Happy New Year SSS students! We have exciting changes as SSS participants will continue to receive great resources and receive even more as a part of the new office of Student Access & Educational Equity (SAEE). Stayed tuned to the changes as SSS will also be searching for a new Director and revamping services.

Cindy Yeung returns to coordinate the SSS Peer Mentor Program & facilitate the academic coaching modules on time management & stress management. First and second year students may request individual appointments with her to work on study skills. Office hours: M 1:30-4:30pm; T, F 10-4pm; W 9-12pm

Catherine Ramirez is our field placement intern. She will be working on creating workshops on transitional issues for students who will soon graduate. Upperclassmen may request appointments to discuss graduation & career planning. Office hours: T, 5-9pm; Th, 12-5pm

Ingrid Vasquez returns to SSS to facilitate part 2 of the time management & stress management modules. She earned a Masters degree in Social Work from RU. Office hours: W, 5:30-9:00pm

Laura Callejas has been a writing tutor for SSS since 2010. She is now a PhD candidate here at RU, and our first writing coach! We welcome her as she conducts the new Write -2- Succeed module. Office hours: Th, 1-3pm

SSS IS ON FACEBOOK!!
Get notified of the latest SSS announcements right on your newsfeed!
facebook.com/sssrutgers

ACCESS WEEK IS COMING SOON!
In recognition of National Trio Day and the creation of the new office of Student Access & Educational Equity, our team developed a week of interactive programs, activities, and a very special guest speaker. More details to come. Week of February 17 through February 22, 2014.
### ACADEMIC COACHING MODULES

#### TIME MANAGEMENT, Pt 1

**INTRO & THEORY**
Managing time is one of the biggest challenges college students face. In this 4-week module students will improve their ability to organize and use time effectively by focusing on 5 steps to successful time management. **Please note:** If you have already participated in the module before, you cannot sign up again.

**OPTION ONE**  
DATES: 1/27-2/17  
Mondays, 5:00-6:20pm  
**OPTION TWO**  
DATES: 1/31-2/21  
Fridays, 12:00-1:20pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Cindy Yeung with any questions at scy11@echo.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 20 Grant Aid Points!

#### STRESS MANAGEMENT, Pt 1

**INTRO & THEORY**
Do you know anyone who isn't at times stressed out these days? Don't wait until stress has a negative impact on your health, relationships, academic demands, and your overall quality of life. With practice, you can learn to manage your stress level and increase your ability to cope with life's challenges. Don't delay, sign-up today! **Please note:** If you have already participated in the module before, you cannot sign up again.

**OPTION ONE**  
DATES: 3/31-4/28  
Mondays, 6:40-8pm  
**OPTION TWO**  
DATES: 4/1-4/29  
Tuesdays, 1:40-3:00pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Cindy Yeung with any questions at scy11@echo.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 20 Grant Aid Points!

#### EFFECTIVE READING STRATEGIES

Are you having trouble focusing on or recalling what you read for class? Reading Strategies will help you meet this challenge and teach you the reading methods and habits of effective readers.

**DATES:** 2/4-2/25  
Tuesdays, 3:15-4:45pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Lucille Lu with any questions at llu@echo.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 20 Grant Aid Points!

#### TIME MANAGEMENT, Pt 2

**APPLICATION**
Apply your time management skills to new and complex situations. This module will focus on applying strategies you've already learned in Part I in order to help balance your academic, social and work life.

**OPTION ONE**  
DATES: 1/29-2/12  
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm  
**OPTION TWO**  
1/29-2/12  
Wednesdays, 7:40-9:00pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Ingrid Vasquez with any questions at iv18@echo.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 15 Grant Aid Points!

#### STRESS MANAGEMENT, Pt 2

**APPLICATION**
Apply your knowledge of stress management techniques by actually participating in yoga, breathing and mindfulness stress reduction sessions. Come ready to participate and reduce your stress!

**OPTION ONE**  
DATES 2/26-3/12  
Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30pm  
**OPTION TWO**  
DATES 2/26-3/12  
Wednesdays, 7:40-9:00pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Ingrid Vasquez with any questions at iv18@echo.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 10 Grant Aid Points!

#### WRITE - SUCCEED

A new program for SSS, W2S is for students taking Basic Composition or Expository Writing courses. It is a 3 week structured program that provides students with the inside information and tools needed to succeed in their writing class. This is a mandatory sign-up for those interested in writing tutoring this semester.

Option 1:Th, 2/6-2/20 3:20-4:40pm  
Option 2: F, 2/27-3/21 1:40-3:00pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Laura Callejas with any questions at callejas@eden.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 20 Grant Aid Points!

