#NACACreads: 'Hold Fast to Dreams' with Author Joshua Steckel

Author and public school counselor Joshua Steckel joined #NACACreads on Feb. 10 to discuss his award-winning book.

It’s 9 p.m. EST, and time to kick off tonight’s #NACACreads book chat. Thanks for joining us!

pic.twitter.com/xjaIsef4dN

We’ll be discussing “Hold Fast to Dreams: A College Guidance Counselor, His Students, and the Vision of a Life Beyond Poverty.” #NACACreads
As an added bonus we’re told a couple of students featured in the book are also planning to drop by. Thanks for joining us! #NACACreads

We’re lucky to have one of the authors, @JoshuaSteckel1, with us tonight. Welcome, Josh! #NACACreads

Great to be with you! #NACACreads

We’ll get rolling soon, but first: #NACACreads participants, take some time to introduce yourself.
Even if you’re just lurking, tell us your name and the institution/org where you work. #NACACreads pic.twitter.com/SEIZIxrCKT

@USFCA_Access

Confession time. I’m still reading Hold Fast to Dreams, but excited for the chat #nacacreads

@NACAC

Welcome to #nacacreads ... you’ll still be able to participate! #judgefree :)

@CentaurOfAttn

Steve Jenks from Ithaca @IthacaCollege #NACACreads
Chris D'Orso
@cdorso

Happy to take part of #NACACReads tonight with @NACAC & @JoshuaSteckel1! Chris D'Orso, Stony Brook University. And: higheredlive.com/nacacreads-hol...

2 YEARS AGO

Jillian Hiscock
@jhiscock

Yes! #nacacreads twitter.com/cdorso/status/...

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

Welcome Chris @cdorso and Steve Jenks of @IthacaCollege! #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

For the record, I’m moderator Mary Stegmeir, a member of NACAC’s comm team. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

New to Twitter chats? So are we. Check out this handy guide — ow.ly/XevhT — and remember to tag ALL your tweets w/ #NACACreads.

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

While we’re all getting acquainted, let’s kick things off with a question for our #NACACreads guest.

2 YEARS AGO
“Hold Fast to Dreams” follows ten low-income minority students as they pursue a college degree. 
#NACACreads pic.twitter.com/CKczV0E1Dl

@JoshuaSteckel1: Why did you want to write about your students’ experiences applying to and persisting in higher ed? #NACACreads

National conversation about college is driven largely by the concerns & issues of a really narrow band of the population. #NACACReads (1/10)

This is changing now. Which is exciting. #ReachHigher #BetterMakeRoom. #NACACReads (2/10)
But when I began working in the @NYCSchools, my students’ exps weren’t part of the conversation. They weren’t visible. #NACACReads (3/10)

We wrote Hold Fast to Dreams to try to help change that. #NACACReads (4/10)

The students’ stories felt urgent, complicated, & powerful, and in an important way, the stories weren’t only theirs. #NACACReads (5/10)

Theirs were the stories of so many students, all across America. #NACACReads (6/10)

We wanted to show what it looked like, up-close, for low-income & #firstgen students to get to and through college. #NACACReads (7/10)

Understanding experience of low-income & #firstgen students is critical to understanding state of opportunity in America. #NACACReads (8/10)
Understanding exp of low-income & #firstgen students critical to work of making higher ed function as engine of equity. #NACACReads (9/10)

And this work must be rooted in empathy, on the ground, where we can hear students’ voices & value their stories. #NACACReads (10/10)

Key advice from @JoshuaSteckel1. #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

Mike Forbes here. I'm a student from the book and i work @SkidmoreCollege. #NACACReads

Hello, I'm Abigail Benavente. I am also one of the students in Hold Fast to Dreams. Pleasure to speak with you guys tonight. #nacacreads

A special welcome to @abbys_tweet and @mforbes36 — 2 of Josh's former students who were featured in the book! #NACACreads
Gil Rogers
@gilrogers
@NACAC Gil Rogers. Director at @Chegg. We connect students on @CheggAdmissions network to best fit schools via @socialadmission #nacacreads

NACAC @NACAC
@gilrogers @Chegg @CheggAdmissions @socialadmission Welcome Gill! Good to see you. #nacacreads

Bob Bardwell @bardwellr
@JoshuaSteckel1 is a hero in our profession. Everyone needs to read Hold Fast to Dreams #nacacreads

NACAC @NACAC
Preach! #NACACreads twitter.com/bardwellr/stat...

Karen Graziano @KarenMGraziano
@JoshuaSteckel1 Looking forward to reading your book! @NACAC #nacacreads

NACAC @NACAC
@KarenMGraziano Welcome Karen! #nacacreads

Kate Sigety @KateSigety
Hi #NACACreads! I’m Kate from #nacac’s communications team. Excited about tonight’s chat!
Kelly Ferrante from the @NACACedu team! #nacareads

Tina Vargas @vargas_bomblue

I'm Tina studying to become an IEC #nacareads

@vargas_bomblue Welcome Tina! #nacareads

Suzette from Univ of San Francisco here! @NACAC #nacareads

Alicia Oglesby @aliciakoglesby

#NACACreads Hi! Alicia, high school counselor @EmersonPrep in DC

Jillian Hiscock @jhiscock

Jillian here! Former admissions rep turned college partnerships manager for @CollPossible! #nacareads

@jhiscock @CollPossible Good to see you Jillian! #nacareads
@aliciakoglesby @EmersonPrep welcome Alicia! #nacacreads

All right, time for Q1. #NACACreads

Q1: Many of Josh's students are initially skeptical of higher ed. What barriers exist in the app process for #firstgen students? #NACACreads

Ready for a great chat! #NACACreads

Having been an admissions officer tasked w/recruiting in communities where many students need extra support this book hit home #nacacreads

A1 unfortunately I think the sleptism isn't only rooted in costs. It's rooted in authenticity. 2days marketing tactics harm #nacacreads
Alicia Oglesby @aliciakoglesby

yes! their questions prove they really have NO idea and I need to clarify every step, every email #nacacreads twitter.com/gilrogers/stat...

