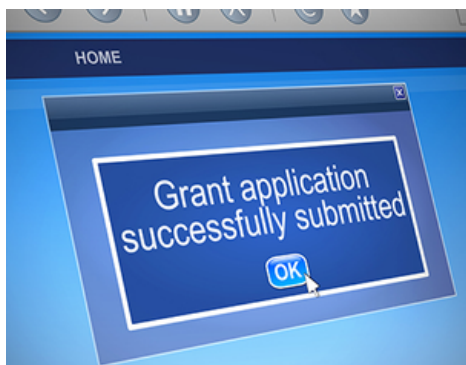


SEPTEMBER 2024 | @AUGSBURGTRIOSSS | 612-330-1311



First and foremost...

Welcome (back)! We've had a few changes in the TRIO/SSS office within the last year. There's been some shifting of roles as well as a new face on our team. To catch everyone up to date, Kevin Cheatham accepted the role of Director for the TRIO/SSS Program in January. Xia Xiong-Vang accepted the role of Assistant Director & Summer Bridge Coordinator in March and because of the shift in these roles, TRIO/SSS hired Rin Heise (she/her) as Academic Advisor and the newest member of the team. Rin started her new role as Academic Advisor on June 24, the first day of the 2024 Summer Bridge Program. We are excited to have Rin join our team and looking forward to the 2024-2025 academic year with a full team again. Please stop by the office to meet Rin and introduce yourself.



TRIO/SSS Grant Submitted

TRIO Student Support Services Programs are federally funded through the U.S. Department of Education and grants are awarded every five years. Augsburg's current funding award is from 2020-2025, which means we are finishing our final year of the current grant cycle. Kevin Cheatham, Director of Augsburg TRIO/SSS worked on the grant proposal tirelessly since taking on the role of program director in January. The grant proposal included data collection from the program and the institution to show how TRIO funds have helped support the success of first-generation, low-income students and students with a documented disability at Augsburg.

The Federal Register posted the TRIO/SSS Request for Proposal notice on May 1, 2024 with a due date of July 15, 2024. The quick turnaround date for proposal submission had Kevin focused on writing the best grant possible. Although it was an intense process, the TRIO/SSS grant was submitted in mid-July. Thanks to the writing team: Kevin Cheatham, Tina Maria Tavera, John Anderson, Katy Hahn and Kelsey Richardson Blackwell and all those who were there in support, especially SFS and the Provost's Office. We'll know about 2025-2030 funding on/before June 30, 2025.



Welcome Rin Heise

New TRIO/SSS Academic Advisor

Rin Heise (she/her) is the newest member of the TRIO/SSS team at Augsburg. Originally from Brainerd, MN, Rin has a BA in Psychology and Spanish from Hamline University and an Ed.M. from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. Rin is experienced in career assessment administration, academic advising, financial literacy education, and program management. She is passionate about higher education access and success and has had over four years of experience supporting students in those contexts. In her free time she enjoys spending time with family and friends, trying out new food spots, and tending to her (many) houseplants. We asked Rin some Q & A to get to know her better (read next page for the answers).

VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR UPCOMING WORKSHOPS & EVENTS



Welcome Rin Heise

What is your educational and professional background prior to Augsburg?

I graduated from Brainerd High School and Central Lakes College with an Associate of Arts, then Hamline University with a BA in Psychology and Spanish, and finally the Harvard Graduate School of Education with a Masters of Education in Higher Education. I was in a lot of different student leadership roles at Hamline, then after graduating I did two years of AmeriCorps service with College Possible. In graduate school, I worked for a K-12 education nonprofit and the Harvard Dean of Students Office. After grad school I worked at MIT, the University of Minnesota Morris, and the University of Minnesota Twin Cities before landing at Augsburg.

What attracted you to the Academic Advisor position with Augsburg TRIO/SSS?

I worked with TRIO/SSS students at College Possible and at the University of Minnesota Morris, so I'm familiar with the program and think it's fantastic! I enjoy solving problems alongside students in order to uncover the best path for them toward their academic, career, and personal goals. I believe the path to success isn't linear, and I like showing students the possibilities available to them and supporting them where they are at.

