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HISTORY OF TRiO PROGRAMS

(Adopted from TRiO History Page on www.coenet.us)

Where Did TRiO Originate?
The TRiO programs were the first national college access and retention programs to address the serious social and cultural barriers to education in America. TRiO began as part of President Lyndon B. Johnson’s War on Poverty. The Educational Opportunity Act of 1964 established an experimental program known as Upward Bound. Then, in 1965, the Higher Education Act created Talent Search. Finally, another program, Special Services for Disadvantaged Students (later known as Student Support Services), was launched in 1968. Together, this “trio” of federally funded programs encouraged access to higher education for low-income students. Soon the original three programs would grow to nine, adding Educational Opportunity Centers and Veterans Upward Bound in 1972, Training Program for Federal TRiO programs in 1976, the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program in 1986, Upward Bound Math/Science in 1990, and the TRiO Dissemination Partnership in 1998.

Who Is Served?
As mandated by Congress, two-thirds of the students served must come from families with incomes at 150 percent or less of the federal poverty level and in which neither parent graduated from college. More than 2,800 TRiO projects serve close to 790,000 low-income Americans. Many programs serve students in grades six through 12. Nationally, of the TRiO students served, 35 percent are white, 35 percent are African-American, 19 percent are Hispanic, 4 percent are Native American, 3 percent are Asian-American, and 4 percent are listed as “other,” including multiracial students. More than 7,000 students with disabilities and about 6,000 U.S. veterans are enrolled in the TRiO programs as well.

Why Are TRiO Programs Important?
The United States needs to boost its academic and economic competitiveness globally. To foster and maintain a healthy economy, as well as compete globally, the United States needs a strong, highly educated and competent workforce. To be on par with other nations, the country needs students, no matter their background, who are academically prepared and motivated to achieve success.

Low-income students are being left behind. Only 38 percent of low-income high school seniors go straight to college, compared to 81 percent of their peers in the highest income quartile. Then, once enrolled in college, low-income students earn bachelor’s degrees at a rate that is less than half of that of their high-income peers — 21 percent versus 45 percent. There is a tremendous gap in educational attainment between America’s highest- and lowest-income students — despite similar talents and potential.

SIU CARBONDALE HOSTS THREE TRiO PROGRAMS: PROJECT UPWARD BOUND, STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES AND THE MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM. THE COMBINED TRiO PROGRAMS CONTRIBUTE MILLIONS OF DOLLARS OVER A FIVEYEAR GRANT CYCLE TO THE UNIVERSITY.


— MARY ANNE RADMACHER
BENEFITS

· Financial aid and college admission preparation.
· Academic enrichment.
· Post-secondary experiences.
· Workshops.
· Social/cultural/educational field trips.
· Year-round counseling and tutoring.
· Personal and study skills development.
· Six-week summer enrichment program.

ELIGIBILITY

Must meet one of these two criteria:
· First-generation college student (neither parent has a four-year degree).
· Meets federal income guidelines AND must attend one of the six schools served by the project.
“EVERY STUDENT NEEDS SOMEONE WHO SAYS SIMPLY, ‘YOU MEAN SOMETHING. YOU COUNT.’”  
—TONY KUSHNER

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS**

**Eric Lewis Jr.** is a student at Cairo Junior/Senior High School. He is a freshman with a 4.0 GPA, and he ranks first in his class. Lewis plans to attend Howard University after high school. His grandmother inspired him to become a doctor. Upward Bound is helping him to prepare for college and the real world.

**Malia Lester** attends Cairo High School. She has a 3.93 GPA and plans to become a youth correctional counselor. Project Upward Bound has helped Lester achieve her academic goals, and it has taught her why college is so important. Upward Bound helps Lester set goals and work toward completing them.

**Ann Lence** is 15 years old and a sophomore at Meridian High School. She looks forward to becoming an engineer and was inspired to pursue this career path after completing an engineering course. Upward Bound has shown her how the college lifestyle works, and it gives students the chance to see what college life will be about – and how they can be rewarded with a college tour at the end of the program.

**Samuel Smith** is a senior at Century High School. He has been a part of Upward Bound since his first year in high school. He enjoys participating in the science club, student council and basketball, and serves as president of the Beta Club. Smith is proud of being an Upward Bound student, because the program has compelled him to go to college to become a chief executive officer.
In 2015, Project Upward Bound at Southern Illinois University Carbondale participated in a five-day college tour that consisted of Meharry Medical School in Nashville, Tennessee; Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama; and Spelman College and Morehouse College in Atlanta. The students were also able to tour the Martin Luther King Jr. national historical site.

