

TRiO Student Support Services

February 20, 2008



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SSS Visits Graduate Schools in North Carolina During

This past interim break, seven SSS students and two staff traveled to North Carolina to visit the University of North Carolina and Duke University graduate schools. During their visit, the students had the opportunity to take campus tours, and meet with current students who shared their graduate school experience. They also had the opportunity to meet one-on-one with the chair of the department in which they are interested in pursuing.



DUKE UNIVERSITY

While in North Carolina, the group stayed in Chapel Hill. On Saturday, the group visited Chapel Hill's Hanes Art Center and Planetarium and enjoyed unique food from the area.

To make this trip possible, students organized a fundraising event at Cub grocery store . A special thank you goes out to Kathy Glampe, SSS Director, and Justin Fleming, SSS Academic Advisor, for their hard work to make this experience possible.



SSS students and staff enjoying dinner in Chapel Hill.



Kristina Poplavskaja '09 and Carlos Walker '09 riding the RU bus on their way to UNC Student Center .

December Highlights

Cookies at Kathy's

On November 9, 2007, SSS celebrated the annual "Cookies at Kathy's" event. SSS students joined the celebration and had the opportunity to bake and eat cookies while they played board games, watched TV and enjoyed one another's company.



SSS Holiday Party



As 2007 and first semester came to an end, SSS took some time to celebrate the incoming year by having their annual Holiday Party. Over one-hundred SSS students joined the celebration and ate pizza and enjoyed one another's company. This year, SSS assisted Michael Leming, Professor of Sociology with his Santa Fundraiser. The proceeds helped students in Thailand. The event was a great success and SSS would like to thank everyone that was part of the celebration.



Feature

Important information about the FAFSA Form:

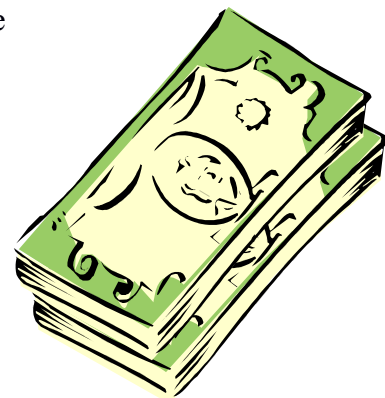
- The FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) and the St. Olaf Applications for Financial Aid must be filed by April 15th!!! Applications filed after this date may be penalized.
- To file the FAFSA, you should first file your taxes (and have your parents file their taxes also). Tax forms are available in the SSS office.
- Your SSS Advisor is available to help you complete your FAFSA!

This year, SSS will be having group Financial Aid sessions in the SSS computer Lab on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 13– 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Wednesday, March 5– 3:00-4:30 p.m.

Friday, April 11– 2:00-3:30 p.m.



Reminder: your \$600 St. Olaf deposit is due on March 14, 2008.

Supplemental Instruction (SI)

You have questions, we have answers.



Supplemental Instruction (SI) is a series of weekly review sessions for students taking historically difficult courses. SI is provided for SSS students who want to improve their understanding of course material and improve their grades in targeted courses.

The SI sessions are facilitated by SI leaders who are students themselves and are prepared to share with the students what they have learned over the years about how to study. They know the course content well, as they are majoring in or have taken the course themselves and are anxious to help guide the students through the material.

SI Leaders attend class with the students, hearing what they hear and reading what they read. The SI leader's job is to help the students think about the lectures and readings, and teach study strategies during SI review sessions so the students can learn the course material more efficiently.

This Spring, SI is being offered in three targeted courses:

Chemistry 126 - SI leaders: Ying Thao '08 and Pao Lor '08

Psychology 125 - SI leader: Eric Khuong '10

Statistics 110 - SI leader: Chee Lee '09

Please contact Jonathan Aldana at x8019 or aldana@stolaf.edu for any questions.

Announcements

Experiential Learning Incentive Plan

The Center for Experiential Learning (CEL), in collaboration with Student Support Services (SSS), has set up a step-by-step incentive plan to help SSS students develop and explore their career and life plan. The incentive plan requires students to move through a series of workshops and activities that are aimed to assist students in preparation to the world beyond St. Olaf College. A special thank you to Kirsten Cahoon, Andrea Kubinski and Megan Rivera of the CEL and Polina Bugayev and Pa Houa Xiong (SSS peer leaders) for their hard work on this plan.

CEL Peer Advisors will be available in the SSS office to answer questions about cover letters, resume, internship, workshops and other CEL events the following hours this semester:

Katie Stenseth: Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Eric Khuong: Fridays, 1:00-2:00 p.m.

Be sure to see your SSS Advisor, CEL peer advisors, or CEL staff with questions or for more information about this wonderful opportunity.

SSS Advisory Board

We Need Your Ideas!!

With the start of a new semester, it is also the beginning of a new Advisory Board.

All SSS students are welcome to join!

As a member of the Advisory Board, you will help plan SSS activities, Food, Family, Fun (FFF) Nights, and so much more! The Advisory Board meets every Monday from 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the Student Activities conference room (next to SSS office).

For more information call Justin at x8020 or email him at flemingj@stolaf.edu.

Hope to see you at the next meeting on Monday, February 26th at 3:15 p.m.!

Upcoming Events

SSS Spring Retreat

When: April 18-19, 2008
Where: Camp Omega
Time: Departure 3:30

Alumni Panel

When: Wednesday, April 9, 2008
Where: Hilleboe/Kittelsby lounge
Time: 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Senior Profile Dinner

When: Wednesday, February 20, 2008
Where: Chapel 102
Time: 4:30-5:30 p.m.

SSS End of the Year Picnic

When: Friday, May 15, 2008
Where: Behind Thorson
Time: 12:00-3:00 p.m.

Please Join Us...

...for the SSS and MACO Senior Banquet.

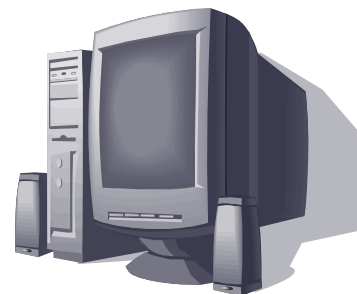
When: Wednesday, May 7, 2008
Where: Sun and Gold Room in Buntrock Commons
Time: 4:00-5:30 p.m. Reception (Vahalla)
5:30 p.m. Dinner (Sun and Gold Room)

All St. Olaf faculty/staff are invited to join us for the reception and/or dinner. We will be honoring the 2008 SSS and MACO Graduates!

Reminder

The computer lab will be open the following hours during spring semester:

Monday - Thursday	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Saturday	CLOSED
Sunday	2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.



Visit our website <http://www.stolaf.edu/services/sss/> for more upcoming events.



Student Support Services

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The St. Olaf College Student Support Services (SSS) program is a college retention program funded by the U.S. Department of Education, St. Olaf College, the Tradition Family Foundation, the Hearst Foundation and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. The SSS program is one of three TRiO programs originally funded under the Higher Education Act of 1965 whose objective is to help students overcome class, social and cultural barriers to complete their college education. The SSS program provides services to 160 eligible St. Olaf students annually.

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