

SERU/UCUES Research Symposium

A New Generation of University Students: Understanding the Student Experience and Seeking Opportunities to Translate Analysis into Practice

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**ABSTRACT**

*Exploring the Importance of Student Differences Associated with Wealth, Immigrant Status, Religions, Politics, Race and Ethnicity*

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This study explores the relationships among campus composition, students' sense of belonging, and frequency of student interactions among students that differ by social class, religious affiliation, generations as a U.S. citizen, political affiliation, and race and ethnicity across the campuses of a major university system. Initial empirical evidence for operational definitions of the Constitutional admissions concepts compelling interest and critical mass is reported and institutional climate measures and areas for targeted intervention are identified.