# TRIO CLARION UNIVERSITY FRESHMAN NEWSLETTER STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Fall 2019

#### **CLARION UNIVERSITY DEAN'S LIST STUDENTS**

Nicholas Allis Mickenna Ansell\* Cooper Aubele Jenna Biggie Laura Bilger Kayce Bobnar Taliyah Carter\* Jessica Charles Felicia Colwell\* Rachel Dressler **Emily Evers\*** Tristan Fanks Gracie Felmlee\* Breana Finch **Brandy Ford** Lexi Fosburg\* Jenna Gammon Lauryn Geisewite\* Michelle Gilliland\* **Danielle Goehring** Victoria Harmon Kendra Harper\* Aimee Haslet\* Breanna Hauser Christine Hine\* Anastasia Hlumyk Zoev Howell Levi Hughes\* Jennica Hunter

**Ruth Jolon** Gileyla Jones Kayla Karg Joelle Klein Elizabeth Korbeck Samantha Leasure Lydia Letavish Emily Lodge\* Kimberly Lopez\* Kaylie Lutz **Trent Maines** David Marterella Lynne McCune Name Savannah Nealon Caitlin O'Hara Rachael O'Neil Carly Park Sierra Patterson

Caitlin O'Hara
Rachael O'Neil
Carly Park
Sierra Patterson
Alyson Peters\*
Samantha Peters
Sarah Probst
Kaia Rearick
Cortney Renninger
Rachel Sandala
Elizabeth Santana Jimenez
Elizabeth Schreckengost
Morgan Secco\*

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Alexis Shifflett
Nicholas Shiner\*
Rebecca Shirey
Sara Shock
Renee Simpson
Montiya Smith
Kaitlynn Stasko\*
Kayla Temple
Sarah Tovar\*
Abbey Uebelacker\*
Ashlee VanGuilder
Ripley VanHoosier\*
Amanda Venesky
Nyshae White\*
Zhu, Jia\*

\*Indicates a 4.0



**SPRING 2020** 

### Academic Achievements

Six students received their Bachelor's Degree at the Fall 2019 graduation ceremony:

Abigail Blake Tate Canavan Taliyah Carter Tiara Lamb Samantha Peters Turey Rodriguez



CLARION UNIVERSITY TRIO STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES FOURTH FLOOR, BECHT HALL

814-393-2347

MARIA AIELLO, DIRECTOR
MICHELE PEDLOW, ACADEMIC COUNSELOR
MEGAN LAIRD, ACADEMIC COUNSELOR



The TRIO Student Support Services Program is funded entirely by a grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

### Spring 2020 Important Dates

#### **CHECK OUT THESE IMPORTANT DATES!**

#### **Spring 2020 Important Dates:**

Classes begin 8 a.m.	Monday, January 13
Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday observed	Monday, January 20
Winter holiday begins 10 p.m.	Friday, February 28
Winter holiday ends 8 a.m.	Monday, March 9
Classes end 10 p.m.	Monday, April 27
Final examination period begins 8 a.m.	Tuesday, April 28
Final examination period ends 10 p.m.	Friday, May 1
Semester ends 10 p.m.	Friday, May 1
Spring Commencement	Saturday, May 2
Semester grades due from faculty	Wednesday, May 6

# Student Spotlight

I am very thankful to have been a part of TRiO because they have helped me tremendously throughout my college career. Being a first-generation college student, I didn't know what to expect my freshman year, but TRiO immediately made me feel welcome, and they supported me every step of the way. My advisor, Ms. Pedlow, was always ready to answer any question that I had. She helped me schedule my classes every semester, and always made sure that my requirements were fulfilled. When I decided to add a second major, she used her magical powers to make sure that I got into every class that I needed. TRiO has helped me succeed by helping me explore my options, and guiding me in the right direction.

