



NCAN Daily E-Brief

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ACCESS and SUCCESS

Greeting the New Students

Kevin Kiley, Inside Higher Ed, 11/6/2012

It's somewhat fitting that the Council of Independent Colleges' annual institute for chief academic officers is in San Antonio, which saw the highest population growth between 2000 and 2010, and the second-highest growth between 1990 and 2000, with much of that growth coming from Hispanics. The Southwest is unfamiliar territory for many of the roughly 700 private colleges and universities represented by the council. The demographic groups that have contributed to this region's booming growth have not been reflected in the student bodies or admissions strategies of many of these colleges. It is clear from one look at the institute's agenda that serving such students is a growing prerogative for many of these colleges, particularly as they face decreases in their traditional demographics, increased competition from public institutions, and mounting pressure to tap into new revenue sources. The demographic change poses numerous challenges to the colleges represented here. It encompasses a group of students who often need more help paying for college, which can put strain on institutional budgets, since most financial aid at CIC institutions comes in the form of reduced aid rather than payouts from endowments. Confronting the barriers that keep many of these students from succeeding once they enroll, including poor educational backgrounds, a lack of understanding of and preparation for the rigor of college courses, and managing pressures from home (such as the expectation of involvement in family life, and financial and emotional support), is also a new challenge for many of these institutions.

Record Number Complete High School and College

Tamar Lewin, New York Times, 11/5/2012

Record numbers of young Americans are completing high school, going to college and finishing college, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of newly available census data. This year, for the first time, a third of the nation's 25- to 29-year-olds have earned at least a bachelor's degree. That share has been slowly edging up for decades, from fewer than one-fifth of young adults in the early 1970s to 33 percent this year. The share of high school graduates in that age group, along with the share of those with some college, have also reached record levels. This year, 90 percent were high school graduates, up from 78 percent in 1971. And 63 percent have completed some college work, up from 34 percent in 1971. The study attributed the increase both to the recession and a sluggish jobs recovery, which led many young people to see higher education as their best option, and to

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changed attitudes about the importance of a college education. In a 2010 Gallup survey, about three-quarters of Americans agreed that a college education is very important, up from only 36 percent in 1978.

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DIVERSITY and EQUITY

[New Data Shows a Wide Racial Disparity in the GPAs of College Graduates Staff, The Journal of Blacks in Higher Education, 11/5/2012](#)

New data from the U.S. Department of Education shows a wide racial disparity in the grade point averages of bachelor's degree recipients. The data shows grades for students who earned their degrees during the 2007-08 academic year. Some 75 percent of all White bachelor degree recipients had a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. For Blacks, 55.3 percent of all graduates had a grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Whites were more than twice as likely as Blacks to graduate with grade point averages better than 3.5. Two out of every five White graduates but less than one in five Black graduates achieved a GPA greater than 3.5. Blacks were nearly three times as likely as Whites to graduate with a GPA of less than 2.5. Some 14.5 percent of Black graduates and 5.5 percent of White graduates had a GPA of less than 2.5.

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PAYING for COLLEGE

[Tightening lending standards for loans that help parents pay for their children's education could reduce college access](#)

[Brian McVicar, M Live, 11/5/2012](#)

While the number of parents in Michigan taking out federal loans to help their children cover the cost of college is going up, some advocates are reluctant to say lending standards should be tightened. "The government has provided these programs so that people who can't just go out and get the funds on the private market or their savings accounts can still access education," said Heather Jarvis, a Wilmington, N.C.-based lawyer specializing in student loans. Over the last decade, the number of recipients of parent PLUS loans who send their children to colleges and universities in Michigan has more than doubled, jumping from 13,690 in 2000 to 34,123 in 2010, according to data from the U.S. Department of Education. As of now, the federal government doesn't check whether a parent applying for a PLUS loan has a job or other significant debt – questions that may indicate a borrower's ability to repay debt. However, PLUS applicants do have their credit checked for things like bankruptcy filings or bills that are 90 or more days past due. An examination by Propublica of the PLUS program found that the loans are easy for parents to get but nearly impossible to "get out from under for families who have overreached." Jarvis said making PLUS loans more difficult to obtain would likely prevent some students from getting a shot at attending college, thus lessening their ability to get a good job and increase their standard of living. Instead, the focus should be on stopping skyrocketing tuition, she said.

Fund Hopes to Attract Givers for College Savings

Jeff Amy, Diverse Issues in Higher Education, 11/6/2012

A new effort wants people nationwide to help poor children in Mississippi and San Francisco save for college. The 1:1 Fund is being launched by the Corporation for Enterprise Development. In Mississippi, the marketing effort expands on the Mississippi College Savings Account Program. And it has helped more than 500 children in Jackson, Leland and Greenville open college savings accounts. Mississippi's two-year pilot program has provided \$30,000 to \$40,000 to participants, using money from the Kellogg Foundation. The program seeds accounts in a child's name with a \$50 deposit. It then encourages families to deposit more, with the program sometimes matching those deposits. It's a restricted, deposit-only account, so it can't be used for anything other than some sort of post high-school education. The Mississippi effort is trying to raise \$400,000 or more over the next three years to keep matching existing accounts and adding new children. It's part of a national effort to help poor families build assets, so they can better absorb life's financial bumps and achieve goals such as owning a reliable car, a home and sending children to college.