UPWARD BOUND’S SPOTLIGHT

Demetrius Green is a true TRiO achiever. He attends SIU Carbondale with a major in radio/TV and a minor in Africana studies. "TRiO has helped me grow more socially," he said. "Upward Bound encouraged me, Student Support Services helped me find myself, and McNair Scholars gave me confidence and helped me become academically aware." Over the summer, he won first place in a symposium focusing on black sitcoms and white fragility. He plans to get his master’s degree and wants to focus more on the media and its portrayal of African-Americans. His advice to Upward Bound students: “You may not think it's helping now, but years later you’ll look back and realize how much it has!”
STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

BENEFITS

- Academic counseling.
- Assistance with course selection.
- Financial aid assistance.
- Social and cultural enrichment.
- Free printing.
- Individualized tutoring.
- Workshops.

ELIGIBILITY

Must meet one of the following three criteria:
- First-generation college student (neither parent has a four-year degree),
- Meets federal income guidelines,
- College student with a disability.

“EDUCATION IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON WHICH YOU CAN USE TO CHANGE THE WORLD.”

– NELSON MANDELA
**CURRENT STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Brenda Krutsinger** is a senior majoring in special education and elementary education. She wants to become a professional school counselor. Krutsinger is the president of SCEC Student Council for Exceptional Children. TRiO has helped her greatly throughout college. Before she transferred to SIU, she had a TRiO counselor at Rend Lake College that made her transition to a four-year university and another TRiO program successful. Her TRiO counselor at SIU has given her applications to multiple scholarships and jobs. The resources provided by TRiO have also helped her financially. They include free printing, computer usage and textbook rentals. For current TRiO students, Krutsinger says, “Remember to use your resources, and take advantage of the free events and workshops offered.” She adds that success means achieving your goals. Some people think success is catching up to another person, but Krutsinger believes it is aiming for your own goals and attaining them.

**Travelle Stewart Jr.** is a senior majoring in information systems and technologies. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, Alpha Kappa Psi fraternity, Security Dawgs, Black Male Roundtable and National Society of Black Engineers. Stewart says TRiO has provided him with every resource needed to succeed, such as tutoring, networking, mentoring, textbook assistance, pre-academic advising and much more. Stewart says, “To be successful, don’t limit yourself. Know what you need to do to overcome any obstacle, set SMART goals, and make a way for yourself to succeed.”

**ALUMNI STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS**

**Marcus Brown** graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree in social work with a minor in psychology. He completed his master’s degree from Washington University in St. Louis. Brown is a licensed master social worker. He works as a psychiatric social worker for Barnes-Jewish Hospital in St. Louis. Brown is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity Inc., National Alliance of Social Workers’ education/professional development committee, and board of director member of Home Sweet Home. Brown says he believes TRiO had a tremendous impact during his college years and beyond. He says participation in the TRiO program was the most outstanding, rewarding and enriching experience of his undergraduate education. While he was striving to pursue educational or personal endeavors, TRiO staff assisted him in his journey to exceed his standards and expectations. TRiO staff provided guidance, motivation and inspiration to encourage and remind him of his capability to persevere through any obstacle. Brown’s experience in the TRiO program has reaffirmed his desire to pursue higher education and eventually attain a Ph.D.

**DeAndre Boston** is an outreach specialist for Family Centered Educational Agency in TRiO Upward Bound. Boston received his Bachelor of Science degree in marketing. He is a member of the TRiO Alumni Association, Toastmasters International and the American Marketing Association. He believes TRiO programs have had a huge influence in his life. He was a member of the Upward Bound program in high school, and later was a member of the Student Support Services program at SIU. Boston said TRiO exposed him to many different things, and if it were not for TRiO, he would not have persisted and graduated from college. Boston encourages TRiO students to become life learners, adding: “Don’t just let college be the only place you learn.” As for success, Boston credited his mentor with teaching him that success is not an accident, and that it does not just happen; it is made to happen.
**SALUKI SUMMER BRIDGE**

**Shatoyria Jangjirawat** is a junior majoring in accounting with a minor in marketing. Her career aspiration is to pass the CPA exam and work for a Big 4 accounting firm. She is a member of the National Association of Black Accountants, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc. and TRiO Student Support Services. The Saluki Summer Bridge program allowed Jangjirawat to meet new people, faculty and staff before her first semester at SIU. She encourages all other Saluki Summer Bridge participants to use all the available resources in the program, and to maintain connections across the campus.

