

Center Welcomes New Board Chair and Members

New Chair



Dr. Daniel J. Phelan

Many thanks to longtime Center board member Dr. Dan Phelan, President/CEO of Jackson College (MI), for agreeing to fulfill the role of chair. He replaces Dr. Bill Law, who recently served in this role. The Center celebrates both distinguished leaders as invaluable champions of our work.

New Members

- » **Cathy Bio**, Director of Student Success, University of Hawaii Community College System Office
- » **Dr. Steven R. Gonzales**, Interim Chancellor, Maricopa Community Colleges (AZ)
- » **Dr. Leigh Goodson**, President & CEO, Tulsa Community College (OK)
- » **Dr. Russell Lowery-Hart**, President, Amarillo College (TX)

We welcome them to the [Board!](#)

COVID-19 Pandemic: The Center's Response

CCSSE 2020 Administration

Due to the pandemic, all 247 CCSSE 2020 member colleges transitioned their instruction to the online environment during the spring term. While 9% (23) of those colleges were able to complete the paper-and-pencil, in-class survey administration before they moved online, 85% (209 colleges) opted to postpone their administration completely. Six percent (14 colleges) opted to administer a free limited online version of the survey that was made available to allow colleges to collect engagement data during the pandemic. One college was forced to withdraw due to their surveys getting lost during return shipment.

COVID-19 Early Impact Survey: Spring 2020

The Center developed a stand-alone online survey to measure the early impacts of COVID-19 on the student experience. Twenty-five colleges across 10 states administered this survey to nearly 13,000 student respondents between April 29 and June 9. Below are some of the results:

- » 88% of respondents agreed that their college had been supportive of them during the pandemic.
- » 76% of respondents were concerned about finding a job after completing their educational goals.
- » 36% of Black or African American students said accessing a reliable computer or laptop was a challenge, compared with 24% of Hispanic or Latinx students and 14% of White students.

See the [publications](#) section on page 5 to view an article highlighting results from this survey.

COVID-19 Impact Special-Focus Items: SENSE 2020 & CCSSE 2021 Administrations

Through the support of the Trellis Foundation, the SENSE 2020 administration includes [12 special-focus items](#) and CCSSE 2021 will include [five special-focus items](#) to solicit information about the COVID-19 impact on the student experience. An executive summary highlighting those results will be released following each survey administration.

Future Online Survey Administrations

As a result of the pandemic, the Center is intent on offering future survey administrations online to colleges that need this option. Response rate remains a major concern. This will be a discussion item for the National Advisory Board.

We Stand Committed

In response to the recent displays of horrific injustice, the Center created a [We Stand Committed](#) webpage that includes the excerpt below as well as [video clips](#) from a [2014 special report](#) featuring students and faculty discussing aspirations to achievement for men of color in community colleges.

We remain committed to sharing insights around the student voice, including the voices of students who have been historically underserved and underrepresented in higher education. We are also committed to supporting community colleges across the country as they continue the vital work of providing opportunity for every student who walks through their doors.



"This was the only place that ever said 'yes' to me, you know? Said 'yes, you can get an education,' 'yes, you can try to be in organizations, learn leadership skills, learn how to dress properly,' all this stuff. I learned that all here." — Community College Student

UT Austin's College of Education posted a [We Stand Determined](#) message as a response to the injustices.

Special Advisory Committee: Race and Ethnicity

The Center created a special advisory committee (members listed below) to guide the development of a stand-alone race and ethnicity online survey, which will be offered free as a pilot to CCSSE 2021 colleges between April and June. In the long term, the Center will focus on validating this new survey. It is our hope that college leaders will use the data to have conversations with their faculty and staff about how racial barriers and experiences impact community college students and the campus experience.

- » [Dr. Michael A. Baston](#), President, Rockland Community College (NY)
- » [Dr. Carlton J. Fong](#), Assistant Professor, Texas State University
- » [Dr. Stephanie Hawley](#), Chief Equity Officer, Austin Independent School District
- » [Dr. Richard J. Reddick](#), UT College of Education Associate Dean for Equity, Community Engagement, and Outreach
- » [Dr. Victor B. Sáenz](#), UT College of Education Department Chair & Project MALES Executive Director
- » [Dr. Adelina S. Silva](#), Vice Chancellor for Student Success, Alamo Colleges District (TX)

Other Special Advisory Groups

Students in Need in Community Colleges*

Earlier this year, the Center received guidance from a panel (members listed below) to develop survey items pertaining to food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness of community college students. The Students in Need items will be administered with CCSSE and SENSE in 2021.

