

TRiO Student Support Services News

January 2013

TRiO SSS Student Spotlight



Renee Fortin
TRiO SSS Student

Our January TRiO SSS Student Spotlight is on Renee Fortin from Moscow, Maine. She is currently a senior and a traditional student, with an anticipated graduation date of 2013. She is majoring in Psychology with a certificate in Gerontology. She chose USM because it had the most majors and at the time that she started college, she was an undecided student. She joined TRiO SSS to receive assistance while working towards graduation, and her future goals and plans include going to graduate school for occupational therapy and working towards being debt-free. Her advice for new students is "Don't be afraid to ask for help, the 4-year track isn't for everyone, and question what you are told." Her best study tip is "use Quizlet.com." Her favorite class this year is Health in the Later Years, favorite food is sushi, and her favorite hobby is doing body work on her International Scout 800! Her favorite quote is "Only those who risk going too far can found out how far one can go." by T.S. Elliot. Thanks for sharing Renee and congratulations on your acceptance to graduate school!



If you would like to be highlighted in our TRiO SSS Student Spotlight, please e-mail us at trio@usm.maine.edu.

TRiO SSS Director's List & Laurie's List

The USM Dean's List Policy states that at the end of each semester, full-time, undergraduate degree students (12 credit hours or more, with a minimum of 12 letter graded credits (A-F), and excluding developmental credits (course numbers less than 100), with grade point average of 3.4 or above will be placed on the USM Dean's List. Students who attend both the fall and the spring semesters as part-time degree students and who meet the above full-time Dean's List criteria when the fall and spring semesters are combined are eligible for the Dean's list at the end of the spring semester. The Dean's List is published at the end of each semester.

In addition to the USM Dean's List, we want to recognize our TRiO students who may not have met all the requirements for Dean's list, but still had a great semester. We have created the TRiO SSS Director's List for full-time or part-time TRiO SSS students who have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher and Laurie's List (named after our Director, Laurie Davis) is for students who have earned a GPA of 3.7 or higher for the semester. We are proud to report that 67 TRiO SSS students made the Director's List and 18 made Laurie's List for the fall 2012 semester.

We would like to publish the names of the students on the Director's List and Laurie's List in the TRiO SSS newsletter, but we need to have updated Sharing of Information forms. If you have not filled one out in over a year, please fill out the attached form and drop it off to us at one of our offices at Gorham, Portland, or LAC, or fax it to us at (207) 228-8259. If you have incomplete or missing grades for the fall semester, please clear them up in the next month so we can include you in the list as well!

TRiO TRIVIA: How many TRiO SSS students earned a 4.0 GPA for the Fall 2012 semester?
(E-mail your answer to trio@usm.maine.edu and win a prize for the correct answer!)

December's TRiO TRIVIA Answers: The top 4 academic majors for TRiO SSS students are:
Undeclared (12), Social & Behavioral Sciences (11), Biology (10), Social Work (10)
Thanks to all who participated!
Congratulations to Jess McIntyre who won a prize for choosing Undeclared!

Important Dates to Remember!

Jan. 28: Last day to drop for 100% refund
Feb. 15: FAFSA deadline
Feb. 18-24: Winter Break
Have you filed your FAFSA?

From the Director



Laurie Davis
TRiO Programs Director

Congratulations to the TRiO students who earned grades that qualified for the Director's List and Laurie's List! Successful students ask questions of their professors and classmates. They use questions to gain a deeper understanding of the subject they are learning. There is an African proverb that says, "The one who asks questions doesn't lose his way" and an Irish saying, "Questioning is the door of knowledge". While some people may think that education is about teaching and learning the answers, Claude Levi-Strauss, the father of modern anthropology said, "The wise man doesn't give the right answers, he poses the right questions." Questions are important to finding our way and learning more, but how do we ask the "right" questions? Peter Wood, the president of the National Association of Scholars suggests that you:

- Boil your thoughts down to a single point that you want to find out.
- Begin your sentence with who, what, where, when.
- Go directly to the question, skip the introduction.
- Look at the person you are asking.
- Speak your question directly, don't read it.
- Wait for the answer, ask for clarification if needed.

TRiO Tip

Don't be afraid
to ask
more questions!

This semester resolve to ask more questions, listen to the answers, and pay careful attention to the questions provoked by the answers just as Cookie Monster does in this video clip, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ul9MtMilOnE&feature=youtu.be>.

Remember successful students ask questions!

University of Southern Maine TRiO Student Support Services

Voluntary Sharing of Information

I give consent for my information, including my name, picture, graduate status, college, major/minor and any awards or scholarships that I receive to be used by the TRiO Student Support Services staff in publications or USM display cases to promote the success of TRiO students. This form is voluntary and optional to sign. I understand I have the right to revoke this release at any time. I understand if I wish to revoke the release, I must do so in writing and give my written revocation to TRiO Student Support Services Office. I understand the revocation will not apply to information released under this release prior to TRiO Student Support Office receiving my written revocation.

Name of Student (printed): _____

Signature of Student: _____

Date: _____

Please fill out this form and drop it off to us at one of our TRiO SSS offices at:

Gorham Campus, TRiO Programs Office, 7 College Avenue
Portland Campus, Student Success Center, 119 Payson Smith Hall
LAC Campus, Student Success Center, 119 Lewiston-Auburn College

Or fax it to us at (207) 228-8259.