

Pre-Conference Workshop: From Legends to Legacy: Empowering the Next Generation of TRIO Leaders

Date: Saturday, November 15, 2025

Time: 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Location: The Abbey @ Lake Geneva

This dynamic pre-conference workshop merges the critical elements of **strategic program longevity** with the powerful art of **mentorship**. Designed for current TRIO professionals committed to **building a lasting impact**, "From Legacy to Legends" will equip you with the tools to cultivate the next generation of impactful leaders.

Through interactive sessions, participants will learn to:

- Explore effective **mentoring models** for staff and students.
- Acquire practical techniques for **empowering future leaders**.
- Build a **culture of leadership development** within their programs.

Leave with a clear roadmap for strengthening your program's legacy and a robust toolkit of mentorship strategies. Invest in the enduring impact of your TRIO program and the promising careers of those who will carry its mission forward.

Who Should Attend: TRIO Directors, Assistant Directors, Coordinators, Advisors, and any TRIO professional interested in program sustainability, leadership development, and effective mentorship.

BIO – Trent Ball:

Trent Ball serves as the inaugural Senior Strategy Director for Completion at the Missouri College and Career Attainment Network (MOCAN). MOCAN exists to ensure Missouri students who could most benefit from education beyond high school have what they need to earn a credential leading to a rewarding career. MOCAN is a network of institutions, organizations, and professionals committed to greater equity and opportunity in college and career access, affordability, and completion. By working for change at the institutional and systems levels, MOCAN aspires to create a postsecondary education system where outcomes are no longer predictable by race or socio-economic status.

As Senior Strategy Director, Mr. Ball leads MOCAN's postsecondary attainment strategy including the Postsecondary Equity Network (PEN). Prior to joining MOCAN, Trent retired from Southeast Missouri State University and holds the title Associate Provost Emeritus. During his tenure at Southeast, he provided leadership and management of the Academic Support

Centers, including Educational Access Programs, Learning Assistance Programs, and the TRIO Programs (McNair Scholars and Student Support Services).

Mr. Ball is the Past Board Chair for the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), Past President of The Educational Opportunity Association (EOA) and Past President of MO-KAN-NE - all TRIO and educational opportunity and access promoting professional organizations. His goal is to increase educational equity and opportunity by developing and supporting a generation of postsecondary education leaders who look like, and share lived experiences with, the students we must intentionally serve and support. Ball has a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice and Psychology from Culver-Stockton College, a Master of Arts in Psychological Counseling and Therapy and completed coursework in the Master of Public Administration program at Southeast Missouri State University.