A Note From The Director

Spring has finally sprung! This is a wonderful time of year to enjoy the beautiful outdoors on and around campus. This is also a joyous and sad time of year as we get ready to say farewell to the class of 2018. TRIO will be honoring its largest class (36) this June. Our seniors have seen firsthand a number of TRIO transitions, from programming to staffing. They have graciously stayed committed to the program and offered insightful feedback for ways to enhance our programming. Seniors, we look forward to watching you walk across the stage on June 9th and transition into active alumni paving the way for the next generation. Thank you for all that you have done for TRIO!

Special recognition to Adriana Castillo for being chosen as the student commencement speaker and 2013 alum Fue Lee for being the honors convocation speaker.

“If you can’t fly, run. If you can’t run, walk. If you can’t walk, crawl. But by all means keep moving!” ~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Trey Williams, Director

UPCOMING EVENTS

End of Term Picnic
Thursday, May 31st
2:00-4:00PM
TRIO House
Let’s celebrate the end of another term with good food, karaoke, basketball, and general good times at TRIO!
RSVP here!
On 5th Thursday, TRIO hosted the TRIO Senior Faculty and Staff Luncheon. At this event, TRIO seniors had the opportunity to invite one faculty or staff member to help them celebrate the end of their Carleton career. Food from Maria’s Catering was provided. The event began with a speech from TRIO/SSS Director, Trey Williams that focused on the accomplishments of the TRIO Seniors and the history of the TRIO program. Student speakers Azucena Briones and Adriana Castillo gave speeches reflecting on their Carleton experiences and the impact TRIO had on their lives. Dean of Students Carolyn Livingston ended the program sharing her own experiences as a first-generation and low-income student.

The program was a great opportunity for the seniors to reflect upon the last four years and how their identity as a TRIO student influenced their time at Carleton.

On April 27th, TRIO hosted its annual theater night. This annual event offered a unique opportunity for its students to see the play This Bitter Earth at the Penumbra theater in St. Paul. Directed by Talvin Wilks, This Bitter Earth is a play by Harrison David Rivers focusing on an interracial queer couple during the Black Lives Matter movement. The play’s modern setting and focus on the intersection between race and sexuality provided a unique perspective to the Black Lives Matter movement and current issues regarding race and sexuality. Prior to watching the play, students had dinner at Thai Garden in St. Paul. After the play, students had the opportunity to reflect on their experience, discussing how themes from the play were portrayed and how they connected to their own identities at home and at Carleton. This opportunity to watch This Bitter Earth was a great experience for students to explore the arts, reflect on current issues, and connect with others within the TRIO community. TRIO would like to thank Critical Conversations for providing transportation to and from this event!
Financial Literacy: The NSLDS and You!

Have you accepted a student loan (or two or eight) and forgotten the details? It’s easy to do. Many of us qualify for subsidized loans and have no payments due until six months after graduation (thank you, grace period!) or roll the interest into the loan. However, we can be more informed consumers and better prepared for loan repayment if we regularly check out the National Student Loan Data System.

According NSLDS, “The National Student Loan Data System (NSLDS) is the U.S. Department of Education’s (ED’s) central database for student aid. NSLDS receives data from schools, guaranty agencies, the Direct Loan program, and other Department of ED programs. NSLDS Student Access provides a centralized, integrated view of Title IV loans and grants so that recipients of Title IV Aid can access and inquire about their Title IV loans and/or grant data.”

So, how does it work? Access your loan information by visiting nslds.ed.gov. Login with your FAFSA username and password. Once logged in, you can view all federal loans, including balances and current loan holders (did you know loans are bought and sold all the time?!).

Start navigating NSLDS now to avoid surprises and take charge of your student loans!

Class Act: Disability and SES

On Friday April 20th, TRIO came together with the support of Carleton’s Disabilities Office to have Class Act, a campus-wide discussion, about the intersection of Socio-economic status and disabilities and applying this further to how it is seen on Carleton’s campus.

The event featured an interactive jeopardy game that encouraged audience participation and revealed information about statistics, types, and costs of disabilities that shocked many people. After learning more about disabilities, people in attendance were asked to fill out an anonymous survey that represented their personal experience with disabilities, but then mixed up the surveys for anonymity across tables. Once people had a new random survey, the TRIO staff read the statements aloud and asked people to respond if the survey they had agreed or disagreed with the statement to get a feel for what representation was in the room, while trying to not make people feel uncomfortable for revealing too much about themselves to the room.

