

STUDENT SUCCESS

AN EXPLORATION OF APPROACHES AND STRATEGIES IN THE USA AND EUROPE

Workshop Presenters: John Magill, Mary Cusack & LeKesha L. Perry
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(ISLA)

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WORKSHOP OBJECTIVES

- Define student success in higher education
- Raise awareness regarding the desired skills and knowledge available by examining emerging or promising practices
- Identify potential barriers and roadblocks and critical issues that hinder student success
- Identify key factors or predictors to student success in higher education

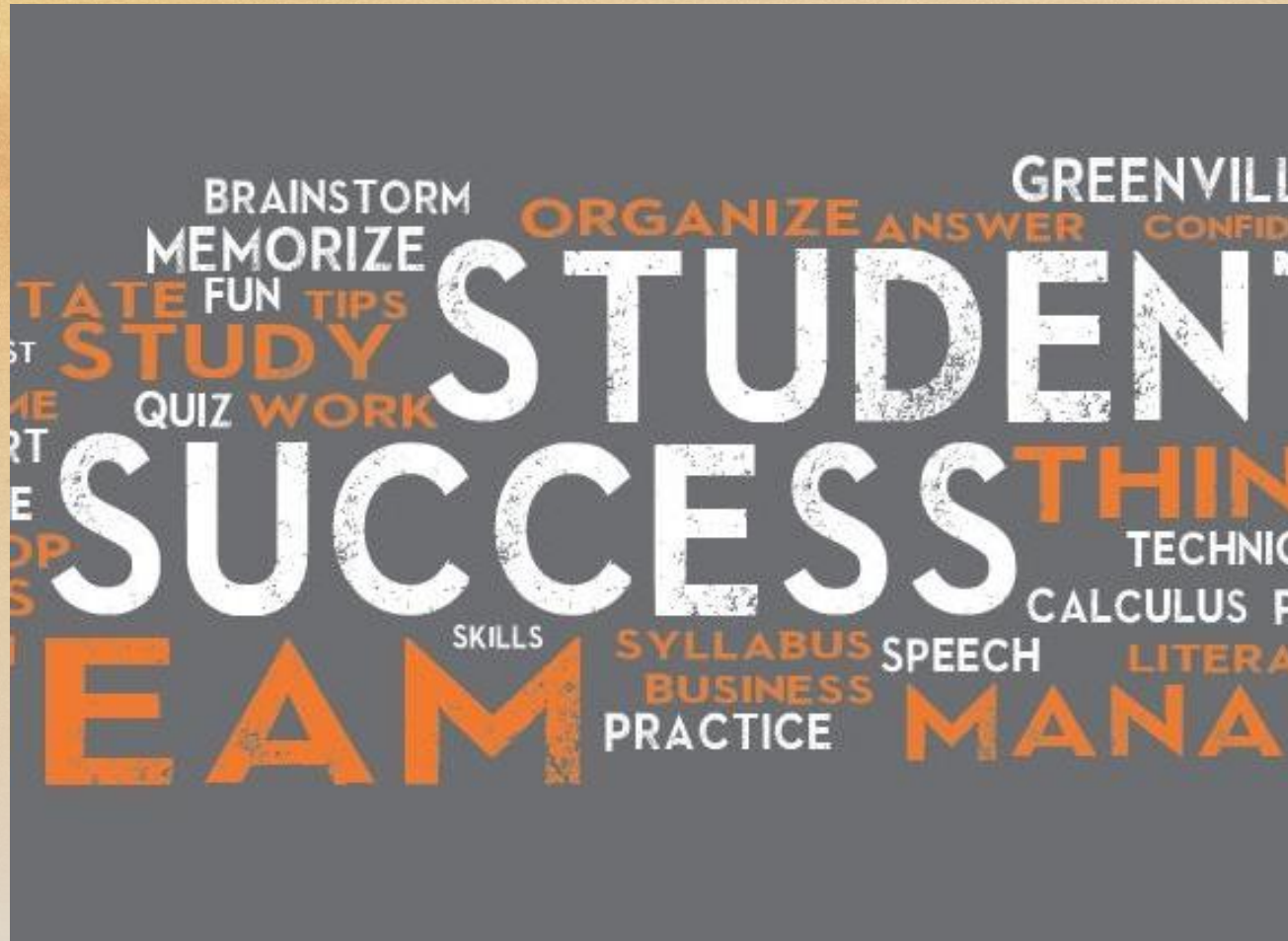
