

March 17, 2021 #EquityChat

Eddy Conroy (@econroy\_1),

AD of Institutional Transformation;

Carrie R. Welton (@CarrieRWelton),

Director of Policy, The Hope Center for College Community, and Justice (@hope4college)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Good evening and welcome to #EquityChat! Tonight we are joined by @hope4college guests @econroy\_1 @CarrieRWelton ! Welcome!

[@hope4college](#) Thank you for having us for tonight's #EquityChat!

[@CarrieRWelton](#) Thrilled to be here!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1. @hope4college @econroy\_1 @CarrieRWelton Tell us about @hope4college? #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures

[@hope4college](#) We believe students are humans first. Our work focuses on removing systemic barriers that #RealCollege students face. Learn more: <https://hope4college.com/realcollege/>

[@CarrieRWelton](#) A1. The Hope Center is also committed to policy change! Using Hope Center (and other) research, we advocate for policies that improve #student basic needs security. Our recent policy win that expands #SNAP in VA (HB1820) to families & students is one example! #EquityAvengers

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q2. @hope4college . Please tell us three new @hope4college initiatives and how these initiatives will help educational leaders? @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityAvengers

[@hope4college](#) 1. The 2020 #RealCollege report will be released on March 31. As the largest survey of students during the pandemic it is going to illustrate the challenges faced by students, educators, and colleges. Sign up to join the report launch <https://hope4college.com/the-realcollege-virtual-journey/> #EquityChat

[@hope4college](#) 2. We just launched our #RealCollege Virtual Journey <https://hope4college.com/the-realcollege-virtual-journey/> as a revisioning of our annual conference, it will provide a 9 month long series of events highlighting research informed policy and practice that higher ed leaders can use now #EquityChat

[@hope4college](#) 3. We are developing the #RealCollege Curriculum with our partners @DigPedLab @FojLearning <https://hope4college.com/realcollege-curriculum/> It will scale our research to provide an equitable and sustainable approach to disseminating lessons from the movement to colleges and universities. #EquityChat

[@hope4college](#) And there is so much more: We will offer #RealCollege Institutional Capacity-Building Cohort (launching 3/31) — a deep engagement to build ecosystems of support!

[@CarrieRWelton](#) A2. @hope4college will soon launch our Parenting While in College 2021 series with the support of @VinceinED @ImaginableFut @miamiexile @AECFNews that will add evidence & insight to the challenges parenting students face & how #highered can support their success! #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3. @hope4college @econroy\_1 @CarrieRWelton Tell us about the #RealCollege Survey 2020. Any findings or recommendations you wish to share with our Twitter participants? @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures

[@hope4college](#) The full report will be out March 31, but we have preview results: <https://hope4college.com/realcollege-during-the-pandemic-preview-of-fall-2020-survey-findings/> We know students were on the edge of the cliff before the pandemic. There were more resources available, but many students had trouble accessing them. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q4. [@hope4college](#) .As educational leaders, we are always looking for new partnerships in this #RealCollege work. Do you have any suggestions for potential partnerships educational leaders should explore? [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@hope4college](#) We suggest getting to know your public housing authority <https://hope4college.com/beyond-the-food-pantry-supporting-community-college-students-with-affordable-housing-vouchers/> Check out your health conversion foundations for \$\$ support. Think of your faculty as partners in this work! #EquityChat

[@CarrieRWelton](#) A4. Human services agencies! They are there to help students apply for benefits & are underutilized by #highered. You don't have to have all of the answers, you just have to know where to look! See [@LARegents](#) [@KimHunterReed](#) for a great example! <https://bit.ly/3cHD8kd> #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5. [@hope4college](#) [@econroy\\_1](#) [@CarrieRWelton](#) Professional Development is critical as it relates to the #RealCollege movement. What recommendations should we consider when exploring professional development for ourselves and others? [@lamkeithcurry](#) #EquityChat

[@hope4college](#) A5: Our jobs have changed, and change is a constant so we know PD for faculty is needed. We see PD as flexible and asynchronous with care as offered [@DigPedLab](#). It's a great idea to keep an eye out for #RealCollege Curriculum. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q6. [@hope4college](#). As colleges and universities begin spending the new Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund (HEERF) II and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 Funds? Do you have any suggestions or recommendations for us to consider? [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) #EquityAvengers

[@hope4college](#) A6: We do! We have a guide we updated a few weeks ago <https://hope4college.com/maximizing-the-impact-of-higher-education-emergency-relief-funds-heerf-ii-for-students/>

Our top recs:

1. Don't make students perform their poverty.
2. Get \$\$\$ out as quickly as possible.
3. Communicate care in everything you do.

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[@CarrieRWelton](#) A6.

-Do not limit EA to students who are eligible for federal aid or rely solely on FAFSA data. DeVos got this wrong, don't follow suit!

-Communicate broadly and loudly about the availability of EA to students.

-Focus on need, equity, & getting money out the door!

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[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7. [@hope4college](#) [@econroy\\_1](#) [@CarrieRWelton](#) What three recommendations would you provide to the Biden Administration about the challenges higher education institutions are faced with at this time? [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@hope4college](#) A7: 1. To + equity: Invest in community colleges & minority-serving institutions.

2. To - basic needs insecurity: align federal program eligibility & remove student restrictions.

3. To ensure students can thrive: cancel student loan debt & raise the minimum wage. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q8. [@hope4college](#). What book(s) would you recommend we consider reading? [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) #EquityAvengers [@CollegeFutures](#)



[@hope4college](#) A8: We cut it to three:

Food Insecurity on Campus: Action & Intervention Edited by @kmbroton and @ClareCady

Addressing Homelessness & Housing Insecurity in Higher Education: Strategies for Educational Leaders by @RashidaCrutch

Pregnant Girl by @NicoleLynnLewis

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[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q9. [@hope4college](#) . If you can provide one recommendation to [@saragoldrickrab](#), what would be your recommendation? [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) #EquityAvengers @CollegeFutures

[@hope4college](#) A9: She is our president and inspirational founder. We would love for her to continue working on creative solutions to issues affecting students earning their educations. We also would just love for her to take a vacation once in a while. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) [GIF: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1372352993987727360> ]

[@CarrieRWelton](#) 🙏🙏🙏Seconded? [GIF: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1372353541336096773> ]

[@saragoldrickrab](#) Boy are y'all gonna love the announcement at the next staff meeting! Don't miss it!

[GIF: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1372354263104385026> ]

[@CarrieRWelton](#) [GIF: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1372354811224555524> ]

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY [@econroy\\_1](#) [@CarrieRWelton](#) [@hope4college](#) for helping us better serve our #RealCollege students! Hope we made your boss [@saragoldrickrab](#) proud! Next week join us on #EquityChat as we host [@SujinJez](#) Exec Dir. of [@CalCompetes](#) ! [@lamkeithcurry](#) #EquityAvengersOut!

[@econroy\\_1](#) Thank you for having us!

[@hope4college](#) This was our pleasure. We are committed to serving #RealCollege students and uplifting generations.

#EquityChat More info on our new initiatives is here: <http://hope4college.com>

[@CarrieRWelton](#) Thank you!