

# SAM SAYS...



A publication of the Educational Talent Search Program at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute

[www.cccti.edu/ets](http://www.cccti.edu/ets)

December 2004

## TRiO

Talent Search

Federally-funded TRiO comprises various programs, which, since 1965, have promoted opportunity in education.

Educational Talent Search (ETS), launched at CCC&TI in 2002, currently serves 600 middle-school and high-school students. Its mission is to get academically talented Caldwell County students enrolled in college. Visit [www.cccti.edu](http://www.cccti.edu) for more information on TRiO at CCC&TI.

Student Support Services (SSS) has served 1000 participants at CCC&TI since its inception here in 1993. Its mission is to provide opportunities for academic development, assist students with basic college requirements, and serve to motivate students towards the successful completion of their post-secondary education.

For further information on TRiO programs, please visit [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov).

### ETS Makes Front Page

*By: Kristen Hopkins,  
GFMS, 6<sup>th</sup> grade*

ETS had a special ceremony on November 16, 2004 to recognize new ETS students, honor seniors, and celebrate students' academic achievements. It was a fun night. I saw many of my ETS friends. My best friend is in ETS too. Each new ETS student got a T-shirt, notepad, notebook, and pen. It was a little embarrassing walking in front of the large group to receive the items. We had refreshments also. My picture was taken and it ended up on the front page of the newspaper. Also on the front page was Andrea Powell, who was in ETS, is a Dream Scholar and G. Lewis Bernhardt Fellow, and is now in the TRiO program, Student Support Services at CCC&TI. I had a great time at the ETS ceremony.

### The TRiO Team

On November 20, 2004 TRiO programs (SSS and ETS) were celebrated as SSS hosted "Sneak Peak into the Future," an Open House to CCC&TI for ETS students, which helped bring college alive to them. ETS students enjoyed college trivia, t-shirt painting, face painting, cake walks, and other carnival games. SSS students take a



Kristen Hopkins (GFMS, 6<sup>th</sup>) poses with the Lenoir *News-Topic*'s article about ETS.



Taking time to smile at the camera at "Sneak Peak into the Future"

class, "College Success," which helps orient them to college and which requires a service-learning project. These 26 students decided that as their service-learning component of the class they would like to sponsor an event for ETS students and their families. These students put in countless hours in preparation and implementation of the event. The result was over 250 in the TRiO family on a college campus. Sneak Peak into the Future was a great picture of what the TRiO team is all about.

**Thank you, SSS students!**

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## More Pictures from the Open House at CCC&TI



Not just academically talented!



Aiming at the target!

## Financial Aid Workshop Held

On December 2, 2004 ETS Seniors and their parents were invited to attend a financial aid workshop to prepare them for filling out the FAFSA form. FAFSA stands for Free Application for Federal Student Aid. In January each year, Seniors planning to go to college in the following August and current college students fill out the form to receive assistance from the federal government. Assistance may be as a grant or loan. Christi Hollifield of CFNC, Dianne Henderson (Director of Financial Aid at CCC&TI), and Dena Holman (TRIO/ETS counselor) helped answer questions about FAFSA, scholarships, and college financial aid. FAFSA Day will be held at CCC&TI on February 19, 9 am- noon. CCC&TI's financial aid office offers its services to the community to assist students with applying for financial aid for any college. For more information, visit [www.studentaid.ed.gov](http://www.studentaid.ed.gov).

## SAM??

From time to time, ETS students ask, "Who is Sam?" Our ETS logo was designed when ETS was launched in 2002. ETS staff decided to name the person holding up the world, Sam.



Our newsletter was named Sam Says because it is designed to share ETS news with students and the community. ETS students are invited to turn the letters S-A-M into an acronym by taking each letter to form a word that reflects ETS' purpose and gives more meaning to what SAM represents. Share your ideas with your ETS counselor or email them to [mfulbright@cccti.edu](mailto:mfulbright@cccti.edu). The student whose idea is chosen will be recognized in the next newsletter.

## I'm First Generation!

Over 250 people have contributed to the **TRIO First-Generation Statement Campaign**. Here are excerpts from three TRIO/ETS students.

*"Ever since I was about five I've dreamed about going to college. About two years ago a thought popped into my head. 'How will I get into college? I've no money, neither does my family?!' But the ETS program showed up at my school, and that was a big relief."*  
Nikki Conner, HMS

*"I also want to go to college just to better myself. I think I won't feel complete if I don't go to college, because I know that I can learn a whole lot more than what I do know and I'm always willing to learn."*  
Asia Joyner, GMS

*"ETS will help me get to college by getting me prepared for a college life. Another way is by showing me college campuses and also by pushing me to do the very best I can. That is why I am going to be the first person in my family to go to college."*  
Jeffrey Rouselle, WCHS

To submit your first-generation statement, please ask your ETS counselor for a form or email your story to [alentz@cccti.edu](mailto:alentz@cccti.edu).

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## Introducing Melissa!

Hello! I am Melissa Hambright, the new TRIO/Educational Talent Search Specialist. I am very excited to be here and look forward to working with the ETS participants at Gamewell Middle, Collettsville Elementary, and West Caldwell High. I come to ETS after teaching six and one half years in Burke County Schools. I look forward to getting to know all ETS students and participating in the many fun activities planned for us in the upcoming months.



Melissa Hambright, new ETS specialist

## Best wishes to Pat

For two years, the voice you have heard at the ETS office is that of Pat Pritchard, our Administrative Assistant. Pat has spent countless hours in planning ETS events and fine-tuning the details of our ETS field trips, not to mention keeping up with paperwork on 600 ETS students. Pat will now be the voice you hear when you call the main switchboard at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. Please join us in wishing Pat the best of luck with her new job.

**Thank you, Pat, and you will be missed!**



Pat Pritchard, Administrative Assistant

## ETS Activities

**February 18** Academic Reward Trip for A Honor Roll for Fall Semester. Students who are eligible will be given more information.

**February 19** FAFSA Day at CCC&TI. All Seniors and their parents are required to attend between 9 am and 12 noon.

**April 29** All Aboard for Davidson College  
See your counselor for more information.

***Remember Tutoring for ETS students is available on Monday evenings 5:00 pm-8:00 pm at CCC&TI in the TRIO/SSS suite of John A. Forlines Building. If there is no school on a Monday, there is no tutoring!***



## ETS Staff

TRiO Director, Alice Lentz [alentz@cccti.edu](mailto:alentz@cccti.edu)

Administrative Assistant, TBA

ETS Specialists/Counselors:

Dena Holman [dnholman@cccti.edu](mailto:dnholman@cccti.edu)

William Lenoir Middle, Kings Creek, Happy Valley,  
and Hibriten High, Gateway School

Mitzi Fulbright [mfulbright@cccti.edu](mailto:mfulbright@cccti.edu)

Hudson Middle, Granite Falls Middle, Oak Hill, and South  
Caldwell High

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