THE MEANING OF STUDENT SUCCESS

IRELAND'S HIGHER EDUCATION AUTHORITY (HEA)

- Student success is
 - Defined differently by institutions/not a standard or uniformed definition across the discipline of higher education
 - Is “everybody’s business”
 - Requires input from diverse entities/groups

ACADEMIC SENATE FOR CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

- Uses the ARCC Scorecard to eliminate the debate regarding the meaning of student success
- Emphasize metrics to show a student’s progression from remedial coursework through completion

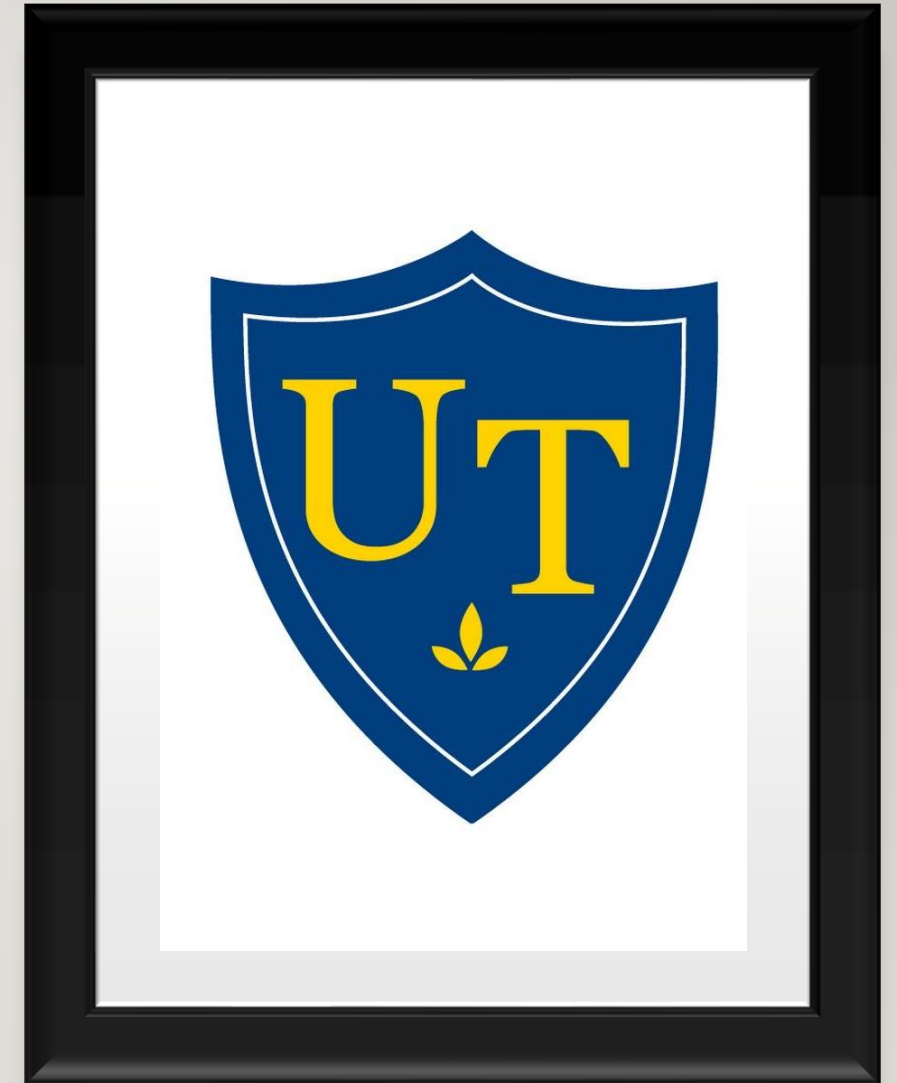


WHAT IS STUDENT SUCCESS?

