

TRIO

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

TRIO Club Returns to Puerto Rico



TRIO CLUB
 Miranda Hall
 Lorenzo Catalan
 Breanna Putt
 Joseph Shell
 Riley Erck
 Jo'Male Collier

For the second year in a row, IPFW TRIO Club was awarded IPFW Student Travel Funds for a community service trip to Puerto Rico. To help with the overall cost of the trip, students also participated in fundraising efforts during the summer and fall semesters. TRIO SSS students participating in the trip this year were: Lorenzo Catalan, Jo'Male Collier, Riley Erck, Miranda Hall, Breanna Putt, and Joseph Shell.

The group volunteered at Hacienda La Esperanza—30 miles west of San Juan Puerto Rico. TRIO club members spent their time on the island, replanting na-

tive seedlings for the park. They worked daily to help bring precious vegetation to barren areas recently affected by urban development and severe tropical storms.

Riley Erck stated, "This was not only the first time I was outside the United States; but, I was also outside of my comfort zone. I had never been on a trip without family; I'm not good at speaking Spanish; and, I am not well educated when it comes to different cultures. This trip allowed me to grow by experiencing a different culture while giving of myself to help it."

Joseph Shell reported that this was his first experience seeing the ocean and walking on a beach. He also enjoyed the opportunity to speak Spanish with the local residents.

Jo'Male Collier got up close with lizards in small hats while on the trip. The photo opportunity costs a dollar or two, but is a means of employment for some of the locals.

The team extends an open invitation to anyone interested in hearing more about their trip on Monday, September 11, 2017 in Walb 114 from 12-1pm.



Interested in joining TRIO Club? Contact TRIO Club President, Tiffany Lackey at: lackeyt@ipfw.edu.



TRIO Graduates Have Big Plans



Congratulations to the twenty-five current TRIO SSS students who graduated with bachelor's degrees this school year!

Daniel Brewer- B.S. Computer Science : Daniel has received a job offer from MorphoTrust USA in Fort Wayne as an Associate Software Engineer.

Kristin Costello- B.S. Hospitality Management: Kristin is working at the Honeywell Center in Wabash as an Event Coordinator.

Kassandra DeLong- B.S. Elementary Education: Kassandra hopes to work in the Fort Wayne Community School System as an elementary school teacher.

Grover Diemer- B.S. Human Services: As a Veteran, Grover is currently looking for work assisting veterans as they transition out of the military.

Waylon Fisher- B.S. Math Actuarial Science: Waylon is currently working on the opening of his own virtual reality arcade

later this year on the Southwest side of Fort Wayne.

Britten Friar- B.S. Elementary Education Certificate in teaching English as New Language: Britten has accepted a 2 year teaching position with the Peace Corps in Kosovo and will depart this June.

Heather Groves- B.A. Human Services: Heather has accepted a position locally as a Community Case Manager with the Bowen Center.

Alexander Heine- B.S. Mechanical Engineering Technology: Alex has accepted a position at Wayne Metals in Markle, IN.

Marty Herrick- B.A. English: Marty is interested in working in book editing and is currently employed at United Art & Education.

Jenna Hoppe- B.S. Human Services: Jenna is continuing on at IPFW pursuing her Masters of Science degree with a specialization in OLS.

Jasmine Hughes- B.S. Business Marketing.

Gregory Kaplanis- B.S. Music: Greg is currently employed at 80/20 and is interested in working in musical technology in the Fort Wayne area.

Tyler Korte- B.S. Chemistry: Tyler is currently a part of the 122nd Indiana Air National Guard housed in Fort Wayne.

Ei Ei Oo- B.S. Biology: Ei Ei is pursuing a Masters in Public Management with a Health Systems Administration & Policy concentration at IPFW.





Mary Pusti- B.S. Public Affairs & B.A. Geology: Mary is currently looking for a position utilizing her geology and environmental policy degrees.

