



Carleton College TRIO/SSS NEWSLETTER Fall 2021

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Upcoming Events:

- ◆ **Saturday, 11/20:**
12-1pm
TRIO End of Term
Celebration
- ◆ **Wednesday, Nov 24th**
Finals End
- ◆ **Thursday, Nov 25th**
Winter Break Begins

A Note From The Interim Director:



Welcome Class of 2025!

Carleton's TRIO class of 2025 is a diverse and talented group of students. This year we welcomed thirty-eight first-year students into our TRIO/SSS program. A portion of our first-years also participated in the first TRIO A&I: Data Visualization as Activism, taught by Lin Winton.

This term brought with it the excitement of being back on campus, and I cannot wait for everyone to read through the newsletter and see all we have done this term. TRIO hosted all events in-person, and students have shown up enthusiastically to our program and events. I want to extend a special thank you to my wonderful team:

TRIO Interns:
Miah Kline and Trinh Tieu

TRIO Peer Leaders:
Amira Aladetan, Jayti Arora, Gigi Paulig, Kaysha Neville, Tatiana Jimenez, and Weiland Wang

Serving as the Interim Director of TRIO has been a lot of work, but with the help and encouragement of students, faculty, and staff, I have been able to lead my team and continue to support the mission of TRIO. Please enjoy your winter break and I look forward to what winter term will bring!

Best,
Karina Sierra
TRIO / Student Support Services Interim Director

A Brief History of TRIO

1954

Brown vs Board of Education

A landmark Supreme Court Case ruling that racial segregation in schools was unconstitutional (History.com, 2009). Brought attention to racial and socioeconomic differences in schools.



1964

Upward Bound

The Economic Opportunity Act established an experimental program called Upward Bound in response to President Lyndon B. Johnson's War on Poverty. Upward bound serves high school students.

1965

Talent Search

Higher Education Act created Talent Search, a program for middle and high schoolers to increase their chances of attending college.

1968

Student Support Services (SSS)

Higher Education amendments authorized special services for disadvantaged students or SSS, serving college students.

1960-70

TRIO Programs Expand

The name "TRIO" comes from the 3 programs: Upward Bound, Talent Search, and SSS, but additional programs and scholarships have been added since then.

1981

Carleton TRIO / SSS Begins!

Carleton received its first TRIO SSS grant to begin serving low-income, first-generation college students, or students with a documented disability.

2007

TRIO House

The TRIO SSS program moved its office from the ground floor of Scoville into the current TRIO house on 216 College Street!



Peer-leader Spotlight

Kaysha Neville '24 (She/Her/Hers)

Hello everyone, my name is Kaysha Neville, I am a 2nd-year TRIO student here at Carleton! My second year here at Carleton has been an amazing experience. My first year of Carleton was during the pandemic, so I had always felt like I was missing the full college, Carleton, experience. With everything being back in person and in the full swing of "Normal Carleton" it has been great but also has taken a toll on me. I now feel like I'm always extremely busy and just don't have as much time to hang out with my friends as much as I used to last year. Nonetheless, I have adjusted very well in managing my time better and balancing both my social and school lives. Apart from being a TRIO student, I'm also a TRIO peer leader! This is my first year working as a TRIO peer and I can honestly say I love my job! Getting an opportunity to connect with the first-year students as a peer leader and mentor is my favorite part of my job! I also enjoy working with the peer leader team, it's like we're a little family all growing and helping each other! Working for TRIO has taught me how to be flexible and how to prioritize, and make the most of the time that I have!



Amira Aladetan '24 (She/hers)



Hello, all! My name is Amira Aladetan and I am a sophomore TRIO student here at Carleton! Aside from being a TRIO student, I am also a TRIO peer leader. Looking back on my Carleton experience virtually to now in person, there has been a stark amount of changes. I have the opportunity to make and build on the connections with so many people I have met this year. I am still very much in that adjustment phase of time management now that everything is in person. Yet, it is okay to sometimes feel like a "work in progress". With that being said, being a TRIO peer leader has helped me work on that and make new friends. Just being a mentor to 7 super amazing students, has been truly key to my experience of belonging here at Carleton and finding my "fit". Overall, working for the TRIO-SSS program has helped me re-focus myself and bridge the disconnect between academics and extracurricular activities here!