Group Activity

STUDENT SUCCESS & ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

“The added value that a college education brings to a student’s life. This includes securing a job and pursuing a successful career that will provide economic and social mobility, as well as work satisfaction . It encompasses the development of problem solving, civic and global engagement and applied learning. [The University] endeavors to empower students for lifelong success as citizens, scholars and leaders to serve locally, nationally and globally through engagement and service.”



OUR PROMISE

“Lorain County Community College is committed to the success of our students, both while they are working on their degrees and when they look to become employed members of our society. To that end LCCC is establishing the ‘Our Promise’ Initiative to ensure that students can reduce the time and cost required to complete a degree while guaranteeing their quality to the employers in our county.”



EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

“We will build on the work we have already done to establish an approach to education that supports all our students to achieve academic excellence and to equip them with the social, intercultural and generic skills to succeed in a diverse society. To enhance the UCD Horizons modular structure, we will conduct a robust curriculum review of our undergraduate and graduate offerings, informed by vision for 2020 and by best international practice in curriculum design, pedagogy and effective student learning.”



STUDENT SUCCESS AS A CRITICAL ISSUE

METHODOLOGY

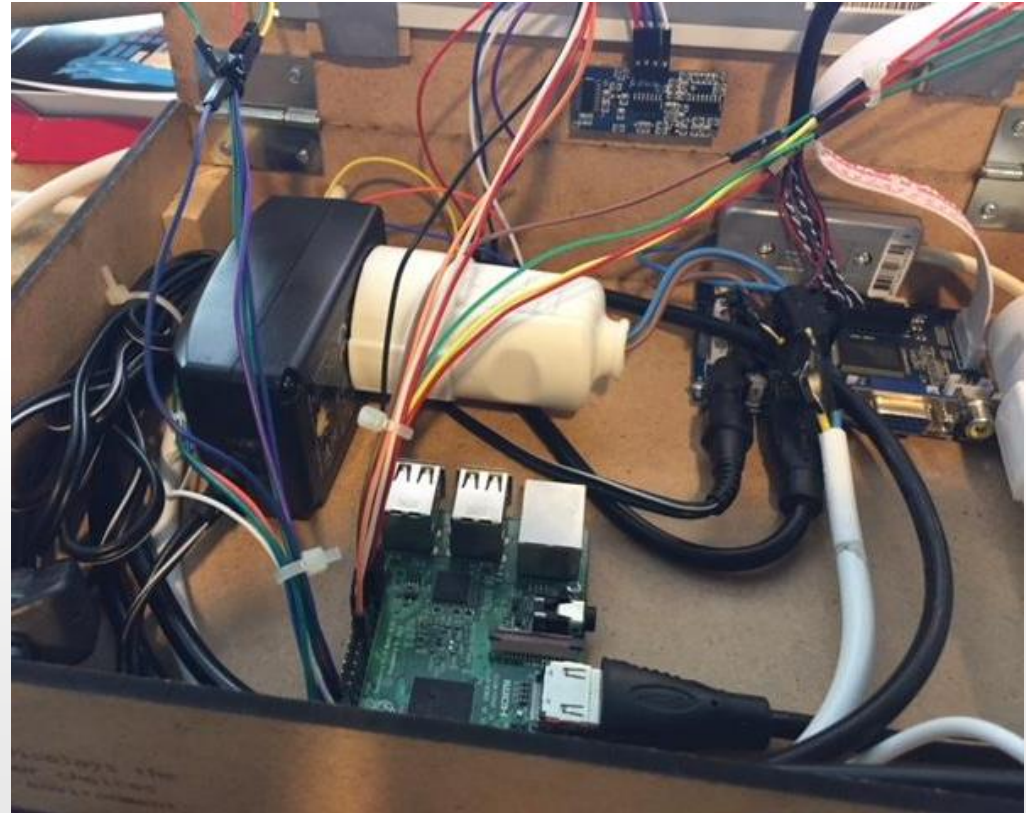
- Interviews (face-to-face and email)
- Statistical data
- Artifacts
- Observations
- Literature reviews
 - From European partners as well as own collected

