

September 21, 2022 #EquityChat

Dr. Charlie Eaton

Associate Professor of Sociology, UC Merced

Cofounder of HERE Lab

[5:00 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Welcome to [#EquityChat](#) sponsored by [@CollegeFutures](#) and welcome [@charlieeatonPhd](#) - economic sociologist, associate prof. [@UCMerced](#) & cofounder of [@HERE Lab](#) publishing code&data for addressing racial, class & org. disparities in [#HigherEd](#). [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@DrPamLuster](#) [@DrTammeil](#)

[5:05 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Q1 [@CharlieEatonPhd](#) As you engage in equity-focused work, what is your walk-up song or anthem? [@DrTammeil](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityAvengers](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhd](#)

Replying to [@DrPamLuster](#) [@DrTammeil](#) and 2 others

Great question! Lately it's been "Living in the Past" by the band Witch. I first heard the song on the HBO show The Watchmen. Then I learned that they pioneered the Zamrock music genre in the 1970s after Zambia won it's independence from the British empire. [#EquityChat](#)

[5:11 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q2 [@CharlieEatonPhd](#) We've previously asked guests for their non-resume introduction, but we want to know what is something you want people to know about you that you haven't shared? [@DrPamLuster](#) [@DrTammeil](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) [#EquityAvengers](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhd](#)

Replying to [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@DrPamLuster](#) and 2 others

One thing that's not on my resume is that I'm a former Diablo Valley Community College student. And my transfer credits helped me save money by graduating early from NYU. So I know first hand the benefits of free community college! [#EquityAvengers](#)

[5:18 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Q3 @CharlieEatonPhd Tell us about your work with @HERE\_Lab. What research from @HERE\_Lab are you most proud of? @DrTammeil @Iamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityAvengers

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

Replying to [@DrPamLuster @HERE\\_Lab and 3 others](#)

I cofounded the Higher Education, Race, and the Economy Lab ([@HERE\\_Lab](#)) with Laura Hamilton at [@UCMerced](#). We do rigorous social science that can inform policy to address race and class disparities involving higher ed and the economy. 1/ [#EquityChat](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

Replying to [@CharlieEatonPhD @DrPamLuster and 5 others](#)

I'm especially proud of [@HERE\\_Lab](#) research on how student debt traps millions of borrowers in negative net worth, especially Black borrowers historically excluded from wealth. Biden's debt cancellation will lift more than 5 million out of negative net worth. 2/ [#EquityChat](#)

[5:25 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q4 @CharlieEatonPhd What would you say are the "Big E" and "Small E" goals to achieve equity? As an Assoc. Prof. @UCMerced and Cofounder @HERE\_Lab, what is your role in achieving these goals? @DrPamLuster @DrTammeil @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

Replying to [@Iamkeithcurry @ucmerced and 4 others](#)

A Big E equity goal for me is to eliminate lifetime burdens from debt for all students - past, present, and future. It isn't possible to have a higher education system with debt that doesn't fuel existing class, racial, and gender inequalities. 1/ [#EquityChat](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

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A small E equity goal for me is to change the way we think of college not as a training ground or ranking system, but as a time and place where people from all walks of life come together to learn from each other and create new ideas serving equity and justice. 2/ [#EquityChat](#)

[Dr Pamela Luster #EquityAvengers #RealCollegePrez](#)

Replying to [@CharlieEatonPhD @Iamkeithcurry and 4 others](#)

I love this [@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

[5:32 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Q5 @CharlieEatonPhd What are your thoughts on debt forgiveness and debt relief programs, such as Biden's student loan forgiveness program? @DrTammeil @IamKeithCurry @CollegeFutures #EquityAvengers

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I think President Biden's action to cancel debt will be transformative for tens of millions of Americans. But we need to do more. We need repair wrongs from student debt by also cancelling the entire debt of those trapped in larger debts. 1/ [#EquityChat](#)

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Together with student debt cancellation, we need to guarantee a debt free path through college for all. 2/ [#EquityChat](#)

[5:39 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q6 @CharlieEatonPhd Based on your research around financial aid and student debt, what recommendations do you have to address income inequalities & wealth exclusion, particularly within African American & Latinx communities? @DrPamLuster @DrTammeil @CollegeFutures #EquityChat #EquityAvengers

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Cancelling student debt and providing debt free college options alone will not end racial income and wealth gaps. Reparations and baby bonds are also important policy proposals. 1/ [#EquityChat](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

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My book Bankers in the Ivory Tower tells how inclusive public universities can foster diverse coalitions for policy innovation and change. So equity and inclusion on campuses could be vital for developing policies and political strategies to end the racial wealth gap. [#EquityChat](#)

[5:46 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

Q7 @CharlieEatonPhd To do this work, we must continue learning and partnering with others. Who/what is informing your practice? Who do you recommend we follow, and what are you learning from them? @DrTammeil @IamKeithCurry @CollegeFutures #EquityAvengers

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

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Our research is vitally informed by direct collaboration with civic and community groups. Some stars include [@theSBPC](#), [@DebtCrisisOrg](#), [@StrikeDebt](#), [@NAACP](#), [@NextGen\\_Policy](#), and [@ColorOfChange](#). 1/ [#EquityChat](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

Replying to [@CharlieEatonPhD](#) [@DrPamLuster](#) and 9 others

Our Lab also follows many researchers who share community connections including [@louise\\_seamster](#), [@tressiemcphd](#), [@FenabaAddo](#), [@ProfessorWherry](#), [@bakerdphd](#), and Adam Goldstein. Everyone should also follow [@amber\\_d\\_villa](#) and [@SmithChristianM](#) from our lab! [#EquityChat](#)

[5:53 pm] Dr. Keith Curry

Q8 [@CharlieEatonPhD](#) To close out tonight's chat, what advice would you give to other equity practitioners?  
[@DrPamLuster](#) [@DrTammeil](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) [#EquityAvengers](#)

[@CharlieEatonPhD](#)

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I find it's more often researchers that need to ask equity practitioners for advice. It makes our research so much better. So I would encourage practitioners to share with researchers what you think we need to study!

[#EquityChat](#)

[6:00 pm] Dr. Pamela Luster

[Dr Pamela Luster](#) [#EquityAvengers](#) [#RealCollegePrez](#)

TY [@CharlieEatonPhD](#) for sharing your work w/us! It's a busy wk for [@equityavengers](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) & [@DrPamLuster](#) presented [@EdTrustWest](#) [#EdEquityForum2022](#) & [@DrTammeil](#) in Ghana for [#allafricandiasporaedsummit2022](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) [#EquityChat](#) Stay tuned for new guest next wk!