#### PEER SUPPORT GROUP

The Peer Support Group is a space for 1st Generation students to connect with others about the challenges of being true to yourself while learning to navigate the system of higher education.

**OPTION ONE**  
DATES 2/4-2/25  
Tuesdays, 6:30-8:00pm  
**OPTION TWO**  
DATES 4/3-4/24  
Thursdays, 5:00-6:30pm  
Location: LSH A324

Please contact Jesenia Cadena with any questions at jcadena@echo.rutgers.edu  
Earn Up To 20 Grant Aid Points!
Avoid Common Errors for Dependent Students:

Mistakes can delay your application and impact the amount of aid you are eligible to receive. To avoid errors, carefully read all of the questions on the FAFSA and file on or before the **March 15, 2014 priority filing deadline**.

Some of the most common FAFSA errors are:

- Listing an incorrect Social Security Number or driver’s license number FOR student and or parents: Double-check and triple-check these entries to ensure accuracy.
- Failing to use your legal name: Your name must be listed on your FAFSA as it appears on your Social Security card.
- Reporting an incorrect address.
- Entering the wrong federal income tax paid amount: This amount is on your income tax return forms, not your W-2 form(s). If you haven’t filed your taxes, you can estimate this amount using previous tax year information; however once the tax return is filed, you are required to correct the amounts later by returning on line to the FAFSA and using the IRS TAX RETURN DATA RETRIVAL OPTION.
- Listing Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) as equal to total income from working: AGI and total income from working are not necessarily the same. In most cases, the AGI is larger than the total income from working.
- Listing Taxes withheld as Taxes paid.
- Listing Taxes paid equal to adjusted gross income.
- Incorrectly filing income taxes as head of household: If there is an error in the head of household filing status, the school will need an amended tax return to be filed with the IRS to verify and determine your eligibility for financial aid.
- Listing parent marital status incorrectly: If your custodial parent has remarried, you’ll need the stepparent’s information as well.
- Forgetting to complete the New Jersey state questions.
- Forgetting to provide and electronic signature, be sure to obtain your and parent PIN from www.pin.ed.gov.
- Not clicking the “submit” button to complete the FAFSA process.
- HESAA (state aid) Follow-up
- If you do not complete the STATE questions from the FAFSA you must visit the following website www.hesaa.org

Click on student & parent, stroll down to Report Additional Information For State Aid and log in or create a user ID and password.

**Remember to monitor your email and postal mail for any HESAA follow up for information or documentation.**

Rutgers University Office of Financial Aid:

Monitor the website www.studentaid.rutgers.edu and your university e-mail account daily for updates and notifications.

Avoid Common Errors for Independent Students:

Mistakes can delay your application and impact the amount of aid you are eligible to receive. To avoid errors, carefully read all of the questions on the FAFSA and file on or before the **March 15, 2014 priority filing deadline**.

Some of the most common FAFSA errors are:

- Listing an incorrect Social Security Number or driver’s license number: Double-check and triple-check these entries to ensure accuracy.
- Failing to use your legal name: Your name must be listed on your FAFSA as it appears on your Social Security card.
- Reporting an incorrect address or one you cannot receive mail at.
- Entering the wrong federal income tax paid amount: This amount is on your income tax return forms, not your W-2 form(s). If you haven’t filed your taxes, you can estimate this amount using previous tax year information; however once the tax return is filed, you are required to correct the amounts later by returning on line to the FAFSA and using the IRS TAX RETURN DATA RETRIVAL OPTION.
- Listing Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) as equal to total income from working: AGI and total income from working are not necessarily the same. In most cases, the AGI is larger than the total income from working.
- Listing Taxes withheld as Taxes paid.

### UPCOMING WORKSHOPS

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EOF sponsored
136 SSS students achieved Dean’s List in the Fall of 2013. Great job!

2008 cohort
Candice Gibbons

2009 cohort
Havia Carballo
Gary Bogle
Gurpreet Singh
Ivan Garcia
John Borja
Juliana Acheampong
Khadiza Hussain
Latifah Sunkett
Leury Pena
Lindsey Greene
Poley Cheng
Roger Thai
Sarah Lee
Saurav Khosla
Shenia Rapley
Thomas Young
Vanessa Simans
Yasmeen Bradley

2010 cohort
Ahmed Tahmid
Andrew Fisher
Barha Manzoor
Carla Volpe
Catherine Cordova
Claudia Aguilar
Dakota Cintron
Daniela Jaramillo
Diane Lee
Disha Shah
Elania Cha
Elizabeth Monaghan
Ferdi Abedineski
Franchesca Jimenez
Frantz Haurissaint
Giorgi Chinchaladze
Gurneet Sangha
Harriet Odoi
Isabel Garavino
Jason Yang
Jeannpaul Isaacs
Jennifer Keefer
Karandeep Singh
Karim Singleton
Kathleen Cruz
Katie Soler
Kenya Graham
Kevin Dahaghi
Keri Newallo
Laura Muriel
Lismarie Acevedo
Ludine Daux
Margaret Frimpong
Nakicha Vellard

