Educational Session

Building Equitable, Transfer-Inclusive Educational Pathways for Latinx Students
Diversity and Inclusion, Partnerships and Collaboration

Latinx students are fundamental to the current post-secondary education landscape and college pathways. Educational systems must adapt to become more transfer student-ready and build equitable learning environments. Juntos is a pre-college program for Latinx families that utilizes partnerships with community colleges to provide culturally-responsive resources and support students through their entire educational journey. Impact is evident in both student outcomes and stronger institutional capacity for equity.

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BUILDING EQUITABLE, TRANSFER-INCLUSIVE EDUCATIONAL PATHWAYS FOR LATINX STUDENTS

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National Institute for the Study of Transfer Students
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Nationally: % of undergraduate students enrolled at a 2-year institutions

- All undergraduate students: 35%
- Latinx undergraduates: 44%
Oregon

- 4 out of 5 HSIs are community colleges
- ~14% of public community college enrollment Latinx
  - Range: 7.1% - 29.5%

- ~12% of public university enrollment Latinx
  - Range: 10% - 18.6%

- # of students? 35,000+ Latinx students at community colleges vs. 12,000+ at universities

- At OSU (Fall 2019):
  - ~10% of OSU students identify as Latinx
  - 14% of dual-enrolled community college and OSU students identify as Latinx
Transfer agents: why pre-college?

- Persistent inequity in transfer and degree completion, or “racial transfer gap” which can be magnified in first generation students

- For new OSU students (2018 – 2019):
  - Juntos: 64% students have gone on to attend community college

![Bar chart showing transfer and first year percentages]
Juntos empowers Latino families around high school completion, college access, and community engagement

- Pre-college program for Latino youth (grades 6-12) and their families
- Administered by OSU Extension
- Mission of promoting statewide educational attainment, specifically first-generation and BIPOC
- Adapted from *Juntos para una mejor educación* developed by NCSU Cooperative Extension
Local and Cultural responsive programming

- Juntos is administered locally by 10 Extension coordinators
- Program content delivered by bilingual/bicultural facilitators
- Since bring brought to Oregon in 2012, OSU Juntos has reached over 5,000 students, parents, and family members.
- Juntos has offered 149 cohorts in 37 communities across Oregon
Juntos stakeholders

Oregon State University
- Central program management
- Curriculum development
- Research and evaluation
- Statewide Extension presence

Community colleges
- Shared positions and local support
- Local higher education connection
- Promise scholarships

K-12 educational partners
- Program space, food, meals, and childcare
- School staff support program delivery
- Space and access for mentoring and family engagement

Community and regional partners
- Grant and funding opportunities
- Collaboration on initiatives with common goals
- Outreach and local engagement
Examples of Juntos as transfer agents

- Workshop curriculum inclusive of community college and transfer pathways
- Community colleges facilitate local program presence and college access
- Coordinators receive training in transfer-oriented success coaching
- Juntos staff provide mentorship and support beyond program workshops
- Building a **transfer student ready** culture at OSU and 4-year partners
The high school and early college experience critical steps on the transfer student Journey

- Enrollment
  - HS Completion
  - Applications
  - Financial aid
  - Summer melt
  - Testing/exams

- Persistence

- Transfer

- Degree completion
COVID impacts on student journey

Nationwide enrollment reductions coincided with April shutdowns of colleges.

Leaves of absence occurred later in term than pre-pandemic baseline.

Latino and BIPOC students may be more sensitive risk factors.

National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, A COVID-19 Supplement to Spring 2020 Current Term Enrollment Estimates
Juntos program evaluation

• Retrospective survey following Juntos workshop series

• Youth and parent surveys offered in participant’s choice of English or Spanish

• Paper survey entered in Qualtrics interface for analysis

• Results presented cover 2018-19 and 2019-20 school years

• Data used for reporting and interdisciplinary scholarship
College and post-secondary access

• Parents view Juntos as a source of resources and information about college that they might not otherwise have access to

• Participants interested in more college-oriented content in Juntos such as college visits and financial aid information
Impact on parents and families

- Juntos is a safe space for parents where their knowledge is valued
- Parents observe growth in their children after completing Juntos as a family
- Parents feel more supported by the school system
- Stronger interest in school and community engagement after completing Juntos

Parent-reported impacts of Juntos:

- Know where to go for resources at school: 94%
- Know how to help child do well in school: 93%
- Talk to child's teachers: 92%
- Know about child's schoolwork: 97%
- Are knowledgeable about school system: 96%
Juntos during COVID-19

• Program adaptation varies locally based on need and capacity
• Critical need for support and resources for Latino learners
• Virtual programming is reliant on trust in the system, helping Juntos to sustain impact
• Commitment to maintain cultural responsiveness in remote programming
COVID impacts on student journey

Nationally and statewide, FAFAS completions are lower than previous years.

As of December 2020, Oregon is 31st in the US for FAFSA completion.

Disproportionate impact on rural, Title I, and BIPOC-serving schools.

Through January 15, 2021, 31.0% of the high school class of 2021 in Oregon has completed a FAFSA. There have been 14,934 completions in Oregon, a -16.9% change compared to last academic year.

National College Attainment Network, #FormYourFuture FAFSA Tracker, https://formyourfuture.org/fafsa-tracker
COVID impacts on student journey

Nationwide enrollment reductions coincided with April shutdowns of colleges.

Later enrollment reductions may signal to persistence in these circumstances.

Latino and BIPOC students may be more sensitive risk factors.

National Student Clearinghouse Research Center, A COVID-19 Supplement to Spring 2020 Current Term Enrollment Estimates
Questions?

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