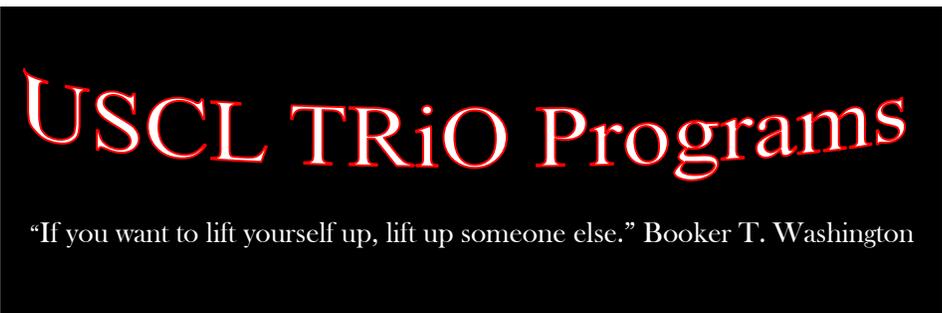


Special points of interest:

- *Delta Links Events*
- *Omega Scholars Events*
 - *UB Trips*

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The smiling faces in the above picture are only a glimpse of the gratitude communicated by these *Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP)* graduates. Many of them had to overcome adversity and some very trying times, but because of their determination to succeed, they have reach a milestone of great achievement. Therefore, on behalf of the entire TRiO Programs staff, we congratulate the following 2010 *OSP* graduates for their hard work and dedication through the long academic years and wish them the very best in their chosen careers:

- James Alvarez
- Tara Channell
- Christopher Culp

- Sabrina Culp, *High Honors*
- Mary Cunningham
- Jennifer Deas
- Mary Demby
- Sha'Rita Ellis
- Simone Frasier
- Jhustine Guevara
- Danshelle Guy
- Regenia Holmes
- Bertha Johnson
- Ashley Jones
- Xavier Kee
- Christopher Lester
- Ashley Longhouser
- Keyanna Miller
- Elliott Moses
- Jessica Newton, *Honors*
- Francisco Jose Pena
- Jessica Portee
- Ticmicha Witherspoon



Early Start A Success

Early Start students in graduation day photo taken in front of the residence of TRiO Director, Thelathia B. Bailey, Friday, August 14, 2009.

Early Start Participants 2009-2010

Justin Allen, Magan Auton, Michael Bailey, Jr., Candice Benson, Jelicia Clyburn, Jeremias Clyburn, Tyeriesha Cornwell, Craig Cox, JoAnna Croxton, Megan Deese, Stephanie Dixon, Kenyear Foster, Taylor Griffin, Joseph Hanniford, Leona Harris, Justin Hinson, Lauren Horne, Laurice Ingram, Sakendra Jenkins, Sequoya Johnson, Patrick Jones, Tereatha Jones, Larion Laney II, Domonique Mackey, Brian Parker, Brittany Richardson, Cayla Sanders, Frederick Stroud, Jameishala Truesdale, Briana Vinson, Miata Wade, Kristine Walls, Kayla Wilson, Decarlos Young



Opportunity Scholar Program (OSP) Academic Specialist, Max Bonek, hands a Certificate of Completion to Early Start participant, Patrick Jones, during the Early Start graduation and breakfast held at the residence of TRiO Director, Thelathia B. Bailey.

Rise and shine are fitting welcoming words to this year's Early Start participants who arrived on Monday, July 27, 2009 to begin an intensive three-week program designed to "assist incoming first-year students in making a smooth transition from high school to college." Students gained firsthand experience of what college life is about as they attended classes

taught by *USCL* faculty, TRiO Advisors, local business owners and community leaders on such topics as academic integrity, financial literacy, résumé creation, community and civic affairs, relationships, sexual assault issues, and social networking just to name a few.

In addition, to getting an "early start" on their college careers, students received a total of four (4) credits in University 101 and Orientation to Physical Education that count for hours earned before the start of Fall classes.

Other benefits in attending Early Start include the opportunity for students to become familiar with campus resources, i.e., the TRiO Learning Resource Center (TLRC); Medford Library; Counseling Services; and Academic Success Center. Just as important, students also "form lasting bonds and friendships with each other during the three weeks and will serve as support to each other throughout their semesters at *USCL*."

Early Start concluded the three week program with 34 participants who took part in a graduation and breakfast held at the residence of TRiO Director, Thelathia B. Bailey, with each graduate receiving a Early Start Certificate of Completion and other gifts.

New Student Orientation

With much anticipation, USC Lancaster began Fall classes for the 2009-2010 academic year on Thursday, September 17, 2009. There was a continuous flow of students in and out of the TRiO Learning Resource Center seeking assistance as well as observing the numerous resources available to help ensure their academic success. TRiO staff assisted most of the 160 Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) students on how to operate the state-of-the-art computers, printers and scanners. Also, OSP students received help with their class schedules and were provided with the *Tutor Schedule Fall 2010* from the Academic Success Center located on the second floor in Medford

Library. By day's end the students were well acquainted with the staff and lab rules.