Breanna Putt- B.S. Public Affairs Public Affairs and a Bachelor's in General Studies: Breanna has accepted a Health Care Administration Position at Visiting Angels where she supervises approximately 50 caregivers.

Ziontu Ralhia- B.S. Biology: After working for one year, Ziontu plans to apply to IUPUI's Master's program in Forensic Science.

Amber Ramsey- B.S. Business Management: Amber is currently the General Manager at Panda Express here in Fort Wayne.

Gabriela Romo- B.S. Biology: Gaby is going to San Lorenzo, Ecuador as a part of a volunteer clinic this summer. In the fall, she will be starting Medical School at Indiana University.

Rick Ryckman- B.S. Electrical Engineering Technology: Rick was recently commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Nathan Seelye- B.S. Electrical Engineering: Nathan is currently employed as Electrical Engineer at Regal Beloit in Fort Wayne.

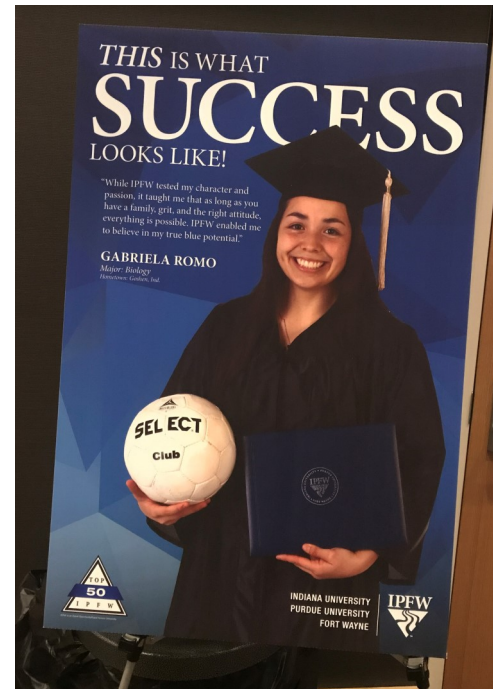
Breanna Shaw- B.S. Nursing: Breanna is

relocating to Indianapolis to work as a RN and has plans to continue her education further.

Jocelyn Shee- B.S. Public Affairs: After interning with the Allen County Health Department where she worked with children who had been exposed to high levels of lead, Jocelyn is looking for a full-time job here in the Fort Wayne area.

Heather Simpson- B.A. Geology & B.S. Public Affairs: This year, Heather will be preparing for graduate studies in forensic science while working at Sam's Club.

Esther Vel- B.S. Biology: Esther is currently translating for Burmese patients in local medical offices and interning at Visiting Nurse. Esther has applied for admission to the Master of Public Management program at IPFW.



Gabriela Romo Class of 2017



Calling all TRIO Alumni in the Fort Wayne area: Upward Bound (UB), Student Support Services (SSS), Educational Talent Search (ETS), Educational Opportunity Center (EOC), McNair, Veterans UB, and UB Math/Science! Join us for the 1st Indiana TRIO Alumni Picnic hosted in Fort Wayne, Indiana on IPFW's campus. All TRIO alumni, professionals, and advocates in the Fort Wayne and surround

ing areas are invited to this free picnic event. This will be an opportunity for you to reconnect with former TRIO friends and learn how to advocate for TRIO programs and students in Indiana. Registration is not required, but strongly encouraged for meal and venue planning. We hope to see you all there!

DATE AND TIME

**Saturday July 29th, 2017
1-4pm**

.....
Friend's Pavilion/Aquarius Park
IPFW /Behind Walb Student Union

Cost: FREE

Register online at:

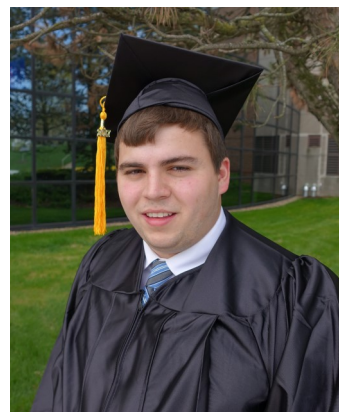
www.indianatrio.org/Alumni/Alumni-Celebration