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POLICY and ADVOCACY

[With Obama's Win, Colleges Anticipate 4 More Years of Reform](#)

Staff, NASFAA, 11/7/2012

"American voters re-elected Barack Obama as president on Tuesday, extending the White House stay of an administration that has focused on expanding federal student aid as well as tightening regulations on colleges and universities," The Chronicle of Higher Education reports. "Economic concerns took center stage over the course of the 2012 presidential race, as both campaigns sought to make the case for why their candidate was best equipped to lead a nation still recovering from an economic recession. Higher-education issues were often embedded in broader economic narratives. Both campaigns responded to anxiety over the cost of a college education, the unemployment rate for recent college graduates, and the burden of student-loan debt, which reached the \$1-trillion milestone as the campaign was beginning this year.

[Four More Years](#)

Staff, NASFAA, 11/7/2012

"President Obama, who won re-election Tuesday night, has already hinted how he might deal with higher education in a second term," Inside Higher Ed reports. "The question now is how much of that agenda he will be able to accomplish in the next four years, given the budget crises he will face and the expectation that Republicans in Congress will continue to oppose his priorities. The president's victory means that colleges can expect the White House to continue to stand up for federal financial aid, as well as for federal research money, in the likely fierce budget battles in the coming months.

Dates & Deadlines

[Webinar:Developing a College Completion Program: Where do I begin?](#)

Staff, NCAN, November 7, 2012

This webinar will focus on how to develop a program that supports students after they enroll in postsecondary education. Topics will include assessing organizational readiness to expand, evaluating external capacity and understanding data management. Presented by NCAN members Bottom Line, College Bound and College Forward.

Reserve your Webinar seat now at:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/574185802>

[What will the 2012 election mean for education?](#)

AEI, Washington, DC, November 8, 2012

AEI will be having a balanced discussion of what the 2012 election results will mean for the potential reauthorization of the ESEA, federal education spending, state and local issues and other pressing concerns. This event will be on Thursday, November 8, 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. The event will also be a free online broadcast that anyone can register to.

[New Futuro:Chicago's Largest College Prep Fair for Latinos](#)

November 10th, Chicago, Illinois

College Prep Fair will have hundreds of bilingual representatives from universities, colleges, and community organizations as well as dozens of small educational sessions with college and career experts--all there to answer your questions and help you get into college and beyond. Admission is free for this event.

[Applicant Webinar Series - Fall 2012](#)

Staff, Assets for Independence, November 14, 2012. 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM EST

Ready to start your next AFI grant application? Check out the webinar series the AFI Resource Center will host this fall for prospective 2013 applicants. The webinars will cover the basics of planning, applying, and developing resources for an AFI project. Current grantees will be most interested in Webinars 2 and 3; first-time applicants will want to start with Webinar 1.

[WEBINAR: Show Me the Data: The Power of Data in Driving Education Change in College Prep, Access, and Success](#)

Staff, NCAN, 11/14/2012

This webinar will focus on the use of data and action-oriented research to drive programmatic and systemic educational change in the Central Texas Region. It will include an overview of how E3 Alliance accesses and leverages education data and action research to drive higher outcomes in college preparation, access, and success. Specific examples of systems change will be provided through E3 collaborative partners' work in the Austin College Access Network and the STEM

Pipeline Collaborative. Presented by Susan Dawson and Ara Merjanian of E3 Alliance.

Reserve your webinar seat at:

<https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/837413554>

Gates Foundation supports college readiness apps

Dennis Carter, E Campus News, Deadline: November 16, 2012

The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation is awarding upwards of \$100,000 to developers who propose apps and online tools that help high school students prepare for college, fund their schooling, and complete the sometimes circuitous application process. The College Knowledge Challenge started Sept. 27 at Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif., where 100 developers gathered for a “hack-a-thon”—an effort to create useful technologies aimed at better preparing incoming college students as the need for remedial classes continues to rise across the U.S. Anyone can submit a proposal to the Gates Foundation through the organization’s website. Winners of the \$2.5 million grant competition will be announced in January, according to the foundation. [To learn more and apply online, [click here](#)]

2012 FSA Conference

Tuesday, November 27 – Friday, November 30, 2012

The FSA annual conference is designed to provide the most up-to-date information on Title IV programs and the evolving federal policies and procedures affecting our customers and partners. We also cover topics ranging from the technologies associated with our information systems to improved practices for supporting aid applicants and recipients. We are focusing this year’s conference program on topics related to changes in Title IV policies and programs impacting schools participating in the federal student aid programs.

