From Idea to Practice: The Praxis of Student Leadership in a Transnational/Transformational Context

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Equality.

- How can we talk about the same issues when we have a different vocabulary and definitions?
- Critical Race Theory as a framework to "name our pain" and confront issues
 - Using a tool that was created by people of color
 - Theory is everywhere
 - You are absorbing this information based on your own theoretical framework: a set of beliefs that help you make sense of the world and explain phenomena that can facilitate solutions
- Using a vocabulary where we define terms, ideas and solutions in a similar language.

US Context: CRT in Education 101

Centralizes race and racism to explain inequalities in education but also takes into account other forms of oppression such as gender and sexism, sexuality and homophobia, etc. and how it intersects with race.



Practice of CRT in Education: Creating Counter-spaces in the Institution

- From receptacle (a building or traditions) to receptive (a place that honors students experiences, embraces their cultures and celebrates their differences)
- A house is a not a home: An institution must adapt to its constituents as much as its constituents must adapt to the institution
- In which ways are the institution's traditions, practices, policies and attitudes assisting ALL students to excel or to fail?
- What spaces and staff are welcoming to students of different backgrounds?

Receptive Culture Receptacle Culture



Mapping Transfer Spaces

Transfer Hotspots

- Intentional
- Caters to transfer students
- Explicit in their name and/or mission
- Known to transfer students and to those who work with transfer students

Transfer Friendly

- May or may not be intentional
- Cater to all students but also outreaches to transfer students
- Not explicit in their name or mission
- Transfer students feel welcome

Transfer Must-Be

- May not be intentional
- May already work with transfer students
- Essential to transfer student success
- May need to improve their outreach to transfer students

UCLA's Transfer Spaces Map (in progress)



Institutional Memory & Counter-Spaces Exercise

- What is your role in maintaining/sharing/transforming institutional memory?
- How is this different for staff and students?
- Mapping the spaces at your institutions that are counter-spaces: spaces/ people/allies

Question for the audience (Agree/ Disagree):

I DON'T SEE COLOUR BECAUSE TO ME, EVERYONE IS EQUAL

- UCLA: COLORBLIND AND COLOR BRAVE
- ECHO: REFLECTIONS ON DUTCH CONTEXT

US Practice: Affirmative Action

Definition: to take race/ethnicity/gender into account when making decisions. NOT QUOTAS!



The Leadership Spectrum

What is your definition of Leadership?





What does the audience need, want more of to succeed in their projects?

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M.I.A Borders video:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-Nw7HbaeWY