



# The Achiever

## Educational Opportunity Program

Volume VI, Issue III

Division of Enrollment Management

December 2002

### Merry Christmas

#### From The Director

Well, I tried to tell you that it would go quickly, the semester I mean. It's the end already and there are only two weeks left.

So what do I do now, you ask? Well, you just roll up your sleeves, heat up the coffee, warm up your computer and get to work. Make up your mind that for the next two weeks you're going to pour all you have into that final paper or into preparing for the last test or the final exam.

Let me take this time to en-

courage each of you to muster all your energy and resources for the home stretch. These last two weeks can make the difference between an A or a B or between a D or a C. So let's give it your best shot.

Now that you've been home for your break and hopefully had some fun, now it's time to finish with a bang. So let's get busy.



**Quick Quote: Success is a state of mind. If you want success, start thinking of yourself as a success.**

**-Dr. Joyce Brothers**

### Pre-registration Process

Just a note! The College is now into the pre-registration process for the spring 2002 semester. Each of you should have been advised and registered or preparing

for pre-registration on your assigned date. Remember, it is required by EOP that every student is advised and pre-registered prior to the last check release date on December 5,

2002. The only exceptions are those students who have confirmed that they are graduating in December 2002. Please pre-register and confirm your enrollment.

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**Check out EOP online: [www.brockport.edu/eop](http://www.brockport.edu/eop)**



# Financial Aid



By Dan Askey

As the semester winds down, the financial aid application process for next year goes into high gear. There has been a significant change in the EOP direct check disbursement process. You no longer need to obtain a check release from your EOP counselor. For those entitled to them, the checks will either be mailed or direct deposited if you are signed up for it. Your counselor has the authority to block the check release if you have not met the program requirements.

When you register for the spring '03 term, please make sure you affirm your enrollment.

This action locks your schedule in place and also means you accept responsibility for the charges. You must be registered and affirmed in order to receive your December check or your counselor will block its release. Make sure that your spring '03 financial aid and student bill are in order before you go home for the semester break.

Believe it or not, we are ready to begin the process for Financial Aid 2003-04. You can expect to receive your FAFSA renewal application over the semester break. Make sure you complete the document accu-

rately and quickly. You are expected to complete the FAFSA online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). As part of this process, we also highly recommend that you, and your parent or parents if necessary, complete any 2002 federal income tax returns as quickly as possible. In addition, make sure you are aware of any additional documents the financial aid office may require of you. Please sit down with your EOP counselor to make sure that you understand all aspects of this very important process.



## Peer Tutoring Services

### Attention Students!!!!

For all students using the EOP tutoring services: Now is the time for you to see your EOP counselor to complete a **Peer Tutor Student Evaluation form**. This is your chance to play an active roll in EOP and help us improve our services. Please take a few minutes to stop in and see your EOP counselor and complete a **Peer Tutor Student Evaluation form** today.

*Your feedback is greatly appreciated!*



## BOOK LOAN PROGRAM

At the beginning of the fall 2002 semester, EOP began a book loan program to help defray the cost of books and supplies of our students. Many of you took advantage of this program. Please note that all books and supplies (calculators, etc.) are due by **December 13, 2002**.

You must return all books by **December 13** to your EOP counselor or Terri Stymus, EOP secretary. Failure to do so will result in your being charged for all materials not returned. ***Remember, others may need them next semester.***

# EOP IS NECESSARY

By Carlos Quinones Coker

On this road of life, my train of thought is an unconventional vehicle, galvanized by the chance to make a difference. Frequently the one black male amongst a class of fifty students, I was most likely the only one to graduate with a GED, whose graduating class of seven consisted of former drug addicts and probationers.

Behind the wheel of my 2002 Impala, windows down, exhaling a lungful of a Newport, beat thumping, thinking about getting home to my little girl, nestled asleep in her crib. A realization jerks my thoughts-I'm the unexpected, high school drop-out. Raised parentless, homeless at fifteen. Born in a position to fail, in jail as I turned sixteen and eighteen. The castaway, the one America is accustomed to ignoring. My life considered expendable. In this open marketplace called capitalistic America, I don't have the resources to compete.

Nowadays I reside, side by side with those whose entrance into this world is cushioned by stability. People who grew up accustomed to eating every day. Those who consider a college education a routine progression in life. I have done what was

once inconceivable by placing myself on a platform, parallel to those with the advantage. I'm a competitor. I pride myself on raising my hand in class, knowing the answer to a question, being able to participate in the conversation, while students whose future was never in jeopardy sigh and moan, never uttering a word throughout the semester. I'm not supposed to be here. That's why EOP, if nothing else, is necessary.

The late tennis great and civil rights activist Arthur Ashe, once remarked that there came a point in his life when his worldview had matured beyond the constraints of his ethnicity and unfavorable socio-economic status. I am privileged at this stage of my existence, for the opportunity to empathize with such a sentiment. I was an underprivileged black youth, labeled as at-risk, a product of disadvantageous circumstances.

There comes a time when every man, regardless of race, gender or class, must evolve to move forward and locate himself, actualize his potential or discern between goals and wishes. This mental evolution is often spawned by a change of scenery, a global perspective made visible



by new opportunities and faces and encouraging words. Suddenly subjects once deemed irrelevant gain appeal. Apathy fades, and new aspirations begin to blossom internally, sparking a rebirth of the mind, parallel to the scattering of a newborn's brain cells.

