GRADUATION INITIATIVE 2025 SYMPOSIUM

Student Success Through Innovation
October 11-12, 2017

calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative
#GradInitiative2025
# Agenda

**Wednesday, October 11, 2017**

1:00 p.m.  
**Lunch** (Salon B)

1:30 p.m.  
**Welcome and Opening Remarks**  
Chancellor Timothy P. White

1:45 p.m.  
**Convener:** Marcos Montes, *Cal State LA*  
**Keynote:** Sara Goldrick-Rab, *Temple University*

2:30 p.m.  
**Coffee & Dessert Break** (Foyer)

2:45 p.m.  
**Frameworks of Innovation** (Salon A)  
**Convener:** Alana Lim, *CSU Bakersfield*  
**Facilitator:** William Franklin, *CSU Dominguez Hills*  
**Speakers:**  
Bridget Burns, *University Innovation Alliance*  
Wil Del Pilar, *The Education Trust*  
Deborah Santiago, *Excelencia in Education*

4:30 p.m.  
**Closing Remarks**  
Executive Vice Chancellor Loren J. Blanchard

4:45 p.m.  
**Networking Reception** (Terrace)

**Thursday, October 12, 2017**

8:00 a.m.  
**Breakfast & Welcome** (Salon B)  
Manolo P. Morales, *CSU Alumni Council, Humboldt State, ’05*  
Christine Miller, *Academic Senate of California State University*  
Lillian Kimbell, *California State University Board of Trustees*

8:50 a.m.  
**Breakout Sessions I**  
- Closing the Opportunity and Achievement Gaps: Strategies for Achieving Our Shared Responsibility (Naples)  
- The Graduation Initiative Ecosystem: Cultural Change and One Campus Team to the Finish Line (Tokyo)  
- Let Icarus Fly: Multiple Measures in Assessment and the Reimagination of Student Capacity (Barcelona)  
- Proven Pedagogical Strategies for Academic Success: Math and Science (Melbourne)  
- Re-Imagining the First Year: Measuring Student Success (Casablanca)  
- Small Investment-Big Results: The Impact of Completion Grants on Student Success (Odessa)

10:15 a.m.  
**Breakout Sessions II**  
- Equity-Minded Policy Protocol: A Tool for Higher Education Leaders to Assess Current and Developing Policy for Equity (Naples)  
- The Graduation Initiative Ecosystem: Cultural Change and One Campus Team to the Finish Line (Tokyo)  
- Let Icarus Fly: Multiple Measures in Assessment and the Reimagination of Student Capacity (Barcelona)  
- Proven Pedagogical Strategies for Academic Success: Math and Science (Melbourne)  
- Re-Imagining the First Year: Measuring Student Success (Casablanca)  
- Small Investment-Big Results: The Impact of Completion Grants on Student Success (Odessa)

11:30 a.m.  
**Lunch and Closing Address** (Salon B)  
**Convener:** Chimezie Ebiriekwe, *San Diego State University*  
**Closing Keynote:** Shaun Harper, *University of Southern California Race & Equity Center*  
**Closing Remarks**  
Chancellor Timothy P. White

---

**Speakers will be livestreamed at** [www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative](http://www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative)  
**Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.**
Speakers

Sara Goldrick-Rab, Ph.D.
Professor of Higher Education Policy and Sociology, Temple University

Dr. Goldrick-Rab is professor of Higher Education Policy and Sociology at Temple University and founder of the Wisconsin HOPE (Harvesting Opportunities for Postsecondary Education) Lab, the nation’s only translational research laboratory seeking ways to make college more affordable. She is best known for her innovative research on food and housing insecurity in higher education, having led the two largest national studies on the subject, and for her work on making public higher education free. Dr. Goldrick-Rab is the recipient of the William T. Grant Foundation's Faculty Scholars Award and the American Educational Research Association's Early Career Award, and in 2016 POLITICO magazine named her one of the top 50 people shaping American politics.

@saragoldrickrab
@TempleUniv

Shaun R. Harper, Ph.D.
Executive Director, University of Southern California Race & Equity Center

Dr. Shaun R. Harper is the Clifford and Betty Allen Professor in the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California and executive director of the USC Race & Equity Center. He is also the president of the Association for the Study of Higher Education, has published over 100 peer-reviewed journal articles and other academic publications, and received more than $12 million in research grants. His research has been cited in more than 5,000 published studies. The New York Times, Los Angeles Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, Chronicle of Higher Education, and over 11,000 newspapers have quoted Professor Harper and featured his research. He spent a decade as a faculty member at the University of Pennsylvania, where he founded the Center for the Study of Race & Equity in Education.

@DrShaunHarper
@USCRaceEquity

Speakers will be livestreamed at www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative
Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
Speakers

Bridget Burns, Ed.D.
**Executive Director, University Innovation Alliance**

Named one of the “16 Most Innovative People in Higher Education” by *Washington Monthly*, as the founding executive director of the University Innovation Alliance Bridget Burns leads a national consortium of large public research universities collaborating to improve outcomes for all students through innovation, scale, and diffusion of best practices. She previously served as an American Council on Education (ACE) fellow at Arizona State University, chief of staff and senior policy advisor for the Oregon University System, and national associate for the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education. She was the recipient of the 2012 Edwin Crawford Award for Innovation and has served on various statewide governing boards.

