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Hello #EquityFam!

Check out what's new with the Equity Avengers! ☐☐☐

Introducing the #RealCollege Curriculum

Join Believe In Students, Dr. Keith Curry and other #RealCollege leaders to learn more about the #RealCollege Curriculum. A masterclass for faculty and other higher education professionals, the #RealCollege Curriculum helps colleges and universities increase the equitable use of holistic student supports.

Attendees will hear from:

Dr. Sara Goldrick-Rab, #RealCollege Curriculum Co-Founder and Advisory Board Chair

Dr. Jesse Stommel, #RealCollege Curriculum Co-Founder and Lead Instructional Designer

Dr. Keith Curry, Compton College President and Curriculum Instructor

Christina Hasaan, Curriculum Instructor

Traci Kirtley, Executive Director, Believe in Students

[Register here for the webinar!](#)



Dr. Tammell Gilkerson to serve as plenary speaker during American Association for Women in Community Colleges

Dr. Tammell Gilkerson will be delivering a plenary address during the American Association for Women in Community Colleges Annual Conference, held in Arlington, VA, from Oct. 31 - November 2.

Her session, "Finding Abundance: Waging Love on the Journey to Liberation" will discuss the intersectional challenges and hurdles Dr. Gilkerson has faced in her years-long journey of leading and learning. Her talk will explore how harnessing our ability to reframe our thinking and center learning as an act of hope has the power to wage love and radically transform ourselves, our communities, and our institutions.

[Learn more about the event here.](#)



#EquityChat continues with podcast sponsor, 25th Hour Communications, and the Michigan Community College Association



During the latest #EquityChat, marketing communications experts **Crystal Berry** and **Jennifer Aries** from 25th Hour Communications discussed inclusive marketing strategies for community colleges. They shared insights on the critical role research plays in understanding and addressing the diverse needs of students. Berry emphasized using data to expose gaps and influence outreach, while Aries highlighted the importance of qualitative research, especially through direct conversations with students, faculty, and staff.

The conversation covered key strategies for inclusive marketing, including authentic representation, showcasing real stories and avoiding staged photos. Both Berry and Aries stressed the need for consistent, trust-building communication that reflects students' true experiences. They also shared examples of how research has driven successful marketing initiatives, such as helping a rural college in Colorado gain its Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI) designation.

[Read the transcript here.](#)

In the October 16, 2024, episode of #EquityChat, **Brandy Johnson**, President of the Michigan Community College Association (MCCA), and **Precious Miller**, MCCA's Director of Basic Needs and Belonging, discussed their efforts to advance equity in higher education. They shared personal stories that shaped their commitment to supporting community college students, including Miller's inspiration from her mother's educational journey and Johnson's belief in continuous improvement for equity.



They emphasized the importance of addressing students' basic needs, like food and housing, to close racial equity gaps. They also highlighted successful strategies, such as developmental education reform and ensuring seamless transfer pathways, that have helped underrepresented students succeed. Partnerships with organizations like the ECMC Foundation have allowed them to address financial insecurity and drive systemic change.

[Read the transcript here.](#)

Check out our podcast!

In this episode of #EquityAvengersAssemble, we sat down with **Dr. Eboni Zamani-Gallaher**, Renée and Richard Goldman Dean of the University of Pittsburgh School of Education. Dr. Zamani-Gallaher shares her journey as a scholar and leader in advancing racial equity, access and retention in higher education.

Together, we explore the systemic challenges facing minoritized students, the transformative power of strategic partnerships, and how educators and leaders can create lasting change. Tune in to hear her insights on fostering inclusive campus climates and actionable strategies for higher education practitioners to support equity in their institutions.



[Listen to the podcast now.](#) Check out this episode and [all of our other episodes on Spotify.](#)

Equity Avengers Assemble!, presented by [25th Hour Communications](#), promises to engage, educate, and inspire listeners to take action for a more equitable academic landscape.

Attention! Are you or someone you know engaged in exciting, transformative equity work? Let us know!

We are always looking for more guests for #EquityChat and *Equity Avengers Assemble!*

Whether you are a practitioner, researcher, policymaker, advocate, leader, student or organizer, [we want to get to know you!](#)

Be our guest!

About the Equity Avengers

The [Equity Avengers](#) are Dr. Keith Curry, President/CEO of Compton College, Dr. Tammell Gilkerson, Chancellor of Peralta Community College District, and President Emerita Dr. Pamela Luster of San Diego Mesa College. The Equity Avengers have made it their mission to lead the charge for a more equitable higher education landscape, increasing access for those historically marginalized by academia.

The Equity Avengers host the popular #EquityChat on Wednesday evenings on X/Twitter and are regularly invited to speak at state and national conferences to share their vision. The College Futures Foundation has generously supported the Equity Avengers' mission through a grant, allowing them to support and develop leaders who act and drive large-scale change toward achieving racial equity in higher education nationwide.

