

# THE SSS SCOOP

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF TRIO SSS AT EGCC



TRIO SSS students and staff attended TEDx Youngstown



\*Based on 2018-19 TRIO SSS Cohort

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TRIO SSS students attending the Everyone Counts workshop presented by Carissa Henry

# DIRECTOR'S CORNER

#### Positive Self-Talk

Was your midterm grade not what you expected? Did your life get a bit more complicated this semester? Don't let a set back get you down! Use positive self-talk to build your resilience and push that set back in the rear view.

We can't avoid making mistakes and negative events will happen. It's your willingness to practice positive self-talk that can help you build resilience. Saying "Duh, that's dumb!", or "I know I'm going to fail!", does nothing to elevate your self-esteem. In fact, it makes the hole seem deeper. Replace that negative perception with one of optimism and hope. "I'm going to do well on this quiz!", "I'm looking forward to the challenge." Just imagine if you could you see the glass as half full, instead of half empty. "I'll do better next time."

## **Meet the Provost**

10/9/18 - TRIO SSS interviewed our new Provost, Dr. Jeffrey Dupree



Streeter: When did you start and why did you choose EGCC?

Dupree: I started here June 25th.
I guess the question is, why did they choose me. (laughing) I chose EGCC because I like the idea of one college but many

campuses. I really like the contrast of rural small city setting of Steubenville and Youngstown, which is a mid-size city trying to bounce back; that was very appealing and of course the large amount of CCP, and then the online. I felt the complexities of the job will be a good challenge for my skill set. Another thing that was exciting was the free college aspect for so many families. Obviously, anything we can do to make college more accessible to the masses I think is better. So those things were huge factors...and, it was the job that I wanted. We can really be a factor in educating young people and providing pathways for them to have solid jobs and continued on page 3



## **Meet the Provost**

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a good feeling about themselves moving forward in life.

Streeter: As the new addition to EGCC, what do you see as the biggest challenge or benefit to being the Provost?

**Dupree:** When I looked at the website an just some other public information, I just saw the amount of changes that were happening (discussed the many open faculty and staffing positions). That's the biggest challenge and, in a way, oddly a benefit. A challenge is a crisis, but that means there is an opportunity to take advantage of. When you are constantly going through changes it shows an organization that needs to take a pause. Even though the growth is going on beneath, it's time to take a pause and assess who's on the bus and are they in the right seat. So I think that's my biggest opportunity. My challenge is finding the right people on the bus. I don't want to come right in and make a million changes...And, you don't want to make a decision and go back to regret it. So what I've been trying to do is be patient and listen a lot and look a lot.

# "I don't want to come in and make a million changes..."

Streeter: A kind of 'start slow to finish strong' approach?

Dupree: Yeah, very much so. I've never been known to shoot from the hip. When you shoot from the hip sometimes you hit people. So I think that the biggest challenge is getting the structure to where we can get the right people in the right spots, finding appropriate staffing patterns, creating protocols and procedures so the people have regularity so that the growth and change can be managed. I think we're making headway. I think that people are gaining confidence in me. I want to do it right, not five times wrong. I want to do it one time and do it right. I think I've expressed that to the President and to the council and I think they are going to be patient with me but also know that the prize strategically is to make sure we do it right.

Streeter: Can you share your experience with TRIO

SSS?

**Dupree:** Sure

Streeter: I know you're excited about this question. (both laughing)

**Dupree:** Oh yes, I love the TRIO programs. And I'm actually more familiar with TRIO SSS than the other programs. My last place of employment I was a Dean and also a program director. And then I became Vice President for Academics. I became involved in TRIO SSS because 94% of our students were Pell eligible and we had about 75% that were ethnic minorities. We had a large concentration of Native Americans who are a tremendously under served population and also a very large sector of African Americans from the rural South that are historically under served. TRIO SSS meets so many needs of first generation students...A lot of times, my involvement with TRIO was sometimes in managing TRIO and faculty

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# Student Spotlight



Aquanetta Dixon

I'm a Teacher Education - Early Childhood major attending the Youngstown Campus and I've been in TRIO SSS since Spring 2018. I am excited to graduate in December with my Associates degree.

TRIO SSS has helped me in so many ways, not just in education but also in my personal life. Thank you all so much. The best thing about TRIO SSS was that the staff took and invested some rich resources to us that I will never forget. Thank you TRIO SSS for giving us students all that you had, you all have done an awesome job and I applaud each one of you. You ladies are A+ in my book.

In the last year I am most proud that even though my GPA was a 4.0 for a while, my goal was to have a 3.0 or higher, and I was able to accomplish that. I 'm very proud of myself because when times were hard I didn't give up. I kept going on and telling myself that I could do all things through Christ which strengthens me.

#### interview continued from page 2

relations. I needed to know if there was a pain point between a student getting SSS services and something in the system or even something in the way certain faculty members were working...but the thing is, you can't work on people. When you work on people you create a win, lose. So what happens is TRIO loses their standing with faculty and the faculty loses their standing with the student. We have to look at working with the problem not the people that are involved.

Streeter: It sounds like you're saying that we don't change people we change conditions?

