

# DIVERSITY IN THE STUDENT BODY

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*An Inside Higher Ed* webinar  
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# Presenters

- Scott Jaschik, editor, *Inside Higher Ed*,  
[scott.jaschik@insidehighered.com](mailto:scott.jaschik@insidehighered.com)
- Doug Lederman, editor, *Inside Higher Ed*,  
[doug.lederman@insidehighered.com](mailto:doug.lederman@insidehighered.com)



# Monday's News From the Supreme Court



# Audience Poll - I

In judging whether my college has an appropriately diverse student body, I focus foremost on comparing college demographics to:

- A. National demographics
- B. State or regional demographics
- C. Recent high school graduate demographics
- D. Demographics of those likely to be admitted
- E. None of the above

# Audience Poll – II

In judging whether my college has an appropriately diverse student body, I focus foremost on:

- A. Race and ethnicity
- B. Gender
- C. Other factors
- D. All factors equally

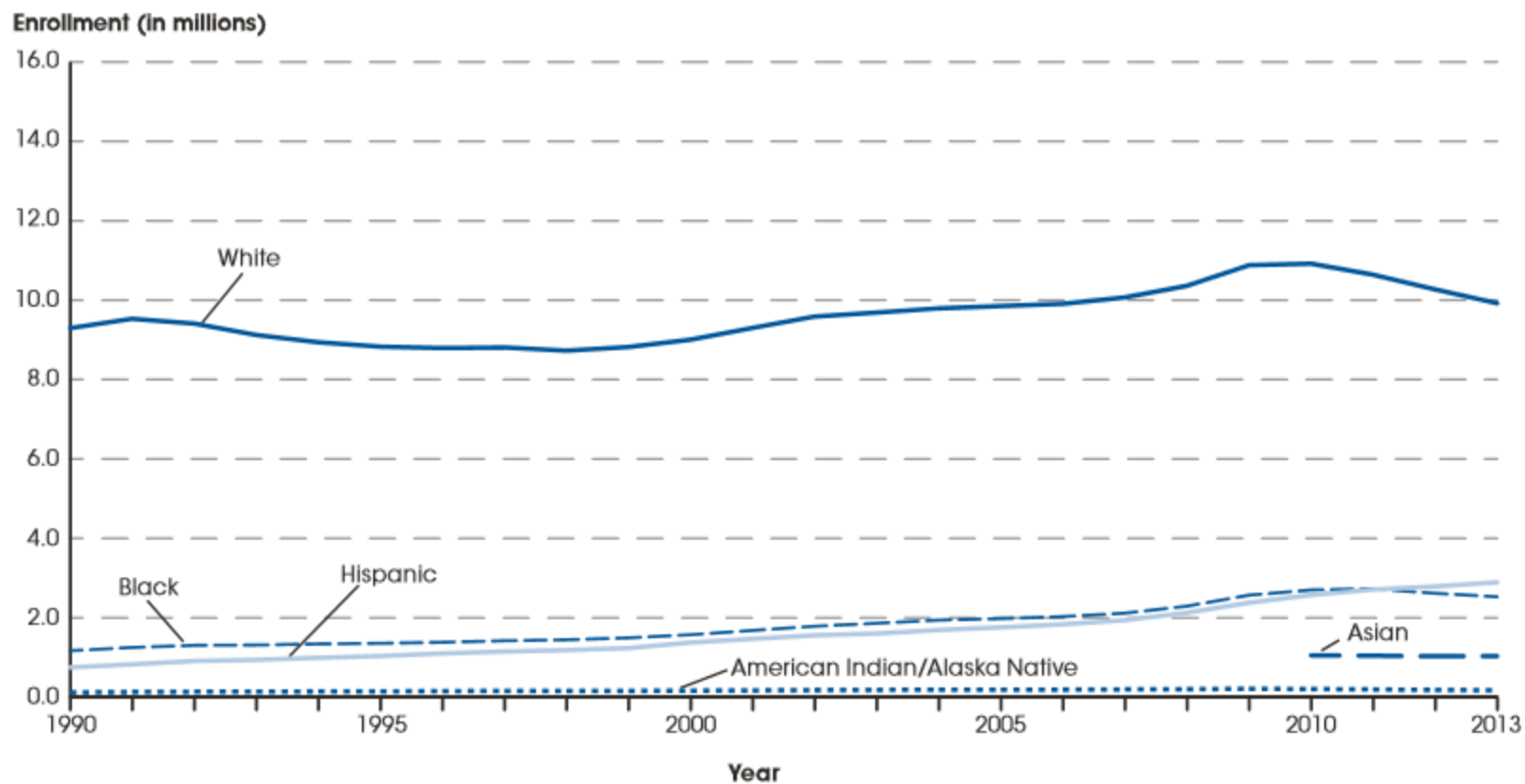
# Audience Poll – III

I consider my college to have an appropriate level of diversity in the student body:

