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Introductory Pages

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About the Journal



An Overview

The *Journal of College Access* (JCA) focuses on the current trends, research, practices, and development of all types of programs, policies, and activities related to the access of and success in postsecondary education. Issues of college aspiration, qualification, application, enrollment, and persistence are the primary emphases.

The Journal was co-founded by Dr. Patrick O'Connor and Dr. Christopher Tremblay. O'Connor is Associate Dean for College Counseling at Kingswood Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and is chairperson of the Board of Directors for the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN). Tremblay is the Director of Strategic Engagement at MCAN.

Launched in March 2014, JCA is a part of Western Michigan University's ScholarWorks, a digital showcase of research, scholarly and creative output.

Affiliations

JCA is affiliated with the Michigan College Access Network and the Center for Postsecondary Readiness and Success (CPRS).

MICHIGAN
COLLEGE ACCESS NETWORK

MCAN is a statewide non-profit organization with a mission to increase college readiness, participation, and completion in Michigan, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college going students, and students of color.



**The Center for
Postsecondary
Readiness and Success**

The goal of the Center for Postsecondary Readiness and Success is to increase equitable and accessible pathways to postsecondary success for all people. Located at American University in Washington, D.C., the Center will create an aligned system, driven by student outcomes to disseminate new knowledge and discovery of college and career readiness and persistence models, while simultaneously connecting this new knowledge to K-12 and higher education policy formation.



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

We accept submissions year round.

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From the Editors



Authored by
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Welcome to the start of our sixth year and our fifth issue, the largest issue to date and the first one to share more than 100 pages of research!

Since launching, our articles have been downloaded nearly 12,000 times.

This edition of the *Journal of College Access* begins with a close-up look at some of the essential elements of the college selection process.

General Mark Brown begins this discussion with a look at the future of financial aid, an essential element of the college access discussion.

Matt Giani and David Walling then discuss another issue closely related to low-income students, when they study the role a student-facing tool can use to reduce undermatching in college application decisions.

Social-emotional factors are an often-undervalued element of the college admissions decision. Catherine Millett and

Marisol Kevelson remind us of the importance of this practice, by taking us through a look at its key role in the college selection process.

Zachary Taylor takes us into the world of English Language Learners with a study analyzing college access for students based on English as their primary or secondary language.

Laura Owen, Timothy Poynton, and Raeal Moore present findings on how and from whom high school seniors prefer to receive their college and career information.

Alexis Arocho offers a review of a different kind of language issue, as she studies the relationship between the world of technology and college access, a challenge that must be overcome by students and advisers on a daily basis.

This edition of the *Journal* ends with several book reviews designed to guide readers to a wide array of topics. From the role racism plays in college admission, to a paradigm of college decision-making that has a lifelong purpose, to a review of pre-college programming, to a rethinking of the role of the school counselors, these reviews offer a glimpse into vital elements of the college access construct.

We hope you enjoy this edition of JCA!