@BBurnsEDU
@UIAinnovation

Deborah A. Santiago
**Chief Operating Officer and Vice President for Policy, Excelencia in Education**

Deborah A. Santiago is co-founder, COO and vice president for policy at Excelencia in Education. For more than 20 years, she has led research and policy efforts at the community, state and national levels to improve educational opportunities and success for all students. Her current work focuses on federal and state policy, financial aid, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and effective institutional practices for student success in higher education. She has been cited in numerous publications for her work, including *The Economist, The New York Times, Washington Post, Associated Press*, and *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. Deborah is a Pahara Institute Fellow and serves on the boards of the National Student Clearinghouse and thedream.us.

@ds_excelencia
@edexcelencia

Wil Del Pilar, Ph.D.
**Vice President of Higher Education Policy and Practice, The Education Trust**

Dr. Pilar spearheads Ed Trust’s mission to highlight inequities and outline solutions in order to improve access, success, affordability, and completion in higher education for low-income students and students of color. Prior to joining Ed Trust, Wil served in Pennsylvania as deputy secretary of postsecondary and higher education, where he developed and implemented the state’s strategic vision for higher education. In addition to his policy and development experience, Wil has a wealth of institutional experience, working in admissions at Chapman University, and the University of California, Santa Cruz, as a financial aid counselor at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, and as a research assistant at Penn State. Wil holds a doctorate in higher education/higher education administration from The Pennsylvania State University, a master’s degree from California State University, Dominguez Hills, and a bachelor’s degree from Chapman University.

@Wil_EdTrust
@EdTrust

Speakers will be livestreamed at [www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative](http://www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative)
Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
Closing the Opportunity and Achievement Gaps:
Strategies for Achieving Our Shared Responsibility (Naples)
Tia Brown McNair, Ed.D. Vice President, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Student Success, Association of American Colleges & Universities (AACU)

Doubling the CSU’s four-year graduation rate while eliminating the equity gap between key student demographic groups will require higher levels of innovation and intentionality by design. This session will focus on campus-based models for better serving diverse students and proven strategies for improving defined student success outcomes. Through a discussion of AACU’s publication, “Investing in Quality,” participants will identify questions and define steps in the strategic planning process that will inform future decision making.

The Graduation Initiative Ecosystem:
Cultural Change and One Campus Team to the Finish Line (Tokyo)
Berenecea Johnson-Eanes, Ph.D. Vice President for Student Affairs, CSU Fullerton
Ming-Tung “Mike” Lee, Ph.D. Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Sacramento State

Data and analytics play a pivotal role in improving graduation rates and eliminating equity gaps. However, in order to succeed, campuswide cultural change is needed that engages students, faculty, and staff across all divisions. This session will highlight ways in which data and analytics are key elements of the ecosystem and how a “can-do” cultural change and teamwork can advance Graduation Initiative 2025 goals.

Let Icarus Fly: Multiple Measures in Assessment and the Reimagination of Student Capacity (Barcelona)
Craig Hayward, Ph.D. Senior Consulting Researcher, RP Group
John J. Hetts, Ph.D. Senior Director of Data Science, Educational Results Partnership

More accurate placement of students can improve completion rates while maintaining success rates for gateway college-level courses in mathematics and English. Drawing on research from the Multiple Measures Assessment Project and other regional and national work, the workshop will provide evidence of the efficacy of multiple measures, share lessons learned from implementation, describe new research impacting the CSU, and discuss the critical implications for long-term completion and equity goals.

Proven Pedagogical Strategies for Academic Success:
Math and Science (Melbourne)
Cherie Ichinose, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Mathematics, CSU Fullerton
Frank Lamas, Ph.D. Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Fresno State
Erik Wasinger, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry, CSU Chico

Curriculum redesign efforts have resulted in a variety of proven models and methods for academic success. In some cases, technology has provided faculty with tools to better leverage student interaction and engagement with the course content. In other cases, pedagogical strategies such as supplemental instruction and the implementation of a flipped classroom have also led to increased academic student achievement. This workshop highlights pedagogical strategies shown to decrease the number of repeatable course grades.

Speakers will be livestreamed at www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative
Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
Breakout Sessions

Session I: Thursday October 12, 2017; 8:50 a.m. – 10:05 a.m.

Re-Imagining the First Year: Measuring Student Success (Casablanca)

Jo Arney, Ph.D. Program Director for Re-Imagining the First Year, American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

Drawing upon lessons from the Re-Imagining the First Year (RFY) initiative at the AASCU, this workshop will focus on how to design and evaluate student success projects. Multiple lenses come to bear in the definition and measurement of student success and the lenses can’t all be looked through at once. Workshop participants will be asked to think about how to use data-informed decision making to implement strategies at the right time, in the right amount, and to the right students. Examples from the RFY schools will be explored.