Senior Spotlight

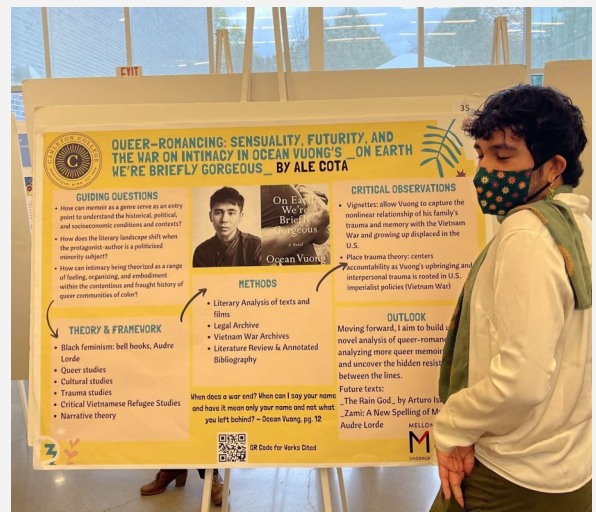
Alé Cota (she/her and they/them)

Gender, Women's and Sexuality (GWSS) and Latin American Studies Majors

¡Hola todes! My name is Alé Cota (she/her and they/them) and I am a Senior (class of 2022) Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies (GWSS) and Latin American (LTAM) Studies double major. My hometown is North Hills, California located within Los Angeles county, but for the past year I have made a home with my son (cat named Noel) in Corpus Christi, Texas. After Carleton, I aim to move back to California and enroll in a J.D/Ph.D dual degree program with the hope of mitigating the structural inequities of housing with a focus on trans youth. As a trans person who has experienced frequent moments of unhousedness, this issue is near and dear to my heart as well as incredibly complex. Through this effort, I also imagine myself having a housing civil rights project in California similar to the Sylvia Rivera Law project.

Coming from a year of remote learning, I felt ecstatic to reconnect with my on-campus communities; this term, as president of QTBIPOC, Gender and Sexuality Center Associate, Out after Carleton alumni board representative, and co-chair of LASO (shout out to my brilliant co-chair Jocelyn Franco '22!) I have been reminded of the genuine comfort and care found within cultural spaces. Perhaps this is my being-the-oldest-daughter trait in full gear as a senior, but the amount of tears I have shed over seeing the emotional transformations that my previous mentees and younger friends have undergone since their first-year constantly affirms that this peer-to-peer, family-building work is invaluable.

On a different note, I can talk briefly about my two COMPS. GWSS involves rethinking queer intimacy as a relational tool to organize against and heal from systemic, racialized trauma outside the dominant belief that intimacy is a sexual act. My methods include literary and audiovisual analysis of poems, literature, and music videos by queer artists of color. LTAM is tracing the development of trans chilango (residents of Mexico City) socio-political culture emerging from the Zona Rosa (a highly commercialized shopping district that has now become an LGBTQ+ district). This is highly abridged, let me know if you want to know more! In terms of advice, all I can really say is cherish those who grant you serenity, patience, and unwavering grace because that is what each and every one of us deserve - we just have to allow ourselves to accept it and believe we are deserving. And the truth is, we are. If it were not for my friends and professors who have let me cry in front of them, I would have dropped out my first term. I hear you - this institution is rough but you are kinder and more brilliant than any obstacle in your path.



OCS Highlights

Diana De La Paz '23 (she/her/hers)

Psychology Major, Latin American Studies Minor
Prague, Czech Republic



Diana is across the pond this term studying Cross-Cultural Psychology in Prague, focusing on the history of psychopathology in the Czech Republic and getting exposure to different global responses to mental illnesses. She is creating an ethical analysis portfolio where students explore the ethical issues associated with the assessment and treatment of sex offenders. In comparison to the US, the Czech Republic has created a judicial system that distinguishes between individuals with paraphilic disorders (i.e. pedophilia) and those without them. Those diagnosed with paraphilic disorders are court-ordered to receive treatment in designated clinics instead of being sentenced to prison. Through learning about this approach and meeting with clinicians and sex offenders Diana said, “I have begun to recognize and acknowledge how my own prejudices towards sex offenders have been influenced by the environment I grew up in.”

