

TRIO TURNS



BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

**COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024**

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

COE'S 2024 ANNUAL
**CONFERENCE
PROGRAM**

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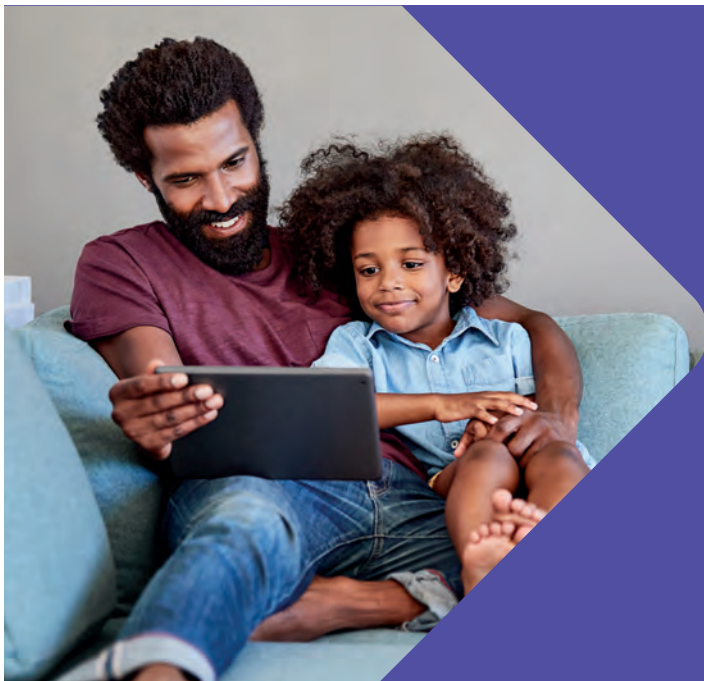


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WELCOME

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September 2024

Dear Colleagues:

On behalf of the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) Board of Directors, it is my honor, as the 2023-2024 Board of Directors Chair, to welcome you to New York City, as we celebrate together another great year at this year's COE Annual Conference.

Our theme for this year's conference, "TRIO Turns 60: Breaking Barriers, Inspiring Hope," celebrates six decades of transformative work that TRIO programs have accomplished in providing educational access and success for underserved students. Your presence here signifies your commitment to our shared mission, and together, we will continue to break barriers and inspire hope for future generations.

Serving as Board Chair has been an honor and privilege, and I am proud of the strides we have made together in advancing educational opportunities for underserved and underrepresented students. The dedication and commitment demonstrated by each COE extended family member have been exceptional, and I remain grateful for the support and camaraderie by each one of you.

This year's conference is special, as we celebrate Kimberly Jones's first year as COE President. Kimberly has brought fresh energy, innovative ideas, and a renewed commitment to our mission. Under her leadership, COE is poised to reach new heights, and we look forward to the many accomplishments that lie ahead with her at the helm. Let us take this opportunity to congratulate Kimberly on a successful first year and express our excitement for the future under her guidance.

During the conference, we have curated an enriching lineup of workshops, seminars, and keynote presentations on various topics vital to fostering equitable access to higher education. We encourage you to actively engage in discussions, share your expertise, and meet new professionals to create a great national network.

Furthermore, New York City offers a captivating backdrop for our conference. The rich history, cultural diversity, and vibrant atmosphere of the city that never sleeps will add a unique dimension to our experience.

I am excited about the connections we will forge and the possibilities that lie ahead as we unite to pursue a more inclusive and equitable educational landscape.

Once again, thank you for attending the 2024 COE Annual Conference. Your presence makes a difference, and we look forward to creating lasting memories together. I look forward to meeting you in the next few days.

With warm regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Blanco, III', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sam Blanco, III
2023-2024 Board of Directors Chair
Council for Opportunity in Education



September 2024

Dear Colleagues:

Welcome to the 2024 COE Annual Conference in the heart of New York City! As your conference committee and program co-chairs, we are thrilled to host you in this vibrant metropolis known for its rich cultural tapestry, iconic landmarks, and endless opportunities for inspiration and exploration. New York City, often called the world's crossroads, is the perfect setting for this year's conference. We celebrate 60 years of TRIO programs under the theme "TRIO Turns 60: Breaking Barriers, Inspiring Hope." Just as this city never sleeps, we hope your experiences here will recharge and amplify the energy and passion you bring to your work. This year, our program is structured around eight carefully curated strands designed to address the most pressing issues and opportunities in our field:

- **First-Generation Financial Empowerment:** Explore strategies and resources to help first-generation students achieve financial literacy and independence, empowering them to make informed decisions about their education and future.
- **Culture, Climate, and Belonging:** Delve into best practices for fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion within educational institutions, ensuring all students feel valued and supported.
- **Moving Forward, Looking Back:** Reflect on the history and legacy of TRIO programs while looking ahead to future innovations and directions that will continue to drive student success.
- **Research to Practice:** Engage with the latest research findings and learn how to apply them effectively in your programs to enhance student outcomes and institutional practices.
- **Start Smart:** Focus on early intervention strategies and initiatives that lay a strong foundation for student success, particularly for those entering higher education for the first time.
- **College to Career:** Equip students with the tools, skills, and networks they need to transition successfully from college to meaningful careers, ensuring long-term success and fulfillment.
- **Creating Global Citizens:** Emphasize the importance of global awareness and cultural competency and learn how to prepare students to thrive in an interconnected world.

We encourage you to immerse yourself fully in these sessions, engage with your peers, and take advantage of the knowledge and experience that will be shared. The dynamic atmosphere of New York City will undoubtedly provide the perfect backdrop for these critical discussions and innovations. We are confident that this conference will reinforce your commitment to our shared mission and inspire new ideas and approaches that you can apply to your institutions and communities. Thank you for joining us in this milestone year for TRIO. Let's make the most of our time together in this incredible city!

Warm Regards,

Sebastian Myrick

Stephanie Cruz

Michele Scott

Andrea Reeve



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FUNCTION SPACES

CAPACITY CHART REFERENCE GUIDE

CONCOURSE LEVEL

SECOND FLOOR

THIRD FLOOR

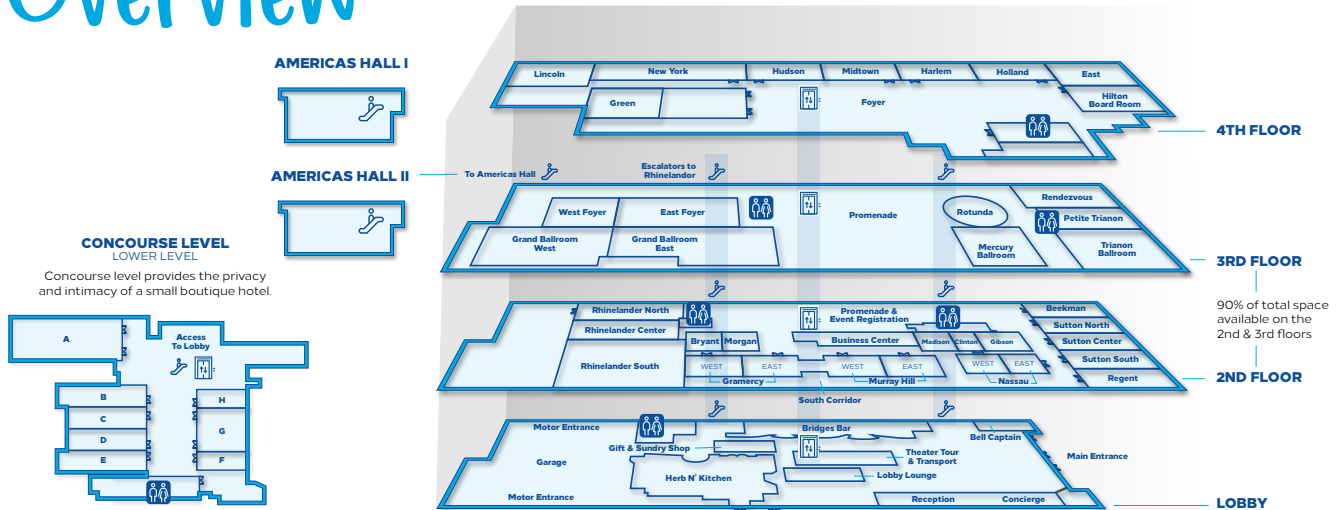
FOURTH FLOOR

AMERICAS HALL

HERB N' KITCHEN

LOADING DOCKS/ELEVATORS

Function Space Overview



FUNCTION SPACES

CAPACITY CHART REFERENCE GUIDE

CONCOURSE LEVEL

SECOND FLOOR

THIRD FLOOR

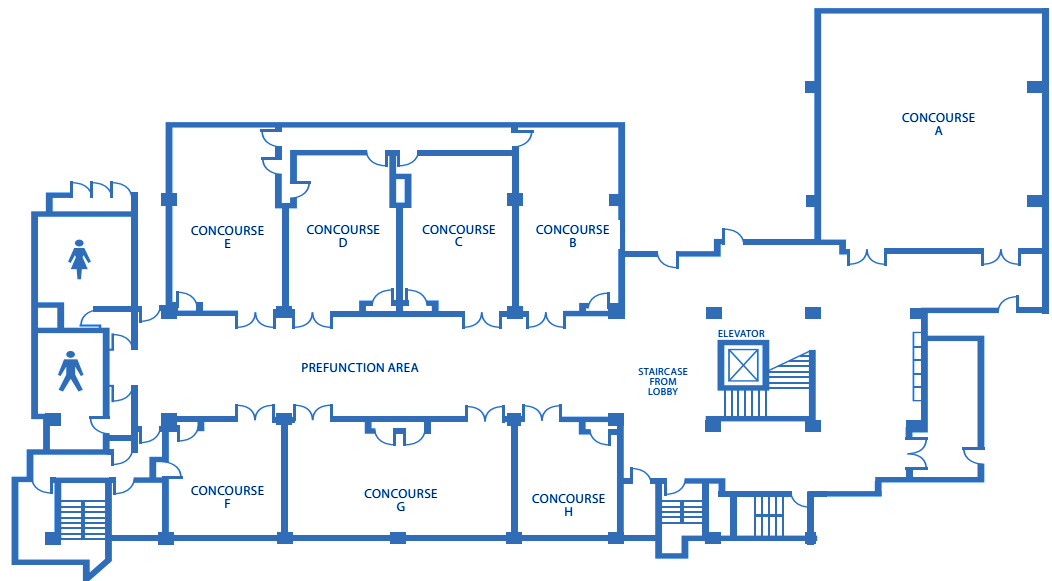
FOURTH FLOOR

AMERICAS HALL

HERB N' KITCHEN

LOADING DOCKS/ELEVATORS

Concourse Level Floor Plan



CONFERENCE MAPS

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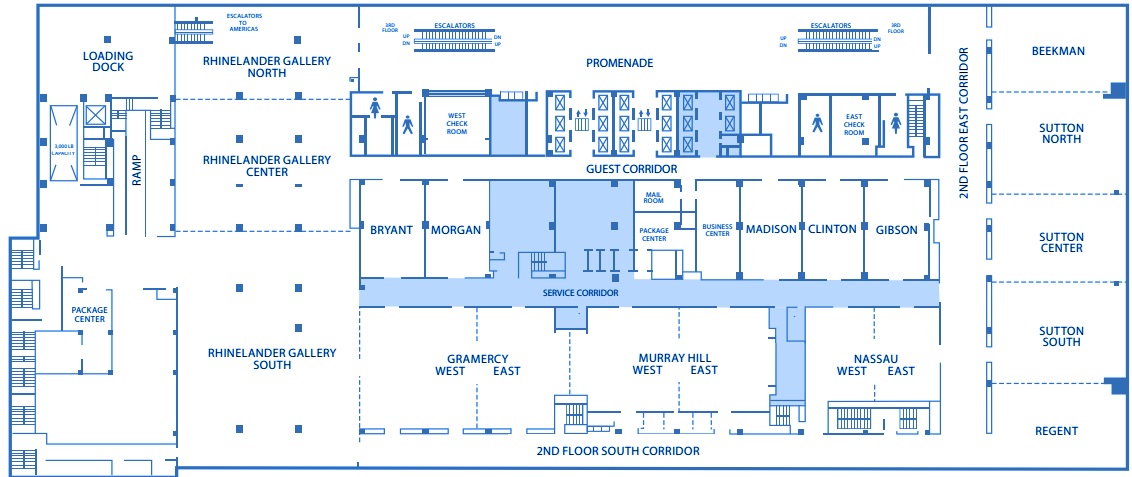
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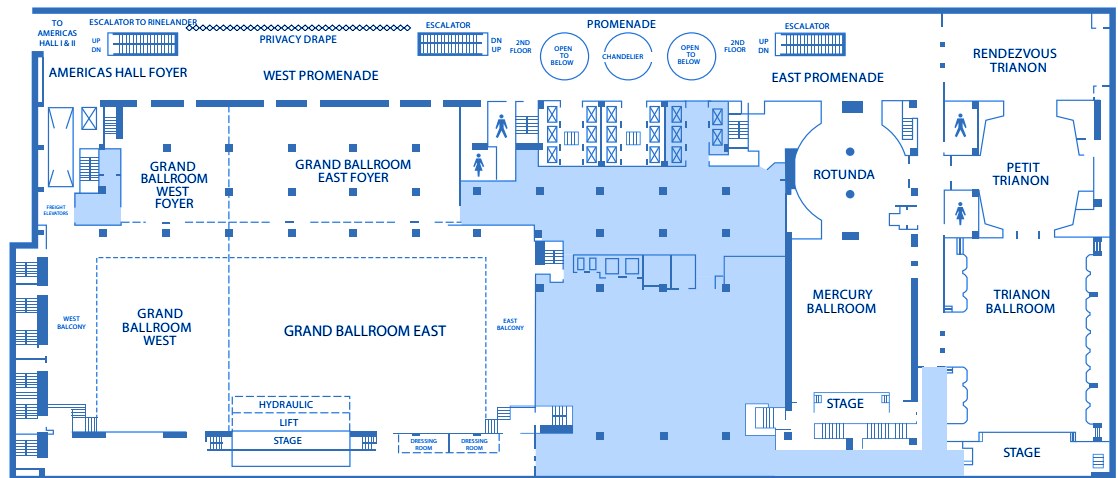
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- CAPACITY CHART REFERENCE GUIDE
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- SECOND FLOOR**
- THIRD FLOOR
- FOURTH FLOOR
- AMERICAS HALL
- HERB N' KITCHEN
- LOADING DOCKS/ELEVATORS

Second Floor Floor Plan



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- THIRD FLOOR**
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Third Floor Floor Plan



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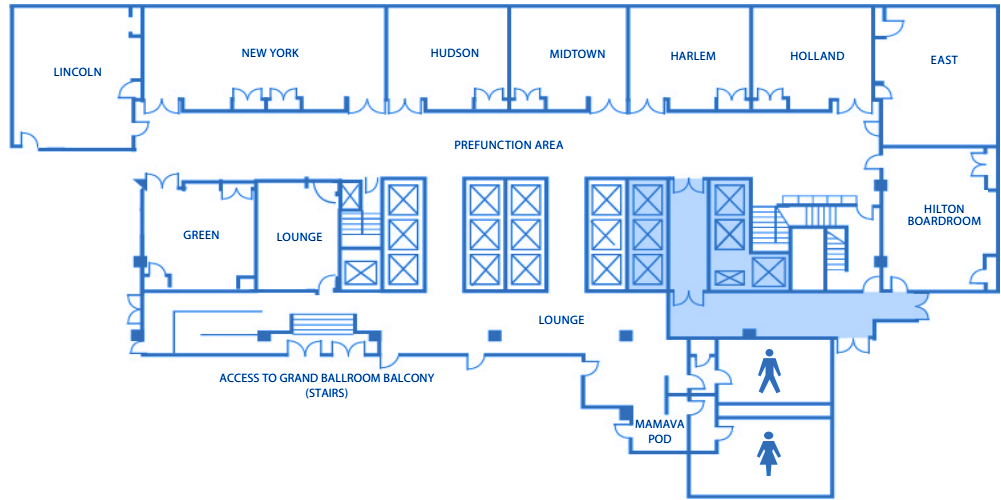
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BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

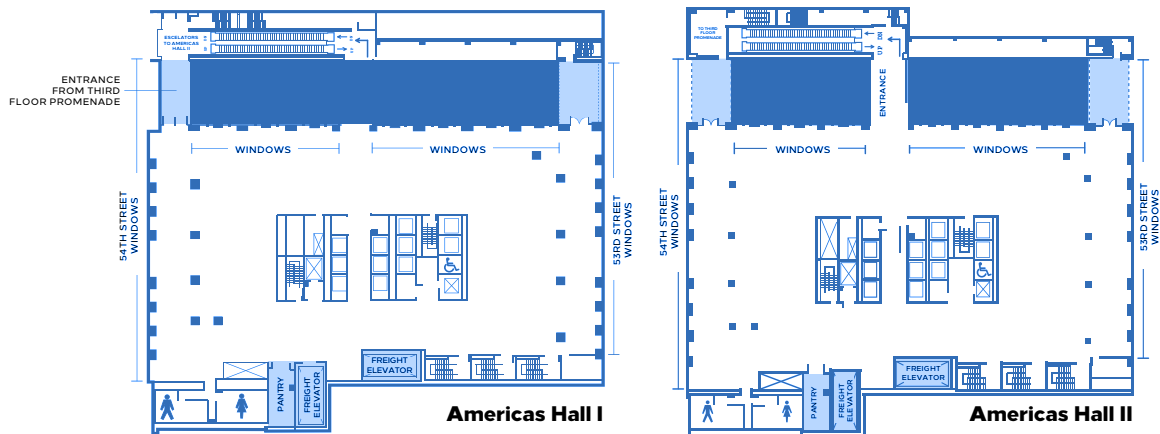
- FUNCTION SPACES
- CAPACITY CHART REFERENCE GUIDE
- CONCOURSE LEVEL
- SECOND FLOOR
- THIRD FLOOR
- FOURTH FLOOR**
- AMERICAS HALL
- HERB N' KITCHEN
- LOADING DOCKS/ELEVATORS

Fourth Floor Floor Plan



- FUNCTION SPACES
- CAPACITY CHART REFERENCE GUIDE
- CONCOURSE LEVEL
- SECOND FLOOR
- THIRD FLOOR
- FOURTH FLOOR
- AMERICAS HALL**
- HERB N' KITCHEN
- LOADING DOCKS/ELEVATORS

Americas Hall 1+2 Floor Plan



CONFERENCE MAPS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

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BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

