

Title III Grant Project

Troy University Montgomery



P. U. S. H

PERSIST UNTIL SOMETHING HAPPENS

"If you don't have a personal code of ethics take the time to develop one and start living by it. Begin by writing down words such as integrity, excellence, honor, and courage and then define what those words mean to you. You can also expand your code to apply to your family and business. Once you are finished, create a document or a screen saver on your phone or computer that you can look at every day to serve as a reminder of what you believe in."

Dr. Julian Thomas

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A Note from the Title III Project Director

We are making great strides toward success with the Title III Project. The new Center for Student Success space is coming together nicely with brand new workstations for students and staff. The environment of the new space is designed to allow for collaboration, study sessions, workstations, meetings, and students to lounge during class breaks. The hope is to have the Center for Student Success staff moved into the new space by March 2022.



On September 30, 2021, we ended our first year of the grant cycle. An external evaluation of the project was completed and shows us on a pathway to success. A few recommendations were made through the evaluation to promote the new Center for Student Success and its services, improve the Title III website to have more information available to all, and professional development for Title III staff. We are working diligently to take these recommendations and continually improve the project.

I am excited for all that is to come over the next year! The Title III Project Staff and the CSS Staff are working together to bring new resources to students and to provide a place for success. I would like to thank Mr. Matthew Mayotte and the entire Center for Student Success for their hard work and dedication to Troy University Montgomery and the Title III Project.

Best,
Bre Gentry

*Title III Project
Montgomery Campus
“Strengthening Institutions Project”
Year One Summary
October 1, 2020 – September 30, 2021
“Creating a Central Environment of Support for Student Success”*

A Note from the Title III Project Director:

Upon the beginning of my adventure as the Title III Project Director at Troy University Montgomery Campus, Dr. Sharon Everhardt had overseen the implementation of the project in the beginning months of the first grant year. Due to budget revisions needing to be completed, much of the work was put on hold, as well as waiting for the arrival of the new Title III Project Director. Overall, we made great progress in the first year of the grant. There were some challenges along the way but we were able to find solutions to keep us on track for success. I am looking forward to all that is to come with the Title III Project and the positive impacts that this project will have on Troy University.

Best,

Bre Gentry

Successes:

- 1. Renovations began in early 2021 on the 3rd floor of Rosa Parks Museum and by Summer of 2021, the walls were painted and new carpet installed.**
- 2. The Title III Project Director (Bre Gentry-began March 8, 2021) and the Title III Project Coordinator (Danyal Jones-began April 1, 2021) were hired in Spring 2021.**
- 3. The Title III Project Manual was developed and implemented to allow for success with managing the project.**
- 4. A part-time Student Intervention Coach was hired in Summer 2021.**
- 5. Budget revisions were completed and approved by the U.S. Department of Education.**
- 6. The Center for Student Success advisors and retention personnel attended the NACADA Virtual Regional Conference in Spring 2021.**
- 7. The five Title III Grant Committees were established in May 2021 to aid in the success of the project. (Grant Planning Committee, Advising Committee, Care Teams Committee, Financial Literacy Advisory Committee, and the Workforce Development Committee)**
- 8. Two NACADA Consultants virtually evaluated advising at Troy University.**
- 9. Mrs. Kay Floyd completed the first external evaluation of the Title III Project.**

Challenges:

- 1. Longer lead times on many orders including technology (computers and laptops), workstation pieces, and contracting work. This has pushed our completion time back for moving the CSS staff to the new CSS space.**
- 2. There was difficulty obtaining all paperwork needed from Office of Sponsored Programs to have the Title III Project Director changed from Dr. Sharon Everhardt to Mrs. Bre Gentry.**
- 3. The newly hired part-time Student Intervention Coach resigned from her position. This caused us to be without a mental health counselor and re-post the position for a new hire.**
- 4. The Title III Project Director found a large discrepancy in the budget for personnel benefits. It showed a shortage every year of the grant. This was resolved by modifying the budget.**
- 5. The Troy Purchasing Department required the Title III Project to be bid for the contracting work. This caused a delay in obtaining contractors and beginning work. A few months later, the Title III Project Director was notified that there was a mistake and this project did not have to be bid out. This caused loss of funds in advertising and loss of time to complete renovations.**
- 6. Due to the bidding process and obtaining updated quotes, the costs of renovation work was higher than originally budgeted.**
- 7. Due to the small amount of work needed in the renovated area, it was difficult to find contractors.**

External Evaluation:

Kay Floyd Consulting Group conducted the external evaluation of the project for year one of the grant cycle. Overall, the evaluation showed the Title III Project on a path toward success. The Troy University Title III Project was given five recommendations from Kay Floyd Consulting Group through the external evaluation report.

