



LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

By: *Shawn P. Derritt*

Greetings Upward Bound Students, Parents, Alumni, and Friends,

Many of you may know that as of now I no longer work for the students and parents of UMKC Project First / Upward Bound. I am now working for Kansas City Kansas Community College as a Counselor. This position promises to be challenging yet rewarding.

In my departure I am excited to announce that Ms. El-Scari has been appointed as the new Project Director. Being an alum of UMKC Project First / Upward Bound, Ms. El-Scari truly represents the mission and focus of Upward Bound. Working with her over the last two years has been an honor and pleasure. I will greatly miss her but I look forward to maintaining and developing a friendship I know will last a lifetime. Upward Bound is very fortunate to have Ms. El-Scari as it's new Director.

The saying that time flies when you are having fun sums up my experience working for the students and parents of UMKC Project First / Upward Bound. I can only hope that there was something that I might have done to inspire the students I served during the last three and a half years. As I look back over the many faces of our students I can only smile, sometimes laugh, and sometimes cry tears of joy. As I go on to embark on a new path for my life I hope to gain and learn as much as I did from the students and parents of Project First / Upward Bound. I will never forget how your life interacting with mine has brought me to where I am today! There will always be a special place in my heart for Project First / Upward Bound. I have been blessed to know you and I look forward to the greatness of our students!



Mr. Derritt stands by our Upward Bound College Graduate Plaque that now has 10 new names.

Inside this issue:

<i>Bridge Success</i>	2
<i>Who Came to UB?</i>	2
<i>Career Night is Alright!</i>	3
<i>It's Your Birthday!</i>	3
<i>Sweat with UBers</i>	4
<i>Florida By Bus</i>	5
<i>We Say Goodbye</i>	5

SENIORS LISTEN UP

- Make sure you have selected your top ten colleges.
- Start searching for scholarships!
- Get letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, and community people and UB Staff.
- Have some fun!
- STUDY ! STUDY!

Summer Academy Move In Day Heats Up Students

If you have never experienced move in day for Upward Bound, you have missed a treat. This year the parents of Upward Bound and Gear-Up teamed to make an unforgettable move-in day. Parents brought everything from meats and potato salad to cakes and pies. Parents from both program grilled the food on the spot.

We appreciate parents that are involved in the Upward Bound Program. We know that when parents support the students and the program that only success can occur. The wonderful food and friendly atmosphere made it easier for parents to leave their students.

Move-in day was a wonderful way to heat up Summer Academy 2002 participants!

Bridge Students' Summer Success



Bridge students Danielle Jenkins and Shenita Fletcher study in the S.A.S.S.

The Bridge Program was a success this year. The Bridge Students opened their minds to a more rigid schedule to help the students maintain the rigors of the class. The Bridge Program is the final part of the Upward Bound experience. It gives students a chance to take a college course with the support of the Upward Bound staff. Like regular Summer Academy, students give up a huge portion of their summer to attend the class. The class lasted four hours a day, for five days a week. Students also had guided study hall three hours a day. Most of the students still studied on their own. This was a challenge since many high school students really do not have to study the way college students do.

Jennifer Carnicom, VSI Western Civilization Instructor was a delight to work with. The students were able to ask questions, interact, and receive an abundance of information. She gave them additional study guides and strategies to ensure their success.

College summer courses can be intense. The same material that is covered over a 16 week period was covered over a 6 week period. Bridge students had a tight schedule but had time to relax as well.

The Bridge students are attending these schools this fall. **Jelesa Anderson** (University of Missouri-St. Louis), **Shenita Fletcher** (Norfolk State University), **Jessica Hodge** (Longview

Community College), **Danielle Jenkins** (Tennessee State University), **Sparkle Matthews** (LeMoyne-Owen College), **Leah Powell** (Lane College), **Purtrice Shaw** (Missouri Western State College), **Brian Smith** (Dillard University), **Keyonna Williams** (LeMoyne-Owen College).

Congratulations to the Bridge Students for a successful and enjoyable summer. We wish them the best of luck as they embark on Upward Bound's ultimate goal, entering and graduating from college!

Who Came to Upward Bound this Summer?

WE ARE RECRUITING STUDENTS TO JOIN UPWARD BOUND! SPECIAL PRIZES FOR ANY CURRENT UB WHO REFERS A STUDENT WHO IS ACCEPTED!