You started the first day of the 2024 Summer Bridge Program, how was that experience?

I related to the students a lot because I was experiencing a lot of firsts alongside them! It was so exciting to meet my teammates and the students as we all started the Bridge program together. It was cool to learn about Bridge right away because it's such an impactful experience that encapsulates what TRIO/SSS can do with/for students.

What were your first impressions of Augsburg's TRIO/SSS Program? Augsburg University?

The TRIO/SSS Program is nothing without its students and staff. My first impression of TRIO/SSS students was shaped by their determination, curiosity, and self-advocacy. They are so friendly and so accomplished! And my first impressions of the TRIO/SSS team is that they are as present for one another as they are for our students. Similarly, Augsburg wouldn't exist without its people. My first impression of Auggies in general is that they're kind, humble, and welcoming. So overall, great first impressions all around!

What are you looking forward to this academic year?

I'm looking forward to learning as much as humanly possible to be the best resource I can be for my students! I love learning and I love doing this work! I'm also looking forward to experiencing the seasons of Augsburg and the rhythm of campus life.

What are some professional goals you have for this academic year?

One of my goals is to engage in continuous learning as I get more familiar with my role and Augsburg. A second goal I have is to develop programming and resources around money topics for students (budgets, credit, investing, etc.). And last, though not least, I want to continue learning about dis/ability topics and center accessibility in my work.

Anything you're nervous about?

I think I'm nervous about normal "new kid" stuff. Like, finding my way around campus and learning how things work, etc. But I have a great feeling about this upcoming year and I know everything works out in the end, so I'm not letting it get the best of me!

What do you enjoy doing for fun?

I love going for walks as it's a great way to explore the city. I read/listen to audiobooks often and do a lot of different art/craft things like embroidery, poetry, painting, and drawing. I also like to play video games and watch shows with friends/family.

Something interesting about you?

I have two pet ferrets. I've had them since they were kits and they're four years old now. Their names are Pip and Pop and I will gladly show photos of them to anyone who asks (or even if no one asks lol).

What is something on your bucket list?

When I was younger I wanted to visit every country in the world (I'm up to seven so far). Now I would be happy with visiting every continent as that seems more realistic. My next dream destination is Japan.

Anything else you'd like to share?

I'm always open to book/food/game recommendations! I love geeking out with people about things they care about 😊

Summer Bridge 2024

This summer, we completed our 23rd Summer Bridge Program! We welcomed 20 incoming first-year students who participated in an intensive 4-week (historically 5-week) residential and community building program. Students had the opportunity to get a head start on their Augsburg experience by taking two college courses, totaling 6 credits, for free. In COM 111: Introduction to Public Speaking, students learned speaking skills along with research skills and presented individual and group speeches. COM 1111 was paired with TRI 101: Navigating the Hidden Curriculum of Higher Education, which focused on helping students transition from high school to Augsburg by exploring topics such as campus resources, time management & study skills as well as setting goals. Students also learned financial literacy skills and tools to be confident in their academic success.



Thank you to the following campus partners for all your support in making the TRIO/SSS Summer Bridge Program possible. Without you, we could not run a successful Bridge Program.



SUMMER BRIDGE PEER MENTORS

(from left: Hai Gay Soe '26, Grit Her '27 & Naw Blu '27)

A huge thank you to our amazing Summer Bridge Peer Mentors. They were the “dream team” and did an awesome job welcoming their peers to campus. They were organized, responsible, and we had A LOT of fun working together. We couldn’t have done Summer Bridge without them!

We are always looking for potential Summer Bridge Mentors to join us each summer. Make sure to inquire about the position if interested.



