



Spring 2021, Issue 3

STUDENT SUCCESS SPOTLIGHT NEWSLETTER

Peer Leadership Team

Issue 3 Editor: Tehilla Seuraj



FOUNDER'S VISION



Dear Terriers,

This newsletter is for YOU! In the Spring of 2020, the Student Success Spotlight Series was created to help students feel connected, heard, and involved with one another in our SFC Community. As a Peer Leader, I took my goal to find my voice and do it with purpose by beginning this newsletter.

Now more than ever, as we continue to face COVID 19, we can still be united. Each new issue, of each new semester, will take on a different approach, however, the newsletter will always be a vehicle for our connection and a symbol of our unity as Terriers. Through this project, we have learned that there is power and inspiration in sharing our stories as students and as humans.

I hope you enjoy reading this newsletter as much as I have enjoyed creating this newsletter for you.

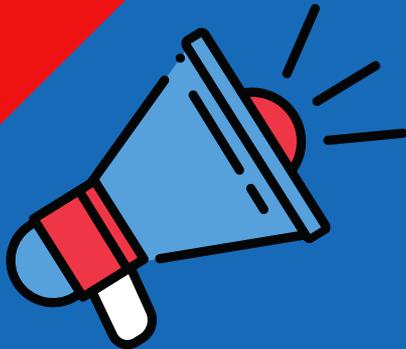
-Jennifer Riddo, Class of '21

INSPIRED

STUDENTS

INSPIRE

STUDENTS



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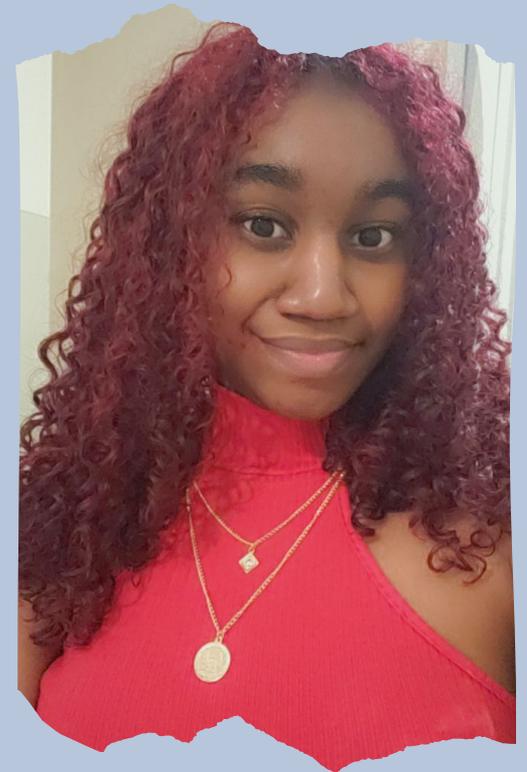
DEAR TERRIERS,

Last Fall, this newsletter focused on a glimpse into the incoming Terriers, however, this Spring join us as we embody and embrace your identity, diversity, and inclusiveness. The motto of this issue is 'Inspired Students Inspires Students.'

This newsletter signifies how connected and united we are as Terriers and our unique journeys to achieve success. It also showcases student voices and their activism. Let's zoom into the reality of 'Student Success' together.

Can Student Success be truly defined? Stay tuned to hear what our fellow notable Terriers have to say. This newsletter will feature students from these groups:

- *Project Access
- *Post Traditional
- *Honors Program
- *Tutoring
- *Peer Leadership Program
- *Athletics
- *CSTEP
- *Driven by Dreams



TEHILLA SEURAJ
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HONOR STUDENT



"Being happy and content with who you are is true success to me." Melissa entered into St. Francis as an introverted, timid and scared individual, however, as she progressed semester after semester, she became humbled and satisfied with where she is in life. The Honors program offered her an opportunity to learn, discuss, escape, become independent, face challenges and most importantly, hold herself accountable. During this pandemic, staying involved and attending club meetings has helped her feel connected to St. Francis.

Advice:

"Get involved the moment you start college. It can be overwhelming at times, however, college is more than attending classes."

MELISSA GONZALEZ
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Future Neonatal Nurse
Practitioner/Nurse Midwife



DRIVEN BY DREAMS

"I want to be seen and heard. Success is choosing when it's okay, doing the things you want to do and taking care of yourself." Travina entered into St. Francis comparing herself to others and having to juggle work and school. Now, she feels advanced and determined after learning from her mistakes in her very first semester. The Driven by Dreams program gave her an opportunity to network, connect with others, feel welcomed and opened a door for her to learn and speak up. She made the most of her college experience thus far by embracing herself, the characteristics she embodies and the thing she love most, connecting with others.