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

Sleptism =skepticism :) #nacacreads

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

Like not knowing what is an authentic expression of interest vs. a tactic to drum up more apps to deny #nacacreads twitter.com/aliciakoglesby...

Kate Sigety @KateSigety

A1: W/o knowledge of #FinAid, sticker shock can be a big issue. #Firstgen kids need early info abt paying for college. #NACACreads

NACAC @NACAC

.@JoshuaSteckel1 on increasing access and success for #firstgen students. #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

Michael Forbes @mforbes36

@NACAC Much of what is required for the app process happens online, which is sometimes a struggle for students from low SES #NACACreads
The digital divide is real and can affect college access. #NACACreads twitter.com/mforbes36/stat...

Cool to "meet" @abbys_tweet and @mforbes36 tonight. Enjoyed reading your stories! #nacacreads

Join in the fun with #NACACreads. The chat is on now!

A1: Sticker shock. Lack of academic confidence. Family pressures. Unfamiliarity with the process. #nacacreads #firstgen

#NACACreads A1) anything that makes the process frustrating is a barrier. some stress is necessary but these kids lives are overstressed

poverty is stressful!
@aliciakoglesby Do you see the stress affecting students and parents in the college applications process? #nacreads

Tania Rachkoskie @TaniaMJR
As a first gen student myself - lack of information can be a barrier. #nacreads

Bob Bardwell @bardwellr
As a public sch cnslr not in a city the book struck a chord I have similar kids who are invisible we do nothing special for them #nacreads

We’re off to an awesome start. Rolling into Q2. #NACACreads

Kisha Hugh @KishaHugh
Kisha Hugh here school counselor from Nansha college Prep in China. #nacreads

@KishaHugh welcome Kisha! It must be pretty early there! #nacreads

Q2: Positive feedback from an admission officer was affirming for Nkese. What else can colleges do to encourage #firstgen kids? #NACACreads
@abbys_tweet & @mforbes36: What did you find helpful (or not helpful) during the college admission process? #NACACreads

I’d say the resources given to us. All of the information that students from low SES don’t have. #nacacreads @NACAC

What I found to be most helpful, were the people around me in school. #NACACReads @NACAC

My parents don’t know much English and I was the first one going through the college process. #NACACReads @NACAC

So having everyone at school, from teachers to counselors to my friends, was the most helpful. #NACACReads @NACAC

Relationships matter in the college admission process. #NACACreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...
Abigail @abbys_tweet
We were a community, everyone with the same vision, helping each other. #NACACReads @NACAC

2 YEARS AGO

Michael Forbes @mforbes36
@NACAC It was great to actually visit a college campus overnight and interact with students before attending. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

Michael Forbes @mforbes36
@NACAC in addition to college visits the availability of college funded fee waivers were helpful throughout the process #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

Michael Forbes @mforbes36
I can attest to family responsibilities as the oldest of three growing up in a single mother household #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

2 YEARS AGO

Mary Stegmeir @marystegmeir
.@mforbes36 is a student featured in "Hold Fast to Dreams" #nacacreads twitter.com/mforbes36/stat...

2 YEARS AGO

Alicia Oglesby @aliciakoglesby
#NACACReads the featured students participating are totally celebrities right now! it’s so cool to read about you guys and now chat

2 YEARS AGO
Ditto for me too. Thank you for being part of the conversation. #NACACreads
twitter.com/aliciakoglesby...

So great to have them join us tonight! #NACACreads twitter.com/aliciakoglesby...

A2: We've heard these questions a million times; but for so many, it's the first time they're asking them. Give complete info. #NACACReads

Great point from @cdorso. The college app process is completely NEW for every class of students. #NACACreads twitter.com/cdorso/status/...

A2: Be proactive with students. They may not know the questions to ask. Remind of deadlines, touch base often. Be there. #nacacreads

#NACACReads A2: I reach out to applicants with postcards mentioning something about their essays I liked.
@aliciakoglesby

#nacacreads A2) when able, collaborate with school counselors! some of us are overworked. many want to build bridges. also, be kind #scchat

2 YEARS AGO

@KateSigety

A2: Ensure students feel welcome. 1 option? Adopt the Appreciative College Admission Counseling model: ow.ly/Yai4R. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

@gilrogers

A2 stop with misleading language in marketing materials. Read it. Are you implying admission? Your print pieces matter #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

@NACAC

@JoshuaSteckel1, you say college should be a choice for every student. What were the biggest challenges in meeting that goal? #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

@JoshuaSteckel1

Primary challenge: all work has to happen w/in context of structural inequalities that define low-income students’ lives. #NACACReads (1/9)

2 YEARS AGO

@JoshuaSteckel1

Housing insecurity. Lack of access to tech. Responsibility for family members. Limited resources even for littlest things. #NACACReads (2/9)

2 YEARS AGO
Too many students living life uphill. Have to respect that moving forward always takes extraordinary effort. #NACACReads (3/9)

Too many students believe college isn’t a choice for them. Hard place to start from. So much to do to turn the tide here. #NACACReads (4/9)

The playing field in college admissions is simply not level. Not a meritocracy. No real equity. #NACACReads (5/9)

Kids w most advantages get leg up. Kids whose circumstances make them most vulnerable & most in need of support get least. #NACACReads (6/9)

Student:counselor ratios are outrageous. Always so many more students than it is possible to support. #NACACReads (7/9)

Landscape of higher ed is full of bad choices. Always a huge challenge to help match students with good college choices. #NACACReads (8/9)
Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1
2 YEARS AGO

Good college choice = match for admissibility; adequate funding to meet student need; robust student support services. #NACACReads (9/9)

