# Article information:

Project MUSE - The Impact of Culturally Engaging Campus Environments on Sense of Belonging  
<https://muse.jhu.edu/article/640609>

# Article summary:

1. Low rates of student persistence and degree completion are a major concern in colleges and universities, particularly among students of color.

2. Previous research has shown that a sense of belonging in college is positively associated with students' intent to persist and complete their degrees.

3. Scholars have proposed the concept of culturally engaging campus environments as a way to foster a sense of belonging among diverse undergraduate populations and improve student success.

# Article rating:

Appears moderately imbalanced: The article provides some useful information, but is missing several important points or pieces of evidence that would be required to present the discussed topics in a balanced and reliable way. You are encouraged to seek a more balanced perspective on the presented issues by exploring the provided research topics and looking at different information sources.

# Article analysis:

The article titled "The Impact of Culturally Engaging Campus Environments on Sense of Belonging" discusses the low rates of student persistence and degree completion in colleges and universities, particularly among students of color. It highlights the importance of understanding how campus environments can foster a sense of belonging among students to improve their success.

One potential bias in the article is its focus on the negative consequences of low degree attainment for individuals and society. While it is true that individuals without higher education credentials may have lower lifetime earnings and contribute fewer tax dollars, there are also alternative pathways to success that do not require a college degree. The article does not explore these alternative pathways or acknowledge that success can be achieved through vocational training, entrepreneurship, or other means.

Another potential bias is the emphasis on cultural engagement as a solution to improving sense of belonging. The article suggests that campus environments should integrate academic, social, and cultural elements to empower students and create conditions for them to thrive. While cultural engagement can be beneficial for some students, it may not be the only factor contributing to a sense of belonging. Other factors such as supportive faculty-student relationships, inclusive policies and practices, and access to resources also play a significant role.

The article also lacks evidence for some of its claims. For example, it states that previous research has shown a positive association between sense of belonging and intent to persist to degree completion but does not provide specific studies or data to support this claim. Additionally, while it mentions studies that have examined the relationship between campus environments and sense of belonging, it does not provide any specific findings or conclusions from these studies.

Furthermore, the article does not explore counterarguments or potential limitations of focusing solely on culturally engaging campus environments. It assumes that all students will benefit from this approach without considering individual differences in preferences and needs. Some students may prefer a more diverse environment where they can interact with people from different backgrounds, while others may prefer a more homogenous environment where they feel a stronger sense of cultural identity.

Overall, the article presents a one-sided view of the relationship between campus environments and sense of belonging. It promotes the idea that cultural engagement is the key to improving student success without fully considering alternative perspectives or potential limitations. More research is needed to provide a comprehensive understanding of the factors that contribute to a sense of belonging and how different students may experience and respond to campus environments.

# Topics for further research:

* Alternative pathways to success without a college degree
* Vocational training and its impact on career success
* Entrepreneurship as a viable option for achieving success
* Factors contributing to a sense of belonging beyond cultural engagement
* Supportive faculty-student relationships and their influence on student success
* Inclusive policies and practices in higher education and their impact on student outcomes

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/05a7afbc1b2e99e5197fd3b6869c1ef7>