

**ABOU TRAORE STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP**  
*Saginaw Valley State University Foundation*

Abou Traore was an international student who attended SVSU since Summer 2005. Sadly, Abou lost his life in a tragic accident before the start of the Fall 2007 semester. Abou was a pre-med major, whose dream it was to return to his home country of Senegal as a doctor, to make a better life for his people. He was preparing to be a Resident Assistant for the 2007-2008 academic year. An extremely involved student, Abou played soccer, worked for Campus Facilities and Dining Services, and was an important student member of the International Student Club. Most importantly, Abou was treasured as a friend and brother by many SVSU students, respected by faculty and staff and loved by all who knew him. Clearly, Abou characterizes the concept of the “power of one” and the value placed on each member of our University community. Abou made a significant contribution to the University as a whole and many of us individually. He embraced life with joy, living it fully and without regret. The world has lost a special person.

To best memorialize Abou, the **Abou Traore Scholarship** has been created in his name. The scholarship is intended to financially support the enrollment of a student at SVSU. The scholarship will be administered according to the following criteria:

1. To be eligible, a student must:
  - a. Be enrolled full-time in a degree program;
  - b. Have a cumulative grade point average of 2.75 or higher;
  - c. Be of Sophomore class standing or higher.
2. Preference will be given to candidates in the following order:
  - a. Students from West African countries;
  - b. Students from any region of Africa;
  - c. Students from any country, including the United States.
3. Candidates must demonstrate a commitment to campus and/or community involvement and the potential to make a continuing meaningful contribution to their community in the service of others, following graduation from SVSU.
4. Candidates must submit an essay describing their specific plans for after graduation to improve the quality of life for others in the world.
5. Recipients will be selected by a committee chaired by the Associate Director of Residential Life and include at least one representative from each of the following: Office of International Programs, International Student Club, and the SVSU faculty.
6. A scholarship of \$500 will be awarded annually from cash gifts provided by donors for that purpose pending the endowment reaching the \$10,000 goal.