Even as statistics continue to discourage, and the numbers of those born in my position who go on to attend and graduate from college dwindles, EOP if nothing else, is necessary. I was living in a homeless shelter two months before I attended my first class at Brockport, but the mind is a powerful thing. Too often it is rendered useless by distractions and closed doors.

EOP was my door.



**Quick Quote:** Believe in yourself! Have faith in your abilities! Without a humble reasonable confidence in your own powers you cannot be successful or happy.

-Norman Vincent Peale

# EOP kno

## AN ALPHABET OF T

From us to you. On behalf of the  
time management tips as a help

**A**void letting time control you.

**B**reak your work into measurable tasks.

**C**ontrol your interruptions.

**D**on't waste little pieces of time.

**E**njoy completing tasks by rewarding yourself.

**F**ind out when, where, why, and how you work best.

**G**et it done. Don't keep putting it off.

**H**ow is your scheduling working? Check it.

**I**ncrease your need-based flexibility.

**J**ustify recreation time.

**K**now when to just say no.

**L**ook and plan ahead.

**M**ake sure you allow enough time.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

# WWS.COM

## TIME MANAGEMENT TIPS

OP Staff we would like to present these  
l guide during fall 2002 finals week.

**N**ever give up on yourself and your abilities.

**O**mit unnecessary chores.

**P**rioritize your tasks.

**Q**uality of time is more important than quantity of time.

**R**eviewing is all-important to successful studying.

**S**tart each day by checking your schedule.

**T**ake short breaks to help your concentration.

**U**se a comfortable work space.

**V**ary your tasks.

**W**hat else do you need to win?

**X**-ray your life to see what works.

**Y**ou can plan and win.

**Z**ap the negatives keep the positives.

ALL EOP AT (585) 395-2547

# Career Corner

By Shana Goodson

Preparation is the Key to Employment!

## Albany Programs

Career Services provides an opportunity for internship experience in the Albany Semester Assembly Intern and NYS Senate Session programs.

For anyone interested in this wonderful opportunity  
Call 395-2392.

## The Fall 2002 Teachers Fair

**When:** December 10, 2002  
**Where:** Nazareth College  
**Time:** 5-7 pm

## Arthur O. Eve "The Leveling Agent"

By Carlos Quinones Coker

Members and friends of Opportunity Programs United gathered November 12th to salute the esteemed Arthur O. Eve, a tireless crusader for the education and advancement of New York State's impoverished and underprivileged. Eve has been a New York State Assemblyman since 1966, leading the effort to establish the EOP program in the SUNY system in his first term in 1967. Now in his 23rd year as Deputy Speaker of the State Assembly, he has dedicated himself to finding solutions. Eve is a leveling agent, providing opportunity for more than 100,000 college graduates in New York state.

Recognized as one of our greatest educational advocates, Eve was instrumental in laying the foundation for many of the unprecedented opportunities my generation benefits from. The first non-white to win a primary Democratic primary election for mayor in of the New York's five big cities, Eve has passed decades worth of meaningful legislation, in efforts to combat the ills facing the minority community. Among his many contributions, Eve can take credit for the passage of Martin Luther King's birthday as a holiday, the Professional Opportunity Scholarship, fund-

ing of emergency financial aid to cities, affirmative action on state funded projects, the Coalition for Employment and Economic Development and funding of the African-American Institute. In Eve's time there was no HEOP, CSTEP, TOC or SEEK programs. Eve is a living embodiment of the cliché, "You want something done, you've got to do it Yourself."

# The Student Spotlight

In each newsletter, at least one EOP student will be given the spotlight to allow everyone to know a little more about what makes our students shine. To receive this profile, an EOP counselor must nominate the student for "The Student Spotlight." No established criteria exist to receive this profile other than being an all-around great student.

**Student:** Prince Acheampong  
**Hometown:** Brooklyn, by the way of Ghana  
**Major:** Biology  
**Career Goals:** Pharmacist  
**Counselor:** Ida Rockwell

Prince is a first semester sophomore here at SUNY Brockport. He is an RA. Prince is a drummer in the San-cofa Dance group. In his spare time he likes to play tennis, and teach others about his native country of Ghana. Prince is a very caring, sociable, patient, dedicated and determined individual. He plans be the owner of his own pharmacy one day. Considering the dedication, persistence and patience of Prince, I do not see any reason why he won't be able to achieve his goal.

## EOP Shout-out goes to...

**Jairo Bastilla**



### HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

We now have royalty among our EOP family. ALAS held the "Mr. Latino and Ms. Latina" pageant on October 26. Our own Jairo Bastilla was crowned king. Cristhian Franco was named prince. Both displayed style, grace, and talent during the pageant. Make sure you congratulate our students for their achievement.

## ALUMNI SHOUT OUT GOES TO...

**Timothy Johnson**

Tim was an EOP student here at SUNY Brockport as an undergraduate and a graduate student. Tim also served as the President of OSAD. He has a BS in Political Science and a masters degree in Counseling.

He is currently the Assistant to the Director of Admissions at York College in New York City. His duties include, but are not limited to, admissions counseling, transfer counseling, reviewing applications and authorizing acceptance letters, and recruiting. His interests include computers, basketball, reading and working with inner city youth. Tim is writing his first book.

Tim offers advise to EOP students: Take advantage of all the services that EOP has to offer. Make your college experience work for you. College is the place to build your skills that will launch you into the future.

**Quick Quote:** Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.

-Dale Carnegie

For more information call EOP (585) 395-2547

# Happy Holidays from EOP



EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM: (585) 395-2547

*EOP Making a  
difference in the lives  
of our students*

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