The opportunity to take advantage of MEA/NEA workshops and conferences. SMEA also hosts a variety of events for future educators throughout the year, many of which are often free to the general public. Coming up on March 21st, SMEA will be hosting a First Year Teacher Panel.

To learn more about the MEA, please visit http://www.mea.org and to learn more about the WMU Chapter of SMEA, and upcoming events please visit http://www.rso.wmich.edu/sea. The WMU SMEA chapter is located in 2310 Sangren, across from Flossie’s Cafe. Students wishing to join the organization can contact them at rso_sea@wmich.edu.

The Michigan Education Association (MEA) describes itself as a group dedicated to serving its members’ employment goals, interests and needs while advocating for quality public education.

Together with its student program, the Student Michigan Education Association (SMEA), the MEA helps education majors transition from college campuses to the classroom.

For students heading into the classroom, SMEA can help them get a vital edge during their crucial first years.

SMEA also provides an excellent opportunity for students preparing for the teaching profession to learn about non-instructional aspects of the teaching profession—salaries, contracts, the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC), evaluations, discipline and certification requirements.

Western Michigan University teaching majors and minors can take advantage of the SMEA, as WMU has its own local chapter.

Students wishing to join the WMU chapter of the SMEA are required to pay a $27 NEA-SP and SMEA due, plus a $13 local campus due in order to join. For this fee, students will receive:

- Professional and student publications designed to keep them up to date on current education news and trends.
- $1 million worth of liability insurance to protect them during student teaching assignments and other on site educational activities under the direction of a professional educator.
- The opportunity to take advantage of MEA/NEA workshops and conferences.

As many students have already noticed, TRiO FESP has joined the social network, and we have high hopes for its ability to disseminate necessary information and important dates as well as provide students a way to connect with one another.

If you haven’t explored our Facebook page yet, simply search TRiO FESP on Facebook or email coehd_fesp@wmich.edu for the link.

What will you find on our Facebook page?

Our Facebook page is a tool to send students reminders, updates and information on upcoming TRiO FESP opportunities and important deadlines. Such updates may include deadlines for internship applications, job opportunities or upcoming workshops.

So, don’t delay—join TRiO FESP on the social network today!

Student Michigan Education Association
TRiO FESP Advising Hours

As the TRiO Future Educator Success Program moves forward, College of Education and Human Development Students enrolled in TRiO FESP should look for a few changes.

Beginning Fall 2011, TRiO FESP students will no longer go to the general CoEHD advising offices for their academic advising. Instead, students will go to 2215 Sangren Hall—the new TRiO FESP office—to meet with their academic advisors.

Who will these advisors be? Students will meet with either Marcy Peake (marcy.tabor@wmich.edu) or Maria Newhouse (maria.r.newhouse@wmich.edu) for their advising needs.

By the beginning of the Fall 2011 semester, students should also be aware that the TRiO FESP offices will offer walk-in advising hours. These new hours will be:

- Wednesday from 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM
- Friday from 9:00 AM until 11:00 AM

Other advising needs will be by appointment only! Until this time, TRiO FESP students should notify the TRiO FESP office of any upcoming advising appointments.

For any questions or concerns about these upcoming changes, call the TRiO FESP office at (269) 387-3500.

TRiO FESP Profile of the Month

In January 2011, Marcy Peake joined TRiO FESP as the Program Director.

Marcy is a lifelong Kalamazoo resident, who attended WMU as both an undergraduate and graduate student. Today, Marcy is a Licensed Professional Counselor and a National Certified Counselor.

Among her many accomplishments, Marcy has authored a book titled Please Understand, for educators working with students who are emotionally, socially and academically disenfranchised.

She also serves on the Kalamazoo Public School Board of Education and serves as the Program Director for the Institute for New Leadership.

In her free time, Marcy enjoys reading, writing, swimming, riding her bike, spending time with family and friends and hanging out on the beach.

Students in TRiO FESP can contact Marcy, who will also be one of the program advisors, at marcy.tabor@wmich.edu.

WMU Resource of the Month

Bronco Express was formed as a response to student requests for one convenient, year-round spot to take care of everyday University business.

Located on the main floor lobby of the Bernhard Center, students can:

- Apply for financial aid or pick up the necessary forms
- Check the status of a financial aid application
- Identify expected dates of financial aid disbursements
- Check account balances and get clarification on charges
- Make payments on accounts
- Set necessary appointments with Financial Aid Counselors

For more information visit http://www.wmich.edu/broncoexpress/
Study Tip of the Month

As we enter the last months of the semester, our schedules sometimes get impossibly busy—so busy, in fact, that it can be difficult to find the time to get everything done.

What is the solution to having too much to do?

Of course, there is no actual solution, but there are many strategies that you can take to change your “To Do” list into an “All Done” list. Try the following:

- **Actually Make a List:** Include your assignments, study groups, work and other commitments to help you keep yourself organized.
- **Make a Schedule:** Instead of just looking at the long list of things you have to do, schedule it out! That way, you won't feel like you have to accomplish it all in one day.
- **Prioritize:** Sometimes, there might still be too much to do for one day. Prioritize. That means that if you have an assignment due and also have a social engagement, you might need to reschedule—not cancel—your night out.
- **Cross Things Off:** Acknowledge your accomplishments by crossing items off your list and giving yourself a pat on the back.

Sometimes, simply organizing our lives makes it easier to succeed!

TRiO SSP or TRiO FESP?

Have you heard that TRiO FESP is not the only TRiO program at Western Michigan University? It’s true!

Located on the first floor of Ellsworth Hall, next to the Bernhard Center, the TRiO Student Success Program (SSP) has assisted hundreds of WMU students graduate with their baccalaureate degrees.

In fact, TRiO SSP is the predecessor to the TRiO Future Educator Success Program (FESP) recently established within the College of Education and Human Development.

So are they similar?

Definitely. Both programs are federally funded by the U.S. Department of Education and serve first generation, income eligible college students and students with disabilities.

The mission of both programs is to assist students from their entry to the University through graduation and help them gain and refine the skills necessary to have successful careers once they leave WMU.

Students within each program can receive similar services, including academic advising, mentoring, tutoring, priority registration, academic assistance, leadership development opportunities, career exploration and paid employment opportunities and more!

So what is the difference between the two programs?

The main difference between the two programs is that TRiO SSP serves students from all academic programs, while TRiO FESP only serves students with teaching majors and minors at WMU.

While TRiO SSP is part of the Center for Academic Success Programs (CASP), TRiO FESP is a part of the College for Education and Human Development.

Where do I learn more?

There is information about both programs online:

- **SSP:** www.wmich.edu/ssp
- **FESP:** /www.wmich.edu/fesp

You can also visit TRiO SSP on the first floor of Ellsworth Hall for more information or stop by TRiO FESP in 2215 Sangren for more information.

“The time to relax is when you don’t have time for it.”

Jim Goodwin and Sydney J. Harris
# Important Dates

## March 2011

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<td>FAFSA/CoEHD Scholarship Info Due</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
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<td>Regular registration deadline for April MTTC</td>
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<td>Fall 2011 Priority Registration Opens</td>
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<td>Midterm grades due</td>
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<td>Last day for class withdraw FESP Office Open 1-5 only</td>
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**Additional Notes:** Students are encouraged to drop by the TRiO FESP Open House on St. Patrick’s Day! Friends or other guests are welcome!

## April 2011

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<td>Teacher Career Fair—Bernhard Center</td>
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**Additional Notes:** Professors report final grades on May 3rd for Spring 2011. Summer I begins on Monday, May 9th.