The SSS/TRIO Staff Welcomes You Back!

We are excited to have the campus hustling and bustling again as new students explore their surroundings and look for their classes, and returning students acclimate back into their routines.

Student Support Services is fully staffed and ready to serve you! Each TRIO student is assigned a personal advisor who will reach out to you to schedule your first meeting if you have not already met. Your advisor is here to help you with any questions or difficulties you may have with academics, finances, career/major choices and personally. They are able to provide you with assistance and referrals as well.

Throughout the year, we will be offering workshops, guest speakers and cultural activities. We encourage you to participate and be involved in the program as much as you can. Have a wonderful semester!

Meet TRIO’s Newest Advisor Ra ‘Shi

Ra‘Shi Common moved to the Bismarck area in September 2016, and shortly thereafter joined the University of Mary family. After first working as a Transcript Evaluator in the Registrar’s office, Ra‘Shi transitioned to a new role—Student Support Services/TRIO Advisor.

Ra‘Shi earned her Master of Art in Counseling with an emphasis in Higher Education at Lakeland University, Wisconsin, and spent the past few years working with TRIO and other Student Service programs. She has experience providing support to diverse student groups: Pre-College, Traditional, Non-Traditional, Non-Traditional Adult, and First Generation, each having a variety of needs.

Ra‘Shi believes higher education not only helps transform students, but it is also vital in helping them change the lives of their families and the communities where they live. TRIO support services such as academic/personal advising; financial aid/scholarship information; mentoring/coaching; tutoring; advocating; and referrals to additional services/resources provides many students access to higher education and helps them to succeed when they get there.

Ra‘Shi enjoys serving in a role that has a positive impact in this world.
New Student Kick-off Event

September 5

New students were welcomed to SSS/TRIO with a Kick-off event on September 5. Students were introduced to each other with a “Speedfriending” activity.

The Best Ways to Get to Know Your Professor

Building valuable relationships with your professors is vital. They are important resources, can provide a wealth of information regarding your college career and your career path. Additionally, strong bonds with professors can lead to mentorship, letters of recommendation and, sometimes job opportunities.

It’s really in a student’s best interest to get to know their professors as much as possible, because one never knows what it can lead to!

The following are some tips that will help you build a strong relationship with your professor:

Arrive on time. Arrive to class on time, if not early. Professors often interpret a late arrival as rude or disrespectful—both character traits that you don’t want to be associated with.

Never leave early. Similar to arriving late, leaving early can reflect poorly on you. You may have a completely valid reason for leaving early, but it comes across to the professor that you don’t care or are bored with their class. You do not want a professor to think you couldn’t bother to take out the time to sit through a full class period. If you must leave early, it’s a good idea to let your professor know before class.

Turn Technology off. Your smartphone, tablet and laptop are designed to keep your attention and they’re most likely just going to stop you from listening in class.

Sit in the front. When you sit in the front, you’re more likely to pay attention and participate in class discussion. Show your professor that you are present, paying attention and are willing to contribute.

Participate. Contributing to class discussion shows that you want to learn the material and are thinking about the topic at hand.

Engage in conversation after class. Introduce yourself to your professors after each class. Followup with noting interesting points from the lecture and discuss it further after class discussion.

Utilize office hours. Office hours are widely ignored by most students. Believe it or not, professors actually enjoy it when students connect with them during office hours.

TRIO student DeShawn Gay electrified the Marauders’ football sideline on the opening drive of the second half against Wayne State when he took a pitch around the right side and raced past the Wildcats for a touchdown run. He ran for over 100 yards that game, an accomplishment that has not been seen by a freshman since 2007.

Mike Night Talent!

Budding rap artist and TRIO student, Marquell Evans A.K.A. M.E.Money A.K.A. M$DE, gave UMary students a taste of his and his brother’s upcoming album “Two Brothers, One World.”

2017 United Tribes PowWow Cultural Event

TRIO students were given a chance to take part in the 2017 United Tribes PowWow Cultural Event that took place the weekend of Sept. 8-10. The celebration of life and Native American culture includes singing, dancing, and an opportunity to learn Native American history, culture, customs and traditions.
The Lumen Vitae is Ready for Service!

The Grand Opening of the Lumen Vitae University Center was held Friday, Sept. 8.

The new state-of-the-art, 80,000 sq. ft. Center is packed with amenities: A 600-seat stateroom, a bank, convenience store, bookstore, coffee shop, a restaurant, a clinic, and a Hall of Fame.

Outside features landmarks such as the Marian Grotto and Gift Hill Memorial that will be gathering spaces for all students and visitors to campus.

Walk-in Tutoring Center is now up and running! Check the schedule for available subjects and times. Come to the Student Success Center to obtain a copy of the schedule.

Writing Center Is Now Open
Welder 204
Monday, 6:00-8:30
Tuesday, 3:30-6:00
Wednesday, 5:00-6:00
Thursday, 3:30-6:00