New Year, New You!

By Buck Jordan

THE ONE THING I LOVE MOST ABOUT THIS TIME OF YEAR IS THAT WE GET A CHANCE TO BEGIN AGAIN. Freshmen and transfers start out in a new place where, most of the time, no one knows them, and they can establish themselves in whatever way they see fit. Upperclassmen take the opportunity to modify their college experience and make it better. Here are three adjustments you can make to help turn over a new leaf.

1st: Commit Yourself to College. Treat this semester like it’s your new significant other, or “Siggy.” Your classes are dates that you never miss, you have an 8-week anniversary at midterm and a 17-week anniversary finals week. The more time you spend getting to know your new Siggy through studying and doing homework, the better the payoff at the end. Yes, you will happily break up with this Siggy the third week of December 2013. And Siggy will tell the world how good (or bad) you are on your transcript.

2nd: Seek Academic Support beginning Week 2. If tutoring exists for your class, including Supplemental Instruction begin going as soon as you can. Any class that has Supplemental Instruction has a documented history of statistically high numbers of D/F/W. That’s D as a letter grade, failure or withdrawal. Take it as a sign. Get help FAST! Visit www.ipfw.edu/casa for more information about different tutoring options.

3rd: Do something different. Never been to a play? Go to a play. Never been to an athletic event. Go! Don’t like studying by yourself anymore? Join or create a study group. Step outside of your comfort zone a little and join a club or go to a program at housing. Never be afraid to say “I’m here for the free pizza.” But don’t be afraid to say “This topic sounds interesting to me, too.”

Good luck TRiO SSS Students and welcome back. We are in our offices ready to support you with your new adjustments!
Have A Friend Interested in Joining TRiO Student Support Services?

- Full-time students at IPFW seeking first bachelor’s degree
- U.S. citizen or permanent resident
- Additionally, students must meet one or more of the following qualifications:
  - Are first generation college students (parents do not have a bachelor’s degree)
  - Meet federal income guidelines
  - Have documented disability with SSD office

Students who meet eligibility requirements, should request an application from the TRiO office or by visiting the TRiO website. Completed applications should be returned to the TRiO SSS office. After completing the application, potential students will be interviewed. Acceptance is based on availability and need for the program.

Do you have more questions? Contact us!

What are some TRiO SSS Benefits?

- Laptop computer loans
- Scientific/graphing calculator loans
- One-on-one support & resource referrals
- Cultural events
- Workshops
- Scholarship search assistance*
- Cultural day trip

*Discuss with your TRiO advisor to make it work for you!

Pick Up Your Free TRiO SSS T-Shirt!

Located in the TRiO SSS office in the basement of Neff, room B50.
How Much Should I Budget?

One of the trickiest things to figure out in college is how much you should plan on spending for living expenses then making sure you have the money available. You’ll do yourself a favor if you start out the semester anticipating how much you’ll need then keeping track of how much you actually spend each day for a month. This makes it easier to allot the correct amount of money for the remaining months. Now estimate how much you’ll need for tuition, meals, books and supplies, clothes, entertainment, travel, phone, rent, utilities, laundry, haircuts, health care and gifts. List your income from financial aid, scholarships, savings, parents and/or work. If necessary, figure out ways to reduce expenses such as getting DVDs from the library, carpooling, and cooking more meals rather than eating at restaurants. Several college budgeting articles and spreadsheets are available on-line. To help you get started, below are some average annual expenses:

- 30 credits at IPFW in-state
  Tuition: $7770
- Books & Supplies: $1400
- Room & Board: $3400 (living w/ parent), $10143 (off-campus), $9242 (on-campus)
- Transportation: $2430 (with parent), $2978 (off-campus), $2712 (on-campus)
- Other Expenses: $2077 (with parent), $3114 (living away from home)

Remember that graduates from college earn an average starting salary of $44,500 which is 38% more than those without a degree, making this a worthwhile investment. (Sources: National Association of Colleges & Employers, the Department of Education’s National Center for Educational Statistics).

Thought from the President!

“I love the TRiO Club because it gives me the opportunity to give back to my community and bring happiness to whom ever I am helping as well as to myself! I am also grateful for it because I get the chance to be a leader and to grow as a person.”

- Abby Wiegand, President

Get More Involved!

Want to get more involved? Looking for ways to help in your community? TRiO Club is a great way to give back. Members help organize and staff volunteer activities in the community. For more information on how to join or just how to sign up to help, contact Abby Wiegand (wiegad01@ipfw.edu). Currently, the TRiO Club is coordinating volunteering projects at the Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo, Community Harvest Food Bank and Interfaith Hospitality Network. (See dates on page one). TRiO Club is open to all IPFW students regardless of TRiO SSS program affiliation.