FUNCTION SPACES

CAPACITY CHART REFERENCE GUIDE

CONCOURSE LEVEL

SECOND FLOOR

THIRD FLOOR

FOURTH FLOOR

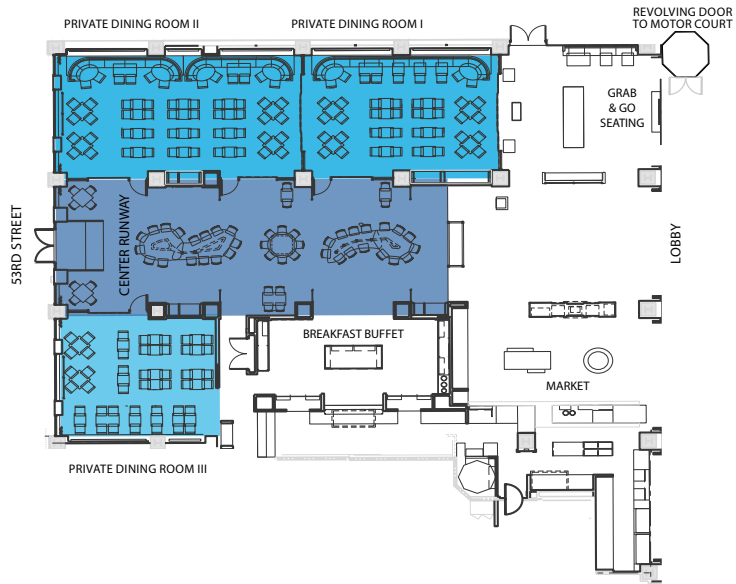
AMERICAS HALL

HERB N' KITCHEN

LOADING DOCKS/ELEVATORS

Herb N' Kitchen

Floor Plan



CONFERENCE MAPS

TRIO TURNS



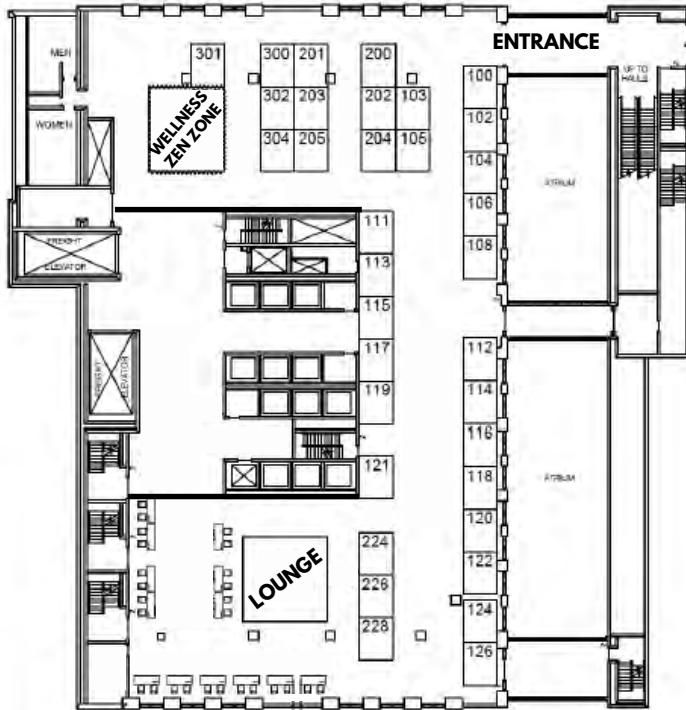
COE ANNUAL
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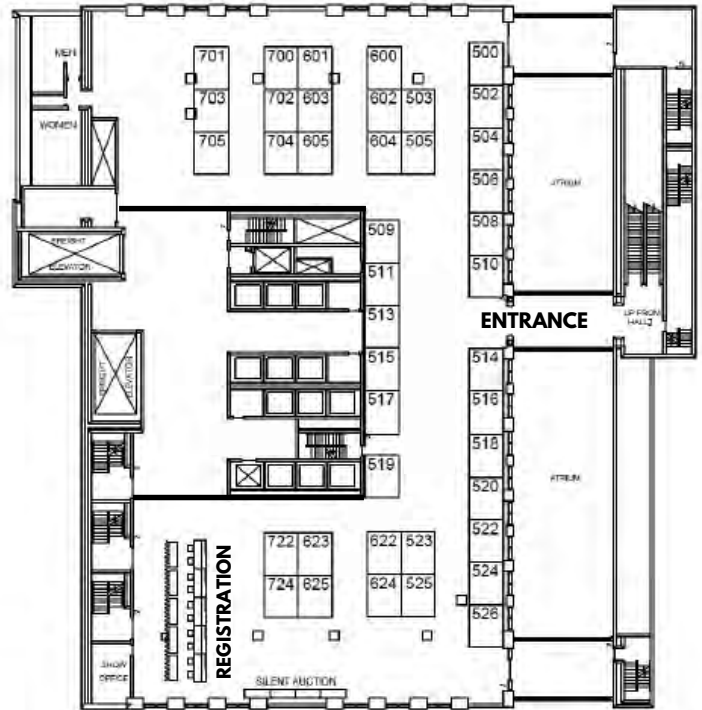
BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

EXPO HALL MAP

AMERICAS HALL 1



AMERICAS HALL 2



CONFERENCE MAPS

TRIO TURNS



**COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024**

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BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

MAP LEGEND

AMERICAS HALL 1

BOOTH NUMBER	EXHIBITOR
205	Acing The Undergrad
102	All Aboard Tours and Travel
122	BeLock Events LLC
108	BILL
304	Boost Admissions
201	Cambridge Educational Services
105	Career Launch
302	Circle of Change Leadership Experience
104	College Board
204	College Campus Tours
202	Compassionate Math
203	Fintrinsic
118	FOCUS Training
228	Fourwinds Tours
113	Gilman International Scholarship Program
301	GoCAMPUSing
103	Heiberg Consulting, Inc
117	Innovative Educators
300	Krystal Clear Promotions
124	Lacai
120	MatchWare
121	Mentor ATX, LLC
114	MentorPRO
116	Nucleus, LLC
112	Paradigm Shift
224	Study Smart Tutors, Inc.
119	TechnipFMC
226	The Financial Literacy Coach
126	TIAA
115	TRIO Training University of Central Oklahoma
111	Tutor.Com
106	U.S. Department of State
100	Wordplay Multimedia, LLC
200	WorldStrides Educational Travel & Experiences

AMERICAS HALL 2

BOOTH NUMBER	EXHIBITOR
515	Academic Tutoring & Test Prep
602	Aspire Institute
514	Beautiful Tomorrow
516	Believe in Me
508 & 510	Blumen-Compansol
502	Brainfuse Online Tutoring
702	CoBro Consulting
623 & 625	Council for Opportunity in Education
525	DreamCatcher Curriculum, LLC
523	Empower
722	Fair Share
518	Genius Potential Incorporated
505	GL Travel
700	Grand Valley State University
517	Her? Records, Inc.
524	Imagine Scholarships
500	KH-MPH Consulting
509	Longsdale Publishing
519	MasteryPrep
724	Meet Me in NYC
600	Method Learning
622	National TRIO Alumni Association (NTAA)
511 & 513	ONTRACK Plus
604	PhotoStudy Tutoring
701	PREDEGREE, LLC.
520	Proforma Green Marketing
526	Public Service Project - The Door
605	The Art of Scholarships
601	The College Visit Journal
603	The Common Application
704	The First Gen Madrina
624	TRIO Turns 60 Pop-Up Shop
504 & 506	True Colors International
705	Vedx Solutions
703	Whicked Results
522	Woven Learning and Technology
503	Young And Debt Free

Stay connected at the annual conference and download the new COE Works app in the [App Store](#) and [Google Play Store](#)! In the app, you can easily register, access important information and resources, collaborate with other participants, build out your agenda, and get quickly notified of any announcements. Don't miss out!

PROFILE FEATURES

Your username is the same as the one you'd use to login to the COE website, register for events, and donate. Upon logging in, users are encouraged to add a profile picture, with instructions to access the Profile section by clicking "More" and then "Profile." You can save COE News feed content as bookmarks and create private notes.

APP NAVIGATION

The Home screen features the COE News feed, where users can share content with other TRIO professionals. Accessing Events and managing personal agendas is easy. The Member Directory, messaging, and curated information from other chambers are accessible from the More tab. Use the messaging feature to send direct messages, start group chats, attach photos or files, and manage conversations efficiently.

[CLICK HERE](#)



[CLICK HERE](#)



CONFERENCE CONNECTION

Introducing the COE Works mobile app, your all-in-one companion for maximizing your experience and staying ahead at this year's annual conference. Seamlessly designed with you in mind, COE Works empowers you to make the most of your conference journey in just a few taps.

Here are four key ways to use the app during the conference:

1. **Personalized Planning:** Say goodbye to juggling paper schedules. COE Works allows you to tailor and organize your agenda, ensuring you catch every session that matters most to you. Create a customized conference itinerary that perfectly fits your interests and availability.
2. **Instant Resources:** No more shuffling through stacks of paper handouts. With COE Works, all conference materials and session resources are available at your fingertips. Download presentation slides, session handouts, and related documents directly to your device for easy reference both during and after the sessions.
3. **Presenter Insights:** Get to know the speakers before you enter the session. Browse through photos and read bios of session presenters on COE Works. This feature provides valuable context and enhances your engagement with the conference content.
4. **Feedback Made Simple:** Your opinions matter, and COE Works makes sharing them effortless. Complete overall conference evaluations and rate individual sessions directly through the app. Your feedback helps us continuously improve and tailor future events to meet your needs.
5. **On the go? Stay in the know!** The COE Works app delivers instant push notifications so you can stay informed with real-time updates, important announcements, and session reminders sent directly to your device throughout the conference.

COE Works is your conference toolkit, streamlining your experience so you can focus on networking, learning, and making the most of this exceptional event. Download the app now and embark on a conference journey like never before.



SEVEN EXCITING CONFERENCE STRANDS ARE ALL FOR YOU!

At this year's conference, we will explore strategies to empower first-generation students with financial literacy and independence, ensuring they are well-prepared to make informed decisions about their education and future. As we delve into best practices for fostering diversity, equity, and inclusion, we'll also reflect on the rich history of TRIO programs while looking ahead to innovative approaches that will continue to drive student success. By bridging research with practice and emphasizing early intervention strategies, we can build a strong foundation for students, guiding them from college to meaningful careers. Finally, we'll highlight the importance of global awareness and cultural competency, equipping our students to become engaged global citizens ready to thrive in an interconnected world.

The strands appear below for your convenience. COE notes specific sessions in the strands in the conference overview and their descriptions. Please take full advantage of these sessions and come ready to share your ideas.

FIRST-GENERATION FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT

- The Cost of Being First: Struggles, Success, and Strategies
- How Can TRIO Students Tap into the Hidden Internship and Job Market?
- From Gap Years to Golden Years: Considerations for Your Financial Wellbeing

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING

- Who Belongs on Campus Now: The Challenge of Inclusive Education
- Why Affinity Groups and Mentoring Matter for Women of Color in Leadership Positions
- Foundational Strategies for Improving LGBTQIA2S+ Inclusion & Belonging
- Students with Disabilities: The Forgotten Student
- The Emotional Toll of Social Mobility
- Igniting Change: Securing Institutional Support for Low-Income and First-Generation Students
- Stories and Strategies That Support Linguistically Diverse and Immigrant Students
- Hard vs. Heart Work: A Playbook for Creating a Culture of Encouragement and Belonging
- Unapologetically Making Equity and Belonging Your #1 Program Goal
- AP African American Studies: Building Pathways for Student Success

MOVING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK

- 5,148,580 Missing College Students
- Indicators of Higher Education Part 1: Reimagining Higher Education for Equity
- Indicators of Higher Education Part 2: Rethinking Higher Education Tools for a New Era
- Generation Alpha: Recruiting, Programming, and Providing for the New "New" Generation

RESEARCH FOR PRACTICE

- Empowering Student Veterans with Self-Determination Skills for Higher Education Transition
- The Five P's of Successful Mentoring: Policy, Procedure, Practice, Performance & Perfection
- What Students Really Want: Embracing a Holistic Lens on the Value of College Through Student Voice
- Factors Influencing Adolescent Career Choices
- Harnessing the Wisdom of TRIO Practitioners to Support First-Generation Students' Mental Health

START SMART

- 5,148,580 Missing College Students
- Indicators of Higher Education Part 1: Reimagining Higher Education for Equity
- Indicators of Higher Education Part 2: Rethinking Higher Education Tools for a New Era

CONFERENCE STRANDS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
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BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

COLLEGE TO CAREER

- Equity in Action: Building Brighter Careers with TRIO Programs and Supportive Career Centers
- Leveraging Your Career Services Center for Student Success
- Taking the Leadership Leap: Using Doctoral Study to Advance Your Career
- Competitive Internships: The Key to Jump-Starting First-Generation Professional Careers
- Mastering Work-Life Harmony: Strategies for Success In and Out of the Workplace

CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENS

- TRIO Goes Global: Building on 24 Years of Study Abroad
- A Comparative Analysis of Student Experiences in a Cultural Exchange Program Between the University of Kansas and Stellenbosch University
- Unlocking Global Opportunities: Empowering Pell Grant Students Through Education Abroad
- Breaking Study Abroad Barriers for TRIO Students and Staff

CONFERENCE EVALUATIONS

All attendees are encouraged to provide their thoughts and recommendations about the Annual Conference by completing these online conference evaluation forms:

- **To evaluate an individual session**, please complete the form here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R97PHLD>, or scan the left QR code below.
- **To evaluate the overall annual conference**, please complete the form here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R9L7B9T>, or scan the right QR code below.

CLICK HERE TO EVALUATE AN
INDIVIDUAL SESSION

CLICK HERE TO EVALUATE THE
OVERALL CONFERENCE



Sponsored by Princeton University

College Fair for TRIO Professionals

Meet with undergraduate admissions officers of selective institutions interested in attracting low-income, first-generation college students. Learn what colleges are doing to attract and retain first-generation, low-income students to campus. Cultivate relationships with college admissions officers to learn how to increase the number of successful applications submitted by TRIO students to these institutions.

Coffee Break
Time: 2:30 - 3:15 p.m.



Location: Americas Hall 1
Hilton Midtown

Date: Monday, September 9
Time: 1 - 4 p.m. ET

Are you up for the challenge? Don't miss this chance to rewrite destinies, create pathways, and illuminate possibilities. The Selective College Fair awaits your presence – where dreams are nurtured, futures are transformed, and change is ignited. **Be part of a movement that's defining the future of education – one student at a time!**

SPECIAL EVENTS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
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BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

MEALS

Please note that your conference badge is your official meal ticket to the Walter O. Mason and Family Achievement Awards luncheon on Monday and the Educational Opportunity Dinner and National TRIO Achiever Awards on Tuesday. Please display your conference badge before entering all conference sessions, receptions, and other events. Persons without an appropriate conference badge will not be permitted in these areas.

MONDAY - 7:00 AM ET | Sunrise Yoga

RISE AND SHINE WITH SUNRISE YOGA!

Start your day on a refreshing note with Sunrise Yoga! Join us for an invigorating morning filled with the serenity of Yoga. Greet the day with gentle stretches, calming breaths, and a peaceful mind. Our Yoga instructor will guide you through poses that awaken your body and spirit, setting a positive tone for the day ahead. This is the perfect opportunity to connect with your body, embrace the morning sun, and share laughter with fellow participants. Bring your positive energy and a willingness to try something new. Let's breathe, stretch, and dance together as we enthusiastically greet the day

MONDAY - 1:30-2:30 PM ET | Hot Topic Sessions

TUESDAY - 1:45-2:45 PM ET | Hot Topic Sessions

GET IN ON THE EXCITEMENT: WIN A \$250 AMAZON GIFT CARD IN THE HOT TOPIC RAFFLE!

Want a shot at snagging a \$250 Amazon gift card? Get ready for the Hot Topic raffle! We're stoked to announce that we're giving away not just one but three Amazon gift cards. Here's how to join the action:

1. Review the app and plan out which Hot Topics you will attend on Monday and Tuesday.
2. Attend your Monday and Tuesday Hot Topics of choice (yes, you must attend one daily!).
3. Listen up for the secret passcode revealed by the presenter during each session.
4. Once you've got the unique passcodes from each session, don't wait – submit them through the form below.

That's it! You're now in the running for a fantastic \$250 gift card. After the event, our team will do a random draw to choose three lucky winners from those who submitted the correct passcodes.



**SCAN OR CLICK HERE
TO ENTER THE
HOT TOPIC RAFFLE!**

SPECIAL EVENTS

TRIO TURNS



BREAKING BARRIERS · INSPIRING HOPE

COE ANNUAL
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TUESDAY - 6:45 AM ET | Wellness: Diamond Walk

EXPERIENCE THE HEARTBEAT OF MIDTOWN VIA THIS CITY DIAMOND WALK!

Step into the vibrant energy of Midtown Manhattan with our exciting walking event! Lace your sneakers and be part of an unforgettable adventure through iconic streets, historic landmarks, and the buzzing atmosphere of the city that never sleeps. Wind through Midtown's finest, passing by iconic attractions like Times Square and the Museum of Modern Art and architectural landmarks such as the Chrysler Building, Grand Central Terminal, the Flatiron Building, the Empire State Building, and more! Expect music, cheers, and a fantastic crowd to motivate you.

MONDAY - 3:15-3:45 PM ET | Exhibit Hall Walkthrough | Americas Hall 1 & 2

TUESDAY - 8:00-8:45 AM ET | Exhibit Hall Walkthrough | Americas Hall 1 & 2

WIN A PRIZE BY COMPETING IN THE EXHIBIT HALL GAME

Use the game card in your conference bag as you visit each booth and collect stamps from the exhibitors. Earn 1 ticket for each box stamped—earn 2x tickets for each box stamped in the top row! +10 bonus points if you get the entire top row stamped. More tickets = greater chance to win a prize! Once you've collected as many stamps as possible, submit your game card to the Exhibit Info Desk by Tuesday, September 10 at 5 pm to officially enter the raffle.

We'd like to thank the following exhibitors for their prize donations! Make sure you visit each of their booths and collect their stamps!

- All Aboard Tours & Travel, LLC
- Boost Admissions
- Cambridge Educational Services
- Compassionate Math
- DreamCatcher Curriculum
- goCAMPUSing, Inc.
- MasteryPrep
- Study Smart Tutors, Inc.
- The Financial Literacy Coach
- True Colors International
- VEDX Solutions

SPECIAL EVENTS

TRIO TURNS



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TUESDAY - 5:00 PM ET | 50-50 Raffle

GET LUCKY WITH THE 50-50 RAFFLE AT COE ANNUAL CONFERENCE!

Feeling lucky? Participate in the thrilling 50-50 raffle and seize the chance to win big! As part of the Council for Opportunity in Education Annual Conference, this raffle is your golden ticket to excitement and opportunity. Purchase your raffle ticket before 5 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10. If you win, you get 50% of the total pot—therefore, you can win BIG! Please purchase your tickets at the Silent Auction table. Tickets are cash only! Don't miss your shot at a prize and the opportunity to support a great cause. Purchase your raffle tickets today and be part of the excitement! The drawing is on Wednesday, September 11, during the 11:30 a.m. plenary session. You must be present to win.

TUESDAY - 12:30 PM ET | Silent Auction

JOIN THE BIDDING FRENZY AT THE COE ANNUAL CONFERENCE SILENT AUCTION!

Calling all enthusiasts of unique treasures and exclusive experiences! It's time to enter a world of elegance and bidding excitement at the Silent Auction during the Annual Conference. The auction starts on Sunday, September 8, at 4:00 p.m. ET and closes on Tuesday, September 10, at 12:30 p.m. ET Explore a curated collection of Items and experiences in the Exhibit Hall. Uncover gems among exhibitors! This is your chance to secure remarkable items and experiences, all while contributing to a worthy cause. Mark your calendar, sharpen your bidding skills, and join us for an unforgettable auction event!

TUESDAY - 5:00 PM ET | Online Auction

LAST CHANCE ALERT: COE ANNUAL CONFERENCE ONLINE AUCTION ENDS SOON!

Time is ticking, and so is the countdown to the grand finale of the Annual Conference. Our Online Auction is your gateway to securing incredible items while supporting a cause close to our hearts. The online auction closes on Tuesday, September 10, at 6:00 p.m. ET. Browse and bid on exclusive Items from anywhere! Join the bidding war from your device! Don't let the opportunity slip away. Visit the online auction platform before the closing hour to place your bids and make a difference. Embrace the excitement of the final moments and emerge victorious with your coveted treasures!

**CLICK HERE
TO GO TO OUR BIDDING
PLATFORM!**

WEDNESDAY - 7:00 AM ET | Wellness: Unleash Your Inner Warrior

EMPOWER YOURSELF WITH MYSTERY FITNESS FUSION!

