

SHARING THE DREAM



University of St. Francis

Pat Sullivan Recreation Center
Joliet, Illinois

#sharingthedream2017

Welcome to the third annual, Sharing the Dream Conference! As we continue to navigate through a period of uncertainty for our nation's undocumented youth, it is more important than ever to remain resolute in our efforts of advocacy. While it can be difficult to remain hopeful in such a time, we must search inside ourselves and assume individual responsibility in order to inspire change within the landscape of our profession. A few years ago, Sharing the Dream was but a seed of an idea sprouted from a few individuals who saw a need to create a space in order to share resources centered on access for undocumented students. The group went about achieving their goal through an organized, collective effort and a conference was established. Among us today are colleagues who may have started off through a sole interaction and are now leading workshops or have launched scholarship opportunities. Everyone present today has the power to influence what can no longer be accepted as the status quo. As educators, counselors,

and advocates of undocumented students, it is our responsibility to assume a role in this movement and apply our labor wholeheartedly to this cause. Today, we are proud to continue to grow this conference with the intent of connecting together to share ideas and learn to empower our students. It remains our hope that you walk away empowered through knowledge and new tools, ready to influence change within your own professional and social circles. For as long as we have voice, our obligation remains to those whose struggle may be silenced. Together, let us continue to move forward and establish many more means by which to make this shared dream of access a reality.

We would like to thank IACAC, the University of St. Francis, and everyone who helped in the planning and support of this conference. A special thanks goes out to the artist who created our new logo ascertaining that individual skills can be lent to this cause.

Sharing the Dream



Agenda

7:30 am – 8:30 am Registration
Pat Sullivan Recreation Center

8:30 am – 8:45 am Welcome
Pat Sullivan Recreation Center
*Eric Ruiz, Director of Admissions,
University of St. Francis, Sharing the Dream Committee*
Dr. Arvid C. Johnson, President, University of St. Francis

8:45 am – 9:15 am State of the Conference
Pat Sullivan Recreation Center
*Dr. Aliza Gilbert, College Counselor,
Highland Park High School, Sharing the Dream Committee*

9:30 am – 10:30 am WORKSHOP SESSIONS I

Immigration 101

Sexton Auditorium
All

*Lisa A. Palumbo, Supervisory Attorney, Immigrants and Workers
Right Practice Group*

With an ever changing immigration landscape, this workshop will give a general lay of the land on the current immigration policies that affect students as they pursue a college credential and potential paths to residency. Topics also include Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and the Illinois Dream Act.

Understanding Mental Health in the Undocumented Community

Moes Room
All

*Padraic Stanley, Program Coordinator,
Rush University Medical Center*
*Sara Briseño, Roots to Wellness Program Coordinator,
Enlace Chicago*

To effectively work with undocumented students, it is imperative to understand their mental and emotional health needs and experiences, as well as those of the overall undocumented community. This workshop will discuss how professionals can work with students to create supportive spaces and foster resilience.



Roadmap to Being an Undocumented Friendly Institution

Turk Theater
College Track

*Jacki Black, Associate Director of Hispanic Initiatives,
Marquette University*

From start to finish, college presents unique challenges for undocumented students, and even seemingly uncomplicated situations can present difficulties. But internal practices and support mechanisms can go a long way in helping undocumented students navigate the system. This session will illustrate one private institution's journey toward fostering an undocu-friendly campus culture, and will also provide practical tips for influencing institutional policies and creating a network of support for undocumented students throughout the university.

Creating an Undocumented Student Club

Abbey
High School Track

*Michelle Vasquez, Post-Secondary Counselor,
Evanston Township High School*
Amy Moore, Art Teacher, Evanston Township High School
Gina Arguelles, Spanish Teacher, Bremen High School
Mayra Ortega, Spanish Teacher, Bremen High School



This workshop is intended for high school professionals or community based educators who are interested in establishing an undocumented student club. The Dreamers Club at Bremen High School and Evanston Township High School work to promote a unified and inclusive environment for undocumented students and allies. Undocumented student clubs can provide students with a safe place to talk about their individual narratives, provide them with the resources necessary to be successful in high school, and increase college access and career education.

