



TRiO

Programs at USC Lancaster

Academic Year 2014-15

Above: Early Start graduation picture taken at the residence of TRiO Program Director, Thelathia Barnes Bailey on Friday, August 15, 2014. Front Row (left to right): Karly Ross, Amy Fernandez, Jacqueline Latislaw, Taylor Funderburk, Odeth Quintana, Sidney Rice, Danlet Mayson; Second Row: Jewell Gullede, Bianca Lopez, Trevor Beck, Amanda Wright; Third Row: Danielle Brown, Trey Cunningham, Hannah Boykin, Di'Jon Jackson-Davis, Kera Stroner; Fourth Row: LaKendra Rice, Tysheonia Miller, Tiarri Jennings, Danielle Truesdale, Shanerra Covington; Fifth Row: Kashaiyah Butler, De'Ja Hinson, Teyanna Nichols, Tyler Dotson, Morgan Humphries; Sixth Row: Alexis Young, Jedarius Twitty-Davis, Dionka Foster, Tyler Thompson; Back Row: Jonathan Osborne, Samantha Rinard, Ashley McManus, Landon Brewer and Ladarius Wright.

Forty high school students started their college experience in the TRiO Early Start Program at USC Lancaster on Monday, July 28, 2014. Despite differences in educational and cultural backgrounds, the participants bonded quickly to survive the grueling three week program that challenged their abilities to cope with the demands of college life.

Early Start is designed to help first year students make a smooth transition from high school to college while earning up to four credit hours by the end of the fall semester. In addition to team building exercises, participants receive instructions from USCL faculty, TRiO staff and community leaders on a variety of subjects to help prepare them beyond the classroom. Furthermore, the program enabled participants to identify various learning styles, develop critical thinking, note-taking and test taking techniques. Notwithstanding, they learn

how to find their way around the various administrative offices on campus.

Exposure to simulation games like *Survival*, helped participants overcome biases in order to identify and trust the skills and talents in people of different cultural and social backgrounds. As a result of these games, a new level of trust and friendships developed and several study groups formed that made their college experience more enjoyable.

Even though much emphasis is placed on academic success, participants also learned the importance of overall health through their participation in a physical education course at the Gregory Health and Wellness Center.

On the final day, Friday, August 15, 2014, all participants received a hardy breakfast, words of encouragement from the TRiO staff and the Reverend Thomas Gary Stevens of Zion Pilgrim



Missionary Baptist Church, a Certificate of Completion and numerous school supplies.

(Above): Tiarri Jennings, Kashaiyah Butler and Dionka Foster are hard at work assisting teachers prepare their classrooms while (Below): Christopher McDonald and Trevor Beck help relocate heavy containers during the Early Start community service project day at Clinton Elementary on Monday, August 11, 2014.



BACK TO SCHOOL

New and returning students were welcomed by USCL administrators, faculty and staff on the first day of school, Thursday, August 21, 2014.

In the TRiO Learning Resource Center (LRC), new and returning Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) participants were greeted with a large welcome sign at the front entrance and staff members provided them with necessary instructions to ensure compliance to lab rules. Event/information calendars for the month were made available as a helpful reminder to OSP participants.

OSP staff provided new participants with instructions in developing strategies for academic success and other important tidbits proven to improve their college experience at USCL and beyond. Furthermore, all OSP participants enjoyed the use of 10 additional new computers and two new printers.



Throughout the fall and spring semesters, OSP participants were exposed to numerous academic, career and cultural activities designed to help develop skills useful during their college experience and throughout life.

With a campus-wide emphasis on community service, OSP participants were encouraged to join at least one Student Government Association (SGA) organization and to volunteer their time

and talents to numerous community projects and non-profit organizations.

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES (SSS)

The goal of the SSS or Opportunity Scholars Program (OSP) at USC Lancaster is to increase college retention and graduation rates and facilitate the process of learning from one level of education to the next.



EMPATHY for Others

Since its founding in 1959, USC Lancaster has promoted post-secondary educational opportunities to local residents as well as to citizens in the surrounding counties. Also, administrators, faculty, staff and students have embraced participation in numerous community service projects to help those in need.