THE CONTEXT

- (event) 2008-09 global economic recession
- (trend) Shrinking and changing workforce
- (emerging trends) Higher education had to do more with less
 - Completion rate at 4 year for 2007 cohort, 59.3% (US)
 - Completion rate at 4 year for 2009 to 2012 cohorts, 53.8% (US)
 - Community colleges experienced a “creeping wave” (National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, 2011)
- (issue) Because of the recession, higher education officials globally looked for innovative ways to prepare students for a changed workforce
 - Aligning education standards globally (Bologna Process)
 - American community colleges turned to businesses/industry that provide students with trainings/degree programs

FORCES

- **Human capital theory:** “The most interesting positive implication of the model is that an economy with a larger total stock of human capital will experience faster growth”(Romer, 1990, p. 99)
- **Change management theory:** Leading change is process-oriented and “can identify the issues...to secure desired outcomes...Management of change [is] purposeful constructed but often contested process” (Hayes, 2018, p. 2)



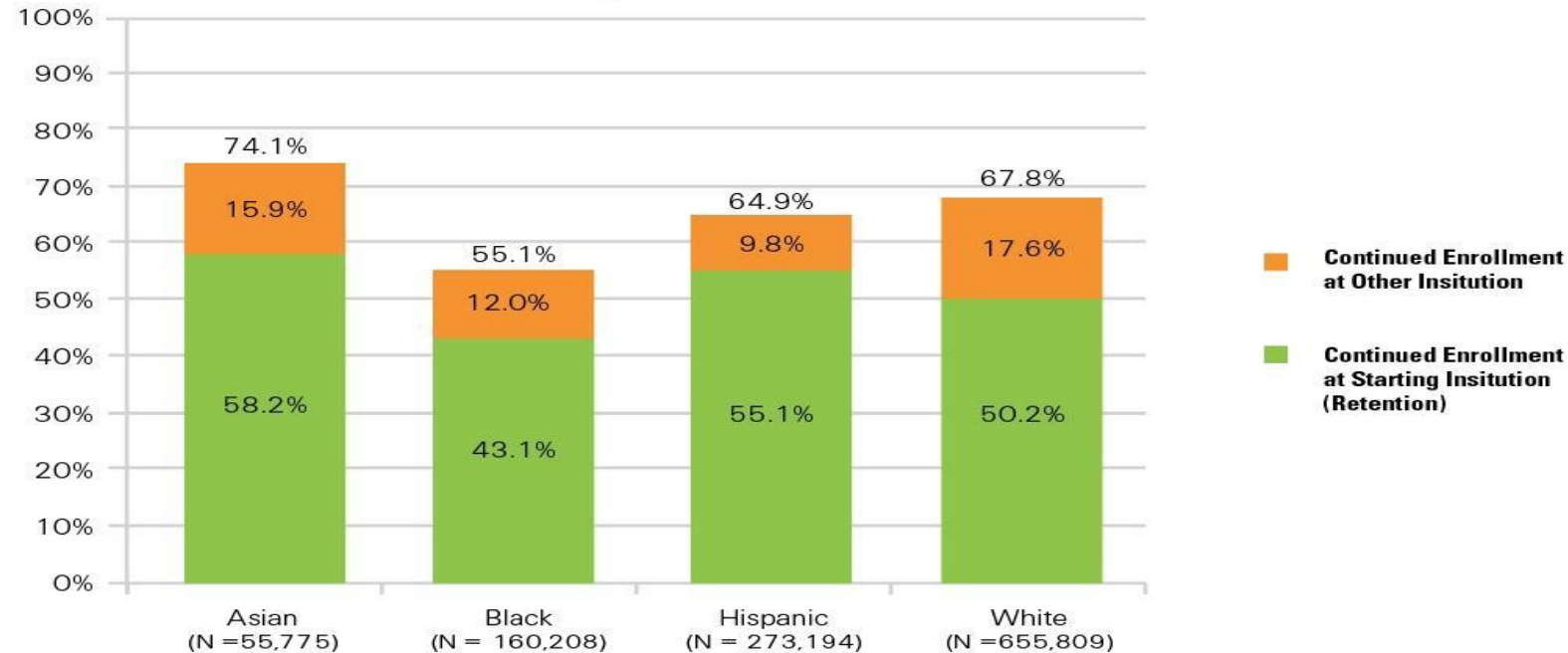
STAKEHOLDERS

- **Stakeholder theory:** Freeman (1984) defines stakeholder theory as any group or individual who is likely to benefit from an organization's success.
- **Experiential learning theory:** "Learning is best facilitated by a process that draws out the students' beliefs and ideas about a topic so that they can be examined, tested, and integrated with new, more refined ideas" (Kolb & Kolb, 2005, p. 194).

STUDENT SUCCESS STRATEGIES:A COMPARISON

With data current through fall 2016

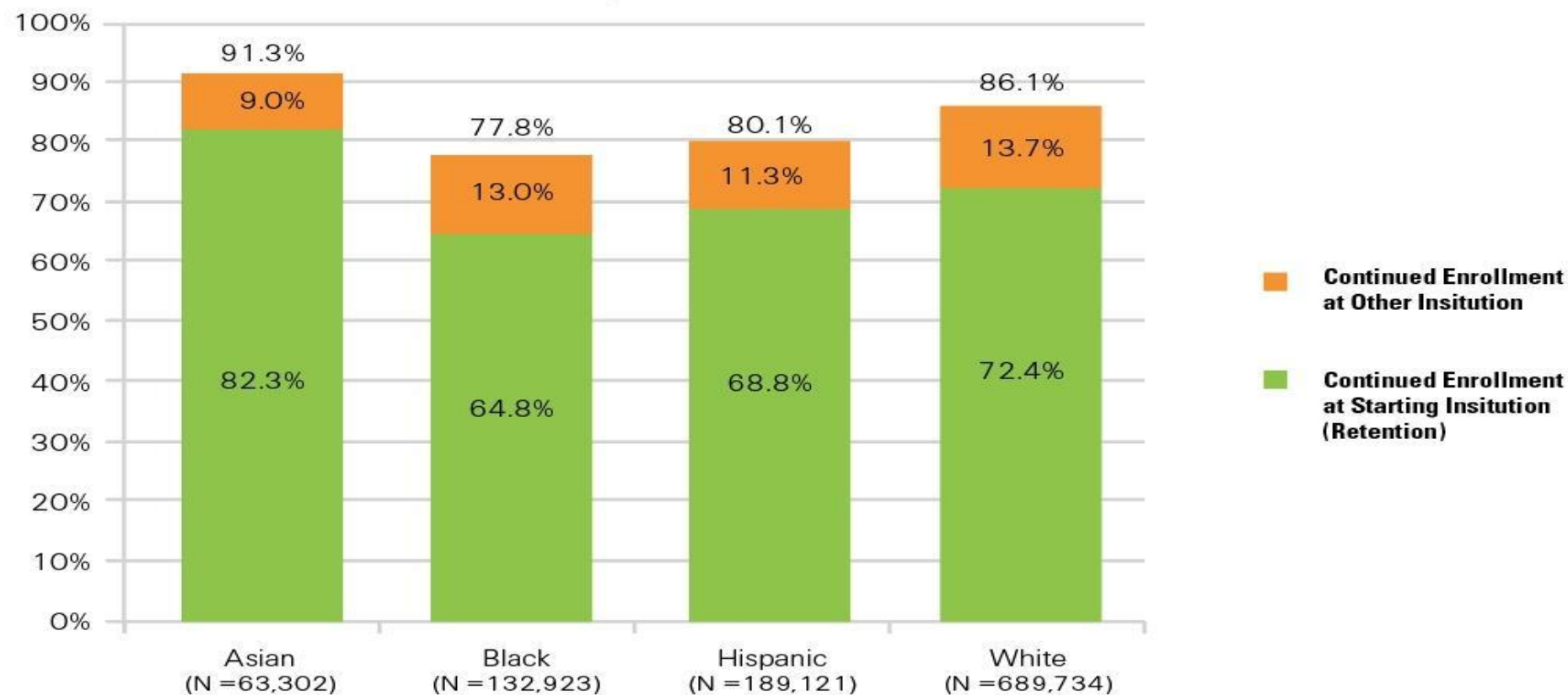
Figure 7. First-Year Persistence and Retention by Race and Ethnicity
Fall 2015 Entering Cohort, Two-Year Public Institutions



