



ASPIRATIONS

Official Newsletter of APSIRE, INC.

TRIO

January—April 2013

LEARNING TODAY, LEADING TOMORROW

ASPIRE 2013 • OCTOBER 5-9 2013 • HILTON • FORT COLLINS, CO



JOIN US FOR THE 2013 ASPIRE CONFERENCE IN FORT COLLINS, CO

WATCH OUR VIDEO AT:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WmlHBvIDxJI&feature=youtube_gdata_player



Message from the President

Greetings ASPIRE!

I hope the upcoming summer is looking bright for you. The board knows that many of you are gearing up for summer programs and Bridge programs. We would like to wish you well in your programs, and serving TRIO students!

This past spring has been a busy one for ASPIRE. The board was well represented at all state meetings by regional and state presidents, as well as COE national board members. It was a unique opportunity to attend all six state meetings within weeks of each other. Each state goes about their professional development a little different, but all were impressive, well organized events. The board would like to thank each of the states for their hospitality.

As of early June, ASPIRE leads the nation in Fair Share. At the beginning of this year, the Development Committee, led by Carol Gritts, Rachel Martinez, and Dan Benge made it their goal to achieve and exceed the Fair Share goal set by COE. The board would like to thank the Development Committee, state leaders, and all state members for reaching and exceeding this goal. The board would also like to congratulate South Dakota and Utah for successfully reaching the "100% and Nothing Less" goal for Regional Project Memberships. Thank you for your support of our region! If you have not renewed your COE Institutional or ASPIRE Regional Project Membership, please contact your state president today.

The board continues to work with Colorado ASPIRE in preparation for the ASPIRE Regional Conference in Ft. Collins this October. Colorado ASPIRE has worked hard to organize a strong professional development opportunity for the region, so please plan to attend October 6th-9th! Thank you Colorado ASPIRE for all the work you have done!

The board would like to recognize the work of Tina Ludens from South Dakota. Tina has served two years as State President of South Dakota. In that time, Tina has continued the long history of strong leadership from South Dakota. Tina has accepted the position of Associate Registrar/Digital Learning Support Specialist at DWU. We want to wish Tina all the best as she starts this new phase of her career!

Finally, I would encourage you, if you have questions or see potential areas of growth for ASPIRE, please come and speak with me or other board members.

Derek Sporbert

2013 ASPIRE Conference News



2nd Call for Proposals

May 28, 2013

Dear TRIO Colleagues,

The ASPIRE Regional Conference is scheduled for October 5-9, 2013 in Fort Collins, CO at the Hilton Fort Collins. You are invited to share your expertise with your colleagues. This is a great opportunity to highlight successful practices within each of your respective programs. With the conference theme, the proposal presentations should relate to the conference theme of Learning Today, Leading Tomorrow, addressing some of the following tracks:

- Promising Practices (e.g., Financial Literacy and Financial Aid, Transfer, Remediation, Post Secondary Persistence/Graduation, Career Advising, Mental Health, Testing, Pre-collegiate Rigorous Curriculum, Adult Basic Education, Incorporating Social Justice into Programming)
- Partnerships (e.g., Resource Development through National, State, Institutional, Community, and International partnerships)
- Policy (e.g., State Education Policy and Legislation, Advocacy, Institutional Policy)
- Professional and Personal Development (e.g., Alumni, Retirees, Work Life Balance, Becoming a Better Supervisor)
- Special Populations (e.g., Disabilities, ESL, Non-Traditional, Undocumented, Veterans, Disconnected Youth [Homeless and Foster Care], and Indigenous Populations)
- Newcomers (TRIO History, Legislation-Regulations).

2nd Call for Proposals - Due by June 14, 2013

ASPIRE 2013 Conference Program Committee:
Khara O'Connell, Henry Ornelas, Andrea Reeve



Call for Proposals

Presentation Title: _____

(Please submit a separate form for each workshop you would like to present.)

Presenter Information (main contact)

Co-Presenter (if applicable, include any additional on separate page)

Name: _____

Name: _____

Job Title: _____

Job Title: _____

Program Affiliation: _____

Program Affiliation: _____

Institution/Agency: _____

Institution/Agency: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Email: _____

Target Audience (check all that apply):

- ☐ Pre-college ☐ College ☐ Adult ☐ Personal Development ☐ Professional Development
☐ TS ☐ UB ☐ UB/Math Science ☐ VUB ☐ EOC ☐ SSS ☐ McNair

Preferred Room Set-up:

- ☐ Classroom ☐ Theatre ☐ Other _____

Equipment Needs (check all that apply):

- ☐ Screen ☐ LCD Projector ☐ TV/DVD/VCR ☐ Power Cord ☐ Internet Access
☐ Other _____

Presentation Description

On a separate page, please provide the following information:

- Full description of presentation, including intended outcome for attendees, theoretical framework if applicable, presentation format (lecture, roundtable, interactive, forum, panel, etc.)
- Short biography of presenter(s), including interest in the topic and past accomplishments related to presentation
- Abstract providing a brief overview of the session (50 word limit)

Submit Electronically by June 14, 2013 to Khara.O'Connell@ccd.edu:

For questions call Khara at:
Educational Opportunity Center
Community College of Denver
Phone: (303) 629-9226



ASPIRE Members,

As you know, the Regional ASPIRE Conference will be held in Fort Collins, CO and we want this year's conference to be one to remember! We are in need of items for the silent auction. A basket full of "made in (insert your State name here)" products would be a great way to display your state and support ASPIRE. Do you have a personal connection to a business or organization that would be willing to donate an item or make a financial donation? So all you creative thinkers out there, do you have an eye-catching item you would donate? Show off your state at the Regional ASPIRE Conference. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us!

Sincerely,

ASPIRE Conference Silent Auction Committee

Tina Plascencia
Educational Opportunity Center, Colorado State University
tina.plascencia@colostate.edu

Vicki Slaton
The Access Center, Colorado State University
vicki.slaton@colostate.edu

Areli Ulloa
Educational Talent Search, Colorado State University
areli.ulloa@colostate.edu



Silent Auction



Please start collecting your items to bring to the
Regional ASPIRE Conference in Fort Collins, CO.
SEE YOU THERE!

News from Colorado

University of Colorado Boulder Student Support Services Program

AESSS Congratulates! 2012–2013 Student of the Year: Kaylee Ortega



The Latin American
Educational Foundation
is honored to introduce
and welcome

Kaylee Ortega

as our 2012-2013
**Lola A. Salazar
Student of the Year.**



Kaylee is currently a freshman in the Academic Excellence Student Support Services, TRIO program at the University of Colorado Boulder who is currently majoring in Integrative Physiology. She is a graduate of Abraham Lincoln High School in Denver where she was a member of the Arapahoe Community College Talent Search program. Kaylee began college with aspirations to excel in her studies and become the first doctor in her family but is now considering a career in education, perhaps as a TRIO Director. "Culture and a thirst for knowledge have been the two most important values taught to me," says Kaylee. "And, not only has it been the root of many of my goals, but it is now the key to my success."

Kaylee was in competition with over 100 other students to win this award. She will be publicly recognized for her achievement at the LAEF Annual Gala "***Cambiando Vidas, Changing Lives***" on Saturday, March 16, 2013. AESSS staff and scholars congratulate Kaylee and wish her continued success!

Submitted by Debra Naranjo, Assistant Director, Academic Excellence Student Support Services



Colorado Mountain College Student Support Services Program - Timberline Campus

Submitted by Christine Londos, Coordinator, TRIO SSS/Success Center

Annual Global Issues Seminar: Community, College, and TRIO Collaboration

For about the past dozen years, to celebrate Earth Day, Success Center/SSS at Colorado Mountain College Timberline (Leadville and Chaffee counties), has organized a Global Issues Seminar. Open to the community as well as, of course, students, faculty, and staff of the campus, the seminar is an opportunity for presenters to share their passions, interests, and concerns. Initially, the focus was on environmental issues such as the use of hydrogen and nuclear power, the presence of hormone imposters/disruptors, and the impact of extraction of natural resources. Throughout the years, the emphasis has broadened to encompass cultural and sociopolitical topics including empowerment of youth to take action toward sustainability;



Kent Clement, CMC Faculty



Ian Potter, TRIO SSS Student

privilege, migration and hunger; the feminization of poverty; and threatened cultural heritages. This year we were delighted to introduce two student presenters, one a Success Center participant. The seminar is taped and aired on our local television channel. Working with Student Affairs, physical plant, faculty, food service and community entities, the Global Issues Seminar has proven to be a valuable collaborative endeavor, highlighting the work of TRIO/SSS and engaging both community and students in a dialogue about the environment; increasing awareness of global concerns while also providing strategies to effect positive change.