- 1. Develop a plan to promote the Center for Student Success.**
- 2. Design/administer a Center for Student Success satisfaction survey and analyze data/usage.**
- 3. Communicate project information, available resources, and successes.**
- 4. Monitor implementation of NACADA Report Recommendations.**
- 5. Build capacity for successful project management.**

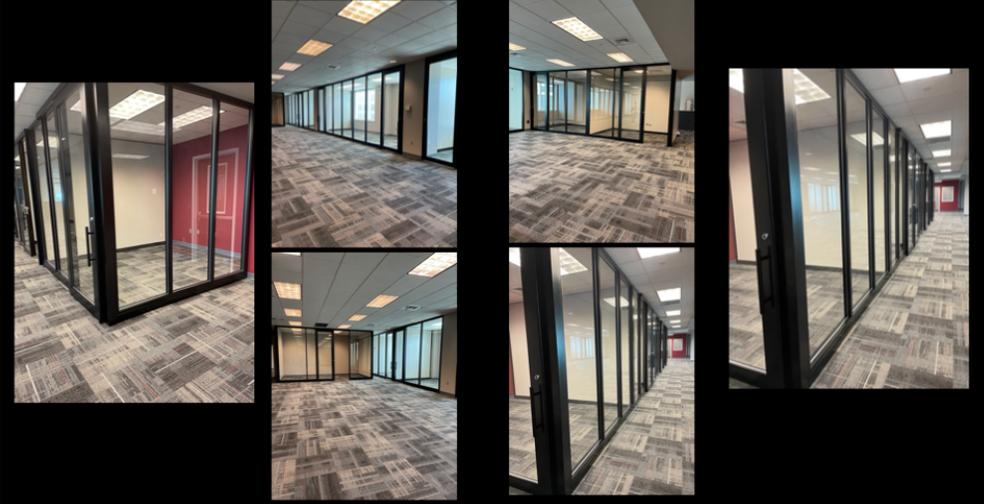
“Throughout the first year of the grant, Troy-Montgomery has demonstrated the ability to assess challenges and identify opportunities to move the project forward” (Kay Floyd Consulting Group External Report, p. 14).

Renovation Progress

Fourth Stage – K.I. Walls Being Installed (Offices and Flex Spaces)



Fifth Stage – K.I. Walls Installed (Offices and Flex Spaces)



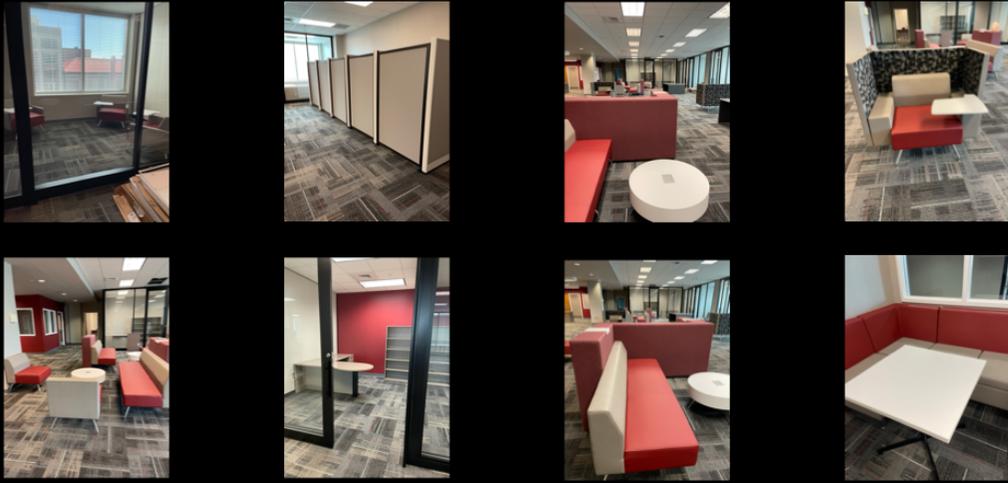
Sixth Stage – Workstation Pieces Delivered



Seventh Stage – Workstation Installation



**Eighth Stage – Workstations Installed
(We still have a few more pieces coming soon)**



**Student Workstations – Center of the New Space
(We still have a few more pieces coming soon)**



Staff Workstations



Other Workstations



Staff Breakroom



Flex Space (Small Meeting Room)



Flex Space (Study Room or Small Meeting Room)



Conference Room

ADA Testing Area



A Look Ahead....

Over the next year

- Testing Center Renovations
- Implement Care Teams Program
- Implement a Peer Tutoring Program
- Establish Data Tracking for All New and Current Programs
- Offer Professional Development Opportunities to All Troy Advisors
- Promote the Center for Student Success and It's Resources
- Hiring Tutors & Student Intervention Coach
- Complete Installation of All CSS Workstations
- Implement an Internship and Mentorship Program
- Implement a Financial Literacy Program



Help Us Spread the Word....

We're Hiring

Troy University is currently accepting applications for a
English/Writing Tutor and a Math/Science Tutor
Apply at troyuniversityjobs.com

Upcoming Project Events

Hot Cocoa & Tacky Sweater Contest- December 7th

Blanket Drive- December 1st-10th



TROY UNIVERSITY MONTGOMERY

**Hot Cocoa
&
Tacky Christmas
Sweater Contest**

Faculty, staff and students, join us for a cup of hot cocoa and wear your tacky Christmas sweater!

**December 7, 2021
10-11 am
Whitley Hall Lobby**

Winner of the Tacky Christmas Sweater Contest will be announced Dec. 12th

Sponsored by Title III Project Staff



Title III Project
Blanket Drive
Help Someone Stay Warm
This Winter
Donate blankets, winter items &
ring pull tab can goods



**December 1st-10th
Whitley Hall Lobby**

Donations are also collected in Whitley Hall 521