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Introductory Pages

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About the Journal

The Journal of College Access (JCA) focuses on the current trends, research, practices, and development of all types of programs, policies, and activities related to the access of and success in postsecondary education. Issues of college aspiration, qualification, application, enrollment, and persistence are the primary emphases.

The Journal was co-founded by Dr. Patrick O’Connor and Dr. Christopher Tremblay. O’Connor is Associate Dean for College Counseling at Kingswood Cranbrook School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan and is a board member for the Michigan College Access Network (MCAN). Tremblay is a Research and Marketing Consultant in Gifted and Talented Education (GATE) at Michigan State University.

JCA is affiliated with the Michigan College Access Network, a statewide non-profit organization with a mission to increase college readiness, participation, and completion in Michigan, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college going students, and students of color.

Launched in March 2014, JCA is a part of Western Michigan University’s ScholarWorks, a digital showcase of research, scholarly and creative output.

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Welcome to our fourth issue and our fourth year!

Since launching, our articles have been downloaded nearly 8,000 times!

This edition of the *Journal* begins by taking readers through the college access needs and challenges of several special populations. Stacey Havlik et al. identify the considerations counselors should keep in mind when working with homeless populations, while Victor Saenz and his co-authors provide an analysis of the kinds of high school preparations Latina/o students take to make the most out of the college experience.

Summer melt has become an area of great interest to counselors and researchers alike, and the offering by Wendy Tackett et al. guides us through the lessons learned by one summer intervention process. Bradley Custer rounds out the special populations section with insights on the effects college policies have on justice-involved students.

The *Journal* then shifts to address issues of interest to all college-bound students, starting with a look at a report on Dual Enrollment management by Nicole Martinez. Mary Cantor and her collaborators then summarize the results of a 2016 report on the trends in higher education, while Lizbeth Pineda leads a team that reviews a study on access and mobility in higher education. This edition of the *Journal* closes with information on a newer directory for college access and success programs, and a review by Mark Addison of a book that looks at the legal side of college access.

We hope you enjoy the wide array of articles in this edition.