Rod Zeman, CMC Student



Kent Clement, CMC Faculty

Colorado State University Academic Advancement Center (TRIO SSS)

Reeve Awarded Cynthia Gayles Award

May 16, 2013

Source: Today @ Colorado State, Colorado State University Publication

<http://www.today.colostate.edu/story.aspx?id=8709>

Andrea Reeve, Director of the Academic Advancement Center - TRIO Student Support Services, recently was honored with the College in Colorado Cynthia Gayles Memorial Award for lifetime service promoting college access and success. The award was presented during the College in Colorado annual pre-collegiate conference this March in Denver, Colo.

Presented annually in memory of Cynthia Gayles, a highly respected admissions advocate who dedicated her work recruiting students -- especially underrepresented students -- to Colorado colleges, the award is presented to an individual who has made significant contributions to the pre-collegiate movement and provides students with the resources to access and successfully complete postsecondary education.



Advancing Educational Opportunity

Reeve's career has been dedicated to improving educational access and opportunity for underserved students. From the beginning of her career as a middle school teacher in a low-income school in rural Kentucky in the 1960's, Reeve has worked to promote educational opportunities for lower income, first-generation and underrepresented students. From 1970-1976, she taught middle school and high school students in very rural areas of Alaska, including a four-teacher school located on the Bering Sea Coast.

Reeve worked with pre-collegiate preparation programs in the 1980's as coordinator of the TRIO Upward Bound and Talent Search programs at the University of Wyoming and directed the Student Educational Opportunity and TRIO Student Support Services learning center. As staff of the UW Center for Teaching Excellence, Reeve also coordinated more than 80 sections of university studies for first-year program seminars.

In 1997, she moved to Washington, D.C. with an opportunity to implement the pilot program, TRIO National Clearinghouse, funded by the U.S. Department of Education and housed at the Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, Council for Opportunity in Education. In 2000, she added the national Pathways to College Network Clearinghouse. Reeve represented COE on the Pathways to College Network Consortium that included the Daniels Fund, Knowledge Works, WICHE, SHEEO, ECS, Lumina Foundation and other organizations and foundations collaborating around pre-collegiate preparation for underserved students. She also participated on the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher Education Board of Directors and was on the subcommittee that wrote professional standards for TRIO and other



educational opportunity programs in 1999.

Since 2005, she has directed the Academic Advancement Center, a TRIO Student Support Services program in CSU's Division of Student Affairs that facilitates student success through additional academic and other support to low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities. She also teaches in the Student Affairs in Higher Education master's program where she co-teaches a course on access and opportunity.

Understanding the impact of educational policy and the need for national advocacy for low-income and first-generation students, Reeve served in various leadership roles in the TRIO state, regional and national professional associations, including three years as ASPIRE regional association president and as member and treasurer of the COE Board of Directors. She continues to work with TRIO colleagues to collaborate and increase partnerships around college access completion with the Colorado State Department of Higher Education and the Colorado Department of Education. At CSU, she served on various student retention-success and transition committees and most recently, was appointed as a senior teaching fellow with The Institute for Teaching and Learning.

Previous CSU Recipients

Paul Thayer, associate vice president for Student Affairs and special advisor to the Provost for Student Success, received the award in 2009.

Denver Metro TRIO Programs Celebrate National TRIO Day

Recently, the Denver Metropolitan Area TRIO Programs (Arapahoe Community College, Community College of Denver, Denver Scholarship Foundation, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and the University of Colorado Denver) celebrated National TRIO Day on February 21, 2013. The theme of the celebration was "TRIO Works - Renewing Our Commitment to Educational Opportunity." Over 150 people attended the National TRIO Day event hosted by the Denver Metro area TRIO programs including:



TRIO Achievers:

Samantha Miles, Student Support Services, University of Colorado at Denver

Ezana Alem, Educational Talent Search, Arapahoe Community College

Friend of TRIO Award:

Gully Stanford, Director of Partnerships, College in Colorado



Keynote Speaker:

Dr. Nate Easley, Executive Director, Denver Scholarship Foundation

Congressional Representatives and Aides:

Melissa Mares, Constituent Services Advocate, U.S. Senator Mark Udall

Rosemary Rodriguez, State Director, U.S. Senator Michael Bennet

Hannah Mullen, Constituent Services Representative, Office of Congressman Ed Perlmutter

Jeremy Rodriguez, Intern, Office of Congressman Ed Perlmutter

Office of Mayor Michael Hancock:

Terry Bower, Director of the Denver Educational Compact

National Anthem:

Esmerlda Valdez, Upward Bound, University of Colorado at Denver

Master of Ceremonies:

Paulette McIntosh, Upward Bound Director, Metropolitan State University of Denver

TRIO students were interviewed during the celebration. We had one television story that ran on “KCEC Noticias Univision Colorado,” a local Spanish television network.

The transcript is available at <http://mms.tveyes.com/PlaybackPortal.aspx?SavedEditID=45c4cf17-27dc-4c00-8df2-57ee183b5868>.

In addition to the television story, the CU Denver Newsroom released a story titled, “TRIO supporters celebrate and rally for student service programs,” on 2/26/13.

Press release is available at <http://www.ucdenver.edu/about/newsroom/newsreleases/Pages/TRIO-supporters-celebrate-and-rally-for-student-services-programs.aspx>



Guests at the Denver Metro
National Day Celebration



Rosemary Rodriguez, State Director,
U.S. Senator Michael Bennet



Community College of Denver

National TRIO Day: Educational Opportunity as Justice

Submitted by Troy Abfalter, Program Coordinator and Educational Case Manager

TRIO SSS, Community College of Denver

On February 22, the sun shone, the earth spun, and Denver-area students told amazing stories of educational opportunity as a part of National TRIO Day. As I sat in my chair on the Auraria Campus and listened contently, all seemed right with the world. There are many reasons why I feel privileged to work with TRIO students at Community College of Denver. Moments such as TRIO Day or graduation or a student rescuing a failing grade allow me a part of their success, a feeling that how I choose to spend my days makes a difference in the lives of the individuals and communities surrounding me.



Yet, as I sat there, I sensed something more, something deeper, something beyond my role in things.

Justice: what it is depends on who you ask. I have considered Plato; I have googled Rawls; I have read of it rolling down like waters in an ever-flowing stream; and it is the best word I can come up with to describe what was before me on TRIO Day, producing alpenglow on my soul.

Justice, to me, is the freedom to become who we are.

There is much in this world working against justice: poverty, exploitation, greed, conformity, anthropocentrism. These shackle the potential of the kid down the street who has no mentors, the teenager being bullied because of his sexual orientation, the forest on the mountain slope being strip mined. The arc of history is long, they say, yet it bends toward justice. As a society and as individuals, we progress - in fits and stops - toward ways of relating more in harmony with the rights of the other to become. The universe, it seems, evolves in creative and beautiful struggle.

There are the days, the moments, when justice takes shape before us, resolute. The day that the sun shines, the earth spins, and the student, regardless of the circumstances of her life, has equal opportunity to become who she is. As TRIO professionals, we are the vanguard forging the path of justice for individuals seeking educational opportunity. And as I listened contently, I could do little but smile - to have such a privilege, to witness the ever-flowing stream.



Community College of Denver, Project Success (TRIO SSS)

Student Success Story

Schyler Kline, Project Success student received an award from the State Student Advisory Council. Each year the State Student Advisory Council (SSAC) offers leadership awards to community college students who exhibit a high level of leadership and involvement in student activities. Schyler was recognized as a Rising Star at the SSAC Spring Luncheon. Schyler has graduated from Pueblo Community College and will transfer to either to University of Northern Colorado or Colorado State University-Pueblo for the 2013 fall semester.

In 2010, Schyler moved away from his home in Texas by himself. His parents were not thrilled so they refused to provide their income information. This alone made Schyler ineligible for financial aid. His only option was to take an unsubsidized loan to pay his out-of-state tuition. Because of this, he only took six credits at first. After a year, Schyler was classified as in state so he was able to afford to take more classes, although he still was not eligible for grants. He was only eligible for unsubsidized loans even though he had no financial assistance from his parents.

