



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Special Issue on First-Generation College Students

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For this special issue of the *eJournal*, the editors welcome submissions focusing on research, projects, and approaches that celebrate and support the experiences, skills, and values that first-generation college students bring with them to campus.

Who are first-generation college students? Defined as students whose parents never completed a four-year degree, first-generation college students comprise a growing population at institutions of higher education. Researchers and practitioners have shown that:

- first-generation students from diverse backgrounds are an increasingly important component of any institutional recruitment plan, as they comprise a significant portion of the student population at many schools;
- how colleges and universities help their first-generation students develop their social and cultural capital is paramount to their success;
- completing a degree can significantly impact a first-generation student's future earnings and improve his or her life and community;
- despite tight resources at colleges and universities, enhanced retention and degree completion for first-generation students can be a driver of and support for improved institutional outcomes.

Submissions Topics: The above dimensions of institutional goals and first-generation students' needs are interwoven and overlapping. For this special issue, submissions will focus on: best practices or successful models that are supported by appropriate assessment or evaluation findings; presenting quantitative and/or qualitative results of studies relevant to first-generation students in higher education; or describing institutional best practices. Possible topics may include but are not limited to:

- high-impact practices that support first-generation college students;
- innovative programs (faculty-, staff-, or student-led) designed and assessed to advance first-generation college student success (i.e., persistence and degree completion);
- partnerships that have emerged through the work of strengthening first-generation college student support;
- Best practices used in higher education that influence first-generation college student support;
- Initiatives and communication strategies used at your institution to create cultural change regarding awareness of and support for first generation students

The *eJournal of Public Affairs* is a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, open-access electronic journal published by Missouri State University in partnership with the American Democracy Project. For this special issue, the editors welcome submissions on a range of topics that center on the work being done in higher education to measure and/or strengthen first-generation college student support on campus, in the community, or at the intersection of the two domains.

In this special issue of the *eJournal*, the editors are seeking scholarly submissions that address efforts supporting first-generation students. In addition to articles, the editors will also consider for publication reports, descriptive essays, videos, interviews, photo essays, multimedia, etc., that showcase innovative or exemplary projects.

Submission Deadline: June 1, 2018 (earlier submissions welcomed and appreciated). All submissions must follow the format outlined on the *eJournal* website: <http://ejopa.missouristate.edu/index.php/ejournal/about/submissions>.

For more information, visit eJournal.missouristate.edu or e-mail: eJournalPA@MissouriState.edu