Final Spring Issue: Thank You for a Fantastic Year!

In our last newsletter for this school year, we want to thank you! It has been our privilege to help you! We are humbled that when you needed help navigating through an obstacle, you chose let us lend a hand! Likewise, we are honored that when you achieved success, you allowed us to celebrate with you.

We have all learned a lot over the course of this year, and we are excited for the well-deserved break that is right around the corner. Side note: it is not here yet, so don’t become complacent this last week!

We also want you to know that we will be here all summer. If you need any help during the long break, we are only a phone call or email away!

Be sure to enjoy yourself this summer. But also be mindful of all you have learned. Keep putting that information to use! The more you can keep such information fresh and relevant, the easier it will be for you to remember when you come back in the fall.

Again, thank you for a fantastic year! Good luck this last week and during finals! Have a great summer break! We will be eagerly awaiting your return in August!

Sincerely,

Illinois College TRiO Staff

Last Workshop!: Navigating the Internship Process

Learn from someone who has recently gone through the process! Current IC student intern, Mariah Davidson, will impart her intern-wisdom tomorrow, Tuesday, May 1st, at 4:30, in Kirby 108.
Mariah Davidson: Navigating the Ups and Downs of Internships

It is my fourth and final year here at IC, and it’s hard to believe I have completed four internships. I didn’t even begin interning until after my junior year. I have definitely experienced ups and downs while interning and found some internships were a better fit for me than others. However, I gained invaluable work experience from every one.

My first internship was through the IC Explorer’s Program. I was a historical interpreter at Lincoln’s New Salem Historic Site. It was probably the most unique of my internships—I lived everyday as if I were living in the 1830’s. It was a fun and unique experience. Most of my other internships involved business and marketing roles that I specifically targeted to fit my own personal interests and career goals.

Both the ups and downs taught me a lot about myself. Interning is truly a great experience that is practical and useful for a future career, graduate school (or even college courses since you can also receive credit for them). I highly encourage everyone to apply for an internship, maybe in a field you’re interested in, think you might want to try out, or even one not directly related to your career goals—you might surprise yourself!

Anna Booher: Research Writing Sessions Helped Me to Earn an A

I hope you had a happy World Book and Copyright Day! I sure did! I got my research paper back with an A-grade that day. I know that this A-paper would not have been achieved without the help of Librarian Brittney Thomas and Academic Counselor Jason Stalides at the Research Writing Help Session.

Brittney offered some great information on websites to use when making citations and also went through our sources with us individually to make sure we were citing them correctly. Jason constructed intricate handouts on comma rules, transitions, how to write a thesis, and overall structuring of a research paper.

When I write research papers, they at first feel unfocused and overwhelming. With so many sources and topics to discuss in a big research paper, a six to twenty page project can come out looking cluttered and ambiguous. But by having great friends in the TRiO Program, I was able to tap into the knowledge base of fantastic mentors and receive good advice, which helped me to focus my thesis and figure out what I really wanted to say. Plus, I won a free copy of one of the most interesting and beautiful books I’ve ever read—*The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak!

Research Writing Help Sessions: Be Sure to Attend One of the Last TWO!

Stop by anytime during the available hours listed below for help with any research or writing assignment! Plus, it counts as either TRiO Workshop or Tutor Credit!

- **Tuesday, May 1st**: 9-11 a.m. in the Baxter 102 computer lab
- **Tuesday, May 1st**: 4-6 p.m. in the Baxter 102 computer lab