

## **'Stay Focused' UNM-Gallup Leadership Conference**

Written by Marilee Petranovich  
Friday, 28 June 2019 06:56

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### **TRIO students learn skills for their futures**

Students from the UNM-Gallup TRIO programs attended the Martin Luther King Jr. 2019 Youth Leadership Conference June 7 – June 9 in Albuquerque.

The Fifth Annual Youth Leadership Conference was sponsored by the Martin Luther King Jr. State Commission. The theme of the conference was *Stay Focused* and it provided students

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with opportunities to learn success strategies to use in educational advancement and in their personal lives.

TRIO Student Support Services Director Kimimila Simms, who accompanied this year’s students, said, “The students learned about college prep, team building, positive policing and financial literacy.” They also had the opportunity to meet two Lobo basketball players.

Students who are participants in the TRIO Lobo Academy summer bridge program, TRIO Student Support Services, and TRIO Upward Bound were immersed in workshops and activities intended to prepare them to successfully navigate college.

TRIO programs fund initiatives at college campuses to promote postsecondary education and provide specialized services to assist qualifying students in achieving access and resources for college completion.

UNM-Gallup has both TRIO Upward Bound programs and TRIO Student Support Services.

The Upward Bound initiative provides services to high school students to help them prepare for high school graduation and college entrance. Programs are offered during the summer and throughout the school year to high school students to increase the rate at which students complete high school and enroll in post-secondary institutions.

The Student Support Services program works with incoming and existing college students to increase opportunities for college completion. Students are provided personalized advising, academic tutoring, and individualized counseling along a spectrum of services.

For more information about TRIO programs visit <https://gallup.unm.edu/trio/>, or [mpetrano@unm.edu](mailto:mpetrano@unm.edu) (505) 863-7770

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