- » [Dr. Rashida Crutchfield](#), California State University, Long Beach
- » [Dr. Melissa Curtis](#), Austin Community College
- » [Dr. Brenna Ellison](#), University of Illinois
- » [Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab](#), The Hope Center for College Community and Justice, Temple University
- » [Dr. Davis Jenkins](#), Community College Research Center, Teachers College, Columbia University
- » [Dr. Kay McClenney](#), American Association of Community Colleges
- » [Jeff Webster](#), Trellis Company

* See the Students in Need [project timeline](#) on page 3.

Research Affiliates

The Center will announce a new Research Affiliates program during a special webinar hosted by the Council for the Study of Community Colleges (CSCC) on November 11 at 10 a.m. (originally scheduled for the CSCC conference in April). Led by Mike Bohlig, the Center has established an advisory board (members listed below) to help identify topics of interest to community college researchers and administrators as well as to researchers interested in community college student success. One key purpose of this program is to increase awareness of and access to Center data among researchers. Also during the webinar, Mike and co-presenters Therese McCarty and George Bizer (Union College, NY) will highlight a journal article they are writing that demonstrates the breadth of opportunities afforded by CCSSE data for academic research.

- » [Dr. Beverly L. Bower](#), University of North Texas
- » [Dr. Mark D'Amico](#), UNC Charlotte + CSCC
- » [Dr. Matt Giani](#), The University of Texas at Austin
- » [Dr. Deryl Hatch-Tocaimaza](#), University of Nebraska-Lincoln
- » [Dr. Audrey J. Jaeger](#), NC State University
- » [Dr. Steven B. Robbins](#), Educational Testing Service
- » [Dr. Sarah L. Rodriguez](#), Texas A&M University-Commerce

Current Grant-Funded Projects Overview & Timeline

Ensure Students Are Learning

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

\$635,490

Oct 2018–Nov 30, 2020

Objective: To develop a common definition and resources for *ensure students are learning* (Pillar Four in the guided pathways model).

The Working Learner / COVID-19 Impact

Trellis Foundation

\$300,034

Jul 2018–Feb 20, 2022

Objective: To understand the experience of students who work while attending college and the impact that working has on engagement. / To understand the impact of COVID-19 on community college students.

Students in Need in Community Colleges

ECMC & The Kresge Foundation

\$285,228

Sep 2019–Sep 30, 2022

Objective: To explore on a national level food insecurity, housing insecurity, and homelessness of community college students.

Listen to Me: I Have Something Important to Say

Greater Texas Foundation

\$204,170

Jan 2020–Aug 31, 2022

Objective: To hear from students about challenges in their early community college experience that may lead to attrition.

Year	Ensure Students Are Learning	The Working Learner / COVID-19 Impact	Students in Need in Community Colleges	Listen to Me: I Have Something Important to Say
Fall 2019	Summarized over 200 transcripts from interviews with faculty about innovative teaching practices	Administered The Working Learner special-focus items with <i>SENSE</i>		
Spring 2020	Develop website and equity tools for fall release		Assembled advisory panel* to finalize special-focus items	Plan focus groups
Fall 2020	Release playbook and web toolkit on October 13	Administer COVID-19 Impact special-focus items with <i>SENSE</i> Release executive summary report	Recruit colleges to administer special-focus items	
Spring 2021		Administer COVID-19 Impact special-focus items with <i>CCSSE</i>	Administer Students in Need special-focus items with <i>CCSSE</i>	
Fall 2021		Release executive summary report	Administer Students in Need special-focus items with <i>SENSE</i> Conduct student interviews	Conduct focus groups
Spring 2022				Conduct focus groups
Fall 2022			Release national report	Release executive summary report

* See the Students in Need [advisory panel](#) on page 2.

Presentations & Meetings

While ensuring representation on the programs at many of the national and regional conferences, the Center also hosts convenings of its own. Below is a list of all attendances and presentations by Center staff over the past year at a variety of events.