Prepare for an exciting, empowering experience to clear your mind and invigorate your spirit. This unique session combines unexpected, hands-on activities that physically and mentally challenge you, leaving you feeling strong, centered, and ready to tackle the rest of the year with renewed focus. Whether you're looking to blow off steam or try something new, this is an experience you won't want to miss! What exactly will you be doing? That's for us to know and you to find out!

SESSIONS GRID

SUNDAY, SEPT. 8, 2024

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
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BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM ET

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Take a Bite of the Apple: Best Practices in Student Travel

👤 ALL

🏠 MEET IN GIBSON (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Breaking Barriers to Strengthen STEAM Initiatives

👤 ALL

🏠 MEET IN NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

REGISTRATION & EXHIBITS

11:00 AM - 7:00 PM

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

👤 ALL

🏠 AMERICAS HALL 2

MEET ME IN NYC BOOTH

👤 ALL

🏠 AMERICAS HALL 2

EXHIBITS

👤 ALL

🏠 AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

Acting Out! Using Theatre Techniques for Student Development

👤 ALL

🏠 SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

Strengthening Your Talent Search Program

👤 ALL

🏠 BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

Evaluation 101: Let COE Help You Demonstrate Program Effectiveness

👤 ALL

🏠 SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

Civic Engagement: TRIO's Role & Responsibility

👤 ALL

🏠 REGENT (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

Everything You Need to Know About Site Visits and Audits

👤 ALL

🏠 SUTTON SOUTH (SECOND LEVEL) - PRE-CONFERENCE TICKET NEEDED

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM ET

Moderators Orientation

👤 INVITATION ONLY

🏠 MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)

5:00 PM – 6:30 PM ET

Newcomers Reception

SPONSORED BY STUDY SMART TUTORS

👤 INVITATION ONLY

🏠 AMERICAS HALL 1

OPENING SESSION

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM ET

OPENING SESSION

Remarks by Matthew A. Cherry: A Journey of Resilience, Creativity, and the Power of Dreams

👤 ALL

🏠 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

8:15 PM – 9:30 PM ET

CHAIR'S RECEPTION

TRIO 60th-Year Anniversary Celebration

👤 ALL

🏠 TRIANON COMPLEX AND MERCURY SUITES (THIRD LEVEL)

SESSIONS GRID

MONDAY, SEPT. 09, 2024



COE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2024
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7:00 AM - 8:00 AM ET	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET	8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET
Wellness: Rise and Shine with Sunrise Yoga 👤 ALL 🏠 REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)	Registration 👤 ALL 🏠 AMERICAS HALL 2	Meet Me in NYC Booth 👤 ALL 🏠 AMERICAS HALL 2	Exhibits 👤 ALL 🏠 AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET	PLENARY SESSION
Wellness Zen Zone 👤 ALL 🏠 AMERICAS HALL 2	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM ET Championing Educational Equity: A Washington Forecast with Representative Adriano Espaillat 👤 ALL 🏠 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

10:15 AM - 11:30 AM ET • CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1 Demystifying Selective College Admissions for TRIO Students 👤 PRE-COLLEGE 🏠 BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)	2 TRIO Goes Global: Building on 25 Years of Study Abroad 👤 ALL 🏠 BRYANT (SECOND LEVEL)	3 Empowering Student Veterans with Self-Determination Skills for Higher Education Transition 👤 VUB 🏠 CLINTON (SECOND LEVEL)	4 Navigating Mental Health Challenges: Empowering TRIO Students in an Evolving Landscape 👤 ALL 🏠 CONOURSE A (CONCOURSE LEVEL)
5 The Future is FirstGen: Your Role in Advancing the Success of First-Generation Students 👤 COLLEGE 🏠 GRAMERCY SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)	6 TRIO at the Community College: Trends and Best Practices 👤 COMMUNITY COLLEGES 🏠 MADISON (SECOND LEVEL)	7 From Incarcerated to Educated: Breaking Personal and Systemic Barriers to Higher Education 👤 EOC 🏠 MORGAN (SECOND LEVEL)	8 Leadership During Times of Crisis: Supporting Students During & After a Natural Disaster 👤 ALL 🏠 MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)
9 The Cost of Being First: Struggles, Success, and Strategies 👤 ALL 🏠 NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL)	10 Why Affinity Groups and Mentoring Matter for Women of Color in Leadership Positions 👤 ALL 🏠 REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)	11 Social Media & Marketing Plan Design 👤 ALL 🏠 RENDEZVOUS TRIANON (THIRD LEVEL)	12 Foundational Strategies for Improving LGBTQIA2S+ Inclusion & Belonging 👤 ALL 🏠 SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL)

13 Leveraging Your Career Services Center for Student Success 👤 SSS 🏠 SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL)	14 5,148,580 Missing College Students 👤 ALL 🏠 SUTTON SOUTH (SECOND LEVEL)	PLENARY SESSION 11:45 AM - 1:15 PM ET Walter O. Mason Jr. Awards Luncheon 👤 ALL 🏠 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)
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SESSIONS GRID

MONDAY, SEPT. 09, 2024

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM ET • HOT TOPIC SESSIONS

<p>HT1 How to Maximize Student Engagement and Retention: Services that Matter Most to Students 👤 ALL 🏠 BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT2 TRIO Can Help Schools Change How They Educate Underrepresented Students Getting them to their Next Best Level 👤 ALL 🏠 BRYANT (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT3 Customized TRIO Professional Development to Fit Your Needs 👤 ALL 🏠 CLINTON (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT4 Compass: Online Data Management and APR Solution 👤 ALL 🏠 CONOURSE A (CONOURSE LEVEL)</p>
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<p>HT5 Dollars and Sense: Money Fun! 👤 ALL 🏠 GRAMERCY SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT6 Financial “Literacy” Is Not Enough: Why and How You Can Aim Higher for Your Students 👤 ALL 🏠 MADISON (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT7 The Psychological Effects of Music on Youth Today 👤 ALL 🏠 MORGAN (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT8 Illuminate: Lighting the Way for TRIO Success 👤 ALL 🏠 MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)</p>
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<p>HT9 Empowering Staff and Students with Effective Online Resources: College Program Case Studies 👤 COLLEGE 🏠 NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT10 Implementing Effective College Readiness Curriculum 👤 PRE-COLLEGE 🏠 REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT11 (Re)kindling a Sense of Community in the Workplace 👤 ALL 🏠 RENDEZVOUS TRIANON (THIRD FLOOR)</p>	<p>HT12 Everything You Need to Know about the Enhanced ACT 👤 ALL 🏠 SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL)</p>
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<p>HT13 The Keys to Unlock 60 More Years of Student Engagement and Enjoyment! 👤 ALL 🏠 SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT14 OnTrack Plus: A FREE Post-Secondary Planning Resource 👤 PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH 🏠 SUTTON SOUTH (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT15 The Greatest of All Time: Becoming the Best TRIO Leader You Can Be 👤 ALL 🏠 GIBSON (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT16 Show Me the Money! How to Create Financial Literacy Experiences Students Never Forget! 👤 ALL 🏠 CONOURSE G (CONOURSE LEVEL)</p>
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<p>HT17 StudentAccess: The Leader in TRIO Software! 👤 ALL 🏠 CONOURSE B (SECOND LEVEL)</p>	<p>HT18 Advancing Advisor Excellence: Unleashing Potential for Lasting Impact 👤 ALL 🏠 CONOURSE E (SECOND LEVEL)</p>
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1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

College Fair
👤 ALL
🏠 AMERICAS HALL 1

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM ET

College Fair Walkthrough and Coffee Breaks
SPONSORED BY PRINCETON UNIVERSITY
👤 ALL
🏠 AMERICAS HALL 1

3:15 PM – 3:45 PM ET

Exhibit Hall Walkthrough
👤 ALL
🏠 AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

SESSIONS GRID

MONDAY, SEPT. 09, 2024

TRIO TURNS



BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM ET • CONCURRENT SESSIONS

15
Selective Graduate School Admissions: What Your Students Need to Know
👤 COLLEGE
🏠 BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)

16
A Comparative Analysis of Student Experiences in a Cultural Exchange Program between the University of Kansas and Stellenbosch University
👤 ALL
🏠 BRYANT (SECOND LEVEL)

17
Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program Association of Professionals Roundtable
👤 MCNAIR
🏠 CLINTON (SECOND LEVEL)

18
The Five P's of Successful Mentoring: Policy, Procedure, Practice, Performance and Perfection
👤 COLLEGE
🏠 CONCOURSE A (CONCOURSE LEVEL)

19
Taking the Leadership Leap: Using Doctoral Study to Advance Your Career
👤 ALL
🏠 GRAMERCY SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)

20
Harnessing the Power of TRIO: Strategies for Strong Adult Participant Engagement
👤 EOC & VUB
🏠 MADISON (SECOND LEVEL)

21
Students with Disabilities: The Forgotten Student
👤 PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES
🏠 MORGAN (SECOND LEVEL)

22
The Crisis Facing Black Women Leaders in Higher Education
👤 ALL
🏠 MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)

23
Harnessing the Power for Strong Youth Engagement
👤 PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH
🏠 NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL)

25
Everyday Advocacy: Simple Tasks, Big Impact
👤 ALL
🏠 RENDEZVOUS TRIANON (THIRD FLOOR)

26
Meeting Your Funded-to-Serve Numbers: Recruiting Talent Search Participants
👤 TALENT SEARCH
🏠 SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL)

28
Indicators of Higher Education Part 1: Reimagining Higher Education for Equity
👤 ALL
🏠 SUTTON SOUTH (SECOND LEVEL)

PLENARY SESSION

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM ET

Update from the Council for Opportunity in Education
👤 ALL
🏠 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

7:30 PM - 9:30 PM ET

Karaoke
SPONSORED BY GENIUS POTENTIAL
👤 ALL
🏠 TRIANON BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

SESSIONS GRID

TUESDAY, SEPT. 10, 2024

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

6:45 AM - 8:00 AM ET

Wellness: Diamond Walk

ALL

MEET IN CONFERENCE HOTEL LOBBY

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET

Registration

ALL

AMERICAS HALL 2

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET

Meet Me in NYC Booth

ALL

AMERICAS HALL 2

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM ET

Exhibits

ALL

AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

PLENARY SESSION

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM ET

Exhibit Walkthrough

ALL

AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM ET

Equity in Action: Building Brighter Careers with TRIO Programs and Supportive Career Centers

SPONSORED BY ASCENDIUM EDUCATION GROUP

ALL

GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

10:15 AM - 11:30 AM ET • CONCURRENT SESSIONS

29

The Emotional Toll of Social Mobility

ALL

BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)

30

Unlocking Global Opportunities: Empowering Pell Grant Students Through Education Abroad

COLLEGE

BRYANT (SECOND LEVEL)

31

From the Voices of Mentees: How Holistic Critical Mentoring Shapes the Experience of McNair Scholars

MCNAIR

CLINTON (SECOND LEVEL)

32

What Students Really Want: Embracing a Holistic Lens on the Value of College through Student Voice

ALL

CONCOURSE A (CONCOURSE LEVEL)

33

Igniting Change: Securing Institutional Support for Low-Income and First-Generation Students

ALL

GRAMERCY SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)

34

Factors Influencing Adolescent Career Choices

UPWARD BOUND

MADISON (SECOND LEVEL)

35

Strategies for Recruitment in an Era of Enrollment Decline

EOC

MORGAN (SECOND LEVEL)

36

Why Is College So Expensive and What Can We Do About It?

COLLEGE

MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)

37

Empowering Connections: Establishing Strong Alumni Chapters

ALL

NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL)

38

Stories and Strategies that Support Linguistically Diverse and Immigrant Students

ALL

REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)

39

Black Belt Mind, White Belt Spirit: Building Resilient Teams to Improve Outcomes

ALL

RENDEZVOUS TRIANON (THIRD LEVEL)

40

Hard vs. Heart Work: A Playbook for Creating a Culture of Encouragement and Belonging

UB/UBMS

SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL)

41

Competitive Internships: The Key to Jump-Starting First-Gen Professional Careers

COLLEGE

SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL)

42

Indicators of Higher Education Part 2: Rethinking Higher Education Tools for a New Era

ALL

SUTTON SOUTH (SECOND LEVEL)

SESSIONS GRID

TUESDAY, SEPT. 10, 2024

TRIO TURNS



BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM ET

Lunch on Your Own

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM ET • HOT TOPICS

HT19

Achieving Generational Wealth Is Every Person's Right

ALL
BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)

HT20

Confidence Is Everything

ALL
BRYANT (SECOND LEVEL)

HT21

BLUMEN – Find Out Why It's Miles Ahead of Other TRIO Software

ALL
CLINTON (SECOND LEVEL)

HT22

AP African American Studies: Building Pathways for Student Success

SPONSORED BY COLLEGE BOARD
ALL
CONCOURSE A (CONCOURSE LEVEL)

HT23

The Power of Thinking BIG! 3 Ways to Make A Greater Impact As A Leader Through Thinking BIG!

ALL
MADISON (SECOND LEVEL)

HT24

Engaged Families, Engaged Students: Digital Pathways to Success in TRIO and GEAR UP Programs

ALL
MORGAN (SECOND LEVEL)

HT25

Genius-Level Engagement: How Incorporating Hip Hop Boosts Rate of Students Meeting Grant Outcomes

ALL
MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND LEVEL)

HT26

Understanding the SAT & ACT and Their Value for TRIO

PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH
NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL)

HT27

Next-Level TRIO Management: COE's empower Software

ALL
REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)

HT28

Show Me the Money! How to Create Financial Literacy Experiences Students Never Forget!

ALL
RENDEZVOUS TRIANON (THIRD LEVEL)

HT29

StudentAccess: The Leader in TRIO Software!

ALL
SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL)

HT30

Scholarships as a Side Hustle: 3 Secrets TRIO Professionals Need to Know to Help Their Students Win Scholarships

ALL
SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL)

HT31

Professional Development at the U.S. Department of State – Career-Long Learning

ALL
SUTTON SOUTH (2ND FLOOR)

HT32

From Gap Years to Golden Years: Considerations for Your Financial Wellbeing

SPONSORED BY TIAA
ALL
GIBSON (SECOND LEVEL)

HT33

Revitalizing Your Well-Being

ALL
CONCOURSE G (CONCOURSE LEVEL)

PLENARY SESSION

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

HT34

Combatting Bad Habits, Toxic Emotions and Ignorance To Grow Your Money

ALL
CONCOURSE B (SECOND LEVEL)

HT35

Global Leadership Symposium in Puerto Rico: Culture, Travel, Language, and Career-Readiness

ALL
CONCOURSE E (SECOND LEVEL)

"Who Belongs on Campus Now?" The Challenge of Inclusive Education

SPONSORED BY COLLEGE BOARD
ALL
GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

SESSIONS GRID

TUESDAY, SEPT. 10, 2024

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM ET • CONCURRENT SESSIONS

43
Encouraging More Youth
Engagement and Voter
Participation
👤 ALL
🏠 BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)

44
Breaking Study Abroad
Barriers for TRIO Students &
Staff
👤 ALL
🏠 BRYANT (SECOND LEVEL)

45
Revamping the Transfer
Pipeline: Building Stronger
Pathways for Community
College Students
👤 SSS
🏠 CLINTON (SECOND LEVEL)

46
Harnessing the Wisdom of
TRIO Practitioners to Support
First-Generation Students'
Mental Health
👤 COLLEGE
🏠 CONCOURSE A (CONCOURSE
LEVEL)

47
Making Artificial Intelligence
Work for You: Leveraging
Digital Media
👤 ALL
🏠 GRAMERCY SUITE (SECOND
LEVEL)

48
Strategic Engagement:
Ensuring that Sophomore SSS
Scholars Thrive
👤 SSS
🏠 MADISON (SECOND LEVEL)

49
Mindfulness and Self-Care:
Learning About Ourselves to
Engage in Better Awareness
Habits
👤 ALL
🏠 MORGAN (SECOND LEVEL)

50
Removing Barriers on the Path
to Graduation: Supporting
Post-Traditional Students
👤 ADULTS
🏠 MURRAY HILL SUITE (SECOND
LEVEL)

51
Unapologetically Making
Equity and Belonging Your #1
Program Goal
👤 ALL
🏠 NASSAU (SECOND LEVEL)

52
Elevate Your TRIO Career:
Leadership, Mentorship, and
Professional Growth
👤 ALL
🏠 REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)

53
How Can TRIO Students Tap
into the Hidden Internship/Job
Market?
👤 SSS
🏠 RENDEZVOUS TRIANON (THIRD
LEVEL)

54
Finding a Common Purpose:
Building Partnerships to
Create an Integrated Approach
to Student Success
👤 PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH
🏠 SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL)

6:30 PM – 7:30 PM ET

Cash Bar Opens
👤 ALL
🏠 GRAND BALLROOM PROMENADE
(THIRD LEVEL)

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM ET

Educational Opportunity
Dinner and TRIO Achiever
Awards
👤 ALL
🏠 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

9:30 PM – 11:45 PM ET

Dance
👤 ALL
🏠 TRIANON BALLROOM (THIRD
LEVEL)

SESSIONS GRID

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 11, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM ET

8:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET

Wellness: Unleash Your Inner Warrior

 ALL
 SUTTON COMPLEX (SECOND LEVEL)

Information Booth

 ALL
 GRAND BALLROOM FOYER (THIRD LEVEL)

PLENARY SESSION

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

From Data to Deliverables: Leveraging Program Performance Data to Inform Policy and Practice

 ALL
 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM ET • U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BREAKOUT SESSIONS

55

Department of Education: Update for EOC

 EOC
 BEEKMAN (SECOND LEVEL)

56

Department of Education: Update for Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Programs

 MCNAIR
 REGENT (SECOND LEVEL)

57

Department of Education: Update for Student Support Services Programs

 SSS
 SUTTON SOUTH (SECOND LEVEL)

58

Department of Education: Update for Talent Search Programs

 TS
 SUTTON CENTER (SECOND LEVEL)

59

Upward Bound / Upward Bound Math-Science

 UB/UBMS
 SUTTON NORTH (SECOND LEVEL)

60

Department of Education: Update for Veterans Upward Bound Programs

 VUB
 NASSAU EAST (SECOND LEVEL)

PLENARY SESSION

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM ET

12:30 PM ET

Awards, Installation of Officers, and Remarks from the 2024-25 COE Board Chair Mara Luna

 ALL
 GRAND BALLROOM (THIRD LEVEL)

Conference Concludes

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 8, 2024

8:00 AM – 4:00 PM ET

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Take a Bite of the Apple: Best Practices in Student Travel

ALL
MEET IN GIBSON MEETING ROOM -
SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

Have you ever wondered how your students feel on their cultural excursions? This is your chance to settle into a participant role for a day and enjoy the Big Apple as you have never seen it before. This one-day pre-con session will cover best practices in student travel while you see some of the most popular attractions in NYC! *Pre-registration is required.*

FACILITATORS

Scott Clark

Educational Tour Consultant
Zavoria Travel
Bristol, TN

Chris George

Director, TRIO Programs
Southcentral Kentucky
Community and Technical
College
Bowling Green, KY

Breaking Barriers to Strengthen STEAM Initiatives

ALL
MEET IN NASSAU MEETING ROOM -
SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

To truly break barriers, TRIO professionals must elevate their STEAM initiatives, and this full-day pre-conference session offers a unique opportunity to do just that. Dive into the fascinating world where science meets illusion and discover how the principles behind magic can illuminate the wonders of technology and AI. You'll uncover the hidden truths behind what deceives the eye, gaining fresh insights into the science that shapes our perceptions. Get ready for an immersive experience at iconic locations like the Museum of Illusions, Chelsea Market, and the National Museum of Mathematics. This session will challenge your thinking and inspire new ways to engage your participants in the STEAM fields! *Pre-registration is required.*

