

I Belong at Skyline

Equity Training Series:
Project and Proposal, Spring 2021

Facilitated by:

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- Rachel Cunningham - Geography Instructor
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“I Belong at Skyline” marketing and web campaign

- Students are encouraged early-on to connect with Learning Communities, targeted programs, and student organizations that align with their identities and interests
- With their participation, a master list of Learning Communities, targeted programs, and student organizations will be made easily accessible and easy to find on the Skyline College website



Reflection Questions

- **What does your ideal campus look like?**
 - Where students have a sense of belonging, even before they apply.
 - **What steps are needed to take to create your ideal campus?**
 - Make easily known all the wonderful support groups and learning communities that exist at Skyline College, from the first time a potential or existing student clicks on our website.
 - **What are you willing to risk/give up to create your ideal campus?**
 - We need to break down silos, work together to create a belonging campus and sense of community.
 - When we get student feedback on what they need to feel community, and how they are feeling about community at Skyline, we might hear some hard truths that make us reflect more on our work and what needs to be done to improve Skyline
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Institutional

This project will require Skyline staff and faculty to use their ETS training in cultural humility and recognizing & challenging whiteness and patriarchy. In order for a larger portion of our students to truly feel that they belong at Skyline, we must end the narrative of white-dominance, patriarchy, and heteronormativity that is pervasive in higher education.

Research shows that a better sense of belonging among students leads to higher rates of personal and academic successes later in their college experiences.

When student populations from underrepresented communities do not feel a strong sense of belonging on campus, it impacts how they integrate, perform and persist.



Next Steps

- Student input is crucial!
 - Focus groups that give students from various cultural backgrounds the opportunity to share their experiences (example: first-generation, undocumented, recent high school graduates, re-entry, African American, Asian American, Latinx, ESL, LGBTQ+, Veterans, homeless, foster youth, etc.)
 - Input, feedback, and buy-in from Learning Communities & Support Groups is key
 - Respecting Learning Communities and Support Groups recruitment methods
 - Providing support for Learning Communities/Support Groups for updating websites, etc.
 - Collaborating with the Outreach Team to obtain data used in planning recruitment and retention campaigns
 - Collaborate with peer mentors from learning communities/support groups and student leaders to help promote the “I Belong at Skyline” campaign
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