The TRiO Programs' Early Start, OSP, Upward Bound (UB), Delta Links and Omega Scholars participants have continued this tradition, empathy for others, by adopting Clinton Elementary as their community service project for the academic year 2014-15. Their projects include: mentoring; tutoring in

a variety of subjects; Food Drive; Angel Tree; and Coat Drive.

Over the course of the year, participants developed a new perspective on how fortunate they truly are in comparison to the precarious conditions of so many in the surrounding communities.



FOUNDERS HALL



UPWARD BOUND participants, who represented Andrew Jackson High, Buford High and Lancaster High Schools took off running on Monday, June 2, 2014 as they began the day packed with activities that would continue daily for the next six weeks. They received academic reinforcement in English, Math, Science and a foreign language. Also, participants received instructions on topics in career exploration, personal development, and academic survival skills for both high school and college. Part of their academic and personal counseling included visits to several college campuses throughout South Carolina, as well as, cultural experiences to various camps, community service projects and parks as seen in the photos below.

UPWARD BOUND makes history

(Above) Upward Bound participants pose for a quick photo on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at the ribbon cutting ceremony and open house of USCL's newest facility – Founders Hall. (Below, left to right) USC Palmetto College Chancellor, Dr. Susan Elkins, USC Lancaster Dean, Dr. Walter Collins, III, USC President, Dr. Harris Pastides, Founders Federal Credit Union President, Bruce Brumfield, and USC Board of Trustee, Hugh Mobley take part in the ribbon cutting ceremony.



(Above): Upward Bound (UB) participants assisted in packing boxes with donated canned food items for needy families at the Hope in Lancaster, Inc. facility. (Below): UB participants are pictured, at the conclusion of the six-weeks program, enjoying their visit to Medieval Times in Myrtle Beach, SC.



Constitution Day Quiz Bowl Challenge & Constitutional Jeopardy

Nearly 200 USCL students tested their knowledge of The Constitution of the United States on Tuesday, September 16 and Wednesday, September 17, 2014 in the University 101 classes and TRiO Learning Resource Center. A quiz of 20 questions was given on a variety of topics pertaining to facts about the Constitution. Quiz bowl highest scorer, Brandon Newton, won a pair of home game USC Gamecock football tickets. And, OSP participant, Christian Tarque, triumphed over three contestants in the Constitutional Jeopardy to also win home game USC Gamecock football tickets. Also, prizes were given to winners from each University 101 class. The Director of Student Life, Laura Humphrey Carnes, and the Admissions Office, Thomas Monroe, generously assisted TRiO with the numerous packets of prizes for winners.



Pictured above in the Constitutional Jeopardy (left to right) are Jonathan Osborne, Christian Tarque, Dr. Ron Cox (Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs and event Host), Crystal Hayes and Emilice Vener.



7TH ANNUAL OMEGA SCHOLARS Basketball Tournament

Despite the time of year, avid basketball players took to the court at the USCL Gregory Health and Wellness Center on Friday, October 24, 2014. Nearly 40 players and some 70 spectators took part in the 7th Annual Omega Scholars Basketball Tournament fundraiser. With the help of the Delta Links, who processed team entry forms, the annual event started promptly at 9:00am and concluded around 4:00pm. Four teams, consisting of 8-10 players, participated in a grueling double elimination tournament with an unexpected outcome in the grand finale. First timer team, Ballout, upset veteran team, Snoops, in a last minute rally to win 42 – 38. Proceeds from the tournament helped the organization to sponsor several community service projects.



(Top left): Snoops' team captain, Snoop Ealy, is trapped by opposing players. (Above): Ballout players show off their First Place trophies as a result of a hard earned victory over Team Snoops at the 7th Annual Omega Scholars Basketball Tournament.

AROUND TOWN

The act of giving is intertwined with the educational process at USCL. All OSP participants, Delta Links and Omega Scholars are constantly reminded to take part and even sponsor community service projects as part of their college experience. Such participation has helped students gain a deeper appreciation in the opportunities they may have taken for granted. Community service projects like the USCL Food Drive and Angel Tree for Clinton Elementary not only benefited numerous children and their families, but helped strengthen family values in USCL students as well as tapped into their empathy for others.

