Accessibility, Affordability, and Attainment for Underserved, Underrepresented and Under-resourced Educational Populations

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Beyond the Bicentennial: The Promise of Vincentian Higher Education
New York
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Tertiary education attainment by age cohort, 2012

OECD, Education at a Glance 2014
Proportion of US population with bachelor’s degree or higher
Influences on college access and success

**Academic**
- Curriculum
- Coursework rigor
- Standardized tests
- Test prep and shadow education
- Academic support
- Enrollment intensity

**Financial**
- Student’s resources
- Family income
- Family assets
- Access to capital
- Tuition price
- Financial aid

**Sociocultural**
- College knowledge
- Information about financial aid
- Peer & family experiences
- Motivation & aspiration
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The role of race in PSE attainment

Educational attainment of 2002 10th graders in 2012 by race

- **Asian American**
  - No degree: 44%
  - Associate degree: 9%
  - BA or more: 5%

- **White**
  - No degree: 51%
  - Associate degree: 9%
  - BA or more: 5%

- **African American**
  - No degree: 20%
  - Associate degree: 73%
  - BA or more: 18%

- **Hispanic**
  - No degree: 1%
  - Associate degree: 72%
  - BA or more: 9%

- **All students**
  - No degree: 50%
  - Associate degree: 57%
  - BA or more: 50%

- **Students in top test score quartile**
  - No degree: 5%
  - Associate degree: 7%
  - BA or more: 7%

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The role of socioeconomic status in PSE attainment

Educational attainment of 2002 10th graders in 2012 by family socioeconomic status*

*Composite of parents’ education, occupation, and income

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Cumulative increase in tuition prices ($2016)

College Board, Trends in College Pricing, and U.S. Census Bureau
Cumulative increase in *sticker* & *net* tuition prices ($2016)

- **sticker price**
- **net price**

Private non-profit 4-year

Public 4-year

Comm. college

College Board, *Trends in College Pricing*
Academic factors

- Minority, poor, and immigrant students are more likely to:
  - Attend K-12 schools that are under resourced
  - Attend schools with less-qualified and less-experienced teachers
  - Attend schools with larger class sizes
  - Attend more highly-segregated schools
  - Attend college part-time and have stop-out periods
  - Attend lesser-resourced colleges

- Minority, poor, and immigrant students are less likely to:
  - Have access to supplemental educational opportunities
  - Have access to standardized test preparation services
  - Be enrolled in a rigorous, college-prep curriculum in high school
Social factors

- Minority, poor, and immigrant students are *more* likely to:
  - Be a first generation college student
  - Have difficulty navigating their way through college
  - Feel alone, alienated, and unable to connect in college
  - Have to work to afford to attend college

- Minority, poor, and immigrant students are *less* likely to:
  - Have siblings and peers attending college
  - Have adequate access to college admissions assistance (in school or out)
What can be done?

• Equalize educational opportunity in K-12 schools?
• Expand pre-college educational assistance programs
• Focus grant aid resources (federal, state, and institutional) on these students
• States need to adequately fund public institutions
• Colleges need to commit to student success
• Provide necessary in-college support for student success – recognize the distinctive needs of underserved students
• Look for more opportunities to partner with corporations and non-profits
A closing note – the Trump Administration

- Close or shrink the Department of Education
- Move the federal loan system back to the banks
- Change income-based repayment to 12.5% of income, forgiveness after 15 years
- Support for-profit colleges
- Reduce regulations
- Examine large endowments
- Attack political correctness

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