NATIONAL TRIO CLEARINGHOUSE

The First Summer of Upward Bound - 1965

In the summer of 1965, groups of disadvantaged students first attended Upward Bound programs on college campuses around the country where they received academic tutoring and participated in cultural enrichment activities. The Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), a federal administrative agency begun in 1964 as part of President Johnson's "War on Poverty," had created the experimental programs earlier that year to help students of color and low-income white students attain a college education.

Several of these summer opportunities existed before 1965, but operated under a different name and administration. They were started by non-profit organizations such as Educational Services, Incorporated and funded by these organizations or private philanthropies such as the Ford, Rockefeller and Carnegie Foundations. In 1965, the Office of Education incorporated many of these existing programs under the rubric of Upward Bound and created additional programs.

The Pilot Programs

University of the Ozarks*

Dillard University (New Orleans, LA)

(Nashville, TN)

Howard University (Washington, DC)

Texas Southern University

(Houston, TX)

Morehouse University (Atlanta, GA)

Webster University

(St. Louis, MO)

Fisk University

New York University (New York, NY)

Columbia University

(Clarksville, AR)

(New York, NY)

Tennessee State University (Nashville, TN)

Western Washington State University* (Bellingham, WA)

Ripon College (Ripon, WI)

University of Oregon (Eugene, OR)

LeMoyne College (Syracuse, NY)

New Mexico Highlands University (Las Vegas, NM)

Florida A & M University (Tallahassee, FL)

Independent Schools Talent Search Program (Boston, MA)

*In cases where school names have changed since 1965, the current name is listed.

First Summer Trivia

- 1. What organization held its Upward Bound programs for ninth and tenth grade boys on the campuses of thirty private residential preparatory schools in New England? Answer: Independent Schools Talent Search Program (Not affiliated with the federal TRIO program, Talent Search)
- 2. Which institutions hosted Upward Bound programs that were originally part of a package developed by Educational Services, Inc.? Answer: Dillard, Fisk, Texas Southern, Morehouse and Webster Universities
- 3. What program was first proposed and operated by Dr. Thomas Billings, the second National Director of Upward Bound, and originally funded by the Rockefeller Foundation?

Answer: Western Washington State University

First Summer Fast Facts

- □ 17 programs
- □ 2,061 participants
- □ Approx. 1, 500 recent high school graduates
- □ 80% of participants admitted to college in fall of 1965
- □ 69% of freshmen who entered in 1965 remained and graduated

Information in this fact sheet was compiled from:

"The Rockefeller Programs for the Disadvantaged and Federal Education Programs" by John Groutt, Rockefeller Archive Center, Fall 2002; "Upward Bound: In the Beginning" by John Groutt and Calvin Hill, The Council Journal, April 2001; and "Upward Bound: Portrait of a Poverty Program" by William H. James, SAEOPP Journal, Fall 1986.