Steph Hart
@MissHartCRKC
2 YEARS AGO

The holy trinity! #nacacreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

NACAC
@NACAC
2 YEARS AGO

And the role college counselors play can't be underestimated --- they help students sort it all out! #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

NACAC
@NACAC
· 2 YEARS AGO

Great #NACACreads discussion so far. Just joining in? Say howdy — we’re talking about “Hold Fast to Dreams.” pic.twitter.com/JBcaD4YJGW
Steph Hart, Director of College Counseling at @CristoReyKC... #nacacreads

Welcome to #NACACreads, @CristoReyKC

A2: Show them the strong sense of community. Connect them with students on campus with a similar story. Honesty builds trust. #NACACreads

A2: Colleges that are putting forth the best effort to recruit #firstgen students do lots of outreach to help in the process. #nacacreads

#NACACReads i am constantly stepping out of my privileged space to break down the ins and outs of this process. they crave that perspective

A2: Work with CBOs, counselors or other trusted adults in student's life. I often emailed LOR writers to thank them. #nacacreads
@MissHartCRKC @CristoReyKC Yeah Steph! Love me some @CristoReyKC!! #nacreads

Steve Jenks @CentaurOfAttn

#NACACReads A2: If you have contact for students, you can reach out and offer to walk them through applications over the phone

NACAC @NACAC

Q3 is coming shortly. You can also toss out your own questions. #NACACreads

NACAC @NACAC

Q3: Many of Josh’s students have low test scores but a drive to succeed. What admission practices support such students? #NACACreads

Alicia Oglesby @aliciakoglesby

A3) we LOVE test optional schools!! #NACACReads #scchat #hscchat twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

Mia Bradford @MiaBradford

@NACAC Colleges can offer trips to campus focused on first Gen students explaining their resources and what to expect. #nacreads
A great way to help #firstgen kids make the most out of college visits. #NACACreads twitter.com/MiaBradford/st...

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

A3 #turningthetide, on paper, is a step in the right direction. #testoptional #nacacreads

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

A3 if we are serious about lowering our emphasis on test scores that starts w/stopping practice of buying names from test svcs #nacacreads

Tania Rachkoskie @TaniaMJR

@gilrogers What other ways can colleges locate students? #nacacreads

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

@TaniaMJR online college search sites are a very popular resource. Also, mobile marketing methods are a great start #nacacreads

Dann Jones @allaboudtann

RT gilrogers TaniaMJR online college search sites are a very popular resource. Also, mobile marketing methods are a great start #nacacreads
@gilrogers #NACACReads have you seen alternative methods of name collection for marketing? Aside from just HS visits?

@CentaurOfAttn

2 YEARS AGO

@gilrogers

@socialadmission is a great start. Reaches 8/10 college-bound seniors #NACACReads

2 YEARS AGO

@CentaurOfAttn

absolutely. @socialadmission is a great start. Reaches 8/10 college-bound seniors #NACACReads

2 YEARS AGO

@gilrogers

It is worth repeating. Test optional admission needs to start with opting out of buying test taker lists+playing rankings games #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

@aliciakoglesby

#NACACReads some of these kids are "street smart" which should count for something but doesn't. SAT/ACT testing is limited

2 YEARS AGO

@MiaBradford

@NACAC Schools definitely need college counselors to help students navigate the many parts of process. #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

@CentaurOfAttn

#NACACReads A3 Test optional apps for sure. Holistic reviews. College2HSCounselor outreach for clarification on histories

2 YEARS AGO
Great points from @CentaurOfAttn. #NACACreads twitter.com/CentaurOfAttn/…

A3: Many of Josh’s students wrote powerful essays — a great way to learn more abt the life experiences of applicants. #NACACreads

A3: Holistic review actually happening, not just saying it does. Admissions counselors can be huge advocates in this!! #nacacreads

I think @jhiscock’s point about advocacy on OUR side of the desk is so important. Get to know students. #NACACReads

So thrilled to be part of this conversation. Hearing amazing things here in #NACACReads.

Q how do we get more public school counselors to see their role in helping these kids through the process like @JoshuaSteckel1? #nacacreads
Kisha Hugh 胡梦汐  
@KishaHugh  
I think we see our roles but we're either not recognized OR some SC's aren't trained for that part  
#NACACReads twitter.com/bardwellr/stat...  

Abigail  
@abbys_tweet  
I agree. Most know about school counselors, all schools have them, college counselors is a completely different role  
#nacreads @KishaHugh  

Joshua Steckel  
@JoshuaSteckel1  
.@bardwellr Critical to develop counselor ed programs to include training in quality counseling re: college access/success. #NACACReads  

Bob Bardwell  
@bardwellr  
@JoshuaSteckel1 true but we also have to recruit and hire passionate school counselors who go the extra mile to do what you did #nacreads  

Bob Bardwell  
@bardwellr  
I can teach grad students college counseling content but I can’t make them compassionate and care about their students #nacreads  

Karen Graziano  
@KarenMGraziano  
@bardwellr But I'm sure you model it for them! #nacreads  

2 YEARS AGO
Compassion is so important in the college counseling profession. Relationships matter.
#NACACreads  
twitter.com/bardwellr/stat...

I agree! You can teach what empathy is and does -- and how it will make analytical-focused better. #nacacreads twitter.com/bardwellr/stat...

You can teach empathy -- people can improve. It takes a caring teacher to show them how. #nacacreads twitter.com/joshuasteckel1...

