

McKinley “Deacon” Davis CHANCE Program: Conference Abstracts

8:30am – 9:10am

“I am a First-Generation College Student” Program at Northern Illinois University

Presenter: Kelly Smith, First and Second Year Experience, Northern Illinois University

Abstract: First-generation college students have particular needs that appear to stem from their unique position. This session will identify key steps that ensure student who self-identify as first-generation will have the necessary institutional support. The intersections with diversity and culture, academic centers, orientation programs, career services, and more will be addressed.

9:15 – 9:55

Teaching in the Postsecondary Classroom with Bloom’s Taxonomy, Metacognition, and Contextualization

Presenters: Dr. Rebecca Vaughn & Ms. Michele Duffy, Northern Illinois University

Abstract: Successful transition into postsecondary education often necessitates enrollment in college reading and study strategy courses. Learning strategies that utilize deep-level processing are essential for challenging general education courses, where 50% of the students enrolled fail. This best-practice demonstration will focus on ways to incorporate Bloom’s Taxonomy as both a learning strategy and a mindset. Research supports the notions that success in postsecondary education is correlated with students’ use of a metacognitive lens, and that strategy instruction is more effective when contextualized. This presentation will include a PowerPoint, hand-outs, and engaged learning activities as conference attendees experience first modeling and then guided practice of these initiatives for first-generation students and others who are transitioning to the college campus and required coursework.

10:00am – 10:40am

The Creative Path to College Success

Presenter: Dr. Paul Kassell, Northern Illinois University

Abstract: CVPA and FSYE are piloting an innovative and immersive program for first-gen/underserved populations utilizing the arts disciplines as a gateway to college: The Creative Path to College Success. By encouraging and privileging a creative path – visual art, theater, dance, and music – through education, students will discover the discipline and focus required for success when entering the workforce. The session will outline the design and implementation of the initiative.

10:45am – 11:25pm

Latinos in Higher Education: Many Enroll, Too Few Graduate. Why?

Presenter: Deyci Ramirez, Northern Illinois University

Abstract: The growth of Latino students in higher education calls for an examination of the challenges that these students experience, particularly at predominantly white institutions of higher education. Understanding student needs can assist with program development that helps to increase college completion rates. It is imperative for educators to evaluate the way that they serve Latino students in order to better serve them. Through this workshop, you will be provided with vital information that can help you enhance student success at your respective institution as we identify the challenges that affect Latino students.

11:30 – 12:10

Viewing Intellectual Development as a Personal Matter

Presenter: Ms. Ellen Franklin, Northern Illinois University

Abstract: Four faculty members and one student will focus on the interconnections between “personal” and “public/academic” writing in our first-year courses and on the degree to which personal experience and personal voice shape academic writing and academic life. Tracing Corey’s growth from a July placement exam, to an April award-winning essay, to publication in our common text, to success in researched writing course. Corey and his faculty colleagues will describe how he gradually learns to view intellectual development as a personal matter.

12:10pm – 12:45pm **Lunch**

12:45pm – 1:25pm

Meeting the Needs of Underrepresented First Year Students

Presenter: Reverend. Prince F. Robertson, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

Abstract: When meeting needs of students, it is important to meet them where they are personally and academically. It’s imperative as an effective higher education practitioner or mentor to correlate fundamental theory and programming to efficiently serve students. By utilizing Chickering’s Seven Vectors of Development as a theoretical framework, we can effectively engage students where they are mentally and socially. When we are intentional in planning workshops that adhere to the varied emotional needs of students we can hopefully improve retention.

1:30pm – 2:10pm

The Voices of First-generation Parenting Students in Postsecondary Education

Presenter: Marielisbet Perez, University of Illinois-Urbana-Champaign

Abstract: The goal of this presentation is to highlight the narratives and successes of parenting students in my study and provide an opportunity to discuss challenges faced

by first-generation students raising children in postsecondary education. The purpose of research will complement the literature on first-generation students in undergraduate programs by including the narratives of first-generation parenting students.

2:15pm – 2:55pm

Presenter: Ms. Deyci Ramirez

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Abstract: The growth of Latino students in higher education calls for an examination of the challenges that these students experience, particularly at predominantly white institutions of higher education. Understanding student needs can assist with program development that help to increase college completion rates. It is imperative for educators to evaluate the way that they serve Latino students in order to better serve them. Through this workshop, you will be provided with vital information that can help you enhance student success at your respective institution as we identify the challenges that affect Latino students.

3:00pm – 3:40pm

Image Genesis: Recreating the Black Male Mystique

Presenter: Christopher Mitchell, Northern Illinois University

Abstract: This session will focus on understanding the profound meaning of the Black male's image by examining dress codes, street codes, code switching, and power. Participants will learn the most effective strategies to support the education of their students.

3:45pm – 4:00pm Closing

Conference Link: <https://www.myniu.com/article.html?aid=619>