

Student Support Services

Spring/Summer Newsletter 2010



A Message from the Director

Greetings SSS Students,

Let me begin by extending our Congratulations to our 34 2009-2010 Student Support Services Graduates. We wish you the best in your future and in all that you will accomplish. We have been a witness of your growth over the years and you have made us proud to work alongside each of you!

As for our remaining undergrads, another semester has come to a close and I am sure that all of you are glad to see it end. However, your hard work and dedication have brought you one step closer to the pomp and circumstance of graduation!

As we move into the summer months take the time to relax and most importantly to enjoy the break from the busyness of the semester. As you know, the fall semester will be upon us before you know it!

We look forward to seeing ALL of you in the fall 2010!

Sandra Fuentes
SSS Director



*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
- Nelson Mandela*

Congratulations Graduates - Fall 2009 & Spring 2010

Alejandre, Glafira

Aleman, Jacqueline

Alvarez, Abiam

Arambula, Esperanza

Camacho, Nadia

Cardoza, Megan

Cha, Jill

Fernandez, Yvette

Flores-Jimenez, Maria

Gallegos, Salvador

Godinez, Yaneli

Gomez, Mayra

Jackson, Brianne

Luna, Raquel

McCammond, Marilyn

Morin, Eric

Navarro, Esperanza

Olivarez, Yanina

Pang, Brianna

Perez, Robert

Platas, Claudia

Reynoso, Sandy

Rodriguez, Elsy

Rosa, Ariel

Song, Nancy

Vang, Kalia

Wright, Brandon

Xiong, Zoua

Yang, Chor

Yang, See Yee

May 2010

Volume 3, Issue 2

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IMPORTANT DATES

TO REMEMBER:

- May 22 CSUF Commencements
- May 24 Summer Classes Begin
- SSS Summer Hours begin 7am-3:30pm
- July 12-15 New Student Orientation (8/19 Makeup)
- July 19 SSS Relocation to Thomas Building 122
- August 23—Fall Instruction begins

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

- JOE GUERRA

- Here's To a Great Finish -

Another academic year is quickly coming to an end and most of you have already completed your last final exam. For many of the SSS students as well as staff, the 2009 – 2010 academic year brought with it many successful accomplishments and some disappointments. Be proud of your successes and learn from your disappointments.

Congratulations go out to Brandon Wright, the Student Support Services nominee for the Division of Student Affairs Dean's Medalist. The nominees for this award are nominated for their high academic achievement and who have brought honor to the university through outstanding contributions in their field of study, exemplary university or community service, and/or by other demonstrations of exceptional leadership.



Another SSS student, Eric Morin was nominated for the award as well by the Office of Student Involvement. Just being recognized by your program or department is an honor and says a lot about the student. It takes hard work, motivation and perseverance. So work hard and be diligent in everything that you do and just maybe, you will be the next SSS student to be nominated for our program during your senior year.

This year the SSS Program had a graduating class of 33 students who were honored at our annual SSS graduation banquet called, "A Time to Celebrate". The banquet was held at Toledo's Mexican Restaurant where the SSS Program hosted 65 – 70 students, staff, and guests. The menu for the evening was good food, good company, and a good time!!! Many of the graduating students have applied to a masters program and/or a credential program. I know of seven students who have already been accepted to their specific program and I am sure there are more.



One of our SSS students, Ariel Rosa, has been accepted to medical school and will begin classes at Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California.



A special salute goes out to Yvette Fernandez who completed her Liberal Studies Degree in four years and who will be going on deployment with her National Guard Unit to Iraq for at least a year. Upon completion of her tour of duty she will be returning to Fresno State to complete the credential program. Keep her in your prayers.

Wishing you all the best in your finals and hoping you all have a restful but productive summer.

Opportunity is missed by most people because it is dressed in overalls and looks like work.

- Thomas A. Edison -



GO DOGS!!!

Summer Hours Student Support Services will be open this summer! However, our hours will change because of the construction on campus. Beginning May 12, we will be open from 7:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m., Monday-Thursday. We look forward to seeing you!

