

# TRIO TRIBUNE

[www.ccti.edu/TRIO/SSS](http://www.ccti.edu/TRIO/SSS)

For and By TRIO/SSS Students

May 2007 Vol. 3 No. 4

## TRIO

Student Support Services

Federally-funded TRIO comprises various programs, which, since 1965, have promoted opportunity in education. TRIO/SSS has served over 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.

Visit [www.ccti.edu/TRIO/SSS](http://www.ccti.edu/TRIO/SSS) for more information.

TRIO/ 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.

[www.ccti.edu/TRIO/ETS](http://www.ccti.edu/TRIO/ETS)

## TRIO Celebrates CCC&TI Graduates!

By Kelly Harrison

On May 11, 2007, CCC&TI held graduation ceremonies at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center. There were 36 students who were from TRIO/SSS. Of those 36 students, 29 were current TRIO/SSS members, and seven were former members. This issue of the TRIO TRIBUNE carries photos of some of those students. TRIO/SSS and the TRIO TRIBUNE congratulate all of the CCC&TI 2007 graduates!



JoAnn Moore, Trustees' Student Award of Merit winner

## Vickie Cannon: TRIO Alumna

By Shirley Miller

Vickie Cannon, currently employed at Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, is a bright, energetic, and confident young woman who loves her position at CCC&TI. Vickie has been married to her husband, Terry, for twelve years, and has two small children. Her boys, Ethan, who is eight years old and Noah, who is five, are involved with sports. When Vickie is not at work she can be found somewhere on a ball field.

Vickie attended classes at CCC&TI from 2003-2005. She said, with a radiant smile, that she loved the staff and faculty at CCC&TI while she was a student, and that is why after graduation (AAS, Medical Office Administration), she actively sought employment here. Vickie started her current job on January 2, 2007, as administrative assistant for the Academic Advising Center. Her supervisor is Vale Biddix, Director, Academic Advising Center.

Vickie said when she first started school, she was a bit intimidated because of her age, but then she realized that 50% of the students were her age or older. "I had to prove to myself and my family that I was worthy and that I could do this," she said. Vickie proved that she could, indeed, 'do this' as she was on the president's list every semester, making straight A's.

Vickie enrolled in TRIO/SSS in 2004 and earned the TRIO/SSS Academic Excellence Award. Vickie said that TRIO was a God-send for her. She said, "The encouragement and support I received from the staff helped me get through." She explained that trying to come back to school at her age was difficult for her. In addition to having a husband and children at home, she had a part-time job. She said, "There were times I thought about quitting, and, had it not been for the TRIO/SSS staff, I might have given up."

Her advice to students is to take advantage of the TRIO program and the wide areas where it can be of assistance. She said,

"Do not be too shy to ask for help, but utilize the programs of TRIO to your advantage." She added that she would recommend TRIO to anyone that was qualified. Vickie remains active in the TRIO Alumni Group, established in 2004 by current and past TRIO/SSS participants.

Vickie Cannon is an excellent example of how hard work and perseverance make for success. Vickie is employed at a job she loves, at a college she loves. She has a full and rewarding life, and it doesn't get much better than that! She is an inspiration to us all!



## TRIO/SSS Awards Luncheons and the TRIO Alumni Reunion

Over 160 TRIO students, TRIO alumni, CCC&TI faculty and staff, and community guests gathered at the J.E. Broyhill Civic Center on April 26 for the 14th annual TRIO/SSS Awards Luncheon in Hudson and the 3rd annual TRIO Alumni Reunion.

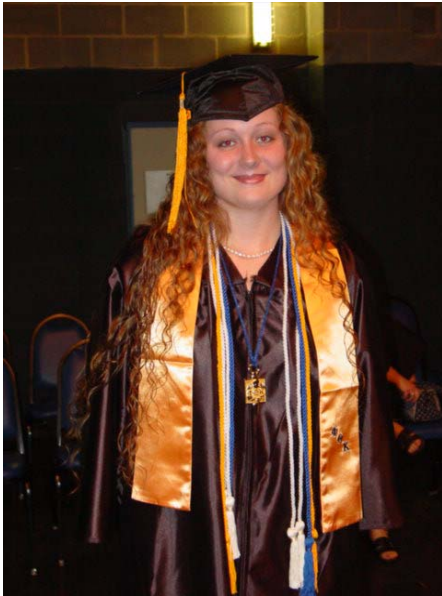
The event recognized TRIO/SSS students' successes in graduating, transferring to four-year institutions, excelling academically, serving others, and making great strides in personal development. Also recognized were the 2007 G. Lewis Bernhardt

Scholar and Fellows. These young students are graduating TRIO/ETS seniors who will enroll at CCC&TI and will add new leadership and academic skills to next year's TRIO/SSS activities.

Barbara Currier, coordinator, Foundation Support and Alumni Activities, NC Community College System Office, delivered the keynote address. Ms. Currier serves as advisor to the TRIO Alumni Group at CCC&TI.

Three current TRIO/SSS students were named 2007 TRIO Alumni Scholars. Four TRIO alumni were recognized this year through the inaugural TRIO Alumni Group Service Award.

TRIO/SSS honored its Watauga-based students and graduates on April 27 through its TRIO/SSS Awards Luncheon at the Broyhill Inn and Conference Center.



## Having Fun at Spring Fling

By Reama Pearson

Every spring, CCC&TI's Student Government Association sponsors a gathering of fun and games called Spring Fling. The theme for the 2007 Spring Fling was "Hollywood Blockbuster Party." The

CCC&TI student body and staff were able to participate in a costume contest dressed as their favorite movie character or Hollywood star.

