

Equity in Student Success: A Board Imperative

AGB ASSOCIATION OF
GOVERNING BOARDS
OF UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES



Gardner Institute

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The Board's Role in Student Success and Equity: Why Should You Care?

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1) Fulfilling the Moral Obligation

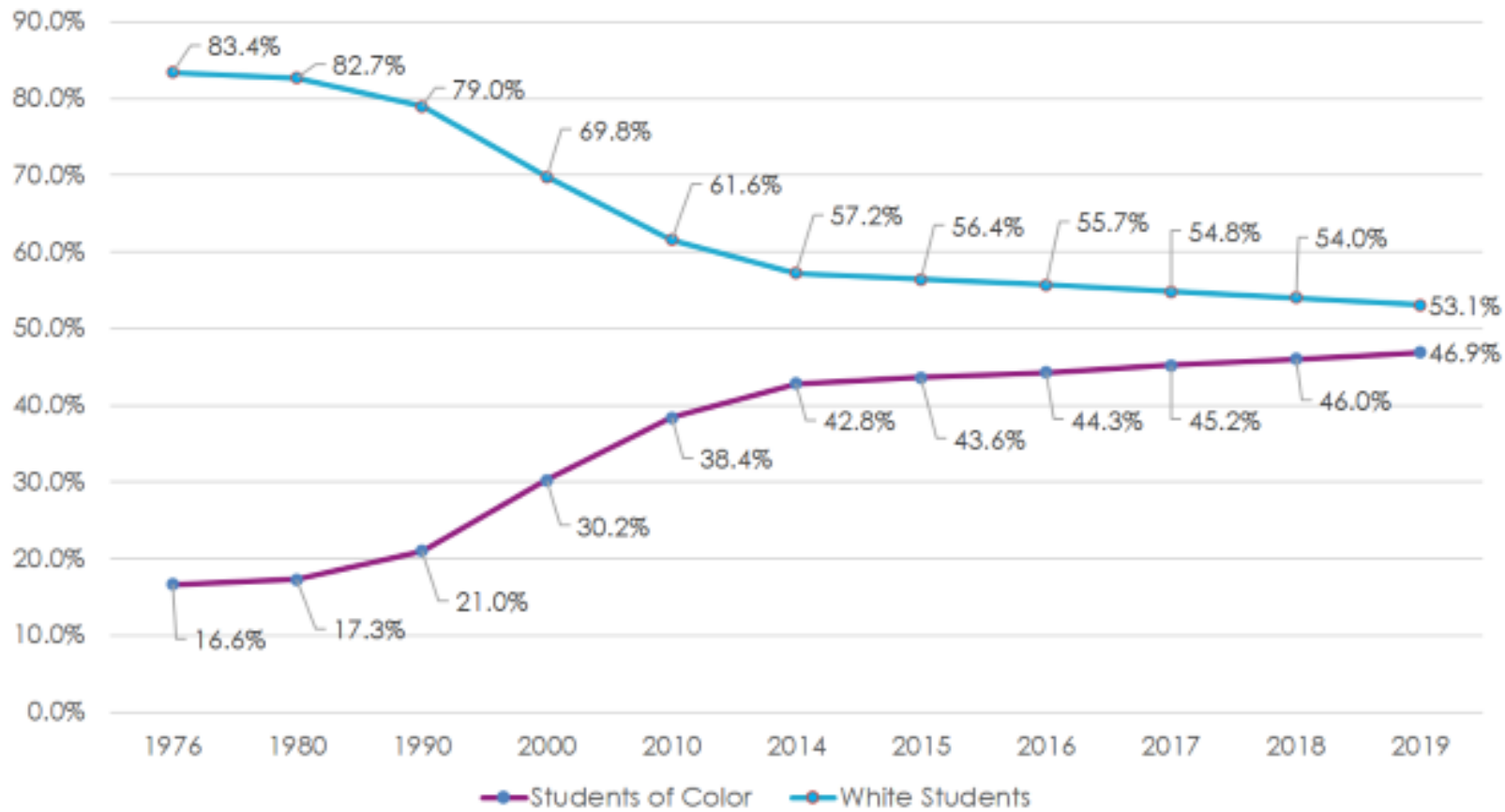
2) Relations with Stakeholders

3) Institutional Revenues

4) A Word of Caution

5) A Final Thought on the Relationship Between Student Success and Equity and Kentucky's Economic Success and Quality of Life

U.S. Undergraduate Enrollment by Race/Ethnicity, 1976–2019



The Governing Board Equity
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We at AGB encourage all board members and presidents who have not already done so to review the [*AGB Board of Directors' Statement on Justice, Equity, and Inclusion*](#) and the [*AGB Principles of Trusteeship*](#). These are fundamental guides that include sound direction on the importance of equitable student success.

Committing to equitable student success not only affords all members of the campus community the opportunity to be treated with dignity and respect, but also ensures that all students are provided appropriate support to complete their educational aspirations.

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**The admissions process is essential to the
prosperity and sustainability of higher education.**

All colleges and universities, regardless of institution type, rely on enrollment strategies to attract, retain, and graduate students. Therefore, trustees have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure their institution adopts effective enrollment management strategies and related institutional policies, especially regarding financial aid and tuition discounting.

1. What is the responsibility of the Board when it comes to ensuring student success for ALL students?
2. In retrospect, what are some things that might have been done differently?
3. How does your institution define and measure student success?
4. How do retention and graduation rates vary across student segments?

Resources

[AGB Board of Directors' Statement on Justice, Equity, and Inclusion](#) (AGB, 2021)

[Principles of Trusteeship](#) (AGB, 2021)

["A Question for Chancellor Joseph I. Castro: Why is equity in student success a priority for higher education?"](#) by Elena Loveland, *Trusteeship Magazine*, Sept/Oct 2021

["A Question for Eileen Wilson-Oyelaran: Why is justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion critical for boards?"](#) by Elena Loveland, *Trusteeship Magazine*, July/Aug 2021

[AGB Board of Directors' Statement on Board Responsibility for the Oversight of College Completion](#) (AGB, 2016)

[AGB Statement on Board Responsibility for Oversight of Educational Quality](#) (AGB 2011)

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