



Where Your Academic Success Becomes a Reality

# Real People...Real Life Real Talk

Spring 2011, Issue 3

March 2011

## CSN Celebrates 40 Years of Service

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The College of Southern Nevada, state's largest college, celebrates 40 years of service this year with more than a million alumni, 67,000 credit and non-credit students and hundreds of community supporters, according to the press release issued by the CSN Public and College Relations.

"This 40th year, CSN has much to celebrate, including nationally renowned academic programs such as nursing, HVAC, cardiorespiratory and fire science technology, said CSN President Dr. Richards. "I would like to thank all Nevadans for believing in CSN and supporting our students in their quest toward new opportunities. For the last four decades, we have grown with this state and helped more than a million Nevadans gain the skills, training and education they need

to improve the quality of their lives."

Founded in 1971 and educating thousands of students a semester, the College of Southern Nevada (csn.edu) is the state's largest and most ethnically diverse higher education institution. CSN offers more than 200 degree and certificate options in more than 130 areas of study, including 25 degree and certificate programs available entirely online. Students create flexible, personalized schedules including day, evening and weekend classes taught on three main campuses and multiple locations throughout Southern Nevada.

Today, the college has three campuses, nine sites and centers and operates in more than 50 sites around Southern Nevada

to provide access to urban and rural residents. CSN now offers late night classes until 3 a.m. and more than 30 degree and certificate programs entirely online as part of its goal to provide access to higher education.

As part of the celebration, **please register for our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary promotion! The '40 Prizes a Day for 40 Days' giveaway begins Monday March 14<sup>th</sup> and runs through April 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

All CSN Students, Faculty and Staff are eligible to win. **To register, simply text the letters 'CSN' to the number '58447' on your mobile device and follow the prompts on the return message.**

More detailed information can be found by visiting [www.csn.edu/anniversary](http://www.csn.edu/anniversary) and selecting the 'promotions' link.

***Not knowing how you are doing in class is like walking blind-folded in the midst of a busy intersection. However, having your mid-semester progress report completed by your professors/instructors, and turned-in to TRiO office by March 15th, helps you navigate through the semester. Another way to lessen your worry is to learn and implement better study habits.***

## From the desk of the TRiO SSS Interim Director

Dear TRiO Participants,

The Spring Break is upon us!!! While many students are planning for their spring getaway to relax and recharge, a large number of students are either playing 'catch-up' or even stressing about their classes. Not knowing how you are doing in class is like walking blind-folded in the midst of a busy intersection. However, having your mid-semester progress report completed by your professors/instructors, and turned-in to TRiO office by March 15th, helps you navigate through the semester. Another way to lessen your worry is to learn and implement better study habits.

### Tips on How to Improve Study Habits and Get Better Grades

- **Attend class and be on time!** Attendance in class enhances your chance in getting a passing grade in your course. Not only because some professors include attendance as part of their grading system, but some professors give unannounced quizzes. Missing a class puts you behind and playing 'catch-up' is more work than being in class. Also, majority of professors do not offer 'make-up' for missed assignment or quizzes.
- **Allocate study time for each of your class.** The rule of thumb is to study 2 hours per 1 hour classroom time. However, this rule does NOT apply to every class. Some classes will be easier for you than others. Here are the suggested hours: easy class – 1 to 2 hours per class hour; not-so-easy class – spend 2 to 3 hours per class hour; difficult class – spend about 4 hours or more per class hour. For instance, if PHIL 102 is a difficult class for you and you spend 3 hours in class for that subject, you will need to be studying at least 12 hours to be prepared for the class (3 hours in class X 4 hours outside class study)
- **Stop studying what you already know; begin studying your weak areas.** Students are happier when they review areas they know well. However, once they enter a difficult area, their comfort level drops. This is a clue that you need to study and work harder until you overcome your weak areas and get back to your comfort level.
- **Read all textbooks and notes relevant to the topic being covered prior to attending class.** The greatest advantages: you will be familiar with the subject, you know what to ask, you are not going to waste time by writing down notes that is already there in your study material. Rather, you know what to write and you will have a much clearer state of mind.
- **Take comprehensive notes in class.** You must be fully alert to take legible and meaningful notes. If you fail to take notes, much of what you learn from the lecture will be forgotten in a few days. If you have something written down on paper, you can always refer to the material later.
- **Use colors!** When you are taking notes change the color of your pen. Writing in color will help you retain 50% - 80% more of the information without reading it a second time. Also, use highlighters!
- **Use tape recorder to record lectures.** You could listen to the recorder again and again to gain a better understanding of the material.
- **Start an academic-focused study group.** Depending on the student and atmosphere, study groups could: help students understand and retain materials better; confirm with each other any confusing or complex subject material; fellow students can be a source of support and encouragement; provides opportunity to learn new study habits from peers.

