This summer welcomed a new group of Upward Bound students to participate in the college experience. Upward Bound offers a six-week summer academy program on the IPFW campus. The Academy provides an educationally enriching residential program, which introduces students from our high schools to the university environment while preparing them academically for institutions of higher learning. The major goal of the Academy is to enable our students to successfully live in two worlds: their own, with its rich cultural heritage, and the other world of college life.

Students who successfully complete the program with a C+ or better in each class will earn one unit of high school elective credit, which can be used at their respective high schools toward graduation requirements. Some of our rising juniors as well as our seniors will even receive college credit if they chose to take a Communications class this summer.

This year we provided classes in: Government, Communications, Language Arts, Math, Science, Foreign Languages, and various other elective courses.
IUPUI hosted its 1st annual Girls in STEM Conference. The conference provided information about the STEM professions from remarkable women currently working in STEM. The workshops that our students were able to attend gave insight about the various options that STEM has to offer. From Civil Engineering, cosmetology, Information technology, and Science, these are just a few examples of the many possibilities within STEM.

IPFW Hosts Olympiad
State-wide sporting and academic event hosted by IPFW TRIO Upward Bound.

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Pre-Professional
Summer Internship opportunities for eight UB Students.

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Etiquette Dinner
Holiday Inn houses UB students in proper etiquette techniques and fine dining.

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Girls from all over the United States were housed at IUPUI for the last weekend in May, learning about various careers, and meeting new people that are interested in pursuing the STEM field.

The first day started with a campus tour, and prominent guest speakers that shared their words of wisdom about their personal journeys. Then we ended the night with a student mixer pajama party.

On Saturday, our students enjoyed various activities that included concurrent sessions that highlighted the different experiences such as building with robots, creating art with maggots, and learning about 3D printing.

Saturday night held a night of fashion. The fashion show gave our participants a chance to let their hair down and have fun after their day full of learning.

The conference was a complete success. Students were able to meet many women who excel in their fields and give a face to a career field that will soon cater to many more women in the future.

The conference was created to provide exposure, opportunity, and inspiration to girls who are interested in the STEM fields to provide access to educational opportunities.

The objective of the conference was to foster girls’ interest in and enthusiasm for STEM careers by providing equity access to STEM degree plans and information.

Those students who attended the conference all had an average GPA of a 3.64. It is the hope that those girls that attended will eventually translate into greater representation of female faculty in STEM disciplines.

Upward Bound offered a variety of classes this summer for our students to stay in practice for the upcoming school year. Students took classes in Government, Language Arts, Math, Science, Foreign Language, and Communications. We also offered students sessions about success for students, financial literacy, their college prep seminars, and leadership 101 courses that covered a variety of topics such as relationships, mental health awareness, domestic violence awareness, and many other topics that created a rich and powerful dialogue among the group.

Students also had study tables where their teachers would offer office hours in the library for additional assistance, if needed.

Students receive an elective credit that will be reported to their school and those who took the dual credit course will have a class credit go on their college transcript.
Summer Academy Academics 2015
Camp Yale

Camp Yale, in Winchester, Indiana, was an opportunity for students, staff, and RA’s to get to know each other better. This was our first activity to kick off Summer Academy. Students were given a variety of activities, obstacle courses, and challenges to learn about teamwork, collaboration, and trust. The camp is a state of the art outdoor team building and leadership development center located within a 30 acre wooded recreational park that facilitates leadership, teamwork, team building and leadership development in a relaxed, highly enjoyable outdoor retreat experience. Among the various activities were a 20 station low ropes course, a 50-foot climbing tower, and 450-foot zip line.
This summer, IPFW hosted Olympiad, which is a state wide sporting competition event for all of the Upward Bound programs. We welcomed students and staff from Indiana Wesleyan University, IUPUI, University of Notre Dame, and Purdue Calumet for a two-day sporting and academic bowl event for students to get to know each other better and for a little healthy competition with their peers.

Members of the Upward Bound teams participated in various sporting and academic competitions for a two-day filled event. This year national speaker Ryan Eller also spoke with students and conducted breakout sessions for the group related
to his talk, “Paradigm Shift.”

Students and staff stayed in IPFW Student housing for a dorm-life experience. On the evening of the first night, we spent a couple of hours at our local Roller Dome as a group activity.

