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Updates from CSN



Happy New Year!

We hope the CSN community is having a great 2024 thus far. As many universities start the spring semester, we are excited to re-engage with first-generation students returning to Philadelphia-area campuses.

Last Call: Join us for a Chill and Meet at Saxbys!

The poster features a blue and red color scheme with a white central text area. At the top, the logos for Saxbys (a hot air balloon) and Collective Success Network (a stylized person) are displayed. The event title 'CHILL & MEET' is in large, bold, red letters. Below it, the text describes the event as an invitation for first-gen college students and professionals to a gathering with free food, a trivia contest, and prizes. The date and time are 'Friday, January 19th | 6:00 - 7:30pm' and the location is 'Saxbys Drexel, 65 N. 34th St, Phila, PA 19104'. A QR code is located in the bottom left corner of the poster, with text indicating it is for registration and pre-ordering food, with a deadline of Wednesday, January 17th.

Collective Success Network and Saxbys at Drexel are inviting first-gen college students and professionals for a "Chill and Meet" gathering on Friday, January 19th featuring a trivia contest with prizes. Register and pre-order free food by **Wednesday, January 17th** at [bit.ly/CSNJan2024!](https://bit.ly/CSNJan2024)

Address:

Saxbys at Drexel
65 N 34 St
Philadelphia, PA 19104

The Next Degree Program

THE NEXT DEGREE 2024



Two Part Virtual Program:

- **February 20th (6:30-8:30 PM):** Current and former FGLI graduate students share their experiences with time for discussion/Q&A
- **February 27th (6:30-8:30 PM):** Learn about financing & applying for graduate school from FGLI professionals

Apply by February 9th at
bit.ly/NextDegree2024

Interested in Going to Graduate School?

Sign up for "The Next Degree" 2024!

This year CSN is offering a two-part virtual program for FGLI students and young professionals interested in going to graduate school in any discipline or field.

- **February 20th from 6:30-8:30 PM:** Hear from current and former graduate students about their experiences through the lens of being FGLI, with plenty of time for discussion and Q&A.
- **February 27th from 6:30-8:30 PM:** Learn about financing graduate school and the nuts and bolts of applying from FGLI professionals.

Participants can register for one or both sessions, but must fill out an application by **February 9th** at bit.ly/NextDegree2024 (which can also be accessed using the QR code above).

Stakeholder Management Workshop

STAKEHOLDER MANAGEMENT

Enriching Your Opportunities

Collective
Success
Network

Solomon
Rubik's
Consulting
Group



February 24, 2024



1:00 - 3:00 PM, EST



1515 Market St.
Philadelphia, PA
19102



Light lunch served

Workshop Overview

Have you ever felt lost when trying to identify or connect with your network of stakeholders? Join CSN and SRCG founder, Drew Georges, for a **FREE** workshop on identifying current and future Stakeholders to effectively seize **academic** and **career opportunities**.

Contact Us:

help@solomonrcg.com

Info@collectivesuccess.org



COLLECTIVE
SUCCESS
NETWORK



RSVP by 2/19!

Have you ever felt lost when trying to identify or connect with your network of stakeholders? Would you like to learn how to leverage your network to effectively seize academic and career opportunities?

Join CSN and Solomon Rubik's Consulting group for a free, hands-on

workshop, where you will be guided through how to identify your current and future stakeholders and how to effectively nourish and strengthen those working relationships to continuously build opportunity.

What: Stakeholder Management Workshop with a light lunch & networking time

Where: 1515 Market St, Philadelphia PA

When: February 24th from 1 pm - 3 pm

Register at: bit.ly/CSN2024stakeholders

Welcome Colleen Farrell-Felici to the CSN Advisory Board



Colleen has over 35 years of experience in the private and public sectors. As a first-generation college graduate, she has a passion for helping others through their leadership journey. She enjoys working with both individuals and teams to strengthen their leadership, self-awareness, communication, time-management, and relationship management skills. Her professional experience includes helping individuals and organizations develop strategies for leadership and talent management.

