Picking Up Steam Since 2016

UC DAVIS Wheelhouse
The Center for Community College Leadership and Research

Our story is one of partnership, persistence and collaboration – people joining forces to support one of the nation's most important engines of opportunity, equity and innovation: the California Community Colleges and the students they serve.

2016

- A series of conversations between Harold Levine, then-dean of the UC Davis School of Education, and Brice Harris, then-chancellor of the California Community Colleges, hatches a new initiative to support CCCs through leadership development and independent research for decision making
- UC Davis and the Hearst Foundations provide seed funding for what becomes Wheelhouse: The Center for Community College Leadership and Research

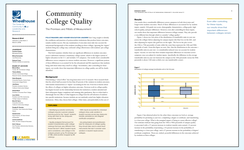
- Susanna Cooper joins as executive director, Michal Kurlaender as lead researcher, and Deborah Travis as director of the new CEO Institute on Leadership
- First research brief, *Tough Job if You Can Keep It*, explores CEO tenure and challenges to institutional leadership stability across the CCCs

2017

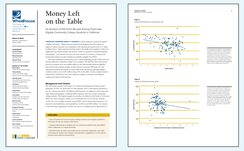
- Inaugural cohort of CCC presidents and chancellors – self-named the "Wheelhouse Warriors" – convene at UC Davis for the first annual CEO Institute on Leadership
- *Associate Degrees for Transfer: Early Effects on Degree Completion in CA Community Colleges*
- James Irvine and College Futures foundations invest in Wheelhouse

- Wheelhouse Scholars Network is born as 15 CCC-focused research affiliates convene in Berkeley for first annual collaboration retreat
- CA Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (Institutional Effectiveness Partnership Initiative) invests in Wheelhouse
- *Talk to Me: What Community College Trustees Want From Their CEOs*

- CEO Cohort 2 convenes at UC Davis



- *Community College Quality: The Promises and Pitfalls of Measurement*



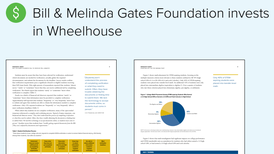
- Influential analysis of wide variability in financial aid take-up statewide: *Money Left on the Table: An Analysis of Pell Grant Receipt Among Financially-Eligible Community College Students in California*

- Scholars Network expands (now 23) and convenes at UCLA to share research and explore collaboration on transfer, financial aid and other topics

2018

- CEO Cohort 3 convenes at UC Davis

- *Who's on Line 1? The Delicate Juggling Act of Community College CEOs*



- Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation invests in Wheelhouse

- *Why do Some Students Fail to Receive Pell Grants? Survey Evidence from California Community College Financial Aid Directors* (left)

  Starting off on the Wrong Foot: Math Misalignment and STEM Outcomes in California Community Colleges

- 26 scholars gather in Berkeley to share research featuring on topics including guided pathways implementation, barriers to financial aid and transfer and the efficacy of co-requisite courses

2019

- Los Angeles Community College District Chancellor Francisco C. Rodriguez joins Wheelhouse to direct CEO Institute as Chancellor-in-Residence (left); Cosumnes River College President Edward Bush joins Wheelhouse as senior fellow

- CEO Cohort 4 convenes both remotely and at UC Davis
- COVID-19 pandemic begins in March

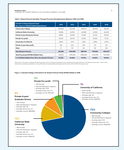
- *Turning on a Dime: California Community College Transformation in Response to COVID-19* (left)

  Toward a More Perfect Institution: Reflections from California Community College Leaders on Racism, Anti-Blackness and Implicit Bias

- 45 scholars and funders gather remotely in multi-day research retreat featuring new inquiry on Associate Degrees for Transfer, Student Equity Plans, incarcerated students and student parents

2020

- Wheelhouse adapts leadership development and research in response to the pandemic and national racial reckoning
- Wheelhouse Wednesdays convene CEOs during crisis leadership period – Constance Carroll, Eddie Cole, Michael Crow, Monica Lozano, Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Eduardo Padron lead sessions



- *A Portrait of Student Parents in the California Community Colleges: A New Analysis of Financial Aid Seekers with Dependent Children*

- During the pandemic, Wheelhouse supports CEO Cohort 4 across a two-year period

- Lumina Foundation invests in Wheelhouse

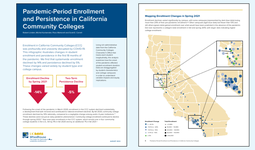
- *Leading as Myself: California Community College CEO Reflections on Personal and Institutional Growth Across a Year of Racial Reckoning* (left)

  Third of three equity-focused analyses of dual enrollment in CCCs: *A Foot in the Door: Growth in Participation and Equity in Dual Enrollment in California*

- 38 researchers, funders and CEOs gather at UCLA for 5th annual Scholars Retreat with focus on transfer, financial aid and other topics

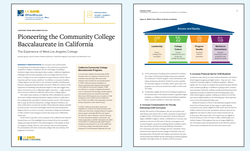
2021

- CEO Cohort 5 convenes at UC Davis and UCLA
- Funder base expands through individual donations and contracted research/evaluation
- First annual Wheelhouse Summer Scholar awards made to support CCC-related research by 12 doctoral students; symposia convened to feature their scholarship
- Wheelhouse launches Advancing Leaders Institute to support diverse pipeline of future CCC CEOs



- *Pandemic-Period Enrollment and Persistence in California Community Colleges*
- Institute for Education Sciences (US Department of Education) awards Wheelhouse $3 million for pandemic recovery research(partnership with California Education Lab, CCCCO and PPIC)
- 45 academic and CC institutional researchers convene at UC Davis for professional development and research collaboration focused on AB 705 implementation

2022



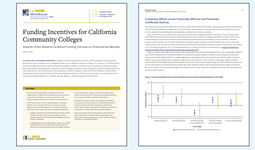
- *Pioneering the Community College Baccalaureate in California: The Experience of West Los Angeles College*

- Research Collaboration Council of 12 California Community College CEOs established to inform recovery research and dissemination strategy

CCRC COMMUNITY COLLEGE RESEARCH CENTER

National Student Clearinghouse™ Research Center™

- Wheelhouse partners with Community College Research Center and National Student Clearinghouse Research Center to convene national Accelerating Recovery in Community Colleges network



- *Funding Incentives for California Community Colleges: Impacts of the SCFF on Financial Aid Receipt*

KEY General information | Investments in Wheelhouse | Research publications and developments | Research convenings | Leadership development items