

Director's Desktop



Geraldine E. Graham, Director

Does it seem like you just received an *"In Focus"* newsletter? Well, that's probably because not long ago you did! PUB is doing so much so fast that we'd have to publish a book to document our progress in a single volume. But by the time we did that, all of the news would be too old! So, a periodic *"In Focus"* does the trick. Not to worry though. I expect this will be our final *"In Focus"* until next fall.

You may remember from our Fall-Winter 2016-2017 edition an article entitled, "PUB in Spring is Busy as a Bee." Inside this issue is described most of the activities that were listed in that article and more. March is always a busy month for PUB; and this year the PUB Team facilitated 3 Saturday Academies, daily College Clubs, and the graduation banquet in addition to traveling to Washington, DC.

At the **Annual Seminar on Relations with the Department of Education**, I learned that the outcomes of Upward Bound grant applications submitted last November would not be announced until the

end of April or beginning of May. This is a real timing challenge to get the Summer Academy up and running for projects like ours with budget years beginning on June 1; even greater now that the announcement was postponed.

Immediately following the Education Seminar was the **Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) Annual Policy Seminar** which Mrs. McDowell attended. TRIO supporters from all over the nation visited Capitol Hill to advocate with their congresspersons on behalf of TRIO-eligible populations. Although I did not go to Capitol Hill, I did get a chance to share a little information and pep talk with the Michigan contingent.

Each year around April, we wind down the PUB Academic Year Program so that we can take a breath before diving into Summer Academy.

Our last Saturday activity this year was **College Seminar presentations**. Along with parents, the PUB Team looked on proudly as juniors used PowerPoint to display and discuss their college fit/major/scholarship research outcomes.



Winding down doesn't mean PUB isn't active; it just means the recurring schedule of Saturday, after-school, and monthly meetings has come to an end. That still leaves **annual assessments, college fairs and tours, new member recruitment and professional and participant conferences**. There is never a dull moment in PUB!

Finally, PUB congratulates **Pontiac School District on negotiating a Partnership Agreement** with the Michigan Department of Education. **PUB** has been with PSD for 50 years and is **committed to helping fulfill the Agreement**.

All in all, 2016-2017 has been an epic Program Year! Starting with PUB's Golden Anniversary celebration last summer and going right through graduation this spring, it's been exhilarating. But I'm glad to get back to normal! We hope you enjoyed the roller coaster ride with us; and with good fortune in the competition, we'll be able to continue sharing PUB adventures in 2017-18 and beyond!

Geri Graham

2017 Graduates



Carlos Angeles Jr.
Brandon High School



Jose Betancourt Ocampo
International Technology Academy



Marielena Cardenas
International Technology Academy



Brandi Carr
International Technology Academy



Wang Chang
Pontiac High School



John Ross Dristy
Pontiac Academy for Excellence



Capri Gabriel
Southfield High School



Marquita Ghee
Pontiac High School



Melany Giron



Jamia Givens
International Technology Academy



Ariana Herring
International Technology Academy



Sahreyah Herring-Jones
International Technology Academy



J'Kwavion Leak
Brandon High School



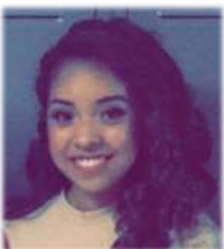
Lisandro Munoz
Pontiac Academy for Excellence



Kayla Murphy
Pontiac High School



Quaivonte Myers
Pontiac Academy for Excellence



Leslie Ortiz
International Technology Academy



Taylor Smith
Pontiac High School



Jada Tate
International Technology Academy



Jose Ybarra III
International Technology Academy

FAREWELL, PUB CLASS OF 2017

On Saturday, March 25, PUB recognized Scholars' achievements for the 2016-2017 academic year and celebrated the accomplishments of graduating seniors. Certificates were distributed for Academic Progress and Achievement, Community Service, and Attendance. But, of course, **the highlight was hearing the graduating seniors share their PUB experiences and future plans.** Our thanks to City of Pontiac District 4 Councilman Randy Carter, himself a PUB alumnus, for attending and offering words of encouragement.