When Schyler arrived at PCC, he searched the website looking for a support program and found TRIO Project Success program. Then he applied to be a New Student Orientation (NSO) Leader in the spring of 2011. He wanted to give new students the opportunities that were given to him when he began his journey at Pueblo Community College. Schyler says, "The most rewarding aspect about being a leader is that people remember you; they come to you when they need something and you have the opportunity to serve them. Students that I led in NSO still come to me occasionally for help. Leadership is about growing you not to mention helping to grow others; it is about putting others before yourself." New Student Orientation led Schyler to become involved in Student Activities Board. In the fall of 2012, he became involved in the Associated Student Government as Clubs Officer, where he learned as a leader that establishing relationships and making connections are crucial for personal growth and advancement. Another activity he participated in on campus was AmeriCorps for one year where he dedicated nine hundred hours of community service, something he believes aided in his growth in becoming a strong servant leader. Schyler says leadership grows people, it defines them, and it certainly has helped me become a better person." Schyler has been accepted by the University of Northern Colorado where he plans to study earth science and geology.

Welcome New Project Success Staff

Kimberly Hinkle – Program Specialist

Andrea Martinez – Transfer Advisor

Submitted by Jamie Manzanares, Director, Project Success

Colorado Mesa University Student Support Services Program

End of the Year Celebration

2012-2013 has been a busy and exciting year for us at CMU! We have had many new participants join our program this year, and along with all of our returning students, have had great success helping them finish up the year successfully. We have also had the opportunity to enjoy many cultural enrichment activities, as well as academic and career seminars on campus.

Due to all the success of our TRIO program this year, we decided to end with a celebration! Our end-of-the-year banquet was an opportunity to celebrate the hard work of all of our participants, as well as a chance to recognize all of our graduating seniors. We have fourteen graduating TRIO participants, plus three from our Tutor/Mentor program. Our banquet featured a keynote speaker, Sally Schaefer, who is a prominent member of the Grand Junction community and has held many notable positions, several of which were in the non-profit sector. As such, her speech focused on the importance of education and leadership. Her presentation was full of inspiration, humor and insightful wisdom. Our TRIO participants most definitely got a lot out of her message! Also in attendance was Steve Werman, the Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, along with several other members of CMU's administration. This celebration was a great way to let our participants know we are proud of their hard work and dedication. We are looking forward to another successful year at CMU!

Submitted by Melissa Calhoon, Director, TRIO Student Support Services



Because of TRIO...I know all of my resources and I am successful!



Because of TRIO...I've gained support & met some amazing faces that are forever in my heart!

News from South Dakota

ASPIRE South Dakota

SDSU hosts the State's TRiO conference for the first time!

In early April, TRiO professionals gathered for the annual SD ASPIRE conference. This is the first year that Brookings has ever hosted the conference and the attendees were impressed with what we had to offer. The conference took place in the Hobo Day Gallery in the Union, where we enjoyed sharing a little bit of SDSU history, as well as ice-cream. The conference was filled with presentations by SDSU and Brookings professionals. Topics ranged from student leadership, careers and diversity, to learning about the Autism Spectrum and teaching others about TRiO programs. Although the weather encouraged some professionals to leave early and others to stay a few extra days, we all left the conference reassured of the same thing: TRiO Works!

—Kayte Haggerty

Right: ASPIRE President Derek Sporbert, gives a regional outlook. Far Right: SDSU's very own Willie "CJ" Harmon, discussing treating people—all people—like people. Right on, Brother! Below: Attendees ganging the weather. Bottom: Mary Christensen and Nick Wendell discuss building student leadership.



Page Center: SDSU's Keith Mahlum discusses fiscal advocacy.

Left: Phil Coghlan has a bright TRiO idea, and ears to hear others.



Left: Dr. Shaheen Qasbi discusses Autism Spectrum Disorder.

News from Montana

Montana TRIO Holds Annual State Meeting at Capitol in Helena *Photos courtesy of Dugan Coburn*

Montana had its' state meeting in the state capitol of Helena this year during the legislative session. This provided an opportunity to meet with legislators and educate them on TRIO Programs in Montana. A group of TRIO professionals were recognized on the House floor and several legislators attended the MT TRIO Achievers Awards Ceremony. The meeting was held at Carroll College and close to 70 people attended. Lt. Governor John Walsh was one of the opening speakers. There was also an education panel made up of some of the leaders in education programs in Montana including the state's GEAR UP Director, State Director for GED and ABE Programs, Policy Advisor to the State Superintendent, and Deputy Commission for Two-Year and Community College Education. A good discussion followed the panelists presentations. Five students were honored as TRIO Achievers. Florence Garcia, a National TRIO Achiever, former SSS Director at Montana State University, and current President of Fort Peck Community College and gave the opening remarks for the TRIO Achiever Award Ceremony. ASPIRE President Derek Sporbett was able to attend the entire conference and provided a regional update. Also in attendance was Heather Valentine Vice President, Public Policy and Communications at COE who provided an update from COE.



TRIO Retiree Ray Carlisle



Heather Valentine from COE



ASPIRE President Derek Sporbett



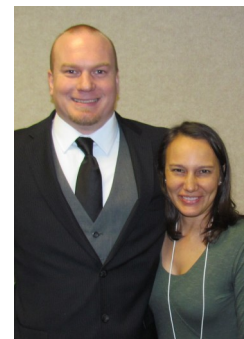
*Achiever: Mary DeBerry (left.)
Nominator: Candace Hubbard*



*Achiever: Anna LaFountain
Nominator: Dan Benge*



*Achiever: Reno Charette (right)
Nominator: Darlene Samson*



*Achiever: Harley Dalke
Nominator: Anna San Diego*



MT TRIO Achievers



*Florence Garcia, National TRIO Achiever, former SSS
Director at MSU. Current President of Fort Peck
Community College*



MT Legislator Bridget Smith with Ray Carlisle and Florence Garcia



University Of Montana Western

University of Montana Western TRIO Student and Peer Education President, **Cheyenne Bray** and UMW Wellness Coordinator, Lexi Benson, are taking Cheyenne's peer education sexual health presentation, "Does James Bond Wear a Condom?" to a national level.

While participating at the BACCHUS Celebration at the Montana State Capitol in March, 2013, BACCHUS's Director of Education and Training, Ann Quinn-Zobeck requested Cheyenne present her sexual health program, "Does James Bond Wear a Condom?" at the BACCHUS Area 3 Regional Conference, in Salt Lake City, UT. At this conference April 19th, 2013, Cheyenne was surprised to learn her presentation was selected from among 17 for the national conference in Washington DC in November.

The interactive, hands-on presentation both surprised and inspired its audience. The presentation was the talk of the conference and BACCHUS's Director of Education and Training, Ann Quinn-Zobeck and Abbie Kroesen, Area 3 consultant were pleased to extended their approval of the presentation and requested Cheyenne to present it at the National Conference in Washington DC in November.

Cheyenne Bray is an active member of her campus through community service, campus corps, wrestling club, and is an active member of TRIO. Cheyenne joined the peer education group called "Peer.A.Zoids" and in the fall of 2011, she began a project to improve and update the information provided to the campus about tobacco cessation. She eventually created a 14 page Tobacco Free booklet for students interested in quitting tobacco. It was the creation of the information packet that sparked her interest in health promotion. In the fall of 2012, as the new president, Cheyenne was able to give a new face to the Peer.A.Zoids on campus. In the fall of 2012, the Life Skills Class teacher, Matt Vandree, contacted Peer.A.Zoids and asked for the Peers to present the sexual health presentation to his freshmen athletes. Cheyenne created an interactive presentation, which educates, interests, and shocks the participants. She has offered this presentation in classrooms, athletic meetings as well as the TRIO first year program.

Peer Educators are college students interested in educating and promoting healthy lifestyles on their campus. Educators promote topics such as tobacco use, sexual health, mental and physical health, and alcohol use. The job of peer educators is to effectively and creatively introduce and inform their peers about these topics, as well as give resources and facts about prevention, cessation, and positive behaviors. On Montana Western's campus, the peer education group, Peer.A.Zoids, has become very active in promoting healthy lifestyles. The Peer.A.Zoids have been communicating health life choices to fellow students at Montana Western for several years and through their efforts have implemented a Tobacco Free Campus policy and a more comprehensive understanding of several topics such as: Alcohol-Risk management, mental and physical health and sexual health.

