A Message from the SSP Staff

WHAT IS THE STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAM?
- It is a federally funded Trio Program that serves low income, first generation/disabled college students!
- You must apply to the program in order to participate.
- All services provided to program participants are FREE!
To learn more about our program please visit the Student Success Program office in the CCS.

NHU GRADUATION
As another trimester comes to a close here at The National Hispanic University, the Student Success Program staff encourages you to participate in several upcoming events. Most importantly the 2011 Graduation Commencement. This will be held on campus May 14th.
Congratulations all SSS 2011 graduates.

Welcome Jonathan to the Student Success Program
Our latest edition to our team is Jonathan Martinez, Who recently graduated from San Jose State University May 2010 with a Bachelors of Science in Justice Studies and minor(s) in Legal Studies and Mexican-American Studies. He enjoys traveling all over the world and just recently visited Mexico City this past December, and hopes to travel across all of Latin America in the near future. He also enjoys playing sports and doing other adventurous activities such as hiking and skydiving. Jonathan is in the process of going to graduate school to pursue a master’s degree either in Law, Social Work, or Social Justice. “I see myself helping those that are disadvantaged in my future career.”

Movie Days are here again!
Come join Ben and Jonathan for movie days.
Over the next few weeks every Thursday from 12:00pm - 2:00pm and 4:00pm- 6:00pm there will be a movie from the list above showcased followed by a Q&A discussion. Prepare for a day where entertainment and education collide.
The 2011 Art, Music, & Poetry Exhibition

By: Kenyatta Brooks

On February 23rd The Student Success Program and First Year Experience came together for the 3rd annual Art, Music, & Poetry Exhibition. Every year the event has a theme that the artists should try to capture within their mediums, this year’s theme was the “Power of Cultura”. Prior to the engagement students, faculty and staff were able to view several art mediums in the library, from paintings, to photography, and poems. That evening showcased live poetry performances by Adan Perez, Arturo Delgado, and Carla Estrada and a special appearance from the Provost Dr. Necochea and Lourdes Robles who shared a poem entitled Bicultural Me by Zulmara Cline. Pete Munoz who has blessed stages of places such as the San Jose Improv, The Ice House, and Rooster T. Feathers Comedy Club gave an exhilarating performance during the event. We had musical performances by Leonel Torres, Cesar Mireles, Cesar Gonzales, Gustavo Balladares, and Rita O’Connell. The Student Success Program would like to thank the faculty for bringing their classrooms to learn about the students’ work and to view the exhibit. Along with all of the contributing artists: Jose Andrade; Vivencio Gimbal; Anarita Reyes; Adriana Garcia-Cabrera; Kyle Plata, Cynthia Wambsgans, Cynthia Guerrero, Evelyn Vasquez, Ivana Sandoval, Murisa Jacques, Ana Cuevas, Veronica Acevedo and others.

The true work of art is but a shadow of the divine perfection.

-Michelangelo
Over the next months the Student Success Program will be hosting a number of events both fun and educational. This is your chance to connect with other Student Success Program Students...the question is, will you be there?

**March**

- 23rd Philosophy Workshop discussing influential philosophers and their arguments.

**April**

- 24th SACNAS Informational Workshop (Math and Science students encouraged to attend).
- 5th Philosophy Workshop
- 8th & 15th Movie Days
  12:00-2:00pm & 4:00-6:00pm.

See page 6 for Career Fair announcement!

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**Ask Yatta!**

Dear Yatta,

when I’m in class and the instructor is giving a lecture now do I manage to stay awake without caffeine and sugar?