READING WRITING COORDINATOR

—TONI RUDD



From's Toni's Desk:

Congratulations to all the graduates! Best wishes to each of you as you move onto a new path filled with new adventures and experiences.

Yayeeeee! Summer's here! What a wonderful semester this was. I got to know many of you better through reading some of the best papers ever written and discussions involving some of the wonderful classes you were taking. Bravo to all of you great writers and thinkers! Well done. But, it's not over just because it's summer. I did some of my best thinking in college after the pressure was off and grades were in. So, after work, the beach, the hike, the nap—pull out that notepad or laptop and write in your journal for ten or fifteen minutes (unless you feel like writing more), just a free-write to keep all the gears moving and to keep those cobwebs from forming in the cranium over the summer

And, if that isn't enough (which, of course, it isn't), READ SOMETHING for pleasure.

I don't mean the channel guide on the tv, Facebook, MySpace, or text messages. Read articles, blogs, poems, magazines, novels, biographies, travel brochures, textbooks, journals—anything with whole words, sentences, paragraphs, verses, stanzas. You get the picture. Again, start with fifteen minutes a day and work your way up. Enjoy! E-mail or call me if you read something wonderful that you think I need to read.

And, don't forget to smell the roses this summer. I know many of you will be working and/or taking classes, but don't forget to take a lazy moment or two for yourself. Have fun and be safe!

Sincerely,

Toni

SSS Tutors



Cher Chang
SSS Tutor 2009-2010
Graduate Program
Major: Mathematics



Jessica Raygoza
SSS Tutor 2009-2010
Credential Program
Major: Liberal Studies



Mindy Rodriguez
SSS Tutor 2009-2010
Undergraduate—Senior
Major: Nursing



Glafira Alejandre
SSS 2004-2010
Graduate Program
Major: Spanish



Ariel Rosa
SSS 2005-2010
Graduate—USC (2011)
Major: Medicine



Julio Mercado
SSS 2006-2010
Undergraduate—Senior
Major: Chemistry



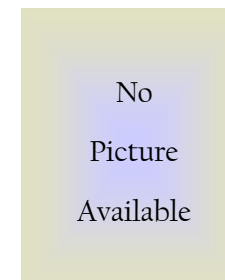
Miriam Gonzalez
SSS 2007-2010
Undergraduate—Senior
Major: Spanish



Mayra Ramirez
SSS 2008-2010
Undergraduate—Junior
Major: Pre-Business



Anourack Khamsapreuth
SSS 2005-2009
Undergrad—Sophomore
Major: Mathematics



No
Picture
Available

Sue Lor
Non SSS Student
Graduate Program
Major: Counseling



PEER MENTOR CONNECTIONS



*Genevieve Perez,
SSS Peer Mentor
Major: Public
Administration,
Graduate Spring 2010*

When I started going to college, about 10 years ago, it was hard for me to picture my graduation day.

As it is getting closer, I take more time to appreciate my university, teachers, and education.

When we work as hard as we do as students it can be easy to forget the fun part of college.

I have a lot of school spirit and I love my university.

I love to rock my bulldog gear and tell people that I'm a fulltime student and I have a great job on campus in the SSS Program.

I hope all of you share the same pride as I do of being a future Fresno State grad.

Accept challenges, so that you may feel the exhilaration of victory.

-George S. Patton

Attitude determines altitude.

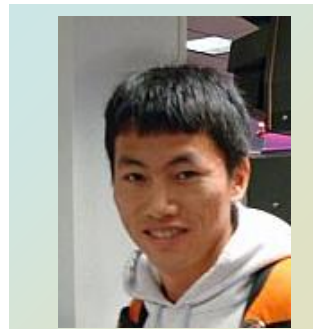
- Anonymous



*Eduardo Barragan
SSS 2005-2009
Graduate Program
Major: Rehabilitation Counseling*



*Pangshouayee "Pang" Vang
SSS 2006-2010
Undergraduate—Senior
Major: Bus Admin—Int'l Bus*

