

CAFE Resources January 2019



We hope your Winter classes are off to a great start! To kick off this semester's edition of the *CAFE Resources*, we are going to highlight some of the information that was shared at the recent Welcome Back by Michelle Stando, Director of Research and Analytics, and then offer some resources to build on this information.

Michelle pointed out that changes in our student population will continue to impact who will make up our current and future classrooms. This, in turn, impacts how we, as instructors, engage with learners to increase their chances for success. Some key changes in Schoolcraft's student population include: more dual-enrolled students, more minority students, more full-time students (although part-time students still comprise nearly 75% of our student population), and decreased enrollment (largely fueled by smaller graduating classes from local high schools).

Our future students are likely to be quite different from those of today. There are several factors impacting the makeup of our future student population: increased immigration from Asia as well as Central and South America, interstate migration of residents moving from the Northeast and Midwest into the South and West, and a decline in birthrates. These factors will create a decline in the traditional college-aged population, an increase in nontraditional-aged college students, and more racially and ethnically diverse classrooms. Many students in our future classrooms will face obstacles, such as financial struggles, balancing obligations (such as caring for dependents or working full-time while completing coursework), a lack of a high school diploma, the need for developmental courses, and being a first-generation college student or veteran. These shared characteristics of future students point toward an increased need to alter the ways in which we connect and engage with these learners.

If you would like further information about the changing demographics of our student population, Michelle recommends the following two books:

[Demographics and the Demand for Higher Education by Nathan D. Grawe](#)
[Breakpoint: The Changing Marketplace for Higher Education by Jon McGee](#)

If you would like ideas about instructional techniques and activities, check out the following or visit the CAFE in the Grote Building where there is a large collection of books and periodicals:

[Here's What Today's College Students Want from College](#)
[Enhancing Learning through Zest, Grit, and Sweat](#)
[Leveraging High-Impact Practices at the Course Level](#)
[Want to Reach Gen Z? Look to Adult Learners](#)
[The Case for Inclusive Teaching](#)
[Teaching Adult Learners](#)

If you would like personal assistance with examining and enhancing your instructional practices, please make an appointment to talk with one of our curriculum designers:

instruction@schoolcraft.edu or 732-462-4419