@KarenMGraziano @bardwellr Yes, these are impt points. Certainly that is what happens w the grad students I supervise. #NACACReads

@JoshuaSteckel1 Certainly, you model empathy and inspire kindness! #nacacreads

#NACACReads support legislation for school counselors and reasonable caseloads! #reachhigher #scchat #asca16
Jillian Hiscock @jhiscock

At @CollPossible, we have every student write a Letter of Special Circumstance to tell their story beyond numbers. #nacacreads

Steve Jenks @CentaurOfAttn

@jhiscock #NACACReads YES! Admission offices really look for that especially if grades aren’t that great

NACAC @NACAC

Great to know! One reason why the holistic review process is so important. #NACACreads

twitter.com/CentaurOfAttn/

Toussaint L'Testure @akilbello

hey @JoshuaSteckle1 #nacacreads

test optional right now seems to be more marketing than truly beneficial to students. Its very much over stated. @gilrogers #nacacreads
Alicia Oglesby
@aliciakoglesby

2 YEARS AGO
depends on the program but yeah it's crucial to look deeper #nacreads but it's a start!
twitter.com/akilbello/stat...

Gil Rogers
@gilrogers

2 YEARS AGO
@akilbello couldn't agree more. Want more apps? Waive test requirement. Actively recruit kids that report. Repeat. #NACACReads

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@NACAC

2 YEARS AGO
Now moving on to Q4. #NACACreads

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@NACAC

2 YEARS AGO
Q4: Once admitted, many of Josh's students struggle to find their niche on campus. Why? How can we improve the transition? #NACACreads

Jillian Hiscock
@jhiscock

2 YEARS AGO
Honestly, many colleges aren't ready to support additional needs of low-income students. Getting better, but far from good. #nacreads

NACAC
@NACAC

2 YEARS AGO
@jhiscock: Agreed. @joshuasteckel did a great job of highlighting those needs. Even the need for things like cell phones. #nacreads
As an add-on to Q4, did any of the students’ stories resonate with you? Did any remind you of the students you serve? #NACACreads

Tania Rachkoskie
@TaniaMJR
A4: Colleges need to be ready for low socioeconomic students with staff and resources. #nacacreads

Karen Graziano
@KarenMGrziano
@NACAC They need to find the staff & faculty who care about them -- and want to make them feel that they belong! #nacacreads #community

Alicia Oglesby
@aliciakoglesby
#nacacreads A4) specified orientation, direct connections to current students, intentional inclusion. colleges have to take the initiative

Toussaint L'Testure
@akilbello
@aliciakoglesby yes! colleges need to maintain an up to date list of support programs on campus. too often they are hard to find #nacacreads

Yolanda Norman
@FirstGenCollege
Wow! What a day. Still time for #NACACreads. What did I miss?
@FirstGenCollege welcome Yolanda! Grab a drink and join us! #nacacreads

Kate Sigety @KateSigety

A4: Campus involvement is critical. Many of Josh’s students were happier/more focused once they joined clubs/campus activities. #NACACreads

Kisha Hugh 胡梦汐 @KishaHugh

A4: they feel out of their element. I get Frats & Sororities to help with transition. The kids love it. #NACACReads twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

Abigail @abbys_tweet

@KishaHugh I joined Alpha Phi Omega during my second semester at @Hunter_College I helped me get so many connections #nacacreads

Kisha Hugh 胡梦汐 @KishaHugh

I’m a member is Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. These orgs have great networking I use them to my benefit. #nacacreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

A4: identify students at risk of dropping out early+have support in place. Don’t just push them out. #youknowwhoiamtalkingabout #NACACreads
A4: Colleges *need* to understand 'one size' does not fit all. Traditional student development theory no longer applies. #nacacreads

Wisdom from @jhiscock: One-size does not fit all! #NACACreads twitter.com/jhiscock/statu...

A little more on the subject from #nacacJCA bit.ly/1KGE1Y9 #nacacreads twitter.com/gilrogers/stat...

Read more how colleges can nudge low-income students in the right direction: bit.ly/2oWCMcJ #nacacJCA #nacacreads

@SarahSCoxatHome did you like this one? linkedin.com/pulse/hey-harv... #nacacreads

colleges need to make sure that systems are in place to support low income students not only economically but w/ info and access #nacacreads
As a first gen student from a big family, I pay particular attention to students w/ family responsibilities #nacacreads

Yes! This is such an important topic to cover with college administrators. #NACACReads
twitter.com/usfca_access/s...

Good point. Family responsibilities can really impact #firstgen students #nacacreads
twitter.com/USFCA_Access/s...

@NACAC many students may feel alienated and not know who their allies are on campus #NACACreads

@NACAC attending Skid through the HEOP program allowed me to have a taste of what to expect and also to build relationships #NACACreads

@mforbes36 @NACAC building relationships is key. #nacacreads
Sara Tones
@sjtones

Q4: @NACAC #nacreads sometimes if they come fr a sch envir that has been esp supportive they don’t know how to advocate for themselves.

Kelly Ferrante
@KellyAFerrante

A4:Lack of knowledge of resources. #firstgen students may not know that there is someone to talk to for social/academic stress #nacreads

Kelly Ferrante
@KellyAFerrante

A4 (add-on): While I don’t work with students daily, @NACACedu tries to hear SC’s experiences to better plan programs & content #nacreads

Bob Bardwell
@bardwellr

#NACACedu staff are the BEST. They do such great work. Thanks for all you do #nacreads twitter.com/KellyAFerrante...

NACAC
@NACAC

@bardwellr You're making us blush . . . thank you for your kind words. #nacreads

Bob Bardwell
@bardwellr

@NACAC @KellyAFerrante I'm just saying it like it is.#nacreads
Alicia Oglesby
@aliciakoglesby
2 YEARS AGO

all my college access education came from being an intern in an underserved college prep school #nacacreads twitter.com/joshuasteckel1...