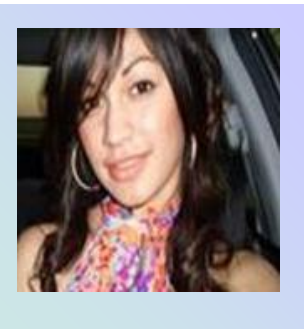


*Pheng Vue
SSS 2006-2010
Undergraduate—Senior
Biology—Physiology & Anatomy*

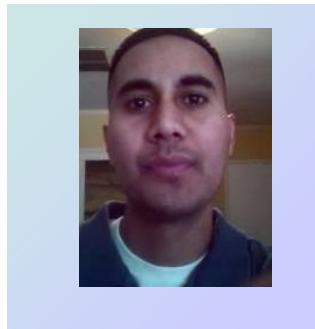
Challenges are what make life interesting;

overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

-Joshua J. Marine



*Perla Maldonado
SSS 2009-2010
Undergraduate—Junior
Major: Social Work*



*Gerardo Madrigal
Non SSS Peer Mentor
Graduate Program—Counseling
Marriage & Family Therapy*



*Luis Diaz
SSS 2008-2010
Undergraduate—Junior
Major: Construction Mgmt*

Peer Mentor Connections: Our peer mentor staff are available to all SSS students for one-on-one meetings as early as the 3rd week of Fall semester. SSS Peer Mentors offer peer support, new student follow-up, connect new students to campus resources, facilitate workshops, one-on-one peer meetings, promote student leadership and provide clerical support in our computer lab. We are very grateful for the services they provide SSS students. Thanks to all of our amazing staff for a great job!

SPRING SSS ACTIVITIES—MARCH

**PEER MENTOR CONNECTIONS:
OUR PEER MENTOR STAFF ARE
AVAILABLE TO ALL SSS**



SSS STARS—GPA

RECOGNITION (Fall 2009)

4.00

Paulina Flores-Jimenez
Edgardo Lomeli
Salvador Gallegos
Ignacio Garcia
Nohemi Garcia Perez
Jessica Jiron
Mai Va Lee
Maria Teresa Lemus
Tania Navarro
Vanessa Navarro
Randy Perez
Maria Elena Salcedo
Xai Vue

3.50 & above

Ariel Rosa
Claudia Martinez Cisneros
Perla Maldonado
Kalia Vang
Miriam Gonzalez
Rocio Andrade
Cassandra Mendez
Mayra Gomez
Jaime Jacobo
Brandon Wright
Antonio Figueroa
Ashley Yaughner
Mayra Ramirez
Sophie Tang
Mai Houa Moua
Julie Vang
Cheng Xiong
Chao Chang
Marlen Miranda
Isabel G Torres
Liliana Madrigal
Leslie Villanueva
Yvette Fernandez
Pheng Vue

3.50 & above

Kayla Bias
Briana Pang
Dusty R Pishione
3.00 & above
Bernard Thao
Megan Cardoza
Oue Vue
Gary Chan
Priscilla Garcia
Maira Enriquez
Maria Fonseca
Liliana Sanchez
Amy Wilson
Lee Vue
Gabriela Gonzalez
Wendy Fang
Fangyu Jiang
Karen Lopez
Isabel M Perez
Javier Solis
Maipanhia Vang
Pangshouayee Vang
Irma Camacho
Abiam Alvarez
Irma Gonzalez
Marilyn McCammond
Julio Mercado
Maria Carrillo
Rosa Lopez
Randy Wolter
Mai Youa Xiong
Lupe Reyes
Veronica Martinez Garcia
Kao Nou Xiong
Bao Yang
Marina Carrillo
Brianne Jackson
Deborah Guevara

Marilyn Lopez
Raquel Luna
Eric Morin
Karina Perez
Claudia Platas
Tong Vang
Jose Contreras
Marco Vasquez
Marina Aguilera
Ariana Grijalva
Sonia Gutierrez
Anourack Khamsapreuth
Yia Lee
Jackie Lepe
Ana Gabriel Lopez
Bong Xiong
Mai Yang Xiong
Nalee Xiong
Chor Yang
See Yee Yang
2.75 & above
Kristina Yang
Ivy Tang
Vang Lee
Carmelita Mendoza
Salvador Zambrano
Luis Garcia
Trinh Dao
Ntuaxj Paj Lee
Kabao Xiong
Luis Miguel Diaz
Edgar Enriquez
Elizabeth Gonzalez
Liliana Lopez
Darlene Ortega
Mai Neng Xiong
Nancy Xiong
Sandy Yang
Fernando Gonzalez Jr.



