

# Access to Higher Education

-Why is access to higher education important? How do colleges and universities increase access to higher education?

**MACAULAY**  
HONORS COLLEGE AT CUNY

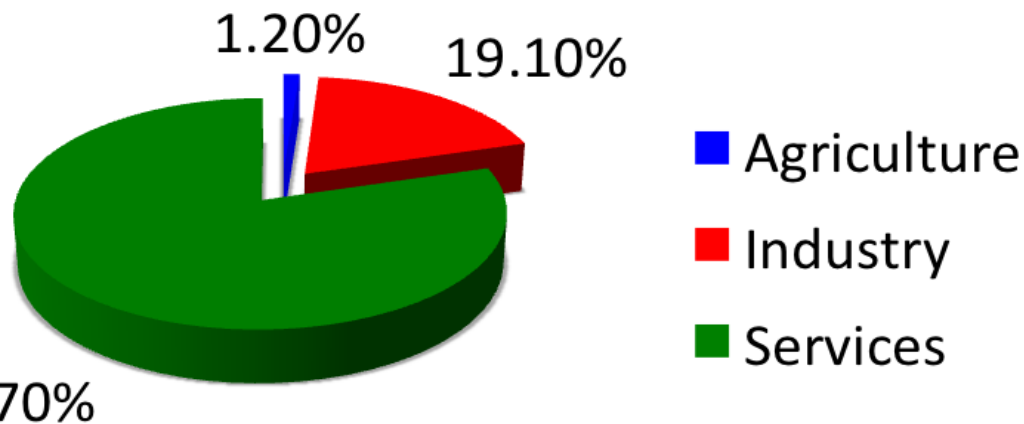
Seminar 4: The Future of NYC  
Brooklyn College - Professor Hainline  
Teressa Cali                      Christina Oros  
Lauren Fink                      Maryam Razaz  
Jonathon Edelstein

# Introduction

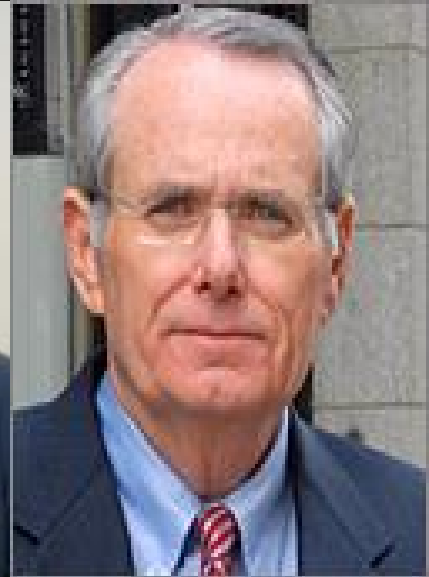
Reasons access to higher education is important

- Ethical considerations
- Legal considerations
- Economic considerations
- Demonstration of student power
- Societal considerations

U.S.A 2012 GDP breakdown



# Inside Look with College Administrators



# Affirmative Action

Policies that take into consideration factors such as race, gender, religion, etc. in order to benefit ***underrepresented*** groups

Colleges and Universities use Affirmative Action to ***diversify*** their population and provide greater ***access*** to ***minority*** groups



# Affirmative Action

"Having a *diverse* student population enhances the *academic and intellectual exchange*."

**-Chancellor Goldstein, CUNY**

"We look at the *community* and represent the community as a perfect *mosaic*, and don't say we need five more of these and ten more of those."

**-President Dugan, St. Francis College**



# Legality of Affirmative Action

## ***Regents of the University of California v. Bakke***

- Ruled that it was unconstitutional for the University of California at Davis to set aside 16 out of 100 seats for minorities.

## ***Grutter v. Bollinger***

- Ruled that the University of Michigan was acting within its right in its affirmative action program which increased diversity on campus.

## ***Fisher v. University of Texas***

- Court plans on hearing case later this year. May overturn *Grutter v. Bollinger*.



# Academic Preparedness



- ***Weak academic preparation*** is a growing concern.
- High rates of ***remediation***, stagnant rates of college completion, and more time needed for ***degree completion*** suggest that many students are ***not fully ready to succeed*** academically in college.



# Academic Preparedness

"If you bring in a lot of ***variability*** into a classroom based on ***preparedness***, you have a very ***difficult*** time gaging where your lectures should be."

**-Chancellor Goldstein, CUNY**

"We need to tackle the ***unpreparedness*** issue starting at ***middle school***. That's when students are most influenced. By the time they come to college, it's ***too late***."

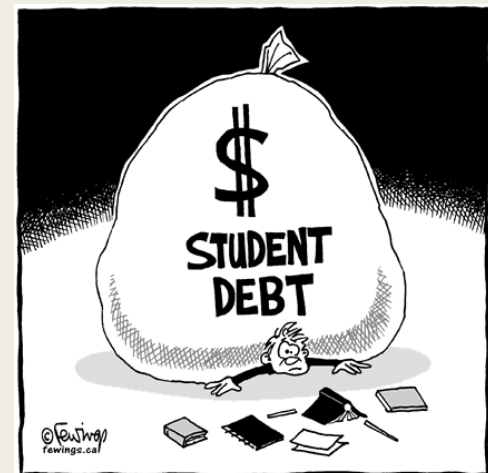
**-President Spar, Barnard College**





# Affording Higher Education

- Students often take out *loans* that leave them in *tremendous debt* when they graduate.
- According to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, student loan debt is currently over *\$900 billion*.



