

**5:00pm**

**Dr. Pam Luster (@DrPamLuster)**

**INTRO:**

Welcome to [#EquityChat](#) w/[@equityavengers](#) Tonight, we're hosting [@williamperezphd](#), Professor & Chair-Educational Leadership at [@LMU](#) His groundbreaking research is focused on multilingual immigrant, undocumented, indigenous, & deported students. [#Letsgo!](#)  
[@DrTammeil](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#)

**5:06pm**

**Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson (@DrTammeil)**

**Q1:** [@williamperezphd](#) As you engage in equity-focused work, what is your walk-up song or anthem? [#EquityChat](#) [@DrPamLuster](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#)

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 12m](#)

My walk-up anthem would be "Somos Más Americanos" by Los Tigres del Norte. This song powerfully speaks to the history, resilience, and contributions of immigrant communities in the United States.

[Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson @DrTammeil · 2m](#)

It's such a powerful song! These lyrics... "Quiero recordarle al gringo Yo no crucé la frontera La frontera me cruzó América nació libre El hombre la dividió" History, y'all.

**5:14pm**

**Dr. Keith Curry (@lamkeithcurry)**

**Q2:** [@williamperezphd](#) Undocumented students face unprecedented challenges, especially with increasing deportation threats. How can practitioners and institutions best support these students right now? [#EquityChat](#) [@DrTammeil](#) [@DrPamLuster](#)

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 3m](#)

They should prioritize creating safe spaces on campus , providing mental health resources & establishing emergency legal support funds. It's also critical to collaborate with community-based orgs that provide wraparound services and ensure students are informed about their rights

**5:21pm**

**Dr. Pam Luster (@DrPamLuster)**

**Q3:** [@williamperezphd](#) Your books highlight the resilience and aspirations of undocumented students. What strengths and contributions do these students bring to our campuses and communities? [#EquityChat](#) [@DrTammeil](#) [@lamkeithcurry](#)

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 21m](#)

They bring unparalleled resilience, multilingual skills, & a deep commitment to social justice. Their lived experiences often inspire activism & community engagement, enriching campus life. They also contribute academically, fostering diverse perspectives in classrooms and beyond

[Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson @DrTammeil · 8m](#)

I've been honored to work alongside & be mentored by many undocumented and mixed-status individuals who've graciously helped us center student needs & celebrate their diverse lived experiences. The programming, centers, support services, & training reflect their commitment.

**5:28pm**

**Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson (@DrTammeil)**

**Q4:** @williamperezphd In today's climate of anti-immigrant rhetoric and policies, what immediate steps can higher education leaders take to make campuses safer and more inclusive for undocumented students? #EquityChat @DrPamLuster @lamkeithcurry

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 17m](#)

Implement and publicize clear policies that protect students from discrimination and deportation, train faculty and staff on undocumented student allyship, and ensure financial aid and scholarships are accessible regardless of immigration status

[Dr Pamela Luster #EquityAvengers #RealCollegePrez @DrPamLuster · 11m](#)

Have you seen effective practices we can share [#Equitychat](#)

**5:35pm**

**Dr. Keith Curry (@lamkeithcurry)**

**Q5:** @williamperezphd To do this work, we must continue learning and partnering with others. How do you educate yourself and who is informing your practice? #EquityChat @DrTammeil @DrPamLuster

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 5m](#)

I stay informed by collaborating with undocumented student advocacy groups, engaging with community orgs, and conducting participatory research with undocumented students. I also draw insights from scholars in critical race theory, immigrant rights, and educational equity.

**5:41pm**

**Dr. Pam Luster (@DrPamLuster)**

**Q6:** @williamperezphd What role do equity-minded educators play in advocating for policy

changes that protect and uplift undocumented students? How can they engage leaders at all levels? #EquityChat @DrTammeil @lamkeithcurry

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 3m](#)

They can play a pivotal role by leveraging their platforms to advocate for institutional & legislative changes, such as extending in-state tuition policies or expanding DACA

protections, cultivate relationships with policymakers, & raise awareness through research & storytelling

**5:47pm**

**Dr. Tammeil Gilkerson (@DrTammeil)**

**Q7:** @williamperezphd What promising approaches or models have you seen effectively increase access and success for undocumented students in higher education? #EquityChat @DrPamLuster @lamkeithcurry

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 1m](#)

Programs like [@thedream\\_us](#) provide scholarships and mentoring tailored for undocumented students. Additionally, UndocuAllies training programs equip faculty and staff with tools to support undocumented students effectively

**5:53pm**

**Dr. Keith Curry (@lamkeithcurry)**

**Q8:** @williamperezphd What gives you hope for the future of undocumented students, and how can we ensure their dreams and potential are realized during these uncertain times? #EquityChat @DrTammeil @DrPamLuster

[William Perez, Ph.D. @williamperezphd · 5m](#)

The courage & activism of undocumented youth give me immense hope. They lead movements for change despite adversity. We can support them by sustaining advocacy efforts, pushing for comprehensive immigration reform, & ensuring they can thrive academically, socially, & emotionally

**6pm**

**Dr. Pam Luster (@DrPamLuster)**

**CLOSE:**

Thank you, @williamperezphd, for sharing your research and insights with #EquityChat! We are now taking our winter hiatus, but will be back with #EquityChat in January. Stay tuned – we need Equity Avengers now more than ever! @DrTammeil @lamkeithcurry