ACADEMIC SUCCESS: Kayla Murphy, Lisandro Munoz and Wang Chang



CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT: Wang Chang



LIFE SKILLS ACQUISITION: Kayla Murphy and Quaivonte Myers



TOOL BOX AWARD: Ms. Clements, Mrs. McDowell, Taylor Smith, Ms. Graham



DIRECTOR'S MARK OF EXCELLENCE AWARD: Ms. Clements, Ms. Graham, John Dristy, Mrs. McDowell



SATURDAY ACADEMY PERFECT ATTENDANCE: Monet Fletcher



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT: Savannah Cantu



Quaivonte Myers, Taylor Smith, Kayla Murphy, Lisandro Munoz, John Dristy, Wang Chang, Jose Betancourt, Carlos Angeles Jr. awaiting graduation certificates.



2017 PUB Graduates, grads families, PUB Administrative Team

PUB SUPPORTS OU

On Wednesday, March 29, PUB Scholars and Parents joined Oakland University students, staff, and faculty to journey to Lansing, Michigan for the 2017 **"OU Day at the Capitol."** The event is designed to update state legislators on OU accomplishments and interests and to allow legislators and other government leaders, including OU alumni who now work in state government, to update their OU constituencies on their activities.

A pleasant treat was when the group got officially **recognized from the floor of the State Senate**. That means PUB will forever be in the archive of Michigan Senate proceedings for April 29, 2017!

With PUB's participant mission being postsecondary success, wherever we go, we take advantage of the opportunity to visit the local college/university campus. So our day trip also included an **admissions presentation and tour at Michigan State University** - which we were lucky to get as the last group booked for the academic year! To end the day, PUB was led on a **tour of the Capitol Building** – again, the last tour booked for the season!

PUB appreciates the OU Office of Government Relations and the OU Student Congress for supporting PUB's participation in this annual event. And we were glad to have been involved in the 20th annual OU Day at the Capitol. See you next year!



President Hynd with PUB Scholars in Senate Chamber

PUB DIRECTOR'S NAME IMMORTALIZED IN OU HISTORY

Out of all Oakland University graduates each year, up to 4 receive university-wide recognition with the bestowing of the Alfred G. & Matilda R. Wilson Awards and the Human Relations Award(s). PUB is proud to have a connection!



In March 2017, the University hung a new plaque in Oakland University's original building, North Foundation Hall, alongside the existing Wilson Awards plaque. On this new plaque, **PUB Director Geri Graham's name is engraved on the first plate** of many that display the names of **Human Relations Award** recipients throughout the years. Because North Foundation Hall is OU's student services building, it means that the plaques will be exposed to thousands of students and visitors annually.

OU's Human Relations Award recognizes an OU **student's service to the campus community for advancing intergroup harmony**. Standing out from among a class of 1,800 graduates, Ms. Graham earned this recognition while completing her bachelor's degree requirements, with departmental honors, from the OU School of Business Administration. She worked tirelessly with the Association of Black Students, the Black Alumni Association, and the Black Faculty and Staff Network to promote diversity on campus. Congratulations Ms. G!

THE VILLAGE IS REAL

Many human resources go into generating the success of PUB Scholars. To help accomplish this, PUB is a consistent employer of Oakland University students; and PUB partners with the OU School of Education and Human Services to provide relevant field experience for OU's teacher education students. A big THANK YOU to **PUB's 2016-2017 Academic Year OU Student Leaders!**