Student Financial Services
Strommen Center for Meaningful Work
Campus Ministry
The Dean's Office
Residence Life
Multicultural Life
Center for Global Education & Experience
The President's Office
The CLASS Office
Campus Life
Undergraduate Admissions
Sabo Center
Lindell Library Staff
Communications Department
Department of Public Safety
University Events
University Dining Services
Center for Wellness & Counseling



Event/ Workshop Schedule

Fall 2024

September

New Student Orientation

This is required for all new TRIO/SSS participants! Learn more about TRIO/SSS and how to get the most out of the program. Snacks provided.

Wednesday, September 4th @ 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm - Marshall Room

Thursday, September 5th @ 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm - Marshall Room

Friday, September 6th @ 8:00 am to 9:00 am - Marshall Room

MLife Welcome Back Social

Drop by and meet students, student leaders, and the MLife team. There will be food and games available!

Thursday, Sept. 5th @ 4:30pm-6:00pm- Hagfors 150

TRIO/SSS Welcome Back Open House/Plus Academic Station

Visit the TRIO/SSS lounge to meet your fellow program participants and staff. Plus, get a mini consultation on your overall wellbeing to set yourself up for success in the new semester. Goodie bags provided while supplies last!

Friday, September 6th @ 1:00-3:00pm

Location: TRIO/SSS Lounge

College Survival

Learn essential skills for being successful in college.

Tuesday, September 10th @ 4pm-6pm

Collaborations: Academic Advising (Yee Ba Lee) and MLife

Location: TBD

Study Abroad Fair

Students can learn about all of their study abroad options, meet some of the faculty leaders, and enter to win a raffle!

Wednesday, September 11th @ 10am-2pm

Location: The Quad

Second Year Launch

Second-Year Launch is a required event for all undergraduate students who started as first-years in fall 2023 or spring 2024. Students who attend will work on creating a cohesive personal brand that aligns with their career goals and industry expectations, including preparing students for upcoming career fairs and enhancing students' appeal to recruiters by showcasing their relevant skills.

Students must register through Navigate with the instructions provided to them by Friday, September 6.

September 17th @ 6pm - 8pm

Location: Various locations across campus

Gilman Writing Workshop

Learn how to submit a successful Gilman Scholarship to prepare for your study abroad experience.

September 18th @ 6pm

Location: Marshall Room

*Connect with Study Abroad on volunteering

Oyate Annual Retreat (workshop)

Engage in building a stronger community! Learn more about your fellow student org leaders and pick up valuable skills on this overnight retreat at Camp True Friends.

September 20th-22nd

Location: Camp True Friends, Annandale, Minnesota

Register with QR code



CWC Wellness Retreat – Open to All Students

The retreat is designed for students who are interested in developing a deeper understanding of themselves through exploration, reflection, learning, and engaging with others and the natural world. The program features individual and group outdoor activities. The Retreat is FREE to Augsburg students(transportation to and from Camp Friendship, meals, and shared lodging) and all students are invited to [apply](#) using the QR Code below:

When: September 27th - 29th

Location: Camp True Friends, in Annandale, MN

Note: There will be one pre-trip meeting prior to departure.



October

Campus Career Fair

Meet potential employers to learn more about available jobs and internships.

October 1st & 2nd @ 2pm-5pm- Hagfors Atrium

What's Your Career Interest Profile?

What is your ideal career based on your personality? How do your interests align with your dream job? Find out in this interactive workshop! Snacks provided.

Tuesday October 1st @ 3:45 pm-4:45 pm - Marshall Room

Wednesday October 2nd @ 3:30 pm- 4:45 pm - Marshall Room

Cup of Calm: A Self-Care Workshop

Join TRIO/SSS as we peacefully explore self-care methods to boost your wellbeing and success. Crafts and mindfulness activities will be available to try. Snacks provided.

October 9th @ 3:45-4:45pm

Location: OGC 200

Do You Know How to Vote?

Are you involved in the democratic process of voting? Did you know it's an election year? Make sure your voice is heard. Come register to vote and learn where and when you can vote this November. This event is co-sponsored with MLife.