FACILITATORS

Maggie Cinto

Associate Director, Educational
Opportunities Program
Marquette University
Milwaukee, WI

Nicole Norfles

Director, Program Practice
and Innovation
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Evaluation 101: A Step-by-Step Guide for Program Evaluation

RESEARCH FOR
PRACTICE STRAND

ALL
SUTTON CENTER-SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

Embark on a journey in this half-day seminar tailored to empower TRIO professionals to master program evaluation. Participants will receive the Pell Institute's cutting-edge Toolkit for Equitable Evaluation, which includes practical tips, interactive worksheets, and comprehensive guides to inform and elevate your evaluation process. The seminar will provide an overview of the essential steps of program evaluation, from crafting a robust plan to collecting and analyzing data and ultimately leveraging that data to communicate and advocate for program improvements. However, a direct focus of the session will be on developing an evaluation plan that you can take back to your programs. Whether you're attending solo or as part of a team, seize the opportunity to sculpt an evaluation plan that transcends standard reporting obligations, prioritizing program enhancement and tangible student outcomes beyond the annual performance report (APR). *Pre-registration is required.*

PRESENTERS

Meghan Ecker-Lyster

Director of Research,
Evaluation and Dissemination
Center for Educational
Opportunity Programs
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS

Alice Ho

Director, Research,
Assessment and Evaluation

Director, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program
University of California, Los
Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Civic Engagement: TRIO's Role and Responsibility

ALL
REGENT-SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

In today's dynamic times, inspiring TRIO participants to be informed and involved in their communities is part of our responsibility as college access and success practitioners. With growing trends advocating for more opportunities to teach civic engagement, TRIO programs are poised well to cultivate the next generation of community leaders. In this workshop, participants engage with TRIO alumni, state elected officials, and TRIO practitioners to learn more about connecting mandatory and permissible services with the principles for equitable civic engagement, which can create ripple effects in our participants that will carry on for generations to come. *Pre-registration is required.*

PRESENTERS

Dallas Doane

Associate Professor, Practice,
Higher Education Administration
Program Coordinator,
Educational Leadership
and Policy Studies
School of Education and
Human Sciences
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS

Hector Lizaola

Regional Representative
Office of Senator Catherine
Cortez Masto
Las Vegas, NV

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

Noah Walls

Project Coordinator,
Upward Bound
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Everything You Need to Know about Site Visits and Audits

👤 ALL
📍 SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

How would your program rate during a site visit from the U.S. Department of Education Student Service staff member? What about an audit by your state or institutional auditor? Do you feel prepared? Come to this session to receive information concerning the four common areas reviewed during a site visit, including a list of items requested and reviewed in each area. This workshop will also outline the key differences between a site visit and an audit and how to be prepared for both. The presenter relays findings from past site visits and audits and how this information can be used to improve compliance with federal regulations and policies. Participants will leave this session armed with critical knowledge to help them be more confident and prepared for the next site visit or audit. *Pre-registration is required.*

PRESENTERS

Cheryl Arnold

Consultant
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Atlanta, GA

Amy Verlanic

Founder and President
ALV Consulting
Butte, MT

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Strengthening Your Talent Search Program

👤 ALL
📍 BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

Set the stage for successful funding in the 2026 TRIO Talent Search grant competition by strengthening your current or considering writing a new grant for your community. Learn about the elements contributing to a successful grant proposal. Learn ways to incorporate innovative services in academic performance, high school graduation, and post-secondary enrollment. Review the grant selection criteria that guide planning effective services and outcomes for participants. *Pre-registration is required.*

PRESENTER

Petya Stoyanova-Johnson

Director, Talent Search
Boise State University
Boise, ID

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION

Acting Out! Using Theatre Techniques for Student Development

👤 ALL
📍 SUTTON NORTH - SECOND LEVEL

Pre-Conference Ticket Needed

Students participating in theater education programs can develop creative thinking, critical thinking skills, and pro-social behaviors essential for building healthy peer relationships and empathy toward others. Join talented TRIO alumna Deloris Davis Grant as she shares practical theater methods to help students promote social discourse, dialogue, and potential social change. After attending this interactive session, attendees will leave with techniques that can easily be implemented into

their TRIO programs. *Pre-registration is required.*

PRESENTER

Deloris Davis-Grant

Teacher, AP English and Drama
Central Falls High School
Central Falls, RI

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM ET

OPENING PLENARY SESSION

Remarks by Matthew A. Cherry: A Journey of Resilience, Creativity, and the Power of Dreams

👤 ALL
📍 GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

Hear from Matthew A. Cherry, an Academy Award-winning filmmaker and former NFL player who is a true testament to the power of resilience and creativity, to deliver opening remarks. Learn about Matthew's inspiring journey from the football field to Hollywood as a relentless pursuit of dreams and the transformative impact of determination and perseverance.

PRESENTER

Matthew A. Cherry

American Film Director,
Writer, and Producer

8:15 PM – 9:30 PM ET

CHAIR'S RECEPTION

TRIO 60th-Year Anniversary Celebration

👤 ALL
📍 TRIANON COMPLEX AND MERCURY
SUITES - THIRD LEVEL

Please note that you must present your conference badge to enter the Chair's Reception.

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM ET

Wellness: Rise and Shine with Sunrise Yoga

ALL
REGENT - SECOND LEVEL

Start your day on a refreshing note with Sunrise Yoga! Join us for an invigorating morning filled with the serenity of Yoga. Greet the day with gentle stretches, calming breaths, and a peaceful mind. Our Yoga instructor will guide you through poses that awaken your body and spirit, setting a positive tone for the day ahead. This is the perfect opportunity to connect with your body, embrace the morning sun, and share laughter with fellow participants. Bring your positive energy and a willingness to try something new. Let's breathe, stretch, and dance together as we enthusiastically greet the day.

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM ET

Exhibit Walkthrough

ALL
AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM ET

PLENARY SESSION

Championing Educational Equity: A Washington Forecast with Representative Adriano Espaillat

ALL
GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

Representative Adriano Espaillat (D-NY-13) is a powerful member of the House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations, responsible for funding the federal government, including

the Federal TRIO Programs. Representative Espaillat, a lifelong champion for working and middle-class families and TRIO ally, will speak about the importance of funding and ensuring educational equity for all students. He will also give conference participants a forecast of what they can expect from Washington in the coming weeks and months.

PRESENTER

Congressman Adriano Espaillat

U.S. Representative
for New York's 13th
Congressional District
Washington, DC

10:15 AM – 11:30 AM ET

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

1.

Demystifying Selective College Admissions for TRIO Students

PRE-COLLEGE
BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

Many students erroneously believe they cannot afford or will not be accepted into highly selective colleges. However, highly selective colleges are viable options for high-achieving TRIO participants. Learn from college admissions officers which strategies are most effective in helping students prepare for the application process and what students can expect in a financial aid package that will make college attendance at these institutions affordable. College administrators from various selective colleges will lead the session and share model practices that help guide students to highly selective opportunities.

PRESENTERS

Kevin C. Hudson

Associate Director,
Institutional Diversity and
College Opportunity
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

Calvin Wise

Deputy Dean of Office of
Undergraduate Admissions
Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD

MODERATOR

Josh Engler

Educational Specialist,
Upward Bound
Boise State University
Boise, ID

2.

TRIO Goes Global: Building on 25 Years of Study Abroad

CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENS STRAND

ALL
BRYANT - SECOND LEVEL

For 25 years, COE has hosted numerous low-cost and credit-bearing study abroad opportunities for TRIO participants and TRIO professionals. Learn how you and your students can benefit from such experiences while hearing testimonials from TRIO staff and TRIO alumni who have taken advantage of these opportunities in the past. Attendees will learn about financial resources to support study abroad for students and staff and information on upcoming study opportunities.

PRESENTERS

Kimberly Gorman

Director, Student
Support Services
University of Connecticut
Manchester, CT

Miguel Martinez

Doctor, Philosophy in
Political Science
Duke University
Durham, NC

Sidnee McDonald

Associate Attorney

Cozen O'Connor
Pittsburgh, PA

MODERATOR

Cynthia Ayala

Program Coordinator,
Training Grant Program
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO

3.

Empowering Student Veterans with Self- Determination Skills for Higher Education Transition

RESEARCH FOR PRACTICE STRAND

VETERANS UPWARD BOUND
CLINTON - SECOND LEVEL

Veterans transitioning to academic institutions often face challenges with self-advocacy, particularly in planning and organizing their lives. This presentation will unveil the results of a self-determination intervention conducted in one TRIO Veterans Upward Bound program. Discover how this intervention has empowered veterans to enhance their self-determination skills and succeed academically. Participants will receive practical tools and strategies to help TRIO students boost their self-determination skills.

PRESENTER

Sharon Field

Professor Emeritus,
Veterans Upward Bound
Wayne State University
Detroit, MI

MODERATOR

Beatrice Turpin-Peek

Director, Veterans
Upward Bound
Prince George's Community
College
Upper Marlboro, MD



4.

Navigating Mental Health Challenges: Empowering TRIO Students in an Evolving Landscape

ALL
CONCOURSE A - CONCOURSE LEVEL

Amidst the ever-evolving higher education landscape, prioritizing the mental health of TRIO students has never been more crucial. This presentation delves into the pressing issues and emerging trends surrounding student well-being within the TRIO community. This session will shed light on the complex interplay of factors, such as the lingering effects of poverty-related trauma and the formidable barriers to accessing mental health services. It underscores TRIO professionals' pivotal role in fostering a supportive environment conducive to student emotional wellness. Drawing from recent data highlighting a troubling uptick in depression and anxiety among young adults, exacerbated by the profound impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will explore actionable strategies for identifying and responding to students in distress.

PRESENTERS

Sharilyn Brown

Licensed Counselor
 Coos Bay, OR

Marcia Liu

Mental Health Specialist,
 Hunter College AANAPISI
 Project (HCAP)
 CUNY Hunter College
 New York, NY

MODERATOR

Darrell Thornton

Director, Upward Bound
 The George Washington
 University
 Washington, DC

5.

The Future is FirstGen: Your Role in Advancing the Success of First-Generation Students

COLLEGE
GRAMERCY SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

With over half of all college students identifying as first-generation, dismantling barriers and creating accessible environments for success is imperative. Advancing the success of all first-generation students is the responsibility of the entire community. FirstGen Forward offers abundant resources, programs, and services to equip you with tools to support this population intentionally. The presenters will identify ways to engage and foster success in education, career, and life.

PRESENTERS

Robert McGowan

Assistant Director, Government
 Relations and Policy
 FirstGen Forward
 Washington, DC

Deana Waintraub Stafford

Vice President, Field
 Development and Engagement
 FirstGen Forward
 Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Woodrow Lewis Jr.

Director, College Initiatives
 Council for Opportunity in
 Education
 Washington, DC

6.

TRIO at the Community College: Trends and Best Practices

COMMUNITY COLLEGES
MADISON - SECOND LEVEL

While TRIO programs serve students at every type of institution, TRIO has a particularly strong presence among community colleges. Recently, as part of a landscape

analysis of such projects, TRIO educators and community college leaders responded to questions about how TRIO programs are situated in the institution, whether TRIO personnel are included in leadership decisions on campus, and how effective TRIO programs are in assisting the institution in meeting their retention and completion goals. During this session, participants will review the study's findings and explore prototypical models featuring best practices for TRIO programs at community colleges.

PRESENTERS

Alfred Herrera

Director Emeritus,
 Center for Community
 College Partnerships
 University of California, Los
 Angeles
 Los Angeles, CA

Monte Perez

President Emeritus
 Los Angeles Mission
 Community College
 Los Angeles, CA

Terry Vaughan III

Director, The Pell Institute
 for the Study of Opportunity
 in Higher Education
 Vice President of Research,
 Council for Opportunity in
 Education
 Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Mike Henry

Professor and Director, Student
 Student Support Services
 Southwest Virginia Community
 College
 Bluefield, WV

7.

From Incarcerated to Educated: Breaking Personal and Systemic Barriers to Higher Education

EOC
MORGAN - SECOND LEVEL

Learn from real-world examples and equip your program with

the tools needed to make a meaningful impact in the lives of justice-impacted adults. Presenters will share insights from two TRIO Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) programs dedicated to supporting this population. During this session, you will learn strategies for engaging formerly and currently incarcerated program participants effectively. You will also hear examples from programs serving adults in transition homes, parole programs post-release, and programs operating within prisons that offer second-chance Pell Grants. You'll also learn methods for identifying and reaching out to these individuals. Consider how your program can establish a sustainable support model for justice-impacted adults aligned with EOC program goals and objectives.

PRESENTERS

Stephanie Langley

Director, EOC
 University of Tennessee,
 Knoxville
 Knoxville, TN

Caroline Milne

Educational Specialist, EOC
 University of Tennessee,
 Knoxville
 Knoxville, TN

Katie Navarro

Educational Specialist, EOC
 Rogers State University
 Claremore, OK

MODERATOR

Eric Hurley

Director, EOC
 Greater Anacostia EOC
 Brandywine, MD



8.

Leadership During Times of Crisis: Supporting Students During and After a Natural Disaster

ALL
MURRAY HILL SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

In recent years, natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, and wildfires have disrupted the lives of low-income, first-generation students and their families. Sadly, these now-frequent incidents tend to interrupt the already-precarious journeys of our most vulnerable students. During this session, presenters will share their experiences helping students and their families meet their most immediate needs during times of crisis and share strategies for continued engagement in the aftermath of natural disasters.

PRESENTERS

Sam Blanco III

Director, TRIO Pre-College Programs
 University of California, Davis
 Davis, CA

Mara Luna

Director, Upward Bound
 University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras
 San Juan, PR

Darica Simon-Baptiste

Director, TRIO Programs
 Baton Rouge Community College
 Baton Rouge, LA

Jana Wilkinson

Director, Upward Bound
 University of Hawaii Maui College
 Kahului, HI

MODERATOR

Jeff Kahlden

Director, Grant Programs
 Dallas College
 Dallas, TX

9.

The Cost of Being First: Struggles, Success, and Strategies

FIRST-GENERATION FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT STRAND

Sponsored by TIAA

ALL
NASSAU - SECOND LEVEL

Despite the success of becoming a first-generation college graduate, individuals often encounter unexpected challenges along their personal and professional journeys, from navigating financial thresholds like home buying to managing feelings of isolation or guilt. Gain invaluable insights and inspiration from the journeys of TRIO alumni who have successfully transitioned from first-generation students into first-generation professionals. Presenters will share their experiences and insights, shedding light on the obstacles they've overcome and the lessons they've learned. Their firsthand accounts will inspire TRIO professionals, alumni, and current students, offering valuable perspectives and guidance for navigating the complexities of transitioning from student to professional life.

PRESENTERS

Fernando Cardenas

Director, Partnership Development and Employee Engagement
 Comcast
 Philadelphia, PA

Curtis Eatman

Director, Finance
 Town of Hamden
 Hamden, CT

MODERATOR

Joe R. Givens

Manager, National Fellowships and Scholarships
 Louisiana State University
 Baton Rouge, LA

10.

Why Affinity Groups and Mentoring Matter for Women of Color in Leadership Positions

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

ALL
REGENT - SECOND LEVEL

Engage in a crucial discussion of the vital role of diverse women in leadership within the college access and success field. While progress has been made in diversifying leadership and senior positions, the path to these roles remains challenging, particularly for women from underrepresented backgrounds. This panel features rising and seasoned leaders who will share their experiences and insights, addressing topics such as honoring identities, overcoming imposter syndrome, finding affinity mentors, and passing knowledge on to new generations of leaders. They'll also explore the importance of seeking peer affinity groups—a space where women can truly be themselves. Participants will leave this session with practical ideas on overcoming imposter syndrome, embracing the power of intersectionality, connecting with affinity groups, and identifying mentors. Participants will also gain valuable strategies for navigating the complexities of leadership and professionalism and fostering diversity and inclusion within the college access and success field.

PRESENTERS

Emalyn Lapus

Administrative Director, College Access Programs
 Japanese Community Youth Council/AACE
 San Francisco, CA

Dariana Roybal

Director, Upward Bound Math-Science
 Colorado School of Mines
 Golden, CO

Miosha Waggoner

Director, Student Support Services
 Haskell Indian Nations University
 Lawrence, KS

Jackasha-Janaee Wiley

Acting Associate Vice Chancellor, Educational Equity
 Rutgers University-New Brunswick
 New Brunswick, NJ

MODERATOR

Shareka Brown

Director, Student Support Services
 Davidson-Davie Community College
 Lexington, NC

11.

Social Media and Marketing Plan Design

START SMART STRAND

ALL
RENDEZVOUS TRIANON - THIRD LEVEL

Are you ready to take your program's marketing to the next level? This session will guide you through setting up a comprehensive plan to manage your social media and marketing needs effectively. Discover techniques in Canva and Google Suite that will streamline your media processes and boost the efficiency of your program's marketing efforts. During the workshop, participants will practice these techniques in real time, ensuring they have practical skills and confidence to implement them into their daily operations. By the end of the session, participants will have an outline for their marketing plans and be prepared to kickstart their program's promotional activities. *Participants need access to Google Sheets or Microsoft Excel, a laptop, and Canva to participate fully.*

PRESENTERS

Gini Gesler

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

Manager, Marketing
and Communications
for TRIO Programs

Michigan Technological
University
Houghton, MI

MODERATOR

Deonte Williams

Specialist, TRIO Programs
The Middle Georgia Center for
Academic Excellence
Macon, GA

12.

Foundational Strategies for Improving LGBTQIA2S+ Inclusion and Belonging

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND
BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

ALL

SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

Enhance your understanding and learn actionable strategies for fostering inclusivity within TRIO programs. This essential session will focus on supporting lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender expansive, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and two-spirit (LGBTQIA2S+) students. TRIO programs have a unique opportunity to create inclusive cohort communities that welcome LGBTQIA2S+ students. These students often struggle to find belonging in higher education and face financial insecurity. Experienced presenters will provide foundational knowledge and practical tips for supporting these students in this session. This session will be particularly helpful for educators unsure where to start or what language to use. Discover how to validate and affirm each student's identity, creating an environment where they feel seen, heard, and supported.

PRESENTER

James R. Gapinski

Director, Student
Support Services
Portland Community College

Portland, OR

MODERATOR

Megan Simila

President-Elect, NAEOP
Boise, ID

13.

Leveraging Your Career Services Center for Student Success

COLLEGE TO CAREER STRAND

Sponsored by Ascendium
Education Group

SSS

SUTTON NORTH - SECOND LEVEL

Are you eager to provide your students opportunities beyond typical resume-building exercises and mock interviews? Explore the myriad possibilities your career services center offers. In this interactive session, we will explore innovative avenues available to your students, empowering you to immediately develop a concrete plan for integrating these opportunities into your program. Don't miss out on this chance to broaden student horizons and equip them with the skills and experiences they need to thrive in today's competitive landscape.

PRESENTERS

William Jones

Executive Director, Career
Exploration and Success
Rutgers University-New
Brunswick
New Brunswick, NJ

Helen Powers

Director, Career Center
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

Andrea Williams

Senior Associate Director,
Career Development, Education
and Student Services
University Career Center
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC

FACILITATOR

Esosa Ruffin

Program Coordinator, The
Pell Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Meagan Stark

Associate Director, Student
Support Services
Tusculum University
Greenville, TN

14.