Cheyenne is a senior majoring in Biology with an option in Veterinary Science and an active TRIO student since starting at UMW as a freshman. She says, "TRIO has been so helpful. I get my classes, they help me with my career building, resume writing, financial planning, scholarships, intra-campus coordination and it's like having a mom on campus!"



Fort Peck Community College

FPCC TRIO Student's attend summer Enrichment Activities

Article Submitted by Rhonda Mason, SSS Director, Fort

Peck Community College, Poplar, MT



Marcus Vandall and **Manual Brown** have been accepted to Montana State University's Bridges to Baccalaureate program, sponsored by MSU's American Indian Research Opportunities (AIRO) program. They will begin June 3 –July 28, 2013. During that time they will live on MSU's campus where they attend a math course and participate in a paid science research program.

Jayni Anderson was selected to attend the AIHEC 2013 Student Leadership Conference June 3-7, 2013 in Spokane, Washington. The program is designed to provide Native American students an opportunity to learn about careers within the federal government, network with Native American professionals, and to participate in profession and personal development workshops. The conference is all expense paid.



Bryson Meyer's art piece, titled "Sacred Warrior" was selected by the Tribal College Journal for their fall edition 2013 cover. He wins a year subscription to the Journal and a Kindle Fire.

Misty Daniels art piece won Honorable Mention for the Tribal College Journal cover art. Check out the Journal when it comes out in the fall to see both pictures.



Orion Smith was selected for the QEM Summer 2013 Internship Opportunity in Washington, DC for STEM students at Tribal Colleges and Universities. He will be leaving May 27 for the event.

Floyd McMillan, freshman Psychology major, has been accepted into the Summer Medical Dental Education Program at the University of Washington's Schools of Medicine. He will complete a six-week enrichment program for talented students interested in medicine or dentistry. The program offers each scholar intensive enrichment in core science courses, clinical exposure, mentor shadowing and much more.



Flathead Valley Community College, SSS

In conjunction with campus wide activities focused on Earth Week; the TRIO/SSS project at Flathead Valley Community College hosted their annual “Braut Fry” spearheaded by transfer advisor, Dan Voermans. The yearly event helps raise awareness of TRIO on campus and is a fundraiser that adds funds to an endowed TRIO scholarship fund. This TRIO Employee Scholarship fund was started in 1985 with personal donations from TRIO staff members and became endowed 2003. The fund supports two \$250 scholarships for TRIO students. The “Braut Fry” this April 26, raised \$300 for the fund and scholarships were given to Zach Klehm, a business and graphic design major and to Harley Dalke, a nursing student.

News from Wyoming

University of Wyoming—McNair Scholars Program

As a child growing up in Woodstock, Illinois, **Chad Gibbs** developed a love for history. His grandfather had an amazing collection of historical books and they would read and watch documentaries together. Chad refers to his grandfather as his “first history teacher.”

Upon graduation from high school, Chad entered the Army in 2002 and completed one tour of duty in Iraq. He received the Purple Heart for wounds received in action. His military career allowed Chad to attend college.

Chad entered the University of Wyoming (UW) in 2009 with a strong interest in World War II. This interest solidified after taking a class with Dr. David Messenger, Associate Professor of History at UW. Chad states that “Dr. Messenger is a really good instructor and a really nice person. He teaches the difficult history of the Holocaust that allows students to gain insight into the subject matter.”

In November 2011, Chad was accepted into the TRIO McNair Scholars Program at UW. This federally funded program is designed to provide disadvantaged college students with effective preparation for doctoral study. During the summer of 2012, Chad received a research stipend to conduct undergraduate research for eight weeks. Under the direction of Dr. Messenger and graduate student mentor Nerissa Aksamit, Chad completed a high quality project titled *Frontline Perpetrators of the Holocaust: Ideology and Motivation amongst Participants in the Field*. After presenting his summer research project at the 3rd Annual Claremont, CA Graduate University McNair Conference in October 2012, he began to apply to graduate school.

Chad has been accepted with funding into the Master of Arts Program at the University of Nebraska-Omaha beginning fall 2013. He will be working with Waitman Beorn, Assistant Professor of History and inaugural Louis and Frances Blumkin Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at UN-Omaha.

Chad graduated from UW with a 4.0 cumulative GPA in May 2013 with a BA in History. He was a finalist for the Tobin Memorial Award for academic excellence and service to the UW community and was among the Arts & Sciences top 20 outstanding graduating seniors. In addition to his scholarly activities, Chad was an active participant in the University of Wyoming’s Veteran’s Center and was a key participant in the group that refurbished and rededicated the UW Vietnam Memorial. Chad has participated in two study abroad trips to Germany and plans to return during his graduate studies.





Laramie County Community College

Each year at our May Graduation/Transfer Ceremony, we bestow our program Friend of TRIO award upon deserving faculty and staff who we believe are individuals who go above and beyond for our students and our project. This year we honored three individuals who exemplify SAGE TRIO's mission and who our staff feel have done an extraordinary job of helping us to believe in the success and potential of our students and in our jobs to help students achieve their academic endeavors and persist at LCCC.

This year our Friend of TRIO award was given to Jeri Griego-Instructor in Accounting/Business, Sabrina Lane -Accounting Compliance Supervisor, and Tammie Keney-Coordinator of Disability Support Services. We honored Jeri for her cross-department communication, positive transfer advising, and referrals to SAGE. She also was instrumental in setting up a campus food bank upon recommendation from our program due to our student's food insecurity needs. Tammy received the award because she communicates directly with SAGE to ensure our students with disabilities get immediate classroom accommodations, mediation, and support. She attends meetings between the student, faculty and staff if issues do arise. She keeps us apprised of what we can do to help ensure a student's success. Sabrina received this award because she works behind the scenes to fix any awarding issues such as when the student is inadvertently coded wrong and awarded inappropriately. In addition, Sabrina talks directly to the student to make sure they understand their financial aid and its details. SAGE TRIO is pleased to honor these three individuals who help us help students.

Northwest College

Project Succeeds 12th Annual TRIO Day Celebration

Project Succeed Student Support Services hosted its 12th Annual TRIO Day Celebration on April 23 on the Northwest College campus. We celebrated our students' successes in peer mentoring, academic performance, financial literacy, graduation, and transfer to a four-year college. Project Succeed staff are Deb Mills, Interim Career and Transfer Coordinator; Jean Nash, Academic Success Coordinator; and Cindy Newberry Childs, Manager. Peer Mentors this year are Stephanie Pingleton and Brandy Bounty. Office support is provided by Debby Waibel, the Student Success Center Senior Administrative Assistant. Cindy is retiring at the end of May after twelve years with Project Succeed.

TRIO Students



Johnathan, Bonnie, and Willie



Ashley, Robyn, and Jerry



Robyn



Audrey



Ludi



Jodene



William



Stephanie and Willie



Kayla with VPSA and President



Kayleen

TRIO Staff



Cindy and Jean



Debby, Stephanie, Brandy, and Jean



Cindy

News from Utah

Student of Four Utah TRIO Programs Earns Ph.D.

Shontol Burkhalter, a 2004 graduate of Monticello High School and former participant of four Utah TRIO programs, graduated with a Doctorate of Physical Therapy Degree from the University of Utah on May 3, 2013.

In high school, Shontol was first involved in the Educational Talent Search program and later Upward Bound program hosted by Utah State University Eastern – Blanding Campus (formerly College of Eastern Utah – San Juan Campus). After high school, she enrolled at the University of Utah where she continued her TRIO involvement as a Student Support Service participant, and eventually Ronald E. McNair scholar. In 2009, Shontol received a Bachelor of Science in Health Promotion and Education with a minor in Sociology.



She has been published as part of an interdisciplinary team in the *Journal of Allied Health* and the *Journal of Physical Therapy Education*. She has also volunteered with numerous youth projects through the Division of Juvenile Justice Services, as well as other community organizations. Her research interests have focused on health care disparities in relation to underserved populations. In addition, Shontol has provided mentoring and tutoring to elementary school students through the Adelante Partnership, a college awareness and preparatory program working with underserved elementary students at Jackson Elementary School in Salt Lake City, UT.

Shontol has combined her interests in public health and physical therapy to decrease disparities in access to healthcare both locally and internationally. She has worked with healthcare faculty in rural villages in Ghana and West Africa to implement health education programs. She has also traveled to Peru with YouthLINC, where she worked with the Yanamono people on the Amazon to help provide advanced training for their local healthcare worker.

