Welcome TRiO Class of 2016!

With an increase in the number of applicants and the lowest admissions rate Carleton has ever recorded, the Class of 2016 is full of bright, exceptional and talented young students. Twenty-five of these outstanding students have joined the Carleton TRiO/SSS program this year.

The diversity and talent in this class is impressive. Students hail from Togo, Kenya, Mexico, China, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Connecticut, New York and California. They speak French, Ewe, Yoruba, Spanish, Cantonese, Swahili, Kikuyu and English. This amazing group of students includes valedictorians, Posse Scholars, AP Scholars, a National Hispanic Scholar, a National Merit Finalist and a Female Athlete of the Year.

They have participated in the NASA Summer program, Minds Matter, Honors Band, Chamber choir and Latina Affinity Group. They have spent their time interning and working at Columbia University Medical Center, Young Chicago Authors, the Material Science and Engineering Lab at Stanford University, Aeri Crown Theater, Oregon Health and Science University, and Mariani Landscape. Writers, singers, cooks, web designers, musicians and football, soccer, volleyball and softball players all make up the wonderful TRiO Class of 2016!

They all have high expectations and plan on studying a little bit of everything from biology, geology, chemistry, and psychology to political science, economics, English, and computer science.

With the talent and skills they possess, they are bound to do even greater things here at Carleton. TRiO/SSS would like to welcome these exciting students to their new home. We look forward to getting to know them better and supporting them through their four years here.

TRiO’s New Leadership Program

Starting this fall, TRiO is launching a new leadership program focusing on developing our participants’ leadership skills within the local community. Inspired and developed by last year’s TRiO peer leaders, our leadership program is designed to encourage leadership at Carleton and in the larger Northfield community.

The program will focus on getting our first-year students to engage in the community as leaders and to persist with a chosen leadership path throughout their four years at Carleton. It will empower our students to reach out to the local community in a variety of ways, and will in turn increase awareness about our TRiO program and boost the leadership skills of our participants.

First-year participants will be encouraged to support each other while receiving training that will allow them to develop their chosen leadership path. By their sophomore year, participants will identify a specific leadership path and goals, and they will develop knowledge and skills related to one of the following: 1) improving the Carleton campus, 2) supporting their peers, or 3) improving college access. They may also design a creative independent leadership project. Faculty and staff from around campus will play supportive roles in helping our TRiO participants achieve their leadership goals.

We at TRiO are excited to be starting this new leadership program and expect great things from our developing leaders.
Sophomores Connect with Favorite Faculty at Luncheon

TRiO’s annual Favorite Faculty luncheon on September 27 allowed TRiO sophomores to socialize with their professors in a setting outside the classroom and office hours. This event aims to encourage students to actively engage with their professors, and students’ interest in doing so was evident: the house was filled with faculty and the admiring students who invited them.

More than 40 students and faculty came to TRiO house for good food and excellent conversation. Students and faculty alike enjoyed the chance to discuss shared interests, speaking about topics such as classes, research, and how they spent their summers. Faculty had the opportunity to enjoy TRiO house and learn more about the TRiO program.

Thanks to all faculty who attended!

Class Act: “Keeping it Classy”

This term’s Class Act discussion focuses on how and when we reveal our class identity as part of our image. In light of this year’s presidential election, we will consider how our presidential candidates strategically share their socioeconomic backgrounds and discuss the implications of how it affects their image. As students, we will try to reflect on our experiences on campus when we have chosen to hide or display our class identities, and examine if, how, and when it is advantageous to do so.

Please join us for reflection, discussion and dinner from El Triunfo in Great Hall on Friday, October 19 from 4:30 to 6pm.

First-Years Get to Know TRiO

It was a day of learning, community-building, fun and understanding when TRiO students of the class of 2016 gathered at TRiO house for the First-Year Retreat on September 15. This retreat marks our first-year students’ orientation into the TRiO community. Over 20 students were present with stimulating questions, vibrant personalities, and various life stories.

A highlight of the retreat was a panel discussion with all five Peer Leaders, who answered burning questions students had, ranging from academics to social life and relationships. First-years also had a chance to meet library staff, Dean Joe Baggot, and TRiO staff as well as spending time getting to know their communities.

Welcome to the TRiO class of 2016!

TRiO Community-Building: Karaoke Night

Karaoke Night was a night of fun, singing, and delicious food. Peer Leaders organized this weekend event in order to help new TRiO students connect with TRiO upperclasspeople. Our PLs and students cooked some tasty snacks for the night, including homemade salsa to enjoy with chips, Pakora, quesadillas, and lemon cake. Highlights included hearing some of our new students’ fantastic singing voices and peer leaders agreeing to take embarrassing requests for songs by Justin Bieber.
Meet the 2012-2013 TRiO Peer Leaders!