SSS Staff Achievement News

OUTSTANDING ADVISOR OF THE YEAR AWARD



Joe Guerra, SSS Counselor, awarded "Outstanding Advisor of the Year Award" with nominator Pangshouayee Vang



Joe Guerra, SSS Counselor, with Dr. Oliario, Division of Student Affairs, and Mike Covino, Provost, Academic Affairs



Joe Guerra, SSS Counselor, with Dr. Oliario & Pang Vang

Congratulations to Joe Guerra, Academic Counselor with Student Support Services, who just won the Outstanding Advisor Award from the University Academic Affairs at CSU Fresno. We value your hard work & it's well deserved!

Four faculty and staff members who went well beyond typical student advising duties were recipients of California State University, fifth annual Campus Advisors Network's Outstanding Advisor Awards. The event was held on May 7th, 2010 at CSU Fresno.

The awards were announced by Dr. William Covino, the university provost and vice president for Academic Affairs, and Dr. Paul Oliario, the vice president for Student Affairs. Each recipient received a trophy, certificate and \$1,000 stipend.

Each recipient received a trophy, certificate and \$1,000 stipend.

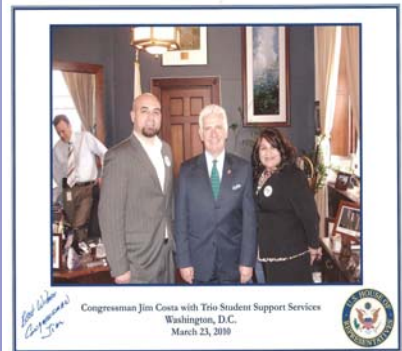
COE National Policy Seminar, Washington, DC

Kimberly Hughes, SSS Program Assistant & CENCAL Legislative Education Committee Chairperson

March 20-24, 2010 I had the opportunity to attend COE National Policy Seminar & Leadership Summit in Washington, DC. On March 23rd, I participated in "Day on the Hill" (Capitol Hill) with over 300 other TRiO staff and advocates from across the nation. Myself and Ricardo Marmelejo, CenCal President & COS Upward Bound Director and I represented Central Valley community colleges and universities. We visited our regional Congressional Representative's offices to bring awareness of the urgent need for increase in funding for TRiO Programs, educating them on services, as well as inviting them to join the Congressional TRiO Caucus. Our day was long, but the outcomes were successful as both Congressman Devin Nunes and Congressman Jim Costa pledged their support for TRiO programs and agreed to advocate for increase in funding for all TRiO programs. Fresno State is fortunate to be one of few universities to have 5 TRiO programs operating on its campus: Student Support Services, Ronald E McNair Program, Upward Bound (Classic), Educational Talent Search and Educational Opportunity Centers.

What can you do? All current students & SSS alumni can become TRiO Advocates by sending letters or emails to your congressmen about how our program has impacted you as a student or alumni. Visit <http://trio.ed.gov> or www.coenet.us and select Government Relations for more information and sample letters to use. Please call 559-278-1000 or email me right away if you are interested in becoming an advocate for TRiO programs.

My email address is: kimberly_hughes@csufresno.edu



SPRING SSS ACTIVITIES – APRIL

SSS ON THE MOVE

SSS “FINAL STRETCH” PANCAKE BREAKFAST

A pancake breakfast was hosted for all SSS students on Friday, April 30, 2010. The SSS staff, along with help from EOC staff (another TRiO program), cooked up pancakes and sausage hot off the griddle, as well as providing fruit and juice for early morning students attending the event. CSUF Sports & Rec staff were also on hand to lead students & staff in “stretches” to show them how to get their mornings off to a good start as final exams near. The event was to educate the students on the importance of a good breakfast and fitness to relieve stress.