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dazeedee
@dazeedee
2 YEARS AGO

Thank you for providing great insight here, along w/everyone else. #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

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NACAC
@NACAC
2 YEARS AGO

@dazeedee Welcome Daisy! #nacacreads

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Kristina Dooley
@KristinaDooley
2 YEARS AGO

Just joining! I a former admission rep & an @IECA member from OH. I was a #firstgen student so this topic resonates w/me! #nacacreads

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NACAC
@NACAC
2 YEARS AGO

@KristinaDooley @IECA Welcome Kristina! #nacacreads

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NACAC
@NACAC
2 YEARS AGO

.@JoshuaSteckel1, Santiago’s comment “I had to stop dreaming” = heartbreaking. Do undocumented kids have more options w/ #DACA? #NACACreads
Abigail @abbys_tweet

I had a good friendship with him, he's a guy with much potential but an equal amount of limitation. It's shame really. #nacacreads @NACAC

Joshua Steckel @JoshuaSteckel1

Santiago’s story is heartbreaking, bc his status creates roadblocks at every turn. True for most #DREAMers. @joseiswriting #NACACReads (1/8)

Joshua Steckel @JoshuaSteckel1

Good news: Santiago was approved for DACA, & won Dream.US scholarship. Funds his education at @KCCBrooklyn. #NACACReads (2/8)

NACAC @NACAC

Great news! #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege

#NACACReads twitter.com/joshuasteckel1...

Joshua Steckel @JoshuaSteckel1

Dream.US scholarship is really important btw. Deadline is Feb 15. Info here: thedream.us/scholars/ #NACACReads (3/8)
Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1

There are definitely more resources now for #DREAMers, like this from @usedgov:
www2.ed.gov/about/overview... #NACACReads (4/8)

2 YEARS AGO

Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1

But affordability is still biggest problem in higher ed for #DREAMers. And DACA doesn’t solve this problem. #NACACReads (5/8)

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

Do you have undocumented students on your caseload. Obstacles still remain. #NACACreads
twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

2 YEARS AGO

Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1

Most states charge #DREAMers out-of-state tuition at public colleges and universities.
#NACACReads (6/8)

2 YEARS AGO

Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1

DACamented & undoc students not eligible for federal aid. Only handful of states allow #DREAMers to apply for state aid. #NACACReads (7/8)

2 YEARS AGO

Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1

Hard to feel this is ok after reading Santiago’s story. Working on change here in NYS, thru @NYDreamAct, @CUNYDREAMers. #NACACReads (8/8)

2 YEARS AGO
Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege
@aliciakoglesby @JoshuaSteckel1 @bardwellr and this is why internships are so important. #NACACReads

2 YEARS AGO

Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege
@KristinaDooley #NACACReads

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC @NACAC
Questions for your colleagues or @JoshuaSteckel1? Send ‘em to @NACAC. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC @NACAC
And remember, tag all your tweets with #NACACreads! Rolling into Q5.

2 YEARS AGO

Kent Rinehart @KentAtMarist
Sorry I'm late to #nacacreads. Ready to engage!

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC @NACAC
@KentAtMarist Welcome Kent! Good to see you! #nacacreads.

2 YEARS AGO

Gil Rogers @gilrogers
@KentAtMarist welcome! #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO
Q5: Josh’s students often feel they have to choose between family & higher ed. How can counselors address those concerns? #NACACreads

Love this comment from @Abbys_tweets --- one of the students featured in "Hold Fast to Dreams." #NACACreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

A5: Proactively talk with students about the family/school pressures students have faced. Connect with them upperclass students. #nacacreads

A5: You can anticipate challenges w/o fancy data analytics. Notice common trends among students and address early! #nacacreads

First, acknowledge that family IS important. Too often students family responsibilities are dismissed. #NACACreads twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

#nacacreads A5) that’s tough! idk, but i have tried college nearby or finding resources for the fam so student can go off to school
A5: Counselors can help parents & students by providing info and emotional support #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

A5: INCLUDE the family to the best of your ability. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

A5: Acknowledge the importance of family & support from home first. #NACACReads

2 YEARS AGO

A5: Understanding is key. Individual meetings w/ students & parents can help families plan for college. The earlier the better. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

A5: If counselors had a similar experience in college, it's important to share your story. The "real" connection is critical. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

A5: by showing them they have options. If they feel like they can't leave home we look at local schools #nacacreads twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

2 YEARS AGO
@KishaHugh: You're right! There is a college for everyone. #NACACreads
twitter.com/KishaHugh/stat...

Sara Tones @sjtones
What abt waivers for deposits and up front costs of college? Fees that come before the fin aid kicks in can be a big barrier. #nacacreads

Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege
#NACACreads twitter.com/joshuasteckel1...

Kisha Hugh 胡梦汐
@KishaHugh
@NACAC indeed! The key is helping them understand that you can get a quality education at home or away. #NACACreads twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

Michael Forbes @mforbes36
@NACAC the tactic @JoshuaSteckel1 used was to show me that local was a possibility if I wanted but urged me to explore elsewhere #NACACreads

this allowed me to realize the differences in opportunities college can have. sometimes local isn't always best #NACACreads
Practical advice from @mforbes36 on how to improve college access. #NACACreads twitter.com/mforbes36/stat...

Mary Stegmeir @marystegmeir

Important to keep all options open in the college search process. #alwaysdreambig #nacacreads twitter.com/mforbes36/stat...

Steve Jenks @CentaurOfAttn

#NACACReads A5: be honest about the options. If a school is too expensive/not a good fit, help guide students to better fit. Don't trap them

Kristina Dooley @KristinaDooley

Q5: instead of trying to fill the expert role for #firstgen parents, make them part of the process. Educate them and encourage. #nacacreads

Steve Peifer @wrigley6

#nacacreads the thing I really appreciated about your book was your revelation that you needed to step outside your own culture

Toussaint L'Testure @akilbello

A5 try to frame the conversation to the logistics no preceptn. often people talk abt distance frm home i prefer to talk time & $ #nacacreads
Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege

A5: Give students printed tips on how to talk with family about the changes taking place now that they are in college. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

Jillian Hiscock @jhiscock

Even better if it is available in multiple languages! #nacacreads twitter.com/FirstGenCollege...

