WHAT DO A FIRST-GEN DONOR, FACULTY MEMBER & ADMINISTRATOR HAVE IN COMMON?

Investing in a Co-curricular Learning Community for First-Generation Students

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FIRST GEN DONOR

“Focus not on your origin, but your destiny.”

Michael J. Brown
FIRST GEN FACULTY MEMBER & ADMINISTRATOR

- English Professor
- Dean
- Different first-gen experiences
- One goal
FIRST GEN STUDENTS

• Cohort of 5
• First cohort all women

• Intersectionality (First-Gen Plus)
  • Underrepresented minority
  • Parent students
  • Adult student
  • International
LEADERSHIP LEARNING COMMUNITY

**First design**
- Cohort leadership seminar (focus: Resonant leadership, emotional and social intelligence)
- Coffee & Conversation
- Introduction to other campus leaders

**Design Enhancements**
- Additional leadership seminars (focus fall: Personal Vision; Spring: Learning plan)
- Peer Mentoring
CALL ME A SCHOLAR

- Identity development as a strength based approach
- Retention
- Encouragement
- Engagement
- Peer Mentoring

“It’s been really interesting,” says Zarai Aquino, a graphic-design-focused liberal arts major. “We get to know ourselves and how we’ve gained leadership in our lives. Even though we don’t have that title of leader yet, it shows us how our leadership skills are coming into play in our everyday lives.”
**WHAT CAN YOU DO ON YOUR CAMPUS?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scalable Practices</th>
<th>Yes/No/Maybe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Gen Donor/Donor Committed to First-Gen</td>
<td>Maybe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>First Gen Faculty, Staff and Administrators</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strength Based Leadership Curriculum</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Support Services (i.e. Career Services/Civic Engagement)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Impact on First-Gen Students**

**Priceless**
“It doesn’t matter the walk in life we have taken, or even how long it has taken to get to where we are today,” Boutell says. “It’s worth the fight. Keep pushing because, in the end, your self-fulfilling prophecy will happen, and when it does, it’s something to be proud of. I get choked up just thinking about why I was chosen for such a great opportunity. I am forever grateful to this cohort and for everything they have done for me.”