As the TRiO Student Support Services program draws near the middle of our second year, we are grateful to have a moment to pause and reflect on our accomplishments. The past 18 months have been a whirlwind and we’ve worked diligently to provide services and support to 140 Rose State College students.

Since beginning the program we’ve conducted 33 workshops, offered 20 cultural enrichment opportunities and attended 17 campus visitations. In addition, we’ve provided countless hours of academic advisement and tutorial sessions. We’ve been busy!

Every service provided by our program is intended to promote, support and foster your success. We’re fortunate that we can share in your academic achievements and are proud to share that within two semesters we’ve had seven graduates. Five of those have transferred to a four-year institution to begin working towards earning a bachelors degree.

While we applaud the accomplishments of our graduates, we’re proud of all of our participants. You each have different stories, different backgrounds and different challenges. But you all share a dedication to the common goal of academic success. And we’re here to help you achieve that!

This has also been a time for us to examine the program and identify ways in which we can improve our services. Next fall we will begin implementing a Freshman Mentoring program to target the specific needs of participants with less than 30 college hours. Our Academic Mentors will continue to be available to all participants by offering encouragement, guidance, and academic support but will offer additional outreach to this specific group.

We also plan to expand our academic resource library to include an electronic workshop portfolio covering academic and life skill topics. In addition, we will be restructuring the campus visits and cultural events in order to promote academic success and accountability.

Our goal is to provide quality services that assist and nurture you through your academic success - we’re here to make a difference!
Counselor’s Confessions

“You are made or unmade by yourself. By the right choice you ascend. As a being of power, intelligence, and love, and the [authority] of your own thoughts, you hold the key to every situation.” – Adapted from James Allen

New Year’s is usually the time that we make resolutions and maybe even write down a few goals for ourselves. By the end of January, we tend to forget what those resolutions are. Now we are in April just trying to keep our head above water. Our resolutions are a past forgotten breeze. Tests, quizzes, and assignments have started to stack up and we are wondering if we will pass or if we can even finish.

As I was walking the other day in this beautiful, warm spring weather I was thinking about new beginnings. Springtime should be our time for resolutions and starting over, not necessarily January. Not only are the trees and flowers re-blooming and growing, but we can too. There’s a new energy to spring and warmth. We get a little antsy and want to go outside and enjoy shedding our winter coats. Let’s use that energy to go outside under a big shade tree, or sit in one of the many common areas outside the classrooms on campus, and write down our goals and priorities between now and May. I want to challenge each and every one of you to make three goals for yourself right now, to be accomplished by May 18th: 1) A goal regarding your thoughts about yourself – positive thoughts are important in order to reach your goals. 2) An academic goal to ensure your success this semester. 3) A personal goal – something you are passionate about or want to do just for yourself.

When you signed up for classes, you made a commitment. DON’T GIVE UP. You can choose to turn your grades around if you need to. You can choose to have positive, self-motivating thoughts. You can choose to set goals and then achieve them. Everything we do starts with a choice. As the quote above says, “By the right choice you ascend.” Making the wise choice to stick with studying, to finish your homework, and to ultimately complete your courses you will have accomplished a great thing…an education. Not many even make the choice to attend college. You have made that choice. You have the opportunity. Take hold of that power you have and turn your situation around. You will never regret getting an education. It is a foundation to successful endeavors, confidence, and achievement. You can do it! You all can!

From The Director’s Desk

It’s hard to believe that the semester is half over! This is a good time to reflect on the past and look to the future. Take advantage of this time to examine your abilities, identify your weaknesses and take action to make a positive change.

If you’ve fallen behind this semester realize that you can choose to do better right this moment. Don’t beat yourself up over past mistakes; that time is over. Instead, take this moment to decide to do things differently.

I challenge you to look around at the prospects for your development and utilize the opportunities before you. Take advantage of the services that will help you succeed! There are many!

We join you as a partner in your learning, in your self-discovery and in your educational journey. We’re here to support you!
Congratulations Kay Byrd & Cherryl Seard

Kay Byrd and Cherryl Seard were each awarded a scholarship from TRiO’s regional association, the Southwest Association of Student Assistance Programs. Both were among those selected from an applicant pool of 156 TRiO participants from the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. Way to go!

SSS Banquet: All About You

We are quickly approaching the end of the academic year! It’s hard to believe that the semester will end in less than eight weeks!

We think it’s only appropriate to take some time to celebrate the past year by recognizing each of our participants! We want to acknowledge and honor you!

So mark your calendars and plan to attend - you deserve it!

SSS Recognition Banquet
Friday, May 4th
12:00 - 2:00
Tinker Terrace Room
Please RSVP by Friday, April 20

Federal Student Aid Can Help You Pay For College!
The new 2012-2013 FAFSA is available! Apply now to increase your chance of being eligible for aid. www.fafsa.ed.gov
Need assistance completing the application? Contact us!
Hall Of Fame

Robin Goodiron and Cherryl Seard were both featured in the 2011-2012 Hall of Fame for the Oklahoma Division of Student Assistance programs.

The Hall of Fame is designed to recognize the academic achievements of TRiO participants within the state of Oklahoma and was distributed to legislatures to showcase the success of TRiO students.

We’re proud of you both!

Save The Dates!

4/6: OKC Memorial Museum
4/11: Nutrition Workshop
4/20: Wizard of Oz
4/24: Textbook Reading Workshop
5/2: Stress Management Workshop
5/4: SSS Recognition Banquet

*Prior RSVP required for some events - check the full calendar for details!

RSVP: 1. come by the office 2. message our Facebook page 3. email amitchell@rose.edu or jwaller@rose.edu 4. visit our webpage at www.rose.edu/student-support-services and click the Student Spot tab to find the RSVP form!