# STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES NEWSLETTER

# FALL 2024 - SPRING 2025 HIGHLIGHTS

## **NEW STUDENT ORIENTATION** RUST TECH AUDITORIUM | SEPTEMBER 17, 2024

TRIO SSS kicked off the academic year with a dynamic orientation to welcome new and returning students. Participants received program handbooks, writing materials, and information on key topics, including financial aid, test anxiety, and study skills. Engaging games and discussions helped students connect with peers and staff, setting a strong foundation for the year ahead.



**SMART COOKIE RALLY** MAIN CAFÉ | OCTOBER 10, 2024

**CULTURE & CAREER TOUR** 

OCTOBER 18, 2024 | LITTLE ROCK, AR

FIRST-GENERATION CELEBRATION CORBIN HALL | NOVEMBER 8, 2024

SPRING ORIENTATION - "SET THE TONE" VIRTUAL ZOOM | JANUARY 22, 2025

The Spring 2025 orientation, themed Set the Tone, encouraged students to start the semester with clear goals and positive energy. Using SMART goals, vision boards, and bingo challenges, students learned strategies to stay intentional about their academic and personal growth.

The TRIO SSS team met students on campus to share cookies, study tips, and midterm motivation. This creative outreach event promoted awareness of TRIO services and encouraged students to stay focused during exam season.

Students explored both professional and cultural sites, including the Water Reclamation Facilities, Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts, and Mosaic Templars Cultural Center. The tour blended environmental education, art appreciation, and African American history—offering a well-rounded day of discovery and inspiration.

TRIO SSS celebrated First-Generation College Student Day by honoring those who are the first in their families to attend college. Students shared their stories, posed for photos, and were featured on the TRIO SSS Instagram page to spotlight their resilience and success.

### FINANCIAL LITERACY WORKSHOP - "KEYS TO CREDIT" HENDERSON-YOUNG AUDITORIUM | FEBRUARY 6, 2025

Students explored personal finance fundamentals, focusing on credit scores, responsible borrowing, and real-life budgeting scenarios. Interactive worksheets made the session engaging, while participants gained essential tools for financial independence.







#### STUDY SKILLS WORKSHOP HENDERSON-YOUNG AUDITORIUM | FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Students tackled common academic challenges such as test anxiety, procrastination, and time management. Through interactive exercises and discussions, participants identified their learning styles and explored practical strategies for improving their study habits, as well as an introduction to using Al for academic success.







#### TRIO DAY 2025 AT UAPB

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff proudly hosted TRIO Day 2025 in the H.O. Clemmons HPER Arena, welcoming 243 attendees from programs across the state. Each participant received a TRIO Day T-shirt and swag bag to kick off the celebration.

The event opened with greetings from Dr. Kimberley Hunt, Dean of the School of Education, along with Mr. and Ms. UAPB. The energy soared during the Pep Rally, featuring the UAPB Pep Band, Golden Girls, Cheer Squad, and a spirited Rep Your School competition for the coveted Spirit Stick!

Dr. Branndii Peterson, AASAP President, recognized TRIO Hall of Famers and the Services Project before students joined engaging sessions on college mentoring, financial literacy, college readiness, civic engagement, and more.

After lunch, attendees explored academic programs during the UAPB Departmental College Fair, and the day wrapped up with a high-energy Divine Nine Step & Stroll.

### MATHEMATICS SQUID GAME MARCH 5, 2025

The TRIO SSS Mathematics Squid Game was a fun, competitive twist on learning! This interactive event featured a PowerPoint challenge filled with science and math problems. Students were tasked with solving and presenting their answers, sharpening their analytical and problem-solving skills. The game not only enhanced students' mathematical abilities but also created a lively, relaxing environment that encouraged teamwork and confidence in numbers.





## GRADUATE SCHOOL TOUR - DALLAS, TX MARCH 17-20, 2025

The University of Texas at Dallas graduate school tour was a roaring success! TRIO SSS traveled with students to Dallas, Texas, for an educational and informational adventure. Students visited the University of Texas at Dallas to explore graduate school opportunities, followed by tours of AT&T Stadium, the Dallas Cowboys' home stadium, the Ripley's Believe It or Not! Museum, and the Holocaust Museum, which enhanced their historical, cultural, and scientific perspectives.

#### **CLOSING REMARKS**

TRIO SSS continues to foster academic success, cultural enrichment, and personal growth among students. As we look ahead, we remain committed to supporting our scholars through every step of their educational journey.