During my time at Clarion, I was a longdistance runner for the cross country and track team. Running is a passion of mine, and being a collegiate athlete was an amazing experience. Running requires hard-work and dedication, and it has shaped me into the person



**Kayce Bobnar** 

that I am today. I attribute a lot of the success that I've had as a student to this amazing sport. After five years here at Clarion, I will be graduating in the spring. I am sad to leave, but thanks to

my amazing professors and everyone at TRiO, I know I am well prepared for the journey ahead. I will have obtained two bachelor's degrees; one in psychology and one in environmental geoscience. I will also have a minor in social work. All of this was made possible because of all of the support from TRiO; I don't know what I would have done without them!





#### PAY FOR COLLEGE WITHOUT ACCUMULATING THOUSANDS IN DEBT:

Searching for ways, aside from student loans, to pay for your • Unigo.com - With over 2,000 scholarship categories, there college career should be a top priority on your list. Of course, you are already here; taking classes, but that does not mean that it is too late. Try to think of it as a game. Every dollar that you "earn" in scholarship or grant money is one dollar that you do not need to borrow in loans. Consider the following Scholarship Search Platforms:

- Clarion.edu Please do not forget about this one! There are plenty of scholarships right here at the university that you may be eligible for. By using the new scholarship platform that is now in place, you are sure to be notified of every scholarship that you are eligible for.
- Fastweb.com This platform is by far the most popular one out there today. It is easy to use and provides high dollar amount scholarships. (You might have heard of the Duct Tape Scholarship or the Left- Handed Scholarship!)
- Cappex.com This platform provides more search results than any other platform. You are sure to find scholarships that you qualify for here.

## Test Tip Why you should always review a returned test!

- Look for mistakes in grading. Check your score.
- Know what questions you missed and why-it may appear again on the Final Exam!
- Evaluate what kinds of questions you missed. Study them to understand what makes them difficult for you. Review strategies for dealing with that type of exam question.
- Correct and study again what you missed. This is an effective way to study for future tests in this class.
- Read your instructor's comments, particularly on essay questions, so you know how to improve for next time.
- See if your incorrect answers came from lecture/ class notes or text book readings. Concentrate more on that source for the next test.
- Visit your instructor during office hours so that you can ask how to improve on the next exam. Ask questions while the exam material is still fresh in your mind.
- Review how you studied for the exam. Look for ways to improve next time.

- is something for everyone at Unigo. With a large number of scholarship filters, you can enter exactly what you are looking for.
- Bigfuture.com This platform is run by collegeboard.com, which you may have heard of as they administer the SAT. Not only does this site allow you to search for scholarships, but there is also a wealth of information regarding additional college planning tools.

Grants are also a way that you can pay for your schooling without needing to borrow money. The main difference between scholarships and grants is that scholarships can be need-based or merit based. Grants are typically needbased and a FAFSA must be on file in order to qualify for most grants. Follow this link to see 101 Grants that you may have never heard of.

 http://www.collegescholarships.org/grants/101-grants.htm Another great way to help pay for college is by applying for a work-study job on campus. This can be done right through your MyClarion Portal. Most work-study positions are around 10 hours per week – which leaves plenty of time for studying. If you have a large gap in your classes throughout the day - this would be a great option for you to look into. From a lab assistant to a tutor to a tour guide, the possibilities are almost endless! This is a fantastic way for you to start networking and building relationships with professionals who can potentially help you in the future, all while making money to help pay for college.

The biggest thing to remember is that it is easy to borrow money, but it is a lot harder to pay it back. The time and effort that you put into searching for alternative ways to pay for college now, will equal more hard earned dollars that you are able to KEEP in your pocket later.