It is so exciting to see each Upward Bound student enter the program and to successfully complete Summer Academy. This year's participants include the following:

Rising Freshman-**Shantel Hair**
Rising Sophomore-**Elyse Davis, Kevin Johnson, Ray Patrick, Chris Pearson, Jason Powell,**

Krystal Purnell, Frances Ross, Marnika Shelton, Erin Vincent, and Chris Williams.

Rising Juniors-**Bulaine Alexis, Isaac Brooks, Tamika Fullson, Juaquan Herron, Joy Holloway, Arthur Lewis, and Sycil Proffitt.**

Rising Seniors-**Eboni Brenson, Norris Brown, Louis Byrd,**

Raashida El-Scari, Tanesha Goshon, Kenneth Hughlon, Kerra McCorkle, Sandra Parris, September Richard, and Sherekka Scott.

All of these students deserve a big round of applause for realizing the importance of attending Upward Bound Summer Academy.



Bulaine Alexis and her father (back row) listen to the Summer Academy Orientation along with Shantel Hair and her mother.

Residence Assistant-Toughest Job You'll Ever Love

The Resident Assistants (RA) work around the clock to keep the residential component of the program running well. They rise before the students every morning, and go to sleep after the students every night.

Sometimes they are loved,

liked, and despised all in one day. They have to balance working with each other and working with the students and the instructors. Sometimes they feel their work is never done. The RA's selected this year were: **Tyrone Gethers, Jr.**-Resident Hall Director

(Missouri Western State College), **Tamara Johnson** (Penn Valley Community College), and **Rayann Freeman** (Bennett College).

Even though this job is always difficult, all of the RA's said that they want to return next summer.

Career Day Let's Us See Success

Career Day has taken different looks over the past summers, but each year it is a success. It is so important for students to see professionals that look like them and have the same background from where they come from.

The Avila Upward Bound Program and Gear-Up joined us for a panel discussion from professionals. September Richard, rising senior who attends Paseo Academy of the Fine and Performing Arts, was the student moderator. After each panelists gave a brief overview of what they do in their careers, students asked questions about balancing

their personal lives with their professions, college dating, success, their ultimate goals, their challenges and their strengths and weaknesses. The panelists gave honest perspectives and insight to what makes a successful person.

This year, we were honored to have:

Ms. Tinka Ann Barnes, medical student at University of Kansas, **Mr. Marcus Brown**, NCI Facilitator, Move UP, **Ms. Tracey Chappell**, and **Ms. Melinda Clark-Sann**, Attorneys for Conner, Clark-Sann, Chappell, and Rivers Law Firm, **Mr. Rondale Dunn**, American Family Insurance Casualty Claims Adjuster,

Mr. Michael Long, Program Specialist, Swope Corridor Renaissance, **Ms. Kamilah Aisha Moon**, Writer, Hallmark Cards, **Ms. Kimberly Morgan**, Project Coordinator, University of Kansas Educational Opportunity Center, **Mr. Louis Moten**, Manager of Youth Opportunity (YO!) Movement Program, and **Mr. Paris Saunders**, Manager, Fiscal and Business Operation-Office of the Vice Chancellor, UMKC.

We look forward to creating and maintaining a wonderful relationship with these fantastic professionals.



Rondale Dunn, Melinda Clark-Sann, Tracey Chappell, and Marcus Brown listen to students.

GO UB, It's your Birthday!

We know that it is hard to be away from home when it is your birthday, so the Upward Bound Staff throws a party for our students who celebrate their birthday while Summer Academy is taking place.

Gear-Up joined Upward Bound for a party in Pierson Auditorium. Students did all

the latest dances which included the Harlem shake and the booty call. Students had a chance to show **Mr. Derritt** and **Ms. El-Scari** how to really dance. There was cake and ice cream and many parents joined us. **Brian Smith** and **Norris Brown** showed their "old school" skills by doing the classic soulful two-step with

their mothers. Excited crowds gathered around Arthur Lewis and Ray Patrick as they showed their flexibility in a dance contest that had remnants of poplocking and break dancing with a matrix feel. Everyone, at some point, danced, ate cake, and were marry. In fact, we all had a good time.