10:45 am – 11:45 am WORKSHOP SESSIONS II

Beyond a Bachelor's Degree: Career Development and Graduate/Professional School

Sexton Auditorium
All

*Dr. Sunny Nakae, Assistant Dean for Admissions, Recruitment
and Student Life, Assistant Professor of Medical Education,
Loyola University Stritch School of Medicine*
*Laura F. Kestner-Ricketts, Director, Career Services, Marquette
University*

Undocumented students face a special set of challenges in their career journeys. In this session we will briefly cover topics related to undocumented students pursuing careers or additional education. These include: how to gain career-related experience, finding financial support for unpaid experiences, disclosing status to employer, and completing applications. Graduate school and professional school considerations will be addressed including financial aid challenges, applying to programs, and subsequent professional licensure. Resources and best practices will be shared.

CAUSA: First Steps Toward Addressing Undocumented Students' Needs

Moes Room
College Track

Nancy Vazquez, Assistant Director of Admission, Illinois State University
Dr. Beth Hatt, Associate Professor, College of Education, Illinois State University
Dr. Maura Toro-Morn, Director of Latin American and Latino Studies Program, Illinois State University

Our panel will describe the steps we took to organize a campus wide faculty, staff, and student organization called, CAUSA, Illinois State University's Committee Assisting Undocumented Student Achievement. CAUSA was developed to address the struggles undocumented populations face. We will reflect upon our year-long achievements, struggles, and future plans. Our panel will engage in a critical reflection of these issues and what to consider in the planning process at your respective institutions.

Creating a Safe Space and Providing Undocumented Student Ally Training on College Campuses

Turk Theater
College Track

Joe Saucedo, Director, Department of Student Diversity & Multicultural Affairs (SDMA) Student Life & Engagement, Loyola University Chicago
Ronnie Rios, Assistant Dean of Students, Deputy Director of the Center for Identity & Inclusion, University of Chicago
Devon Moore, Assistant Dean of Students in the College Director, Center for College Student Success, University of Chicago

College campuses have stepped-up in creating safe space communities and preparing constituents to ally with and for undocumented students. In this session, presenters will provide an overview for creating a safe space, and will discuss student activism and administrative efforts across all levels of leadership. In addition, presenters will provide an overview of ally training that focuses on experiences and perspectives of undocumented students, and to generate knowledge for self-learning, increase on-campus support, and inclusion.

Paying for College

Abbey
High School Track

Maria Bucio, Director of La Casa Student Housing, La Casa—The Resurrection Project
Abel Montoya, Director of Outreach Operations, Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)

Paying for college can be a daunting experience for many. For undocumented students who are not eligible for federal and state financial aid, it can seem at times like an impossible task. Come learn how one can make these expenses more manageable and the strategies that students have used to pay for college.

11:45 am – 12:15 pm Lunch
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm Keynote

Undocumented to Hyperdocumented: A Journey of Papers, Protection and PhD Status

Pat Sullivan Recreation Center

Dra. Aurora Chang, Assistant Professor, Teaching and Learning, Loyola University Chicago, School of Education



Once an undocumented immigrant from Guatemala and raised in Richmond, California in a family of eight, Dra. Aurora Chang is now an assistant professor in Teaching and Learning at Loyola University's School of Education, where she teaches coursework on multicultural education, school reform, undocumented students, Chicana feminist epistemology, and urban schooling. Her research on undocumented students explores paths

of educational survival, resistance and persistence, how these experiences affect the "American" sociopolitical landscape and what educators can do to support them.