- \*\*Remember\*\*
- Deadline to file your FAFSA: May 1st
- Deadline to file your FAFSA and be considered for Clarion University need-based scholarships: March 1st
- Clarion University scholarship search platform deadline: February 28th

#### Resources:

https://www.reviews.com/best-scholarship-search-platforms/; http:// www.collegescholarships.org/grants/101-grants.ht



### Top 10 Rules for College Roommates

(From the book, "Insider's Guide to College Etiquette")

Here at TRiO, we sometimes hear "tales of woe" about problems with roommates. After all, cohabitating with a total stranger can be difficult. Having a roommate or roommates can either make your college days fun, or completely miserable. Remember that all relationships require a little effort to make them work, so here are some tips for drama-free living that will hopefully start you on the path to fun, rather than misery. Who knows? You and your college roommate(s) may end up being lifelong friends!

- 1) Don't borrow your roommate's things without asking. Yes, that includes the stuff in the refrigerator.
- **2)** Clean up after yourself. This is your living environment.
- 3) If you have an early class, but your roommate can sleep in for another three hours, don't hit the snooze button five times. Use a small, soft light instead of the overhead. If possible, walk on tiptoe.
- 4) Set up some kind of housework arrangement from the get-go. Some roommates like to stake a claim (the kitchen, the bathroom, windows, and dusting) and tackle it once a week; oth-

- ers prefer to write up a chart and rotate duties. Figure out what plan works for you and stick to it.
- 5) If you have a significant other, don't plan to have him or her sleep over all the time. If you want some privacy for a bit, ask your roommate in advance. Texting works well for this.
- 6) Make a joint decision on when social hours end. Expect to turn off the music and kick your visitors out by 11:00 p.m. on weeknights. And when you do have visitors, make sure they're polite to your roommate.
- **7)** Don't be loud at crazy hours. Don't spray-paint anyone's door at 5:00 a.m. In fact, just don't spray-paint anyone's door.

- **8)** Don't do anything that makes your roommate feel uncomfortable. And if you're using drugs or alcohol in the dorm, there can be pretty harsh discipline for that.
- 9) Carry your own room key. If you find yourself locked out and it's late, don't wake up your roommate; instead, ask the CA on duty to let you in.
- 10) Don't gossip about your roommate on campus. You get to know someone pretty quickly when you're sharing 300 square feet, and it's not polite to share his or her secrets. If you have a serious dispute, see your CA. But if you really just need to kvetch a little, call your parents or your old high-school friends. They'll probably be happy to listen.

### Reminder:

#### TRIO ADVISING/ACADEMIC COUNSELING APPOINTMENT:

If you haven't scheduled a semester planning meeting with your Academic Counselor (AC) for Spring 2020, please do so ASAP. Your AC can assist you with setting academic, personal and career goals, but most importantly with an action plan to attain them! Your AC can

also help you with many other things, such as, class registration for Fall 2020, reviewing homework and class assignments, tutoring, etc. Make your appointment today by emailing your AC: Michele Pedlow, mpedlow@clarion.edu or Megan Laird, mlaird@clarion.edu.

The Student Support Services Newsletter is published periodically by the Student Success Center, Clarion University, 840 Wood Street, Clarion, PA 16214-1232. Articles within the publication reflect the philosophy of the center and do not necessarily represent the official position of Clarion University, It is the policy of Clarion University of Pennsylvania that there shall be equal opportunity in all of its educational programs, services, and benefits, and there shall be no discrimination with regard to a student's or prospective student's gender, gender identity, race or color, ethnicity, national origin or ancestry, age, mental or physical disability, religion or creed, genetic in formation, affectional or sexual orientation, veteran status, or other classifications that are protected under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and other pertinent state and federal laws and regulations. Direct inquiries to the Title IX Coordinator. Clarion University of Pennsylvania, 103 Carrier Administration Building, sfenske@clanon.edu or phone 814-393-2351, or the Director of Social Equity, 210 Carrier Administration Building 16214-1232; Email asalsg1ver@clarion.edu or phone 814-393-2109. Inquiries may also be directed to the Director of the Office for Civil Rights, Department of Education. 330 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington. DC 20201.



Student Success Center Clarion University 840 Wood Street Clarion, PA 16214-1232 2534120009.1

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