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meet TRiO's new trio...



MEET VALERIE MARTIN...

I was in your shoes eight short years ago and have learned LOTS along the way. Please allow me to help you achieve your goals and dreams.

Read more about Valerie on page 4

MEET ALEX MUSGROVE...

I know all about being both a student here at SCCC/ATS and a transfer student. I would love to answer any questions you may have about college life!

Read more about Alex on page.....****



MEET SHARON BROCKMANN...

My door (A126) is always open to students and faculty alike. Come early! Come often! Don't wait until the last minute!

Read more about Sharon on page 2



***"Coming together is a beginning,
staying together is progress,
and working together is success."
~Henry Ford~***



TRiO & STEM

By Obdulia Covarrubias



“There is only one thing that makes a dream impossible to achieve: the fear of failure.” - Paulo Coelho

The Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) has been one of the best experiences I’ve ever had in my life. I had the opportunity to attend ABRCMS in Charlotte, NC in 2010 and St. Louis, MO in 2011 as a member of Bridges. At these two conferences, I had the opportunity to meet important Americans like Francis Collins, the Director of National Institute of Health; Maya Angelou, a well-known author and poet; Neil deGrasse Tyson, a NASA Physicist; and Julianne Malveaux, author and great motivational speaker. Meeting these people and listening to their stories made me realize that going to graduate school and getting the highest degree possible is worth the effort. Currently, minorities are underrepresented in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fields, so minority students in STEM programs have numerous opportunities. Although STEM classes seem to get more challenging, nothing is impossible in this world.



“Happiness is when what you think, what you say, and what you do are in perfect harmony.”
(Gandhi)

-One of Valerie’s Favorite Quotes

Need help with MATH? Come in and see TRiO Math Specialist Derric Moore (Office A127)

Need help with ENGLISH/WRITING? Stop by and visit with TRiO English Specialist Sharon Brockmann (Office A126)

More on Sharon Brockmann

TRiO English Specialist

I am so glad to be back in a community college environment! Seward is a great place to work and learn with faculty members who care about students and their futures. Since I started in August, students have asked for help in a wide variety of subjects from help with study skills for history, anatomy, and psychology to writing research papers for microbiology along with the usual help with English essays and preparation for the competency test. I enjoy working in conjunction with the English department in an effort to prepare TRiO students for successful communication in the work force after college. I have also visited with science department instructors who strive to equip students with opportunities to move beyond learning about science concepts, to analyze and to communicate that new found knowledge through writing. Seward provides wonderful opportunities for students to acquire a foundation to build academics and a career. My door (A126) is always open to students and faculty alike.



Happy Holidays

APPLICATION FEE WAIVERS

By Alex Musgrove

This semester I have reached out to a number of colleges in KS, OK and TX to find out if they offer our TRiO students an application fee waiver. What does this mean for you? If you plan on transferring, and are filling out applications for four-year universities, you could potentially have your fee waived! I have contacted several universities including K-State, KU, Fort Hays State, OU, and a number of others. Some universities require a letter from the TRiO director and some require a form to be filled out. Whatever the method, we are here to assist you in making your transfer process easier. For more information on what you need to do and a full list of colleges, please come by and see me in office A125, email me at alex.musgrove@sccc.edu, or call me at **620.417.1606**. Why wouldn't you? If your college of choice isn't on my list, I will do what I can to find out if they will waive your fee, even if you have already applied!

***"Just living is not enough.
One must have sunshine,
freedom, and a little
flower."***

(Hans Christian Anderson)

-One of Alex's Favorite
Quotes

On October 8, TRiO took a group of students to Garden City Community College for a Leadership Conference. The conference titled, "Let Opportunity Knock", began with an hour-long presentation from keynote speaker, Jason Johnson. Jason has close to ten years experience working in student services, having been the Director of Upward Bound at the University of Oklahoma and with Educational Talent Search at Langston University. Both of these programs are part of TRiO. He shared his story with us, and let it be known that by staying focused and seeking help and support when needed, anyone can succeed. During lunch, Jason led a powerful activity, demonstrating that we can "throw away" everything that seems to block our way to success. We all made a list of everything we see as blocking our way to success, and proceeded to stand up in front of everyone, rip up our list, and throw it in the trash. The message proved that we each pave our own way to achieving our dreams. Jason was an inspiration to all who attended.



After lunch, the students attended 2 breakout sessions: *Servant Leadership* with Alex Musgrove, Student Support Services Secretary, SCCC/ATS and *Networking Opportunities* with Martha Lisk, Director of Student Support Services, GCCC. All of us left the conference feeling motivated.

"After this conference, I feel I can be a leader and role model for my brothers. I can show them why it's important for them to go to college. When they reach that point, I can help them prepare. Even though I will not be here next year, I hope that this refreshing leadership conference will continue in the future. It is a great opportunity that I strongly recommend others to attend."

