



ACUE

Student Success
Through Exceptional
Teaching

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Association of College and University Educators (ACUE)

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Major National Study to Examine Potential Impact of Evidence-Based Teaching, Mindset, and Digital Learning on Students and Faculty in “Gateway” Courses

Made possible through a \$1.5 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation involving ten participating institutions

Study to expand higher education’s understanding of how Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and Pell-eligible students enrolled in gateway courses can benefit

February 2, 2022 (New York, NY) - The [Association of College and University Educators](https://www.acue.org/) (ACUE), the leader in student success and equity through quality instruction, announced today a new national study made possible through a \$1.5 million grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. The study, involving more than 1,500 educators nationwide, will examine the relationship between evidence-based teaching practices, faculty mindset, and student outcomes. In addition, up to 700 faculty will have the opportunity to earn ACUE’s nationally recognized credential in effective teaching practices. Collectively, this will benefit more than 80,000 students.

The ten participating institutions are committed to providing a quality education for all of their students and to reducing barriers in gateway courses that perpetuate inequitable outcomes for Black, Latinx, Indigenous, and Pell-eligible students.

Meghan Snow, ACUE’s Chief Data Officer said, "To date, our 18 studies have established an incontrovertible link between the evidence-based teaching of ACUE-credentialed faculty and improved grades, higher completion rates, and closed equity gaps by race, ethnicity, and socio-economic status. With this new study, we can investigate these relationships in gateway courses—which are so consequential in a student’s academic career."

Participating institutions are:

- Borough of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York
- California State University, Northridge
- Georgia Southern University
- University of Hawai’i at Manoa
- University of Houston
- Ivy Tech Community College
- North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
- Ohio Association of Community Colleges, including Cincinnati State, Cuyahoga Community College, and Lorain County Community College



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“Last summer, when the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation asked to learn more about ACUE’s impact, we took them on a deep dive,” **said Scott Durand, ACUE’s Chief Executive Officer.** “It was our honor to share compelling findings that ACUE-credentialed faculty close equity gaps and measurably improve student outcomes. This major national study that we are thrilled to announce today was granted on that basis, to further explore the transformative impact faculty can have on student success when equipped with evidence-based teaching practices and digital tools.”

The study begins this month with preliminary findings expected in early 2023.

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About ACUE:

The [Association of College and University Educators’](#) (ACUE) mission is to ensure student success and equity through quality instruction. In partnership with colleges, universities, higher education systems and associations, ACUE prepares and credentials faculty in the evidence-based teaching practices that improve student achievement and close equity gaps. Numerous and independently validated studies confirm that students are more engaged, learn more, and complete courses in greater numbers—more equitably with their peers—when taught by ACUE-credentialed faculty. ACUE’s online, cohort-based credentialing programs are delivered through institutional partnerships and open enrollment courses endorsed by the American Council on Education.