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"NOBODY KNOWS THE TROUBLES I'VE SEEN: THE SONG OF STUDENT-PARENTS"

Terrell L. Strayhorn

Researcher, Council of Graduate Schools, Washington, D.C.

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Terrell L. Strayhorn

Researcher, Council of Graduate Schools
Washington, DC

"This presentation will challenge college administrators, faculty, staff, and others to deal with the needs of student-parents."

The traditional college student, at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, is changing. Today's college student is older, aging, and faces new challenges and issues. Higher education seeks to remain responsive to the needs of all students. Non-traditional students typically referred to students enrolled in non-traditional hours programs, or older adult learners who return to complete college degrees. Today, however, yet another group of students are increasingly enrolling in institutions of higher learning. Shouldering responsibilities, both in and out of the classroom, while juggling the needs of their children, student-parents face challenges and needs that demand our consideration.

This presentation will challenge college administrators, faculty, staff, and others to deal with the needs of student-parents. We will discuss how universities can better meet the needs of student-parents. We will point out and underscore the challenges of student-parents, the demographics of this emerging, growing group of students, and we will look at how several institutions have already begun to deal with this minority. Particular focus will be given to undergraduate, single student-parents.