5,148,580 Missing College Students

MOVING FORWARD,
LOOKING BACK STRAND

ALL

SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

In 2010, undergraduate enrollments were projected to grow. However, undergraduate enrollments in American colleges and universities have steadily and substantially declined. It's alarming to see the decline in enrollments, especially among students from low-income backgrounds. The steady growth of financial barriers for these students over the last 30 years is a concerning trend that needs to be addressed. Presenters will use data from the National Postsecondary Student Aid Study to measure financial barriers to higher education for students across family income quartiles.

PRESENTERS

Nicole Brunt

Research Associate, The
Pell Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Oskaloosa, IA

Thomas Mortenson

Senior Scholar, The Pell
Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Lehigh Acres, FL

MODERATOR

Sherontae Maxwell

Assistant Director,
Access Programs
University of Georgia
Athens, GA

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM ET

Walter O. Mason Jr. Awards Luncheon

ALL

GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

As the highest honor awarded by COE, the Walter O. Mason Jr. Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to college opportunity programs and have significantly advanced educational opportunities for low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities. We are also excited to announce the winners of the 2024 First-Generation College Celebration Day grant competition. Don't miss this inspiring event that highlights the power of education to change lives!

Please note that you must present your conference badge to enter the ballroom.

1:30 PM – 2:30 PM ET

HOT TOPICS

HT1.

How to Maximize Student Engagement and Retention: Services That Matter Most to Students

ALL

BEEKMAN-SECOND LEVEL

Achieving 100% student engagement and retention is within reach. Say goodbye to outdated teaching methods and one-size-fits-all workshops. The key is to engage every student, whether introverted or extroverted, motivated or not, by combining dynamic, in-person instruction with

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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interactive technology that truly resonates. The most successful programs are those that support students in all areas of their lives: higher test scores lead to more scholarships, financial literacy fosters generational wealth, strong social and emotional health improves relationships, effective study skills drive academic success, and workforce training opens doors to dream careers. Let Academic Tutoring and Test Prep show you how to unlock your students' full potential!

PRESENTERS

Jim Giovannini

Author and President

Academic Tutoring and Test Prep

Park Ridge, IL

Yuval Trachtenberg

Vice President, School Partnerships

Academic Tutoring and Test Prep

Park Ridge, IL

HT2.

TRIO Can Help Schools Change How They Educate Underrepresented Students Getting them to their Next Best Level

ALL

BRYANT - SECOND LEVEL

Help teachers, students, and administrators get back on track by learning 25 new ways to engage learning resulting in sustainable, measurable gains. Implement some of 25 revolutionary ways to accelerate college and career learning, learn about new exams, raise test scores, increase motivation, improve financial literacy and energize your TRIO partners.

Register for Tiffany of NY crystal and free \$25 gift card drawing for attendance. All Trio programs can receive a Free Program Grant Awards (\$30,000 maximum). Also, sign up for a workshop to enter a drawing to win our 35th Anniversary Trip to Disney!

PRESENTER

David Waldherr

Founder

Cambridge

Des Plaines, IL

HT3.

Customized TRIO Professional Development to Fit Your Needs

ALL

CLINTON - SECOND LEVEL

Unlock the full potential of TRIO expertise and discover how collaboration with COE can elevate your institution or agency. This session will guide you through COE's extensive technical assistance services, including personalized coaching for program directors, simulated site visits, thorough program evaluations, and targeted training on key legislation and regulations affecting TRIO programs. You'll gain insights into crafting a customized action plan tailored to your needs, aspirations, and goals. Engage in interactive discussions and leave with practical, actionable strategies to enhance your TRIO program's effectiveness and impact.

PRESENTER

Angelica Vialpando

Senior Vice President, Program and Professional Development

Council for Opportunity in Education

Washington, DC

HT4.

Compass: Online Data Management and APR Solution

ALL

CONCOURSE A - CONCOURSE LEVEL

Tired of paperwork and data entry? Discover our TRIO database, where applications go paperless, and contacts and activities are easily scanned via QR codes. Compass streamlines your processes and

gives you more time to focus on what truly matters—running your program effectively.

PRESENTER

Urban Pelicon

CIO

CoBro Consulting

Chula Vista, CA

HT5.

Dollars and Sense: Money Fun!

ALL

GRAMERCY SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

Many adults and students struggle with making sound financial decisions, often due to a lack of proper education in money management. Eric Smith, known as The Financial Literacy Coach, has taught these crucial skills to over 1,000 NFL and NBA players, and now he's bringing his high-energy, entertaining approach to this session. With experience presenting to over 400,000 students, including participants from more than 100 TRIO programs, Eric makes financial literacy fun and engaging. Expect a lively session filled with game shows, cash prizes, and practical tips that will transform your financial outlook—this is one session you don't want to miss!

PRESENTER

Eric Smith

The Financial Literacy Coach

Newnan, GA

HT6.

Financial "Literacy" Is Not Enough: Why and How You Can Aim Higher for Your Students

ALL

MADISON - SECOND LEVEL

In 2024, with technology advancing rapidly, human potential should be soaring—yet we still struggle to help most American students, especially first-generation low-income

students, escape debt and build a thriving financial future. Why? Join Kyle Saelinger, owner of Fintrinsic, a financial literacy platform for first-generation low-income students, as she explores the often-overlooked key to solving this issue: financial inspiration. Kyle will show you how creating a culture of financial possibility and empowerment is crucial to a successful financial literacy program. Discover how Fintrinsic is redefining financial education and making a real impact across schools and organizations nationwide.

PRESENTER

Kyle Saelinger

Owner, Head of Program and Partnerships

Fintrinsic

Houston, TX

HT7.

The Psychological Effects of Music on Youth Today

ALL

MORGAN - SECOND LEVEL

"The Psychological Effects of Music" is an interactive social-emotional learning experience that equips directors with insights into how the music their students listen to influences behavior, attention span, financial decisions, and more. This workshop, led by "Ava The Aviator," a groundbreaking keynote speaker and music industry insider, will delve into the powerful connection between music, mental health, and media consumption. Participants will learn how to harness music to benefit rather than hinder their students, gaining tools to help at-risk youth think critically about media and make informed choices. This session promises to be life-changing, providing clarity on effectively reaching and supporting students in today's media-saturated world.

PRESENTER

Ava Johnson

Founder and CEO

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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Her Records, Inc.
Atlanta, GA

HT8.

Illuminate: Lighting the Way for TRIO Success

ALL
MURRAY HILL SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

This presentation aims to empower TRIO educators by showcasing their pivotal role in guiding students toward success. By exploring the metaphor of illumination, we will delve into how educators can act as beacons of support and inspiration. Participants will gain access to innovative strategies and practical ideas that can enhance their effectiveness and broaden their impact. This session will provide actionable insights and creative approaches to help you light the way for your students, ensuring they have the tools and support they need to thrive academically and personally. Join us to illuminate new possibilities and transform your approach to fostering student success.

PRESENTER

Sherri Ross
Founder and CEO
Imagine Scholarships
Georgetown, TX

HT9.

Empowering Staff and Students with Effective Online Resources: College Program Case Studies

COLLEGE
NASSAU - SECOND LEVEL

In today's dynamic educational environment, TRIO college programs face challenges such as boosting student engagement, streamlining orientation, and training tutors effectively. This session will show how integrated online services can address these issues. We'll explore how flexible online workshops can enhance student participation,

simplify orientation processes, and provide effective tutor training. Additionally, we'll highlight how online resources can support continuous staff development, offering practical strategies to improve both staff efficiency and student success.

PRESENTERS

Sandra Hunter
Director, College
TRIO Programs
University of North Carolina,
Greensboro
Greensboro, NC

Alex Pecoraro
Customer Success
Innovative Educators, Inc.
Boulder, CO

HT10.

Implementing Effective College Readiness Curriculum

PRE-COLLEGE
REGENT - SECOND LEVEL

Boost your students' college readiness with practical strategies and tools designed to enhance their success. Join us for an in-depth exploration of an effective college readiness curriculum and discover actionable, evidence-based techniques that save you time while increasing student engagement and understanding. Revamp your program's approach to college preparedness and empower your students with essential skills for success. Don't miss out on a free resource to enhance your curriculum!

PRESENTERS

Luis Perez
CEO
PreDegree, LLC
Jourdanton, TX

Rosalinda Perez
Chief Marketing Officer
PreDegree, LLC
Jourdanton, TX

HT11.

(Re)kindling a Sense of Community in the Workplace

ALL
RENDEZVOUS TRIANON - THIRD LEVEL

Who says work can't be enjoyable? Remember the last time you looked forward to going into the office? The work itself might not have changed, but how we connect with it has! Join us to explore practical ways to reignite a sense of community at work, boosting employee experience, engagement, and retention. Let's make the workplace a place where enthusiasm thrives!

PRESENTER

Kyvaughn Henry
Founder and Senior Consultant
KH-MPH Consulting
Rochester, NY

HT12.

Everything You Need to Know about the Enhanced ACT

ALL
SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

This session will explore the significant changes coming to the ACT, including what will be different and remain the same. We'll provide detailed insights into these changes and offer strategic recommendations to help you prepare your students effectively. Discover how to adapt your preparation methods to align with the new format and ensure your students are well-equipped for success. Additionally, we will highlight MasteryPrep resources featuring officially licensed ACT questions to enhance your preparation efforts and provide valuable support for educators and students. Join us to stay informed and gain practical tools for navigating the evolving ACT landscape.

PRESENTER

Jim Kelly
Vice President, Instruction

MasteryPrep
Baton Rouge, LA

HT13.

The Keys to Unlock Sixty More Years of Student Engagement and Enjoyment!

ALL
SUTTON NORTH - SECOND LEVEL

Educators and researchers know that student engagement and enjoyment are crucial for effective learning. TRIO professionals possess a unique talent for creating those memorable "Aha!" moments when students fully appreciate the value of education and their path to college. As we celebrate 60 years of TRIO, we're excited to showcase how our nationwide research with TRIO professionals has revolutionized the way we inject enthusiasm and insight into TRIO classrooms. Join us to discover innovative strategies to elevate your program's engagement, including cutting-edge technology, interactive simulations, gamification techniques, and collaborative student activities. Don't miss this opportunity to transform your approach and energize your TRIO program!

PRESENTER

James Prince
Director, TRIO Partnerships
Nucleus
Los Angeles, CA

HT14.

OnTrack Plus: A FREE Post-Secondary Planning Resource

PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH
SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

OnTrack Plus is a comprehensive, free online college readiness platform designed to elevate the high school experience and prepare students for success in higher education. With a library of around 200 short, engaging

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videos, OnTrack Plus covers a range of essential topics such as study skills, crafting compelling college essays, completing the FAFSA, and finding scholarships. The platform offers a gamified and interactive approach, giving students access to college-level courses, scholarship opportunities, and small-group mentoring, all tailored to enhance their readiness for the next academic step.

PRESENTERS

Chris DiAntonio

Director, Business Development
OnTrack Plus
Bryn Mawr, PA

Andrew Zivic

Director, Operations
OnTrack Plus
Bryn Mawr, PA

HT15.

The Greatest of All Time: Becoming the Best TRIO Leader You Can Be

ALL
GIBSON - SECOND LEVEL

TRIO stands out as a unique organization where professionals juggle various roles and adapt swiftly to meet diverse needs. Join us for a lively session as we explore the top 5 traits of exceptional TRIO leaders, featuring real-life examples from across the US. We'll showcase the standout practices that make these leaders effective in serving their students and offer practical tips on how you can incorporate these strategies into your own work. Expect to engage in fun activities, share laughs, and connect with fellow TRIO professionals. Come ready to be inspired and energized!

PRESENTERS

Dena Mosop

Sales Director
Paradigm Shift Leadership
Muskegee, OK

Billie Sue Smith

Sales Representative, SWASAP
and WESTOP Regions
Paradigm Shift Leadership
Muskegee, OK

HT16.

Show Me the Money! How to Create Financial Literacy Experiences Students Never Forget!

ALL
CONCOURSE G - CONCOURSE LEVEL

All participants will receive a VISA gift card! Discover the secret strategies for hosting impactful financial literacy workshops tailored for students. With insights drawn from over 80 TRIO programs, MJ brings expert knowledge to help you transform your approach to financial education and empower your students for future success. Arrive early—space is limited, so don't miss out!

PRESENTER

MJ Pittman

CEO and Founder
Simple Monday Academy
Dallas, TX

HT17.

StudentAccess: The Leader in TRIO Software!

ALL
CONCOURSE B - SECOND LEVEL

Join our session to explore how StudentAccess can streamline your participant data management. Discover features like the multiple student tool, online applications, dynamic report generator, and data set editor that help you efficiently handle data and create custom reports. Learn how our text message and email generators keep you connected with participants. We ensure compliance with the Education Department's reporting requirements for all grant types, keeping our annual performance report generator current.

PRESENTERS

Claya Diamond

Manager, Marketing
Communications
Heiberg Consulting, Inc.
Fort Collins, CO

Alex Grote

Vice President
Heiberg Consulting, Inc.
Fort Collins, CO

HT18.

Advancing Advisor Excellence: Unleashing Potential for Lasting Impact

ALL
CONCOURSE E - SECOND LEVEL

Unlock the potential of I.M.P.A.C.T. advising, a dynamic multi-phase program designed to empower advisors with the tools and skills necessary for co-creating impactful behavior change. TRIO staff will receive a ready-to-use curriculum for effective one-on-one advising sessions and valuable resources to manage a solution-focused advising program. Dive in to enhance your advising approach and drive meaningful results.

PRESENTERS

Heath Alexander

Senior Director, Grants
and Evaluation
Study Smart Tutors, Inc.
Silver Spring, MD

Jack Friedman

Founder
Study Smart Tutors, Inc.
Westlake Village, CA

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM ET

College Fair Coffee Break

Sponsored by Princeton

3:15 PM – 3:45 PM ET

Exhibit Hall Walkthrough

AMERICAS HALL 1 AND 2

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM ET

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

15.

Selective Graduate School Admissions: What Your Students Need to Know

COLLEGE
BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

TRIO scholars are often concerned about their fit or likelihood for admission to a selective graduation program. This session will provide insights from administrators from selective graduate programs about preparing for and affording a best-fit graduate program. They will discuss how applications are evaluated and programs that allow students to explore highly competitive graduate programs in various academic and career fields. We look forward to the discussion to match talented TRIO scholars with challenging, affordable, high return-on-investment (ROI) graduate programs.

PRESENTERS

Joseph L. Lewis

Coordinator, Diversity
and Inclusion
Princeton Graduate School
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

Vishi Singh

Coordinator, SEAS
Diversity and Inclusion
School of Engineering and
Applied Science
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

Julie Yun

Associate Dean, Diversity
and Inclusion
School of Engineering and
Applied Science
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

MODERATOR

Kevin C. Hudson

Associate Director,
Institutional Diversity and

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

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College Opportunity
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

16.

A Comparative Analysis of Student Experiences in a Cultural Exchange Program between the University of Kansas and Stellenbosch University

CREATING GLOBAL
CITIZENS STRAND

ALL

BRYANT - SECOND LEVEL

This session examines the rich tapestry of a cross-cultural exchange program between the University of Kansas and Stellenbosch University (Stellenbosch, South Africa). It delves into the experiences of first-generation students from both sides of the exchange, exploring students' perceptions and insights gained from this transformative cultural immersion. The session also underlines the overwhelmingly positive response towards future cultural exchange opportunities for TRIO programs.

PRESENTERS

Meghan Ecker-Lyster

Director, Research, Evaluation and Dissemination

Center for Educational Opportunity Programs
University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS

Lynthon S. Jacobs

Head of Strategy
Centre for Pedagogy
Stellenbosch University
Cape Town, South Africa

Ngondi A. Kamatuka

Assistant Dean, School of Education and Human Resources
Director of the Achievement and Assessment Institute
Center for Educational Opportunity Programs
University of Kansas

Lawrence, KS

Elza Lourens

Senior Facilitator
Centre for Pedagogy
Stellenbosch University
Cape Town, South Africa

MODERATOR

Jessica Lewis

Director, TRIO Programs
Mountain Empire Community College
Stone Gap, VA

17.

Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program Association of Professionals Roundtable

MCNAIR

CLINTON - SECOND LEVEL

Connect with your colleagues in the TRIO Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program community for an engaging discussion on current issues shaping McNair programs. This session will allow participants to dive into topics ranging from pre-McNair initiatives to effective program evaluation and strategies for supporting scholars' mental health. Gain valuable insights, share experiences, and explore innovative approaches to enhancing the impact of McNair programs. Don't miss this opportunity to collaborate and stay informed on the latest trends in the field.

PRESENTERS

Kari Azevedo

Director, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program
University of Central Missouri
Warrensburg, MO

Kim Rosfeld

Director, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program
Southern Nazarene University
Bethany, OK

MODERATOR

Angelica Benitez

Director, TRIO Programs
Rider University
Lawrence Township, NJ

18.

The Five Ps of Successful Mentoring: Policy, Procedure, Practice, Performance and Perfection

RESEARCH FOR
PRACTICE STRAND

COLLEGE

CONCOURSE A - CONCOURSE LEVEL

Elevate your student retention strategy and showcase the tangible outcomes of your efforts with this interactive presentation. Building strong relationships is crucial, but moving beyond simple recognition is important. We will guide you through the methodology and documentation needed to measure and demonstrate the impact of your retention initiatives. Discover best practices for implementing a successful mentoring program, learn how to quantify and evaluate intentional interventions, and develop policies tailored to your grant requirements. Strengthen your program structure to enhance effectiveness, streamline impact tracking, and effectively showcase student success.

PRESENTERS

Joseph Aguirre

Director, College Success Programs
Sheridan College
Sheridan, WY

Kate Crawford

Retention Mentor, Student Support Services
Sheridan College
Sheridan, WY

MODERATOR

Rachael Barnett

Director, Student Support Services

Tusculum University
Greenville, TN

19.

Taking the Leadership Leap: Using Doctoral Study to Advance Your Career

COLLEGE TO CAREER STRAND

Sponsored by Ascendium
Education Group

ALL

GRAMERCY SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

In higher education, advancing your career often means pursuing an advanced degree. This session will guide you through earning a doctoral degree in higher education. We'll explore the decision-making process, compare different types of doctoral programs, and discuss the optimal timing for your academic goals. Gain insights into securing institutional support and identifying key advocates to help you succeed. Discover why supportive leadership is vital, especially for TRIO-like populations, and learn strategies to ensure your success. Don't miss this chance to navigate your path to excellence in higher education!

PRESENTERS

Aaron Brown

Executive Vice President
Council for Opportunity in Education
Washington, DC

Sari Byerly

Assistant Vice President,
Student Pathways and Success
Weber State University
Ogden, UT

MODERATOR

LaQuita Parker

Director, Student Support Services
Northwest Mississippi
Community College
Senatobia, MS

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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20.

Harnessing the Power of TRIO: Strategies for Strong Adult Participant Engagement

👤 EOC & VUB

📍 MADISON - SECOND LEVEL

Join seasoned TRIO professionals in an interactive session that goes beyond the basics of working with adult learners. Dive deep into student-centered strategies that have proven to unlock the full potential of TRIO offerings. From practical examples to real success stories, this session is designed to inspire and equip you with actionable insights. Be part of the discussion where session attendees learn and share their best practices. Walk away with a toolkit of innovative approaches you can implement in your TRIO program.

PRESENTERS

Matthew Donovan

Director, EOC
Morehead State University
Morehead, KY

Mary Meeks

Retired Director, Veterans
Upward Bound
East Central University
Ada, OK

MODERATOR

Halle Timpson

Director, Veterans
Upward Bound
University of Tennessee,
Knoxville
Knoxville, TN

21.