Sereen Abouzahr



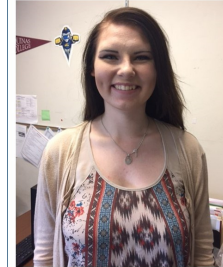
Jacob Augustine



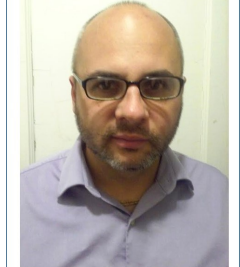
Cierra Bardell



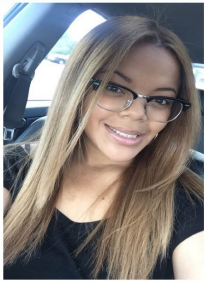
Sai Bodapoti



Skylar Church



Jason Durina



Mina Fuqua



Claire Hendon



Sarah Hensley



Shawn Huggins



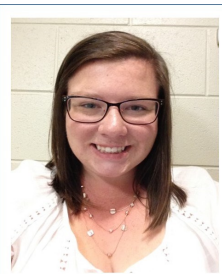
Nikitha Kora



Dalton Lewis



Abdalla Mahgoub



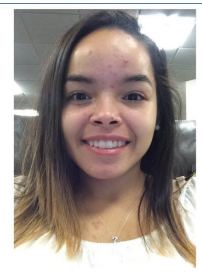
Abby Majestic



Akshata Nayak



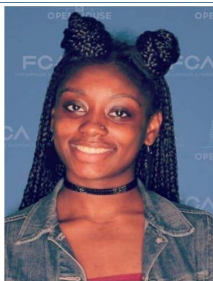
Shakira Rivera



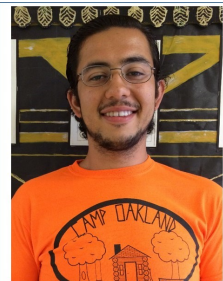
Samaira Rosado



Mary Saum



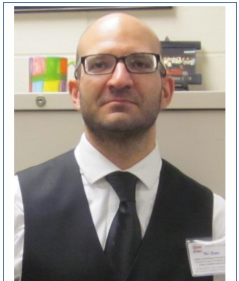
Mahalia Thomas



Yeriko Vargas



Kyara Walker



Hans Wittrock

THANKS GVSU

Grand Valley State University recognized the potential talent pool in TRIO participants by hosting “**GVSU TRIO Access Day 2017**” on Saturday, April 8. This event gave PUB Scholars a chance to get a first-hand look at the campus, hear about admission requirements, and learn from current GVSU students about their GVSU experiences. It also provided a chance for PUB Scholars to network with other TRIO participants.



Left to Right: Mo'net Fletcher, Ariana Louris, Cameron Clark, Ashley Xiong, Mrs. Tamica Clark (parent), Ruby Houston, Tamara Barnes, Ashili Lee

PUB Scholars who went to GVSU are to be commended for being at OU at 6:30 a.m. on a Saturday to travel 3 hours to Allendale, Michigan! PUB is proud that you are taking charge of your future. College tours are important so that Scholars get firsthand exposure to inform their decision-making.

In the past, GVSU has been a place where PUB alumni succeed at earning bachelor's degrees. And we expect that it will continue to be a welcoming and supportive environment for the post-secondary success of PUB Scholars.

COLLEGE ACCESS AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

PUB juniors and seniors, if you don't have the means to travel all over the state or country for college visits, then you should have been with PUB on Monday morning, March 27. That day, 11 PUB Scholars took advantage of the opportunity to have access to more than 100 colleges and universities all in one place. PUB transported Scholars to the **2017 Spring Metro Detroit National Student College Fair** sponsored by the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC).

The Fair was held at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, Michigan and this half-day event attracted motivated high school students from across southeast Michigan. And because of the timing, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m., PUB was able to provide lunch and drop Scholars back off at their schools before the afternoon buses left.

Talking with admission officers was not the only Fair activity. Seniors had a chance to complete individual and common applications (to apply to multiple schools using one application), but also to attend useful workshops on subjects such as financial aid and testing.



For some, attending the College Fair was a wake-up call that it is past time to **get busy because college is right around the corner**. Those who attended got a jump on the college admission process. Those who didn't attend have some catching up to do. Mr. Hans is waiting for your call!





Nou Cheng

Annually, the Educational Opportunity Association (EOA) hosts the National Girls-in-STEM conference. Even though the conference is hosted by a regional organization, any female in a college access project can apply to participate. The conference occurs in a different part of mid-America each year. Last year, it was held at Wichita (Kansas) State University; and PUB sponsored 2 Scholars and a chaperone. But this year, with the conference being held at Central Michigan University, PUB submitted the maximum 5 applications; and we are pleased to announce that all 5 applications were approved!



