

Seismic Shifts in Higher Education

Dr. Ted Mitchell
Hotel del Coronado
Coronado, CA
January 17, 2019

1

Changing Demographics, Digital Transformation,
and the Challenges of Higher Education

2

Students of Today: The New Normal

- 27: The average **age** of a college student
- 38%: Students that are **part-time**
- 64%: Students **working** while in college
- 33%: Students that **transfer** credits between institutions
- 28%: Have **children** or care for a **dependent**
- 32%: Come from **low-income** families

3

America's Demographic Shifts

- By 2050, the workforce will be 55% people of color
- Several states, including California and Texas, are majority-minority
- Our national K-12 system is majority-minority
- These new students are almost all digital natives

4

The Broader Context

- Increasing income inequality
- Rapidly changing job market
- Most jobs, if not industries, have not been invented

5

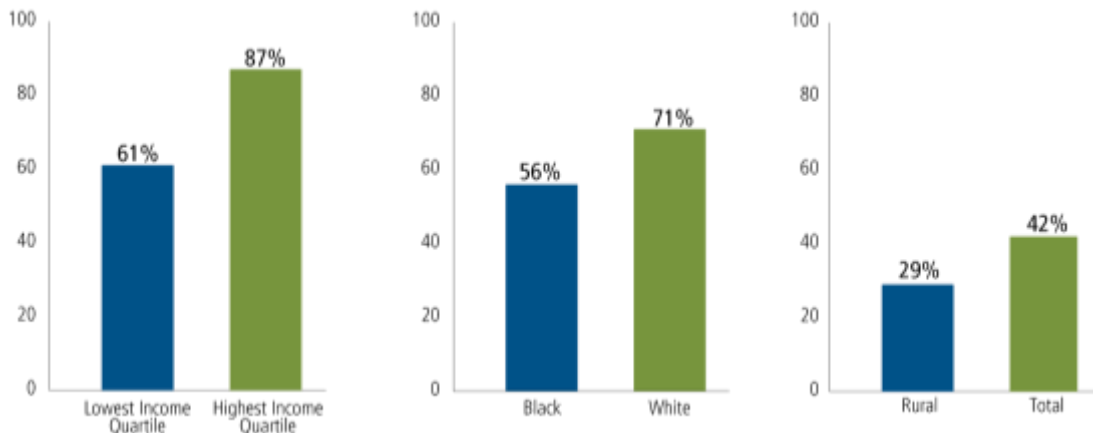
The Problem

Low-income and first-generation students, students of color, rural residents, and working class families are seriously underrepresented in postsecondary education, both in enrollment and completion.

2

6

You Are Less Likely to Enroll If You Are Low-Income, Black, or Live in a Rural Area



SOURCE: Calculated from October Current Population Survey File (Formerly Table 14 in Census Bureau's School Enrollment Report), U.S. Census Bureau; School Enrollment Data, 1970-2016, as reported by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), compiled by Tom Mortenson.

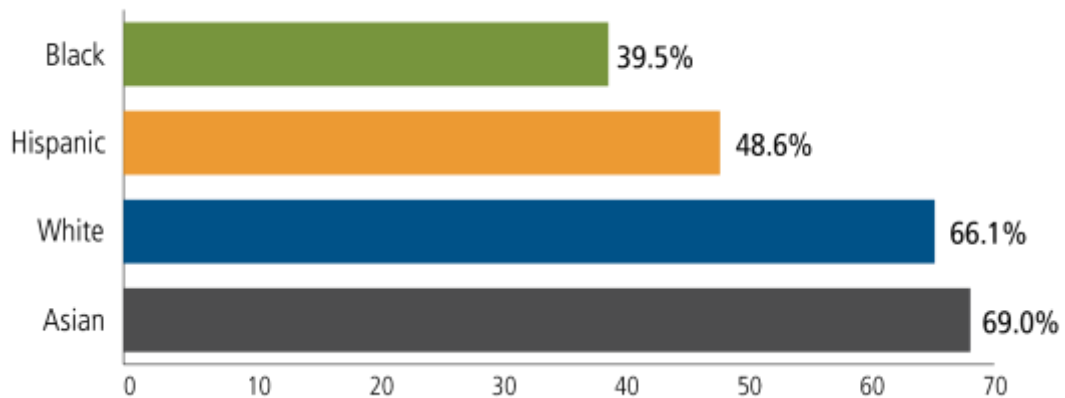
SOURCE: U.S. Department of Commerce, Census Bureau, Current Population Survey (CPS), October, 1970 through 2016. Race/Ethnicity for Recent High School Graduates 1960 to 2016.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Rural Education in America, Table B3.b.-1, 2015

3

7

Blacks and Hispanics Who Do Enroll Are Less Likely to Graduate (Six-Year Completion Rates by Race and Ethnicity)



