

April 21, 2021 #EquityChat

Dr. Bridget Burns (@BBurnsEDU),

Executive Director of University Innovation Alliance (@UIAinnovation)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) It's Wednesday and that means time for #EquityChat with your @equityavengers @lamkeithcurry & @SDMesaPrez tonight we host the one and only @BBurnsEDU ! Welcome Dr Burns!

[@BBurnsEDU](#) Thanks for having me!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1. @BBurnsEDU. Tell us about @UIAinnovation? And your work with @UIAinnovation? @lamkeithcurry #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) The most innovative research U's united around a sense of urgency that we needed to produce far more graduates (especially across the socioeconomic spectrum) to meet the future economic competitiveness needs of the US.

[@BBurnsEDU](#) We work together to transform our institutions around the needs of low-income, first generation, & students of color. By innovating together, scaling up what works, & sharing everything we learn, we aim to transform the future of #highered by proving it can be done. #equitychat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) At @UIAinnovation we believe that when universities collaborate, students win. #equitychat
[Video: <https://twitter.com/i/status/1385026409630887938>]

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q2. @BBurnsEDU. Please tell us three things about you that are not on your resume. @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) I am from Montana. My father won the @midnightsunrun in his wheelchair (when it was from Fairbanks to Anchorage Alaska). I do standup comedy on the side. #equitychat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Wow! There's a lot there...

[@BBurnsEDU](#) I just realized I broke the rule because one isn't technically about me...

[@SDMesaPrez](#) #norules

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3. @BBurnsEDU. What is the purpose of the #WeeklyWisdom? Can you name some of your past guests? And how can we follow the #WeeklyWisdom @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) #WeeklyWisdom is about creating uplifting content that elevates presidents as leaders, expands the leaders we focus on as a sector, & creates positive conversational content in this disconnected time. #equitychat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) At @UIAinnovation, we want to innovate the diffusion OF innovation in our sector while modeling the behaviour of not just talking about us/elevating our people. We want to elevate and amplify good work across highered, & shift who we pay our attention to as a sector #equitychat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) And we've had incredible leaders like @lamkeithcurry, @EvccPrez, @michaelcrow, @michaelsorrell, @PresBallinger+ so many more on the show. The majority of our guests have been women and leaders of color from all types of nonprofit highered. #equitychat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q4. @BBurnsEDU. What is your definition of equity? How is equity-minded practice embedded in your work?@lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) Centering higher education (and all institutional transformation) around the experience & needs of low-income + first generation + students of color. If everything we do is intentionally designed to support our most vulnerable students thriving, all students benefit. #equitychat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Indeed, as long as we focus on their needs...and not what we think they need. Rising tides sometimes drown students, most don't have boats. #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) 100%. Empathy is the first step of design, and too often the one that highered has skipped in the past. #equitychat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5. [@BBurnsEDU](#). [@UIAinnovation](#) institutions have implemented many student success strategies. Which one are you most proud of? [@iamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) The UIA Fellows program. Getting to know the UIA Fellows, seeing their growth, and watching them go on to do incredible things is so gratifying. Their leadership & impact will be the real legacy of the UIA. Ex: Look at [@DrJessWilliams](#) leadership of [@EveryLearnerNet](#) 🙌 #equitychat



[@BBurnsEDU](#) And I tried to tag every single one I could! [@tpolite](#) [@Mitzy_Gonzalez](#) [@Renata_highered](#) [@Amartin5Amy](#) [@alexajets](#) [@sheilafhurt](#) [@joeymavity](#) [@colinbyard](#) [@rngoodwin](#) [@kaity_prieto](#) [@Brennago](#) [@ScottTravisEdu](#) [@Renata_highered](#) [@Amartin5Amy](#) [@alexajets](#) [@sheilafhurt](#) #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) We've done a lot of great things together, but the [@UIAinnovation](#) Fellows are quite simply the best. #equitychat



[@harrindl](#) LA College Promise: <http://lacollegepromise.org>

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q6. [@BBurnsEDU](#). What three recommendations would you provide to the Biden Administration about the challenges higher education institutions are faced with at this time?[@lamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) 1. Address SAP in the context of covid (asap)
2. Increased focus on collaboration across the sector: use the convening authority of the administration to galvanize collaboration across institutions to achieve national goals
3. Double pell #equitychat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7. [@BBurnsEDU](#). What gives you hope? [@lamkeithcurry](#) #EquityChat [@CollegeFutures](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#)
[@BBurnsEDU](#) 1 When any UIA campus implements an idea from another UIA campus
2 Spending time with students
3 Brainstorming about collaborative solutions to big problems w/ leaders from other places in the field like [@michaelsorrell](#) [@DrNHurd](#) [@ewwaldo](#) [@ds_excelencia@drkastout](#) + #equitychat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Great standouts here...would love a roll up our sleeves summit on capturing what we've accomplished during pandemic and returning stronger than ever...#EquityChat [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#)

[@BBurnsEDU](#) I would love that. Happy to DJ the zoom to ensure it has the most collaborative vibe.

[@ewwaldo](#) Miss you!!!!

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q8. [@BBurnsEDU](#). What are you reading? And what book(s) would you recommend we consider reading?[@lamkeithcurry](#) [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@BBurnsEDU](#) Right now I am reading "Measure what Matters", listening to "The Coaching Habit", and skimming "The Art of Gathering". I always recommend: Dare to Lead, Leadership & Self Deception and Big Magic. For #equitychat I would suggest "Connecting to Change the World"

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Ooh-going to have to roll deep on these...

[@BBurnsEDU](#) Connecting to change the world is the book I WISH I'd read before launching UIA.. but I only discovered it last year!



EQUITY
AVENGERS

[@RonTayl44993519](#) The Sum of Us by Heather McGhee —if the Avengers haven't done that one yet.

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Thank you Ron!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY @BBurnsEDU for joining us-excited to know your work @UIAinnovation & connect! So appreciate your commitment to #HE students! Join us next week as we host @VSU_1882 President @makolaabdullah ! @equityavengers out!

[@BBurnsEDU](#) Thank you for having me! This was delightful and I'm honored to be included among the impressive group of leaders you've assembled! #equitychat