2 YEARS AGO

Abigail @abbys_tweet

Q5 What helped me the most was realizing that in order to help my family I needed to help myself. #nacacreads @NACAC

2 YEARS AGO

Jillian Hiscock @jhiscock

Girl….PREACH!!! #nacacreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

2 YEARS AGO

Karen Graziano @KarenMGraziano

#BeautifullyStated #nacacreads @NACAC twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

2 YEARS AGO

Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege

Best lesson! #nacacreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

2 YEARS AGO

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

+100000000 #nacacreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

2 YEARS AGO
Abigail @abbys_tweet
A5 It's a sacrifice you are willing to take when the people you count on show you how far you can get #nacacreads @NACAC

Kelly Ferrante @KellyAFerrante
A5: Also, as an older sibling the college process sets an example for younger siblings. You could be the gateway & the motivator #nacacreads

Mary Stegmeir @marystegmeir
Yes, mentoring is so important #bigbrother #bigsister #nacacreads
twitter.com/KellyAFerrante...

Sara Tones @sjtones
@NACAC Q5: respect their ties to family while exploring options that work. But supporting the idea to spread their wings too. #nacacreads

Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege
A5: Find ways to get the voices of family on campus & reassure them that they have an opinion regardless of education. #NACACreads

Kristina Dooley @KristinaDooley
Q5: make family a part of the #firstgen visit experience on campus. Adjust the messaging to the audience to help lower anxiety. #nacacreads
@KistinaDooley: Awesome point. What do you do to get parents involved? #NACACreads twitter.com/KristinaDooley...

2 YEARS AGO

@NACAC #nacacreads I never talk as if they "won't understand" but instead treat them as a member of their child's advocacy team.

2 YEARS AGO

A5: Involving families is great, but not always possible. Talk w/ stdt about what they anticipate. They know! #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

@NACAC it's important to have open communication with your family when possible. Help them to know what you are experiencing #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

A5: Lets also keep in mind that family doesn't just mean "parents" for students. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO

@FirstGenCollege makes a great point. There is a role for all caring adults in the college app process. #NACACreads twitter.com/FirstGenColleg...

2 YEARS AGO
Karen Graziano
@KarenMGraziano
@NACAC @FirstGenCollege Love this -- at a college, faculty and staff become family too! #nacacreads @JoshuaSteckel1
2 YEARS AGO

Kent Rinehart
@KentAtMarist
A5: if students find the right college, sometimes the ppl (fac/staff & students) will become a 2nd family & additional support. #nacacreads
2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC
Great chat so far! Here comes Q6. #NACACreads
2 YEARS AGO

Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1
@abbys_tweet @NACAC @mforbes36 I am so psyched that my former students are here w me on this chat. They really are amazing. #NACACReads.
2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC
Q6: Several of Josh’s students enroll in schools that are overwhelmingly white. What lessons can we take from their experiences? #NACACreads
2 YEARS AGO

Michael Forbes
@mforbes36
Great point during the app process. Not only did i consider my immediate family but also my girlfriend #NACACreads twitter.com/FirstGenColleg...
2 YEARS AGO
A6. overwhelmingly white and having no group to relate to at school are different things. can you find a group w shared interest #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

A6. I once had a student comment on the expensive shoes all kids had on at a school this turned her off regardless of race #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

A6. Students need to be able to see shared interest. a student frm Bx planned to watch 90201 to relate to the kids at Wheelock #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

@akilbello #NACACReads ugh, class passing is so rough for low income students. Hell, low income professionals too...

2 YEARS AGO

This! #NACACreads twitter.com/akilbello/stat...

2 YEARS AGO

A6: I always acknowledged it straight up with students. 'This may be the whitest place you’ve ever been.' Talk about realities. #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO
Jillian Hiscock @jhiscock

A6: It will be different. It might be tough. But acknowledging it and letting students know there is support is huge. #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

Jillian Hiscock @jhiscock

A6: I can’t stress enough the importance of connecting students to each other. Shared experiences are powerful. #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

Yolanda Norman @FirstGenCollege

Yes. Important consideration. #NACACreads twitter.com/jhiscock/statu...

2 YEARS AGO

Steve Jenks @CentaurOfAttn

#NACACReads A6 get involved outside the admission office to help create an inclusive campus, not just inclusive marketing materials

2 YEARS AGO

Gil Rogers @gilrogers

👍 👍 👍 👍 👍 #nacacreads twitter.com/centaurofattn/...

2 YEARS AGO
@CentaurOfAttn #nacacreads pic.twitter.com/LFrxnl8Kk0

Sarah Cox
@SarahSCoxatHome

"Diverse" photos only go so far... #nacacreads twitter.com/gilrogers/stat...

Jillian Hiscock
@jhiscock

Yes. Yes. Yes. #nacacreads twitter.com/CentaurOfAttn/...

NACAC
@NACAC

Great points from @CentaurOfAttn. #NACACreads twitter.com/CentaurOfAttn/...

Kate Sigety
@KateSigety

A6: Loved this quote: “If colleges are to do more than replicate the status quo, they need the voices of many more individuals.” #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO
Sara Tones @sjtones

We owe to students to be honest abt the environment they are signing up for and I think students appreciate the honesty. #nacacreads

Tania Rachkoskie @TaniaMJR

A6: Not all PWIs are unwelcoming to students of color. Finding support on campus and a circle of friends is key #nacacreads

Kisha Hugh 胡梦汐 @KishaHugh

Yes! I let my Black students know they have choices they can go HBCU or PWI. We discuss them in depth. #NACACreads twitter.com/sjtones/status...

Kent Rinehart @KentAtMarist

A6: students w/ commonality of interests (sports, art, music, etc.) more likely 2 retain. Pursue interests & meet others. #nacacreads

Sarah Cox @SarahSCoxatHome

Read how NACAC's CEO found her niche @ a predominately wht college. bit.ly/1o4LHuR #nacacJCA #nacacreads twitter.com/akilbello/stat...