**Jawuan Monroe** aspires to be a human resources marketing manager for the Sacramento Kings. He is majoring in sociology and is minoring in marketing, and he also is a member of the Black Male Roundtable. Monroe is a junior at SIU and is grateful for his Saluki Summer Bridge experience. He said he believes that success means making nonstop improvements to your life.

**Kelly Meloy** plans to work in higher education and residence life. She is a sophomore majoring in business management. Meloy is the co-chair of It’s On Us Student Task Force and the College of Business senator for Undergraduate Student Government. The Saluki Summer Bridge program has enhanced her learning and involvement at SIU. During the program, Meloy met friends, teachers and many mentors who helped her in being successful at the university today.

**Malika Ashford-Smith** is a freshman and hopes to be an electrical and computer engineer. She is majoring in electrical and computer engineering. Ashford-Smith defines success as “improvement you gain from failing or accomplishing a task.” She advises all Saluki Summer Bridge students to do their best when completing the program, and to get the full experience of college before going. Ashford-Smith is a member of the National Society of Black Engineers, Student Programming Council and Student Support Services.

**Rebecca Tompkins** is a freshman majoring in dental hygiene and plans to become a dental hygienist. The Saluki Summer Bridge program helped Tompkins work harder to achieve better grades, and to persevere to do well. Tompkins encourages Saluki Summer Bridge students to participate in the program “because it will help you feel confident and proud.” Tompkins is a member of Rock Wall Climbing and Student Support Services.

**Lynnesya Wilson** is a sophomore majoring in psychology with a minor in Spanish. She is the vice president of the Association of Black Psychologists Student Circle and an INROADS intern. Her career aspiration is to become the director of a girls community center. Saluki Summer Bridge gave Wilson a sense of belonging to the university, and it allowed her meet people and make friends she might have not met. This was very important to Wilson, who was an out-of-state student. She advises all Saluki Summer Bridge students to take advantage of being around mentors who are students at SIU. Learning of others’ mistakes and triumphs at the university is significant, Wilson said, and it can help others avoid pitfalls in their own academic paths.

The Saluki Summer Bridge program has helped these students transition to SIU, connect to campus resources such as the SSS program and have a great first semester.
MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM

BENEFITS

• Involvement in a prestigious national program.
• $2,800 stipend for conducting summer research during eight-week program.
• Assistance in preparing for GRE and graduate school.
• Support in finding financial aid, scholarships and fellowships.

ELIGIBILITY

• Must be a sophomore or junior with at least 2.7.
• Must have the desire to attain a Ph.D.
• Must be:
  - A first-generation college student with financial need,
  or
  - A member of a group historically underserved in higher education.

MCNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM
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Lateesha Baquet is a graduate student in the Rehabilitation Counseling program at SIU Carbondale. She holds a graduate assistantship in the SIU McNair Scholars Program Office, where she is involved with recruiting new students and social media. As an undergraduate, her accomplishments included completing an externship with the Robbins Community Help Agency Inc., volunteering for the Boys and Girls Club and serving as a member of the Black Women’s Task Force, Student Support Services and the Association of Black Psychologists. Baquet also served as a life skills therapist with Neuro-Restorative.

Gina Collori is a graduate student in the fast-track Master of Social Work program at Aurora University. She plans to become a licensed clinical social worker and focus her efforts on community enrichment, gang intervention and prevention, rehabilitation and youth development. While at SIU, her accomplishments included membership in the University Honors program and serving as a member of Alpha Lambda Delta Honors Society.

Jovan Gathings is pursuing a master’s degree in human resources and industrial relations at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He serves as a graduate assistant for the Office of Diversity and Social Justice Education, where he facilitates workshops and training related to diversity and social justice. This summer he will complete an internship with Amgen Pharmaceuticals in Los Angeles. While at SIU, he was a recipient of the SIU Carbondale Alumni Association Award, the dean’s list, the Paul Hibbs Award for Communication Studies, the Outstanding Senior Award and the Center for Inclusive Excellence-Men of the Year Award.

Kenyahtta Gray is a master’s student in the Communication Disorders and Sciences program at SIU Carbondale, where she holds a research assistantship in her department. As an undergraduate, she received the 2014-2015 REACH Award, served as a Saluki Peer Mentor and was a member of the National Black Association for Speech Language and Hearing.