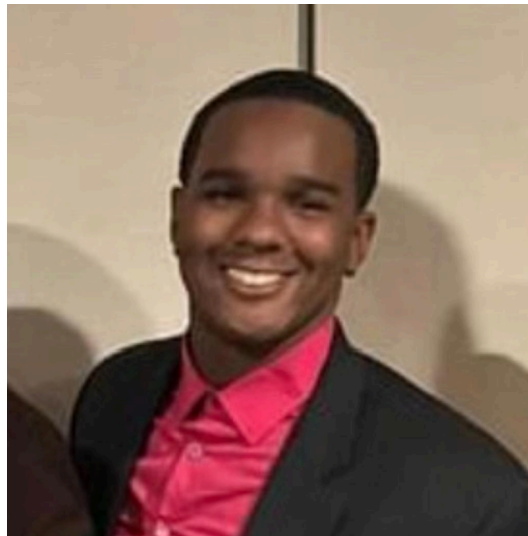
Colleen is a Certified Life Coach from the IPEC School, and a professional certified coach (PCC) through the International Coaching Federation (ICF) with an expertise in Transitional and Leadership Coaching. She received her Master's degree from the Fels School of Government at the University of Pennsylvania and a Master's degree in Executive Leadership from Champlain

College. Colleen received a Certificate in Human Resource Management and is certified in the Leadership Challenge; Myers Brigg; FIROB; Emotional Intelligence, Positive Intelligence, 360 Assessment, and ELI-MP. She has recently completed her Doctorate in Education and Leadership from the American College of Education and is currently in the process of publishing her book "First-Generation Leadership Journey 'Trials and Triumphs'".

In her spare time, she is a mentor in the Heights Philadelphia Program and Collective Success Network and enjoys spending time with her husband Frank, stepdaughter and son-in-law, Kristen and Chad, and grandchildren, Maci, Chase, and Cole.

Student Spotlight: Alan D. Graham III

**Student Leader & CSN Consortium Chapter Member
Cheyney University of Pennsylvania**



College & Career:

"I am a current 4th-year pursuing a dual-bachelors in Computer Information Sciences and Business Administration at Cheyney University of Pennsylvania. Graduating as a 5th-year, I have left an everlasting legacy on my campus as a student leader and proactive creative. I have participated in a variety of engagements as well as coordinate many programs and organizations. As a student attending the nations oldest historically black institution for higher learning, I have been able to form a very strong sense of identity for myself and

jot down my life plan for the next 10 years. From community engagement/philanthropy to entrepreneurship and start-up development, I have a large array of passions that I am actively seeking out as time goes forward."

Discovering CSN & its impact on his academic journey:

"I learned about the Collective Success Network during my freshmen year of college. The Director of Student & Career Success at the time reached out to me about a program meant to give FGLI students opportunities with networking and professional development. Since it was a resource that I was actively looking for, I hopped onto it without a moments notice of hesitation. Since then, I have participated in many CSN seminars and networking events as well as set-up a discord server for resource communications with the entire consortium network. CSN has given me firsthand experience networking with high-level professionals who have subsequently looked out for and put me onto the "rules and tangibles" of navigating professional spaces as an African-American and connected me with opportunities for my given ethnic demographic. I would consider CSN an essential part of my professional journey that has spiraled into many of my other developments."

Current & Future Goals:

"There are a couple of things in the works for myself this semester. I am taking my first steps towards being an entrepreneur, so stay tuned! The grind doesn't stop!"

Student Spotlight: Kaitlyn Pinedo

Secretary for the First Gen Villanovans Chapter at Villanova

**College & Career:**

"I am a senior comprehensive science major with minors in computer science and engineering entrepreneurship at Villanova University. I am interested in joining the tech world upon graduation working as a product manager."