Alicia Oglesby @aliciakoglesby

#nacacreads A6) unless it's HBCU or MSI then it'll be mostly white. affinity groups exist or start your own. find professors of color
Alicia Oglesby
@aliciakoglesby

#NACACReads culture shock is real and should be handled honestly. I talk to my students about this before graduation.

2 YEARS AGO

Kisha Hugh 胡梦汐
@KishaHugh

It's important to have this conversation with minority students because it can be tough at a PWI. #NACACreads twitter.com/jhiscock/statu...

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

An important aspect in the college transition process. #NACACreads twitter.com/aliciakoglesby...

2 YEARS AGO

Steve Peifer
@wrigley6

I thought it was revelatory when one of the characters has an unhappy SAT scores and your different reactions: depression v? #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

Steve Jenks
@CentaurOfAttn

#NACACReads A6 find ways to connect students and don’t forget about the local community if helpful

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC
@NACAC

@JoshuaSteckel: What do you hope students, counselors, and admission officers take away from your book? #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO
Students: You deserve a seat at the table. Your stories & voices matter tremendously. You are not alone. #NACACReads (1/9)

Counselors: I hope the takeaway is something like the quote we use to open the book, from Sonia Sotomayor. #NACACReads (2/9)

“But experience has taught me that you cannot value dreams according to the odds of their coming true.” #NACACReads (3/9)

Or the one we use to close the book, from Vincent Harding, civil rights activist and historian. #NACACReads (4/9)

“Relationships have power to open up possibilities young people can't see except thru human beings who care about them.” #NACACReads (5/9)

Colleges: urgency of need to re-examine criteria & processes we use to assess potential, ability, ability to contribute. #NACACReads (6/9)
Joshua Steckel  
@JoshuaSteckel1

Re-assess funding priorities to make it possible for campus demographics to more closely mirror that of actual population. #NACACReads (7/9)

Mary Stegmeir  
@marystegmeir

Access and success needs to be a focus in higher ed #nacacreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

Joshua Steckel  
@JoshuaSteckel1

Design & implement intentional support structures to target particular challenges faced by firstgen & low-income students #NACACReads (8/9)

NACAC  
@NACAC

Advice from @JoshuaSteckel1: Colleges need to welcome firstgen students & invest in their success. #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

Joshua Steckel  
@JoshuaSteckel1

Always be engaging in work toward building inclusive communities, where all students are able to contribute & feel valued. #NACACReads (9/9)

NACAC  
@NACAC

And how about for you @abbys_tweet & @mforbes36: What do you hope people take from the book? #NACACreads
Bob Bardwell @bardwellr

Yes let's hear from the kids They're the ones we do all this work for #nacacreads

twitter.com/NACAC/status/6...

2 YEARS AGO

Abigail @abbys_tweet

I hope people see how important it is for students to have the support that we were able to have. #NACACReads @NACAC

2 YEARS AGO

Mary Stegmeir @marystegmeir

It takes a village! #soproud #nacacreads twitter.com/abbys_tweet/st...

2 YEARS AGO

Abigail @abbys_tweet

But I also hope people see that these aren't just 10 lives. #NACACReads @NACAC

2 YEARS AGO

Abigail @abbys_tweet

These are the stories of hundreds of thousands of low-income students, and the challenges that they face every day. #NACACReads @NACAC

2 YEARS AGO

NACAC @NACAC

Q7 is coming shortly. #NACACreads

2 YEARS AGO
Q7: Swing deans, bridge programs, intense college advising — What strategies hold the most promise for improving access/success? #NACACreads

Trust! I know WAY more about @CristoReyKC student lives, finances than at my previous $$$ school. They know I have their backs. #nacacreads

@NACAC A7: I think the most imp part is authenticity and a prog that can listen to ind stories and respond accordingly. #nacacreads

A7: Well I'm a bit biased towards @CollPossible's model of near-peer coaching but it works! Helping connect stdnts to resources! #nacacreads

#nacacreads A7) advocates on all levels. I'm partial to school counseling bc that's me but an advocate somewhere to support unconditionally

A7: I am a huge believer in bridge programs and giving students an opportunity experience college early #nacacreads twitter.com/nacac/status/6...
Tania Rachkoskie
@TaniaMJR

Admission officers & college counselors work together to help understand their FA award letters. #nacacreads twitter.com/MissHartCRKC/s...

2 YEARS AGO

Steve Peifer
@wrigley6

I don’t think there are any road maps to reach across your culture except 3 things; 1. Check your white privilege at the door #nacacreads

2 YEARS AGO

Kate Sigety
@KateSigety

A7: I was intrigued by the swing deans @BatesCollege. Relationships are key to increasing access & success. #NACACreads @BatesAdmission

2 YEARS AGO

Kate Sigety
@KateSigety

A7: Here’s a great @chronicle article about two @BatesCollege swing deans: ow.ly/Yahvo. #NACACreads @BatesAdmission

2 YEARS AGO

Bob Bardwell
@bardwellr

Yes that was a great strategy to help students once on campus. Do many colleges use that model? #nacacreads twitter.com/KateSigety/sta...