SOURCE: National Student Clearinghouse, Signature Report 14, Figure 12, 2017

8

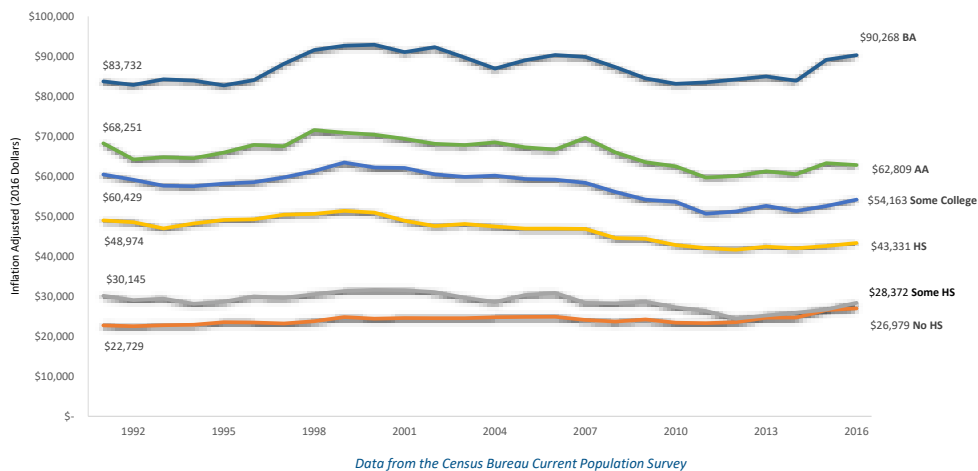
8

A Lost Opportunity

Every year, an estimated 948,000 individuals in the U.S. graduate (or leave) high school but do not enroll in postsecondary education.

More than 27 million individuals in this country have some postsecondary education but left without gaining a degree.

Median Income by Educational Attainment



Why Do We Have This Problem?

Too many potential students believe:

- The cost of college outweighs the value.
- Students have to borrow too much money.
- Graduates can't get jobs and live in their parents' basements.

But these beliefs stem from inaccurate and untrustworthy information.

11

11

Fueling the Narrative: Panic-Inducing Headlines

A Generation Hobbled by the Soaring Cost of College

You Can't Work Your Way Through College Anymore

Amid a robust economy and low unemployment, why can't grads get hired?

There are 3.6 million college graduates living in poverty

How Student Debt Can Ruin Home Buying Dreams

College students support free speech – unless it offends them

How student loans stop people from saving for retirement

Why Are So Many College Graduates Unemployed?

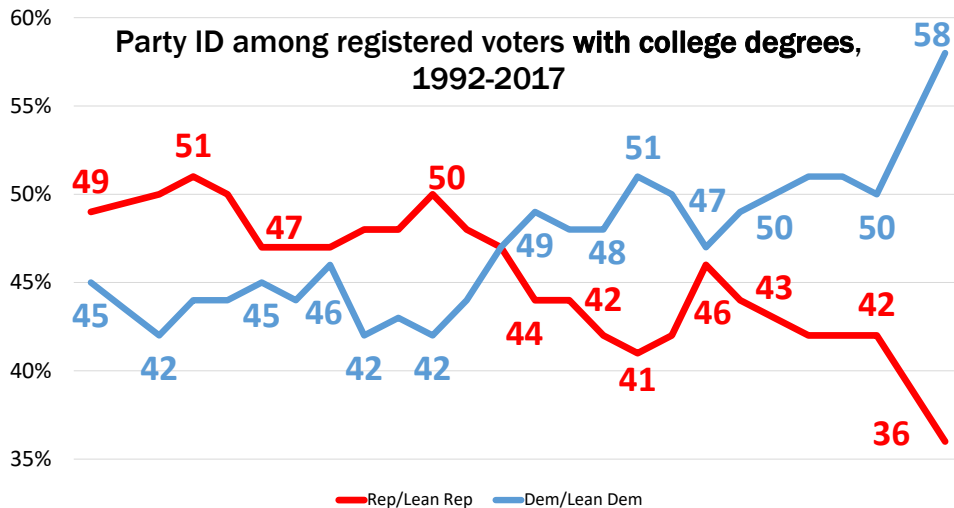
Student loans have become our modern-day debtors prisons

The looming student loan default crisis is worse than we thought

12

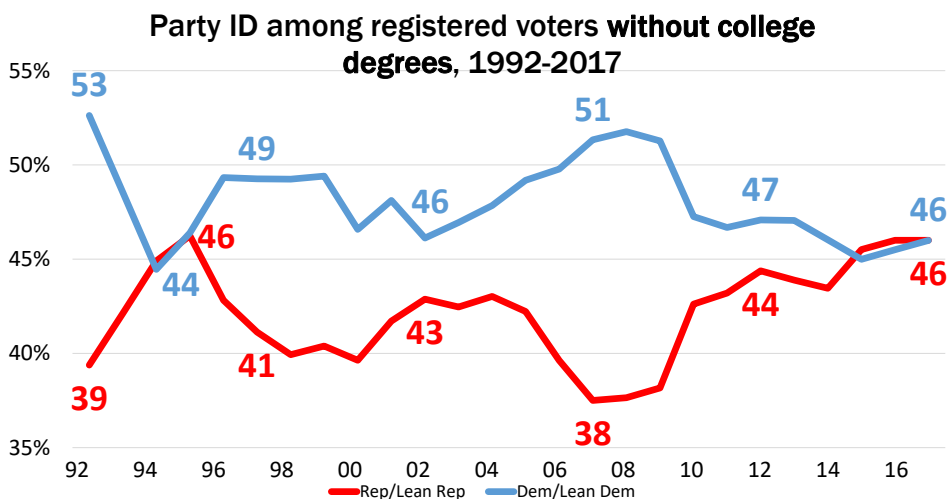
12

A Country Divided by College Education



13

A Country Divided by College Education (cont.)



14