Would you like to be featured in a TRiO newsletter? If so, e-mail Shubitha Kever at kevers@ipfw.edu.
Freshman Invited to #SUCCESS Seminars

Starting September, 9th & 10th, freshman in TRiO SSS began attending #SUCCESS seminars to discuss the secrets of college success and to connect with other new students. Topics will include balance, priorities, time management, communicating with professors, learning styles, emotional intelligence, and stress management. The seminars will be offered from 12:00pm to 1:00pm on Mondays in Ketter 101 or on Tuesdays in the library room 275. Students attend whichever sessions fit their schedule (see important dates to the right). This is a great way to start off on the right foot and meet other IPFW students.

TRiO SSS #Success Seminar Dates

All meetings run from Noon - 1:00pm

| KET 101 | Sept. 9th (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Sept. 10th (Tues) |
| KET 101 | Sept. 23rd (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Sept. 24th (Tues) |
| KET 101 | Oct. 7th (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Oct. 8th (Tues) |
| KET 101 | Oct. 21st (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Oct. 22nd (Tues) |
| KET 101 | Nov. 4th (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Nov. 5th (Tues) |
| KET 101 | Nov. 18th (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Nov. 19th (Tues) |
| KET 101 | Dec. 2nd (Mon) |
| KET 101 | Dec. 3rd (Tues) |

KET = Ketter
Lib = Library

Experience History in Columbus with TRiO SSS

All active TRiO SSS students are invited on a one-day trip to Columbus, Ohio on Wednesday, May 14, 2014 to experience history first-hand. Pending budgetary approval, students will travel by charter bus to Columbus where they will visit a full-size replica of the Santa Maria, Christopher Columbus’ flagship. While there, students will tour the ship, learn about how the sailors lived and how their voyage changed the world forever. After that, students will visit Kelton House, a house built in 1852 that has a secret. Sophia Kelton will be our guide through the risks her family took as conductors on the Underground Railroad and may introduce us to a runaway hoping to make it to Canada.

Admission to both activities, transportation and meals are all free; however, students must RSVP for the event as spaces are limited. Contact Regina Gorden at (260) 481-0220 or gordonr@ipfw.edu. Mark your calendars now for the May 14th day trip to historic Columbus, Ohio!
TRiO SSS
Student Success Story:
Dennis Barbosa

What is your major? Career goals?
Journalism. My goal is to find a job with an objective news organization as a writer and illustrator for reporting politics.

What brought you to sign-up for TRiO SSS?
I saw a flyer in the stairwell in Neff. Thought it curious I had never heard of it so I decided to check it out.

What challenges did you face growing up?
Challenges I faced growing up mostly had to do with racism and put-downs. I grew up in a small town where I was the only Hispanic person in my class much of elementary and middle school, resulting in an inferiority complex which I have slowly overcome over the years. I’ve always had a passion for learning and I feel journalism has taught me how to better connect and communicate with other people.

What challenges have you faced during college? I would have to say my relationship with my former significant other. When things at home are on rocky waters it only adds to the stress that already exists with meeting deadlines in class and at work. I found my TRiO SSS advisor indispensable during midterm and finals when stress was at its highest.

How has TRiO SSS supported your college experience? TRiO SSS has facilitated me in a way I could only wish my academic advisor would have. I found accountability in keeping my grades up and just someone to talk to for advice when I was feeling overexerted. TRiO helped me become more organized by simply making sure I used an organizer, something I could never reasonably expect from an academic advisor. I was given the time, attention and advice I needed when I needed it.

How do you feel about TRiO SSS?
I feel TRiO SSS is a treasure trove of academic assistance that should be utilized by any student who struggles. Even those who think they don’t, they could most likely find something they have neglected or overlooked in their busy schedules that would benefit them.

What advice would you offer new IPFW students?
My advice for new students would be to never be afraid to ask for help. If you’re the kind of student who thinks you can do everything yourself you’re missing out on a lot. Multiple sets of eyes see more than just one.

What would you say to someone considering applying to TRiO SSS? I would encourage anyone thinking of applying to TRiO SSS to do so.
Contact Us

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The TRiO Student Support Services staff (left to right); Buck Jordan, Shubitha Kever, Regina Gordon, Karen Lenfestey

21st Century Scholars Need 15 to Finish

21st Century Scholars entering college for the first time in the 2013-2014 school year must complete at least 30 credits each academic year in order to receive their 100% tuition award at IPFW. Earning 30 credits a year is the best way for any student to graduate on-time. Scholars who complete fewer than 30 credits may be eligible for a reduced award amount (approximately 35%). An easy way to remember is that each semester you need “15 to finish.” 21st Century Scholars can choose to defer part of their scholarship for summer classes (by contacting the financial aid office) and those credits count toward the completed 30. If you have any questions, contact your TRiO advisor, Scholars@che.in.gov or 1-888-528-4719.