State of the African American Male Conference

For the third year, TRiO Programs has co-sponsored the State of the African American Male Conference held on the campus of USC Lancaster. This year's theme was *Closing the Achievement Gap: Student Achievement and Success*. Local, regional and national speakers of diverse vocations facilitated numerous workshops for attendees from the Lancaster County School District, church administrators, business leaders, government officials and the general public. The conference began with a Youth Empowerment Rally on Thursday evening, November 5, 2010 in the Bradley Arts & Science Building's Bundy Auditorium. Mr. Bobby E. Bailey, co-founder of Adopt-A-Leader male mentoring organization in Lancaster welcomed the attendees followed by Keynote Speaker, Mr. Tommy Watson, author of *A Face of Courage - The Tommy Watson Story*. Other conference keynote speakers included Dr. Clifford A. Jones who is Senior Minister of Friendship Missionary Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, Mr. Mychal Wynn from

Atlanta, Georgia, who is author of numerous books on parenting and mentoring successful black males, Mr. Richard Ramsey who is founder of Lakeshore Middle School's "Lifelong Solutions for Male Students" program in Georgia, and Mr. Marvin R. Pittman who is currently the Community Liaison for Student Achievement with North Carolina State Board of Education.

TRiO staff assisted with the conference as aides to session presenters and keynote speakers; acted as ushers; and assisted as audio and visual technical advisors.

The conference ended on Saturday, November 5th and was well received in the community with extensive media coverage both in television and newspaper. Mr. Bailey gave final remarks by thanking everyone for their support and participation, and he challenged all attendees to make a positive difference in the life of at least one African American male in the upcoming year.

3rd Annual State of the African American Male Conference Presenters and Session Titles

- Mr. Donald Baker and Ms. Blondean Funderburk - *The Benefits of Music in Education*
- Mrs. Louise K. Johnson - *Caring for Our African America Males*
- Mr. Kashaka Z. Kikelomo - *How to Be a B. A. D. Parent! - Raising Children Today Is Not for the Timid!*
- Mrs. Patricia King and Mrs. Renee Bellamy-Coletrain - *Strategies to Address Retention and Success in African American Males*
- Mr. Phillip Mickles - *Is Single-Gender Education the Answer for African American Males?*
- Mr. Joshua Quick - *Black Boys of Distinction*
- Dr. Phyllis Sanders - *The Intuitiveness of African American Males*
- Mr. Brian Simon - *African American Male Students Participating in a Mentoring Program*
- Mr. Fred Thompson - *Dispelling the Myth of Gangs*
- Dr. James Thompson - (1) *Integrating Technology-Enhanced Instruction to Narrow the Academic Achievement Gap* (2) *Standardized Testing: Does It Contribute to the Academic Achievement Gap?*
- Matt Williamson - *From Victims to Victors*

Gear Up celebrated another successful year. Some one-hundred five students from *Andrew Jackson High*, *Buford High* and *Lancaster High* schools participated in the program which included seventeen *Enrichment Sessions*. TRiO staff met with high school counselors to coordinate strategies to identify and encourage possible candidates to take advantage of academic and financial opportunities offered by the program. Entering freshmen attended workshops in career exploration, money and time management, college and career fairs. Also, students took both the SAT and ACT practice test and applied for a minimum of three colleges prior to December; participated in Financial Aid Day; applied for scholarships on Fastweb.com and expected to be accepted into a college before their high school graduation. To conclude the program, participants were taken on a career and cultural trip to Charleston, SC.

Gear Up Scholars on the Move



Gear Up participants pose alongside the aircraft carrier USS Lexington, docked in Charleston, South Carolina.

Upward Bound Pathfinders Overview

The USC Lancaster Upward Bound staff now works in conjunction with *Andrew Jackson High*, *Buford High* and *Lancaster High* schools. A total of sixty-seven students were accepted into the program at the start of their freshman year. The academic portion of the program consisted of

twenty-four *Empowerment Sessions* that included workshops on personal development; career exploration; tutoring in English, math, science and foreign languages. The diversity of students who participated included both low-income and first-generation students;

twenty-four males; fifty-three females; and representation of several ethnic backgrounds. Parents of the participants must sign the *Pathfinder Parent Pledge* in support to make certain their child actively participates in every scheduled session and event.

“A total of sixty-seven students were accepted into the program at the start of their freshman year.”



A group photo of Upward Bound participants at the prestigious military college of the south - the Citadel.

Upward Bound Summer Component

This year, Upward Bound hosted a total of 46 high school students for the six week summer component that started June 1 and ended on July 9, 2010. Courses included: business math; banking and finance; Spanish basics; writing and grammar; health and fitness; college preparation; and learning through cinema. Also, students made visits to *Presbyterian College*, *Lander University*, and stayed overnight in the charm of the south, Charleston, SC, to visit *Charleston Southern* and the prestigious military college of the south - the *Citadel*.

