Carleton College
TRIO/SSS NEWSLETTER
Spring 2022

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Most Recent Events:
- Friday, June 3rd: 12-2pm
  TRIO End of Term Celebration
- Monday, June 6th
  Finals End
- Tuesday, June 7th
  Summer Break Begins

A Note From The Interim Director:

This year has shown us the importance of connections and relationships. We had opportunities to come together on Fiesta Fridays, during class-based workshops, and on Comfort Food Friday to enjoy each other's company as we continued to strengthen our community. We have also learned the need to celebrate our accomplishments. Here are some achievements we are celebrating this term: First-Years wrapping up their first year of college, Sophomores declaring their majors, Juniors are a step closer to graduation, and Seniors have earned their Carleton College degree. Congratulations to you all!

Have a wonderful summer,
Dean Sindy L. Fleming
Lizzet Solache ‘25 (she/her/hers)

Lizzet Solache is a prospective Chemistry or Math major from San Diego, CA. Her favorite dining hall on campus is LDC and her favorite study spot is a couch on 4th libe. Lizzet’s favorite memories at Carleton are movie nights in Anderson with friends. At TRIO, her favorite event is the Comfort Food Friday! She loves that at TRIO there is always someone ready to help when something comes up, whether that is staff or peer leaders. She has been able to find community in TRIO since people are from different, but similar, backgrounds. Outside of TRIO, she is also in FOCUS and Questbridge. In her free time, Lizzet loves listening to music, cooking, crocheting, and learning to knit. Currently she is catching up on Stranger Things.

New Peer-leader Spotlight

Graci Huff ’25 (she/her/hers)

Hello! I’m Graci Huff, I am a first year student from Pine City, Minnesota, and my prospective major is Political Science. At Carleton, I have been involved in Senate and the Indigenous People’s Alliance. Outside of that, I enjoy hanging out with my friends (huge extrovert) and playing Dungeons and Dragons (huge nerd). I am so excited to be a peer leader in the fall, and I look forward to meeting and mentoring the Class of 2026!

Jonathan Nguyen ’25 (he/him/his)

Heyo! My name is Jonathan Nguyen and I’m a rising sophomore from Houston, Texas. I’m currently deciding between majoring in either Biology or Cinema and Media Studies. While on the pre-health track, and I’m also involved with FOCUS as well as with Project Friendship. In my free time I enjoy working out and hanging with friends. This is my first year as a TRIO peer leader and I am beyond excited to meet you all!
**Chris Melo Mejia ’25 (he/him/his)**

Hi! My name is Chris Melo and I am a first year student from Colorado Springs, Colorado. Although I am undecided, I plan on becoming a Psych major. Outside of class I enjoy playing board games with friends as well as participating in intramural sports. I look forward to meeting the new TRIO class and helping them in any way I can!

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**Amalia Pappa ’25 (they/them/she/her)**

Hi! My name is Amalia Pappa and I'm a rising sophomore from Chicago, IL. I’m extremely undecided about my major but I’m currently very interested in American Studies with a focus on Race, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity. Outside of class you can catch me at KRLX either volunteering at the record library or in the studio for my show Flop Era Soundtrack. In the warmer months (or more aptly, warmer weeks) I can also be found crocheting on the bald spot with friends (I will probably make you anything if you ask me nicely)! I'm extremely excited to be on the TRIO team and help facilitate bonds like the ones I share with my fellow TRIO members, some of my closest friends on campus!

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**Zaria Kelly ’25 (she/her/hers)**

Hi, I'm Zaria, Carleton Class of 2025 from Orlando, FL and I use she/her/hers pronouns. I'm a prospective Classics major, but I am also considering Linguistics as an option as well. Outside of class, I enjoy watching movies and I recently began to dabble in photography. Welcome to Carleton! I'm looking forward to meeting you all in the fall!

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**Hiroki Coyle ’25 (he/him/his)**

Hi, I’m Hiroki, and I will be a TRIO peer leader next year. I am from Point Reyes Station, California and part of the class of 2025. I’m thinking of being a Chemistry major and a Japanese minor. I play volleyball and I like to be outside. I’m excited to meet the incoming TRIO class! See y’all in the fall!
Miah Kline (she/her)

Hello everyone! Four years have come and gone for me and I’m still trying to figure out how to get the duo two-factor authentication to stop calling me and send the push notification instead. This close to graduation, I think it’s a lost cause. After Carleton I will be continuing research on hyperglycemia and diabetes before attending dental school. And while I am so excited to be making big steps on this path, I will miss TRIO greatly. This past year I had the amazing opportunity to be a part of the search committee in charge of hiring the TRIO Director, Associate Director, and Academic Adviser. Interviewing potential candidates caused me to reflect on the values of TRIO and what kind of characteristics best serve the mission: passion, relatability, innovativeness. I am confident that the TRIO team next year, both the new staff as well as the peer leaders, will continue to shine a bright light on the program. I am excited to see how TRIO will grow in the coming years with these new voices and am proud of the part I helped to build. TRIO will always hold a special place in my heart and I hope it continues to do so for many more generations.

Trinh Tieu (she/her)

Hello TRIO community and friends! It’s hard to believe that I’m already a senior and that I’m going to be moving to Japan in two months to teach English! I’m so grateful to the TRIO staff and my friends who have supported me endlessly.

