THE TRIO NEWSLETTER

Move-In Day
The semester began with a day full of welcoming new and returning TRiO Scholars. Move-in day provided an opportunity for many parents and family members to see the place where students live and spend most of their time away from home. Thanks to the many TRiO Scholars that volunteered and to the GS Housing Office for helping coordinate such an exciting day.

Fall Kick-Off
Our Kickoff for the semester highlighted the theme for the year, Get MAD! Following the skit by the TRiO Army, Ms. Gianna Brown, motivational speaker/entrepreneur from Atlanta, GA delivered a very inspirational message. Each student received a copy of her book, “Budgeting like a Boss”.

Online Workshops
We have gone “Workshop Live” to provide an opportunity for students who missed attending a workshop to view and receive credit. Four TRiO workshops from the fall semester are now online. Workshop Live will not substitute for non-attendance at mandatory workshops and activities. We do recognize meeting everyone’s schedule is impossible so, the expectation is that you will take advantage of this great opportunity to get this invaluable information.

In your My Georgia Southern portal under the Folio tab are instructions on how to access video workshops:
1. Time Management
2. Note/Test Taking
3. FAFSA
4. Scholarships

First Generation Week
TRiO Armstrong & Liberty Campuses celebrated the 53rd anniversary of the Higher Education Act with a week of activities that honored the presence and experiences of first-generation college students, faculty, and staff.

On Monday, November 5, members of the TRiO Student Leadership Advisory Council (SLAC) hosted at table and encouraged students to express what it means to be first-generation. (Pictured above: Kasey-Lee Neal, Nadou Lawson, and Pascal Harley)

[Picture of students at table]

Other Highlights of First Generation Week included:

- Shanelle Dillon’s takeover of GS social media;
- “ASK ME WHY I’M FIRST” buttons were given to and worn by 1st gen students, faculty, and staff;
- President Nickel recognized 1st generation members of GS;
- Inkwell Newspaper article featured reflections on what it means to be 1st Generation by TRiO Scholars Taylor Sliger and T’keyah Sutton, and TRiO Graduate Assistant, Khazema Rauf;
- First Generation profiles of Student Affairs VP, Andrew Dies and Sociology Professor, Dr. Alicia Brunson were published on the university website;
- First Generation Faculty and Staff wore paraphernalia from their alma mater; and
- A First Generation Resource Fair featured various campus departments that specifically support first generation students.

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Armstrong Student Support Services Project is a U.S. Department of Education TRiO Program and is supported from 2015-2020 by $242,135.00 (100%) in Federal funds each year.
Season's Greetings TRiO!
The fall semester has finally ended! I am so happy that so many of you were MAD this semester! Most of you achieved great success because you were Motivated And Determined to succeed. TRiO is a privilege and a great resource for those that take advantage of what we have to offer. As the Time Management workshop highlighted, we all have 168 hours in the week. The question remains, how are you spending your time? Congratulations to our fall graduates! Your degree is probably your best gift ever to your family and yourself! We are so proud of you and we wish you the best in your career endeavors!

It is my hope that the New Year and this spring 2019 will be the best ever for you! Please, stay committed to your goals and the resources in TRiO and Georgia Southern that are available to help you succeed. Enjoy your holiday break and come back MAD as ever!

Tribute to Ms. Andrea Willingham
Our witty, humorous and supportive Ms. Willingham left Georgia Southern University in October to pursue a job opportunity in the Atlanta area. As the former Retention Specialist, Ms. Willingham monitored the academic progress and provided intervention strategies such as tutoring, goal setting and academic coaching for at-risk TRiO Scholars. In addition to direct service duties, Ms. Willingham also supervised the Academic Success Coach and TRiO tutors. Though this was her job description, we all know her position was much more than a job to her. She had a heart for TRiO and TRiO Scholars. We deeply miss her but we wish her all the best in her career endeavors. Do not be surprised if she makes a visit or two to TRiO! We love you Ms. Willingham!

Student Accomplishments

TRiO Researchers
Doing it up big in McNair Scholars Program!
Shanelle Dillon attended the 2018 Southeastern Regional Meeting of the American Chemical Society Conference and gave a presentation on her research: "Preparation of Diamino Crosslinked Poly (Aspartic acid)"

Michael Williams achieved 3rd place for his poster presentation in the discipline of Engineering, Physics, Math, Computing at the McNair Research Conference in Miami, FL, in October.

TRiO Fall Graduation
Friday, December 7, TRiO was proud to honor six graduating seniors: LaTonya Sallywhite, Deyoun Johnson, Jazlyn Jones, Briyonna Jones, Jonathan Pope, and Juan Rojelio (not pictured).

The program began with a welcome and introduction from TRiO SLAC president, Wanda Lyons (bottom left).

All in attendance were captivated and inspired by Dr. Alicia Brunson (top right), assistant professor of Sociology & Anthropology, who delivered the keynote address.

#TRIOWORKS

Congratulations to those who advanced in their health science program of study.

Radiological Sciences
Tarleshia Jean Pierre
Johnny Summer
Timmy Askew

Nursing
Kristoma Sturdivant
Glenda Miller
Natoria Jones

Respiratory Therapy
Pictured in the White Coat Ceremony: Kaycia Fennell, Essence Flakes, and Monica Ellis.

Not pictured, but are also in the program are Benjamin Giraud, and Shinice Pace.

Spring 2019 Admission Includes:
Monique Harris, Nursing

Did you know TRiO has?
• A textbook library!
• Loaner calculators!
• Loaner laptops!
• A study lounge!

Exclusively for TRiO Scholars!

SPRING 2019 Calendar Highlights
• Mandatory TRiO Awards Brunch, Saturday, April 27
• Solicitation for new SLAC members begins in March
• TRiO Day Habitat for Humanity Service, Sat., March 30
• TRiO Service Learning in Puerto Rico, May 11-17
• Last Day to Withdraw w/o Penalty, Mon., March 11
• MLK Holiday, Monday, January 21
• Spring Break, March 18-22
• MLK Freedom Gala, Saturday, March 23
• Last Day of Classes, Friday, May 3

Director's Corner

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