We also had an advocacy component that was headed by Jennalee VeenKant from Indiana Wesleyan and Yecenia Tostado from IUPUI. Students were given the option to write postcards to one of the two Indiana Senators, and also participate in “Selfies for TRIO,” where students shared their thoughts about TRIO Upward Bound by writing them on dry erase boards and getting their picture taken as a collective project to promote TRIO. Additionally, we were able to provide a college fair, having representatives from various colleges all over Indiana to talk about their schools and programs.

We truly appreciate all of the staff that helped to plan this two-day event. Without the support of our campus and campus staff, we could not have done it. Planning had been a process of months of collaboration and team work to contribute to the success of the fluidity of the day’s events.

A big THANK YOU shout out to IPFW Chancellor, Vicky Carwein and Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, Ken Christmon for kicking off the event by welcoming the visiting students to our campus.
Our Pre-Professional program was a huge success this summer. We are continually thankful to find community organizations on and off the IPFW campus who are committed to the growth and development of our future leaders. We couldn’t be happier that we found all 8 of our students summer internships for the summer academy pre-professional program in their prospective career choices. Students had to fulfill rigorous requirements in order to be eligible to enter the program which included job training and etiquette and resume building.

This year, we had placements from the areas of Education, TRIO Student Support Services, Marketing and Communications at Ivy Tech, the Office of Diversity and Multicultural Affairs, IPFW Dentistry, Chemistry, Stetzel Dentistry Group, Engineering, IU School of Medicine, all the way to the Mayor’s Office with the City of Fort Wayne with some of the most talented professionals in Fort Wayne who received their credentials all the way from Harvard to our very own IPFW.

The goal of the pre-professional program is not only to offer our students authentic exposure to their prospective careers but to continue our community outreach to develop imperative relationships that help to cultivate conversations about TRIO Upward Bound within our community.

The feedback that was received from students included comments such as their experience being the best experience of their lives. For others, students confirmed that it solidified their career goals. And for others, it showed them a more specific focus on the direction they would like to go within their career goals.

We are pleased with the outcome of each experience and continue to improve the program each year with the experiences our students have to create a program where they are continuously learning about what the real world has to offer them when they get there.

“This experience gave me insight of what I want to do.” – Bianca Barcenas

“I did take some valuable memories and information with me. I learned new things that might aid me in finding a paid internships when I go to college.” – Brenda Diaz

“The first thing that I loved was being able to actually fill three practice teeth and being told that I am a natural because I did it right without being taught is something that actual students in the class had yet to accomplish.” – Sandra Macias

“I will be paying it forward.” – Romeo Morris

“This experience has impacted me to pursue a major/career in computer science or at least something similar to it.” – Nathaly Diaz

“I appreciate knowing what I want more clearly.” – Tayah Luckaddock

“Working there helped me decide that I did want to go into education as a profession.” – Cristina Sanchez

 “[The pre-professional program] has prepared me for the future and I am very lucky to have had this opportunity.” – Ana Nino
Upward Bound participated in an etiquette dinner this year where our students experienced authentic etiquette training. They enjoyed learning about proper etiquette do’s and don’ts when in attendance of a formal business dinner. The dinner was held at the Holiday Inn where they started the evening with appetizers, mock-tails, and conversation, while being instructed how to properly conduct themselves in such a setting. We were then dismissed to the formal dining room area where students and staff enjoyed a three course meal.

Upward Bound thanks etiquette instructor, Ms. Lewis, for bringing her expertise on the subject to assist in the development of our students. Students were given coaching on how to eat, sit, converse, and dress for important events.
Family Picnic 2015

The very first move-in day to start off Summer Academy residential stay, we have our annual family picnic to welcome students and parents. For many, this is the first time their children stay away from home to experience college dorm life.

Parents generously bring amazing dishes to share and Upward Bound provides the burgers, hot dogs. This gives all of us the opportunity to mingle, get to know each other, talk to parents and students, and even get our parents involved through our parent council.

We are so happy to have the support from our parents! They have been so helpful and always ask where they can help on our picnic day. We appreciate all of their hard work and dedication to helping UB staff. Until next year!
Students and Foreign Language Teacher staff led our annual international luncheon this year as we celebrated cultures from around the world. Students represented Russia, France, Spain, and Mexico in our celebration from presenting traditional foods, dances, and customs from all of these countries while presenting in each country's native tongue.

