Whew…… We have once again made it to the end of the spring semester and the summer beckons us once again. This year has been an eventful and exciting one as we have been moving and grooving since the end of last year. First off, our offices have seen a change of scenery as we moved from the Robert Scott Small Bldg. to the Lightsey Center, where we received a warm reception from long-time residents like Denny Ciganovic (who presented us with a “key” to Lightsey) and Joan Miller-Calvary (who allows ROAR to use their refrigerator, thanks!). In doing so, we gained a “student friendly” working space that cultivated a positive growth in our program as we finally met our goal of 140 students. We started our first class of “College Success,” a.k.a. Academic Bootcamp, students and linked up with the Upward Bound program during their summer sessions to provide some support. This fall our “Advocacy in Action” program brought keynote speaker Jeff Johnson, political activist & MSNBC contributor, to campus to speak on the importance of advocacy in society and even more importantly for students at colleges and universities. His speech lit fire to those that attended and has led to a reinvigoration of efforts that once seemed forgotten. The ROAR Scholars Program also started our “World Dish” cultural exposure this year with help from our peer mentor Shanell Ransom. This program started in the spring semester as a way for students to gain some understanding about cultures other than their own through a medium we all love, food. Thanks to funding from ORGA we were able to offer approximately ten students the chance to dine and learn about the culture of four different countries through cuisine, something that Charleston is well noted for. However, as we finish finals and gear up for summer orientation, I must say that our program will truly miss the first class of ROAR Scholars and Mentors who have matriculated since last fall. They have assisted greatly in the setup and implementation of the program as it has grown to a successful TRiO SSS outfit here at the College of Charleston. Again, thank you and good luck in the future!
Summer Interns

The summer is quickly approaching and the need for a ROAR Scholars Intern is eminent. Our office will be searching to employ a student worker for the position. If your major or career path would greatly gain from experience working with a student support program or non-profit please apply. The intern will assist with office work, program scheduling, meeting and greeting during orientation, and planning of the summer staff retreat. If you see this as an opportunity that would suit you please visit our website which will have information and links to the employment site.

http://roarscholars.cofc.edu

GPA Spotlight

Each Newsletter we highlight the Academic achievement of our students. These GPA’s are from the end of the spring semester.

3.0 – 3.49:
- Tiffany Alexander
- Latara Armstrong
- Felicia Bethea
- Paul Bradley Jr.
- Jamila Brown
- Tomika Caldwell
- Tasheera Cooper
- Matthew Corder
- Andrea DeLeon
- Alyson Elrod-Bloom
- Ivana Ford
- Janice Garrett
- Andrey Gause
- Kola George
- Darshonda Guess
- Oanh Huynh
- Tavaris Jones
- Charnel Kennedy
- Oxana Kibitkina
- Courtney Lawrence
- Shaenna Lambert
- Brittnee Leysen
- Carmen Mercer
- Jessica Parker
- Manale Patel
- Suraj Patel
- Swati Patel
- Roysean Philson
- Terry Ridges
- Uniqa Roberson
- Shaquandra Simpson
- Clay Seim
- Jordan Smith
- Kassandra Solano
- Keontri Talps
- Lauren Tapia
- Haley Thomas
- Raven Timmons
- Priscilla White
- Michelle Wimbish
- Jamie Wright

3.5 – 4.0
- Kirti Advani
- Kristen Barbour
- Anna Helm
- Alicia Houser
- Jorge Jaramillo
- Carissa Jenkins
- Lisa Roney
- Natalie Simmons
- Joseph Tan
- Louis Terry
- Regan West
- Kacie Woolridge

Always There (Support Award):
These students have been there whenever and wherever we needed them. They offered much necessary support for workshops and on or off campus events and have been greatly appreciated for their support of the ROAR Scholars.

Bryana Evans & Craig Coaxum
Thank You!!!
From ROAR Scholars Staff

Peer Mentor of the Year:
Shanell Ransom

Hometown: Columbia, SC
Major: Sociology

As a senior peer mentor she mentored nine lovely students who are successfully on their way to degree completion. She plans to continue saving the world one life at a time.

“Go abroad and learn to cook!” - SLR

ROAR Scholar of the Year:
Paul Bradley, Jr.

Hometown: Cross, SC
Major: Political Science

Congratulations to our ROAR Scholar of the Year, Paul Bradley, for an active and successful four years at the College of Charleston! We wish him well as he enters grad school and prepares for the real world.

“I am who I am, I be who I be.” – PBJ
TRiO Day / Career Panel

On Saturday April 13, 2013, eight College of Charleston ROAR Scholars and Program Director, Tom Holcomb Jr., traveled to Charlotte, North Carolina with other TRiO colleagues from Trident Technical College – Student Support Services Programs and Veterans Upward Bound. They attended the first annual TRiO collaboration trip to build TRiO unity and also bring awareness to cultures in the professional sports world about our group of students.

This event began as collaboration between various TRiO programs around the state to support the mission of networking and giving TRiO students an opportunity to go to a professional basketball game, network, and speak with a panel of professional athletes and pro sports management regarding how they got started in their career fields. The tour included a career panel, dinner and representing their schools at the event for the professional basketball game: Charlotte Bobcats vs. Milwaukee Bucks.


ExCEL Awards

On March 27, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. in the Sottile Theatre, the College of Charleston hosted the 8th annual ExCEL Awards sponsored by the President’s Office, Provost’s Office and The Division of Student Affairs. Awards honoring faculty, staff, students, community groups, and/or individuals for promoting excellence and diversity at the College of Charleston were presented. Nominations highlighted excellence in academic achievement, teaching, student learning/leadership, athleticism, individual contributions to the campus community, and/or professional, social and cultural leadership.

