

HOW LOW-INCOME STUDENTS ACHIEVE IN COLLEGE

JAMES LOUIS RAMSEY, PH.D



UNITING ACROSS CAMPUSES: ADVISORS
NETWORKING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS
CONFERENCE

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Group Activity

1. PROFILE OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS
2. OBSTACLES TO SUCCESS
3. HOW LOW-INCOME STUDENTS ACHIEVE

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT FOR ALL STUDENTS?

- Economics: job market, escalating costs, declining financial aid, stagnant family incomes
- Demographics: increasing enrollment, increasingly diverse populations
- Upward mobility: ticket to middle class, healthcare, poverty, crime, housing



PROFILE OF LOW-INCOME STUDENTS

- ESL, racial/ethnic minority
- First-generation, work at least part-time
- Weaker skills/less prepared
- Live off-campus, delay matriculation after high school
- Have dependents, higher dropout rates
- Take longer to graduate, lower degree aspirations



OBSTACLES TO SUCCESS

- Lack of preparation/study skills
- Differences between high school/college
- Faster pace/ greater expectations
- Lecture halls/teaching styles
- Time management
- Adjusting to new culture/homesickness



HOW LOW-INCOME/ALL STUDENTS SUCCEED AT COLLEGE

- Early and steadfast family support for educational activities and aspirations
- Better preparation: AP, “star” public schools, honors’ tracks, internships,
- Inclusive environment: Tinto, Astin, Rendon, Jalomo
- Summer programs: study skills, time management, mini-courses, intro to rigor, expectations
- Socioeconomic motivation and aspirations
- Supportive services: tutoring, academic coaches
- Peer Networks/ Mentors

GOING FORWARD:

**HOW CAN WE IMPROVE
STUDENTS' PERFORMANCE?**