By attending class and utilizing the suggested tips just described, your chances for success in college will increase significantly.

*Emily*

**MID-Semester  
Progress Report is  
DUE on March 15th**

Your TRiO mid-semester progress report is due on March 15<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday. Please ensure to have all your professors or instructors complete the form before the due date and turn it in to the TRiO office.

The importance of progress reports is particularly noteworthy as they serve as the primary means of communication between the student, their professors, and the TRiO SSS.

**Scholarship available for  
Teacher Education**

*NSHE is sponsoring this scholarship fund in order to support National College Goals for increasing college graduation rates. This generous scholarship while paying for tuition, books and fees, also offers strong student support from the Department of Education at CSN in assisting and facilitating access to coursework leading to completion of an Education related Associates Degree.*

**Scholarship funds for:** tuition, fees, and books for 12 credits. (*Laptops are available for checkout for duration of the scholarship*).

**Scholarship Requirements:** 1) Completion of AA Degree Education Emphasis by the end of Fall Semes-

ter 2011. (This is a Fast Track Scholarship.) 2) U.S Citizen and 3) 3.0 college/university, cumulative, GPA.

**Preference given to:**

- o Students identified as low-income (Pell recipient, unemployed, underemployed, and other documentation of individual need.
- o Students under-represented in the education profession (minority status, Low-income, bilingual, special education majors, first generation to attend higher education etc.

**Scholarship Application:** Contact Connie Christensen for application and further information at 651-4803 or [connie.christensen@csn.edu](mailto:connie.christensen@csn.edu).

**UNLV College of Business  
Transfer Day  
for students attending CSN**

**WHEN: Friday, April 1st, from 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

If you are currently attending the **College of Southern Nevada (CSN)** and are interested in transferring into UNLV's College of Business, join us to:

- **Take a guided tour of campus and Admissions presentation**
- **Attend a presentation by the UNLV College of Business Academic Advising Center to review majors and information on how to transfer credits from CSN**
- **Enjoy lunch on us in the university Dining Commons**

You must R.S.V.P. by email to Kelsey Morozow by **March 30th** if you would like to attend at [Kelsey.Morozow@unlv.edu](mailto:Kelsey.Morozow@unlv.edu). After you R.S.V.P., you will receive a confirmation e-mail with additional details.

Undergraduate Business Degrees *majoring in*

Accounting • Economics • Entrepreneurship • Finance • International Business • Management • Management Information Systems • Marketing • Real Estate

**Scholarships  
Available!!!**

Please visit our TRiO Lab and go through the scholarship booklet posted on the "Scholarship" bulletin board.

Scholarships are available for college undergraduates, graduates, and even high school seniors.

Take advantage of these opportunities!!!

## FREE TUTORING

- As a TRiO Participant you may receive up to 1 hour per week of **FREE** one-on-one **tutoring** from TRiO tutors in **Biology and Math**. Contact TRiO for a referral.
- **Inside the TRiO Lounge you can receive up to 4 hours per week of drop in Math tutoring**  
Math Lab every Tuesday 2PM - 4PM with Sina (No appointment needed)  
Math Lab every Friday 1PM - 3PM with Sina (No appointment needed)
- **SMARThinking** 24/7 FREE online tutoring, writing services, and homework help services for student success. Contact TRiO for User ID & password information. Visit SMARThinking @ <http://www.smarthinking.com>

## DO YOU WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

the  
**TRiO Experience**  
Want to get involved and interact with other students?

