



Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium
Meeting Our Education Commitments

A passion for student success leads Tori Christie to MOEC

By Makayla Rounph

Tori Christie is a life-long learner with 20 years of experience in higher education and the heart to change the lives of students in the Omaha metro.

Christie found her landing place with Metropolitan Omaha Educational Consortium (MOEC) in October 2019. She has since been committed to providing opportunities and individualized experiences for each student and school district, specifically in secondary and post-secondary education.

“When you are looking at student success, you have to be able to come at it from so many different angles,” Christie says. “Individuals need different support along the way if it is going to be effective.”

A Council Bluffs, Iowa native, Christie holds a master's and bachelor's degree in English from the University of South Dakota. Having been a teaching assistant for two years at a public university as well as an adjunct for four years at



a community college after graduating, Christie wanted to continue her passion for student success through education.

"I worked in Student Services at a community college for 20 years, and that certainly helped prepare me," Christie says.

Over the past two decades, Christie served in roles such as residence life coordinator, registrar, director of Admissions and Advising, dean of Enrollment Services and vice president of Student Services. She has since used these tools and skills to transform the lives of students through MOEC.

"I thoroughly enjoy the people with whom I work with at MOEC," Christie says. "Everyone is intent on improving educational opportunities for all students and that is incredibly rewarding and motivating."

Christie's focus with MOEC is to help high school students transition into college students by listening to their individual needs and supplying them with the resources necessary to succeed. Christie offers support with student success in math through MOEC's work group, filing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) completion and improving access in dual-enrollment opportunities.

Christie says one of the largest barriers to college is finances and filling out FAFSA is a barrier within itself. Creating this bridge from low-income families to financial opportunities in college is one of Christie's missions with MOEC.

"For me growing up, the question was 'where

are you going to college?' But I have recognized much later on in my life that for some students, "Christie says, "the question is 'are you going to college?' It should be that everyone has the access to go to and succeed in college."

With the continuum of struggles for students in school, the COVID-19 global pandemic has added further trials for the Omaha metro.

"So many initiatives have moved down the list for area educators as they focus on transforming what education looks like during a pandemic," Christie says.

Through these challenging times between work and personal life, Christie remains active in her free time. She has participated in multiple marathons and half marathons while currently leading a distance running club of 25 women in Council Bluffs, who share the same love for running.

"The group is comprised of highly motivated, accomplished and strong women who, through conversation, email and texts, support one another in all aspects of life," Christie says. "Distance running is my thing, so I fill my free time with racing and training."