“The most interesting experience I have had in the program has been visiting the Bohnice Psychiatric Hospital and meeting with the clinicians and sex offenders,” said Diana. “Meeting and speaking with sex offenders is an opportunity that I would have not been able to receive if I had not participated in this program.” In

her free time, Diana visits Havlíčkovy sady, an Italian Renaissance-style park, decked out with a pond, fountain and vineyard!

“I feel extremely grateful to have been given the opportunity to study and live in a beautiful country like the Czech Republic”, said Diana. “I always wanted to study abroad when I was younger but I always thought I would go to a country in Latin America. Never in a million years did I ever think I would have ended up in Prague. Now after living in the city for six weeks, I absolutely love it and I can't believe I didn't have plans to visit this city sooner.”

In closing, she says, “I strongly encourage anyone who is thinking about studying abroad post-pandemic to do so. I was nervous about doing so myself but I have not regretted my decision whatsoever.”

Helen Desta '23 (she/her/hers)

Psychology Major
Madrid, Spain

Helen Desta is spending time in Madrid this fall. She is taking a variety of classes that pertain to Madrid/Spain: an art history class, a Spanish course about urban and cultural changes in Madrid, a Spanish course about political, cultural, and social changes in Spain, and finally, a class about video production. She has also been visiting parks, shopping, exploring new neighborhoods around the city, and trying new foods! She says she likes her program a lot and wishes she could stay longer.

Before traveling to Madrid, Helen said that her “TRIO advisors were very supportive of my decision, and they told me that this experience will teach me a lot. I knew that they'd be right.” She's been speaking in Spanish a lot, so her conversation skills and confidence in her skills have improved so much! ¡Nos vemos en el invierno! (See you in the winter!)



National First-Generation College Day

During ninth week, TRIO celebrated National First Generation College Student Day. Our events aimed to recognize and acknowledge all Carleton students who are the first in their families to attend college. We engaged with the broader Carleton community by hosting a table at Sayles Cafe where students were invited to contribute to an idea board and explore what it meant to them to be a first generation college student. To support our first generation students, we placed the poster in TRIO house so that the TRIO community could reflect further upon what it means to be first generation. Additionally, Dean Livingston helped us celebrate this important day by sending out an informational note to the student body and announced the first generation website. Is now live First generation students are one of the main populations which TRIO supports, so we were excited to raise awareness and celebrate our students.



TRIO Awareness Week + Class Act

This year we celebrated TRIO Awareness Week starting on October 18 with a beautiful chalkboard design in LDC introducing the events we had laid out for the week. On Tuesday, TRIO did an Instagram takeover of Carleton's account where we posted information about what TRIO is, a house tour, and an interactive Q&A. Wednesday we had TRIO show their pride by wearing their TRIO class shirts, and despite the cooler temperature this day, we saw an amalgamation of pinks, greens, maroons, purples and blues all around campus. On Thursday TRIO set up a table in Sayles and, in celebration of our 40th birthday at Carleton, served cake and asked TRIO trivia to those who walked by. This was a great opportunity to talk with the wider campus about TRIO and what we do. On Friday we closed out the week with our first Class Act of the academic year. Our Difference Panel was a discussion around socioeconomic differences on campus where our panelist answered questions surrounding how their socioeconomic identities have affected their experiences at Carleton while giving out advice to those who attended. This week was used to raise knowledge about and celebrate TRIO and I would like to end by saying Happy Birthday TRIO and here's to 40 more years at Carleton!



Student Workshops

This term each class had their own workshops following a different topic. The first-year students had a two-part workshop series that discussed strategies to help with the transition from high school to college. Students learned about the importance of asking for help and going to professor's office hours. The second workshop focused on different resources around campus that can support their college experience. Each workshop consisted of fun and engaging reflection questions. The sophomores learned how to maximize your liberal arts degree, no matter your major. Chad Ellsworth, Associate Director of the Career Center, discussed and inspired students to think about their strengths and how they can optimize them to find their passion. Students had the opportunity to break into groups based on areas of interest and discuss with other students - we extended their group discussions because they were so engaged! The juniors learned about graduate school and fellowships from Marynel Ryan Van Zee, Director of Student Fellowships, emphasizing that there are many options for life after college. Juniors had an opportunity to learn about different fellowships, what they are, how to apply and how the Office of Student Fellowships can support their goals. The seniors explored "what to expect senior year?" Led by Chad Ellsworth, Associate Director of the Career Center, seniors got connected to resources and discussed how the Career Center can help support students throughout their senior year.