Truly Tired,

Exhausted in school

Dear Exhausted in School,

When in school so many factors can play a roll in being tired during class. Late nights studying, socializing, parties, spending time with family and loved ones, and juggling work and school, all can make a student exhausted trust me I know; been there, done that. So here are some ways to stay awake during your lectures:

1. Wake up an hour early before leaving the house. This may seem to make a person more tired than ever, but believe it or not, this can help you prepare for a busy day and get energized. Try getting in a work out before class to get the blood pumping.
2. Eat healthy portions of fruits, cereal or oatmeal as it contains low carbs. It helps rejuvenate your body and mind so that you will be more focused and be able to pay more attention during lectures throughout the class period.
3. I recently found peppermint to be an amazing flavor that awakens my senses.
4. And finally Participate in class discussions whenever you feel the need to doze off. While some students believe that most lectures from their professors are a bore, there are a few that can be quite thought-provoking and grab your attention to keep you mentally responsive to what is going on in the classroom.

These ideas should help during your college career and many years after. Good Luck Exhausted in School.

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A wise man can learn more from a foolish question, then a fool can learn from a wise answer. – Bruce Lee
SSP Workshops
By: John Phung

In lieu of providing on site tutoring and supplemental advising, the Student Success Program (SSP) identifies students’ academic, social, and career exploring needs and offers workshops to support our students. In the spring of 2011, we provided: Math, APA Citation, Research Skills, Scholarship, Resume and Cover Letter, Interview Skills, Financial Literacy, and Educational Media Critique Workshops.

Research studies from the Department of Education have shown a strong positive correlation between students taking remedial classes and college dropout rates. In order to unravel this issue, the Math Workshops were organized and executed by our SSP tutor John Phung. Participants in the workshop worked in small groups to review the contents for Math 45 (Elementary Algebra) and Math 100 (College Math) to prepare them for their unit assessments. Students obtained the necessary operational skills and the academic math language to successfully derive to the math solutions. The workshops were held three days before each unit assessment for both math classes here at NHU. Students who participated in the math workshop were among the highest achieving students in their classes as apparent by the results of their assessments.

Many of our students struggled in classes which required intensive research and writing long essays; hence, in January and in February of 2011, John Phung organized the APA Citation Workshops to provide students with accurate information on compiling a title page, proper citation format, referencing, and structuring essays. With the help of Ben Luu and our librarian Heather Schwappach, the SSP provided the Research Skills Workshop. Heather gave a PowerPoint Presentation on different search engines that are useful for various academic subjects at NHU. Students were informed about how to start a research paper, how to organize research writing, and how to compile a legitimate research report. Jonathan will be hosting an “Avoiding Plagiarism” workshop in the upcoming month, along with a time management workshop, which is a highly important for students to learn to excel in not only their college careers, but also their lives.

SSP awards students with scholarships to support their financial needs. Students were required to apply and include: a resume, a personal statement, and a recommendation to be qualified for the scholarship. Our workshops focused on building Resumes, Cover Letters, Applying for Scholarships, and writing a Personal Statement to help students complete the applications and assemble professional documents in spring 2011. These documents will help our students prepare and build a professional portfolio that can be used during interviews.
Westop Conference: Las Vegas
When the Student Success Program and Roadtrip Nation meet, amazing things happen!
By: Martha Escalera & Kenyatta Brooks

“Enrich Your Summer Bridge Experience: Finding your own Road”
Every year Trio professionals gather to attend the Westop Conference in February-March. The Western Association of Educational Opportunity Personnel (WESTOP) is one of ten regional associations dedicated to furthering educational opportunities for low income, first generation and disabled students. This year’s conference focused on the following theme From “Best Practices to Innovation: New Paradigms for Educational Access & Excellence.” Trio professionals have the opportunity to network and learn about best practices at other hosting institutions. This year we represented NHU well. There were a total of four presentations, including the SSS program. Our Trio colleagues learned about NHU because of our variety in presentations.