Refer to the last page of this report for additional definitions and notes on cohort selection. Data tables for this snapshot may be downloaded from the NSC Research Center website: https://nscresearchcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/NSC_SnapshotReport28_PersistenceRetention_Data_Tables.xlsx.

National Student Research Center (2017, June 6). Snapshot report: First-year persistence and retention, Fall 2015 Retrieved from <https://nscresearchcenter.org/snapshotreport28-first-year-persistence-and-retention/>

Figure 5. First-Year Persistence and Retention by Race and Ethnicity
Fall 2015 Entering Cohort, Four-Year Public Institutions



Refer to the last page of this report for additional definitions and notes on cohort selection. Data tables for this snapshot may be downloaded from the NSC Research Center website: https://nscresearchcenter.org/wp-content/uploads/NSC_SnapshotReport28_PersistenceRetention_Data_Tables.xlsx.

National Student Research Center (2017, June 6). Snapshot report: First-year persistence and retention rates, Fall 2015. Retrieved from <https://nscresearchcenter.org/snapshotreport28-first-year-persistence-and-retention/>

SUCCESS STRATEGIES IN THE US

- More successful interventions focus on whole-person development
 - From currently enrolled student to life-long learners
 - Socio-emotional development, including
 - Sense of belonging
 - A growth mindset
 - Establishing personal goals and values (The National Academies Press, 2017)

LIFE-LONG LEARNING

Mississippi Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training
(MI-BEST)

MI-Best (n.d.). Retrieved from
<https://www.mibest.ms/>





CALL ME M.I.S.T.E.R.

- MISTER – Mentors Instructing Students Toward Effective Role Models
- Program is featured in 9 states

Clemson University (n.d.). Call Me M.I.S.T.E.R.
Retrieved from

<https://www.clemson.edu/education/callmemister/>

GROWTH MINDSET

California creates online community college for “stranded workers”



ABC News (2018, June 19). California is creating one big online community college. Retrieved from

<https://www.abccactionnews.com/news/national/california-is-creating-one-big-online-community-college>

STRATEGIES *CONTINUED*

- Success strategies have emphasized retention efforts by focusing on:
 - Quality assurance and accountability process
 - Social and academic integration
 - Student engagement
 - Diversity and inclusion
 - Financial assistance

SUCCESS STRATEGIES IN THE EU

- According to Sneyers (2018), the EU member states have adopted 3 broad approaches to improve retention:
 - Emphasis on removing financial barriers
 - Improve guidance and counseling
 - Facilitate student development of relevant skills for the world of work

EU PROMISING PRACTICES

- Orientation programs
- Academic goal setting and planning
- Academic advising
- Accurate course placement
- Student success courses
- Early alert processes
- Tutoring
- First-year transition programs
- Financial aid and learning communities

COMPARING US TO EU

- US is ahead of EU in providing programs and services to
 - Post-tradition or mature students
 - Part-time students
 - Learning skills courses
 - Summer bridge programs
 - Accelerated delivery/online and hybrid format
 - Experiential learning opportunities
- Promising practices emerge in EU than US around
 - 21st century pedagogical strategies (applied learning, project-based learning, etc.)
 - Developing higher education strategies alongside political leaders (alignment)
 - Adjusting curriculum with feedback from stakeholders
 - Exploratory methods (funding mechanisms, curriculum, etc.)

