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



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## 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
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## **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**



Source: University of California Database



#### Source: University of California Database



Source: California State University Database



Source: California State University Database

#### UC Transfers by Race, 2016-2020



Source: University of California Database

### CSU Transfers by Race, AY 2013-20



## **Time to Completion**



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 <u>gary.rettberg@ucr.edu</u>