Arnulfo Sanchez and Martha Escalera presented a workshop that focused on the NHU Summer Bridge Program. The title of the workshop was “Enrich Your Summer Bridge Experience: Finding Your Road.” We had Jason Manion, the Education Coordinator from Road Trip Nation (RTN) present on how we have implemented RTN’s education curriculum into our Summer Bridge Program. We explained that an SSS student joins the program during the summer, takes academic courses for credit, and participates in team building, cultural, and career development activities during the six weeks. Jason helped us by showing video clips of what we do at NHU during the summer. We included a presentation with messages from several of our Summer Bridge alumni, Osvaldo Ruelas, and Adriana Jacquez. The presentation went well because we had a very engaging audience and a variety of representation. Jason added a nice touch to the presentation by sharing the history of Road Trip Nation. Arnulfo and Martha were able to share their experience as Trio professionals as well as Trio Alumni.

QUICK NOTE:
Adriana Jacquez on KQED PBS Radio!
Adriana, a Summer Bridge/Road Trip Nation participant of 2010 spoke about her Road Trip project interviews and how they made a positive impact in her life last summer. Being the first one in her family even amongst her brothers and sisters to go to college, she is setting a new standard for her families’ future generations. To Check out the full Roadtrip Nation forum from January 17, 2011 go to:
www.kqed.org/a/forum/R201101171000

Tsunami in Japan...
How can you help?
By: Rebecca Yee

In the aftermath of the 8.9 earthquake and tsunami that devastated Japan; many people are asking:
- What is the appropriate response? -how can I help?

Though we may be very far away, there are still ways in which we can help bring and support the relief effort in Japan. One way is donating to organizations like the Red Cross, who sends workers and supplies overseas. Be aware of the situation, the more you allow yourself to be involved the more opportunities you will find to help out in greater ways.

Visit the American Red Cross website below to read more or to donate:
The student success program will be hosting a career fair week during March 28th thru the 31st. Each day will showcase a different workshop.

- Resume Workshops
- Professionalism & Dress code
- How to network

On March 31st we will host the Career Fair located in room 302 from 1:30pm - 4:30pm. This event is for SSS students only and will have several participants such as:

- City Year
- Peace Corps
- REI
- World Financial Group
- Inroads
- Child Care Careers
- Afrotc
- Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- Abercrombie & Fitch
- Embassy Suites of Santa Clara
- Verizon
- YMCA
  And many more!

Resume Paper and Blank Business cards will be provided to those students who attend the workshops.

For more information contact: Arnulfo Sanchez at (408) 273-2729 or email at asanchez@nhu.edu
A Message from the Director

Dearest Student Success Program Participants!

Our Fall and Spring Semester has brought you more opportunities to help you succeed as a college student: you should now be able to register online, see your course requirements from home, and get additional support from COMPSYCH Guidance Resources www.guidanceresources.com

I encourage you to take advantage of the resource above.

Thank you to those of you who submitted the Student Success Scholarship Applications! Congratulations to our SSS graduating seniors - please look out for your TRiO recognition invitation in April.

I look forward to continue providing you with the support and guidance during your college years at NHU. Please don’t forget to visit us and contribute your piece to the SSP Quarterly!

Much Love,

Martha Escalera

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The Student Success Program will be hiring Peer Mentors and 1 Tutor for the upcoming Summer Bridge Program. NHU Summer Bridge Alumni are encouraged to apply. These positions will be posted in April 2011.

• Please make an appointment with either Arnulfo Sanchez, Retention Specialist (408) 273-2729 or Kenyatta Brooks, Academic Specialist (408) 273-2724. To complete your Trio Advising Plan.

• Don’t forget to register for Summer Fast Track courses.

• If you are an SSP student who is interested in suggesting workshop topics, i.e. “Stress Management”, “How to join community organizations”, etc. Please visit the SSP office and give Rebecca Yee your idea or email her at Rebecca.yee@nhu.edu

• Are you interested in submitting an essay, poetry, art, etc. to the Student Success Quarterly? Please contact Kenyatta Brooks at kbrooks@nhu.edu

• To get more information on TRiO programs and other resources please visit: westop go to: www.westop.org

• STUDENTS - CHECK OUT THE SSP TABLE IN THE CCS FOR THE WEEKLY TRIVIA QUESTION AND MORE INCENTIVES!

Funded by the Department of Education, Trio Programs.