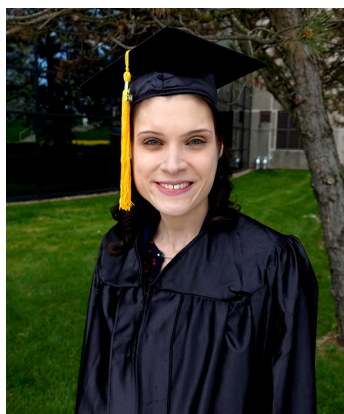
Kristin Costello



Grover Diemer



Waylon Fisher



Heather Groves



Alexander Heine



Jenna Hoopes



Gregory Kaplanis



Ei Ei Oo



Breanna Putt



Gabriela Romo



Esther Vel

TRIO SSS Students Awarded IPFW TOP 50 Awards



Three TRIO SSS students were honored as part of IPFW's Top 50 Award designation this year. These students were recognized for excelling academically and making a difference at IPFW and in the greater community. Congratulations to Kristin Costello, Patsy DePew, and Gabriela Romo for being among the 50 students honored this April.



Kristin Costello
Hospitality Management



Patsy DePew
Elementary Education



Gabriela Romo
Biology

2017 TRIO Awards Banquet

TRIO students, staff, and supporters gathered to honor the accomplishments of current TRIO SSS students in April at the 2017 TRIO SSS Award Luncheon. Among those students honored were TRIO SSS graduates, TRIO Club officers, student workers, peer mentors, and graduates of the TRIO Leaders program.

The culmination of the event included awarding the TRIO Excellence Award to the graduating senior with the highest GPA. This year's recipient was Gabriela Romo. Additionally, the TRIO Student-of-the-Year Award was presented to both Kristin Costello and Britten Friar for their high academic achievements, campus and community involvement, and overall service to the TRIO program. Congratulations to all the 2017 TRIO award winners!



*The Friar Sisters:
Willow, Britten, Ripley & Riley*

2017 TRIO Award Recipients

TRIO Student Workers

Sa Are	Kristin Costello
Jo'Male Collier	Miranda Hall

TRIO Peer Mentors

Cherry Aung	Colby Flye
Jessica Camarena	Miranda Hall
Lorenzo Catalan	Emily Salisbury
Jo'Male Collier	Nathan Seelye
Kristin Costello	Joseph Shell
Rebecca Eby	

TRIO Leaders

Jo'Male Collier	Kassie Myers
Waylon Fisher	Joseph Shell

TRIO Excellence Award

Gabriela Romo

TRIO Students of the Year Award

Kristin Costello
Britten Friar

TRIO Student, Yin Thet, Heads Home



I was born on the border of Thailand and Burma in a refugee camp. I moved to Fort Wayne when I was young and have spent many years here in Indiana listening to my father share stories about family still in Burma. We used Skype to connect our family across the miles; but the distance remained. At the age of 13, I lost my father; severing yet another tie to my extended family in Burma.

Today, I am a student at IPFW studying Elementary Education and earning a certificate to teach English as a new language. When I opened my email one day and found out about an opportunity to visit Burma as a student ambassador; I was excited and hopeful. The Department of English and Linguistics was taking a team to Burma to further relations in establishing Mawlamyine as a sister city to Fort Wayne. My dream became a reality when I was chosen to accompany Dr. Hao Sun, Dr. Chad Thompson, Helen Frost, and two other IPFW students on a trip to Mawlamyine this spring. Finally, I would be able to visit the family I had heard about and Skyped with in person!



