

October 7, 2020 #EquityChat

Elizabeth Gonzales (@Dr_E_Gonzalez),

Chief Program & Strategy Officer, College Futures Foundation (@CollegeFutures)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Welcome to #EquityChat hosted by @lamkeithcurry & @SDMesaPrez -an opportunity to dialogue about equity praxis -to join in simply respond to our tweets & use #EquityChat -tonight our guest is @ElizabethlaBeti @CollegeFutures Chief Program & Strategy Officer! Welcome Elizabeth!

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) So excited to be here!#EquityChat @CollegeFutures @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1. @ElizabethlaBeti Our education, background, and experiences make us who we are. Please tell us about the non-resume you? We want to know what's not on your resume. #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) I am Chicana, daughter of immigrants, 1st generation college student, southeast LA native, proud mother of 1st year community college student, proud sister of a HS college counselor, proud sister-in-law of a superintendent #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Dodger fan.

[@stwhalen](#) And a Dodger fan

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) HUGE Dodger fan #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Well I'm outnumbered tonight on the MLB front @Athletics fan here...

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) I am a daughter of a retired garment worker, teacher's assistant. My mother attended east LA CC to get her certification.

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q2. @ElizabethlaBeti. What is your definition of equity? How is equity-minded practice embedded in your work? #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Equity means collective well-being, a shared vision for a fair and inclusive society. An understanding that our future is inextricably tied to one another #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Equity in higher education means that all students have the opportunity to attend PS institutions and complete a degree, regardless of their zip code, skin color or income #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Equity-minded practice means centering students in all of our work, with a particular focus on Black and Brown students #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3. @ElizabethlaBeti Tell us about @collegefutures? And your position with @collegefutures? #EquityChat @lamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @CollegeFutures is working to build a shared vision and action plan for college success - a future where more students who reflect CA's diversity complete a BA degree, and have an opportunity for a better life #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry

[@SDMesaPrez](#) That is a transformative "why" and so exciting to have supporters and partners in student success

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @SDMesaPrez we cannot and do not do this work alone. Community is a core value

@CollegeFutures @lamkeithcurry #EquityChat

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @CollegeFutures invests in and partners with institutions, systems, and innovative change agents. We believe that powerful possibilities open up when we all work together. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @CollegeFutures Chief Program and Strategy Officer . oversee our grantmaking, learning and strategy functions. In partnership with amazing colleagues @MonicaCLOzano. In service of equity, our students, our state. Its a huge privilege #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez

[@iamkeithcurry](#) Q4. @ElizabethlaBeti. What does student centeredness mean to @collegefutures? #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @CollegeFutures believes that colleges should be “student-ready” & do right by students. All of our efforts should be mapped to & measured by the young people we want to achieve college success. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Being student centered means redesigning courses & programs so that students can more efficiently & effectively earn their degree. Ex: guided pathways -- <https://caguidedpathways.org> #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Being student centered means improving coordination so that students can move seamlessly from K-12 to community college to university. Ex: increasing transfer supports. [https://collegefutures.org/2020/05/getting-students-through-the-gate/...](https://collegefutures.org/2020/05/getting-students-through-the-gate/) #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) And being student centered means offering student support systems – counseling, financial aid, advising – that understand & meet student needs. That support is esp. critical now -- [https://west.edtrust.org/ed-equity-in-crisis-centering-higher-ed-student-experiences/...](https://west.edtrust.org/ed-equity-in-crisis-centering-higher-ed-student-experiences/) #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5. @ElizabethlaBeti Can you share with us how @collegefutures is supporting educational and racial equity? #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Equity is in our mission and values @CollegeFutures We are actively challenging ourselves to make the implicit, explicit in our work - its a journey, no doubt #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @iamkeithcurry

[@SDMesaPrez](#) No doubt...whom do you partner with to advance the knowledge of @CollegeFutures? @ElizabethlaBeti

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @SDMesaPrez we are doing listening work right now, engaging college presidents, faculty and students #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @CollegeFutures we are working on supporting equity-minded leadership, exploring student-centered, equity minded teaching practices #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @iamkeithcurry

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) @CollegeFutures continuing the work of centering equity in reforms like Guided Pathways - what it really means, on the ground, in practice #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @iamkeithcurry

[@iamkeithcurry](#) Q6. @ElizabethlaBeti. From your perspective, what role will higher education play in the state of California economic recovery? Post COVID-19, how can higher education improve to serve the most vulnerable student population? #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @iamkeithcurry

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) Be flexible w/ financial aid requirements. Students should be able to use aid for expenses other than tuition. Don't force them to pay back aid or disqualify them b/c of educational disruptions. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Perhaps we can get some new Dept of Ed leadership soon -#financial aid reform is critical-both @CalCommColleges & nationally @iamkeithcurry #EquityChat

[@Dr_E_Gonzalez](#) College-educated workers w/ creative, technical & critical thinking skills help businesses adapt & grow. Crisis impact: There's an even greater need for a highly educated workforce to leverage new tech & develop innovations. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) Benefits of college degree were seen in last recession & same patterns are playing out now. Communities w/ large highly educated workforce suffer less & bounce back faster. [https://ppic.org/blog/workers-without-college-degrees-face-unprecedented-job-losses/...](https://ppic.org/blog/workers-without-college-degrees-face-unprecedented-job-losses/) #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) Pre-COVID, state's investments in remedial ed reform, improved student support & streamlined college pathways helped increase degree completion. Post-COVID, build on that progress. Don't go backwards. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) Make transfer easy & seamless. Pandemic forced many students to move; they need flexibility in where they start, continue & finish their degree. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) CA cannot afford to ignore students from low-income families & comms of color. They are the majority of our emerging workforce & tomorrow's leaders. #EquityChat @iamkeithcurry @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures

[@SDMesaPrez](#) And our fan favorite Q7. @ElizabethlaBeti What are you reading? And what book(s) would you recommend we consider reading? @lamkeithcurry #EquityChat

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) starting As by Fire: The End of the South African University by Jonathan Jansen - fascinating book on student protests in 2015-16 #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures

[@lamkeithcurry](#) I am getting this book.

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) @SDMesaPrez_its varied to keep my mind, heart and soul in balance in flow. For my heart I read poetry -Life on Mars by Tracy K. Smith is my go to @lamkeithcurry #EquityChat @CollegeFutures

[@SDMesaPrez](#) So important to find soul supporting activity and filling up our buckets of joy! @ElizabethlaBeti

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) That includes making time to dance in one's living room!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Absolutely! Even when it embarrasses the family!!!

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) Just finished These Truths by Jill Lepore @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) and lastly, to keep my soul on fire, always turn to Paulo Freire #EquityChat @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Thank you so much @ElizabethlaBeti for joining us on #EquityChat We TY 4 your time & commitment to our work @CalCommColleges - TY @CollegeFutures Next week join us when we host COLEGAS @BCCPrezGarcia @DrMikeMunoz @DrCynthiaOlivo @yosomybatista @jlc_clp #EquityAvengersOut #VOTE

[@Dr E Gonzalez](#) Mil gracias to @SDMesaPrez @lamkeithcurry This job is a privilege and its because I do it in service of leaders like you! #EquityChat