We then transitioned into smaller table discussions to give people an opportunity to discuss how they have seen disabilities in their own lives and on campus. The discussion questions pushed people to evaluate how Carleton handles disabilities and think about how the campus could improve its approach to disabilities. Many people left Class Act with a sense of appreciation for TRIO opening this discussion, as most people felt that it was one that has not been had before or nearly enough.
Nyx Vazquez: Linguistics in Kyoto, Japan

I’ve been in Japan on Carleton’s Linguistics OCS program since March 25th. The program takes place in Kyoto at Doshisha University where we have classes three days a week, Monday through Wednesday, and have the rest of the week to explore a new country. I’ve been to Tokyo, Osaka and Hiroshima on this trip, among other places, and have had a blast traveling on my own and in groups to try new foods and meet new people while exploring the vibrant and rich culture of Japan. I can’t even explain exactly what it’s like being in Japan, but I would say it’s like visiting a very modern village where people are extremely considerate of each other, different areas specialize in different things and there are skyscrapers everywhere. It’s almost alien visiting because of how different the culture is. For instance, imagine you want to go to Starbucks and get yourself a nice coffee. You’re walking in downtown Tokyo and you’ve just finished your overpriced beverage at which point you’d expect to be able to just toss your trash out, right? Well, not in Japan! There are no public trashcans on the streets. I think I’ve maybe seen one in the last six weeks and now it’s weird seeing any at all; it’s like spotting a unicorn here. I love all the little quirks of Japan though, and my time here has been unforgettable. I still have a month left to explore and I can’t wait to see what else Japan has in store for me.

Francisco Castro: (Beyond) Nationalism and Xenophobia in Central and Eastern Europe

While studying abroad during your senior spring is an unconventional choice, it has certainly been an enriching and exciting way to end my career at Carleton. Our program is based in Bucharest, Romania although we have traveled all over the countryside and are currently traveling to Serbia studying nationalism and xenophobia in Eastern and Central Europe. From beautiful Eastern Christian Orthodox churches with incredible art, inspiring activists advocating for Roma and LGBTQ minorities, parks filled with gorgeous tulips, to breaking through the language barrier and bonding with Romanians all over, this experience has been incredible.
JOY ONYEANU

My name is Joy Onyeanu (she, her, hers). I am a first-year Posse scholar from Houston, Texas hoping to major in psychology. I was accepted into the Carleton College Global Edge Program, sponsored by Connect-123. Global Edge is an 8-week program that connects participants with an internship in Buenos Aires, Argentina; Shanghai, China; and Cape Town, South Africa. This program was created as a means to expand the number of Carleton students interning in developing countries with the support of an in-country provider. I selected Shanghai, China for my internship and was partnered with Shanghai Ren Ai Hospital as a Rotations and Clinical Shadowing Intern. In this position, I will mainly stay in the hospital’s international departments and will be able to observe treatments and join ward rounds. Wards could include surgical, medicine, as well as other departments, and in each department, there will be a doctor to supervise, teach, and engage with me. I hope to gain knowledge about the medical field and learn different forms of treatment that could be applied in the United States’ medical practices.

ADDISON PARTIDA-VASQUEZ

Hey all, my name is Addison Partida, a sophomore from the Bay who uses he/him/his pronouns. My major is Computer Science with a minor in History. This summer I will be working for a think tank/financial research institution called Moodys. More specifically, I will be working for Moody’s Analytics in San Francisco as a Software Engineering/Data Analyst Intern, where my responsibilities will be split between helping improve the algorithms used in the software that is used to assess risk and rewards of investment for clients such as banks, hedge funds, and other large investors. The other part of my job will essentially be to take data and use it to help clients make better business decisions (which is in fact different from working on the software component). I am going to be paired with a current Moody’s Engineer and will be able to use them as a resource over the summer while working on projects, to chat about my goals, and to help me get the best out of my internship - sorta like a TRIO mentor. I want to gain useful real world experience in the hopes of landing another internship during my junior year summer that could help further prepare me for my job search later on. I see my relationship with my mentor being very beneficial to me while trying to navigate the Computer Science field.

