TRiO Magazine

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The History of TRiO Programs

The history of TRiO is progressive. It began with Upward Bound, which emerged out of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 in response to the administration’s War on Poverty.

In 1965, Talent Search, the second outreach program, was created as part of the Higher Education Act. In 1968, Student Support Services, which was originally known as Special Services for Disadvantaged Students, was authorized by the Higher Education Amendments and became the third in a series of educational opportunity programs. By the late 1960s, the term “TRiO” was coined to describe these federal programs.

Over the years, the TRiO Programs have been expanded and improved to provide a wider range of services and to reach more students who need assistance.

- In 1972, the Higher Education Amendments added to the TRiO group authorizing the Training Program for Federal TRiO Programs, initially known as the Training Program for Special Programs Staff and Leadership Personnel.
- In 1986, the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement program was added.
- In 1990, the administration created the Upward Bound Math/Science Program to address the need for specific instruction in the fields of math and science.

Celebrating National TRiO Day

National TRiO Day is set aside to celebrate the many opportunities that TRiO programs provide for first-generation, low-income and/or disabled college students around the country. According to the U.S. Department of Education, TRiO programs serve nearly 1 million students nationally. This year’s TRiO celebration will be hosted by Kaskaskia College in Centralia on Saturday, February 23rd from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This one-day conference will be filled with motivational speakers, dynamic workshop sessions and a plethora of opportunities to network with peers.

“As we look into the next century, leaders will be those who empower others.”

-Bill Gates-
Purpose. Project Upward Bound is an educational assistance program funded by the U.S. Department of Education. It is designed to assist qualifying high school students in developing the skills and motivation necessary for successful completion of post-secondary education or training. Services are provided to participants during the regular school year (academic year program) and during six weeks in the summer (summer program). A special college preparatory program (the Bridge Program) is also offered for Upward Bound seniors who have graduated and plan to attend SIUC.

Academic Year Program. During the academic year, enrichment workshops and counseling services are provided. Participation in Saturday workshops on the SIU campus allows the students to receive specialized instruction in English, mathematics, science, and study skills. Students are also involved in career, personal, and social developmental activities, as well as attending selected events. The Upward Bound staff makes regular visits to target schools to monitor student progress, provide academic and personal counseling, and provide information on various educational opportunities and facilities. Staff can also assist students with filling out financial aid forms for post-secondary education.

Summer/Bridge Program. This program is for selected Upward Bound seniors who have graduated from high school and plan on attending SIU. These students are selected on the basis of their high school grade point average and previous program participation. The total number of students participating in the Bridge Program is dependent upon the availability of funds. During the summer residential program, these students take regular University courses. The Bridge Program is designed to aid students in making a successful transition from high school to college. Course selection is supervised by the Upward Bound staff in an effort to ensure an academic challenge, improve students’ knowledge and skills, and ensure successful completion of the courses.
Alexxus Blake is a junior at Meridian High School. She has a 3.75 GPA, ranks number one in her class, and plans to attend Tennessee State University. Alexxus believes, “Upward Bound is an excellent program for young adolescent children. It keeps me focused on how important it is to get good grades and helps me to prepare for college.”

Diamond Dyson is a junior at Carbondale Community High School. She is an honor roll student, plays basketball and math is her favorite subject. Diamond loves to shop and hang out with her family and friends. She also enjoys taking care of people, writing fictional stories, and drawing. Diamond’s career aspirations are to become an Accountant and Fashion Designer. Diamond plans to follow her mother to Southern Illinois University Carbondale, after graduation.

Joshua Hughlett is a junior at Carbondale Community High School. He enjoys school and this is his first full year in the Upward Bound Program. Upward Bound “has taught me to be a leader and more responsible student.” He is on the Varsity Bowling Team, honor roll and was ranked in the top 10% his freshman year. Joshua wants to be a Sports Broadcaster or Sports Agent.

Shatoyria Jangjirawat is a senior at Cairo High School. She ranks first in her senior class. Her activities include cheerleading, softball, Beta Club, Scholar Bowl and she is a member of the National Honor Society. Shatoyria enjoys trying new foods, spending time with her family, especially her three siblings, and traveling. Shatoyria has been accepted to Southern Illinois University and will be attending Fall 2013.

Tabareya Lee is a sophomore at Murphysboro High School. She is an honor roll student and plans to attend Jackson State University. She believes “Project Upward Bound has helped me prepare for my future. It is a really good program!” Tabareya aspires to be a Registered Nurse.

Maria Pedraza is a junior at Carbondale Community High School. “Upward Bound gives me the privilege of getting ready for college and becoming a better educator.” Maria wants to be a Surgeon and Marine Biologist. She is a hard worker and credits her mom as her inspiration to succeed. Maria wants to attend Southern Illinois University Carbondale, where her mom is currently a student.