Join the **TRiO Experience**  
Contact Sharnee for more information @ [sharnee.walker@csn.edu](mailto:sharnee.walker@csn.edu)

### **TRiO Study Groups**

Want to form a study group for one of your classes?

Trio can help.

Contact Tony for more information @ [antonio.talavera@csn.edu](mailto:antonio.talavera@csn.edu)

Do you wish to contribute to our monthly newsletter?

Please  
Contact Emily @ [emily.rafael@csn.edu](mailto:emily.rafael@csn.edu)

## HEY, HEY, HEY ... BEFORE YOU PROCEED ...

**UNLV @ CSN**  
*Meet with Admissions - no appointment necessary*

W. Charleston - Tuesday, March 15 @ 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.  
Henderson- Wednesday, March 16 @ 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
Cheyenne - Thursday, March 17 @ 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

CHECK YOUR EMAIL...

### **EVERYDAY**

Make it to your **CHECK-IN** appointment or call 651-4441 if you need to re-schedule

Thank You Very Much,

TRiO STAFF

### Important 2011 Dates/Deadlines

Mar 15: TRiO Mid-semester Progress Report is DUE at the office!!!

Mar 21-27: CSN Spring Break

April 1: CSN Summer 2011 Schedule will be available on-line

May 22: Spring Semester Ends

May 23: Commencement

# Spring 2011 Workshops

Join us for fun, innovative, and informative workshops to help you have a great semester!!!

Please RSVP to workshops at [trio@csn.edu](mailto:trio@csn.edu)

Refreshments will be provided

Spring 2011 Workshops			
Date	Day	Time	Workshop
February 2011	Wednesday, Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	<b>Math &amp; Science Success Strategies</b> Math & Science – you either love it or hate it! If you want to improve your score on your math exams and remove obstacles that may be getting in the way of your progress, come join us to learn how to manage math anxiety and explore effective math study skills.
	Thursday, Feb. 24 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	<b>“I’ll Do It Tomorrow”</b> Is time slipping away from you?? There is no one size fits all, so it is important for you to understand yourself and how to optimize your schedule. Learn how to make the most of the 168 hours you have each week to accomplish what you have and want to do.
March 2011	Thursday, Mar. 10 <sup>th</sup>	2:00pm	<b>Speed Reading 101: Mastering the College Textbook</b> Felling a bit overwhelmed with the reading in your classes?? Wondering how you’ll manage to read it all?? Want to learn a few techniques to improving your reading speed and comprehension?? This is the workshop for you!!!
	Thursday, March 17 <sup>th</sup>	1:30PM	<b>Special CAPS Presentation: “Say What?” - Mastering the Art of Interpersonal Communication Skills</b> Need to freshen up your communications skills??? This is the workshop for you!! Communication is the basis for all relationships and is the key to success in our personal, social, and professional lives.
April 2011	Wednesday, Apr. 13 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	<b>Eats, Shoots, and Leaves: The No Nonsense Approach to Punctuation</b> Need to review the most common punctuation errors?? This is the workshop for you! Learn the common misuses of punctuation & how to avoid them!
	Thursday, Apr. 28 <sup>th</sup>	1:00pm	<b>Overcoming Test Anxiety &amp; Procrastination</b> Does the idea of taking a test send you into a panic? Learn strategies on test preparation and overcoming test anxiety. Taking a test no longer needs to be overwhelming when you practice these successful techniques.
May 2011	May 9 <sup>th</sup> – May 20 <sup>th</sup>	During office hours	<b>Final Stretch Event</b> It’s almost finals time!! Stop by the TRiO Lounge for some refreshments to get energized!!

Your academic experience at CSN is what being successful is all about. Be sure to stop by and see what’s new at TRiO’s Student Support Services Office!!

3200 E. Cheyenne Ave.  
Room 1120, Tel. 651-4441

Please RSVP to workshops at [trio@csn.edu](mailto:trio@csn.edu)

Unable to join us?? You can now complete your workshop online!!!  
Just ask how!!!



Where Your  
Academic  
Success  
Becomes a  
Reality

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