Greetings Scholars and Armstrong Family,

It was a long, hot summer, but we did some “cool” things in TRiO Student Support Services. The TRiO study lounge was constantly buzzing with seminars/workshops, TRiO scholars, TRiO tutors and TRiO Near Peer Coaches (NPCs). TRiO scholars frequented the TRiO study lounge to attend workshops/seminars, have a quiet study space, use computers and meet with tutors and NPCs.

The TRiO study lounge is exclusively for TRiO scholars. It is equipped with four study tables, computers, a white board, overhead projector and printer. Summer lounge hours (8:30 am – 8 pm), gave scholars an opportunity to take advantage of this perk between and after classes. Scholars with early work and/or class hours had the opportunity to utilize the space in the evenings.

We welcomed two tutors to TRiO Student Support Services. Ms. Jinali Patel who tutors math and science and Ms. Ambria Lewis who is an English tutor. A total of 11 hours of personal tutoring was delivered to TRiO scholars. Scholars reported a marked improvement in grades and class performance as a result.

Although TRiO doesn’t have a scheduled program in the summer, we still offered services for TRiO scholars who were in summer school or in the area. Seminars on time management and test taking/study skills were offered to help scholars having some difficulty “managing the clock”.

A lack of good time management skills contribute to poor study skills. Ms. Judith Garrison and Ms. Vivian Bynoe, Reference Librarians, gave workshops called “Making Microsoft Word Work for You”. TRiO Scholars learned how to better use Word in completing assignments.

A mandatory service to be offered by the project is Financial Literacy workshops. Armstrong’s own Mr. Marc Mascolo, Director of Budget and Financial Analysis, treated scholars to a personal budgeting workshop. Marc will be continuing to work with TRiO in the 2016/17 academic year. We also added a twist to financial literacy by offering a workshop called “Almost Free”! Ms. Monica Jones, a couponing “diva”, instructed scholars in attendance on how to use coupons to help cut down spending. The staff also learned a few tricks!

TRiO also scheduled “Friday Fundays”! On Fridays in July, we offered scholar three cultural adventures to the Historic Beach Institute, the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum and the Historic Riverboat Cruise down the Savannah River!

To wind down the summer calendar, Samantha Hutto, Assistant Director of Financial Aid and David Henry, Scholarship Coordinator, presented a workshop called “Dollars for Scholars”. This workshop informed scholars about the scholarship process and how to better utilize the financial aid office when completing the FAFSA.

A special thanks to all of our presenters. We are pumped and ready for the fall semester with lots of programs, workshops, and events planned. Our theme for the year is “INSPIRE”! Our challenge to TRiO scholars, “Aspire to Inspire before you Expire”! In TRiO, We Inspire Greatness! #TRIOWORKS

Summer Services for TRiO Scholars

Trio scholars enrolled in summer school or staying in the area were treated to various seminars and workshops designed to enhance and support academic success.

Director’s Corner
Corine Ackerson-Jones

Making Microsoft Word Work for You with Judith Garrison and Vivian Bynoe

Couponing 101 with Monica Jones

Dollars for Scholars with David Henry

Mrs. Jones and Mrs. Willingham opened shop in front of the Student Union to speak with perspective applicants about the services offered by TRiO.

Time Management with Woody Melton

Armstrong State University
Friday Fundays

Friday Fundays was a great opportunity for TRIO Scholars to partake in cultural events off campus as well as have a little fun in this beautiful city. If you were unable to experience the Fundays in the summer, No Worries! We have planned more events for the fall. Please be sure to look out for the calendar dates of these events.

Savannah’s Beach Institute, built in 1867 by the Freedmen’s Bureau, was established by the American Missionary Association to educate newly freed slaves. New Yorker Alfred S. Beach, editor of the Scientific American, who donated funds to purchase the site, founded the school. Staffed primarily by Caucasian female teachers from the north, 600 students initially enrolled in the school. In 1875, it was turned into a free public school for African American children. In 1919, the school closed down due to a decline in enrollment. The Beach Institute now serves as an African American Cultural Center/Exhibit and is the home of the offices of the King-Tisdell Cottage Foundation.

The Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum is named in honor of the late Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert, the father of Savannah’s modern day Civil Rights Movement and leader of the NAACP. Built in 1914 by Robert Pharrow, an African American contractor from Atlanta, the building was home to the Wage Earners Savings and Loan Bank, one of the largest banks for blacks in the country. The Museum chronicles the civil rights struggle Georgia’s oldest African American community for slavery to the present.

This summer, the TRIO Train was on the move! On our first stop, we brought aboard two new TRIO Tutors for Math, science, and English. Our hunger for knowledge led us to visit the TRIO Lunch and Learn series. This series covered topics such as time management, study skills, personal budgeting, and couponing. After Lunch and Learn, we chugged right along to Friday Fun Days. On Friday Fun Days, we embarked on a narrated harbor sightseeing cruise, visited the Beach Institute and the Ralph M. Gilbert Civil Rights Museum. While we were on the move, our Near Peer Coaches were working off site staying in touch and messaging our TRIO scholars who were at home for the summer. After a summer of moving and shaking, the TRIO train pulled into the TRIO SSS station just in time to kick off the fall semester and welcome back our new and returning TRIO Scholars! #AllAboard