Student Spotlight: Ariel Rosa, Graduate Spring 2010



Picture a brown-haired, brown eyed, 5'2 inch Salvadorian female. This is how you might see Ariel Rosa, but there is more to her than meets the eye. Ariel is the youngest of five children; her parents born in El Salvador in Central America. They left their war-torn country to come to America for farm work. Whatever crops were in season; grapes, tomatoes, cantaloupe; they did what they had to make ends meet in California. As a child Ariel was raised in Firebaugh, California. There she learned the hardships of financial struggle in her family. Although not very affectionate, much less motivational, Ariel remembers how her father bought her a computer, despite its great expense. She believes that this was his way of saying to her that he believed that education is important and that he was willing to invest in this machine for her because he believed in her ability to succeed. This was a defining moment, when she realized that with determination, she could reach my goals. Before she was born, a brother of hers died at two years from an illness that went untreated due to a lack of money. This opened her interest and understanding for the need of medical care. Ariel wished his death could have been prevented; however this strengthened her motivation to be in a position where she could prevent this tragedy from happening to someone else's family.

At Firebaugh High School Ariel worked hard to get good grades. She was active in sports: Volleyball, Basketball, Softball and Track throughout high school while maintaining a 4.4 gpa. This gave her the privilege of being her High School Valedictorian. While attending California State University Fresno (CSUF) Ariel has worked while commuting to school, volunteered with the youth group at church, and gained medical experience. She has also received several scholarships including the California Academy of Family Physician's scholarship. She was awarded for her academic achievements, including being placed on the President's List for 5 semesters and on the Dean's List for one semester. She was also awarded for her commitment to a medical career. Ariel has worked for the Sablan Medical Clinic in her community. There she is able to serve patients who have similar background: Hispanic, many immigrating from Central America to become farm laborers. Ariel's hope is to one day have a medical practice or collaborate with other doctors to reach small communities such as those in the Central Valley of California. As a doctor, she will strive to give quality medical care and to form trust with her patients. She is interested most in Family Practice Medicine because the doors are open to anyone. She most wants to use the knowledge she has acquired to serve the underserved.

SPRING SSS ACTIVITIES – MAY

SSS FINALS WEEK

“STUDY-IN”

MAY 17, 2010



Staff hosted a “Study-In” during Finals Week this semester. Students were invited to join Director Sandra Fuentes, Reading/Writing Coordinator Toni Rudd and the SSS tutors for 4 extended hours of study—one-on-one’s or in groups— and refreshments (hot coffee, pizza, soda, cookies) from 3pm to 7pm on May 17th. As students flocked in, got their snacks, found a study partner or just found a spot to study, it was a very quietly happy atmosphere. Because it was such a huge success, SSS students can look forward to many more events like this one in the future.



PERSISTENCE

*Problem, Barrier, Predicament,
Set-back, Obstacle, Hindrance,
Complication, Difficulty,
Brick Wall, Challenge*

*Whatever you call it, we all
encounter things that stand
between us and our goals.*

*Whether it is a particular course,
personal issues, financial
difficulties, or multiple
responsibilities,*

PERSISTENCE

is essential for success.

*According to the American
Heritage Dictionary,*

*to persist is “to hold firmly and
steadfastly to a purpose, state, or
undertaking despite obstacles,
warnings, or setbacks.”*

*Persistence is kind of like this
cartoon that you may have seen.*



*I want to encourage each of you to
develop the quality of persistence—
set your goals and
work until you achieve them.
Easy? No, it never is.*

*History is full of individuals who
have succeeded through
persistence: Abraham Lincoln,
Wilma Rudolph, Martin Luther
King, Jr., Alice Paul, and Thomas
Edison are just a few examples.*

*You might want to learn about
some of these individuals.*

It can be inspiring.

*If you need some encouragement in
persisting, try watching
“The Last Lecture”
by Randy Pausch.*

*Hang in there, and remember that
Student Support Services is here to
lend a hand.*

SSS GRADUATE RECOGNITION DINNER - HONORING FALL 2009 & SPRING 2010 GRADS

SSS program graduates were honored with a Recognition Dinner on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at Toledo's Mexican Restaurant in Fresno, CA. The graduates were given the option to pay for a guest; some brought their siblings, parent, or partner. Some had siblings or partners in the program. 25 other SSS students signed up to attend. Staff, students and other TRiO program staff celebrated the accomplishments together and had a great time.