2 YEARS AGO

Jillian Hiscock
@jhiscock

@KateSigety @BatesCollege I think they got rid of this model...anyone know for sure? #nacacreads @BatesAdmission

2 YEARS AGO
@bardwellr: I tried to get it going at @CSBSJU, but when I reached out to @BatesAdmission for info, they told me it ended. #nacareads

@NACAC: That’s too bad! It sounded like such a great idea. #NACACreads
twitter.com/jhiscock/status/

@JoshuaSteckel1: Yes, my understanding is that it is gone, sadly. #NACACReads

@KateSigety: This is disappointing. #NACACreads

@jhiscock: I couldn’t really get a good answer about why it ended. I love the concept and was curious about their challenges. #nacareads

@KateSigety: I’m curious too. I will look into it, and I’ll let you know what I find out! #NACACReads
@KateSigety @jhiscock I worked closely with both of the swing deans. One has retired, & other works at a peer college. #nacreads

@KateSigety @jhiscock pls share what you learn. Sadly I think answer has to do w disinvestment & leadership change. #nacreads

A7: I’m an advocate for access programs IF they expose kids to realistic options. Providing tours to only Ivies is not the way. #nacreads

A7: All of the above. Multiple strategies to help students succeed. Loved @Muhlenberg in the book (Class of 1996). #nacreads

#NACACreads I am definitely biased due to my own experience participating in and working with summer bridge programs- they really work!

#NACACReads A7 I only have exp with bridge and trio/similar programs but I love them. Wish we paid those professionals more for their work.
Marquis
@mtaylor313
@NACAC Our institution is in the process of having its first inaugural summer bridge cohort. Hoping to learn best practices #nacacreads

Steve Jenks
@CentaurOfAttn
#NACACReads unrelated to Qs, but what is up with EFC in FA? We need to rework the way that is used for sure.

Steph Hart
@MissHartCRKC
The HS is often "safe" for nervous parents. Some adm reps come to @CristoReyKC to individually walk through FA award letters. #nacacreads

NACAC
@NACAC
Thanks to everyone for taking part in tonight’s chat! And a special thank you to @JoshuaSteckel1! #NACACreads

Yolanda Norman
@FirstGenCollege
So excited this happened! Great job @JoshuaSteckel1 & thank you for giving a voice to #firstgen! #nacacreads twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

Joshua Steckel
@JoshuaSteckel1
.@NACAC My pleasure. This has been terrific. #nacacreads
Thank you to @JoshuaSteckel for bringing these stories into the universe! Now it’s on us to make #highered more responsive! #nacacreads

NACAC @NACAC

Now, our final #NACACreads question for the night....

NACAC @NACAC

Q8: Which book should #NACACreads tackle next?

Send your #NACACreads suggestions our way! pic.twitter.com/7w1uNhbBfM
Suggestions already submitted include “How to Raise an Adult” by @DeanJulie and “College Unbound” by @jselingo. #nacacreads

(2 of 2) Also “Ready, Willing, and Able” by @MSavitzRomer & @SuzanneBouffard. #NACACReads

I have 3 titles on my to-read list. Up next is "Degrees of Inequality" by Ann Muller

#NACACReads Q8 I also heard "Whistling Vivaldi" and "The Battle for Room 314" coming out soon sounds very Beth/Josh haha

2 Know your college stuff #nacacreads

@NACAC poke the box by @SethGodinBlog #nacacreads
Great chat everyone! Such an important topic. #NACACreads

Also a special thanks to @abbys_tweet and @mforbes36. Your stories are inspiring! #NACACreads

#NACACReads thanks to @JoshuaSteckel1 @abbys_tweet @mforbes36 for sharing with us! Definitely inspirational.

A pleasure speaking with everyone, and thank you for having me! #nacacreads @NACAC

@NACAC thanks for the opportunity! it was a blast. #NACACreads twitter.com/NACAC/status/6...

@mforbes36 @NACAC You were awesome, Mike. #NACACReads
@NACAC @abbys_tweet @mforbes36 thank you for sharing your stories. Wish you well! #nacacreads

Kelly Ferrante
@KellyAFerrante

Thank you @JoshuaSteckel1, @abbys_tweet and @mforbes36 for sharing your stories with us! #nacacreads

@dazeedee
@dazeedee

Yes, thank you so much. Very insightful. Great info share by all. #NACACreads twitter.com/JoshuaSteckel1...

Jillian Hiscock
@jhiscock

Hope many of you will consider joining us Thursdays at 9pm EST RIGHT HERE for #EMchat! Enrollment managers UNITE! #NoMoreSilos #NACACreads

NACAC
@NACAC

Thanks to everyone for taking part in tonight’s chat! Especially @JoshuaSteckel1! #NACACreads

Chris D’Orso
@cdorso

Check my #NACACReads conversation with @JoshuaSteckel1 on #higheredlive: higheredlive.com/nacacreads-hol...
@cdorso @NACAC @JoshuaSteckel1 we love supporting @higheredlive! #nacacreads

Steve Peifer
@wrigley6

I have a heart for your kids and your heart truly inspired me #nacacreads

NACAC
@NACAC

And thanks, of course, to @higheredlive. Make sure to check out their interview w/@JoshuaSteckel1: ow.ly/XUGN1. #NACACreads

NACAC
@NACAC

Also — help us make #NACACreads great. Complete this short survey about tonight’s chat: ow.ly/Y8UPw.

NACAC
@NACAC

Miss our #NACACreads chat? Check out the student's stories in "Hold Fast to Dreams." twitter.com/CentaurOfAttn/...

Steve Peifer
@wrigley6

If I’m being honest, a highlight of the book was scheduling the dance the night before the SAT; appreciated the vulnerability #nacacreads
Karen Graziano
@KarenMGraziano
2 YEARS AGO
Thanks, Mary, for such a great chat! @NACAC @PACAC1954 #NACACReads
twitter.com/nacac/status/6...

Kate Sigety
@KateSigety
2 YEARS AGO
Another great #NACACreads chat! Thank you for a great conversation. Talk to you all next time!
:)

NACAC
@NACAC
2 YEARS AGO
The glimpses offered into the lives of #firstgen kids are 1 reason the book is so compelling.
#NACACreads twitter.com/wrigley6/status...

Jillian Hiscock
@jhiscock
2 YEARS AGO
Thank you, as always, to @NACAC for being such amazing advocates for students, counselors and colleges! #NACACreads #EMchat