Namaste and hello! I’m Sofia Shrestha, a sophomore biology major. I was born in Nepal and lived there for 11 years before moving to Richfield, Minnesota. I LOVE eating and cooking food, watching movies, dancing and being around people! This is my first year as a TRiO Peer Leader and I’m so excited for what this year has to offer!

Hello! My name is Dennis Ea and I’m a senior biology major/biochemistry concentrator from St. Paul, MN. I’m currently applying to medical school and hoping to enroll next year. During my time at Carleton, TRiO/SSS has been an invaluable resource and wonderful support network for me. I’m excited to be on the TRiO team and I’m looking forward to a great year at TRiO/SSS!

Hi! My name is Lasondra Kern. I am a sophomore art history and psychology double major. The most important thing that one needs to know about me is that no matter what I am doing or where I am I always have my smile with me. I welcome every task with a smile and even a few corny jokes. I believe that my cheery attitude is what I bring to the TRiO peer leader team. If you’re having a not so fun day, stop by TRiO and I will help turn your frown upside down!

Advice to peers: Change up the types of chocolate you use to make s’mores. I personally like Reese’s peanut butter cups on mine!

Hi, my name is Erica Cruz, and I am one of the TRiO peer leaders for this year. I am a junior biology major thinking of a career in health from Lynwood (Los Angeles area), CA. I enjoy playing the clarinet, reading in my spare time, and watching movies. The reason I decided to be a TRiO peer leader is that I wanted to work in a small community where I felt comfortable with all the people around me and would be able to help other students, be part of a support system. Please come talk to me if you have a problem or concern and know that here at TRiO we are a family.

Hello everyone, I am Shaun Stewart and I am one of the three amigos, AKA the sophomore peer leaders. I am originally from Kingston, Jamaica, and am thrilled at the opportunity to be a TRiO Peer Leader. I look forward to meeting, socializing with, and getting to know every single one of you.
TRiO Senior Summer Experiences

Priscilla Amofa
“This summer, I worked as an intern at the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital, Kumasi, Ghana. I interned at the pediatric emergency ward, as well as the OB/GYN ward. I got the opportunity to shadow doctors, as well as scrub in for numerous surgeries. I learned how to take vital signs, take and read patients’ histories, how to diagnose and propose treatments for patients, and the importance of the doctor-patient relationship. Best of all, I learned how to value life because once a loved one is gone, they are gone forever.”

Dennis Ea
Dennis conducted research in a bone marrow transplant lab at the University of Minnesota and volunteered with the Medicine for Sick Children Foundation in Kampala, Uganda.

Allie Cardiel
Allie did materials and biological chemistry research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. The goal of her research was to better understand nanoparticle toxicity in the environment and human body.

John Gitta
John interned at Burr & Forman LLP in Birmingham, Alabama as a corporate and labor law clerk.

Tom Birren
Over the summer, Tom made a geologic map and collected samples in Northeastern Minnesota with Duluth Metals LCC, a mineral-exploration company.

Jeweletter Johnson
“This summer I participated in the McNair Scholars Program at the University of Minnesota. I researched the influence of media exposure to the Trayvon Martin Shooting case on the robustness of the Cross Race Effect.”

Fue Lee
Fue interned at a non-profit organization called the Southeast Asia Resource Action Center (SEARAC) in Washington D.C. As their Program Assistant, he helped coordinate SEARAC’s annual Leadership & Advocacy Training program.
Carleton-St. Olaf Social Connects TRiO Programs

One of our first all-TriO events in September was a social at St. Olaf to meet St. Olaf TRiO students. TRiO peer leaders from both schools met first in order to get comfortable with each other and discuss facilitating the meeting of the other TRiO students from Carleton and St. Olaf. At the end of the event Gao, one of the St. Olaf TRiO peer leaders, described the evening as a “successful collaboration between both schools where we can eat, converse, and feel comfortable with each other.” We have invited St. Olaf TRiO students to join our Class Act discussion and plan to collaborate more often with them.

Did you know?

- TRiO has been part of Carleton since 1981. Serving first-generation college students, students from low-income backgrounds and those with disabilities, TRiO is one of many support services offered by Carleton.
- In recent years nearly 100% of TRiO students have graduated within six years, an average higher than that of the overall Carleton six-year graduation rate.

Upcoming Events

October 19: TRiO Class Act 4:30-6pm, Great Hall
October 23: TRiO/SHAC Health Workshop 12-1pm, TRiO House
November 9: De-Stress Event 5-7pm, TRiO House
November 17-18: TRiO will be open 12-4 for Lending Library returns

**Please make sure to return your books to TRiO before leaving for winter break!**