A graduate of University of California Berkeley, Stanford University and the University of Texas at Austin, Dra. Chang has worked in various roles within the educational field including: a high school English/ESL teacher in California, academic programs director at UC Berkeley's Early Academic Outreach Program, educational manager at The College Board, student affairs administrator at the University of Texas at Austin, and Director of the McNair Scholars Program at Beloit College. In all of her roles, she has maintained her role as a classroom teacher. Her first book, *The Struggles of Identity, Education, and Agency in the Lives of Undocumented Students: The Burden of Hyperdocumentation*, will be published this fall. This project weaves together two distinct and powerfully related sources of knowledge: (1) her journey/transition from a once undocumented immigrant from Guatemala to a hyperdocumented academic, and (2) five years of ongoing national research on the identity, education, and agency of undocumented college students (Chang, 2014, 2015, 2016).

Dra. Chang identifies as an activist scholar educator and is passionate about using her roles as platforms for those who are silenced in the process of schooling.

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm WORKSHOP SESSIONS III

Creating Scholarships for Undocumented Students

Sexton Auditorium
All

Jesus Magaña, Senior Admission Counselor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Founder of DDLR Scholarship
Mayra Martinez, Student, Loyola University Chicago
Luis Narvaez, Strategic Project Director for the Office of Language and Cultural Education, Chicago Public Schools.

This session will highlight the various ways individuals and/or groups of people can come together to raise funds and provide scholarship opportunities for undocumented students. From establishing legitimacy to garnering support, the presenters provide a guide to make it happen.



Parent Panel

Moes Room

All

Ercilia Jonas, Parent Outreach Coordinator,
Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)

In this session we will hear from a panel of parents of undocumented students. Structured as an open dialogue, this panel is intended to highlight the crucial perspective that is often missing from the conversation.

Creating Policies to Support Undocumented Students

Turk Theater

High School Track

Julian Lalalde, Civic Engagement Manager, Latino Policy Forum

This session will focus on key questions regarding school district responsibilities to educate immigrant students, best practices to assist immigrant students access appropriate post-secondary resources, best practices for supporting emotional well-being of immigrant students, primer on how to speak with immigrant students regarding Know Your Rights information, and where to access information on educational and legal resources for immigrant students and families.

Let's Talk: Facilitating Conversations with Undocumented Students

Abbey

All

Dr. Heather Montes Ireland, Postdoctoral Fellow, Marquette University

As immigrant students are experiencing increasing anxiety and fear about their futures with the current administration's deportation goals, meaningful interactions with supportive professionals, educators, allies, and mentors can make a difference. Sometimes, though, we wonder what to say. In this session, we will discuss how to have conversations with undocumented students that provide them with support and validation. Learn about approaches and practices that can engender purposeful exchanges with undocumented students—and find solutions to your questions and concerns.



Special thanks to



Sharing our Stories: What are we doing now?

San Damiano Hall

All

College Graduate Panel

For undocumented students, challenges due to legal status can impact various aspects of their college search process and later influence their options post-graduation. In this session we will learn about life after college from a panel of recent college graduates. Panelists will discuss their personal path to a college degree and the challenges and successes they faced in starting their careers. They will also share advice on how counselors, educators, and advocates can better support their student's journey to college and beyond.

3:15 pm – 3:30 pm

Closing Remarks – Empowering & Moving Forward

San Damiano Hall

All

Eric Ruiz, Director of Admissions,
University of St. Francis, Sharing the Dream Committee

Sharing the Dream Committee

Jessica Avila-Cuevas, Millikin University
Ziggy Blackwell, Illinois College
Marcia Boyd, Governors State University
Tanya Cabrera, University of Illinois at Chicago
Pat Cannon, Ravinia College Consulting
Mike Dessimoz, Illinois College Access Network
Katie Doucette, Marquette University
Andriana Esparza, Moraine Valley Community College
Sara Espinosa, Illinois Student Assistance Commission
Nadia Flores, Community Advocate
Alicia Funes, East Leyden High School
Aliza Gilbert, Highland Park High School
Luke Kerber, Aurora University
Mayra Lagunas, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign
Elisabet Miramontes, University of St. Francis
Abel Montoya, Illinois Student Assistance Commission
Luis Narvaez, Chicago Public Schools
Tania Padilla, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign
Eric Ruiz, University of St. Francis
Stephanie Szczepanski, Saint Louis University

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