October 2019

- » Wyoming Statewide Workshop, *Student Ready College*
- » 2019 Student Success Institute, *Intersecting Guided Pathways and Student Engagement: What It Means*
- » 2019 Student Success Institute, *Academic Mindset: Including It in the Guided Pathways Redesign Work*
- » 2019 Student Success Institute, *Advising: From Research to Practice*
- » ECMC Foundation's Inaugural Partner Convening

November 2019

- » Ferris State University—Doctorate in Community College Leadership Webinar, *Understanding the Student Experience*
- » Pacific Northwest Association for Institutional Research and Planning Conference, *Academic Advising and Guided Pathways: Fall and Spring Entering Student Experiences*
- » Mid-America Association for Institutional Research Conference, *Investigating Relationships Between Advising and Engagement in Midwestern Community Colleges*
- » Center for the Analysis of Postsecondary Readiness Conference, *Integrating Supports into Developmental Education: Lessons from Research and Practice*
- » Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities Annual Meeting, *Underserved Students: Scaling Student Success Strategies for Everyone*

December 2019

- » Complete College America Annual Convening, *Strengthening Guided Pathways and Career Success by Ensuring Students Are Learning*

January 2020

- » NSSE National Advisory Board Meeting
- » Nebraska Statewide Workshop, *Why Guided Pathways / Using CCSSE Results to Inform Guided Pathways Efforts*
- » JFF Postsecondary State Networking Meeting, *Strengthening Guided Pathways and Career Success by Ensuring Students Are Learning*

February 2020

- » Texas Success Center Knowledge Steering Committee Meeting
- » St. Cloud Technical and Community College Keynote, *The Pathway to Student Success*
- » DREAM 2020, *Building a Mindset for Success from Day 1*
- » DREAM 2020, *Guided Pathways: Early Experiences of Entering Students*

March 2020

- » League for Innovations Conference, *Building an Academic Mindset for Student Success*
- » Texas Association for Institutional Research Conference, *Academic Advising and Guided Pathways: Fall and Spring Entering Student Experiences*
- » AAC&U Ensure Students are Learning Meeting, *Strengthening Guided Pathways and Career Success by Ensuring Students Are Learning*
- » AHSIE Virtual Conference, *Strengthening Guided Pathways and Career Success by Ensuring Students Are Learning*

April 2020

- » Kansas State University—Community College Leadership Program Webinar
- » *SENSE* 2020 Info Webinar

June 2020

- » College Possible Webinar, *Understanding the Higher Education Landscape during COVID*
- » AACC COVID Webinar, *Community Colleges Addressing COVID-19 and Post COVID-19 Issues*
- » NISOD Online Student Support Symposium, *A Mind at Work: Capitalizing on the Relationship Between Mindset and Student Success*

July 2020

- » Achieving the Dream Kickoff Institute Virtual Conference, *Building a Culture of Inquiry and Evidence*
- » NSSE National Advisory Board Conference Call
- » NCII Equity Webinar, *Leading Culture Change to Promote Equity*

August 2020

- » Metropolitan Community College Webinar, *The Superhero Promise and Tool*
- » National Academies Webinar, *High-Impact Online Educational Practices at 2-YR and 4-YR Institutions*

Featured Publications

Center Publications

- » [Building Momentum: Using Guided Pathways to Redesign the Student Experience](#)
EMBARGOED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15, 2020
- » [Engagement Matters: Volume 17, Issue 1](#)
- » [Re-Engaging Data: Volume 3, Issue 2](#)

Articles Authored by Center Staff

- » “Deepening Connections With Students in a COVID-19 World” by Linda García, Courtney Adkins, and Mike Bohlig (AAC&U *Liberal Education BLOG*)
COMING SOON
- » “[The Early Impacts of COVID-19 on the Community College Student Experience](#)” by Linda García, Mike Bohlig, and Courtney Adkins (*Diverse: Issues in Higher Education*)
- » “[The Role of Faculty in Incorporating Academic Mindset](#)” by Linda García and Courtney Adkins (*NISOD Innovation Abstracts*)

Book Chapters Authored by Center Staff

- » “The Power of Advising in Community Colleges” by Evelyn Waiwaiole and Courtney Adkins (in [Academic Advising in the Community College](#))
- » “Shaping a Legacy” by Coral-Noonan-Terry, “John E. Roueche as a Father and a Person: In the Words of His Adult Children” by Linda García, and “More Than a Graduate Program” by Evelyn Waiwaiole (in [Vision for Opportunity: John Roueche and the Community College Movement](#))

Building Momentum National Report Webinar

featuring



Dr. Leigh Goodson
President & CEO
Tulsa Community College (OK)

October 5, 2020
1:00 p.m. CT



Celebrating Dr. Evelyn Waiwaiole!

We are grateful for Evelyn’s leadership and contributions to the Center! Evelyn is now the Vice President of Development and Executive Director of the Foundation at Temple College (TX). Even though her transition to this new role occurred during the “stay at home” order, we continue to celebrate her!

Mark Your Calendars!

2021 National Advisory Board annual meeting
for the Center for Community College
Student Engagement

September 23, 2021
Zoom Meeting
2:00–4:00 p.m. CT