graduated with a 3.99 GPA in Pre-Med!* You are the man Matt!!!



DR. MITCHEM REMINDS MI-CAPP OF ITS LEGACY & ISSUES THE CHALLENGE FOR THE FUTURE



COE PRESIDENT-ELECT MONK-MORGAN FACILITATES STRATEGIC PLANNING PLENARY SESSION



EOA PRESIDENT-ELECT ANDREW CSETER KEYNOTES MI-CAPP PRESIDENT’S BANQUET

MSU UPWARD BOUND RESTORED!

Cheers went up at the conference when we learned that there was a reprieve for MSU Upward Bound. Thank you, MSU, for making the ultimate institutional commitment to TRIO! We hope NMU can do the same.

YOUR VOTE COUNTS IN MI-CAPP!

MI-CAPP Members, soon you will receive an electronic document highlighting proposed MI-CAPP Constitutional amendments. For your ease in reading, changes will be color-coded. Please review the document carefully because after 30 days of receipt, you will need to vote on it. The MI-CAPP Board's goal is to forward it to the EOA Regional Board before its August meeting. The MI-CAPP Board will appreciate your active involvement in this process.



Past President, Cindy Cowell (L) enjoys a laugh with Former Board Secretary, Lee Luoto (R) at Lee's final MI-CAPP Conference before retiring. We'll miss you Lee, but enjoy!

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MICHIGAN HOSTS EOA GIRLS IN STEM

Talk about reclaiming MI-CAPP's legacy - Central Michigan University Upward Bound Director Primavera Jimenez is chairing the *2017 Girls-in-STEM* Conference sponsored by the Educational Opportunity Association (EOA). GIS will take place on the CMU campus May 19-21, 2017. More to come post-conference . . .

IMPORTANT DATES

COE Annual Conference

September 13- September 16, 2017

Washington, DC

www.coenet.us

EOA Annual Conference

November 12 – November 15, 2017

Schaumburg, Illinois

www.eoa.org



YOUR MI-CAPP BOARD AT WORK



Remembering a TRIO Giant:
 Ben Snyder, 1920-2017
 Formerly Horizons UB Director, Cranbrook