

TRiO Student Support Services

sSs Staff

- Gail Barker, Director
- Jodi James, Disability Services Coordinator
- Kila Ward, Program Counselor
- Donna Marben, Program Secretary
- Raymond Blackman, Graduate Aide/Tutor Coordinator

Office Hours

Mon. through Thurs.

8 am—5 pm

Friday 8 am—4:30 pm

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Academic Success Conference

Twenty-one students and five staff attended the sSs Academic Success Conference at Purdue University Augusts 6-7. The purpose of the conference was to get students ready for the upcoming academic year. Breakout session topics included stress management, financial literacy, reading a college textbook, using Blackboard, note taking, goal setting, and test preparation.

Students went on a scavenger hunt on Friday morning, which gave everyone an opportunity to look around Purdue's main campus. Prizes were given to the top three students who found the most items on the hunt—Carl Stambaugh and Vonda Rager found all 15 items; Joy Collmar, Penny Chandos, Sarah Lasser, Flavia Lee-Chang, Gayle Young and Brittany Alvarez had a group effort and brought back 13 items.

Raymond Blackman is our new graduate aide. Raymond is pursuing his master's degree in education/counseling at Purdue University Calumet.

Raymond will be coordinating our tutoring

component and has conducted a tutor training session with five tutors. Raymond is organizing the tutor files to ensure all students requesting a tutor are matched with a tutor who meets their needs.



Group picture above—students and staff in the diner at Purdue's Student Union

Other students attending were Tracy Riggs, Sherry Waldrop, Vera Gaston, John Williams, Penny Turner, Wanda Lenoir, Sam Blackburn, Darren Fisher, Stefanee Fogus, Scott Hadley, Emily Markovich, Evan Parks and Mike Piskor. They were all awarded a Purdue pencil for a good effort!

Welcome Raymond Blackman!

Please stop in to say Hello!



SEPTEMBER 2009 WORKSHOPS

All Workshops will be held in the
sSs Resource Room, SWRZ 38

Navigating Banner, Blackboard and

Email

Sept. 1
1:00–2:00

Note Taking

Sept. 2
11:00–12:00

Financial Literacy

Sept. 9 & 10
12:00–1:00

Test Preparation

Sept. 17
1:00–2:00

Time Management

Sept. 29
2:00–3:00

The sSs staff has made the decision to hold all workshops in the Resource Room. Part of the decision was based on the lack of desirable space on campus to hold our workshops.

This may be inconvenient for some of our students who use the Resource Room to study during the time of the scheduled workshops. We hope to minimize this inconvenience by publishing our workshops in the newsletters and on our bulletin boards. We welcome all of you to our workshops!

EDUCATIONXPO [HTTP://EDU.EDUCATIONXPO.COM](http://edu.educationxpo.com) AUGUST 27, 2009

**“Begin to be now what
you will be hereafter.” ~
William James**

EducationXpo is an online college and career fair, with the answers and advice students and parents need before, during and even after college. Registered attendees will learn from world-class admissions and financial aid experts

who can answer questions about standardized tests, application essays, financial aid, career planning, and more. Students and recent grads can search for jobs and internships offered by a variety of employers.

EducationXpo is brought to you by FastWeb and Monster.com, the leading global career and recruitment resource.

**The next all day
EducationXpo is
Thursday, August 27
from 10 am–10pm EDT**

FALL BREAK TRIP

Kila will be taking approximately 20 students to Indianapolis during Fall break—October 12–13.

A bus tour of Indy will include stops at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, Lucas Oil Stadium, Madame Walker Theater, and City

Market. Also included will be dinner downtown and an overnight stay at Embassy Suites Downtown.

For more information on the trip, please contact Kila Ward at kward@pnc.edu or 219-785-5367



GET STUDYING OUT OF THE WAY!

Time Management Strategies

It is not hard to use your time most effectively, plan study and homework time every day. Organize it in blocks of 30–40 minutes—1 hour at the most. These small blocks give you a big advantage—being more consistently prepared for classes and tests.