During her study she received several scholarships, including the Michaels Foundation Scholarship, Cummings UROP Award, Health Sciences LEAP Award, Alumni Association Scholarship, and Honors Baccalaureate Scholarship. Shontol presented her research at the Utah State Legislature, University of California at Berkeley, University of Maryland, and Westminster College.

Shontol is excited to close the school chapter in her life. She is grateful to the Blanding Campus Upward Bound staff who encouraged her to pursue higher education and to friends and family members who supported her throughout her educational endeavors.

“I am so very proud of Shontol and all of her many accomplishments throughout the years,” said Jami Bayles, Blanding Campus ETS Director. “She has been, and continues to be, a true role model for future TRIO students.”

Shontol is the daughter of Matilda Torres Burkhalter and the granddaughter of Vicenta Torres and the late Jose Torres, Elouise and Donald Burkhalter.



Southern Utah University—*Student Support Services*

TRIO Achievers Lauded at Luncheon

Student Support Services at Southern Utah University recognized four SSS students at the TRIO Achievers Luncheon on Wednesday April 10th. Each year the SSS staff at SUU selects four students who have achieved their educational goals through involvement with the SSS program. This year three of the four recipients went on to graduate with their Bachelor's degrees at the recent Commencement on May 3rd. The four students recognized and awarded small scholarships this year were: **Violet Nall-Korros, Craig Randall, Lori Gunwall** and **Tamra Lovell**. The four students were honored at a nice luncheon which included the university President, Provost, Vice-Presidents, Deans of the five colleges and select faculty members. In addition, this year there were representatives from the Congressional offices of Rep. Chris Stewart and Senator Orrin Hatch! Our wonderful luncheon speaker, Michelle Rees, was a previous SSS graduate who has gone on to be recognized as a Head Infusion Nurse at our local hospital. She and the other students shared their very touching and inspirational stories of the barriers and challenges they faced and how the SSS program helped them realize their educational dreams. It was a superb afternoon and hopefully they had a very positive impact on those in the audience. Both the President and Provost shared that this TRIO Achiever Luncheon is the highlight of their spring semester!

Dixie State University—*Talent Search*



The year is coming to a close and we have had a great year with many success stories. Our students are outstanding and make our job worth every second. Since January, we have been busy getting our seniors ready for college and finishing up our tours. We are sad to see this year come to a close, but excited for what they future holds!

Winter Junior Tour

Every year we are able to offer our juniors two tours. Not the same students attend each tour so that as many students as we can are given a chance to explore the northern universities/colleges. This winter we were able to take 48 of our junior students to see the campuses of Brigham Young University, Weber State University, University of Utah, and Utah Valley University. They were also able to have college campus



experiences by eating at the famous “PIE” and attending the play “Henry V” at the BYU Theater. These tours are always such a great experience for our students and give them the opportunity to see where they might want to attend school.



Utah State University—Educational Talent Search

ETS Students Participate in Little Dresses for Africa Service Project By Jami Bayles

In February, March, and April, ETS students from Grand County High School hosted a series of ‘sew-a-thons’ for a community service project. Under the direction of Tamara Larsen, ETS Advisor, and Jennifer McKay, Family and Consumer Science teacher, students joined together for several evenings of sewing, socializing, and spaghetti. “The turnouts were great and the participants all enjoyed the company of each other through the opportunity to provide a service to those in need,” said Larsen. *Little Dresses for Africa* is a non-profit organization that provides help to children by distributing dresses to little girls, primarily in villages of Central Africa, but also other countries in crisis. During the evening sew-a-thons, ETS students made simple dresses out of donated colorful pillow cases, lace, and ribbon, which will be sent to African orphanages, churches, and schools. Approximately 80 dresses were made over the course of several sewing sessions and the ETS students are now beginning a fundraiser to help with the cost of packaging and sending these dresses to Africa.

(Students below are, l to r: Stephen Stocks - ETS academic tutor, Juniper Roman, Nikysha Harmison, Mickenzee Nelson, & Donna Snow)





ETS Student Helps Rival School in Need *By Jami Bayles*

On the morning of November 17, 2012, two vandals broke into the San Juan High School in Blanding, Utah. They set fire to the school's library, causing irreversible damage, and left six classrooms unfit for students. Firefighters were called to the scene shortly after 4am and battled the fire for nearly two hours before bringing it under control. The library and its contents, including all books, computers, other media, and furniture were deemed a total loss, estimating \$1 million in damage and repair.



At Grand County High School in Moab, members of the student government decided to hold a fundraiser to help their traditional arch-rivals, the San Juan Broncos. Torrie Lopez, ETS participant and GCHS student body president, spearheaded this fundraiser and rallied for the cause during a faculty meeting by saying, "They need our help to cover the cost of anything that isn't covered by insurance." The students issued a challenge to GCHS staff and faculty, and Torrie came up with the idea to get four large empty water jars, each bearing the name of a willing staff member that included Principal Stephen Hren, Associate Principal Lance Le-

Var, math teacher Ed DeFrancia, and social studies teacher Hal Adams. Students then donated money to their favorite jars (or perhaps not so favorite teacher?) and the one whose jar raised the most money would be obligated to wear a dress and sing the school song at a basketball game. In just two short weeks, the students collected a sizable amount of change and currency. It was determined that Mr. Adams had the most money in his jar and he made good on his promise by donning a dress and wig and sang the school song at a Red Devil's basketball game against none other than the San Juan Broncos. Although Adams was the "winning" teacher, the other three members joined him on the court. Torrie then had the honor of presenting a donation check to Erin Hurst, SJHS student body president. The San Juan Broncos were very grateful to Torrie and all those who participated in the fundraiser.

So just how much did the four jars collect? Torrie answers, "I was worried that it wouldn't go over well considering that our two schools have quite the rivalry between each other. I was thrilled when I found out that we raised over \$700. It was awesome to see the excitement in the student body, the faculty, and even the community. When I presented the check to Erin, I got a standing ovation from the San Juan community. It was really great to see everyone put their rivalry aside and come together in a time of great need. I could have received no greater award than to see the joy in the gym that day."

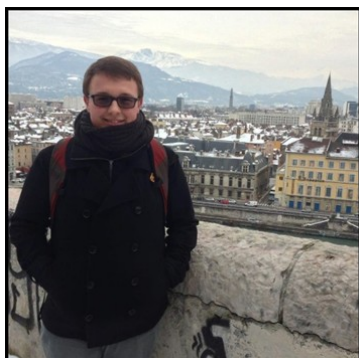


Jesse Sheets' French Adventure *By Tamara Larsen, ETS Advisor for Grand County High School*

Jesse Sheets, ETS alum from Grand County High School in Moab, Utah is currently a junior at the University of Utah majoring in International Studies. This trimester he is in Grenoble, France with the study abroad program at the U. I recently had the pleasure of visiting with him via Skype. Jesse is studying at the University of Stendhal which has approximately 60,000 students. His classes include Translation, French Grammar, Language Practice, Cinema, and Hiking.

When asked about his best experiences so far he replied, "Meeting people and making friends. The croissants are amazing! They have street markets here and you can buy any kind of wonderful fruit, bread or pasta that you can think of."

When I inquired about his worst experience so far he laughed and said, "Arriving! If I could have turned around and gone back home I would have. The first week was rough because I didn't know French as well as I thought I did. My phone wouldn't work and I didn't have internet access. I didn't even have a pillow! It was awful. But eventually I found a sandwich shop that had internet. I would buy a sandwich every day and spend hours there as it was the only way I had of communicating with my family and friends."



However, having getting more acquainted with the city, Jesse has now become more comfortable in his surroundings. "I've made friends and it's been great exploring the city and countryside," he said.

Throughout his explorations Sheets has become very fond of France and expects he'll enjoy things from here on out. He also attributes his French adventure opportunity to the ETS program. Due to the hour difference, Jesse had to close the interview with a smile saying, "I really wouldn't be where I am today without the support and genuine friendship that I've received from ETS. I have had the support of my family, but I have also had the tireless support of a great friend. I'm not sure I say it enough, Tamara, but thank you. So far it's been a great adventure, but I will keep you posted!"

Weber State University—Veterans Upward Bound

Spotlight on David Barney

David has been a regular at our office since summer of 2012. He enjoys reading, including audio books, and has utilized this pastime to bring his writing up to college level. Despite having a full time job and many hobbies, such as weekend trips on his motorcycle, road trips, trail running, and orienteering, David has demonstrated an impressive level of dedication and academic growth during his time at VUB.