The evening was hosted by Susan Hallatt. As always, Susan never ceased to amaze because she was comical and hilarious. We had the honor of listening to some outstanding cultural performances as well:

The following ROAR Scholars students, staff and advocates were nominated for awards; Paul Bradley Jr., Alicia Houser, Lauren Balltrip, Tom Holcomb Jr., Anne McNeal and Denny Ciganovic.

The big winners of the evening were: Diversity Service of the Year Award (Student) – Paul Bradley Jr., Diversity Service of the Year Award (Staff) – Denny Ciganovic, and Demetria N. Clemons Distinguished Mentor Award – Anne McNeal, Director of Student Retention.

Thank you to the entire ExCEL awards committee; Ernest Brevard Jr., Takeshia Brown, Jeri O. Cabot, Anita Gadsden, Chris Gilliard, Susan Hallatt, Susan Hartman, Rochelle Johnson, Laura Lageman, David Michener, Deni Mitchell, and Teresa Smith, Chair and Director, Office of Multicultural Student Programs and Services, for your tireless support of diversity and inclusiveness here at the College of Charleston and in the greater Charleston community.
Awards Banquet

This year the ROAR Scholars Program held its 2nd annual awards banquet to honor our students, staff, and mentors for their commitment and hard work each semester to their academics and the ROAR Scholars Program. The staff and the student workers organize this event for the office, and we go all out for the students at this final event of the year. As always, we had a great menu for the banquet and the food was delicious. I would like to thank Aramark who did an excellent job with the catering and service. In keeping with tradition, a slide show of all of the accomplishments and accolades received by our students during the academic year was also on display during the banquet. We would like to give special thanks to our Counselor Bretticca Moody, who compiled the slideshow. This year, our speaker, former TRiO student Marla Cochran (Business Affairs) delivered the keynote address to students about the importance of TRiO SSS programs. This was definitely a treat, as she told her own witty and unique story of the obstacles that she faced entering college, and how not taking advantages of opportunities from TRiO programs created a tougher path for her. Her speech was a warning for those students who may take for granted the offerings of SSS programs whose sole purpose is to serve the students. Overall, the banquet turned out to be a great program for our students and staff. Thanks to all that joined us!
Let Me Hear You ROAR

Graduating Seniors
(Roar Scholars & Peer Mentors)

Congratulations to our seniors, this is the second class of students to graduate as a ROAR Scholar from CoFC. The message I leave is a famous quote from Calvin Coolidge, “Approach all your goals with determination and persistence... Nothing in the world can take the place of persistence. Talent will not; nothing is more common than unsuccessful men with talent. Genius will not; unrewarded genius is almost a proverb. Education will not; the world is full of educated derelicts. Persistence and determination alone are omnipotent.” As seniors, as you all begin to reflect back on the last four to five years, you are reminded of the friends you have made, the memories made along your journey and life lessons that you may take away from belonging to Cougar Nation at the College of Charleston. Embrace every moment, learn something new every day and help one person. This is truly the gift of knowledge so pass the torch of truth on. “Remember a small group of individuals does have the power to change the world, then again that is the only thing that ever has.” – Margaret Mead

Graduating ROAR Scholars:

Paul Bradley Jr., May 2013
Andrea DeLeon, May 2013
Nicole Fortune, May 2013
Marion Lake, May 2013
Angel Mack, May 2013
Manale Patel, May 2013
Swati Patel, May 2013
Terry Ridges, May 2013
Priscillia White, May 2013

Graduating Peer Mentors:

Lauren Balltrip, May 2013
Aline Dick, May 2013
Rico Orr, May 2013
Shanell Ransom, May 2013
Terry Ridges, May 2013
Sukhpreet “Vic” Singh, May 2013
Priscillia White, May 2013

We are really proud of all of you. Thank you for your time, patience, and invaluable support of helping us complete the second full academic school year of the ROAR Scholars Program. The future is so bright and full of possibilities. The dreams and successes of all of our graduating seniors will reside within our hearts for years to come. We’ll see you in a few years for an alumni follow-up and please keep us posted of your success stories, developments and goals in your near future. Remember the ROAR Scholars Program is a family and we want to know what’s happening in your life!

Tom Holcomb Jr., MS
Program Director
**Summer Tips and Plans**

1. Apply for scholarships
2. Read a book
3. Get a job
4. Participate in recreation
5. Work in an internship
6. Start a Blog (or write on ours - ROAR Blog)
7. Volunteer
8. Join a community group
9. Try a new video game
10. Learn an instrument
11. Get a head start on your fall classes
12. Set up systems for success for the new year
13. Take an online class
14. Build a personal website
15. Try a new kind of food or restaurant.
16. Experiment in the kitchen/Learn to cook
17. Go to a museum
18. Go through your old stuff and donate what you don’t use or need
19. Go to a play
20. Go to a film festival
21. Go to a concert
22. Clean up your e-life
23. Host your own Iron Chef competition.
24. Head to an amusement park

**Scholarships**

- **Graduate Programs Foundation**
  - Varies
- **Trailblazer Scholarship**
  - May 10
- **Animal Cruelty is Wrong Scholarship**
  - May 14
- **"I'm First Scholarship"**
  - May 24
- **Collegiate Inventors Competition**
  - June 14
- **Delete Cyberbullying Scholarship Award**
  - June 30
- **My Mentor Was Me Video Challenge**
  - July 31
- **"From Failure to Promise" Essay Contest**
  - July 31
- **3rd GotScholarship: $40K Give Away**
  - September 30
- **Hayek Fund for Future Scholars**
  - Varies

More Information and Scholarships can be found at fastweb.com

**Check us out online!!!**

Riddle Me This:
What stays inside no matter how much you put it out?

Answer will be in the next issue of the newsletter.

The previous riddle:
“What gets wetter and wetter the more it dries?”

Answer:
A towel