Jayden Hollis is a freshman at Cairo High School. He loves being active and his favorite hobby is playing sports. He is the oldest of three siblings. Jayden enjoys school and is especially proud of his 3.7 GPA.
**Student Support Services**

**Program Mission**

The mission of the Student Support Services (SSS) program at Southern Illinois University is to meet the educational, social and personal needs of a diverse student population and to maximize their full academic potential. The SSS program seeks to solve social, economic and educational problems of first-generation, income eligible and students with disabilities by providing group and individual support services. The purpose of the program is to increase graduation and retention rates among the population served.

**Benefits of SSS**

- Tutoring
- Pre-Academic Advising
- Cultural Enrichment
- Registered Student Organization
- Social Networking
- Financial Aid Assistance
- Mentoring
- Financial and Economic Literacy Workshops
- Academic Goal Setting
- Study Skills Workshops
  * Time Management
  * Note Taking
  * Improving Study Habits (etc.)
- On Site FREE Printing and Computer Usage
- Laptop Borrowing Program
- Career Exploration
- On Site Study Lounge

**Contact Us**

Student Support Services
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**Student Highlights**

**Name: Marvin Dixon**
Major: Speech Communication
Describe the influence TRiO has had on you during college: “The TRiO Program has influenced me to develop myself into the best man that I can be for my future by allowing me access to resources and programs that I may have never known about. TRiO allows me to focus on what I want to be in college and helped me to map out a plan of action to reach my success.”

**Name: John Gund**
Major: English
Describe the influence TRiO has had on you during college: “I have been a proud member of TRiO for most of my college experience. Through TRiO I have received guidance, support, and resources that were pivotal to my success in college. Through providing scholarships and books, tutoring, and the encouragement and advice from amazing staff I have been able to tackle college with more confidence that I would not have had if I did it on my own.”

**Name: Kenea Lee**
Major: Business Management specializing in Entrepreneurship
Describe the influence TRiO has had on you during college: “TRiO Programs have taught me a lot, from how to communicate better to becoming more involved with things on campus. They have also taught me not only to be encouraged, but the importance of encouraging others as well.”

**Name: Spencer Tribble**
Major: Agribusiness with a concentration in Management & Finance
Describe the influence TRiO has had on you during college: “TRiO has served as my home away from home. TRiO provides me with the necessary support, mentorships, and tools of development to help me become an academic scholar, student leader, mentor and most of all a young man.”
Tambra Pendleton received a B.S. in Early Childhood Education then completed a M.S. Ed. in Early Childhood Education Curriculum and Instruction. Tambra is now a Youth Services Scholar and Skills Mentor at West Town Academy Alternative High School. She is also the CEO and President of her foundation Envy My Kicks, Inc. Tambra’s advice to other TRiO students is “always remember the journey will not be easy, but you can accomplish anything you put your mind to. TRiO will support you in any way you will allow them to.” She believes success is defined by your foundation and concludes if you have a weak foundation nothing can stand on it, but if you take your time and lay each layer with passion, purpose and vision, your success will be seen in the product.

Marcus Brown graduated in May 2012 with a B.S. in Social Work. He is currently a Positive Youth Development Coach and graduate student at Washington University St. Louis studying Social Work with a concentration in Mental Health and Children, Youth and Families. He is a member of the Society of Black Social Workers (SBSSW). Marcus’ advice to current TRiO students is “when in doubt or in need of a second opinion consult with the TRiO staff; attend professional development workshops and conferences; get involved and take leadership roles; engage with your program counselor regularly; and adhere to your educational plan with a serious sense of purpose.” His definition of success is seeing a goal, understanding the obstacles, clearing the mind of doubt, staying on track and showing the world that it can be done!

Shetara Cokley completed a B.S. in Early Childhood Education and a M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction: Reading and Language Studies. Shetara is a second grade teacher at Thomas Elementary School here in Southern Illinois. She is a member of the Illinois Education Association (IEA) and Carbondale Education Association (CEA). Shetara exclaimed that TRiO Programs, specifically mentors and advisors, were encouraging and supportive throughout her college experience. She encourages current TRiO students to have faith, stay focused, establish positive and meaningful relationships with teachers, colleagues and community members, and take advantage of provided resources. Shetara’s definition of success is “continuing to strive toward accomplishing your goals and if you fail, continue and try again.”