David grew up in the town of Oroville in northern California. He moved to N. Ogden,





Utah, when he was 15 and graduated from Weber High School. After joining the Army in 1995, David went to basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO, and tech training at Ft. Eustis, VA. He was trained as an AH-64 Armament/Electrical/Avionics repair technician. He was stationed at Ft. Campbell, KY, and Ft. Rucker, AL, serving a total of ten years in the military. Of the many places David has lived, the southern US has been his favorite.

Reflecting on his time in the Army, David says, “The training I received in the military has been invaluable. It has opened up many doors in my life and given me many opportunities to grow. I would definitely do it all over again. I have been fortunate to have picked an excellent career in the Army that has helped me immensely in the private sector.” Yet David has realized that in order to advance further in his field, he needs a degree. “I have loved my time working on aircraft,” he states, “but I would really like to continue my work in aviation in a more specialized capacity, such as being a field service representative. Eventually I would like to work for big aviation firm such as Boeing, Lockheed, or Northrop. My 5 year goal would be to earn a degree in electronics and work overseas and with our armed forces in Germany or the UK.”

After being a full-time single parent for the last ten years and with his daughter now in college, the time is right for David to continue his education. “It’s easy to convince myself that I have too many things going on. At my age, there is never the ‘perfect’ time to go back to school,” he admits. However, talking to others who work full time while in school and hearing how they overcome challenges has boosted David’s confidence: “You just have to take the plunge and deal with things as they come.”

For a first-timer, college can be intimidating. Veterans Upward Bound has helped David by “demystifying” college and supporting him. “Knowing that there are people available to help me attend school successfully has been a big boost in confidence. They are always willing to go the extra mile to help me posture myself for success. I would recommend that all veterans utilize this service.”

TRIO Leadership Conference 2013

Almost 100 students from across the State of Utah assembled for a memorable leadership experience on the campus of Southern Utah University in February this year. Students viewed ‘The Life of Pi’ on the first night and then participated in 4 different break-out groups the following morning featuring leadership styles such as adaptability and teamwork. After a great lunch on campus, students were divided into 8 groups and given the assignment to create a Public Service Announcement or a ‘Rule for Life’ in video format that would be uploaded to YouTube. Each group was assigned one or two student mentors from Sage Platt’s Communication and Leadership Class. The students were also able to participate in rock climbing, go swimming and/or watch the amazing SUU Gymnastic team compete on Friday night.

On Saturday morning, leaders participated in a movie ‘screening’ and watched eight amazing videos created by our very own TRIO youth. The videos were funny, engaging and very thought-provoking. Awards for films were given out with a lot of good advice on how to live a value-laden life. A fun time was had by all – and many of us learned something in the process!



TRiO 2013

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

I ♥ TRiO

During the HEP Project Director's Meeting in March, Utah state Senators and Congressmen were presented with approximately 1,000 hand-written letters from Utah TRiO students. Here's what some of the students had to say:

"How can you say that federal funds should not be used for educational purposes? Not everyone has extra money just laying around. How are we as a country supposed to build up this nation if you cut off funds for education?" – Logan Cly, ETS senior Monument Valley High School.

"I want to be a good example for my little brothers by graduating with good grades, and TRiO is helping me achieve this goal. Please keep this program, it has really made a difference in my life." – Tiffany, Utah State Univeristy, SSS.

"TRiO has allowed me to be the first student in my family to go to college. Getting an education is important to me and many crucial steps have been covered by this wonderful program" – Donna, ETS senior from Grand County High School.



"I am looking forward to becoming a pharmacist and I've always felt that support from TRiO. It takes a lot to inspire young students, and every single person working in TRiO has been an inspiration." – Gilbert, Utah Valley Univeristy, UB.

"TRiO is down right cool! Going on trips to colleges and whatnot? Man, that's the kind of stuff that gets you prepared!" – Justin, 8th grade ETS student from Monument Valley High School.

News from South Dakota

Black Hills State University

Black Hills State University Celebrates National TRIO Day

Black Hills State University Student Support Services celebrated National TRIO Day by hosting 50 students, staff, and faculty at an open house on February 28. Visitors were invited to learn more about TRIO grant programs while enjoying a special TRIO treat. The morning gathering was highlighted by a raffle drawing for a star quilt that was made and donated by a TRIO alumnus that graduated from BHSU. The winner of the star quilt was a current TRIO Student Support Services student, Jacie Estes.

The national day of recognition was created in 1986, in response to TRIO programs coming under fire from federal budget cuts. An overwhelming response from schools, students, and legislators saved the program. National TRIO Day has continued every year since, in an effort to raise awareness of the continuing needs that its programs serve and to celebrate the thousands of lives TRIO has changed.

TRIO was created in the late 1960s to administer the Upward Bound, Talent Search, and Student Support Services programs. (Unlike many federal “umbrella” organizations, the name is not an acronym.) Since then, five more programs have been added to the roster: Educational Opportunity Centers, the Training Program for Federal TRIO Programs, the Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program, and Math/Science- and Veterans-based expansions to Upward Bound.

The TRIO Student Support Services program provides academic advising, professional tutoring, financial literacy instruction, and assistance in locating other university resources. Students receive assistance applying for financial aid and scholarships, as well as graduate and professional schools. On average, students enrolled in Student Support Services persist, advance, and graduate at higher rates than similar non-SSS students.



Pictured L to R: Susan Hupp-Director, Cody McMichael –Assistant Director/Math Specialist, Jacie Estes – SSS Student, Peggy Madrid – Retention Advisor, Juli Larson – Retention Advisor, Lorna Richey – English Specialist



BHSU TRIO Student Support Services 2013 Student Recognition Banquet

Former TRIO Student Support Services Director, **Sharon Hemmingson**, was the keynote speaker for Black Hills State University's Student Support Services annual student recognition banquet on April 18, 2013. Sharon encouraged current SSS students with inspirational stories from SSS alumni. Special guests at this year's banquet included Wes Roth, Assistant to Senator John Thune, Dr. Rodney Custer, Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Lois Flagstad, Vice-President for Student Life, and Dr. Jim Fleming, Director -Counseling & International Studies.



Program participants enjoyed an evening that celebrated their success. College graduates and dean's list students received special recognition.

Students were encouraged to invite a faculty member that has made a positive impact on their college success. The banquet provides SSS students a way to personally thank faculty for their exceptional dedication to student success.



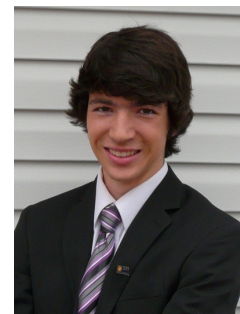
Northern State University—Upward Bound

A Northern State University Upward Bound student will learn about scientific research at home and abroad this summer as a Davis-Bahcall scholar.

Zachery Crandall, a senior at Britton-Hecla High School, is one of nine students in South Dakota selected for the Davis-Bahcall Scholarship Program.

Named for physicists Dr. Ray Davis and Dr. John Bahcall, the five-week, all-expense paid summer-study program is intended to spark an interest in and promote the exploration of science among South Dakota students. Crandall and his fellow scholars will study at the Sanford Underground Laboratory, learn from world-renowned scholars and researchers, and even travel to research laboratories in Italy. The program, sponsored by 3M and the South Dakota Space Grant Consortium, runs July 7-Aug. 4 this year.

Crandall, who is from Lidgerwood, N.D., is the son of DeVaar and Valerie Crandall. He attended the NSU Upward Bound Summer Program last summer, where he took courses in math, science, reading/writing, Spanish, computers and art.



"I had a great time living at NSU during the Upward Bound Summer Program, which helped to prepare me

for college life and be more outgoing in everything I do,” Crandall said.

He received top academic honors at the program, meaning he was voted the top student by instructors at the end of the summer.

“I have been working with Zach as his Upward Bound counselor for the past three years at Britton-Hecla High School and at the NSU Upward Bound Summer Program, and in that time he has grown tremendously as both a student and as a leader,” said Phil Coghlan, Upward Bound Academic Coordinator at NSU. “His accomplishments are a result of his hard work and dedication to academic excellence, and we here at NSU Upward Bound could not be happier for or more proud of him.”