Before we left, five students from Mawlamyine came to Fort Wayne as our guests to visit. Next, it was our turn to visit their city. We stayed at the University and visited an orphanage, K-12 schools, a Mon national school (where students are taught the Mon language in addition to Burmese and English), and Buddhist shrines, and pagodas. We exchanged books in English for books in Burmese and shared lessons at the University. It was fascinating to observe the differences between our education system and theirs. I observed as much as I could and acted as a translator to help an English teacher. The Burmese people were excited and surprised at my ability to speak Burmese but always began conversations with me in English. I found it interesting that alt-

hough I am Burmese, they got the impression that English would be my first language of choice.



During our time there our guide was a Buddhist monk named Aot Jae who had been jailed for anti-military activity. He took us on a hike to visit the place where “Mon iPads” are created by hand from pieces of slate mined from the earth. The slate boards are similar to our chalk boards. The hike was beautiful but terrifying on the steep mountains.

At the end of the trip, I was finally able to meet my father’s family and felt a strong connection of love from them despite all the miles between us. I was instantly welcomed as an honored guest. They spoke of my father and were amazed at my how tall I am! I felt as if all the miles between us never even existed. Overall, I am so grateful that I got to be a part of this experience as an ambassador of IPFW and Fort Wayne and that I finally got a chance to connect my two cultures.



Yin Thet's Burmese family

Scholarship Awards



This April, TRIO SSS students participated in IPFW's day of community service, The Big Event. TRIO students were assigned as volunteers to Junior Achievement.

Students sorted and organized papers into educational packets for classroom instructors. These folders will be used by JA volunteers to take the message of work readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy skills into local schools.



Selena Andrade was the recipient of this year's **Indiana TRIO Board of Directors Full-time Scholarship**. Selena was awarded \$1,000 to help with her educational studies at IPFW. In her application essay, Selena wrote of her passion for education and how her parents have inspired her to reach beyond her dreams to achieve. She is currently majoring in

Hospitality & Tourism Management with a minor in Spanish and plans to graduate in May 2019.

Guerda Julien was awarded the **Indiana TRIO Board of Directors Part-time Scholarship** for this year. Guerda's a native of Haiti and works as a Mental Health Technician at Parkview Behavioral Health. She is also a nun and prolific community volunteer. Guerda is currently a part-time TRIO student majoring in Human Services and plans to graduate in 2018.



Miranda Hall was awarded an **Indiana TRIO Study Abroad Scholarship** for this summer. She will be traveling to Italy this June with IPFW's Department of Fine Arts as part of their **Art of Italy** trip. Miranda hopes to inspire others to study abroad for experiences that enhance their education beyond the classroom.

Miranda is currently an Art Education major and plans to graduate in 2019.

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Facebook.com/groups/ipfwtrioss



Save the Date!

Tuesday, October 24, 2017
5-7pm Walb Ballroom

TRIO students are busy working on Volume II of *Every Student Has a Story: Personal Narratives from First-Generation College Students*. The book will be published in late summer or early fall and will be available on Amazon.com. TRIO SSS will host a book launch for the second volume on Tuesday, October 24, 2017 from 5-7pm in the Walb Classic Ballroom. Students, families, friends, staff, faculty, and community members are all invited to this open event. Books will be available for purchase at the event with authors on-hand to sign copies. Selected students will also read excerpts from the newest book.

TRIO Staff:

Shubitha Kever
Program Director

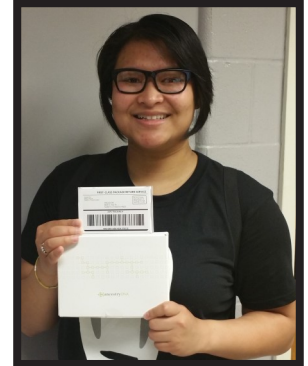
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This year, TRIO SSS debuted a new student cultural program. TRIO students spent the spring semester meeting in a small group setting to learn about different cultures. Students were able to share about their individual cultures and help discuss issues related to culture and society. Participating students were even able to find out a little more about their own unique identity and culture by completing AncestryDNA tests.

Cultural Conversations will continue this fall. Any interested TRIO SSS students are encouraged to attend the first meeting on Monday, September 25, 2017, from 3:30-4:30pm in KT G30.