Nick Rivera-Arden
Patricia Guerrero
Paula Abbruzzese
Phu Huynh
Rafelina Contreras
Rawan Badreldeen
Reginald Gaines
Sally Nogueira
Samantha Baglan
Samantha Martin
Shanee Grant
Stephanie Horos
Steven Phillips
Tahjere Williams
Tamika Baldwin
Tony Nguyen
Virginia Cabrera
Yesenia Infante
Ytzayrys Ojeda
2011 cohort
Anthony Covington
Aya Sakar
Christina Trinh
Erik Malich
Fatima Zouhier
Gabriella Asiedu
Genesis Canuall
Ivan Dominguez
Jawerya Mohammad
Jordanna Oliveira
Jose Guillon
Katelyn Readpe
Kathy Umanzor
Lamayta Dennis
Maria Hernandez
Marly Martinez
Oumou Keita
Shaenice McKenzie
Shanequa Evans
Solangel Troncoso
Tahmina Sultana
Valeria Montoya
Veronica Vargas
Victor Hernandez
Vincent Bradley

2012 cohort
Anastasia Groce
Anatoly Doubrovny
Arcadia Papalkski
Camilo Torres
Christian Marin
Christos Bardis
Dhruv Patel
Ismelha Gomez
Issayana Munoz
Jadysia Durant
Jessica DelaCruz
Kamaris Gatby
Kuldip Patel
Li-Ching Sheng
Linda Anyaduba
Marie Callahan
Mark Said
Michael Gutierrez
Morgan Taylor
Mouna Jaouad
Saira Khan
Sharon Aguirre
Sneha Lakhani
Victor Gatica

2013 cohort
Algashiyah Ward-Reid
Andrew Kennedy
Brionna Kimpson-Harris
Heidy Ramirez
Irene Foster
Jessica Hernandez
Jose Corporan
Joshua Tedesco
Maria Martinez
Matthew Grimando
Meet Desai
Naomi Rosario
Seth Cooper
Sonia Begum
GRANT AID INFORMATION

This year SSS will award 40 grants to the students that earned the most points during the academic year.

To be eligible for the SSS Grant Aid Award, all SSS participants must meet the following criteria:

- Student must be a current, matriculating Rutgers University student.
- Student must be in good standing with SSS and the University.
- SSS participant must be receiving a Federal Pell Grant for the current academic year.
- Student must have 53 or fewer credits by the beginning of the most recent Fall term (September 1st).

Applications Open on Monday 3/31/14, and applications close by Friday 5/16/14 at 11:59pm.

SSS SPRING TUTORING

Tutoring is conducted during scheduled, one-on-one, weekly sessions. Tutoring is available Monday through Sunday on the Douglass, Livingston, Busch and College Avenue campuses. Register by logging in online.
Sign up day: Thursday, January 30, 9:00am.
First day of tutoring: Monday, February 3.

Each tutoring session will earn you 1 point towards the Grant Aid competition. Questions? Please e-mail sstutor@echo.rutgers.edu

See our website for further details at http://sss.rutgers.edu

PEER MENTORING PROGRAM

With this personal peer connection, first-year students can “beat the odds” of navigating university life by connecting with an upperclassmen Peer Mentor, who can pass on invaluable resources, academic and personal skills. Interested in becoming a Peer Mentee? Contact Cindy Yeung at scy11@echo.rutgers.edu for details about monthly mentoring gatherings.

ACCESS WEEK COMING SOON!!

In March 2013, the Office of Student Access and Educational Equity (SAEE) was created to combine programs that serve first generation, low-income and underrepresented students. The new administrative unit (which is largely comprised of EOF and TRiO programs which were “born” out of civil rights legislation--the United States of the Higher Education Act of 1965) was charged with creating an effective educational pipeline of this population in line with federal and state objectives of these landmark programs.

In keeping with the spirit and intent of the legislation, on February 28, 1986, the United States Congress designated a day upon which the nation annually reflects on the needs and struggles of disadvantaged youth and adults who aspire to improve their lives. On the third Saturday in February, National TRiO Day, named after the federal TRiO programs is observed around the country. In recognition of this annual day of appreciation and in recognition of the creation of the new office of Student Access & Educational Equity, our team developed a week of interactive programs, activities, and a very special guest speaker for our students that are serviced by the units in SAEE. More details to come.

ACCESS week is from 2/17 through 2/22.