AISLNN MAYFIELD

I’m Aislinn Mayfield, and I am a biology major from the class of 2019. I use she/hers pronouns and I’m from Minneapolis, Minnesota. This summer I will be part of the Cell Biology Research Scholars Program at Harvard Medical School, conducting research in Dr. David Van Vactor’s lab on signalling pathways in the developing nervous system. I want to gain a better understanding of the central nervous system and the signaling pathways it’s responsible for. I also want to gain more experience reading primary literature, designing experiments, performing data analysis, and practicing scientific writing. Overall, I hope this experience will continue building my background in biological science and further develop my research skills. Also, being at a larger research institution with many post-graduates will be a good chance to see what conducting research is like beyond the undergraduate level. This will be especially insightful for me since I plan to take time off between graduation and applying to medical school, and am considering working in a research lab during that time. Conducting research this summer will continue to prepare me for a research-oriented career and further motivate me to become a medical researcher.
We asked the seniors to share updates on life after Carleton, favorite memories, and/or pieces of advice for younger TRIO Students. Here are a few responses:

**Updates on what you plan on doing after graduation:**

“I will be travelling the Amalfi Coast in Italy for a week! After that, I will start a full-time job as a paralegal at an immigration law firm in Minneapolis.”
Paulina Hoong

“I’ll be working in Bloomington as a Talent Representative for a professional staffing company. My fiancé and I will also be moving to a townhouse in Eden Prairie.”
Lyn Mappy

“I will be working as a Research Technician at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard in the division of Infectious Diseases.”
Phuong Nguyen

**Advice for the younger TRIO students:**

“You are here for a reason. You belong. TRIO is one of the greatest things that could have happened to me... the sense of community and familiarity along with the support given was something I definitely needed as I transitioned to Carleton and throughout all four years.”
Adriana Castillo

“Don’t forget to take a step back and breathe, even in the most hectic situations. You need to be physically, emotionally, and mentally well if you want to perform well on any task.”
Sabrina Velasco
We asked the seniors to share updates on life after Carleton, favorite memories, and/or pieces of advice for younger TRIO Students. Here are a few responses:

Favorite memory at Carleton:

“Taking really long walks. Last spring, when it was finally starting to get warm, a friend and I walked to Dundas and on our way got sidetracked and swam in the Cannon. The best parts of Carleton are spontaneous and unplanned.”

Olivia Nyberg

“I have had a lot of good memories at Carleton. All of them involve spending time with my friends. One of my favorite memories was the summer after Freshman year. I worked at the Gould Library and many of my friends were also on campus for the summer. We cooked together, sang together, went on arb walks together, and joked around with one another without the stress of homework and class. I truly appreciated that time to grow together.”

Mina Lor

“Leading last year's freshmen canoeing down the Cannon trip was one of my favorite memories with TRIO. We saw three bald eagles, nobody fell, and it was a nice way to spend the afternoon with my friends.”

Miguel Rincon Cervantes
As we wrap up another fantastic year, we want to thank the many individuals and offices who made our programming possible, who showed up to our events, and who supported us or our students in any way. (If you’re wondering, YES, this includes YOU!)

Special thanks go to Carolyn Livingston, Renata Fitzpatrick, George Cusack, Tina Kukowski, Sue White and Tammy Eidhal of Community Resource Bank, Chris Dallager and Disability Peer Leaders, Trixie Dao, Chue Lor, Tyrone Moore-Perez, and Mary Savoye for supporting TRIO’s spring events.

Also, a huge shout-out to our amazing Peer Leaders: Paulina Hoong, Sabrina Velasco, Brianna Fitzpatrick, Liesl Helminiak, Leo Anaya, and Tam Tieu! TRIO truly runs on their energy, enthusiasm, and care.

Farewell Seniors

Lisa Au (Chemistry)
Lori Barrientos Sanchez (Studio Art)
Rae Benjamin (Sociology/Anthropology)
Jesse Bolton (Computer Science)
Azucena Briones (Psychology)
Adriana Castillo (American Studies)
Francisco Castro (Political Science)
Cindy Chen (Asian Studies)
Trixie Dao (Cognitive Science)
Diana Delgado (Asian Studies)
Madeline Garcia (Studio Art)
Paulina Hoong (Psychology)
Brittany Johnson (History)
Thanda Khin (Biology)
Jessie Lartigue (American Studies)
Anny Lei (Linguistics)
Wendy Lo (Psychology)
Chue Lor (Women’s and Gender Studies)

Mina Lor (Biology)
Sandy Lor (Psychology)
Haley Lunde (Cinema and Media Studies)
Phattarawadee Maneerit (English)
Lyn Mappy (Psychology)
Vanessa Martinez-Hernandez (Psychology)
Mallory Mintz (Geology)
Tyrone Moore-Perez (Religion)
Phuong Nguyen (Chemistry)
Olivia Nyberg (Religion)
Alex Portnow (American Studies)
Miguel Rincon Cervantes (Biology)
Mary Savoye (English)
Benjamin Thompson (Physics)
Sabrina Velasco (Psychology)
Angel Villa (Mathematics)
Eddy Zarazoga (Cinema and Media Studies)
Elizabeth Zheng (Biology)