Students with Disabilities: The Forgotten Student

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND
BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

👤 PROGRAMS SERVING STUDENTS
WITH DISABILITIES

📍 MORGAN - SECOND LEVEL

Explore the often-overlooked population of students with

disabilities within TRIO programs. This interactive session provides a platform for professionals to share experiences, solve challenges, and collectively explore best practices for effectively recruiting and serving these students. In this session, participants will review relevant legislation and TRIO services available to students with disabilities. Participants will also explore case scenarios and receive tools to address common questions when working with students with disabilities. Additionally, presenters will discuss strategies for fostering inclusivity within programs and ways to overcome challenges in supporting students with disabilities.

PRESENTER

Kim Warren

Associate Director, Campus-
Based TRIO Programs
University of Louisiana at
Lafayette
Lafayette, LA

MODERATOR

Cindy Virta

Past President, Educational
Opportunity Association
Traverse City, MI

22.

The Crisis Facing Black Women Leaders in Higher Education

👤 ALL

📍 MURRAY HILL SUITE - SECOND
LEVEL

In the past year, Black women leaders in higher education have faced unprecedented challenges, including high-profile resignations, sudden deaths, and even suicides. While all leaders are grappling with severe issues, the difficulties for Black women are especially intense. This session will feature insights from seasoned higher education executives, including former college presidents,

who have navigated multiple leadership roles. Participants will be able to discuss their experiences and share personal and institutional strategies to address and overcome these critical challenges. Join us to gain valuable perspectives and actionable solutions for supporting Black women leaders in higher education.

PRESENTERS

Gwendolyn Boyd

Executive Search Consultant
AGB Search
Washington, DC

Joan Collier

Assistant Vice President,
Equity and Inclusion
Rutgers University-New
Brunswick
New Brunswick, NJ

Charlene Dukes

Founder and Principal
The Dukes Group LLC
Glenn Dale, MD

Artis Hampshire-Cowan

Senior Consultant and
Senior Fellow
Association of Governing
Boards of Universities and
Colleges
Washington, DC

FACILITATOR

Kimberly Jones

President
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Gaelyn Hastings

Director, YOU Inc. College
Access Programs/An Affiliate
of Seven Hills Foundation
Youth Opportunities Upheld, Inc.
Worcester, MA

23.

Harnessing the Power of TRIO: Strategies for Strong Youth Engagement

👤 PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH

📍 NASSAU - SECOND LEVEL

Join seasoned TRIO professionals in an interactive session that goes beyond the basics of serving youth. Dive deep into student-centered strategies that have proven to unlock the full potential of TRIO offerings. From practical examples to real success stories, this session is designed to inspire and equip you with actionable insights. Be part of the discussion where session attendees learn and share their best practices. Walk away with a toolkit of innovative approaches you can implement in your TRIO program.

PRESENTER

Senovia Williams

Director, Talent Search
Florida A&M University
Tallahassee, FL

MODERATOR

Ray Cabrera

Director, Upward Bound
University of South Florida
Valrico, FL

25.

Everyday Advocacy: Simple Tasks, Big Impact

START SMART STRAND

👤 ALL

📍 RENDEZVOUS TRIANON - THIRD
LEVEL

This dynamic session explores the transformative potential of advocacy within the TRIO community. While securing federal funding is crucial, advocacy extends beyond that. Learn from experienced TRIO professionals who have harnessed the power of advocacy to get funding, create opportunities, gain recognition, and more at local, state, and federal levels. Discover practical ideas you can implement immediately to benefit your participants, enhance your program, and strengthen TRIO.

PRESENTERS

Brenda Dann-Messier

Consultant
Council for Opportunity in

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS • INSPIRING HOPE

Education
East Greenwich, RI

Dallas Doane

Associate Professor, Practice,
Higher Education Administration
Program Coordinator,
Educational Leadership
and Policy Studies

School of Education and
Human Sciences

The University of Kansas
Lawrence, KS

Maurice Matthis

Senior Director, TRIO Pre-
College Programs
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, NC

MODERATOR

Mitchell Shears

Associate Vice President,
Student Success
Jackson State University
Jackson, MS

26.

Meeting Your Funded-to-Serve Numbers: Recruiting Talent Search Participants

TALENT SEARCH
 SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

This session will focus on identifying and recruiting middle and secondary school students for TRIO Talent Search programs. We will discuss effective strategies for identifying potentially eligible middle and high school students and strategies to increase collaborative efforts and referrals. Communication strategies and the use of technology in student recruitment will be explored. Learn best practices and strategies from your colleagues and take away new ideas that you can implement in your pre-college project.

PRESENTER

Daniel Banuelos

Assistant Director,
Talent Search
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO

MODERATOR

Rohesia Hicks

Director, TRIO Initiatives
Rutgers University-Newark
Newark, NJ

28.

Indicators of Higher Education Part 1: Reimagining Higher Education for Equity

**MOVING FORWARD,
LOOKING BACK STRAND**

ALL
 SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

Picture a higher education landscape where the benefits extend beyond the economic realm typically associated with a college degree. Delve into the intricacies of the United States higher education system as we embark on a journey through the 2024 Indicators of Higher Education Equity research report. Through a deep dive, we unravel the complexities surrounding the challenge of attaining a college degree. Presenters will dissect the factors that shape vastly different college outcomes by race/ethnicity, income, state, and gender. Prepare to be captivated as we confront the stark realities of our current higher education system and envision a future brimming with hope and possibility. Let's challenge the status quo and pave the way for a more equitable and inclusive educational landscape.

PRESENTERS

Nicole Brunt

Research Associate, The
Pell Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Oskaloosa, IA

Margaret Cahalan

Senior Research Associate, The
Pell Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education

Washington, DC

MODERATOR

W. Barney Nye

Associate Vice President,
Access and Outreach
Utah Valley University
Orem, UT

5:15 PM – 6:15 PM ET

PLENARY SESSION

Update from the Council for Opportunity in Education

ALL
 GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

With a historic national election approaching and TRIO funding hanging in the balance, this plenary session is a must-attend. Join COE President Kimberly Jones as she delivers the latest updates and crucial insights from Washington, DC on developments that could shape the future of TRIO programs. Don't miss this opportunity to stay informed and prepared for the changes ahead!

PRESENTER

Kimberly Jones

President
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM ET

Karaoke

**SPONSORED BY GENIUS
POTENTIAL**

ALL
 TRIANON BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

6:45 AM – 8:00 AM ET

Wellness: Diamond Walk

ALL
MEET IN CONFERENCE HOTEL LOBBY

Experience the heartbeat of New York City via this City Fun Run or Walk! Step into the vibrant energy of Midtown Manhattan with our exciting Fun Run event! Lace your sneakers and be part of an unforgettable adventure through iconic streets, historic landmarks, and the buzzing atmosphere of the city that never sleeps. Wind through Midtown's finest, passing by iconic attractions like Times Square and the Museum of Modern Art and architectural landmarks such as the Chrysler Building, Grand Central Terminal, the Flatiron Building, the Empire State Building, and more! Expect music, cheers, and a fantastic crowd to motivate you. The run is open to runners of all levels and ages!

8:00 AM – 8:45 AM ET

Exhibit Walkthrough

ALL
AMERICAS HALL 1 & 2

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM ET

PLENARY SESSION

Equity in Action: Building Brighter Careers with TRIO Programs and Supportive Career Centers

COLLEGE TO CAREER STRAND

Sponsored by Ascendium Education Group

ALL
GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

Time is of the essence to bridge the critical gap in knowledge and practice hindering the development of equitable career pathways within higher education institutions through TRIO programs. Join us for a session that delves into the cutting-edge work of the Pell Institute, offering essential frameworks and best practices. Discover how institutions urgently need to leverage TRIO programs to shape equitable and impactful student career pathways. Take advantage of this crucial opportunity to drive change and empower the future workforce.

PANELISTS

Sean O'Keefe
Founder and Partner
CareerLaunch
San Francisco, CA

Maryann Rainey
Senior Program Officer
Ascendium
Dublin, OH

Niesha Taylor
Director, Career Readiness
National Association of
Colleges and Employers
Bethlehem, PA

MODERATOR

Marieli Rubio
Partner and Director, Impact
CareerLaunch
San Francisco, CA

10:15 AM – 11:30 AM ET

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

29.

The Emotional Toll of Social Mobility

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND
BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

ALL
BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

In 2024, the COE Opportunity Matters Book Club focused on the award-winning text "FIRST GEN: A Memoir" by Alejandra Campoverdi. A national bestseller, FIRST GEN won the California Independent Booksellers Alliance (CALIBA) Martin Cruz Smith Award. It was longlisted for the Outstanding Works of Literature Award for the First Year Experience. The author has been a child on welfare, a White House aide to President Obama, a Harvard graduate, a gang member's girlfriend, and a candidate for U.S. Congress. Join us as she shares her story and examines the emotional toll of social mobility on those she refers to as "first and onlys."

PRESENTER

Alejandra Campoverdi
Author, *FIRST GEN: A Memoir*
Los Angeles, CA

MODERATOR

Deborah Northcross
Consultant
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Memphis, TN

30.

Unlocking Global Opportunities: Empowering Pell Grant Students Through Education Abroad

CREATING GLOBAL
CITIZENS STRAND

COLLEGE
BRYANT - SECOND LEVEL

Discover how study abroad can empower Pell Grant recipients to broaden their horizons and shape their futures. This session offers an inspiring perspective about the transformative potential of a study abroad experience from the voice of a TRIO and Gilman Scholar alumna. Participants will gain valuable insights into the profound

personal and academic growth achievable through a global experience provided by the Gilman Scholarship and study abroad. Session participants will leave with actionable ways to assist their students with navigating these opportunities.

PRESENTERS

Laura Clippard
Middle Tennessee State
University, Benjamin A. Gilman
Scholarship Program
Murfreesboro, TN

Jade Fong
Development Coordinator,
Gilman Changemaker
Hesperian Health Guides,
Benjamin A. Gilman Scholarship
Program
Berkeley, CA

MODERATOR

Jose Aaron Hinojosa
Director, Special Programs
University of Texas, Rio Grande
Valley
Brownsville, TX

31.

From the Voices of Mentees: How Holistic Critical Mentoring Shapes the Experience of McNair Scholars

MCNAIR
CLINTON - SECOND LEVEL

The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC) Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program stands out with its unique holistic critical mentorship (HCM) approach--a network of power-dynamic-flipped, student-centered, reciprocal relationships. This study delves into how HCM is manifested in the McNair Program Mentoring model and its profound impact on Scholars and their mentorships. By attending this session, attendees will gain a deeper understanding of the innovative mentoring strategies employed by the program, which the McNair Scholars have

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

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identified as a best practice.

PRESENTER

Michael Hunt

Director, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program
University of Maryland,
Baltimore County
Baltimore, MD

MODERATOR

Kim Rosfeld

Director, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program
Southern Nazarene University
Bethany, OK

32.

What Students Really Want: Embracing a Holistic Lens on the Value of College Through Student Voice

RESEARCH FOR PRACTICE STRAND

ALL
 CONCOURSE A - CONCOURSE LEVEL

This enlightening student panel features vibrant discussions that transcend conventional views of college credentials as mere economic assets. The session illuminates the diverse dimensions of postsecondary education's value for Black, Latinx, and Indigenous students, drawing on comprehensive research insights. Embark on a journey through data from a national student survey and inclusive focus groups featuring voices of TRIO participants. Explore how students' identities, campus environments, and social networks intricately shape their perceptions of degree value. Experience the synergy of research, practice, and student narratives as we uncover actionable strategies to enrich the student experience. Gain invaluable insights on integrating diverse values into your programming, empowering you to navigate the complexities of credential evaluation with confidence and empathy.

PRESENTERS

Anna Barbosa

Participant, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program
Lee University
Cleveland, TN

Kayon Morgan

Participant, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program
Vermont State University,
Castleton
Castleton, VT

Malik Richardson

Participant, EOC and
Student Support Services
University of Memphis
Memphis, TN

FACILITATOR

Frank Essien

Strategy Officer, Research
Lumina Foundation
Indianapolis, IN

MODERATOR

Dawn Eckhardt

Director, Talent Search
University of North Dakota
Grand Forks, ND

33.

Igniting Change: Securing Institutional Support for Low-Income and First- Generation Students

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

ALL
 GRAMERCY SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

TRIO programs play a pivotal role in promoting equity and inclusion. However, institutions often have many more low-income and first-generation (LIFG) students than can be served by a single TRIO program. This breakout session will illuminate how TRIO professionals and alumni can secure broad institutional support for LIFG students from those who have done so successfully. Attendees

will learn practical strategies, from gaining executive buy-in to implementing sustainable programs, that address the unique challenges faced by LIFG students. Join us for this engaging and informative session to empower your institution to support low-income and first-generation students better, ensuring their success.

PRESENTERS

Lise Chapman

President, 1stGenYale
Yale University
New Haven, CT

Tommy Walls

Director, Alumni Relations
and Career Opportunities
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Zandra Genous-Tate

Director, TRIO Programs
Clark Atlanta University
Atlanta, GA

34.

Factors Influencing Adolescent Career Choices

RESEARCH FOR PRACTICE STRAND

UPWARD BOUND
 MADISON - SECOND LEVEL

Discover the power of evidence-based interventions in transforming the career decision-making process for pre-college access participants. This session describes successfully pairing the Career Thoughts Inventory and Holland's Self-Directed Search with creative, interactive, and multimedia techniques. These interventions have proven highly effective in guiding participants toward informed career choices by targeting areas such as external conflict, decision-making confusion, and commitment anxiety. Explore how innovative strategies can empower pre-college students to navigate their career paths

clearly and confidently.

PRESENTER

Frances Clark

Director, Talent Search
and Upward Bound
Virginia Polytechnic State
University
Blacksburg, VA

MODERATOR

Saraliz Gonzalez-Melendez

Director, Upward Bound
Inter American University of
Puerto Rico, Barranquitas
Barranquitas, PR

35.

Strategies for Recruitment in an Era of Enrollment Decline

EOC
 MORGAN - SECOND LEVEL

In the face of declining college enrollments, especially within the community college sector, college access and success programs encounter significant hurdles in recruiting students to fulfill their program goals. This session features two TRIO EOC directors sharing their insights and experiences addressing enrollment challenges head-on. Discover innovative tools and resources to breathe new life into your program outreach efforts. Gain invaluable insights into navigating the enrollment dip and uncover actionable strategies to revitalize your program's recruitment initiatives.

PRESENTERS

Merrilyn Tatarczuch-Koff

Director, EOC
Vermont Student Assistance
Corporation
Winooski, VT

Lee Williams

Director, EOC
Texarkana College
Texarkana, TX

MODERATOR

Mayra Macias

Program Coordinator, EOC
California State University, Long

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Beach
Long Beach, CA

36.

Why Is College So Expensive and What Can We Do About It?

FIRST-GENERATION FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT STRAND

Sponsored by TIAA

ALL

MURRAY HILL SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

It's no secret that higher education costs have skyrocketed in recent years, presenting serious challenges for students, families, and policymakers alike. This presentation delves into the intricate factors propelling the high cost of higher education, offering insights into the underlying dynamics shaping the landscape. Attendees will gain a deeper understanding of key drivers such as administrative bloat, declining state funding, and the proliferation of non-academic services. Join policy experts and college leaders to unravel this complex issue and explore actionable solutions at programmatic, institutional, and policy levels.

PRESENTERS

Catherine Bond Hill

Managing Director
Ithaca S+R
New York, NY

Martha Kanter

CEO
College Promise
Washington, DC

Baramak Nassirian

Vice President for Higher Education Policy
Veterans Education Success
Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Aaron Brown

Executive Vice President
Council for Opportunity in Education

Washington, DC

37.

Empowering Connections: Establishing Strong Alumni Chapters

ALL

NASSAU-SECOND LEVEL

Discover the transformative impact of alumni chapters on personal and professional growth within TRIO programs and their wider communities. This immersive session illuminates the essential steps and dynamic strategies to launch and lead successful local and state alumni organizations. Immerse yourself in exploring alumni groups' critical role in fostering vibrant networks and uncovering the benefits of active engagement at the local and state levels. Gain invaluable insights into group members' responsibilities in ensuring cohesion and effectiveness and uncover the essential components for crafting a comprehensive roadmap for group activities and initiatives. Led by esteemed leaders from the TRIO community, this session promises to be a dynamic exchange of experiences and best practices in establishing and nurturing alumni groups.

PRESENTERS

Tara Holmon

Director, Talent Search
Midlands Technical College
Columbia, SC

Anthony Webster

Director, Student Support Services
Eastern Michigan University
Ypsilanti, MI

MODERATOR

Tommy Walls

Director, Alumni Relations and Career Opportunities
Council for Opportunity in Education
Washington, DC

38.

Stories and Strategies That Support Linguistically Diverse and Immigrant Students

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

ALL

REGENT-SECOND LEVEL

Harnessing the power of Professor Laura Rendon's validation framework for making a meaningful difference in the lives of linguistically diverse and immigrant students, this session will deepen participants' understanding of ways to improve skills in supporting this important student population. The session will explore Rendon's student-centered social justice approach, which celebrates these students' unique strengths and experiences. Through engaging discussions and practical applications, participants will learn how to embrace, empower, and champion the linguistic diversity and cultural richness present in their students' backgrounds. Participants will leave with valuable insights and strategies to create inclusive and empowering learning environments that foster the success of all students.

PRESENTER

Martha Villegas Miranda

Director, TRIO Talent Search REACH Program
Broward College
Fort Lauderdale, FL

MODERATOR

Sergio Galvez

Senior Director, TRIO Pre-University Programs
California Lutheran University
Camarillo, CA

39.

Black Belt Mind, White Belt Spirit: Building Resilient Teams to Improve Outcomes

START SMART STRAND

ALL

RENDEZVOUS TRIANON - THIRD LEVEL

Pave the way for lasting success and impact. This session is dedicated to enhancing staff retention and development within your organization. Explore how to craft effective onboarding programs that set the stage for long-term success. Learn strategies to acquire and hone essential skills crucial for supporting students and stakeholders effectively. Participants will explore practices that foster team cohesion and commitment, ultimately elevating student and stakeholder experience. Presenters will equip you with the tools and insights needed to cultivate a high-performing black belt team—that drives positive outcomes for all involved.

PRESENTER

Nguyen "Tom" Griggs

Owner and Founder
Lead Connect Grow LLC
Houston, TX

MODERATOR

Karen Smolarek

Director, Student Support Services
University of Wisconsin-River Falls
River Falls, WI

40.

Hard vs. Heart Work: A Playbook for Creating a Culture of Encouragement and Belonging

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

UB/UBMS

SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



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Transform your pre-college program into a thriving community where every student feels valued, supported, and empowered to succeed. This interactive presentation empowers TRIO pre-college programs to foster a sense of belonging, strengthen programming, and cultivate a dynamic environment for students and staff. Session participants will begin planning a program environment where students actively participate and contribute to the program's success. Drawing inspiration from renowned psychologists such as Abraham Maslow and DeLeon Gray and insights from author Daniel Pink, participants will explore key concepts and strategies for promoting student engagement. The session will include opportunities to apply practical tools and actionable insights that enhance pre-college students' overall experience and outcomes.

PRESENTERS

Janine Hyde-Broderick

Program Director,
Upward Bound

East Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg, PA

Maryanne Kash

Assistant Director,
Upward Bound

East Stroudsburg University
East Stroudsburg, PA

MODERATOR

Letise Jenkins

Director, Talent Search
Purdue University Northwest
Merrillville, IN

41.

