Dear Participants,

Can you believe you already have eight weeks of classes behind you? It is that time of year again where you all get very busy preparing for midterms, writing 10-page or longer papers and feeling a bit stressed with all you have to do before the semester ends. Well, take a long deep, breath to de-stress and then set up your time management plan so that you can put your priorities in order.

Midterm grades were available on “Buzz-in” on October 15th and are a good way to check your progress in your classes. If you have any concerns, please come to the TRIO office and talk with one of the staff members. I have students too often say, “I wish I would have come to see you sooner but I didn’t want to bother you.” That is what we are here for, to help you through the ups and downs of college.

This is the time to begin thinking about the classes you should take in the spring semester. If you haven’t already, make an appointment with your advisor soon. The earlier your advising appointment, the better the class selection.

Please read on; there is a lot of information in this newsletter. Take care, study hard, and enjoy the rest of the month.

Warmly,

Kristi Bolen, Director
GRADUATION GOWN CHECK-OUT

Congratulations to December graduates! Student Support Services participants can reserve a graduation gown from us FREE! To make a reservation, we ask for a $10 deposit at the time you pick it up. We will hold the deposit until the gown is returned. We have a limited supply, so they are first come, first serve. Tassels and caps are not included; they are available in the MU bookstore.

Note: Gowns come in sizes based on HEIGHT, so when you reserve a gown, be sure to give us accurate information.

TRIO SPRING CLASSES

In the spring semester, TRIO will offer the following classes exclusively to Student Support Services participants. If you are interested in enrolling in one or more of these classes, please stop by the TRIO office for a permission slip.

CW 102 PC/PJ - Freshman Seminar II

All first year freshmen who are currently in Freshman Seminar I need to take Freshmen Seminar II on Tuesday, 2:00-2:50 p.m., in CH 316, or Thursday, 11:00-11:50 a.m., in CH 419 from January 27 to May 14.

SC 320 PF - Managing Life Transitions

This course is designed to prepare students for life transitions while in college and after graduation. Class is from January 19 to March 13 with format to be announced at a later date.

BUZZ-WORTHY STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Happy Grams!  Personal letters of congratulations have been sent to the following students this semester for outstanding personal and academic accomplishments:

Homero Alarcon  Karla Garcia  Kiran Randhawa
Grace Ambriz  Ruth Gonzalez  Cheyenne Savage
Dani Aranda  Raven Graves  Megan Seastrom
Nikki Aranda  Marissa Hernandez  Audrey Sprague
Kalen Brummett  Chase Holford  Tori Stockton
Ramiah Brown  Miley Ibarra  Celeanna Trice
K'Myah Carson  Lucero Juarez  Donicia Vasquez
Jessica Carrillo  Doris Laws  Luis Zuniga
Kate DeVries  Ali Longstreet  Hernan Zuniga
Micyal Davis  Emely Magana  Danielle Rivera
Paul Foster  Harley Roedel  Antonio Zapata

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- November 1, CAAP exam
- November 10, TRIO tutoring lab closes at 5 pm
- November 11, Veterans Day, no classes, no tutoring
- November 25, TRIO tutoring lab closes at 5 pm
- November 25, Thanksgiving vacation begins at 10 pm
- December 1, Classes resume, 8:00am
- December 5, Last day of classes
- December 8-12, Final examinations
- December 13, Commencement
- December 16, Final grades are due
**ICE CREAM SOCIAL/STUDENT ORIENTATION**

Students, tutors, and staff attended the annual Student Support Services Ice Cream Social/Student Orientation on Wednesday, September 9, 2014 in the TRIO Tutoring Lab. Staff served ice cream and other delectable sweets. Bingo was played and many prizes awarded!

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**OUTSTANDING PARTICIPANT**

Hi! My name is Micayla Davis, and I was born and raised in Emporia KS. I’m a sophomore, majoring in Accounting with a minor in History. In the little bit of free time I have, I enjoy listening to music, watching TV, and adding to my movie collection. So far, college has been what I was expecting. However, there are some aspects that are different. I feel that Student Support Services has helped me in my academics with tutoring and helping me with the selection of classes I need. Through tutoring I have definitely seen an improvement in my grades and comprehension.

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**FINANCIAL Q&A**

(Q) My interest rate is greater than I think my credit score deserves. Why might that be?

(A) Interest rates are based on 3 factors: the credit worthiness of the borrower, current rates in financial markets, and performance of lender’s total loan portfolio. Therefore, selecting a solid lender may also improve the interest rate offer.

(Q) Can I get my credit report for free?

(A) Yes. Each credit reporting agency (there are 3) must give you a free report once each calendar year.

(Q) What is one thing I can do to help my credit score and credit report the most?

(A) Pay all your bills — both your debt and regular expenses on time!
The goal of tutoring is to use the 16 weeks of the semester to help stay prepared for the class in which you are receiving tutoring and become an independent learner. In some cases, students are going to tutoring only the weeks before the tests or exams and are needing to “cram” information. Cramming information puts stress both on you and the tutor because you are trying to beat the clock.

Even if you have just taken an exam, go to your session and work on accomplishing one of the following:

- Look ahead at the next section to be covered.
- Start research on a paper that is due later in the semester.
- Check out other resources on campus such as the writing center, library and computer labs to become more familiar with services offered at ESU.
- Discuss a study plan and remaining projects for the semester.
$1,000 Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship

The Gen and Kelly Tanabe Scholarship is a merit-based program that helps students fulfill their dreams of a higher education. The scholarship is named for Gen and Kelly Tanabe, best-selling authors on education, whose generous donations fund this program.

**Requirements:**
- 9th-12th grade high school, college, or graduate student including adult students
- Legal resident of the U.S.
- Currently in school or planning to start school within the next 12 months

**Deadline: August 1 - December 31, 2014**

**Selection & Award:**
Winners are chosen by committee, which bases its decision primarily on the submitted personal statement. The first place award is a $1,000 scholarship. The award can be used for tuition, room and board, required fees or any educational expense.


**Elberta Harris Scholarship**

This scholarship is for incoming freshmen and continuing undergraduate students who have graduated from Johnson County, Kansas, high schools and are pursuing teaching degrees.

**Requirements:**
- Minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Application, essay, letters of recommendation, transcript

**Deadline : November 15, 2014**

**Award : $2000**
*Visit [http://www.emporia.edu/finaid/scholarships/#Elberta_Harris](http://www.emporia.edu/finaid/scholarships/#Elberta_Harris)*

**New Graduate Student Scholarship**

New graduate student with overall undergraduate GPA of 3.25 for the last 60 hours, who will be enrolling at Emporia State University for the first time beginning with the spring 2015 semester are eligible to apply.

**Requirements:**
- Application submission and two letters of recommendations
- Enroll in at least six graduate credit hours

**Deadline: November 14, 2014**

**Award: $500**

**State of Kansas Scholarships**

There are a number of scholarship programs through the Kansas Board of Regents. These include:
- Kansas State Scholarship
- Kansas Teacher Service Scholarship
- Kansas Nursing Service Scholarship
- Kansas Ethnic Minority Scholarship
- Kansas Military Scholarship

A number of other programs are also available, including some for graduate students. The Kansas Board of Regents website will provide additional information, including eligibility criteria and application deadlines.

*Visit [http://www.kansasregents.org/scholarships_and_grants](http://www.kansasregents.org/scholarships_and_grants) or call the ESU Office of Financial Aid at 620.341.5457.*