

December 1, 2021 #EquityChat

Dr. Ellen Junn (@PrezJunn), President of CSU Stanislaus (@stan_state)

[@SDMesaPrez](#) It's Wednesday, and time for #EquityChat sponsored by @CollegeFutures. We're back tonight continuing our connections to @calstate leaders, and happy to welcome @PrezJunn @stan_stat! Welcome President Junn!

[@PrezJunn](#) Thank you for having me, I am so pleased to be a part of this #EquityChat!

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q1 @PrezJunn. Our education, background, and experiences make us who we are. What are three things about yourself that are essential to what makes you, you? @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/3) I was born and raised in the Midwest, but as a young child, I lived in Georgia during the early 1960s.

Those difficult experiences were tremendously powerful in influencing my sense of equity and human rights.

[@PrezJunn](#) (2/3) I grew up during the "melting pot" years of American immigration and am deeply proud to be an American. Also, I'm the proud mother of a son who recently finished his Ph.D. in American economic history 20th Century and who aspires to become a university professor.

[@PrezJunn](#) (3/3) Lastly, I am honored to be among the 13 Asian American women ever appointed as presidents of a four-year college or university in the U.S. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q2 @PrezJunn. Tell us about @stan_state, and your work as President @stan_state. @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/4) With two campuses, Stockton and Turlock, @StanState is located in the heart of the Central Valley. Of our more than 11K students, 74% are first-gen. We are proud of our inclusive University community where students from every background feel welcome. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (2/4) We're proud to be the first West Coast university to create a chapter of the Tri-Alpha Honor Society for first-gen college students. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (3/4) We are a student-ready University – focused on academic excellence, hands-on experience and building a network and community of support to help our students succeed. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (4/4) My leadership style: I work collaboratively and transparently across campus and solve problems by relying on data to inform and address issues. I strive to be innovative whenever possible in co-creating solutions that are a win-win for all parties. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q3 @PrezJunn. What is your definition of equity? How is equity-minded practice embedded in your work?

@lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/4) Many people think treating everyone equally is the fairest option. Unfortunately, the truth is that the world as it exists is not fair to everyone. Due to a variety of complex factors some people, or groups of people, do not have the same advantages as others. #EquityChat

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[@PrezJunn](#) (3/4) This means as a University, we must pay special attention to objectively scrutinize sources of disadvantage and seek to support and uplift all individuals so that everyone has a more equitable chance to succeed. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (4/4) Our campus has created a campus Diversity Action Plan using a systems model of change. Together we are working to examine sources of inequity to implement programs to improve Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice (DEISJ) throughout the University. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q4 @PrezJunn. As we near the end of the first semester back on campuses, what are some lessons learned throughout the pandemic that @stan_state will take into consideration for continuing instructional and student support moving forward? @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/4) By going virtual to provide services and classes, we learned that students found taking online courses can have advantages. Some students are showing a preference for taking online classes because of the convenience. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (2/4) Similarly, some student services delivered remotely have proven to be highly successful and efficient (e.g., student advising appointments on Zoom). These lessons have changed how we envision and optimize our work to deliver courses and services for students. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (3/4) We can now envision multiple options of delivering classes & services. It's important for us to know which students need in-person classes. First-year students may need more in-person classes to nurture their sense of belonging and produce successful outcomes. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (4/4) Graduating seniors cite a strong preference for spending their final year on campus. We've been paying attention to certain courses, such as labs, art, music, theatre & nursing, that need to be conducted in-person to support strong student learning outcomes. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q5 @PrezJunn. You've established a strong reputation for displaying a focus on implementing new & innovative programs for student success, esp. for non-traditional students. Tell us about 1-2 programs at @stan_state you're most proud of. @lamkeithcurry @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/3) I'm proud of our innovative CareerReadyU program for all incoming students, which connects the University and students with local and regional employers. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (2/3) We recently established an entrepreneurship initiative to inspire and provide a supportive foundation for emerging @stan_state entrepreneurs. This reflects our mission to provide equitable access to education, mentorship and financial support. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (3/3) These strategies are working. In the last five years, @stan_state has consistently earned top national rankings for the success and upward mobility of our remarkable, first-generation students from the Central Valley. #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q6 @PrezJunn. What are some creative ways that @stan_state has utilized HEERF dollars? @SDMesaPrez @CollegeFutures #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/4) We eliminated a total of \$1.25 million in student debt for 587 students for unpaid tuition and fees incurred between March 13, 2020, and July 14, 2021, for terms fall 2020 through spring 2021. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (2/4) More than half of @stan_state's students received automatic grants ranging from \$200 to \$1,200 depending on their financial need and full-time status for the fall 2020, spring 2021 and fall 2021 semesters. #EquityChat

[@ChancerJoshua](#) Love that you went with an "automatic" model to distribute support.

[@PrezJunn](#) (3/4) The University provided students with loaner laptops and hotspots and expanded wi-fi access across campus and in our parking lots. Funds were also used to refund housing, parking and other fees. #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (4/4) We enhanced campus safety and operations with additional cleaning, HVAC filtration and by providing free face coverings and hand sanitizer in buildings. We also offered software to facilitate online learning and working and expanded outdoor study spaces. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Q7 [@PrezJunn](#). This is always an #EquityChat favorite. What are you currently reading and what book(s) should we consider reading? [@SDMesaPrez](#) [@CollegeFutures](#)

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/2) "The Three Mothers: How the Mothers of Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, and James Baldwin Shaped a Nation" by Anna Maliki Tubbs; the Dali Lama's "The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World" #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (2/2) ...and Maangchi's "Big Book of Korean Cooking: From Everyday Meals to Celebration Cuisine." #EquityChat

[@lamkeithcurry](#) Q8 [@PrezJunn](#). We're at our last question for the evening. What gives you hope? [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@CollegeFutures](#) #EquityChat

[@PrezJunn](#) (1/1) Our "Valley Tough" campus and students. We are Warriors who demonstrate strength of character, positive spirit, perseverance & heart. I strongly believe that together we will continue to rise to meet the future and move our University forward in exciting ways. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) TY [@PrezJunn](#) for joining us tonight on #EquityChat to share your insights and experiences at [@stan_state](#)! Next week, we're chatting with [@markmilliron](#), Sr. VP & Exec. Dean of Teachers College [@wgu](#). Until next time, [@CollegeFutures](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#) [@equityavengers](#) Out!

[@PrezJunn](#) Thank you for inviting me, [@lamkeithcurry](#) & [@SDMesaPrez](#)! I greatly appreciate your commitment to education, and thanks to everyone for following this afternoon's conversation. #EquityChat

[@SDMesaPrez](#) Wonderful to hear from you and the incredible work happening under your leadership [@stan_state](#)