The annual Food Drive, sponsored by the Delta Links and Omega Scholars, began Monday, November 3 and concluded Thursday, November 20 with a Turkey Sandwich Luncheon for those who donated a minimum of three canned or dry goods. Seventy-five students and 35 faculty and staff donated nearly 700 food items that were taken to Clinton Elementary on Friday, November 21, 2014.

For over a month, November 3 – December 8, 2014, TRiO staff collected holiday gifts for the USCL Angel Tree for Clinton Elementary. Thirty-five selected boys and girls received toys, clothes, and school supplies to help make the holidays most memorable.

USCL Angel Tree

Help make a small child's
Christmas be filled with JOY!
Sponsor a child from

CLINTON ELEMENTARY



COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS: Food Drive and Angel Tree



(Above): OSP participants (standing left to right) Jedarius Twitty-Davis, Shaquille Blackmon, Ezra Cunningham, Elliot Moses, Doug Boykin, Carl Easter, Keeonn Wilson, Khadijah Cooke, Jacob Hendrix, Danielle Truesdale, Jonathan Osborne, Pritiben Patel (seated) and UB Academic Specialist, Peggy Frazier, pose for a group photo after boxing donated canned food items.



(Above): OSP participants (standing left to right) Amy Fernandez, Jonathan Osborne, Sarina Johnson, Ezra Cunningham, Judy McIlwain, Jacob Hendrix and Briante' McKinney showcase a few donated gifts during Angel Tree for Clinton Elementary on Monday, December 8, 2014.

Academic Excellence

Despite the disadvantage of being a first generation student, 39 percent of OSP participants made the President's Honor Roll (21) and Dean's Honor Roll (41) for the 2014-15 Academic Year at USCL. Participants' majors include: Biology, Engineering, Computer Science, and Pharmacy to name a few. The following OSP participants made the President's Honor Roll and Dean's Honor Roll for the fall semester (PHR): Hannah E. Boykin, Joseph W. Brown, Jefferson D. Diaz, Taylor J. Funderburk, Morgan L. Humphries, Ashley E. McManus, Jesse J. Todd and Summer M. Truesdale. (DHR): Trevor C. Beck, Tyler S. Dotson, Khyle A. Dyer, Amy J. Fernandez, Dionka A. Foster, Kelsi M. Funk, Crystal Hayes, Jacob N. Hendrix, Demarkeyo Q. Ingram, Sara Key, Jennifer K. Knight, Odeth G. Mendoza-Quintana, Teyanna Nichols, Jonathan T. Osborne, Samantha J. Rinard, Tinijah S. Roseboro, Karly S. Ross, Tyrie Rowell, Kera L. Stroner, Christian M. Tarque, Elijah M. Witherspoon, Amanda R. Wright and Ladarius L. Wright.

Academic excellence continued with the following for the spring semester: (PHR) Hannah E. Boykin, Joseph W. Brown, Shaquala D. Cunningham, Micah C. Hayes, Morgan L. Humphries, Jonathan T. Osborne, Carol-Anne M. Plummer, Kiyomi M. Prince, Christian M. Tarque, Jesse J. Todd, and Summer M. Truesdale (DHR): Kenauana K. Brown, Scott C. Catledge, Jr., Trevaris D. Clyburn, Jefferson D. Diaz, Taylor J. Funderburk, Crystal Hayes, Jacob N. Hendrix, Jennifer K. Knight, Evelyn S. McIlwain, Teyanna Nichols, Mitesh P. Patel, Pritiben P. Patel, Aldahir Pineda-Pliego, Brittany R. Scott, and Jared D. Young.



UNIVERSITY OF
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A Palmetto College Campus

The TRiO Programs at USC Lancaster are a series of federally funded programs that provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and serve to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education.

TRiO Staff

Thelathia B. Bailey, Director of TRiO Programs (SSS and UB) Director of University 101, and Adjunct Professor

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