Tuesday, October 29th @ 3:45-4:45 pm

Wednesday, October 30th @ 3:30-4:30pm

Election on November 5th, 2024

Location: TBD

November

Budget for Black Friday

Black Friday is coming up; is your bank account ready? Come to this workshop to learn/refresh some financial health strategies to keep your money situation on point. Snacks provided.

Tuesday, November 26th @ 11:20 am-12:30 pm & 3:45 pm -4:45 pm

Location: Marshall Room

First-generation celebration: November 4th-8th

Celebrate the first-generation community all week! Various activities and events that honor the stories and accomplishments of first-generation college students will take place during the week leading up to First Gen Day on Friday, November 8th.

Location: Various location around campus

December

End of Semester Celebration/ Closing Out Station

Let's get together to close out the semester! Enjoy snacks, treats, and time with TRIO SSS friends. You will also receive a checklist of important things to be completed before you leave campus or before you return for next semester.

Friday, December 6th @ 1:00-3:00pm

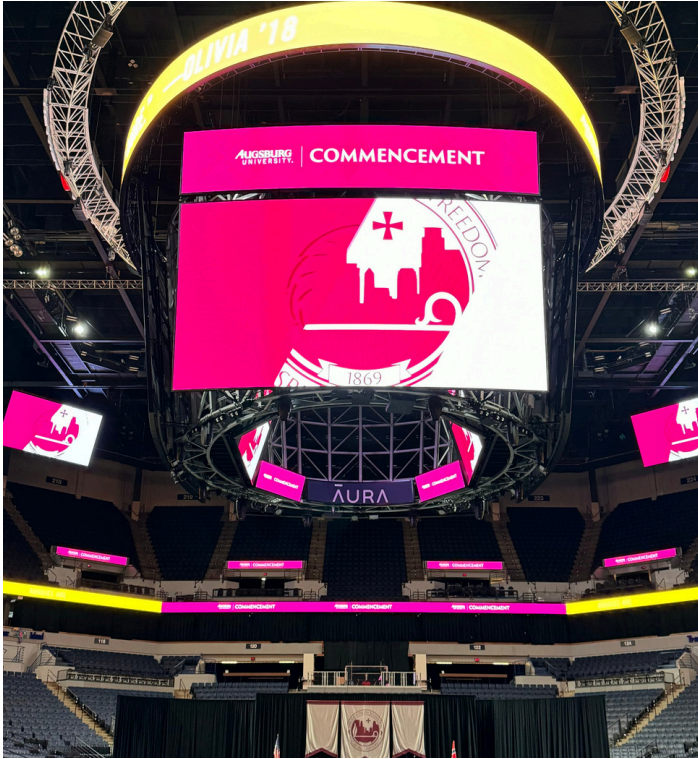
Location: TRIO/SSS Lounge

Scan the QR code to register for the events!



TRIO/SSS students are required to attend at least 2 workshops/events each semester to remain an active participant of the program.

Congratulations 2024 Graduates



Congratulations 2024 Graduates



Congratulations 2024 Graduates



Contact Us

The TRIO Student Support Services (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. Augsburg's TRIO/SSS was first awarded in 2001 and funded by the U.S. Department of Education and Augsburg University. TRIO/SSS Provides individual and group services to 160 students annually. TRIO/SSS advisors provide comprehensive planning and support to program participants in academic, financial, and personal areas as students progress toward graduation. All Augsburg TRIO/SSS services are provided at no cost to program participants. Students participate in the program throughout their enrollment at Augsburg. TRIO/SSS also selects up to 25 incoming first-year eligible students to participate in its Summer Bridge program.



From left: Kevin, Xia, Magaly, Melizza & Rin

Kevin Cheatham- Director
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Xia Xiong-Vang- Assistant Director
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Magaly Ortiz Arend- Academic Advisor
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Rin Heise- Academic Advisor
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Melizza Rodriguez- Program Assistant
rodrig@augsborg.edu

The TRIO/SSS Office is open Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm. We're located in the Lindell Library on the second floor, Suite 201. TRIO/SSS Advisors are available to meet in person and via zoom. Schedule an appointment via Navigate.

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