If you would like to be a Career Day Speaker or a mentor for job shadowing, please contact Natasha Ria El-Scari at 816-235-1115

Teen Summit and the Talent Show

Each week, students found themselves involved in all types of fun activities after a challenging day of class. When the students were not studying or working on their 10 page research paper, they were having a good time, and learning about life.

The Talent Show, as always, proved to be a side splitting fun event. And while the students could not get Mr. Derritt to sing this year, students from Upward Bound and Gear-Up shared their talents from song, dance, hip hop, visual art, to poetry.

Teen Summit, hosted by Avila College, had an exciting informal panel to talk about the issues that teen face. These issues included: Teen relationships: what is too serious, the September 11th tragedy, interracial dating, music: offensive or open, and a host of other concerns teens have to face.



Rising Senior Louis Byrd and Bridge student Brian Smith sing an original piece about a love yet to be noticed.

Academic Rigor of Summer Academy



Ray Patrick (unofficial dance contest winner) teaches a fellow student how to really dance!

What kind of student goes to school year round, gives it their all, and turns around to “give up” their summer to do it again, and often harder? The answer is an Upward Bound Student! We are so happy that students know that it is important to prepare for college all the time. Our students are excited about learning and it showed in their regular academic courses. This summer we saw some new and returning faces as instructors. Our Math instructor was **Mr. John Swartz**, a 30 plus year veteran Math Teacher. His daughter, **Ms. Annie Swartz** was our English Instructor. Students researched and prepared a 10 page final research paper for that class. **Mr. Mikiata Carroll**, Science, was a new and exciting face. Students covered all aspects of science from anatomy to chemistry. **Mr. Li (Frank) Zhichuan** was the Computer Science Instructor. Students PowerPoint presentations were on line at the geocities website. **Mr. Elmer Cunningham’s** Ethics course researched domestic and foreign terrorism, and **Ms. Jane Ngega**, a native Swahili speaker, taught the students how to communicate and sing in Swahili. Students enjoyed a small seminar classroom settings and the intensity of one on one assistance. We are grateful to each of our instructors for their time and commitment to the Upward Bound program.

Let’s Dance, Kick, Jump, and Mold Our Minds

After a tough four days (Monday-Thursday) students looked forward to a Friday break from the tough academic classes, but they never got it. Instead, their bodies were challenged in ways that they never anticipated. Upward Bound offered four elective courses this summer for its Friday session.

Mr. Charles Carter taught Martial Arts for the second year. Students wore the traditional Gi and white belts. Many of the students dawned yellow belts they earned from the previous summer. Mr. Carter, a grandmaster, invited people from all walks of life to help with the class. He felt that, “by having women and men of all sizes, the students could see how anyone could do martial arts.” **Ms. Jeanine Qualls** taught the aerobics and nutrition class. Even the athletes in the class had to catch a second wind as this certified personal trainer worked their bodies with balls, weights, resistance bands, and challenges to eat healthier foods. **Ms. Reeny Mulligan** of the Mad Platter, made sure students expressed their likes, desires, and goals through pottery they painted and designed with their own hands. **Mr. Bird Fleming and Ms. Vanessa Gibbs**, as it is now an Upward Bound tradition, taught the students African Dance and Drumming. It was a delight to have each of the instructors share their creativity and expertise with our students.

A Typical Summer Academy Upward Bound Day



Gear-Up student Aaron Winzer, UMKC Upward Bound student Sycil Proffitt, and Avila Upward Bound student listen and wait to respond to teen issues.

Students rise early to arrive at breakfast by 7:30 am. After a warm or cold breakfast (their choice) they track off to their morning classes. Math, Science, and English are taught in the morning, each one hour long. Students were in homogenous classes by grade. Next, the students waited patiently with numerous camps and programs for lunch which usually includes their favorite, pizza. Students were encouraged to eat plenty of fruits and veggies so they can stay hydrated in the heat. In the afternoon, the students went to Social Science (Ethics), Computer Science, and Foreign Language. They had a short break and then went to dinner. After dinner students had either library research time, study time, and/or a special UB activity, like the ones highlighted in this newsletter. They were in bed by 10:00 pm rising early the next day to do it all over again. So if you wondered if they worked hard this summer, you’ve got your answer!