Crandall also participated in South Dakota Boys State last summer, where he held various offices and was a member of the esteemed Boys State Band. His future plans are to attend the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology, majoring in chemistry.

News from North Dakota

Cankdeska Cikana Community College—*Talent Search* *Cheryl R. Longie, Director*

The TRIO Talent Search program held their annual Senior College Day for graduating seniors on May 8, 2013 at the Cankdeska Cikana Community College amphitheatre. A total of 81 seniors enrolled in the Talent Search program are graduating from Four Winds High School, Devils Lake High School, Warwick High School and Minnewaukan High School.

The program opened with drum group, Cankdeska Cikana Singers, playing the flag and honor songs while CCCC Veterans posted the colors. Mr. Louis Garcia, CCCC Carpentry Instructor and local historian provided the opening prayer. Dr. Leander “Russ” McDonald, CCCC Vice President of Academics welcomed the students, school administrators and families to the event.



Darcy Smith - TRIO Talent Search/SSS Alumni

TRIO Talent Search/Student Support Services alumni, **Darcy Smith** spoke to the seniors about the importance of education and her experiences at CCCC thus far. She is currently the CCCC Student Government President, 2013 CCCC Graduate and in 2012 was the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Student Congress Secretary. She will begin working on her bachelor’s degree in Business Administration at Minnesota State University-Moorehead this fall.

After Ms. Smith addressed the students, each school was called to the stage where each senior was presented a sweatshirt with their school name/mascot and class year in recognition of their accomplishment. Upon completion, the Cankdeska Cikana Singers sang an honor song for all the graduates while the graduates formed a reception line as those in attendance moved through the line congratulating them each individually.

To complete the event, a meal was served for all in attendance in honor of the 2013 graduates.



This was the sixth time I've had the privilege in planning and hosting the event and each time it gives me a sense of accomplishment and pride in the hard work put forth by the students as they worked towards graduation, and the time and effort given by the Talent Search advisors as they guided the students on their journey.



Warwick High School



Devils Lake High School



Minnewaukan High School



Four Winds High School



**CANKDESKA CIKANA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE**
Spirit Lake Dakota Nation

Cynthia Lindquist, PhD

President

Suŋko Wakaŋ Wicaŋpi Wiŋyaŋ

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Council for Opportunity in Education (COE)

American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)

Excelencia in Education

May 15, 2013 - Briefing Comments

Washington, DC

Thank you for the opportunity to share information on tribal colleges and universities (TCUs), our students but also my personal story that has a foundation as a TRIO student. My name is Cynthia Lindquist and I am a member of the Spirit Lake Dakota Nation, Fort Totten, North Dakota. I have been president of Cankdeska Cikana (Little Hoop) Community College since 2003 and was elected chair of the Board of Directors for the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) in October 2012. I also serve on the Board of Trustees for the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) which is the largest regional accreditation organization covering 19 states.

The 37 TCUs collectively are the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) serving about 65,000 students in 15 States at 79 campus sites. We cover approximately 80 percent of Indian country and we are the best example of Indian self-determination. 20 percent of our students are non-Indian (known as non-beneficiary students) and they are generally our farm and ranch neighbors who live on or near the reservation or they have married into our families or they may be Indians who are not enrolled (for a variety of reasons). Most TCUs are reservation based and chartered by tribal governments but there are also a few anomalies such as the Institute for American Indian Art (IAIA) which is chartered by Congress or Haskell and SIPI (Southwest Indian Polytechnic Institute) who are Bureau of Indian Education institutions.

TCUs are significantly underfunded and we struggle for equity. Because of treaty obligations and the federal trust responsibility for American Indians/Alaskan Natives, our basic operating funding comes from the federal government. Last year we received \$5,665 per full-time Indian student – that's about 70 percent of the funding level authorized by Congress.



I believe we are all aware of the dismal health and social status statistics on American Indians and Alaska Natives: reservation communities are some of the most impoverished areas with high rates of diabetes, heart disease, alcoholism, homicides (assaults), and suicides and so on. Likewise, we generally still have a 50 percent high school dropout rate in in North Dakota. 89 percent of the adults over 25 have a high school diploma but for my Tribe (Spirit Lake Dakota) only 34 percent. 24 percent of the US population has bachelor's degrees with 22 percent in North Dakota and only 4 percent for the Spirit Lake Dakota Tribe.

Among students who make it to a Tribal College, up to 95 percent of incoming students meet the eligibility requirements for federal financial aid and for federal student support services. TCU students find the nurturing, understanding and holistically supportive environment they need to rebuild self-esteem and rekindle the joy of learning and living. We are the people of Crazy Horse, Manuelito, Sitting Bull, Dull Knife, Seattle and Mankiller. We are a people of place – of land, rivers, sacred mountains and oceans. We are people with our languages, songs, stories and histories and the tribal colleges and universities do excellent work to instill that knowledge toward the success of our students.

Yet our efforts are stifled and severely limited due to funding constraints. Only a small number of TCUs are able to participate in the federal TRIO programs. Today 14 of our institutions participate in TRIO, for a total of 17 programs. Since 2010, nine TCU programs have been defunded, with six losing the sole TRIO program.

TRIO programs are vital and very important for successful student outcomes across the United States. Whether it is tutoring, counseling, mentoring, financial guidance or other support services, TRIO works and makes a difference in peoples' lives. These services provide educational opportunities that motivate and support students who otherwise would not achieve their dream.

I have been blessed to hold several significant positions that I had not aspired to nor ever dreamed that I could hold. I remember meeting and interacting with an Indian woman who was the executive director of the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission and later holding that position – who'd have thought that was possible?? Certainly not me or anyone in my family. College was a pipe dream – there was no way I could go but deep in my heart I did want to be a college student – I wanted to be a history teacher.



My success is due to TRIO and student support services (SSS) at the University of North Dakota. I was a first generation, Native student quite lost and unsure. SSS helped me to better understand myself. The counselor provided constant encouragement that I could do it! I never dreamed or even hoped that I could come so far, that I had the intellect for success. As the eldest of 13 children, college was a far off thing that wouldn't happen for us...we did not have the money or role models. Many of my sisters and brothers attended Upward Bound and 7 of the 13 have college degrees.

As we like to say in the North Dakota, give us a hand up – not a hand out – to ensure that all people can enjoy a good quality of life and to feel like contributing members of society. TRIO provides that 'hand up' in a personalized yet efficient and effective manner.

Thank you for the opportunity to present.

Mitakuye oyasin...all my relations (we are all related).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cynthia Lindquist".

Cynthia Lindquist, PhD, President
Cankdeska Cikana Community College
Chair, American Indian Higher Education Consortium



North Dakota State University—*Veterans Upward Bound*

NDSU VUB Collects Items for 818th EN CO

Veterans Day kicked off a joint effort between NDSU's Veterans Upward Bound, TRIO, Residence Life, Child Care, university faculty and staff, the American Legion Auxiliary of Barnesville, MN, and Cobber Kids of Concordia College to gather letters, cards and donations of materials and foods to send to the 818th Engineering Company, based out of Williston. A large portion of the 818th is comprised of graduates of both NDSU and UND Schools of Engineering and was deployed to Afghanistan. They identify themselves as the Bison.

The first shipment gathered more than 360 cards, letter and drawings, along with 10 boxes weighing 30-pounds each, filled with toiletries, athletic equipment, books, magazines, and dvd's and were shipped for arrival around Christmas. A second shipment was also sent out in time for Valentine's Day, and the Company returned to the U.S. in March. Once again, the response was tremendous and they received a large shipment.

The response from the university community and public was heart-warming. A member of the 818th described the joy of receiving items from home and that they paid that forward with the next group that came in by leaving a lot of the items and letters of support to help bolster their morale as well.



North Dakota State University—*Upward Bound*

The **NDSU Upward Bound** has been busy with community service projects. In January, students served juice, pancakes, coffee and smiles to the people attending the Disabled Veterans Auxiliary Pancake Benefit for the 8th year. Students also cleared tables, took out garbage and much more. This benefit provides additional funds for veterans and their families. The students were amazing and received many compliments: "What great kids" was often overheard. NDSU UB was mentioned on KFGO radio for the fine job and the long-standing service.

In February, the Kiwanis Pancake Carnival saw UB students again practicing their extensive customer service skills working at a pancake event. This is the third year of the support for this event. The students were once again outstanding and received complements.

