Equity in California Higher Education: The State/Regional Approach
Agenda

- Welcome by Dr. Ramakrishnan
- Presentation by CSI-UCR
- Presentation Q & A
- Higher Education Equity Panel
- Panel Q & A
- Concluding remarks
Key Findings of the Report

- California has invested more in higher education, but gains have not been even across regions and communities of color
  - Black and Native American enrollment remains low in the state, while Latino enrollment has notably increased over time
  - Increased Latino enrollment at CSUs coming from Los Angeles County; CSU enrollment tends to be hyper-local
  - Southern California sends the most Black students to the UCs, though the absolute number remains very low
  - Southern California community colleges send the most Black transfer students to the UCs, though the absolute number remains very low
- Advocacy tends to happen top-down, with feedback loops happening mostly via state/government organizations
Higher Education History

- Tripartite system in place by 1920 - University of California, California State University, California Community Colleges - meant to be physically and financially accessible to all Californians

- 1960 California Master Plan for Education

- “Baby Boom” & GI Bill, post-WWII surge in enrollment

- Continued growth, CA higher education system is the largest and most diverse in the nation
Equity Issues in Higher Education

• Issues areas: access, affordability, completion, representation (decolonizing curriculum, teacher/faculty diversity and representation)

• Underrepresented groups face significant barriers in college readiness, access, and completion

• Inequitable educational outcomes across income, gender, legal status, disability, race/ethnicity

• Academic standards are not always culturally appropriate nor inclusive; lack of representation

• Uncertain lasting impacts of the pandemic; exacerbating existing inequities
Efforts of Higher Education Advocates

- Remedial Coursework Reform
  - AB 705

- Cradle to Career Data System
  - SB 2, AB 99, AB 132

- CalGrant Reform
  - AB 1456 (vetoed, 2021)

- Dual Enrollment
  - AB 288
Quantitative Data
UC Enrollment by Race, 2016-2020

Source: University of California Database
Latino/Hispanic Enrollment at a UC by Originating HS Region

Source: University of California Database
Latino/Hispanic Enrollment at a CSU by Originating HS Region

- **Bay Area**
- **Central Valley**
- **Southern California**

Source: California State University Database
UC Transfers by Race, 2016-2020

Source: University of California Database
CSU Transfers by Race, AY 2013-20

Source: California State University Database
Time to Completion

4-Year Completion Rate

6-Year Completion Rate

Source: IPEDS
Qualitative Data
Qualitative Data - Common Themes

- Focus on capacity building
- Need for information and resource sharing
- The role of smaller community organizations and advocacy
Higher Education Advocacy Model
Local, Regional, and State Level Relationships

Source:
Higher Education Advocacy Model

• Strengths of the Model
  • Strong communication & collaboration between organizations
  • Helps smaller orgs. have input in the legislative/policy process

• Areas for Improvement
  • More consistent engagement from the state to local level
  • More direct community engagement (listening sessions, etc)
  • Capacity building for all levels, especially regional hubs/local orgs.
Policy Options
Policy Options & Recommendations

- Increasing access & affordability
- Better data reporting and availability
- Improving college completion rates (particularly for underrepresented student populations)
- Promoting & increasing equity and diversity in higher ed institutions
- Strengthening pipelines & aligning with the state’s workforce needs
- Updating the Master Plan goals
- More investment and funding in public higher education, especially for student services and support for underrepresented groups
Higher Education Equity Panel

Panelists:

Dr. Carlos Ayala, President/CEO, Growing Inland Achievement

Dina Walker, President/CEO, BLU Educational Foundation

Max Espinoza, Senior Program Officer, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Gerardo Chavez, President of the Student Senate for California Community College
Next Steps

• Additional questions? - email gary.rettberg@ucr.edu