- **Make study blocks a regular entry in your planner.** If you don't have one, stop in sSs and pick up a free planner.
- **Plan breaks**

between study blocks. You are most likely to remember material if you take it in small doses with breaks.

- **Schedule studying for your best time of day.** Identify when you are at your peak. Prioritize your homework/studying when your focus is at its best. Do the hard stuff first!
- **Avoid distractions when you are working.** Your

homework time is valuable, so don't let anyone interrupt. Turn off the television and video games.

- **Schedule time for friends and relaxation just like you do for studying.**
- **Avoid cramming for a test.** Trying to learn everything at the last minute does not work.
- **Don't pull all nighters.**

For more information on volunteer and internship opportunities at PNC, contact **Laura Weaver - Center for Service Learning and Leadership**
LSF 28
785-5742

YOUR MAJOR IN THE WORKING WORLD

August 13, 2009, Indianapolis Colleges Examiner, Sarah Hudson

It is helpful when choosing a major to think about what you want to do when you're done with school, but you may change your mind about that as well. While in college, it is important to not only succeed in your

coursework but also to investigate and try out jobs/internships/volunteer opportunities that pertain to your major. Not only does this give you the opportunity to see if this is what you really want to do but it also makes you

more marketable when you're graduating. Employers always look for experience, and the more you have the better. If you are struggling to find work in your major off campus, look into work study opportunities on

No matter what you decide to major in, it will be helpful for you to find some opportunity to work in that field. This will help determine if your major is right for you. And, if you're really lucky, the company will hire you when you graduate!

DEVELOPING A FINANCIAL GAME PLAN

USA Funds Life Skills

In order to take control of your financial future, you need to link goals, needs and wants to spending and saving habits. One of your overriding goals should be to keep your college debt as low as possible—including debt from student loans and credit cards.

WHAT CAN I DO TO TRIM THE FAT?

- Reduce utility costs.
- Stop spending for things you don't need.
- Stop paying for purchases with your credit card.
- Put all your loose change in a jar. Keep it for unexpected

expenses.

- Reduce your food expenses.
- Eat out less frequently.
- Learn to cook!
- Find free or inexpensive ways to entertain yourself.
- Shop around for telephone/cell phone plans.
- Stay away from the shopping mall!

Purdue University North Central TRiO Student Support Services

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TRiO Student Support Services (sSs) is a federally funded grant program serving 195 eligible students every year. The goal of sSs is to help students stay in college and graduate. sSs staff members provide a variety of services, including, but not limited to, tutoring, academic and career counseling, workshops, financial literacy, social and cultural activities, and a textbook and laptop loan program.

Participants in our program must meet one of the following requirements:

- First generation college student
- Meet income eligibility
- Have a documented disability

Participants also must be in need of at least one sSs service, be a U.S. citizen, degree-seeking, and fully admitted to PNC.

On-Line Tutoring and Peer Tutoring

On-line tutoring is available through Student Support Services. sSs peer tutors are assigned with an sSs student who has requested a tutor. Students and tutors will tutor on campus and can tutor on-line as well.

The sSs on-line tutoring program is a supplement to the sSs one-on-one peer tutoring.

sSs has tutors in a variety of subject areas: **math, chemistry, English and more.** Tutoring may be available in other areas.

Please contact Raymond, or stop in the office to pick up a tutor request form.

Tutoring Request Procedures:

1. Complete a Tutor Request Form—available in the sSs office or on-line.
2. Return completed form to sSs office.
3. Meet with Raymond to review your tutoring needs.
4. Schedule a Tutor Prep meeting with Raymond and the tutor.
5. Sign tutoring contract.
6. Schedule a time for weekly tutoring sessions.
7. Meet with your tutor as scheduled.
8. OR..tutor on-line as scheduled with your tutor

REGISTER TODAY FOR
ON-LINE TUTORING AT
pnc.askonline.net

Follow directions on the first page. Your user name is your first initial and last name. DO NOT use a password—askonline will generate a password the first time and will email it to your PNC email account.