The students, staff and volunteers worked the Fargo Marathon 5K on May 17, 2013. This is the eighth year for the students and staff working with the Fargo Marathon. Many of our volunteers are former UBers who came to help out with the event. Good to see old familiar faces.

A special time during the 5K, the students became an escort for Jeanne Kelly, an 85 yr. old Fargo women walking the course. Mrs. Kelly sent the following email to UB Director Kris Mickelson:



From: **Jeanne Kelly** <jeannebujkelly@gmail.com>

Date: Sun, May 19, 2013 at 10:31 PM

Subject: letter to editor

To: jzaleski@forumcomm.com

On Friday, May 18, I walked the 2013 5K Marathon. For the purists: When you're 85 years old, 5K IS a marathon! After about a half-hour, I knew I was in trouble. I saw a lovely family in their front yard and asked if I could use their bathroom. The woman graciously took me into her home to do so. When we came out, the rest of the walkers/runners had gone by! I trudged on. A high-school-age girl in an Upward Bound volunteer vest was just wrapping up her post to leave. She saw me, realized I was still in the "race" and called her friends to join us. Those 5 beautiful young ladies escorted me the rest of the way. They commented that they could never walk the 5K. I "lectured" them on never say can't, you can do whatever you set your mind to do, turn stubbornness into determination, etc. Well—they turned it around on me when I faltered! They encouraged me, "You can do it! Yay, Kelly! Yes, you can!" People along the way cheered this old straggler, too. It really does make a difference. Honestly, I don't think I would have made it without the Upward Bound ladies, who cheered and applauded me every few steps. "See, mile 1 already. Hey, mile 2, 2/3 of the way. I can see mile 3, you're almost there. You go, Kelly!" I drew on their energy and positivity! Then—their ride came alongside to pick them up. My son-in-law appeared with an arm to hang onto until the finish line. Yes, I made it, and most of the credit goes to those wonderful young women. People cluck their tongues and worry about this younger generation, but I don't. Ladies, you are awesome!! I can't thank you enough. Kudos to the Upward Bound Project for inspiring these young women to volunteer, perform their duties and go the extra mile—literally. Thank you, thank you, thank you!



Way to go NDSU Upward Bound!!!!

University of North Dakota

UND TRIO Alumni Society

UND TRIO maintains a TRIO Alumni Society, which actively sponsors various events and alumni activities throughout the year. This year, an SSS alumnus, **Cindy McMillan** was honored at our TRIO Day awards luncheon as the 2013 UND TRIO Outstanding Alumni. Cindy has volunteered time to serve as a mentor and speaker for current SSS students and also attended COE's Policy Seminar in March to advocate for TRIO. The McNair Program has also had alumni present to current students regarding their educational journeys through graduate school and then into the workforce. Talent Search has also implemented a list of alumni contact information, including the college they are currently attending and in conjunction with current Talent Search student tours at that college. EOC and Upward Bound has also incorporated this plan into college tours. The TRIO Alumni activities often are informal but have also been found to be very effective, as the current students respond well to the alumni role models presented to them.



have used that list to generate mentoring done in conjunction with current Talent Search student tours at that college. EOC and Upward Bound has also incorporated this plan into college tours. The TRIO Alumni activities often are informal but have also been found to be very effective, as the current students respond well to the alumni role models presented to them.

UND Student Support Services Recognizes Outstanding Students

On Tuesday, April 30th the UND Student Support Services program held its Outstanding Student Recognition Banquet to honor students for their academic success during the year, and also to honor graduating seniors. Sixty-eight students received recognition for academic success, and twelve seniors were also recognized. Students enjoyed having the opportunity to share a meal and conversation with other SSS students.





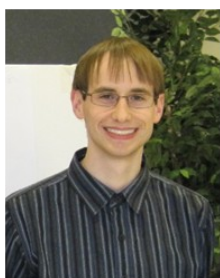
UND McNair Student Updates

Nichole Nelson is currently a senior at UND majoring in Social Work with a minor in Chemical Dependency and will be graduating in August and then entering the Masters in Social Work Program at the University of North Dakota. She will be receiving a graduate school McNair tuition waiver. Nikki and her McNair mentor, Dr. Melanie Sage, are working on a possible grant that may help fund her graduate education. She is also preparing to enter the North Dakota State Addiction Licensing Program. Her goal is to work in a clinical setting, particularly with addiction and mental health. Nikki plans on working towards her PhD in Social Work.



Rachel Piwarski graduated in May with a major in English and will be attending UND's graduate program in English in the fall of 2013, with full tuition funding. The department also awarded her a graduate teaching assistantship, where she will be teaching English 110, in conjunction with my graduate studies. After obtaining her Masters, Rae plans on expanding her education with a Ph.D. and eventually becoming a university professor.

Rachel Hill graduated in May from the University of North Dakota, with an English major and a minor in American Indian Studies. She is a member of the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, an American Indian band belonging to the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe. This fall, she will enter the Master of Arts Program in American Indian Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. Rachel was awarded a Graduate Opportunity Fellowship, which includes a \$18,000 stipend as well as standard tuition and fees.



Garrett Jepsen graduated from the University of North Dakota in May, majoring in Geography with a minor in Atmospheric Science and a Geology cognate. He will be going on to graduate school for a Master's Degree in Geography at the University of Northern Iowa. Garrett received full funding from UNI with an assistantship plus a stipend for living expenses. He later plans to go on to complete a Doctorate Degree after completion of his Master's. After completing all of his degrees, Garrett hopes to become a Geography professor specializing in natural hazards.

Kayla Ford graduated in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and Honors. Next academic year she will be in the Masters of Social Work Program at the University of Minnesota Duluth. Kayla was accepted as a Child Welfare Program which provide her with \$5,000 per semester and then in return, she will work with children in a county or tribal setting. She also was awarded a Diversity of Views and Experiences (DOVE) fellowship, which consisted of a stipend for \$22,500, tuition for the first academic year, \$1,000 towards research and conference travel, and \$15,000 per semester of my second academic year. In the future she plans on earning a PhD degree and working with children in a clinical setting as well as conducting research and teaching.





UND Upward Bound

UND Upward Bound students have had a busy spring. They have completed an educational trip to Bismarck, ND and a Prep night for the students who were to take the ACT in April as this is required and paid for by the state. This spring we began something new with the families in UB. The students and parents were invited to an information night at each location to become familiar with expectations before the summer component. This was very well received and is something we wish to continue.



Jason McCoy will graduate from UND in Aug 2013 with a B.S. in Community Nutrition & Exercise Science and a minor in Health Education. Fall of 2013 he will begin the Masters of Public Health program at NDSU following the Healthy Promotions track. Jason will receive a tuition waiver and a research assistantship which will allow him to continue his studies in Exercise is Medicine. His career goal is two-fold, to teach public health, nutrition, and exercise at a collegiate level and to be involved in civil government developing policies to encourage healthy eating and exercise in our community.

Dickinson State University

Greetings from DSU! We are in the process of wrapping up our academic year. We ended the year with our Annual Awards Ceremony which was held April 17th. At this banquet we honor outstanding students for their accomplishments as well as recognize faculty and staff who have assisted students in their accomplishments.

Throughout this semester we held various activities. A "Welcome Back Gathering" the first week of the spring semester for SSS participants. We use this gathering to introduce new SSS initiatives. The gathering also assists new participants in acquainting themselves with current participants. We start the program with an icebreaker, go over SSS initiatives and conclude by serving pizza and pop. Participants who attend are granted priority appointments for early registration.

We celebrated National TRIO Day on February 28th. Display tables and posters were set up explaining the TRIO program, the success the program has had and the number of students who have been served by the program. All DSU faculty, staff and students were invited to the reception. The reception included cookies and punch.

DSU TRIO SSS participants attended the Broadway, "Beauty and the Beast" based on the Academy Award-winning animated feature film. The students thoroughly enjoyed the show. It was truly amazing, filled with unforgettable characters, lavish sets and costumes and fantastic production numbers.

The first Wednesday of every month, DSU TRIO SSS participants come in for coffee, juice and donuts. This is an informal gathering that students have the opportunity to discuss topics or concern or present topics of interest. This semester we had presentations: 4 ways of how to tie a tie, chic and creative ways to tie a scarf and quick and easy updos. Students enjoyed the activities and will be able to use what they learned in their everyday lives.



TRIO Day



TRIO Day



Welcome back gathering



Awards Ceremony



Beauty and the Beast



Easy hairdos for the workplace



Neck tying



Scarf tying