Dupree: Absolutely! How do we create conditions where TRIO is doing its role as a support system in advocating for students but also understanding the faculty are their friends not their enemies. Also the same point, faculty have to be aware of TRIO, and not like they are going behind their back and telling on them. My role in TRIO is making sure

both sides are aware of each other. They're each important and they both have a role to play on behalf of students. Not all students are the same. [They] have things that are in their past that can inhibit them and their growth.

"I Love the TRIO programs"





# "TRIO [SSS] can create a real community..."

Streeter: Would you recommend TRIO SSS and why?

Dupree: Anyone should go to TRIO [SSS] and find out if they are eligible! First of all it's a federal program and doesn't cost anything. The more students that get involved the larger our grant can be. TRIO can create a real community. A lot of our students can feel like they are isolated and alone, like they're the only ones with a problem and they are not

the only ones! TRIO [SSS] can

be a wonderful thing for the

assistance they offer, for the

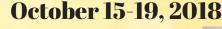
camaraderie they offer, the special opportunities to have enhancements. Obviously financial need is a huge factor, so these students may not have gotten the richness of field experiences, trips and acculturation. We not only want educated people to be involved in learning, but also in the culture. This area, Cleveland/Pittsburgh/ Youngstown area, has a lot to offer culturally. It'd be great to go to an art museum and have a conversation, and TRIO does this and does it well.

Streeter: Where do you see the future of TRIO SSS at EGCC?

**Dupree:** I think that probably 20% of the students here could be eligible for TRIO SSS services. I think they need to come forward. I think TRIO needs to be talked about at

enrollment and [TRIO staff] should go into classrooms and tell people. One thing I would like is for every new student coming in, at orientation, be made aware of TRIO and that some type of inventory is done to see if they are eligible for services. And not only SSS, Upward Bound and EOC have a role to play because they can bring students into the college. The TRIO Staff are the most exuberant, at least every place I've worked that have TRIO, because they know they have to be positive to work with these young people. One thing I'm very happy about is, I haven't seen the clash that often exists between Student Support Services and faculty. The only thing I want to see more is that there's more engagement and

## **National Transfer Student Week**



Some of our SSS students participated in National Transfer Student Week. They will be transferring to near by colleges & universities after graduation from EGCC.

Kevin Hull plans to transfer to Kent State University after graduation.





First Generation College Student - a student whose parent(s)/legal guardian(s) have not completed a bachelor's degree.

We will be celebrating First Generation College students on Thursday, November 8th.

## **Summer Honors**

3.0 - 3.4 GPA

**Brigitte Rimar** was not included in the list of students who earned good grades in our September newsletter. Congratulations Brigitte!

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awareness about TRIO. I support that initiative. I think the faculty will support it. I think there is a real opportunity for SSS to work with the other programs like Upward Bound and EOC to bring students in at both campuses, particularly Youngstown because of some of the factors in Youngstown and the population size. And, I would like to see TRIO have a cohort of truly at risk students

to do a bridge program where they are brought in from Upward Bound and EOC and go right into a bridge program with TRIO [SSS] services embedded. It's not going to be a bridge program that's just 8 weeks because it is not enough time, but that is an ongoing year-long apprenticeship program to get students through the courses and follow the principles of guided pathways and get them on the pathway

to success and then continue with the services as they matriculate into their programs. And I want to make sure that everyone on campus that comes through the door...see if they qualify. We want TRIO to be a powerhouse because of the student need and what the funding represents which is the time spent and the commitment to those that have been left behind.

End of interview





## TRIO SSS Workshops



## **TOPICS**

- Procrastination & Goal Setting
- Time Management
- Everyone Counts
- Computer Basics
- What is Plagiarism?

## **TOPICS**

- Let's Talk About Gratefulness
- Test Anxiety & Test Taking Skills
- Relaxation



## **Upcoming Activities**

- November 1-16th Thanksgiving Food Drive
- November 10th MLK Prayer Breakfast (Steubenville only)
- November 16th Trip to Youngstown Business Incubator







## **Need Money For College?**

Step #2: Plan to apply

Applying is not a one step process. You need to work ahead to meet the deadlines. A lot of scholarships require an essay. Here are steps to write a scholarship essay:

### 1. Get an Early Start

Don't put it off to the last minute. Give yourself time to make revisions.

#### 2. Read ALL of the Instructions

If you write a great essay but don't follow the instructions you're not getting that scholarship. Print the instructions and highlight important things.

## 3. Know Your Audience

This means the people who will decide whether or not they want to give you their scholarship. Look up the website and focus on the About Us page to learn what they do and stand for.

### 4. Pick a Topic You Care About

You need to be genuine about what you say, and this is why you need to care about the topic you choose. It will also make it easier to write!

#### 5. Create an Outline

This is something you need to do BEFORE you write the essay. It will make writing the essay go faster!

#### 6. Tell a Story

Write something that opens a window into your life. Don't write a resume, but the people who read the essays need to feel that they are getting to know you better from it.

#### 7. Have a Professional Review Your Essay

Ask someone with writing experience read your essay and give feedback.

## All About Education Scholarship

Amount: \$3000 Deadline: April 30, 2019

www.unigo.com/scholarships/our-scholarships/all-about-education-scholarship



#### What is TRIO SSS?

The TRIO SSS program assists eligible EGCC students achieve their academic goals by offering services to increase college retention and graduation rates.

#### Who's Eliqible?

First Generation Students,

Income Eligible Students,

 or Students with a Documented Disability

#### **Contact Us**

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