Sonya Clark earned her B.A. in Political Science in May 2011. She is presently a graduate assistant in the Education Outreach department in housing at SIU and pursuing her MSW. Sonya believes TRiO programs had a tremendous impact on her during college years. She was provided with many resources that developed life skills, provided career information, and study tips. She also enjoyed connecting with many students and staff members from other universities. Her advice to current TRiO students is “never be afraid to ask questions, take advantage of all resources and make the most of your college experience because it is only what you make it.” Sonya concludes being confident in who you are as an individual and constantly striving to become a better you is what success means.
McNair Scholars Program

History
The McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program is a comprehensive program structured to prepare undergraduates for successful careers as graduate students, professors, and professional researchers. The program is funded by the U.S. Department of Education and is part of the educational opportunity programs collectively known as TRiO Programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965. The McNair Scholars Program is named in honor of Ronald E. McNair, Ph.D., who died aboard the Challenger space shuttle in January 1986. Since 2003, the SIU McNair Scholars Program has served 116 students with 104 students or 90% obtaining a bachelor’s degree and 40 alumni earning master’s degrees. Currently 15 students are enrolled in doctoral programs with 22 students pursuing master’s degrees. This year, Dr. Sydney Dillard and Dr. Cortez McBerry became our first alumni to earn their doctoral degrees. We are excited to offer enriching educational experience for students that helps them to excel as undergraduates, succeed in graduate school, and ultimately enter faculty positions in our nation’s colleges and universities.

Benefits of McNair
- Individualized academic and personal support
- Stipend for Summer Undergraduate Research
- Assistance applying to graduate schools
- Access to academic coaching/ tutoring
- Research conference presentations
- Graduate school visitations
- Cultural enrichment activities
- Financial literacy workshops
- GRE preparation
- Mentoring
- Access to the McNair study room
- Professional development workshops: Graduate School Admissions, Grad School Culture & Expectations, Networking, Goal Setting, Mentoring

To apply, interested students should be 1) sophomores or juniors with at least a 2.7 G.P.A. 2) be a first-generation college student or be a member of a group underrepresented in graduate education 3) be a U.S. citizen or permanent resident and 4) have a desire to enroll in graduate school after earning a bachelor’s degree. McNair Scholars have a prestigious reputation for the research they produce and their tremendous academic and personal accomplishments.

Contact Us:
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PhD Pipeline

**DR. SYDNEY DILLARD**  |  B.A. Journalism, 2006
Assistant Professor, Public Relations and Advertising
DePaul University
PhD in Communication, Purdue University, 2012
M.A. Media Theory, SIU Carbondale, 2008

**DR. CORTEZ MCBERRY**  |  B.S. Microbiology, 2005
PhD in Immunobiology, University of Cincinnati, 2012
M.S. Microbiology, SIU Carbondale, 2007

**ELOM AMUZU**  |  B.A. Psychology, 2012
PhD in Psychology, SIU Carbondale

**TESHA DOZIER-ROBINSON**  |  B.A. Psychology, 2007
PhD in Leadership in Ed. Administration, Capella University
M.S. Social Work, Saint Louis University, 2009

**KIMBERLY ELSENBROEK**  |  B.S. Plant Biology, 2012
PhD in Evolution, Ecology & Bio. Sciences, Indiana University

**VANESSA ENRIQUEZ**  |  B.A. Zoology, 2007
PhD in Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Colorado

**DANIELLE ESTES**  |  B.A. Sociology and Geography, 2006
PhD in Sociology, SIU Carbondale
M.A. Sociology, SIU Carbondale, 2008

**KANDACE FISHER**  |  B.S. Interior Design, 2005
PhD in Envir. and Behavior Studies, Univ. of Missouri
M.A. Design Studies, Univ. of Wisconsin, 2008

**KRISTELLE JEAN-MICHEL**  |  B.A. Psychology, 2008
PhD in Counseling Psych., Western Michigan University
M.A. Counseling Psych., Western Michigan University, 2010

**MICHAEL-ANN JOHNSON**  |  B.A. History, 2008
PhD in History, SIU Carbondale
M.A. History, SIU Carbondale, 2010

**TAMARA KANG**  |  B.A. Psychology, 2011
PhD in Psychology, Univ. of Texas El Paso

**RENEE LOPEZ-SMITH**  |  B.S. Plant Biology, 2004
PhD in Plant Biology, SIU Carbondale
M.A. Plant Biology, SIU Carbondale, 2008

**CHARITY LOVE**  |  B.S. Chemistry, 2009
PhD in Analytical Chemistry, Purdue University

**AMANDA OSBORN**  |  B.A. Psychology, 2011
PhD in Clinical Psychology, Illinois Institute of Technology

**ANGELA OWusu**  |  B.S. Physiology, 2009
PhD in Physiology, Penn State University

**KRISHNA PATTISAPU**  |  B.A. Speech Communication, 2008
PhD in Communication Studies, University of Denver
M.A. Speech Communication, SIU Carbondale, 2008

**ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ**  |  B.A. Political Science, 2007
PhD in Political Science, University of Maryland
M.A. Political Science, SIU Carbondale, 2009