PROGRAMS OR SERVICES THAT FACILITATE STUDENT SUCCESS

| University of Toledo | Lorain County Community College | University College Dublin |
|--|---|---|
| Learning enhancement center provides all students with tutoring, supplemental instruction and academic workshops | New paradigm making student success “everyone’s business” | Creation of Access & Lifelong Learning (ALL) as “bridge to inclusion” that offer connections, engagement and networking |
| Writing center | Re-designed advising to support students in choosing and persisting in their desired degree program | Develop and implement a suite of responses to widen access and ensure participation of diverse learners |
| TRIO Student Support services | The college and its leadership made equity a priority | Support and enable the University to integrate and embed the principle of equity throughout the institution |
| Student-athlete academic services | Created a student success agenda across all departments | Learning Support Officer (LSO), especially for part-time students |
| | Awarded top community college in the nation for 2 years consecutively for excellence in student success | Flexibility in curriculum for part-time students |

AFFIRMING THE STUDENT SUCCESS AGENDA

- “People outside academe who witness our urgent efforts might justifiably ask, ‘why all the fuss?’ Isn’t student success what you’re supposed to be focused on all along?’ In truth, the student success agenda is a recognition that higher education has not delivered on its promise to all students.”—Byron P.White, President for University Engagement and Chief Diversity Officer, Cleveland State University

project

RUNWAY

HIGHER EDUCATION



THE CHALLENGE:

CREATE THE LOOK OF A
SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY
COLLEGE OR LEVEL 5
GRADUATE.



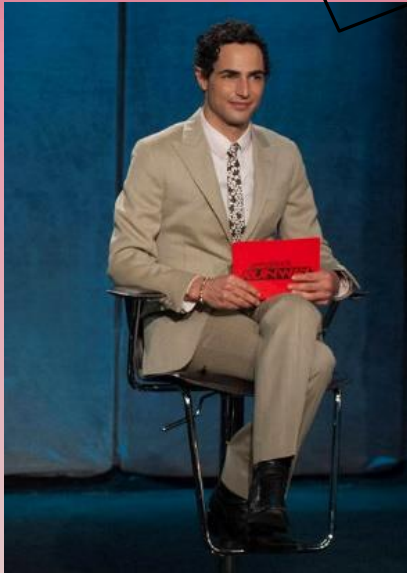
**AUTHENTIC,
BUT SO CLICHÉ,
SO PREDICTABLE...**



**SO HOT! IT'S GOT
THAT INDUSTRIAL
JE NE SAIS QUOI
QUALITY**



**I LOVE
THE 'BEHIND-THE-SCENES' VIBE...
UNDERSTATED YET POWERFUL!**



**WHAT REALLY MAKES
THIS LOOK WORK ARE
THE ACCESSORIES!**



**I SPEAK FOR US ALL
WHEN I SAY
I CAN'T CHOOSE...
YOU'RE ALL
WINNERS!**



RESOURCES

- Brexit is an opportunity for higher education in Ireland, says expert
<https://www.independent.ie/business/brexit/brexit-is-an-opportunity-for-higher-education-in-ireland-says-expert-36892248.html>
- Chain 5, Community for Level 5 <http://www.chain5.net/activities/>
- Pernsteiner, G. & Martin, R. (2016). Higher education, the road to American success: An open letter to the presidential nominees. *Change: The Magazine of Higher Learning*, 48(5), pp. 6-15.
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