Fiesta Fridays



This fall saw our 4th installation of weekly Fiesta Friday events. The variety of weekly events offered a supportive environment for TRIO students to have open dialogue with one another, feel welcome, and have fun. Specific to this term, week 2 featured a "Guac and Talk" event, which was a good time at the TRIO house mingling and eating home-made guacamole & chips. Week 3 featured a bonfire where students got to enjoy s'mores and starlit skies on the Hill of 3 Oaks. Week 4 was movie night where students got to relax before midterms. The week 5 "Craft Day" event was also created with midterms in mind to help students de-stress with origami. Week 6 featured Class Act at the Great Hall with wonderful panelists on the topic of acclimating to the college environment. Week 7 featured Comfort Food Friday which has been an ongoing tradition in TRIO where students from the whole TRIO community come together to enjoy very good food and company. 8th Week, our final event of the term, featured a self care day in preparation for the upcoming finals period.

Pumpkin Carving at St. Olaf

This term, the TRIO Peer Leaders met with the Board of Leaders students from St. Olaf's TRIO / SSS program in a joint pumpkin carving event at St. Olaf! Future terms will see more collaborations between the school's programs.



LTC Lunch

The concept of microaffirmation has been around for some time, but it has generally given much less attention than microaggressions. Yet, at a liberal arts college and smaller community spaces like what we have here at Carleton, daily interactions outside and inside the classroom can promote exclusion and possibly perpetuate stereotypes on many different types of groups (cultural or otherwise). On November 9, 2021, the TRIO Peer Leaders attended an LTC lunch, led by Professor George Cusack, focusing on microaffirmations. Attending the LTC Lunch with Carleton faculty and staff was very fruitful in terms of discussion. Having an opportunity to openly discuss microaffirmations in a classroom setting with professors who have had good or bad experiences was impactful and the brainstorming of how they can make students feel more included felt critical to many. It was interesting to hear about faculty and staff experiences and offer student perspective. These conversations between students, faculty, and staff helped to create an environment of common ground which is necessary to facilitate change.

Financial Literacy

For all returning students: Financial Aid Deadline Dates for 2022-2023

DEADLINE		NOTIFICATION BY
Round 1	January 5, 2022 (first day of Winter Term)	End of February
Round 2	March 28, 2022 (first day of Spring Term)	Mid-May (followed by rolling basis)

Please visit the Financial Services page for important information for [Returning Students](#) who will apply for financial aid.

TRIO collaborated with Student Financial Services to provide a FAFSA completion workshop on October 28th. During this event, 18 students received help completing the FAFSA. **If you missed this session please contact Tina Kukowski by email to set up an appointment.**

Seniors: If you plan to attend graduate school for the 2022-2023 academic year check with your prospective school(s) for deadlines for financial aid. May vary by institution and department.

Kudos

TRIO wishes to thank everyone who collaborated with us this fall term. We appreciate your support! Special thanks go out to the following individuals and offices:

Carolyn Livingston, Trey Williams and Melanie Cashin for all their support for TRIO. **Senior and Sophomore Workshop:** Chad Ellsworth, Associate Director of the Career Center. **Junior Workshop:** Marynel Ryan Van Zee, Director of Student Fellowships. **STEM Lunch:** Deborah Gross, Dominic Calicdan, and Vermilion Villareal for collaborating with us on the STEM Lunch and the following faculty who participated: Cameron Davidson, Claudio Gomez-Gonzales, Eric Hoopfer, Chris Calderone, Sarah Deel, Deanna Haunsperger, Jeffrey Ondich, Rou-Jia Sung, Steven Drew, Dani Kohen, and Marty Baylor. **Class Act: Difference Panel:** Diaraye Diallo '23, Maanya Goenka '22, and Shakeal Hodge '23. **FAFSA Workshop:** Tina Kukowski, Assistant Director of Student Financial Services. Kris Parker from the Student Financial Services. **Teaching and Learning Center (LTC) Lunch on Microaffirmation,** George Cusack and Victoria Morse. **Lin Winton,** teaching TRIO's A&I:Data Visualization As Activism. The Division of Student Life for their support and collaborations with TRIO. Anyone who participated in TRIO Awareness Week and National First Generation Day, thank you!