Florida Bound by Bus: the UB Reward Trip

Never before has a bus ride been so long, and never before has a trip been so much FUN! Upward Bound students, RA's, administrative staff, and chaperons loaded a charter bus for a week long trip to Orlando, Florida. Students enjoyed the sights and sounds of Disney World, Magic Kingdom, Daytona Beach, and Bethune-Cookman College.

At the Disney World and Magic Kingdom students rode death-defying rides and took snuggly pictures with all of the Disney characters they desired. Students enjoyed seeing people from all walks of life come to celebrate the one hundred year anniversary of Disney World.

Bethune-Cookman was also enjoyable. Students could not believe that such a wonderful institution could be so close to the beach. Ubers were able to actually tour the house of the founder of the college, Mary McCloud Bethune. The tour guide was full of personal stories about the great leader.

Daytona Beach was so much fun. The students hurried into their swimsuits and jumped into the ocean. They rode waves, swam, looked for shells, and took in the sun. For many students, it was their first time on the beach and in Florida. There is no telling what next year will bring.



Upward Bound students strut their stuff at the Global Village Fashion Show.

Closing Ceremony Celebrates Success

The Closing Ceremony is always an exciting time for the families, friends, and staff of the Upward Bound Program. Here, we have a chance to highlight the students success in the program. Instructors acknowledged the performances made in their individual classes and presented awards to the students with the highest academic average, those that are motivated to succeed, and the most improved student. **Mr. Brian Smith**, 2002 Paseo Academy graduate, was the Master of Ceremony. There was an official university welcome from **Dr. Glen Jacobs**, the new Director of the Center for Academic Development, a salute to the participants, and presentations by the Martial Arts Class, the Foreign Language Classes, and the finale was an energetic performance of drumming, song, and dance by the African Drumming and Dance Class. Bridge students were highlighted and given beautiful plaques to mark their completion of the Upward Bound Program. UMKC Upward Bound alumni **Mr. Leon Johnson, Ms. Shalonda Jones, Mr. Marlon Edwards, and Ms. Kathryn Webb** were recognized for receiving their post-baccalaureate degrees as well.

All students should eat fruit and vegetables daily. That, along with drinking plenty of water, will help keep them healthy and strong!

Mr. Shawn P. Derritt Makes A Change

As of October 18, 2002, Shawn P. Derritt, Director of the Project First/Upward Bound Program, resigned from his position with the program. As many of you know, Mr. Derritt graduated from the University of Kansas in May of this year with his MA degree in Counseling Psychology. He is excited about his new position at the Kansas City Kansas Community College as a Associate Professor/Counselor. When asked about going to work at KCKCC he said, "I am a proud alumni of the community college. It is my desire to touch lives the way I wish they were touched when I went to school there." Mr. Derritt says, "... but of course I will miss the students and I plan to visit frequently. My wife and son also love the students in the program so we will be present for special events." We will surely miss the way Mr. Derritt decorates, organizes, and always plans with the students in mind. We wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors. His ultimate goals include receiving his doctorate and his ministerial license. Mr. Derritt plans to remain local for sometime. He trusts that, "students will make the transition to Ms. El-Scari as the new director and will make her feel as excited as he was about being the director.



Little El-Scari and Little Derritt observe the African Dance and Drumming Class.

University of Missouri-Kansas City
Center for Academic Development
Project First/Upward Bound

University of Missouri-Kansas City
5014 Rockhill Rd.
101A SASS Bldg.
Kansas City, MO 64110-2499

Phone: 816-235-1115

Fax: 816-235-6557

Email: el-scarin@umkc.edu

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

WE'RE ON THE WEB
WWW.UMKC.EDU/CAD

Preparing Tomorrow's Leaders Today!



Upcoming Events



The UMKC Upward Bound, Avila Upward Bound, and UMKC Gear-Up stu-

November 2002

Mondays: 4th, 18th, and 25th

Evening Academy and Senior Seminar 3-6 pm SASS Bldg.

Mandatory Monthly Meeting 3-4 pm SASS

Saturdays: 16th and 23rd

Test Prep

9-12 pm SASS Bldg.

Thursday: 14th

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCE KCSMD 1:30-7:30 PM

Alvin Ailey Dance Theatre (optional)

Saturday: 23rd

Moscow Boys Choir (mandatory)

Monday: 25th

Women of the Future (girls only, optional) 8-1 pm Pierson Auditorium