Monet Fletcher

Nou Cheng, Monet Fletcher, Ariana Louris, Alonna Sistrunk, and Angelica Tibbitts will represent PUB in Mt. Pleasant May 19-21, 2017. All of these PUB Scholars are either currently involved in a STEM activity at their high school or are interested in pursuing a career that involves a STEM major.



Ariana Louris

In addition to motivational speakers, discussions, and an academic/career fair, the young ladies will be immersed in: **hands-on STEM activities in labs; learning about STEM majors, colleges, and careers; and mentoring from current STEM college students, professors, and professional women.** This has been a valuable experience for PUB Scholars in the past and we are confident that this Michigan conference will live up to that reputation.



Alonna Sistrunk



Angelica Tibbitts

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT CORRECTION

In the Fall & Winter 2016 In Focus Newsletter, PUB Alumni Erique Allen was listed incorrectly as having graduated from International Technology Academy. Erique was actually a graduate of Pontiac Academy for Excellence.

Congratulations to **Brandi Carr** who received a full-ride scholarship to **Williams College**—a highly selective private liberal arts college in Williamstown, Massachusetts. This is a real accomplishment since less than 17% of applicants get admitted annually. We're proud of you Brandi!



MI-CAPP SPRING CONFERENCE

Every spring, **Michigan College Access Professionals and Programs** (MI-CAPP) hosts a professional conference. It gives the PUB Administrative Team a chance to network with colleagues from across the state and regenerate their energy before going full speed ahead into PUB Summer Academy. (This is the same organization that hosts the annual statewide Student Leadership Summit.)

This year's professional conference was held at Boyne Mountain Resort, April 19-22, and the PUB Team made significant contributions. **Ms. Graham served on the MI-CAPP**



Board of Directors and the Past-Presidents Advisory Committee. Mrs. McDowell co-chaired the Conference Committee and facilitated the process for the Michigan Department of Education to

award continuing education credit to teachers who are also TRIO professionals and attended the conference. The PUB Team – leading by example . . .



INTRODUCING . . .

Mr. Hans Wittrock who has been working with PUB as an Academic Mentor, Lead Academic Mentor, Academic Games Coordinator, and College Seminar Co-Facilitator over the past two years is obviously not new to PUB. But recently, he has taken on yet another role: **Project Assistant.**

Until the Project Advisor position can be filled permanently, Mr. Hans will be handling the essential responsibilities of that position. Already he has escorted scholars to the MI-CAPP Student Leadership Conference, the NACAC/Detroit National Student College Fair, and TRIO Access Day at Grand Valley State University. He helped chaperone Senior Send-Off, wrapped up Saturday Academies for juniors on April 1 with their college research presentations to parents and PUB administrators, and completed monthly PUB Club visits at each school. He is also the contact for students interested in becoming PUB members.



Scholars, although the Academic Year schedule has ended, PUB is still here to offer complete services – especially preparation for final exams in June. So **don't hesitate to** call, email, Facebook or otherwise **contact PUB if you need assistance!**

PROJECT UPWARD BOUND

2015-2016 PY GRANT

PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES

Academic Improvement Objective – GPA: **Exceeded** by 55%

Academic Performance Objective – Standardized Test: **Met** Objective

Secondary School Retention/Graduation Objective: **Exceeded** by 19%

Secondary School Rigorous Curriculum Objective: **Exceeded** by 23%

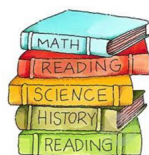
Postsecondary Enrollment Objective: **Exceeded** by 39%

Postsecondary Completion Objective: **Exceeded** by 6%



PRELIMINARY DATES FOR
2017 PROJECT UPWARD BOUND SUMMER ACADEMY

Wednesday, May 31	Summer Academy Orientation for Scholars and their Parents Mandatory for Summer Scholars. Parent must be present.
5:00 p.m.	Meal ID Photos, Sign-in & Forms
6:00 p.m.	Presentation Begins & Light Refreshments Available
June 25	On-Site Check-In & Get Acquainted Day for Everyone Dorm move-in for OPH & PAE
June 26	PUB Leadership Development Institute for OPH & PAE
June 28-30	1:30 – 5:15 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday (PSD Commutes) All Summer Scholars - Performing Arts
July 1-July 4	Independence Day Holiday Break
July 5	Dorm Check-In for PHS & ITA at 9:30 a.m. OPH & PAE return from Holiday at 11:00 a.m. Afternoon Summer Classes Begin at 1:00 p.m. in SFH
July 6	Regular Schedule begins with Breakfast at 7:15 a.m.
July 27	Stage Performance and Awards Program
July 28	Summer Trip Begins (For Scholars who Earn it during Summer Academy)



