



Student
Opportunity
Center

Student Engagement— Foundational to Student Learning

[Webinar Summary](#)

Presented by Dr. George Kuh

About this Document

This document summarizes the content shared in the “Introduction to High-Impact Practices” webinar organized by Student Opportunity Center on April 21, 2020. Dr. George Kuh, Founding Director of the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment, Adjunct Professor at the University of Illinois, and the Chancellor’s Professor Emeritus at Indiana University was the featured speaker at this event.

Statement

In these uncertain and challenging times, higher-ed must address the changing needs of their students with more purposeful engagement to better prepare them for a rapidly evolving 21st-century life and workforce.

Overview

1. Why purposeful student engagement matters
2. Why High-Impact Practices (HIPs) are vital to student success during and after college
3. What we know (& moving forward)

Purposeful engagement matters to desired outcomes for college students

Because individual effort and involvement are the critical determinants of college impact, institutions must focus on the ways they can shape their academic, interpersonal, and extracurricular offerings to encourage student engagement. Examples include:

- Service/community-based learning
- Internships and field placement
- First-year seminars and experiences

HIPs are vital to student success during and after college

- HIPs are particularly promising for cultivating

disposition attributes such as intrapersonal and interpersonal competencies, which are considered essential for success during and after college.

- They require applied, hands-on deep integrative learning
- They have salutary effects for students from historically underserved populations
- They are associated with positive effects on a variety of desired outcomes

Facts

- HIPs are particularly promising for cultivating educationally effective institutions channel student energy toward the right activities
- Students that engage in educational practices like HIPs show higher levels of learning and development, especially among underserved students
- The greatest impact stems from a student’s total level of campus engagement, particularly when academic, interpersonal, and extracurricular involvements are mutually reinforcing

Moving Forward

Occasionally an idea comes along that seems to clarify complex issues and potentially resolve fundamental problems that exist in higher education today. SOC is well positioned now and in the post-COVID environment to add value to the undergraduate experience by facilitating and scaling HIP participation. This includes identifying experiential learning activities on and off campus—virtual, remote, & onsite. Offering a centralized platform solution, SOC is committed to helping institutions integrate appropriately experiential learning in the curriculum and documenting the efficacy of such activities to enhance the positive effects of the next generation of HIPs.

How SOC Can Help

For more information about SOC and/or to schedule a demo, [click here to visit our website](#). To view a list of all of our webinars, access recordings and other resources, visit please visit the Resources section on our website. You can also email us directly at community@studentopportunitycenter.com

About SOC

Among other products and services, Student Opportunity Center offers its platform to over 200 campuses nationwide. SOC's national database of undergraduate research and honors opportunities includes tens of thousands of myriad experiential learning listings and high-impact experiences, categorized by types, such as scholarships, internships, grants, fellowships, conferences, publications, faculty research, and more.

The idea for SOC was conceived by students at FSU who were looking for experiential learning opportunities relevant to their majors, interests, and career goals. At that time, no other comprehensive system like this existed, which allowed students to search for, apply to, and keep a record of various outside-the-classroom opportunities. As of Fall 2020, the database includes tens of thousands of listings and is used by over 200,000 students nationwide.

More information is available at www.studentopportunitycenter.com