

# *Looking Ahead at TRIO in Alaska*



In an effort to expand TRIO services in Alaska, UAA and UAF will submit the following TRIO proposals in the 2016-2017 competitions:



UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

- 3 Upward Bound Classic (new grants)



UNIVERSITY OF  
ALASKA  
FAIRBANKS

- 1 Upward Bound Classic (continuing grant)
- 2 Upward Bound Math/Science and
- 1 McNair (new grants)

# TRIO Upward Bound

**Project Director:** Dr. John Monahan

**Contact phone number:** 907-474-5685

**Email:** jmonahan@alaska.edu

**Program Website:**

sites.google.com/a/alaska.edu/uaf-upward-bound

**Students served in 2016:** 177 (funded to serve 160)

**Low-income and first-generation students served:** 142 of 177

80%



## Program Overview

The UAF Upward Bound project has identified 10 rural schools from 6 school districts to take part in the program with 15 to 20 students participating from each for a total of 160+ students served. The project has been at UAF since 1967, making it the oldest high school academic enrichment program in Alaska.

The project includes an academic year program, and two six-week residential summer programs called UB Classic (for freshman, sophomores and juniors), and Pathway-2-College Bridge (for seniors only). The academic year program is held at the target schools and facilitated by a local teacher, including study and tutorial sessions and interactive video sessions with topics such as career exploration and financial aid planning. The summer residence programs will bring a total of 50 participants to the UAF Fairbanks campus for six-week core academic classes in math, reading, writing, and additional coursework in science and foreign language.

**i** UAF's Upward Bound (UB) program is federally funded to serve 160 high school students annually.

## By the Numbers

Percent of participants in the 2016 cohort who graduated with a high school diploma

88%

*State of Alaska comparison: 76%*

*Graduation rate for Alaska Native students: 55%*

Percent of participants in the 2016 cohort who completed a rigorous course of study

61%

Percent of participants in the 2016 cohort with a GPA above a 2.5

80%

Percent of 2016 cohort that completed FAFSA

74%

Percent of 2016 cohort that enrolled in postsecondary education

55%

*(84% of the college cohort enrolled in postsecondary institutions within Alaska)*

*Alaska's statewide postsecondary enrollment: 46%*

## UAF's Upward Bound Program supports ten rural Alaska communities:

- Akiachak
- Bethel
- Chefornak
- Chevak
- Nikiski
- Seward
- Shishmaref
- St. Mary's
- Togiak
- Wrangell

## Student Success Story

### Esau Sinnok | UAF Upward Bound participant 2012-2016



Esau Sinnok wants to accomplish two very big goals. His first goal is to affect political and commerce policies and practices which contribute to climate change. His second goal is to be Governor of Alaska by 2030. He is currently pursuing a bachelor's degree at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and holds two part time jobs while he attends classes. This past October he was the recipient of the "2016 Denny Wilcher Award for Young Environmental Activists" because of his leadership role and concern for the environment. Last spring Esau was one of ten people selected by the White House as a "Champion of Change for Climate Equity". He met with President Obama in Yellowstone National Park this past summer to receive his award and to be recognized as an emerging young leader.



# TRIO Student Support Services

**Project Director:** Ginny Redmond

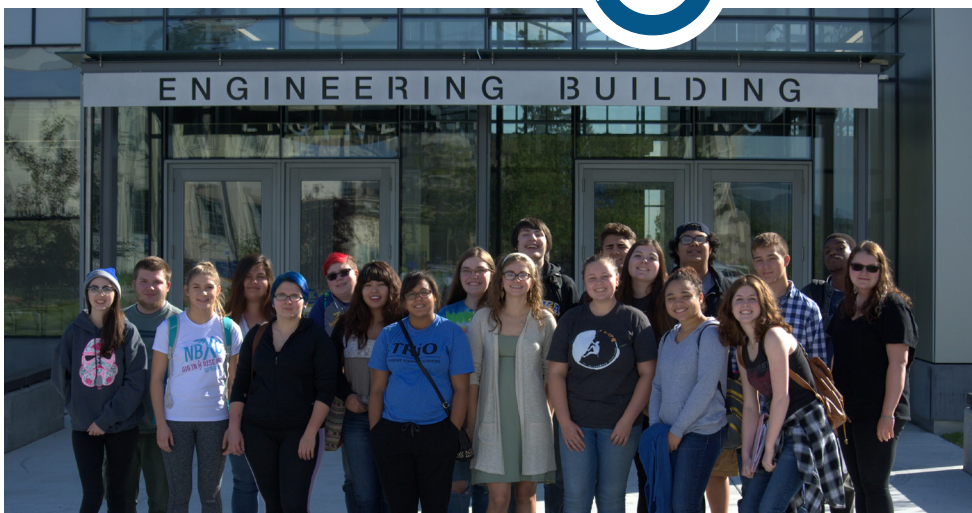
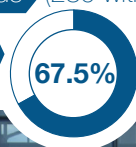
**Contact phone number:** 907-474-6844

**Email:** ginny.r@alaska.edu

**Program Website:** www.uaf.edu/ss

**Students served in 2016:** 160 through TRIO funds (280 with additional state funds)

**Low-income and first-generation students or students with disabilities served:** 108



## Program Overview

Student Support Services (SSS) provides high-quality advising, tutoring, financial and economic literacy, and access to resources and mentoring to bachelor's degree seeking students at UAF. The program has been funded four times and is in the second year of a five year grant cycle. This fall will be the fourth year of Emerging Scholars Academy, a summer bridge program to aid with the transition to college for eligible, incoming UAF freshmen. Through some unique partnerships with UAF's College of Liberal Arts, SSS is able to offer students two free courses throughout the academic year.



