Emporia State University Initiatives to Recruit Students from Diverse Groups

ESU Admissions Office
The Admissions Office hosts four Black and Gold Nights at area high schools throughout the academic year and two Black and Gold Nights for transfer students. Many of those schools have diverse student populations. Deans, Chairs, and Faculty members from across campus attend those recruiting events. Additionally, the Admissions Office hosts a variety of groups that visit our campus. During the fall semester of 2010, ten of the twenty groups that traveled to ESU for a campus visit were minority groups: Junction City High School, Olathe Pioneer Trail Middle School, Wichita State University TRiO and Gear Up grants, Topeka West High School, Hadley Middle School (Wichita), Highland Park High School, JC Harmon High School (Kansas City), Meade Middle School (Wichita) and Brooks Middle School (Wichita).

Events held on campus that also are recruitment efforts for diverse populations include Emporia High School Hispanic Leadership Day - 11/18/10 (33 students attended); Multicultural Leadership Day - 1/19/11 (82 students attended); College Goal Sunday - 2/13/11; and Emporia High School Hispanic Leadership Day Follow up Breakfast each spring (16 students attended in 2011).

TRiO Programs
ESU has four TRiO grants, Student Support Services (ESU), Upward Bound (Emporia High and area high schools), Upward Bound (Leavenworth High School and surrounding high schools), and Talent Search. From the TRiO official Web site: “The Federal TRIO Programs (TRIO) are Federal outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. TRIO includes eight programs targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to postbaccalaureate programs.”

The Upward Bound Summer Institute provides high school students and recent high school graduates (referred to as “bridge” students) the opportunity to live on the ESU campus for five weeks every summer. Participants take courses, live in the residence halls, and receive enrichment types of activities throughout the five weeks.

Department of Math, Computer Science, and Economics Events
The department sponsors four annual events and the Kauffman Institute for K-12 Programs for Women and Underrepresented Populations. The department is assisted by faculty from the biological and physical sciences departments.

- Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics (EYH): This program has been offered annually since 1994 for girls in grades 6 through 8. EYH is held on a Saturday morning in March and brings 220 young women to the ESU campus for a variety of engaging activities. The day begins with a prominent woman professional in a scientific career presenting a keynote address. Then in groups of about 20, the young women attend a series of three career discussions. Then all participants proceed to the conference luncheon which concludes with door prizes being awarded. Another major
session follows the luncheon and the girls attend a series of two hands-on workshops. The day concludes with participants picking up the conference t-shirts. All presenters throughout the day are science and mathematics women professionals. There is also a teacher and parent concurrent program.

- **Sonia Kovalevsky Mathematics Day**: High schools within a fifty mile radius are sent invitations to this conference, which has been in existence since 1994. Each school is asked to nominate from three to six young women who are juniors to participate in Emporia State’s Sonia Kovalevsky Mathematics Day conference. This conference honors the accomplishments of these young women and is designed to increase their awareness of fascinating mathematical careers. The events include career discussions, a fun team problem solving event, a luncheon speaker, and hands-on workshops. There is also a teacher concurrent program.

- **MASTER IT (Mathematics And Science To Explore caReers-Investigating Together)**: MASTER IT is a one week summer residential program for twenty-four young women entering 8th or 9th grade. This program which began in 1999 includes hands-on workshops led by female faculty and women professionals, field trips, star gazing, a planetarium show, a trip to the Kansas Cosmosphere, and a concluding banquet for participants and their families.

- **Si Se Puede Hacer Ciencias y Matematicas**: Si Se Puede Hacer Ciencias y Matematicas (Yes You Can Do Science and Mathematics) is a program for Hispanic students in grades 6 through 8. This program began in 2007 and consists of four Saturday sessions throughout the school year. Each session includes career discussions and hands-on workshops led by Hispanic professionals in scientific and/or mathematically based careers. The concluding session includes a banquet for the participants and their families.

- **Kauffman Summer Institute**: In the summer of 2010, ESU hosted one of the Kauffman Scholars Summer Institutes. This is a component of the much larger Kauffman Scholars Program. ESU hosts a three day institute which brings at-risk students in this program to campus. ESU’s program is centered on the theme of mathematical modeling. Students receive graphing calculators and use them to analyze data which they collect in a variety of experiments. They also use computer mathematical modeling software in a campus computer laboratory. Additional components include a faculty “scavenger” hunt with students visiting faculty offices and interviewing faculty about their work, a math and science game night, and a trebuchet (French catapult) contest.
Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation Event
The ESU students in the “health and physical education methods” courses write the curriculum and teach the physical education courses for a small parochial school in Emporia.

Department of Physical Sciences Summer Workshops
The Kansas Space Grant Consortium, a NASA-funded program, funds summer workshops organized for students from underrepresented groups in science or faculty who teach in schools where a significant portion of the students represent diverse populations. The Physical Sciences faculty has established a relationship with Bishop Ward High School in Kansas City. Bishop Ward students are predominantly ethnic-minority young people. Dr. Jorge Ballester took a program to their high school during the fall 2010 semester.

Department of Early Childhood and Elementary Teacher Education:
Two grants target diverse student populations. One is a $450,000 grant titled: PASS ELL: Promoting Academic Science Success for English Language Learners It serves Middle Level ELLs in the USD 259 Wichita, Kansas School district. It is a collaborative No Child Left Behind KBOR grant; ESU is the Lead institution, and Fort Hays State University is the Co-Lead. We are the Primary Investigators for the entire grant.

The second grant is a $450,000 grant through Math Science Partnerships from The State of Kansas E=MC2 that targets students with needs and barriers in mathematics. Coaches are assigned to work with special needs teachers. Emporia State University is the only higher education institution on this grant, working with USD 253 Emporia Public Schools.