Delta Links - Women Power!

The word *Awesome* best describes the list of activities the Delta Links sponsored or co-sponsored on and off campus. Consisting of over forty active members, Delta Links women held some twenty plus meetings throughout the year and participated in eleven campus and community service events. As a member, this diverse group of women are able to sharpen their interpersonal skills, help enhance academic development through peer

mentoring; and embrace civic responsibility.

In collaboration with fellow *USC Lancaster* student organizations and the Omega Scholars, Delta Links was able to forge strong partnerships that contributed to such campus and community events as Hoops for Haiti Basketball Tournament; Easter Egg Hunt; Maintenance Appreciation Luncheon; Lancers Day Celebration; Gear Up & Upward Bound and Adopt A Leader Holiday din-



Delta Links women take a confident picture, in Medford Library, following a recent election of new officers, and the addition of new recruits to begin another year of activities.



USCL faculty, staff and students enjoy the success of raising over \$900 dollars during the Hoops for Haiti Basketball Tournament sponsored by the Omega Scholars on February 19, 2010.

Omega Scholars is a multicultural organization open to all males of all ages and ethnicities. This diverse makeup allows students to learn from one another through their own life experiences and cultural backgrounds. Omega Scholars take pride in their goal to “*enhance academic achievement, improve retention, and increase enrollment of males at USC Lancaster.*” Members have attended career preparation, job interview, leadership, interpersonal development and social skills workshops and participated in several team building activities and numerous community events

Omega Scholars Take the Lead

that will equip them with the necessary dexterity to excel in the changing global environment of the twenty-first century.

In collaboration with fellow *USC Lancaster* student organizations and community organizations, such as the Adopt-A-Leader boys mentoring and Community in Schools, the Omega Scholars have been able to forge strong partnerships that contributed to campus and community events to include: *HOPE* Feed the Children Food Drive; Hoops for Haiti Relief; Fish Fry Community Luncheon; State of the African American Male Conference; Adopt-A-Leader Mentoring Day; USC Lancaster Maintenance Appreciation Day Luncheon; Community & USCL Easter Egg Hunt; OSPy Awards Day; joint fundraiser with Delta Links and sponsor of the first annual Lancers Day Celebration to recognize the student athletes; Boys Home Visit and Luncheon; Holiday Portrait Day and the Gear Up & Upward Bound and the Adopt-A-Leader Holiday Dinners to close out the Academic Year.

TRiO Programs

Thelethia B. Bailey, Director of TRiO Programs

Opportunity Scholars Program Staff

Max Bonek, Academic Specialist

Matt Williamson, OSP Career/Cultural Specialist

CoSonja Allen, OSP Administrative Specialist

Gear Up Staff

Dia Robinson, Program Specialist

Upward Bound Staff

Thomas Monroe, Academic Specialist

Antonio Mackey, Career/Cultural Specialist

Cathy McGriff, Administrative Specialist

Support Staff

Mark Ammons, Business Manager

Terri Camp, Clerical Specialist

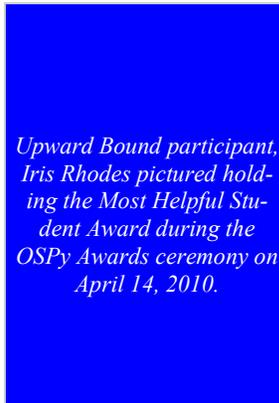
Call us at 803-313-7125 or visit us at:

usclancaster.sc.edu

OSP and Upward Bound Awards Extravaganza!



OSP student, Elliott Moses, receives a trophy during the OSP Awards ceremony on April 14, 2010.



Inside USC Lancaster TRiO Program

The TRiO Program at USC Lancaster is a federally funded program that provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with basic college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education.

The TRiO staff consists of ten highly-qualified and dedicated individuals who have greatly impacted the lives of every student in the program. Staff members are from various backgrounds and experiences which adds to the unique relationships they share to enhance the experiences of the participants.

There are four staffers who over-

see the participation of pre-college students, that include grade levels from eight through twelfth grade, in the Gear Up and Upward Bound programs. Once in college, students take part in the Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP).

The Gear Up and Upward programs help motivate students to stay in and finish high school as well as seek to obtain a four-year degree from a college of their choice. Through academic advisement and developmental support, the staff strive to provide students with a solid foundation to prepare them complete high school and make the transition to college life.

OSP is specifically designed to increase college retention and

graduation rates and facilitate the process of learning from one level of education to the next. Between sixty and one-hundred middle and high school students participate in Gear Up and Upward Bound while OSP serve over one-hundred sixty first generation, low income and disabled students annually. Both programs offer Lunch-n-learn workshops and daily access to advisors and the computer lab. OSP students enjoy even more comforts with access to the Academic Success Center, Medford Library and Counseling Center.