Advice:

"Get a head start by starting everything early and on time. Set yourself up for success."



TRAVINA QUAMINA
(tquamina@sfc.edu)



Future Pediatrician
with a specialty in Radiology/
Emergency Medicine.



CSTEP STUDENT

"True success is living a life where you're physically and spiritually content. I want to experience and learn as much as I can." Nina entered into St. Francis trying to meet perfection, however, now she is committed and prioritizes. "School is not the only way of learning," she said, "Read books!" The CSTEP program served as a safe haven to her. It provided her with a community that consists of different cultures and backgrounds, as well as, internships and studying opportunities.

Advice:

"Just do what you have to do. It may be hard, but do it. Don't beat yourself up for failing. It is a life lesson."



NINA PLUVIOSE
(npluviose@sfc.edu)



Future Psychologist



STUDENT ATHLETE



"Education provides you with a purpose, so, success is having a purpose and being happy with it." Ridwan entered into St. Francis as a reserved individual, however, as he progressed and got more involved, he transitioned into an energetic individual who was more open minded and flexible. Being a student athlete means being prepared, organized and detail oriented. Ridwan is staying connected to St. Francis by continuing to attend events and do things he won't usually do.

Advice:

"Get to know and reach out to everyone including faculty. Appreciate our diversity."



RIDWAN HANNAN
(rhannanesfc.edu)



Future Strategist at an
Information and Analytics
Company

PROJECT ACCESS STUDENT

"Some days are bad days, however, success is being proud of what you've accomplished even on those bad days." Manuel entered into St. Francis being afraid, however, now he's excited to continue on his journey and stay in contact to connected with everyone. Project Access contributed to his success. The support, internship opportunities, valuable reminders and daily check-ins, allowed him to thrive. Even though we're in a global pandemic, Manuel has made it his mission to connect with role models and take all the opportunities that is offered to him.

Advice:

"Do things that will help you in your future. Network, connect and take every opportunity given."



MANUEL DIEZ-TERAN
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Future Finance and Accounting
profession



STUDENT TUTOR



"Success is being happy with everything that you're doing, and acknowledging that you have been successful." Karime entered into St. Francis being open-minded to the opportunity but also worried and solely focused on classes. As the semesters progressed, she matured in terms of her confidence and open-mindedness, as well as, involvement. As a student tutor she serves as a comforter, support, resource and means by which she relays advice. It's all about building relationships. She is getting through this pandemic by being as involved as she can at St. Francis.

Advice:

"Getting involved is important. Don't push yourself, prioritize yourself."

KARIME RINCON
(krincon@sfc.edu)



Future Neuropsychologist



PEER LEADER

"Success represents strength. Not everyone sees the obstacles and the trials that you been through to get there. It shows how strong you are as an individual, not physically but mentally." Tamika entered into St. Francis as a puppy, lost and still trying to figure out life; However, now she is a Chihuahua, she may be tiny but she is bold and has a voice, she makes her presence known. To her, being a Peer Leader means to be human. "You are put into a lot of uncomfortable situations that will challenge you as an individual, however, it enables you to grow." To stay connected to St. Francis, Tamika intentionally joined several leadership roles.

Advice:

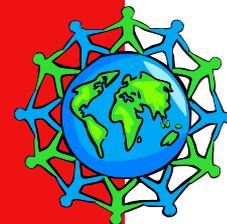
"Keep setting goals. College will only get harder and it is easy to get lost. Have something to work towards to keep you grounded and motivated"



TAMIKA SEURAJ
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Future Family Medicine
Doctor



POST TRADITIONAL STUDENT

"Success means being comfortable in my own skin and being who I am." Leslie entered into college not valuing her intelligence, lived experiences and worth, however, now she does.

According to Leslie, "College is a rollercoaster!" One minute you're satisfied and the next you're befuddled.

She has made several achievements from a 4.0 GPA to being president of an honor society. she has been through it all and now, she is on a journey to make strides for the Post Traditional Students like herself, and leave a piece of her everywhere. Leslie has made the most of her college experience by taking in everything. Like she said, "If it's there, I'll be a part of it."

Advice:

"You have to suffer a little bit along the way, it's a part of the process. Just pick yourself back up and do it again."



LESLIE MENDEZ
(lmendezesfc.edu)



Future RN and Midwife



See you in the Fall for Issue #4 of the Student Success Spotlight Newsletter!



Success is an ongoing journey and
looks different for everyone.

-Tehilla Seuraj, Peer Leader & 21SP Editor



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