We also had various foods to sample: Burmese, Korean, Salvadorian, Mexican, French, Italian, and Russian.
For the first time ever, TRIO Upward Bound teamed up with Three Rivers Festival International Village. After collaborating with the staff and members of the Multicultural Council of Fort Wayne and Three Rivers Festival, we volunteered our time to International Village as a way to work within our community as a day of service. On July 18th, we were given various tasks throughout the day in the International Village tent and we had a blast serving and entertaining! We hope to do it again next year.
This year, Upward Bound students and staff headed to Chicago for the 2015 Merit Trip. There were a variety of activities that many of our students hadn’t experienced before. From visiting and touring Depaul University and Northeastern University, to sightseeing and Chicago Style Pizza at Giordano’s, students were able to get the full Chicago experience.

We also visited Shedd Aquarium, Navy Pier, Willis Tower, Millennium Park, Lake Shore Drive, the Loop, Buckingham
Merit Trip 2015: Chicago

Memorial Fountain, the Bean, and a boat tour of the city’s famous architecture and rich history. In the evening, we experienced Medieval Times, which is a restaurant set during medieval times that has a live jousting tournament, while eating a four-course meal with your hands.

Our trip ended at Six Flags, where students were able to enjoy themselves at the park by riding roller coasters, playing games, and eating traditional theme park foods.

The overall consensus was that our students enjoyed themselves even if we did stay close to home. Many of them had not experienced Chicago the way we did on our Merit Trip.

Next year, our destination is Washington D.C. We hope to have another great academic school year, summer, and merit trip again next year.
Merit Trip 2015: Quotes

“This journey has been simply amazing and I couldn’t ask for a better family. Thanks for accepting me and teaching me new things.” – Janiya Hall

“I loved the Chicago pizza. It was amazing. It [was] definitely better than Fort Wayne’s.” – Sandra Macias

“I realized from [the] DePaul University [college visit] that I want to go to a college in the city.” – Alexandra Patino-Ramirez

“What really surprised me the most throughout the trip was the dinner and entertainment at Medieval Times. We all really seemed to have more fun while being together and it brought us even closer.” – Tin Oo

“I appreciate how hard the staff worked for this amazing trip.” – Thin Nyein

“I still like Pizza Hut better but I liked it. The sauce and cheese were in weird places.”
– Kyle Pessefall on Chicago Style Pizza

“Medieval Times gave me the opportunity to scream and eat with my hands without being judged and I loved it.” – Marisabel Sanchez

“The first day I loved sitting by the dolphins watching them swim in their water. It was peaceful.” – Compassion Pippert

“I enjoyed the picnic in front of Wendy’s. It was my first picnic.” – Bianca Barcenas
Merit Trip 2015: Quotes

“I had a good time with my friends and also staff. I got a chance to bond even more with them and learn about Chicago.” – Jesus Flores

“Through all of this, I developed further friendships with my UB family that I will never forget.” – Karli VanCleave

“I loved Medieval Times. It was amazing! I loved watching their horrible acting skills!” – Cristina Sanchez

“My favorite memories from this trip were going to the Willis Tower, Medieval Times, Shedd Aquarium, and going to Six Flags because these were all my firsts. I have never been to any of these anywhere.” – Nathaly Diaz

“My favorite memory was the boat tour around Chicago because not only am I interested in Civil Engineering but also I’m paranoid about water since I can’t swim. Being surrounded by water, but being with people who I’ve grown close to these past two summers helps to remind me nothing will happen. I will never forget these memories, let alone these people are my family.” – Santiago Aldave
This is TRIO Upward Bound

Nothing is Beyond Our Reach!
Upward Bound Staff Contacts:

Mr. Nicholas Gray, Director
260.481.4148
graynw01@ipfw.edu

Ms. Lydia Bates, Assistant Director
260.481.4189
batesl@ipfw.edu

Ms. Jessica Montalvo, Academic Specialist
260.481.0687
montjm01@ipfw.edu

Mr. Tavis Rieger, Academic Specialist
260.481.0688
riegert@ipfw.edu

Mrs. Robin Steenman, Administrative Assistant
260.481.4188
steenmae@ipfw.edu

The UB office is open from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Visit us online!
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Photography, Copy, Layout, and Editing by: Jessica Montalvo
*Camp Yale photography by: Nick Gray

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