OFFICE OF COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESEARCH AND LEADERSHIP

Portraits of Community College Student Leaders: Emerging Visions for the Future

SUMMARY

This study explores the lived experiences of community college student leaders in Illinois through the lens of autoethnography, a qualitative research method that allows participants to reflect on their personal journeys by connecting their individual stories to broader cultural, social, and institutional contexts. Centering the voices of student leaders provides a platform for them to share their stories in their own words, as they explore how these identities intersect and influence their experiences, decision-making processes, and sense of belonging within the college community.

BACKGROUND

The voices of student leaders themselves are often absent from the discourse, highlighting the need for more qualitative, student-centered research. By addressing existing gaps in the current literature, this study and future research can provide valuable insights into how community colleges can better support and empower their student leaders, ultimately enhancing individuals and institutional outcomes.

FUNDER

- Illinois Community College Board

PRODUCTS

- Podcast
- Webinar
- Voices & Viewpoints

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