Small Investment-Big Results:
The Impact of Completion Grants on Student Success (Odessa)

Amelia Parnell, Ph.D. Vice President for Research and Policy, NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

Recent research suggests that completion grants and other one-time types of monetary aid can be effective in retaining students and helping them earn a degree. The challenge is scaling the use of these grants and measuring the impact of their investment on student success. This session will provide examples of best practice in delivering small grants as well as posing key questions senior leaders can ask to determine where improvements are needed. The session will also address the importance of communicating appropriately with students; safeguarding student information; and maintaining cross-functional and collaborative relationships across the institution.

Speakers will be livestreamed at www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative
Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
Equity-Minded Policy Protocol: A Tool for Higher Education Leaders to Assess Current and Developing Policy for Equity (Naples)

Megan Chase Ph.D. Research and Policy Specialist, Center for Urban Education, Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California

In this workshop, higher education leaders will learn how to better assess policy from an equity-minded perspective. Using results from a multi-state examination of policy creation and implementation, the Center for Urban Education presents tips on how to create and implement equitable policy. This includes a tool that can help practitioners determine if existing policy is written in a manner that supports current equity efforts or, in contrast, could serve to disproportionately impact the success of students of color.

The Graduation Initiative Ecosystem: Cultural Change and One Campus Team to the Finish Line (Tokyo)

Berenecea Johnson-Eanes, Ph.D. Vice President for Student Affairs, CSU Fullerton
Ming-Tung “Mike” Lee, Ph.D. Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer, Sacramento State

Data and analytics play a pivotal role in improving graduation rates and eliminating equity gaps. However, in order to succeed, campuswide cultural change is needed that engages students, faculty, and staff across all divisions. This session will highlight ways in which data and analytics are key elements of the ecosystem and how a “can-do” cultural change and teamwork can advance Graduation Initiative 2025 goals.

Let Icarus Fly: Multiple Measures in Assessment and the Reimagination of Student Capacity (Barcelona)

Craig Hayward, Ph.D. Senior Consulting Researcher, RP Group
John J. Hetts, Ph.D. Senior Director of Data Science, Educational Results Partnership

More accurate placement of students can improve completion rates while maintaining success rates for gateway college-level courses in mathematics and English. Drawing on research from the Multiple Measures Assessment Project and other regional and national work, the workshop will provide evidence of the efficacy of multiple measures, share lessons learned from implementation, describe new research impacting the CSU, and discuss the critical implications for long-term completion and equity goals.

Proven Pedagogical Strategies for Academic Success: Math and Science (Melbourne)

Cherie Ichinose, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Mathematics, CSU Fullerton
Frank Lamas, Ph.D. Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management, Fresno State
Erik Wasinger, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry, CSU Chico

Curriculum redesign efforts have resulted in a variety of proven models and methods for academic success. In some cases, technology has provided faculty with tools to better leverage student interaction and engagement with the course content. In other cases, pedagogical strategies such as supplemental instruction and the implementation of a flipped classroom have also led to increased academic student achievement. This workshop highlights pedagogical strategies shown to decrease the number of repeatable course grades.

Speakers will be livestreamed at www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
Re-Imagining the First Year: Measuring Student Success (Casablanca)

Jo Arney, Ph.D. Program Director for Re-Imagining the First Year, American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU)

Drawing upon lessons from the Re-Imagining the First Year (RFY) initiative at the AASCU, this workshop will focus on how to design and evaluate student success projects. Multiple lenses come to bear in the definition and measurement of student success and the lenses can’t all be looked through at once. Workshop participants will be asked to think about how to use data-informed decision making to implement strategies at the right time, in the right amount, and to the right students. Examples from the RFY schools will be explored.

Small Investment-Big Results: The Impact of Completion Grants on Student Success (Odessa)

Amelia Parnell, Ph.D. Vice President for Research and Policy, NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education

Recent research suggests that completion grants and other one-time types of monetary aid can be effective in retaining students and helping them earn a degree. The challenge is scaling the use of these grants and measuring the impact of their investment on student success. This session will provide examples of best practice in delivering small grants as well as posing key questions senior leaders can ask to determine where improvements are needed. The session will also address the importance of communicating appropriately with students; safeguarding student information; and maintaining cross-functional and collaborative relationships across the institution.

Speakers will be livestreamed at www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative
Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
The Westin Long Beach – Third-Level Meeting Rooms

Speakers will be livestreamed at www.calstate.edu/GraduationInitiative
Use #GradInitiative2025 to join the conversation.
The California State University Office of the Chancellor thanks all of those who contributed to the coordination and facilitation of the Graduation Initiative 2025 Symposium. Shared knowledge and experiences are instrumental in supporting the strategic thinking and innovation needed to improve student success. A special thanks is extended to the Graduation Initiative 2025 Symposium Planning Committee: Lillian Audet, Marisela Cervantes, Leo Cota, Ivy Harris, Maryann Jackmon, Jonelle Kelly, Cynthia Wyatt and Sara Zaragoza.