HOW CAN WE TRANSFORM GENERATION Z IF WE DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THEM?

A ROUNDTABLE PRESENTATION

John Wood, PhD, University of Central Oklahoma Beth Allan, PhD, University of Central Oklahoma

ABSTRACT

While faculty focus on Millennials, few realize that they have been actually teaching this next generation of students, Generation Z (IGen), for at least the last four years now. This session asks: How can faculty attempt to transform their students if they do not know who they are?

Data, based on several surveys, find that Generation Z students are different from Millennials in significant ways. These include having less focus, being better at multitasking, show more grade bargaining, and are entrepreneurial, global, diverse, and digital. As a result, these students are unlike Millennial's in the classroom.

Faculty will learn about these characteristics and explore current transformative pedagogical strategies focusing on this new cohort. Audience members will be engaged through discussing their pedagogical techniques that have worked and learn more by bouncing ideas off the two Generation Z students on the panel. Faculty will leave the panel looking at their students in news ways and will be better prepared to engage them in new ways.

SELECT REFERENCES

- Twenge, J. (2017). iGen: Why today's super-connected kids are growing up less rebellious, more tolerant, less happy—and completely unprepared for adulthood—and what that means for the rest of us. New York, NY: Atria Books.
- Morey, S., & Mouratis, J. (2016). New adobe study shows Gen Z students and teachers see creativity as key to success. Retrieved from http://news.adobe.com/press-release/creative-cloud/new-adobestudy-shows-gen-z-students-and-teachers-see-creativity-key

Seemiller, C., & Grace M. (2016). Generation Z goes to college. Indianapolis, IN: Jossey-Bass.

For further information, contact the lead presenter: John Wood Associate professor of political science University of Central Oklahoma 100 N University Dr. Edmond, OK 73034 E-Mail: <u>jwood41@uco.edu</u>