Title of Research Fellow Project: Building Bridges Fellow

Faculty/Staff Supervisor: Dr. Carolyn Uhl, Avery Garcia

Description of Research Project: Our research objectives are to (1) study the impact of *Building Bridges* on academics outcomes and retention/persistence of participating students, (2) evaluate whether participation in *Building Bridges* results in greater academic success or if similar outcomes can be obtained with a monetary award alone, and (3) assess the influence of *Building Bridges* on students' self-reported sense of belonging, financial stress, and development. All members of the team will have a part in collecting research data. Dr. Carolyn Uhl will supervise the outcome data collection and coding. Avery Garcia will supervise the programmatic aspects of Building Bridges.

Description of Student Opportunity: The students will learn the basics of data collection and coding. This will also include how to present and disseminate data. For example, building infographics of relevant data to share with research stakeholders. The student will also help collect information on other retention focused research studies across US universities and colleges to create a report that will help inform the project. The student may also help research potential funding opportunities.

Benefits to the Student: The student will benefit from working with supervisors in two different areas of the college. In addition to learning about different research methods, the student will have hands-on experience with a novel and unique research opportunity. The student's input will also be welcomed and they will be treated as a valued member of the research team.

Benefits to the Supervising Faculty/ Staff Member: The supervising staff members will benefit in three primary ways: 1) assistance with the administrative side of research work, 2) regular contact with a student voice/perspective, and 3) the energy and creativity that another team member brings to the table.

Research Fellow Qualifications (major, skill set, technology, etc.): No required major. Interest in learning how to do research is a must! Interest in issues of equity and access in education preferred. Competence with Excel and basic infographic software preferred. All other skills can be taught.
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