Discovering CSN & its impact on her academic journey:

"I first learned about CSN by being a part of First Gen Villanovans. As I have a strong passion for entrepreneurship, I was able to make it to an event in which CSN partnered with Venture Cafe in Philadelphia. Not only was I able to get to be a part of the Conversation Corner event but I was also able to see what Venture Cafe had to offer. During my visit, I found that Venture Cafe offers a space every Thursday for entrepreneurs to meet other founders and connect with investors, creators, and coworkers."

Current & Future Goals:

"I am currently working on a project called Vintage Vault where thrift lovers can shop online for bundles of thrifted clothing, and found this resource to be very helpful. CSN has opened many new opportunities and I can't wait to see what this spring semester will bring!"

CSN STEM Career Exploration Program Kickoff



**COLLECTIVE
SUCCESS
NETWORK**

2024 STEM PROGRAM

WEDNESDAYS, JANUARY 10 – 31
6:30 – 8 PM VIA ZOOM

This program offers career exploration guidance for Philadelphia-area first-generation and/or low-income college students majoring in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

CSN welcomes 18 STEM students from 7 area colleges to our 2024 virtual program! Between January 10 and January 31, participating students will receive:

- Networking tips
- Advice on resumes and LinkedIn profiles
- Help identifying their transferrable skills
- Career insights from a diverse group of formal FGLI professionals
- Reimbursement for a one year student membership in a professional society

CSN is deeply appreciative of the excellent introduction to networking given by professional volunteer Dr. Andrea Morris

Professional Spotlight: Dr. Andrea Morris

**Assistant Dean of the Graduate School and Director for Career and Professional Development,
The Rockefeller University in New York City**



College & Career:

"I am fortunate that my Jamaican immigrant parents instilled in me a life-long love of learning and the endless value of education. With lots of support, I went to college just outside of Philadelphia at Haverford College and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology before heading to Princeton University to become the first Black woman to receive a Ph.D. in the Molecular Biology Program there. I've been able to pursue my dream of being a scientist as a college professor, researcher, and academic administrator, and find mentoring the next generation of scientists to be the greatest reward!"

Discovering CSN:

"When Dr. Adrienne Tymiak, Co-Executive Director of CSN, reached out in 2020 with an invitation to speak with STEM students in the program, I was thrilled to join such a great group of students and dedicated colleagues (including an unexpected reunion with a former Haverford mentor, Dr. Tom Tritton, the Vice Chair of CSN)! Volunteering with CSN to provide virtual professional development workshops continues to be an amazing way to help support talented young scholars explore their STEM career options"

Upcoming 2024 Attractions

Designing a Creative Career Path Event

Save the date: April 6, 2024 from 10:45 am to 2 pm.

In collaboration with Thomas Jefferson University East Falls Campus, CSN will host a free lunch, team building/problem solving exercise and professional panel event to help FGLI students explore career possibilities and get tips on finding local internships and jobs. The in-person event is open to all area FGLI students, and a hybrid option will be offered for the Professional Panel discussion portion from 12:30 – 1:30 pm.

Student Excellence Awards

Once again, CSN will be inviting FGLI college students to submit either a short video or a brief essay to be considered for the annual CSN/EY Student Excellence Awards. Detailed instructions and the registration form will be shared with chapter members soon.

Year End Celebration

We look forward to meeting over lunch, reflecting on the past year and honoring graduating students and Student Excellence Award winners with a celebration on a Saturday in late April. All CSN community members are welcomed to attend. More details to come soon!

Interested in being an active member of the CSN community?

For more information, email us at info@collectivesuccess.org or sign up to:

- **Join a campus chapter:** bit.ly/CSNchapters (left QR code)
- **Volunteer:** bit.ly/CSNvolunteering (middle QR code)
- **Donate:** bit.ly/CSNdonation (right QR code)



Join



Volunteer



Donate

Have any questions, suggestions or interest in joining our team? Email us at:
info@collectivesuccess.org

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