College Ready Grants, Great Lakes

Deadline: December 7, 2012

The College Ready grant is designed to support programs that help students in grades 6-12 and adult learners prepare for success in college. Community-based organizations and nonprofit colleges and universities in Wisconsin and Minnesota are eligible to apply for grants of up to \$300,000. Grant funds can be used to sustain, grow, or replicate programming that helps students succeed academically.

Great Lakes’ College Ready grant applicants must provide academic-focused services to students from traditionally underserved backgrounds throughout the 2013-2014 academic year. The following outcomes, proven to be strong indicators of college success, will be used to measure student achievement: ACT or SAT scores, grade point average (GPA), or academic performance, as indicated by pre- and post-test scores.

Application can be accessed at: mygreatlakes.org/community

Social Impact Exchange Business Plan Competition

Staff, Social Impact Exchange, Deadline: Round 1 is Dec 7, 2012 and Round 2 is Feb 18, 2013

The Competition identifies social sector scaling initiatives with demonstrated impact and readiness to scale – and supports them with financial and consulting awards. The Competition helps develop a strong pipeline of scale-ready initiatives

and provides them with resources to take the next step successfully. During an 8-month evaluation process, entrants develop and submit business plans to scale their impact and improve the lives of people in need. Judging is conducted on a pro bono basis by professionals from the private, public and nonprofit sectors. Competition entrants have access to a website of resources on scaling, take part in group training and one-on-one consulting, and receive customized written feedback on their plans. The final round of the Social Impact Business Plan Competition takes place in June in New York City.

Good Neighbor Grant Program

Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Deadline: January 8, 2013

The following information will help you determine if your organization is eligible for a Good Neighbor Grant and provide you with guidelines on how to submit proposal.

To be considered for a grant, your organization must:

Be classified as a public charity and tax exempt under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, focus on K-12 education, college access and completion, or visual and performing arts education, be located in and benefit the following geographic areas: Loudoun County, Fairfax County, Arlington County, and Prince William County in Virginia; the cities of Alexandria, Manassas, Manassas Park, and Falls Church in Northern Virginia; the District of Columbia; and Montgomery County and Prince George's County in Maryland; and not have received a grant from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation within the twelve months preceding the current submission deadline.

Selected grantees will receive a one-time grant of between \$10,000 - \$35,000 that may be used over a one-year period. Funding is intended for application towards specific project or program-based costs. Note that the grant request may not fund general operating support, capital improvements, endowments, lobbying, or activities that exclusively benefit the members of sectarian or religious organizations.

AAUW Accepting Applications for Community Action Grants

Staff, Philanthropy News Digest, 9/30/2012

Deadline: January 15, 2013

The AAUW Community Action Grants Program annually provides funds to individuals, AAUW branches, and AAUW state organizations as well as local community-based nonprofit organizations for innovative programs and non-degree research projects that promote education and equity for women and girls.

The program's one-year grants (\$2,000 to \$7,000) provide funding for community-based projects. Two-year grants (\$5,000 to \$10,000) provide start-up funds for new projects that address the particular needs of the community and develop girls' sense of efficacy through leadership or advocacy opportunities. Project topic areas are unrestricted but should include a clearly defined activity that promotes education and equity for women and girls. Special consideration will be given to projects focused on the achievements of K-12 girls and community college women in science, technology, engineering, or math.

Applicants must be women who are citizens or permanent residents of the United States. Nonprofit organizations must be based in the U.S. Grant projects must have direct public impact, be nonpartisan, and take place within the U.S. or its territories.

Notices of Funds Availability / Notices of Funding Opportunities

Staff, AmeriCorps, Applications are due Wednesday, January 23, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time.

The mission of the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is to improve lives, strengthen communities, and foster civic participation through service and volunteering. CNCS—through its AmeriCorps and Senior Corps programs and the Social Innovation Fund—has helped to engage millions of citizens in meeting community and national challenges through service and volunteer action. This AmeriCorps State and National (AmeriCorps) Notice of Federal Funding Opportunity Notice (Notice) will focus grant making for fiscal year 2013 in six focus areas identified by the Serve America Act (SAA): Disaster Services, Economic Opportunity, Education, Environmental Stewardship, Healthy Futures, Veterans and Military Families

PeyBack Foundation Accepting Grant Applications for Programs Serving At-Risk Children

Staff, Philanthropy News Digest, Deadline: February 1, 2013

Established by Denver Broncos quarterback Peyton Manning, the PeyBack Foundation is a nonprofit organization which makes grants every year to programs that provide leadership and growth opportunities for at-risk children in the Denver metro area, Indiana, Louisiana, and Tennessee. The foundation focuses on economically disadvantaged children and youth. Applicants must be nonprofit 501 (c)(3) organizations serving economically disadvantaged children between the ages of 6 and 18 in the Denver metro area, Indiana, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Grants are limited to a maximum of \$15,000; most grants funded will be around \$10,000. The foundation prefers not to be the only financial resource for a program. Applications demonstrating collaborative efforts with partnering organizations will be given priority. Funding is provided to support program-specific expenses, not an organization's general administrative expenses.

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