

Evaluating Community College to PhD Association's Internet-mediated Interventions

by David Nguyen

Problem Statement/Significance

- Community college (CC) alumni are underrepresented within PhD programs due to restricted research and PhD prep opportunities.
- Professors who are CC alumni often become “transfer champions.” Professors who are **not** CC alumni exhibit anti-transfer bias.

Research Objectives

- Efficacy and use behavior of e-mentoring, Facebook group, and workshop lecturecasts.
- Changes in research skills, PhD prep knowledge, and preparedness to apply for upper-div undergrad research opportunities.

Program Description

- Guides 28 CC students through conducting a research project, presenting at conferences, applying for undergrad research programs, and developing a PhD prep plan.
- Provide monthly workshops, Grad Mentor, faculty advisor, and a small research grant.

Findings

- E-mentoring is convenient but tricky to use.
- Extremely low use of Facebook group.
- Lecturecasts are helpful to review materials.
- Program improved students' research skills, PhD prep knowledge, and preparedness to apply for research opportunities.