Jasmine Jackson is pursuing a doctoral degree in the Counseling Psychology program at Howard University. She plans to pursue a career as a licensed counseling psychologist upon receiving her Ph.D. While at SIU, she served as president of the Association of Black Psychologist Student Circle and was on the Psychology 202 undergraduate panel. Also, she received the African-American Achievement Scholarship and was on the dean’s list multiple semesters.

Asia Lee is working on her Master of Business Administration with a focus in innovative marketing at SIU Carbondale. She holds an assistantship in the Office of University Communications and Marketing, where she is responsible for Web management and social media. As an undergraduate at SIU, she was a member of the University Honors program, the Sigma Alpha Lambda National Leadership Society and the Delta Epsilon Iota Honor’s Society.
ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Claudia Martinez was accepted to the University of California, Los Angeles, but has decided to take the year off from her studies. She plans to work for a library or museum to make art more accessible to the community. While at SIU, she served as a member of the Art History Association and the Museum Studies Club.

Siedah McNeil is an advanced-standing graduate student in the Master of Social Work program at the University of Kentucky, where she received the 2015-2016 McNair Scholars Fellowship. Her ultimate goal is to earn a Ph.D. and teach at the university or junior college level. While at SIU, she traveled abroad to the Republic of Kenya and Munich, Germany. She also participated in the Women’s Civics Institute and served on the Curriculum Committee for Social Work. After she graduates, she plans to work in an inter-professional health care setting and pursue her clinical license.

Erin Scott is enrolled in the Sports Management Master’s program at Northern Illinois University. Scott hopes to use her leadership skills and her love of sports to foster a career as an athletic director. While at SIU, she served as a member of the Student Athletic Advisory Committee (SAAC), the Saluki Women’s Track Team, the Women’s Intersport Network (WIN) and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Briana Shaw is taking a year off from her educational pursuits. She hopes to return to school to pursue a Master’s in Business Administration. She worked in the graduate admissions office and served as a member of Students Promoting Educational Advancement and Research (SPEAR), Blacks Interested in Business, Student Support Services and EMPAC. Shaw also served as a life skills therapist with Neuro-Restorative.

Jazma Sutton is a doctoral student in the history department at Indiana University in Bloomington. She plans to become a professor and teach courses on 20th-century American history. While at SIU, she was a member of the University Honors Program and the Delta Epsilon Iota Honors Society. She also received numerous scholarships, including the William A. Pitkin Memorial Success Scholarship, the History Alumni Award and the Emma Smith Hough Library Scholarship.

Jason Voyles was accepted to the Professional Science program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He plans to take a year off from his educational pursuits. His ultimate goal is to manage a commercially funded organic greenhouse. While at SIU, he served as a member of the Horticulture Club and received a project award from the Green Fund for a bicycle sustainability project.
12TH ANNUAL MCNAIR SUMMER SYMPOSIUM

TRUE COURAGE COMES FROM ENDURING ... PERSEVERING ... AND BELIEVING IN ONESELF.

– DR. RONALD E. MCNAIR

NEW SCHOLARS FALL 2015

Franchesca Alejo
Yahaira Heller-Vargas
Rudy Bacette
Trevor Keen
Izabella Bradford
Daniel Morales
Shayla Brown
Emily Peterson
Alexia Chew
Jorden Thomas
Baylen Earles
Keagan Tripp

Research Symposium. The exposure students received during the summer enhanced their skills as student-researchers. Luis Treviño-Pena, a junior majoring in philosophy, viewed the Summer Research Institute as an encouraging experience that reinforced his self-confidence and academic productivity. Working with his faculty mentor, Dr. Andrew Youpa, Treviño-Pena worked on a project that explored the “right-to-die argument associated with physician-assisted suicides.” “What I learned about myself was that I am capable of accomplishing a lot in a short period of time,” he said. “I learned how to deal with procrastination and to focus for long periods of time.” Magan Snowden, a senior majoring in psychology, also shared her insights about the summer experience. She said, “The SRI helped me realize that I am truly passionate about my success, as well as the individuals within my generation. The topic I chose was not only important, but interesting. This allowed me to dig deeper into my research project.” Working on a qualitative study titled “On the Quest to Become a Female MD: Perspectives from African-American Female Students,” Snowden said she learned a lot about time management, dedication and hard work. This fall, Snowden was awarded an undergraduate research assistantship from the Center of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities (CURCA) to continue to work on this project with her faculty mentor, Dr. Cynthia Sims.