# Affording Higher Education

"For a lot of these students, the money is there, the ***free tuition*** is there, it's just the students and institutions can't find each other; they don't know it could be ***affordable*** because all they see is the sticker price."

**-Senior VP Lynne Brown, NYU**

"Educational attainment in this country has become almost entirely a function of ***family income***. That's not okay. This society cannot be sustained if that's the direction we continue to go."

**-President Evenbeck, The NCC**

"When a student gets into Barnard, we make sure that they can attend our school ***no matter their financial background***. We will meet them anywhere."

**-President Spar, Barnard**



# MOOCS

- MOOCS (Massive Online Open Courses) have the potential to change the face of higher education for the future by ***increasing access*** to more students.
- Students can complete full courses of study in a ***non-traditional*** format.
- Universities can offer ***high-quality***, self-paced courses to fulfill students' needs at a ***minimal to no cost*** at all.



# MOOCs

"A small ***face-to-face*** seminar is the highest form of educational experience...but you can't always do that. We need all the ***tools*** in our toolkit that we can have, and MOOCs is going to be a ***great*** one."

**-Dean Kirschner, Macaulay Honors College**

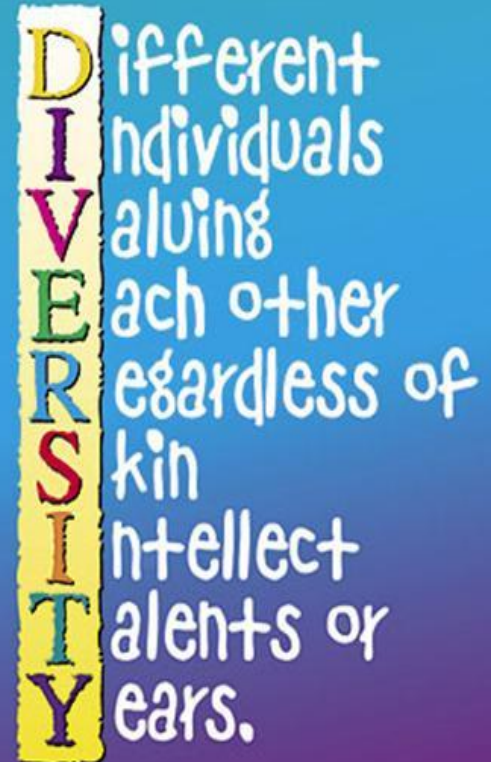
"MOOCs are ***transforming*** higher education. If more and more colleges use them for introductory courses, they will then ***save money*** and the student's time."

**-President Guarasci, Wagner College**



# Future of Access - Diversity

- ***Maintaining diversity*** is important so that all students can reap the ***benefits*** of higher education and be ***successfully prepared*** for the ***future***.
- The educational ***benefits*** of diversity are real: students coming from ***different backgrounds*** and perspectives can help ***challenge, learn*** from, and ***sharpen*** each other's thinking.



# Future of Access - Diversity

"The *future* is no longer exclusive. Places of *employment* and civic engagement are diversifying, and higher education is to *prepare students for this diversity.*"

**-President Gould, Brooklyn College**





# Future of Access-Economics

- Due to ***economic*** strain, ***public funding*** of higher education is decreasing.
- The way the budget is going, we are in danger of ***losing*** the feeling that education is a ***public good***.



# Future of Access - Economics

"We Macaulay and we CUNY have proven to NY State, that the ***engine of economic development*** for the future has ***education*** at its heart. And you can't think the engine is going to continue without continuing to feed the heart."

**-Dean Kirschner, Macaulay Honors College**



# Future of Access- Student's Power

- ***Students*** should be the ***center*** of an institution or university. An institution is only successful if its ***students are successful***.
- Schools should provide a wide range of diverse students with good educational ***opportunities***, room for ***expression*** of different opinions, and an open environment to unlock their full ***potential***.



# Future of Access- Student's Power

"***Students*** need to realize that no matter where they go, ***public or private***, higher education will lead them where they need to go...higher education has been ***evolving***, and will continue to. Students are its ***catalysts***. They have all the ***power in this system.***"

**-President Guarasci, Wagner College**



# Questions for the Future



- How can we make *higher education more affordable*? Should institutions of higher education give **merit**-based aid or **need**-based aid?
- What may be the implications of *Fisher V. University of Texas* on college and university admissions in the future? Should *affirmative action* continue to be used in colleges?
- Do you think the *current system* of higher education is adequately *preparing students* for the workforce? In your opinion, where should education target *reform* the most?