In addition to games and raffle contests, food was served. Students and staff enjoyed pizza, funnel cakes, chips and other baked goods. T-shirts, plants, jewelry and health checks were also available. This year's Spring Fling even featured live music and a peeps eating contest!

TRIO/SSS participated in various ways. TRIO/SSS would like to thank Barbara Wilson for donating two quilts, Chuck Campbell from Hawaiian Ice Treats for donating portions of the profits from funnel cakes, shaved ice and lemonade, and Sandy Ridge Baptist Church for use of the festival games.

A TRIO/SSS Cutest Baby Contest was held and culminated at Spring Fling. First place went to Vanessa Carlton, second place went to Robin Scott, and third place went to Holly Annas.

TRIO raised \$225 at Spring Fling for the TRIO Alumni Scholarship Fund. Thanks to everyone involved for their support and participation.

## TRIO Contributes to Success

By Jessica McWhite

Being in the TRIO program is all about big dreams to further one's educational aspirations. From middle school to college graduation, people's dreams can become a reality. TRIO gives students equal opportunity to find their place in society. Realizing that everyone is unique helps students gain a perspective that all people can be individuals, but arrive at common ground. TRIO assists students to learn and help one and another to mature. Together, students collaborate in all levels by understanding, teaching, learning and growing to increase their life's observation and awareness of others.



**The white cord signifies a TRIO graduate.**

*Note: The following is an excerpt from a piece written for TRIO by TRIO/SSS alumna Nikki Robinson. Nikki is one of two TRIO alumni earning advanced degrees and currently teaching in NC community colleges. Nikki is an instructor of sociology at Davidson County Community College. Copies of Nikki's full article are available at the TRIO Center.*

*TRIO/SSS alumna Darlene Richardson is an instructor of web design at CCC&TI. - Alice Lentz, TRIO Director*

## **The Benefits of Attending a Two-Year College before Transferring to a Four-Year University**

By Nikki Robinson, M.A.S.S

With spring graduation, a new class of high-school seniors will soon be in place, and they will be pondering choices for post-secondary study. Many students on this campus have children that are facing this dilemma without realizing that their parents are attending one of the best colleges around!

Nine years ago, I was one of those

seniors that had big dreams of moving as far away from home as possible to attend college. Though I had already won a Dream Scholarship and was promised two years tuition-free at CCC&TI, I was bound for the University of California at Los Angeles. Luckily, my mom finally talked some sense into me (and refused to pay the application fee at UCLA) and I started CCC&TI in fall 1999. The first person I met when I came to campus was TRIO/SSS counselor Becky Boone. Having no idea how to begin the process of registering for classes, I was lost and frustrated. Becky sat down with me, and we discussed my plans for the future, potential career goals, and how to pay for it all. When I left that day, I had a full load of classes and an application for financial aid safely delivered to the financial aid office. I was also a member of the Student Support Services Program (now TRIO/SSS). I could never have guessed that I also had met someone--well, a group of people--that would have such a positive impact on me for years to come. Three years later I graduated with my Associate degree and transferred to Appalachian State University. Though I thoroughly enjoyed the years I spent at ASU, there are some definite advantages to attending CCC&TI, or any other two-year college, before transferring to a four-year university.



# Group Activities and Updates

*What are those TRIO/SSS students doing now?!*

**Helping, working, living, giving....**

As you know, TRIO/SSS has created nine service groups in which students can participate to bolster their resumes and applications while giving back to the CCC&TI community. Below, the activities of each service group are updated.

## **TRIO Alumni Group:**

*Group members assist in maintaining contact with TRIO/SSS alumni and planning alumni related events.*

Plans for the 2006-2007 school year include a spring TRIO Reunion, writing of the five-year plan, and awarding the 2007 TRIO Alumni Scholarship. Rick Taylor is the group leader.

## **TRIO TRIBUNE Team:**

*These students create and relate news of interest to TRIO/SSS students by organizing a bi-monthly newsletter.*

Kelly Harrison and Shannon Withers are the group co-leaders.

## **TRIO Orientation and Mentoring Team:**

*This team consists of TRIO/SSS students who orient TRIO/ETS students. Members will also assist the Caldwell County Public School System and TRIO/ETS staff by mentoring TRIO/ETS students in the public schools and assisting with duties concerning the TRIO/ETS Induction Ceremony.*

The group leader is Vanessa Carlton.

## **TRIO Service Corps:**

*These team members organize and assist in the deployment of TRIO/SSS student resources across campus and for the community.*

The group leader is Crystal Coffey.

## **TRIO Large Event Planning Team:**

*This group is responsible for the coordination and organization of each TRIO deli, TRIO/SSS Awards Ceremony, and TRIO/ETS Open House, and other large TRIO events.*

The group leader is Jo Ann Moore.

## **Independent Women:**

*This group comprises women who gather to discuss issues of interest and importance to them and to support one another.*

## **TRIO Technology Group:**

*This group comprises current TRIO/SSS students who provide technological support to other TRIO/SSS groups and TRIO/SSS staff, maintain BFA laptops, design workshops, and maintain the TRIO website on the CCC&TI homepage.*

## **TRIO Multi-Cultural Group :**

*This group comprises TRIO/SSS students with strong interest in increasing their awareness of diversity and global issues. Formally launched in May 2006, the TRIO MCG group will work with other, interested student groups on campus to raise awareness of the issues that link all people.*

Rebekah Broyhill is the group leader.

## **TRIO Walking and Wellness Group:**

*Group members aspire to encourage and develop a state of well being within the Trio CCC&TI community by enhancing our knowledge of healthy eating and exercise habits.*

## Newsletter Team's E-mail

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The TRIO TRIBUNE team gratefully acknowledges the support of TRIO Advisory Committee members Camille Annas, Amy Cortner, Dustin Greene, and Nancy Risch.