As a peer leader who has taken care of this publication for the past two years, thank you for reading the TRIO Newsletter. I’ve felt that in a place like Carleton where the students come and go so quickly, it is important to capture these moments within the program. TRIO students deserve to be remembered and celebrated, and the peer leaders in recent years have worked hard to create programming that speaks to the needs of the other students. I hope that the future peer leaders and staff at TRIO feel the same way about continuing the newsletter and recording our history, despite it being a large project that takes time out of other events each term. TRIO and TRIO-eligible students constantly feel invisible and often overlooked at Carleton, so I hope this tradition can continue and we can use the newsletter to look back on all the good times. Thank you to everyone at TRIO who contributes and helps to make this newsletter possible, and thank you to everyone who has helped me along my journey at Carleton.
Hi everyone! My name is Amira Aladetan (she/her) a rising junior and currently writing to you from Manama, Bahrain. I am a part of the Carleton History, Culture, and Commerce: Africa and Arabia program. We’ve spent 1 week in the UAE, 8 weeks in Bahrain, and two weeks in Oman. Visiting places such as the Africa Institute, Bahrain National Museum, Oman National Mosque, and Wadi Shab has offered insightful experiences I would not give up for the world. The uniqueness of this program allowed me to push my limits and experience life by living in the Gulf.
First Generation Faculty and Staff Panel

On April 22, 2022, TRIO and SAO collaborated to host a first generation faculty and staff panel. The wonderful panelists included: Tun Myint (associate professor of political science), Christine Castro (scholar-in-residence fellow in American studies), RJ Holmes-Leopold (director of the career center), and David Wiles (associate professor of theater). All TRIO students were invited! Molly Zuckerman and Kaysha Neville beautifully guided the conversation, where the faculty and staff were invited to reflect on how their experiences as first generation students shaped them. At the end of the evening, students were invited to ask questions and our panelists provided their contact information so all attendees could follow up with them later. We are so grateful to the panelists for sharing their time and experience!

Escape Room with St. Olaf

On Saturday of Week 5 Carleton’s TRIO program collaborated with St. Olaf’s SSS program to host an escape room event. This event gave students the opportunity to get off campus, get to know their classmates, and make a St. Olaf friend! We set off to Burnsville bright and early on Saturday morning, listening to music and chatting the whole ride there. The Carleton and St. Olaf groups were composed of students from a variety of class years. Once we arrived, Carleton and Olaf students were sorted into integrated teams and were placed in escape rooms. During the escape rooms, students were encouraged to work together to solve puzzles and think critically. Afterwards, TRIO students enjoyed a group lunch together at Cane’s. Many students from both schools expressed that they enjoyed making new friends and participating in the escape room. We hope to make this a tradition between our two schools moving forward!
Comfort Food Friday

On Friday May 20th, TRIO hosted Comfort Food Friday, an event that occurs once every term. Food was catered from First of Thai. Fortunately, COVID cases had decreased enough that TRIO staff and students could host the event in-person. With safe masking policies and the option of food to-go, students and staff were welcome to grab a quick bite or stick around and enjoy the company of fellow classmates. During the event, students vibed to the music, played board games, and conversed in small groups. Hopefully, by next academic year, the COVID situation will have drastically improved, such that students and staff can once again gather unmasked and enjoy food together.

Fiesta Fridays

This term, TRIO planned another great series of Fiesta Fridays. Some events include Field Day, Guac ‘n Talk, and Bonfire Night with Canoe. This picture highlights the Indoor Painting Fiesta Friday, where TRIO students were welcome to come, listen to chill music, drink Iced Tea, and paint to their heart’s content. Following the motto, “there aren’t any mistakes, just happy little accidents” from Bob Ross, students were welcome to paint whatever was on their minds without worrying how it turned out. Some made art about their emotions regarding the term while others were inspired by shows, animals, and landscapes. Afterward, if students did not want to keep their painting, they were welcome to leave it in the TRIO house as a decoration. Overall, this event was wonderful and it was nice to see students enjoy their Friday afternoon even with midterms looming in the following week.
Seniors: If you plan to attend graduate school for the 2022-2023 academic year check with your prospective school(s) for deadlines for financial aid as it may vary by institution and department.

Summer break is a great time to review and apply for scholarships and to explore fellowship opportunities.

Click here to see what fellowship opportunities are available.

Click here to get started on reviewing and applying for scholarships.

TRIO/SSS wishes to thank everyone who collaborated with us this spring term. We appreciate your support! Special thanks go out to the following individuals and offices:

Carolyn Livingston for ongoing support for TRIO/SSS. Thank you to Jessica Zick for being ready to help. A big thanks to Cathy Carlson, Junior and Senior Class Dean and Trey Williams, First-Year Class Dean for stepping in and helping with advising our TRIO/SSS students. Sophomore Workshop: Melanie Cashin, Assistant Director of the Writing Center and George Cusack Director of Writing Across the Curriculum. First-Year Workshop, Marynel Ryan Van Zee, Director of Student Fellowships. First-Gen Faculty and Staff Panel, Student Activities Office, Senior Workshop, Tina Kukowski, Assistant Director of Student Financial Services and Becky Speikers, Student Financial Services Office Assistant/Loan Specialist. The Division of Student Life for their support and collaborations with TRIO/SSS.