Staff & Students



Delicious Food!



Recognition to grads



Sisters with sisters



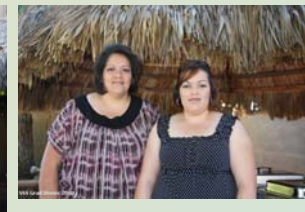
Brother & Brother



Sister & Brother



Daughters & Mothers



Couples in SSS Program



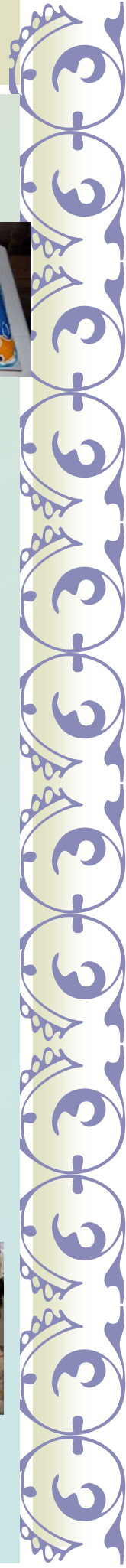
Working Mothers



Student Staff Graduates



Two Dean's Medalists Nominees



TRiO Day Highlights

CSUF Satellite Student Union

April 17, 2010



Annual TRiO Day was held at Fresno State campus this year. Our TRiO programs in CENCAL chapter were well represented with over 450 students. Legislators Congressman Devin Nunes and Joel Saldana of Congressman Jim Costa's office were on hand to deliver their pledge of support for TRiO programs on Capitol Hill.



Students registered, received their packets, t-shirts and materials for TRiO Day.

Students made proclamations of how TRiO programs have impacted their lives and inspired them to strive for higher education.

Kevin Vu of SSS and TRiO Advocate talks to students about why we need advocacy for increases in TRiO funding.



Kristina Yang of SSS and Upward Bound Alumni leads group.



Students divided up into groups with different schools and programs to develop ways to bring awareness to TRiO programs.



Kimberly Hughes, SSS and TRiO Advocate leads a group discussion "What would your world be like without TRiO programs".



SSS and EOC staff members Toni Rudd and Eli Garcia collected cans from students that brought food to donate to families in West Fresno County.



Altogether over 400 TRiO students from campuses throughout Central California attended TRiO Day at Fresno State! Students and staff representing Upward Bound, Educational Talent Search, Student Support Services, and Educational Opportunity Centers were there to learn how to become better advocates for TRiO Programs in their communities.



Some of our SSS students are Upward Bound Alumni : Dang Xiong, Gabriela Gonzalez, Marlen Miranda, Kristina Yang, and Karina Perez were present.

SSS NEW LOCATION: SUMMER 2010

-- We've Moved -

Come by and visit your new SSS Program Office

in Thomas Building, Room 122

Same great Support Services!

UPCOMING FALL 2010 at SSS

**Pilot Programs during September

COUNSELOR JOE GUERRA

“WALK-IN” FRIDAYS

** See your counselor on a walk-in basis on Friday's only,
first come-first served.

and

TUTORING—EXTENDED STUDY HOURS

“STUDY HALL THURSDAYS”

5-7pm

Bringing students to their peak success



Upcoming Academic Workshops

Fall 2010:

Community Engagement

Resume & Curriculum Vitae

Beyond the Catalog

Women's Resource Center

Student Networking

Managing Crisis

*Study Plans Making Choices/Dealing with
Consequences*

Set Goals

*Goals allow you to control the direction
of change in your favor.
Where do you see yourself in five years
and what is the road map to get there.*

Remain Focused

*The price of greatness
is responsibility.
Apply the goal for five years and stick
to it, at all cost.*

Ask For Help

*We make a living by what we get,
but we make life by what we give.
There are staff members in
Student Support Service
who are willing and able to help you.
Seek the help you need.*

FOR MORE PICTURES & NEWS OF EVENTS

CHECK OUT THE SSS WEBSITE: www.csufresno.edu/sss