UAF's Student Support Services (SSS) program is federally funded to serve 160 current college students annually. With support from the state of Alaska, UAF receives additional funding to extend services to a total of 280 students. At UAF, there are over 2,000 students on campus who qualify for SSS but only 14% are currently being served.

## Grant Objective

## Actual Outcome

78% of all participants served by the SSS project will persist from one academic year to the beginning of the next academic year or graduate with a bachelor's degree during the academic year

**89%** exceeded objective

82% of all enrolled participants served by the SSS project will meet the performance level required to stay in good academic standing at the grantee institution

**97%** exceeded objective

26% of 2010-11 new participants served will graduate with a bachelor's degree or equivalent within six (6) years

**44%** exceeded objective

## Student Success Story

### Lacey Brewster

*UAF Student Support Services 2009-2013*



Lacey Brewster graduated magna cum laude as a University Honors Scholar in 2013 with a BS in Psychology. She joined SSS in 2009 when she began attending UAF and used almost every SSS service offered throughout her four years. Lacey was a first-generation, limited income student but really found her place at UAF. She was accepted to the honors program, served as president of the Psi-Chi Psychology Honors Society, was Executive Director of membership relations in SIFE (Students in Free Enterprise), served as a UAF Student Ambassador and holds a membership in the Golden Key International Honors Society. In the community, Lacey served as a board member for Joel's Place: Skate Park and Youth Center. After graduation, Lacey attended the University of Cincinnati College

of Law where she was a fellow in the school's Glen M. Weaver Institute for Law and Psychiatry. In her last year of law school, she became the first law student to win a jury trial in the history the school's Indigent Defense clinic. After graduating in 2016, Lacey accepted a position as an Assistant Public Defender with the Alaska Public Defender Agency where she is currently working. She plans to continue with the same agency in Kodiak in the near future.

## TRIO Student Support Services

**Project Director:** Kelly Foran

**Contact phone number:** 907-786-1378

**Email:** kforan@alaska.edu

**Program Website:** [uaa.alaska.edu/students/trio-programs/student-support-services](http://uaa.alaska.edu/students/trio-programs/student-support-services)

**Students served in 2016:** 161 (funded to serve 160)

**Low-income and first-generation students or students with disabilities served:** 131



### Program Overview

The mission of UAA Student Support Services (SSS) is to improve the efficiency with which first-generation and moderate income students transition through the UAA academic pipeline towards degree completion. SSS demonstrates UAA's commitment to improve rates of student retention by providing academic support services that include tutoring, skill development workshops, mentoring, and advising.

### SSS Services

- Transition support through the Summer Bridge program
- Guidance 150 course for SSS participants (3 credits)
- Mentoring and leadership opportunities
- Assistance with degree planning, academic mapping and test preparation
- Community/campus cultural events and community service
- Financial aid assistance
- Skill development workshops
- Tutorial assistance through Smarthinking Online tutoring, individualized tutoring, and referral to campus/departmental tutoring
- Graduate school support

**i** UAA's TRIO Student Support Services (SSS) program is federally funded to serve 160 students annually. All participants are either low-income and/or first generation college students or students who experience a disability.

### Grant Objective

### Actual Outcome

75% of all participants served by the SSS project will persist from one academic year to the beginning of the next academic year or graduate with a bachelor's degree during the academic year

**87%** exceeded objective

70% of all enrolled participants served by the SSS project will meet the performance level required to stay in good academic standing at the grantee institution

**81%** exceeded objective

## Student Success Story

### Ana Tatafu

*Educational Talent Search (ETS) and Student Support Services (SSS)*

➤ ETS (West Anchorage High School): 2009-2011 ➤ SSS (UAA): 2011-2017



Ana Tatafu is a current senior at UAA graduating in Spring 2017 with a bachelor's degree in accounting. Ana is an alumna of TRIO Educational Talent at West Anchorage High School and is a current participant within TRIO Student Support Services. After emigrating from American Samoa to Alaska, Ana took advantage of the educational opportunities that were presented to her through TRIO. She later transitioned to UAA and began taking classes in the field of accounting after finding inspiration from a high school teacher. After getting a few semesters under her belt, Ana decided to fulfil her commitment to the Church of Latter-day Saints by completing a mission trip in Utah, where she

primarily worked within the Spanish speaking community. Eventually, she returned to college and applied for the prestigious Gilman scholarship and was selected to study abroad in Mexico! Ana also became involved in the College of Business and Public Policy's Leadership Fellows Program, the Multicultural Center, New Student Orientation and student organizations related to Spanish and accounting. Now Ana is in her final semester at UAA and is hoping to stay in Alaska after graduation. Although Ana had to independently navigate the college process, she said that TRIO provided her a sense of family that gave her the confidence to persevere and be a part of the first generation in her family to complete a degree.

(Photo by Philip Hall / University of Alaska Anchorage)



