



**Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel
Service Council Committee Report
2020 – 2021
(Tuesday March 9, 2021)**

Committee Name:	Education and Legislation
Committee Chair/Co-Chairs:	Cuauhtemoc “Temo” Solorio
Committee Members (if any):	
Committee Description: Serves as a liaison to the WESTOP Service Council Legislation & Education Committee and Chapter. Researches and reports on any State and National legislation which has an impact on TRIO Programs and/or first generation, low income students. This position also serves as the liaison between the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), WESTOP, and the SoCal Chapter.	

Committee Goals & Priorities

- Meet with WESTOP Leg/Ed Chair in order to align goals with Regional Chapter
- Develop plan of action, along with WESTOP Leg/Ed Chair to begin to collect current data program in order to update Fact Book
- Assist with the recruitment of Membership to attend Policy Seminar
- Assist Membership with identifying means of securing funding in order to attend Policy Seminar

Committee Updates

- Virtual Policy 2020: TRIO United for A New Era March 22nd-March 24th
 - Seminar on Relations w/ the U.S. Department of Education: Monday March 22nd
 - Policy Seminar: Tuesday March 23rd and Wednesday March 24th
 - COE compiled profiles of all new members of the 117th Congress by state, with tips to start our outreach. [This PowerPoint](#) provides contact information that we can use to reach out to introduce our TRIO programs starting today. [Contact the government relations team at COE if you have any questions.](#)
 - Link for registration: https://coenet.org/policy_seminar.shtml
- TRIO Alumni Leadership Forum
 - Saturday March 20th
 - Deadline for registration is March 19th



- Department of Education Updates
 - The VUB Annual Performance Report (APR) is due on Friday, March 5. Access to the system is available at <https://trio.ed.gov/>.
 - COE shared the following update with our community: [Highlights from a new report](#) published by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) recommend the Department of Education (ED) develop a plan to assess TRIO's effectiveness. Congress provides over \$1 billion annually to TRIO programs. GAO says ED could do more to understand how well these grants work to help students enroll in and complete college. [Read the report here.](#)
 - New leadership and members for key TRIO committees announced
 - The House and Senate released their appropriations and authorization committee rosters.
 - Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) is the new Chair of the [Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee](#) that updates the **Higher Education Act** governing TRIO law, and is also the Chair of the [Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health, and Human Services and Education \(Labor-HHS-ED\)](#) that funds TRIO annually.
 - **Representative Frederica Wilson (D-FL)** is the new Chair of the [House Education and Labor Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Investment](#), and
 - **Rep. Greg Murphy (R-NC)** is the new Ranking Member.
 - **Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)** is now Chair of the full [House Appropriations Committee](#) and remains Chair of the **Subcommittee on Labor-HHS-ED**.
 - **Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK)** remains Ranking Member of **House Labor-HHS-ED**

Recommendations

- No recommendations at this time

Action Items

- Currently collaborating with all WESTOP Leg/Ed Chairs to ensure that we are able to meet with as many Congressmembers as possible
 - Email sent out to Membership to contact me if they plan on meeting with their respective Representatives
 - Assessing gaps in representation in order to identify “floaters” to meet with Representatives

Respectfully Submitted,

Southern California Chapter



Quauhtemoc "Temo" Solorio