FROM THE ACADEMIC COORDINATOR



Ava McDowell
Academic Coordinator

PUB SCHOLARS LEAD & IMPROVE

"It is only through change that we grow" is a favorite quote of mine. This year has been one of change and growth in PUB's academic program, especially in College Club. Communication was the key to success. CC officers were important in keeping school administrators, PUB scholars, and the PUB team in-

formed of changing schedules, weather related closures, activities, and answering questions and keeping peers motivated to succeed. It was a lot of work for everyone, but there was a lot of growth, too.



College Club Average Attendance Per Session IMPROVED			
Time period	2015-16	2016-17	Difference
Sept. – Dec.	8.7	10.6	+1.9
Jan. – March	7.1	8.2	+1.1
Entire year	7.9	9.4	+1.5



Some Scholars' Iowa Test scores declined on their last test. That may be because more than half of those with declining scores

attended less than half of the available College Club sessions.

Spring 2017 ITED Test Scores IMPROVED			
	Number Tested	Average Score	Change
First Timers	13	7.74	N/A
All Returnees	41	8.86	.47
Juniors	21	10.05	.39
Sophomores	17	7.63	.13
Freshmen	16	7.73	.71

KAHN ACADEMY IN PUB

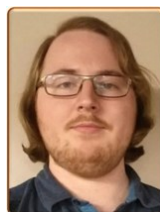
National research shows that students who spend at least 30 minutes per day on Khan Academy perform better in school and on standardized tests. So over the last two years, PUB has integrated Khan Academy into College Club; and Khan Academy continues to expand its offerings beyond Math to include English, Science, and History content as well as computer science and career exploration. Now, wherever they are, Scholars can use Kahn Academy's mobile platform to practice for the SAT and connect their scores directly with the College Board.

I am honored to have been named a Khan Academy Ambassador - one of six in Michigan and the only TRIO professional in the nation! As an ambassador, I will receive additional training, beta test new content, and serve as a resource to PUB's target schools, in addition to training PUB's Academic Mentors. **PUB Scholars attending the 2017 Summer Academy will have an opportunity to earn a Khan Academy Peer Coach certification.** This is an exciting growth opportunity for our Scholars!



THE "PUB EXPERIENCE" INVALUABLE FOR FUTURE TEACHERS

This academic year boasted the highest number of future teachers working as PUB Academic Mentors or teachers. Six PUB mentors and two teachers are Secondary Education majors in the fields of English, Math and Science. **PUB congratulates Academic Mentor Shawn Huggins and Teachers Jason Durina and Kate Hojnacki on completing their student teaching to become Oakland University graduates.** It has been a treat to watch them grow as teachers, and the PUB team wishes them all the best in their teaching careers.



Shawn Huggins



Kate Hojnacki



Jason Durina





**Project Upward Bound
College Prep Academy**

South Foundation Hall Rm 261
308 Meadow Brook Road
Rochester, MI 48309-4454



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E-mail: pub@oakland.edu

SPOTLIGHT ON ALUMNI: LaChelle King

High School Attended: Oak Park High School

College Attended: Trinity University in Washington, DC

Degree Earned: Educational Administration



PUB gave me exposure to campus life before I actually went to college, helped me academically and I gained lifelong friends in the process! I was honored to receive the “Elizabeth (Mama Glass) Glass” Director’s Award in 1990! Early in my teaching career (5 years) I received Outstanding Educator for Prince George’s County Public Schools in 2003. I owe a lot of my achievements to PUB and the foundation it gave me! My brother, Lamont King, and I often look back on our time at Oakland University.

PUB ALUMNI, WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If you are a PUB alumnus, please follow this link to submit your profile: <https://www.oakland.edu/upwardbound/alumni/>