-Reanna Tumlinson



LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
By Alex Musgrove

More on Valerie Martin

TRiO Academic Advisor

Greetings TRiO Saints!

Hopefully I have met all of you by now, but if not, my name is Valerie Martin, and I am the new academic/career advisor for TRiO. I have been advising for over four years now, and as some of you have already concluded, I just LOVE advising. I really do. It is so crucial while you're in college. Some of you will need more assistance than others, and that's okay. Whatever amount of help that you need, please feel free to come by my **office (A125)** and I will help you the best that I can. In order to ensure that ALL our TRiO students remember how awesome we at TRiO are, we have placed an advising hold on your account. What this means is that you need to see me BEFORE you register for classes. This ensures: 1) that you are meeting with your TRiO advisor regularly (as outlined in the contract that you signed; and 2) that you are on the right track with your degree plan. This fall semester we started seeing students for Spring 2012 advising two weeks before registration began. For a lot of our students that meant that this registration process was relatively easy... they were able to register on November 1, which is when Spring Enrollment began. (And as a side note: meeting with your TRiO advisor means more than coming into my office with your enrollment card and saying, "Hey can you sign this for me?") Another benefit to coming in regularly is that we can plan better as to when you will be graduating. (And did you know that your TRiO advisor will help you with your degree audit and graduation application?) We also make transfer plans if that is in your future, too. Bottom line: The help is here! Please, please, please take advantage of this opportunity to meet with us so that we can make your time here at SCCC/ATS more enjoyable - and hopefully a bit more stress free!



FHSU FUN

By Valerie Martin

Jon Armstrong, Assistant Director of Admissions at Fort Hays State University, gave our students a treat when he came to Liberal with a bus and drove us back to Hays for the day! Students received presentations from the Kelly Center (which houses the tutoring and counseling center), Center for Student Involvement, and a number of other campus programs. The students ate lunch in the McMIndes (houses freshman dorms) Café, which gave them a chance to live a small portion of dorm-life. After lunch, students split into two groups and were given a tour of the campus in the snow! Students were then able to meet with an advisor in their desired major. Jon did an excellent job informing students of the differences between SCCC/ATS and FHSU, and also the difference between the city of Liberal and the city of Hays. This trip convinced several of our students that FHSU is the place to transfer, as it is both size appropriate and more affordable.

*"Definition of insanity is doing the same thing and expecting different results."
(Albert Einstein)*

-One of Derrics Favorite Quotes

OPSU TIME

By Rhonda Kinser, SSS Director

I want to give a big shout out to Danae Moore! Danae works in the High School & Community Relations department at Oklahoma Panhandle State University. She did a fabulous job putting together our agenda for the day. From the moment we arrived on campus, we felt welcomed. She coordinated with their faculty to come to us for our advising sessions, so there was no running from building to building looking for advisors.

Each faculty took the time to formally welcome our group to campus and they shared why they love their job.

Our students also were able to visit with a couple of former SAINTS who transferred in as juniors, Layne Greeson and Stephanie Boaldin, who both spoke of how smooth their transfers were from SCCC/ATS to OPSU. For all our Oklahoma native students who are looking to transfer to a college that has features similar to SCCC/ATS, such as:

- a president who will know your name and say hi to you in the hall
- faculty who care about your academic success
- a campus close to home and affordable ,

I say, OPSU is the next step for you!

Collaborating for Student Success,
Rhonda L. Kinser, TRiO Director

“Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do.”

(John R. Woodsen)

-One of Rhonda's Favorite
Quotes

“I had a great time learning what OPSU has to offer me. The staff and students there gave me a lot of information and answered all of my questions. Also, I have a number of friends that go to OPSU, and my friend Layne even gave us the school tour! This visit opened up even more opportunity for me and my future.”

-MaKaytlen Plunk

More on Alex Musgrove

Welcome! My name is Alex Musgrove, and I am the TRiO/SSS Secretary. I am originally from Hugoton, KS, graduating in 2005. Following high school, I attended SCCC/ATS graduating with an A.S. in Business Administration in 2007. After SCCC/ATS, I transferred to Fort Hays State University. I loved FHSU, and in December 2009, I received a B.S. degree in Organizational Leadership. Recently, I moved back to Hugoton, and am now working in SSS. I have enjoyed getting to know all of the students, and feel very welcomed to be back on campus. I know all about being both a student here at SCCC/ATS and a transfer student. I would love to answer any questions you may have about college life!

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.”

(Chinese Proverb)

-One of Sharon's Favorite
Quotes

Are you a FUTURE WILDCAT?

OR

Are you a FUTURE JAYHAWK?

*TRiO will be hosting an overnight
transfer trip on March 1 & 2.*

*Watch out for more details early
next semester!*

It's your future...

CHECK US OUT!

Find us on the SCCC/ATS website at

www.sccc.edu/go/sss

or on FACEBOOK at

SCCC/ATS-TRiO

*TRiO will also be hosting a cultural event at
the end of March.*

Look for more details early next semester