Competitive Internships: The Key to Jump- Starting First-Generation Professional Careers

COLLEGE TO CAREER STRAND

Sponsored by Ascendium
Education Group

ALL COLLEGE

SUTTON NORTH - SECOND LEVEL

According to the Strada Center for Education Consumer Insights, college students who completed a paid internship during their undergraduate education have higher paying first jobs a year after graduation. The Burning Glass Institute found that students who complete an internship are 48.2% more likely to attain college-level employment than those who do not. If you are feeling pressured to offer more career development services, but face constraints on time and resources, don't miss this session where you can discover key findings and lessons learned from the groundbreaking TRIO Career Development Program. Presenters will provide an insider's look at our comprehensive approach to career exploration, development, and success and will share a framework for embedding career development into project services. Take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your project's efforts to empower your students to embark on their career journeys with confidence and potential for unparalleled success.

PRESENTERS

Joan Becker

Consultant
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Boston, MA

Lorena Fuentes

Senior Director, Pathways and
Multilingual Programs and
Student Support Services
University of Massachusetts
Boston
Boston, MA

Jean E. Rhodes

Frank L. Boyden
Professor, Psychology
University of Massachusetts
Boston
Boston, MA

MODERATOR

Danielle Williams

Director, Student
Support Services
Norfolk State University
Norfolk, VA

42.

Indicators of Higher Education Part 2: Rethinking Higher Education Tools for a New Era

MOVING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK STRAND

ALL

SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

This session is an insightful continuation of the conversation sparked by the 2024 Indicators of Higher Education Equity research report. Building upon the foundational insights unveiled in the report, we delve deeper into a thought-provoking hypothesis: Can the U.S. higher education community leverage old tools to construct a new house—a revamped system—for the future? Embark on a journey of discovery as we navigate historical frameworks and traditional approaches, questioning their relevance and effectiveness in addressing the evolving needs of today's learners. We challenge conventional wisdom through data-driven analysis and critical discourse and explore innovative pathways toward reshaping higher education. Be prepared to engage in dynamic discussions that push the boundaries of traditional thinking, offering fresh perspectives and transformative insights. Let's explore the possibilities of reimagining higher education tools to construct a more inclusive, equitable, and forward-thinking educational landscape.

PRESENTERS

Nicole Brunt

Research Associate, The
Pell Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Oskaloosa, IA

Margaret Cahalan

Senior Research Associate, The
Pell Institute for the Study of
Opportunity in Higher Education
Council for Opportunity in
Education

Washington, DC

PANELISTS

Jonathan Lewis

Senior Director, Research
uAspire
Boston, MA

Laura W. Perna

GSE Centennial Presidential
Professor of Education and
Executive Director of the
Alliance for Higher Education
and Democracy (AHEAD)
University of Pennsylvania
Philadelphia, PA
University of Pennsylvania,
Graduate School of Education
Philadelphia, PA

Brittani Williams

Director, Advocacy,
Policy, and Research
Generation Hope
Washington, DC

MODERATOR

Oswaldo Lopez Jr.

Director, Upward Bound
Occidental College
Los Angeles, CA

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM ET

Lunch on Your Own

1:45 PM – 2:45 PM ET

HOT TOPIC SESSIONS

HT19.

Achieving Generational Wealth Is Every Person's Right

ALL

BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

Money might not buy happiness, but it's a solid start toward financial freedom. Achieving financial stability involves breaking free from harmful money habits and understanding financial principles through a lens of success. A strong foundation in financial literacy empowers

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

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individuals to reach their life goals by blending dynamic, in-person instruction with interactive technology that engages all students. Learn how to differentiate between needs and wants, budget and save effectively, manage checking and savings accounts, avoid credit card debt, leverage loans wisely, optimize tax strategies, and explore entrepreneurial opportunities. Join Academic Tutoring and Test Prep to discover how to unlock your students' full potential and build lasting financial wellness.

PRESENTERS

Jim Giovannini

Author and President

Academic Tutoring and Test Prep

Park Ridge, IL

Yuval Trachtenberg

Vice President, School Partnerships

Academic Tutoring and Test Prep

Park Ridge, IL

HT20.

Confidence Is Everything

ALL

BRYANT - SECOND LEVEL

In today's world of constant information overload, confidence can feel elusive. Join us for an engaging workshop where you'll uncover the three essential pillars to building confidence in any aspect of your life. This interactive session will not only equip you with practical strategies but also offers exciting opportunities to win prizes. Boost your self-assurance and take control with insights that can transform your approach to challenges and opportunities. Don't miss out on this chance to empower yourself and enhance your confidence!

PRESENTER

Emeka Anazia

CEO

Acing The Undergrad
Winston Salem, NC

HT21.

BLUMEN: Find Out Why It's Miles Ahead of Other TRIO Software

ALL

CLINTON - SECOND LEVEL

Discover how BOT (Blumen Online for TRIO) software can transform your data management. In this session, you'll see how BOT's customizable forms streamline student data collection with features like document uploads and digital signatures. Learn about its two-way texting, mobile app for updating student info, and paperless wallet for managing documents. Explore how BOT enhances security with two-factor authentication, simplifies check-ins with ID scanning, and improves batch processing and global filters efficiency. We'll also cover how BOT's tools support accurate APR reporting and SOC-2-compliant data security. Join us to see how BOT can boost your program's efficiency and effectiveness.

PRESENTER

Gunjan Seth

Vice President

Compansol

Houston, TX

HT22.

AP African American Studies: Building Pathways for Student Success

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

ALL

CONCOURSE A - CONCOURSE LEVEL

In this insightful session, participants will explore the newly launched AP African American Studies course, the first of its kind to be offered nationally. This groundbreaking course gives high school students a unique opportunity to earn college credit while delving into the

rich and diverse field of African American studies. We will discuss the course's objectives, its impact on educational access and inclusivity, and how it aims to enhance students' understanding of African American history and culture. Join us to learn how this innovative program is set to transform high school education and open new doors for students nationwide.

PRESENTER

Brandi Waters

Senior Program Manager, AP African American Studies

College Board

New York, NY

HT23.

The Power of Thinking BIG! Three Ways to Make a Greater Impact as a Leader Through Thinking BIG!

ALL

GRAMERCY SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

David Swartz, author of *The Magic of Thinking Big*, once said, "Our success is not determined by the size of our brain or the amount of education we acquire, but by the size of our thinking." In this transformative session, Dr. Jay explores how expanding our thinking can significantly enhance our ability to serve and impact the lives of first-generation students. He will share three actionable strategies that advisors, coaches, directors, professionals, and leaders can implement to harness the power of big thinking and achieve meaningful results. Join us to learn how adopting a visionary mindset can unlock new possibilities and drive success in your role.

PRESENTER

Joshua Fredenburg

Speaker and President

Circle of Change Leadership Experience

Long Beach, CA

HT24.

Engaged Families, Engaged Students: Digital Pathways to Success in TRIO and GEAR UP Programs

PRE-COLLEGE

MADISON - SECOND LEVEL

Family involvement is crucial for student success in TRIO Pre-College and GEAR UP programs. This session reveals how to boost parent and family engagement through a dynamic online resource hub. Based on research by Henderson and Mapp (2002), Tierney, Corwin, and Colyar (2005), and Greenhow and Lewin (2016), we'll showcase a digital platform featuring onboarding modules and workshops that empower families with essential tools for supporting their students. Learn how this user-friendly hub addresses common information gaps and provides skills training in financial literacy, college readiness, and the application process. Discover real success stories and effective strategies from other TRIO programs to enhance your family engagement efforts.

PRESENTERS

Joy Brittain

Director, Pre-College Programs

James Madison University

Harrisburg, VA

Alex Pecoraro

Customer Success

Innovative Educators, Inc.

Boulder, CO

HT25.

Genius-Level Engagement: How Incorporating Hip-Hop Boosts Rate of Students Meeting Grant Outcomes

ALL

MORGAN - SECOND LEVEL

Struggling to boost student engagement and attendance? Join Bert and Det from Genius Potential as they share effective strategies to captivate today's students and drive results for

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your grant outcomes. Known for its dynamic workshops, Genius Potential uses hip-hop to deliver engaging and memorable skits that demonstrate how to connect with under-resourced, first-gen, neurodivergent, and rural students. With experience reaching over 120,000 students nationwide, presenters will reveal innovative methods to enhance college readiness, career exploration, and STEM skills, all while keeping students motivated and involved.

PRESENTERS

Bert Gervais

Specialist, Student Engagement
Genius Potential
Brooklyn, NY

David Horne

Specialist, Student Engagement
Genius Potential
Brooklyn, NY

HT26.

Understanding the SAT and ACT and Their Value for TRIO

ALL
 MURRAY HILL SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

Dive into the future of college admissions with our session on the ACT and the new Digital SAT Exams. Discover the ins and outs of these pivotal tests, including their structure, preparation strategies, and how to interpret scores effectively. Understand why these exams are crucial for TRIO students and how they can significantly impact the college admissions process. Gain insights directly from the founder of Method Test Prep and learn how to equip your students for success in this evolving landscape.

PRESENTER

Tom Ehlers

Founder
Method Learning
Northport, NY

HT27.

Next-Level TRIO Management: COE's empower™ Software

ALL
 NASSAU - SECOND LEVEL

empower™ is now managed by Bright Learning Lab, an innovative company investing substantial resources to ensure APR season is a breeze and that TRIO directors can better utilize data! Join Spencer Kearl, vice president of growth at Bright Learning Lab, and Ron Abel, a satisfied empower™ user, for an exclusive workshop on the future of empower™. Discover how empower™ can revolutionize your workflow, from easing administrative tasks to drastically reducing APR prep time. Bright Learning Lab wants to hear from you! Representatives are committed to making this the best product possible, so come and provide feedback to help shape the future of TRIO.

PRESENTERS

Ron Abel

Director, Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math-Science
Southeastern Louisiana University
Hammond, LA

Spencer Kearl

Vice President of Growth
Bright Learning Lab
Alberta, Canada

HT28.

Show Me the Money! How to Create Financial Literacy Experiences Students Never Forget!

ALL
 REGENT - SECOND LEVEL

All participants will receive a VISA gift card! Discover the secret strategies for hosting impactful financial literacy workshops tailored for students. With insights drawn from over 80 TRIO programs, MJ brings expert knowledge to help you transform your approach to financial

education and empower your students for future success. Arrive early—space is limited, so don't miss out!

PRESENTER

MJ Pittman

Founder and CEO
Simple Monday Academy
Dallas, TX

HT29.

StudentAccess: The Leader in TRIO Software!

ALL
 RENDEZVOUS TRIANON - THIRD LEVEL

Discover how StudentAccess can revolutionize your data management! In this session, we will showcase powerful tools designed to streamline your operations, including a multi-student tool, online applications, a dynamic report generator, and a versatile data set editor. Learn how to effortlessly maintain communication with participants using our text and email generators and ensure compliance with the Department of Education's reporting requirements with our up-to-date performance report generator. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your efficiency and effectiveness!

PRESENTERS

Claysa Diamond

Manager, Marketing and Communications
Heiberg Consulting, Inc.
Fort Collins, CO

Alex Grote

Vice President
Heiberg Consulting, Inc.
Fort Collins, CO

HT30.

Scholarships as a Side Hustle: Three Secrets TRIO Professionals Need to Know to Help Their Students Win Scholarships

ALL

SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

Are your students struggling with the myth that college is just an expensive debt trap? It's time to turn that narrative around! Join Attorney and Serial Scholarship Winner India Prather for an eye-opening session on how to secure scholarships and fund college without overwhelming debt. Discover practical strategies to guide your students in finding and applying for scholarships and learn how to help them craft compelling essays that stand out. Whether you're looking to help students land full rides to college or graduate school, this session offers essential tools and insights to empower your TRIO program and make a real impact.

PRESENTER

India Prather

CEO
The Art of Scholarships
Charlotte, NC

HT31.

Professional Development at the U.S. Department of State – Career-Long Learning

ALL
 SUTTON NORTH - SECOND LEVEL

The U.S. Department of State is committed to recruiting talented individuals from diverse backgrounds and educational disciplines to help shape and implement foreign policy both domestically and across 279 global locations. We offer a comprehensive professional development program designed to equip all employees with the skills, knowledge, and resources needed to excel in their roles. By providing extensive training and continuous learning opportunities, the Department aims to remove barriers to success and foster an equitable environment where every employee can grow in their careers, enhance their social and cultural capital, and contribute to the success of future generations.

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

PRESENTERS

Eric Aldrich

Diplomat in Residence
- NY Metro

U.S. Department of State
New York, NY

Dave Pernal

National Recruiter

U.S. Department of State
Washington, DC

HT32.

From Gap Years to Golden Years: Considerations for Your Financial Wellbeing

FIRST-GENERATION FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT STRAND

Sponsored by TIAA

ALL

SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

No matter if you're in your 20s, 40s, or 60s, one thing unites us all—we're all getting older. As life expectancy continues to rise, we gain more years to work, create, travel, connect with loved ones, and pursue our passions. But with a longer life comes the need to stay vibrant and healthy. It's never too early—or too late—to invest in your longevity. Join this session to discover powerful insights and actionable steps to enhance your longevity fitness, ensuring you make the most of every year ahead.

PRESENTER

Anne Ollen

Director of Programs

TIAA Institute
New York, NY

HT33.

Revitalizing Your Well-Being

ALL

GIBSON - SECOND LEVEL

Feeling overwhelmed by the demands of your program while juggling various responsibilities? Join us in this session to discover innovative strategies for effectively managing your workload.

We'll delve into the crucial role of cultivating an intentional mindset as college access and success professionals. This is your chance to reimagine self-care and adopt a revitalized approach that benefits you and the students you serve. Don't miss out on this opportunity to transform your approach to balancing your responsibilities and enhancing your overall well-being.

PRESENTER

Keithley Stanley

Senior Project Manager

True Colors International
El Paso, TX

HT34.

Combatting Bad Habits, Toxic Emotions, and Ignorance to Grow Your Money

ALL

CONCOURSE G - CONCOURSE LEVEL

The average college graduate starts their career burdened with about \$30,000 in student loan debt. For many, especially first-generation graduates, this financial strain can hinder their career ambitions and opportunities for growth. In this powerful presentation, MJ, a former high school math teacher, shares his inspiring journey of overcoming \$97,000 in debt. Discover practical strategies and motivational insights to help you and your students tackle financial challenges and pave the way for a brighter future.

PRESENTER

Melvin Bridges Jr.

CEO and Educator

Young And Debt Free
Atlanta, GA

HT35.

Global Leadership Symposium in Puerto Rico: Culture, Travel, Language, and Career-Readiness

ALL

CONCOURSE B - SECOND LEVEL

Explore how Zion Leadership Group's Global Leadership Symposium can enhance your students' educational experiences. This session will reveal how to secure travel funding to Puerto Rico, an allowable cost under federal guidelines, and how cultural exposure can boost students' grades, confidence, and career prospects. Learn how Zion Leadership Group has successfully partnered with TRIO programs to host over 90 groups worldwide since 2016. Join us to see how this opportunity can transform your students into global leaders.

PRESENTER

Adrian Rosado

President

Zion Leadership Group
San Juan, PR

3:00 PM – 4:00 PM ET

PLENARY SESSION

“Who Belongs on Campus Now?” The Challenge of Inclusive Education

Sponsored by College Board

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

ALL

GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

Underrepresented students may feel increasingly unwelcome in higher education in the face of affirmative action dismantling and local bans on diversity, equity, and inclusion. This plenary session addresses how college access and success professionals can ensure that students continue to benefit from an inclusive postsecondary environment. Join leaders from higher education as they delve into the challenges these issues present and their impact on admissions, retention, and campus climate.

PRESENTERS

Lorraine Hastings

Vice President, Counselor
Community Engagement

College Board
New York, NY

Michele Minter

Vice Provost for Institutional
Equity and Diversity
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ

Robert Vela

President

Texas A&M University
Kingsville, TX

MODERATOR

Kimberly Jones

President

Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

4:15 PM – 5:30 PM ET

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

43.

Encouraging More Youth Engagement and Voter Participation

ALL

BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

Youth and marginalized groups, in general, display little interest in active citizenship. Many are from communities that are historically disconnected from education and employment pathways and see little incentive to be civically engaged. How do we reach these groups? Learn about the projects and strategies a TRIO coordinator, public official, and New York-based nonprofit staff are pursuing to increase youth engagement and voter participation in this election year.

PRESENTERS

Anthony Plonczynski-Figueroa

Assistant County Executive,
Monroe County
Rochester, NY

Noah Walls

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

Project Coordinator,
Upward Bound
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV

Mia Williams-Payne

Youth Civic Hub Outreach Lead
YVote
New York, NY

MODERATOR

Geoffrey Colbert

Dean, Student Success
and Engagement
Prince George's Community
College
Upper Marlboro, MD

44.

Breaking Study Abroad Barriers for TRIO Students and Staff

CREATING GLOBAL CITIZENS STRAND

ALL
BRYANT - SECOND LEVEL

Unlock the potential of study abroad as a high-impact practice for student growth and achievement within the TRIO community! This session will equip TRIO staff with the tools and knowledge to develop and implement impactful study abroad programs for student success. Through insightful research, valuable resources, and a compelling university case study, presenters will share firsthand experiences in launching short-term study abroad programs tailored for TRIO college students. Learn how to overcome barriers to studying abroad through strategic internal and external partnerships that pave the way for transformative educational experiences for students. Participants will leave the session with practical guidance for collaboration, engage in reflective exercises, and be motivated to plan their study abroad programs.

PRESENTERS

Lindsay Calvert

Lead, IIE Network
Director, Center for

Access and Equity
Institute of International
Education
Houston, TX

Shay Lumpkin

Coordinator, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program and
Student Support Services
Virginia Commonwealth
University
Richmond, VA

Stephanie Tignor

Director, Global Learning
Virginia Commonwealth
University
Richmond, VA

MODERATOR

Nicole Norfles

Director, Program Practice
and Innovation
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

45.

Revamping the Transfer Pipeline: Building Stronger Pathways for Community College Students

SSS
CLINTON - SECOND LEVEL

Recent data from the National Student Clearinghouse reveals a concerning trend: "upward" transfers from community colleges to universities have experienced a significant decline in recent years. With a 7.5 percent decrease year over year in fall 2022 and a staggering 14.5 percent drop compared to fall 2020, it's evident that students are encountering challenges navigating the transfer process. This enlightening and interactive session delves into innovative partnerships and practices institutions are forming to fortify the transfer pipeline for community college students. Discuss how these initiatives are reshaping the landscape of higher education access and success. Gain valuable insights into the strategies

and collaborations driving positive change in the transfer process, ensuring smoother transitions for students seeking to advance their education.

PRESENTERS

Alfred Herrera

Director Emeritus,
Center for Community
College Partnerships
University of California, Los
Angeles
Los Angeles, CA

Jeff Kahlden

Director, Grant Programs
Dallas College
Dallas, TX

MODERATOR

Rose Webb

Associate Director, Student
Support Services
Tusculum University
Greenville, TN

46.

Harnessing the Wisdom of TRIO Practitioners to Support First-Generation Students' Mental Health

RESEARCH FOR PRACTICE STRAND

COLLEGE
CONCOURSE A - CONCOURSE LEVEL

Learn how to provide comprehensive support for the mental well-being of first-generation college students. This session will unveil a participatory action research project addressing the mental health challenges of first-generation college students. Participants will discover how a design thinking workshop paved the way for innovative solutions to support these students effectively. The presenter will share research findings on first-generation college students' mental health and offer actionable outcomes. Participants will walk away equipped with a valuable professional development tool tailored for TRIO practitioners.

PRESENTER

Caroline Davis

Associate Dean, Student
Outreach and Support
Boston College
Chestnut Hill, MA

MODERATOR

Michele Feiner

Director, Student
Support Services
Vermont State University—
Johnson Campus
Johnson, VT

47.

