

There's
a place
for you.



Triton College

For immediate release: **April 4, 2025**

Full-Circle Moment: Triton College Alumna Guides Current Students on Their Life Journey



TRIUMPH & SURGE Students Embarked on an Unforgettable Trip

RIVER GROVE, III. – Neicy Walker, a proud Triton College alumna and former member of TRIUMPH & SURGE, is thriving after transferring to a four-year university in North Carolina. On March 19, Walker experienced a powerful full-circle moment when she served as a tour guide and mentor to students exploring their own futures.

On that date, Walker guided a group of TRIUMPH & SURGE students as they visited Johnson C. Smith University in North Carolina, to discover new academic opportunities after Triton.

“I’m very happy to influence current TRIUMPH & SURGE students,” said Walker. “I was once in their shoes. I’m glad I can help them learn about options after Triton.”

As their guide, Walker plans to provide an in-depth, insider’s look at campus life, academics and the transition to a four-year university.

Walker credits Triton College's TRIUMPH & SURGE as a life-changing influence, describing the program's non-judgmental environment as a key to her success. She especially recognizes TRIUMPH & SURGE Director Stephanie Townsend, who encouraged Walker to "aim high" and apply to out-of-state universities—a decision that led her to Johnson C. Smith University, where she now "loving life."

"That's what makes TRIUMPH & SURGE stand out over other programs," said Townsend. "We build relationships with students," she said, adding that staff is committed to providing support and access to resources. Students know that "we are the program that will see you to and through Triton College."

Walker is just one of many success stories. In Fall 2024, more than 70% of TRIUMPH & SURGE students continued their studies, and since its inception, hundreds have transferred, graduated and entered the workforce.

"TRIUMPH & SURGE has prepared me in every way possible," said Walker. "They (gave) me the tools on how to navigate life, both as a student and as a Black woman."

Walker will graduate from Johnson C. Smith University this spring with plans to work in cybersecurity. Though she will continue to reside in North Carolina, she hopes to return to the Chicagoland area to support TRIUMPH & SURGE students and events.

"TRIUMPH & SURGE is here to prepare our students for life," said Townsend.

TRIUMPH & SURGE is a Triton College organization dedicated to supporting students to succeed in college and beyond. Through mentorship, coaching, career development, and personal support, the program empowers students to overcome challenges, achieve their goals, and build a brighter future.

For more information, visit triton.edu/students/triumph-and-surge.

###

Media Contact:

Melissa Ramirez Cooper | melissacooper@triton.edu | 708-456-0300, Ext. 3692

Maryann Dibari | maryannndibari@triton.edu | 708-456-0300, Ext. 3202

ABOUT TRITON COLLEGE

Triton College is an institution of higher education dedicated to student success. Triton offers more than 120 degree and certificate programs designed for students to realize their career aspirations and effectively compete in a global economy. The college campus spans 110 acres in River Grove, Illinois, holds classes at satellite locations and offers online learning opportunities. Triton's exemplary faculty and staff work to provide high-quality, convenient and affordable educational opportunities to more than 10,000 students each year. Triton College is a member of The Community Colleges of Illinois and accredited by the Higher Learning Commission. Learn more at triton.edu/.