Making Artificial Intelligence Work for You: Leveraging Digital Media

ALL
GRAMERCY SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

Stay ahead of the curve with the latest innovations in student service by leveraging social media and artificial intelligence. This dynamic session offers hands-on experience and provides a ready-to-use social media toolkit. Dive into practical AI applications and learn to integrate these tools into your TRIO program to enhance recruitment and academic development.

PRESENTERS

Heather Bacchicocchi

Program Director, Student
Support Services
Community College of Rhode
Island
Warwick, RI

Michael Maxwell

Assistant Director, Office
of Digital Learning
Morehouse College
Atlanta, GA

MODERATOR

Corris Davis

Director, Office of Academic
Opportunity Programs
University of Maryland,
Baltimore County
Baltimore, MD

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

48.

Strategic Engagement: Ensuring that Sophomore TRIO Student Support Services Scholars Thrive

👤 SSS

📍 MADISON - SECOND LEVEL

Transform the sophomore year with our innovative pilot program to address the “lost year” phenomenon. Sophomores often lack structured support from their first year, affecting their engagement and success. This session reveals strategies for empowering TRIO Student Support Services participants to self-reflect, make informed decisions, and build a strong support network. Discover practical methods to turn the sophomore year experience into a period of growth and resilience, helping students thrive academically and personally.

PRESENTER

Michele Lagnese

Director, Student Support Services
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA

MODERATOR

Amanda Mancic-Coe

Program Analyst, Student Support Services
Mesa Community College
Mesa, AZ

49.

Mindfulness and Self-Care: Learning About Ourselves to Engage in Better Awareness Habits

👤 ALL

📍 MORGAN - SECOND LEVEL

This session will delve into mindfulness and its transformative impact on daily life. Learn what mindfulness truly involves and discover practical techniques for incorporating it into your routine to enhance awareness, resilience, and personal

fulfillment. Engage in group activities and discussions to reflect on your experiences and gain insights from peers. Leave with actionable strategies for integrating mindfulness and self-care into your personal and professional life and learn how to effectively support the well-being of program participants and staff.

PRESENTER

Jose Aaron Hinojosa

Director, Special Programs
University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Brownsville, TX

MODERATOR

Melinda Kemper

Program Coordinator,
Upward Bound
COPE, Inc.
Alexandria, LA

50.

Removing Barriers on the Path to Graduation: Supporting Post-Traditional Students

👤 ADULTS

📍 MURRAY HILL SUITE - SECOND LEVEL

This exciting discussion will focus on empowering adult learners. Discover new strategies to attract, engage, and enroll adult students from various perspectives. Explore TRIO programs’ pivotal role in supporting adult learners through college enrollment and essential support services. Explore a holistic approach that addresses basic needs, financial challenges, and institutional barriers. Unlock the secrets to meeting mandated benchmarks, enhancing program standing, and creating a robust recruiting pipeline.

PRESENTERS

Teriki Barnes

Director, TRIO Programs
Southeastern Oklahoma State University
Durant, OK

Michelle Thomas

Director, Student Support Services
Arizona Western University
Yuma, AZ

MODERATOR

Nickole Falto Castro

Director, Student Support Services
Antillean Adventist University
San Juan, PR

51.

Unapologetically Making Equity and Belonging Your #1 Program Goal

CULTURE, CLIMATE, AND BELONGING STRAND

Sponsored by College Board

👤 ALL

📍 NASSAU - SECOND LEVEL

This session will explore the crucial role of equity and cultural understanding in college access and success programs. Gain actionable ideas and strategies to foster a sense of belonging from the beginning of the student experience. Learn practical approaches to creating a safe, inclusive environment where students from marginalized backgrounds can freely express their identities. Discover effective advocacy techniques to champion your program, community, and the pursuit of equity and justice. This session provides the tools to enhance your program’s inclusivity and support for all students.

PRESENTERS

Markeshia Iverson

Senior Program Specialist,
Upward Bound
Fresno City College
Fresno, CA

Bernardo Reynoso

Director, Student Success Programs
Fresno City College
Fresno, CA

MODERATOR

Kelly Ann Weber

Program Coordinator,
Upward Bound
Clovis Community College
Clovis, NM

52.

Elevate Your TRIO Career: Leadership, Mentorship, and Professional Growth

START SMART STRAND

👤 ALL

📍 REGENT-SECOND LEVEL

Are you ready to take your TRIO career to the next level? Join us for an interactive session to support new and seasoned TRIO professionals seeking growth within the community. Expand your horizons, forge meaningful connections, and chart a course toward personal and professional fulfillment within TRIO. Explore leadership opportunities, understand the importance of mentorship and connection, and cultivate a sense of belonging for your professional development. Through engaging dialogue, reflect on your strengths, identify growth areas, and create actionable plans to maximize your impact within TRIO.

PRESENTERS

Dariana Roybal

Director, Upward Bound Math-Science
Colorado School of Mines
Golden, CO

Susana Ruvalcaba

Assistant Director,
Upward Bound
Colorado State University
Fort Collins, CO

MODERATOR

Michael Hunt

Director, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program
University of Maryland,
Baltimore County
Baltimore, MD



53.

How Can TRIO Students Tap into the Hidden Internship/Job Market?

FIRST-GENERATION FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT STRAND

Sponsored by TIAA

SSS

RENDEZVOUS TRIANON - THIRD LEVEL

Discover how a TRIO Student Support Services program is revolutionizing the future of first-generation students. In this session, presenters will unveil a groundbreaking curriculum designed to equip students with crucial skills for building professional relationships and tapping into the hidden job market. Explore compelling data, valuable lessons learned, and best practices that illustrate how this program has enhanced equity and boosted students' social capital. Don't miss this chance to learn how to empower students to confidently achieve post-college success.

PRESENTERS

Jacqueline Amparo

Director, Student Support Services

Loyola Marymount University
Los Angeles, CA

Marieli Rubio

Partner and Director, Impact Career Launch

San Francisco, CA

MODERATOR

Liz Morales

Director, Talent Search and Upward Bound

Diablo Valley College
Pleasant Hill, CA

54.

Finding a Common Purpose: Building Partnerships to Create an Integrated Approach to Student Success

PRE-COLLEGE YOUTH

SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

Unlock the hidden potential of college access and equity programs in driving institutional enrollment objectives. In this session, attendees will explore a case study demonstrating the important role of pre-college programs and strategic partnerships in supporting enrollment initiatives at one of California's largest state universities. The session will showcase an innovative institutional partnership between CSU Fullerton and other educational institutions, highlighting the partnership's impact on campus-wide enrollment gains and student success. Learn how these formal collaborations can contribute to strategic institutional enrollment objectives while fostering a culture of inclusivity and access. Gain insights into how you can leverage your college access program for broader institutional goals and enhancing student outcomes.

PRESENTERS

Adriana Badillo

Director, Center for Educational Partnerships
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton CA

Carlos Olmedo

Director, Talent Search
California State University, Fullerton
Fullerton, CA

MODERATOR

Gabrielle Mitchell

Associate Director, Upward Bound
The George Washington University
Washington, DC

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM ET

Educational Opportunity Dinner and TRIO Achiever Awards

ALL

GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

Please note that you must present your conference badge to enter the ballroom.

9:45 PM – 11:45 PM ET

Dance

ALL

TRIANON BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO TURNS



COE ANNUAL
CONFERENCE 2024

SEPTEMBER 8-11, 2024 • NEW YORK, NY

BREAKING BARRIERS - INSPIRING HOPE

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 2024

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM ET

Wellness: Unleash Your Inner Warrior

ALL
SUTTON COMPLEX - SECOND LEVEL

Get ready to engage in an exciting, empowering experience to clear your mind and invigorate your spirit. This unique session combines unexpected, hands-on activities that physically and mentally challenge you, leaving you feeling strong, centered, and ready to tackle the rest of the year with renewed focus. Whether you're looking to blow off some steam or try something new, this is an experience you won't want to miss! What exactly will you be doing? That's for us to know and you to find out!

policy leaders will explore the implications of this data and its potential impact on policy and practice at the institutional, state, and national levels.

PRESENTERS

Stephanie Miller
Vice President, Data and Impact
Axim Collaborative
Cambridge, MA

Roberto Rodriguez
Assistant Secretary,
Planning, Evaluation, and
Policy Development
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

FACILITATOR

Aaron Brown
Executive Vice President
Council for Opportunity in
Education
Washington, DC

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Tara Lawrence
Program Specialist, EOC
Student Service Division
Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Emily Maldonado
Program Specialist, EOC
Student Service Division
Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Rachael Wiley
Program Lead, EOC
Student Service Division
Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

ReShone Moore
Director, Student
Service Division
Higher Education Programs
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

57.

Department of Education: Update for Student Support Services Programs

SSS
SUTTON SOUTH - SECOND LEVEL

In this vital session, connect with the U.S. Department of Education's Student Service Division staff to learn about the latest requirements and expectations for administering TRIO programs. Gain insights into key compliance areas, best practices, and updates on federal policies to ensure your programs meet standards and achieve success.

PRESENTER

James Davis
Director, Undergraduate
Programs Division
Higher Education Programs
Office of Postsecondary
Education
U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

58.

Department of Education: Update for Talent Search Programs

TALENT SEARCH
SUTTON CENTER - SECOND LEVEL

In this vital session, connect with the U.S. Department of Education's Student Service Division staff to learn about the latest requirements and expectations for administering

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM ET

PLENARY SESSION

From Data to Deliverables: Leveraging Program Performance Data to Inform Policy and Practice

ALL
GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL

TRIO programs have been reporting extensive student-level data to the U.S. Department of Education for more than four decades. However, this information has the potential for far greater use than simply completing annual performance reports. Beyond measuring TRIO students' most recent academic and educational progress, this information has the potential to broadly address larger questions surrounding college access and success for low-income, first-generation students. During this session,

10:15 AM – 11:15 AM ET

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

55.

Department of Education: Update for EOC Programs

EOC
BEEKMAN - SECOND LEVEL

In this vital session, connect with the U.S. Department of Education's Student Service Division staff to learn about the latest requirements and expectations for administering TRIO programs. Gain insights into key compliance areas, best practices, and updates on federal policies to ensure your programs meet standards and achieve success.

PRESENTERS

Tahaya Buchanan
Program Specialist, EOC
Student Service Division

56.

Department of Education: Update for Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Programs

MCNAIR
REGENT - SECOND LEVEL

In this vital session, connect with the U.S. Department of Education's Student Service Division staff to learn about the latest requirements and expectations for administering TRIO programs. Gain insights into key compliance areas, best practices, and updates on federal policies to ensure your programs meet standards and achieve success.

PRESENTERS

Carmen Gordon
Program Lead, Ronald E.
McNair Postbaccalaureate
Achievement Program
Student Service Division

SESSIONS DESCRIPTIONS

TRIO programs. Gain insights into key compliance areas, best practices, and updates on federal policies to ensure your programs meet standards and achieve success.

PRESENTER

Antoinette Clark

Program Specialist,
Talent Search

Student Service Division

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

59.

Department of Education: Update for Upward Bound and Upward Bound Math- Science Programs

UB/UBMS

↑ SUTTON NORTH - SECOND LEVEL

In this vital session, connect with the U.S. Department of Education's Student Service Division staff to learn about the latest requirements and expectations for administering TRIO programs. Gain insights into key compliance areas, best practices, and updates on federal policies to ensure your programs meet standards and achieve success.

PRESENTERS

Alexandra Bolden

Program Specialist,
Upward Bound

Student Service Division

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Sharon Easterling

Director, TRIO Upward
Bound and Educational
Opportunity Centers

Student Service Division

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Helen Seide

Program Specialist,
Upward Bound

Student Service Division

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Megan Singleton

Program Specialist, Upward
Bound Math-Science

Student Service Division

Higher Education

Programs, Office of

Postsecondary Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

60.

Department of Education: Update for Veterans Upward Bound Programs

VUB

↑ NASSAU EAST - SECOND LEVEL

In this vital session, connect with the U.S. Department of Education's Student Service Division staff to learn about the latest requirements and expectations for administering TRIO programs. Gain insights into key compliance areas, best practices, and updates on federal policies to ensure your programs meet standards and achieve success.

PRESENTERS

Dana Foreman

Program Lead, Veterans
Upward Bound

Student Service Division

Higher Education Programs,
Office of Postsecondary
Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Shaketa Whitehead

Program Specialist,
Veterans Upward Bound

Student Service Division

Higher Education
Programs, Office of
Postsecondary Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

Derrick Williams

Program Specialist,
Veterans Upward Bound

Student Service Division

Higher Education
Programs, Office of
Postsecondary Education

U.S. Department of Education
Washington, DC

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM ET

PLENARY SESSION

Awards, Installation of Officers, and Remarks from the 2024-25 COE Board Chair Mara Luna

ALL

↑ GRAND BALLROOM - THIRD LEVEL



SAVE THE DATE

COE'S 2025 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 7-10, 2025

Hyatt Regency Chicago
151 E. Wacker Dr.
Chicago, IL 60601



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AEEE'S 48TH ANNUAL

Conference



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Learn more at ascendiumphilanthropy.org.



THE COLONEL HAS OFFICIALLY RETIRED



The ASPIRE Region would like to thank Alvin Phillips for all his years of service, support, and commitment to COE and the TRIO Community.
Happy Retirement All!!

SPOT THE COLONEL!

Find Al Phillips in the picture on the right. The first 5 people to bring this ad and show ASPIRE President Jami Bayles will receive a small prize.



Congratulations

to TRIO on 60 years
of breaking barriers
and inspiring hope!
Blueprint Strategy, LLC
proudly supports your
unwavering commitment
to empowering students
and transforming lives.



Antjuan Seawright
Founder/CEO

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SERVING TRIO FOR 32 YEARS

BOT FORMS

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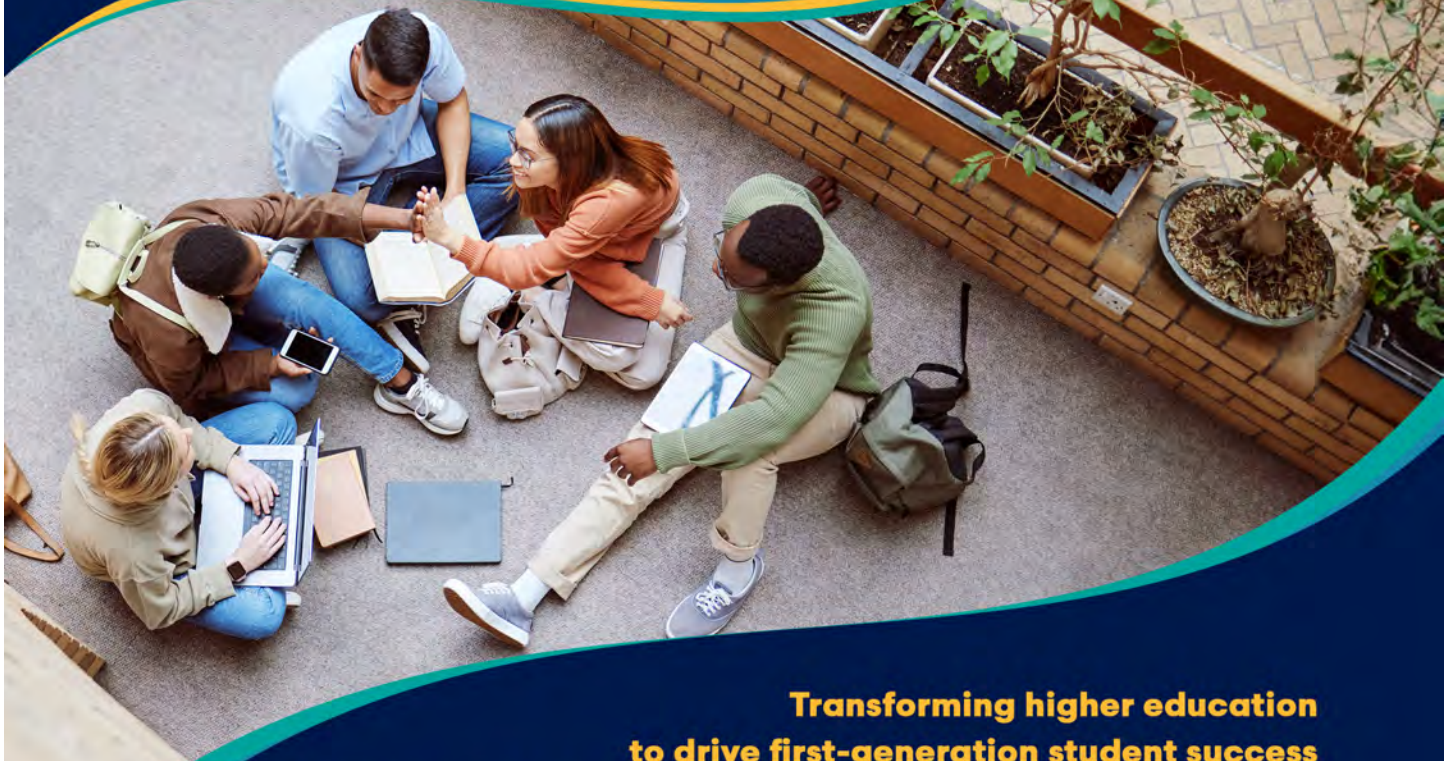


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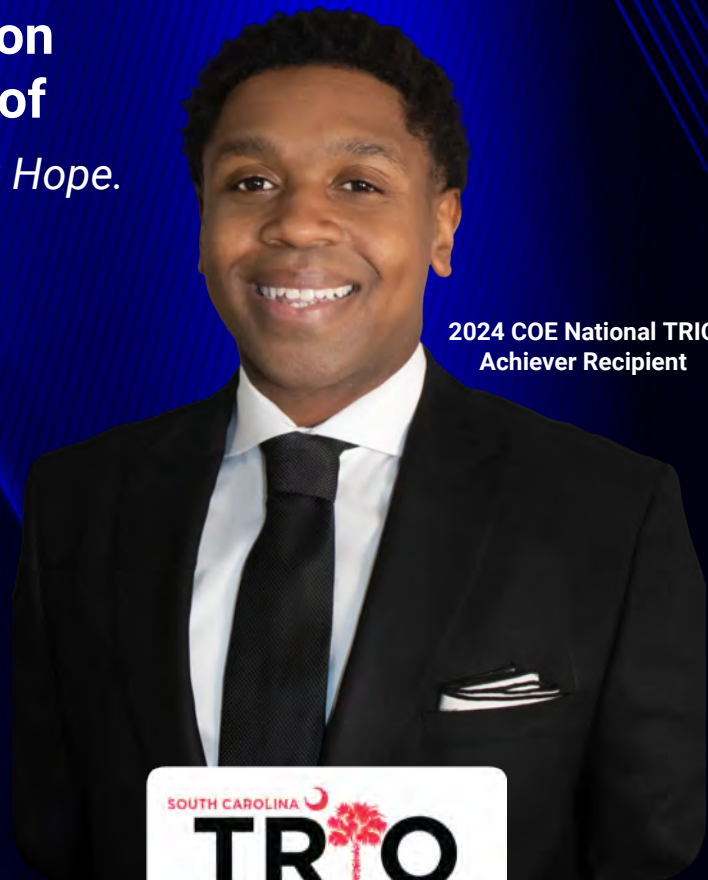
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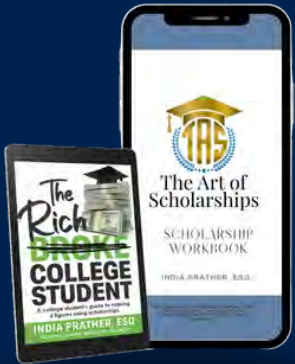
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