- A. Strongly agree
- B. Agree
- C. Neutral
- D. Disagree
- E. Strongly disagree

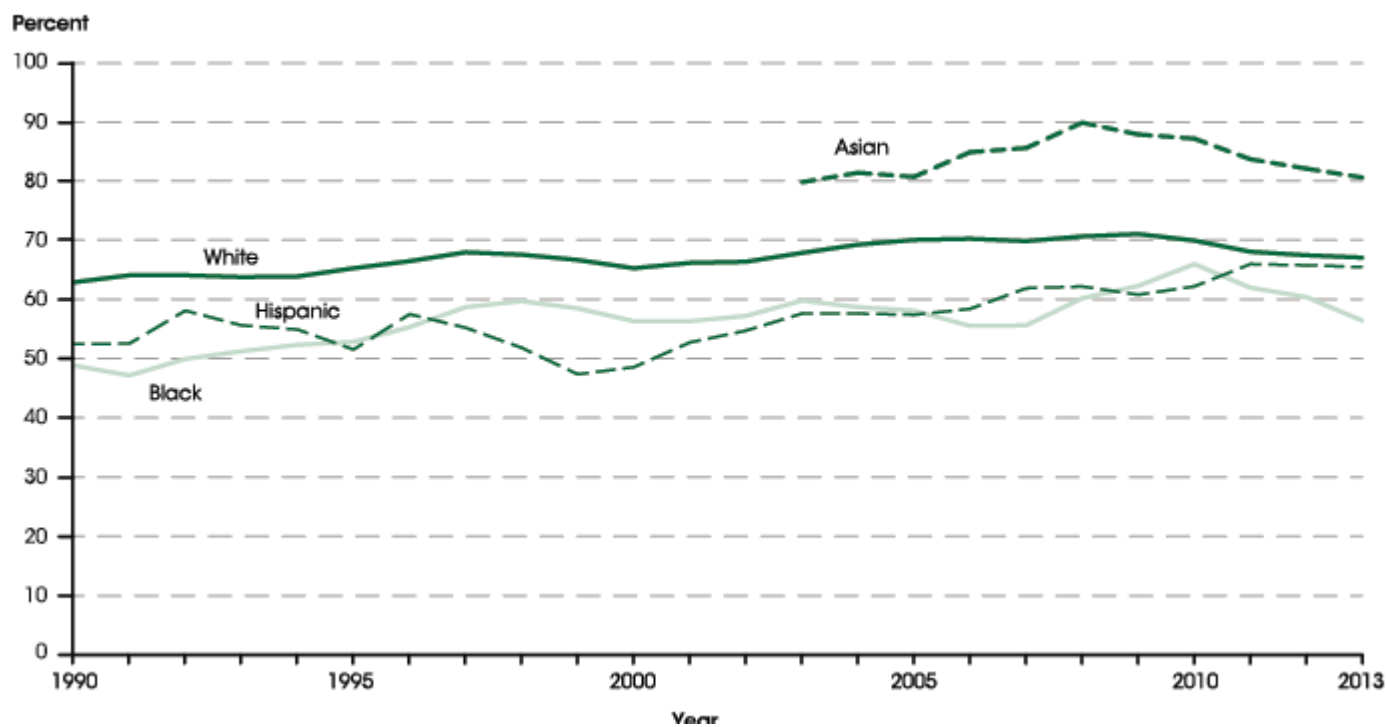
# The Numbers and Recent Trends

Figure 2. Undergraduate enrollment in degree-granting postsecondary institutions, by race/ethnicity: Fall 1990–2013



# But It's All How You Count - I

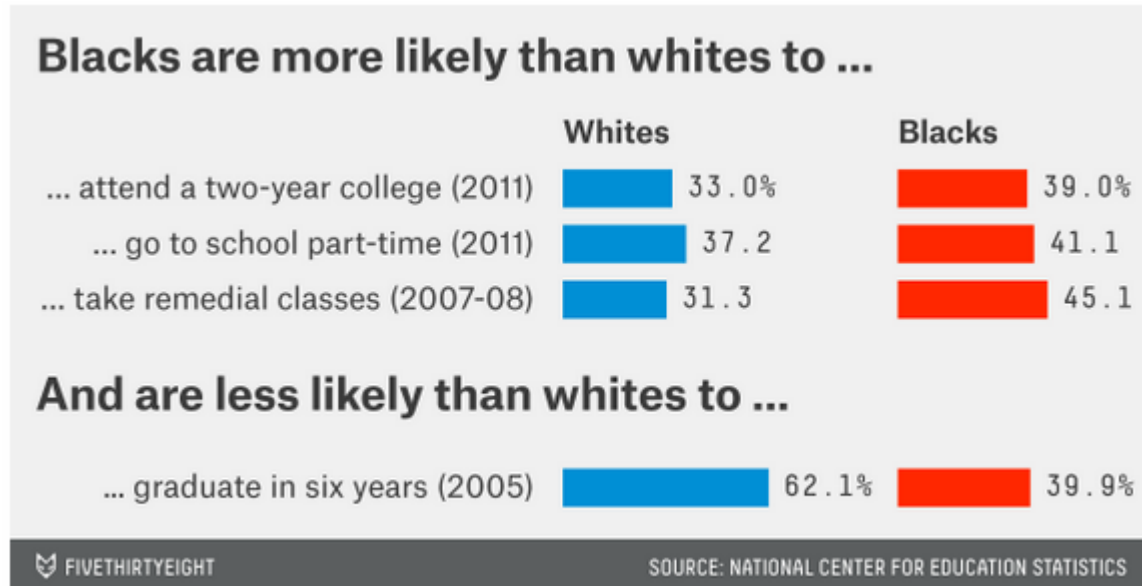
Figure 4. Percentage of high school completers who were enrolled in 2- or 4-year colleges by the October immediately following high school completion, by race/ethnicity: 1990–2013





# But It's All How You Count – II

*The New York Times* Fivethirtyeight blog examined the same data set and came up with this:



# Key Debate I – How to Measure Diversity

- Race, class and more
- Gender
- Measures for different kinds of institutions (by mission)
- Enrollment vs. completion
- Groups that cross race, class and other lines (veterans, first generation, rural students, geography etc.)

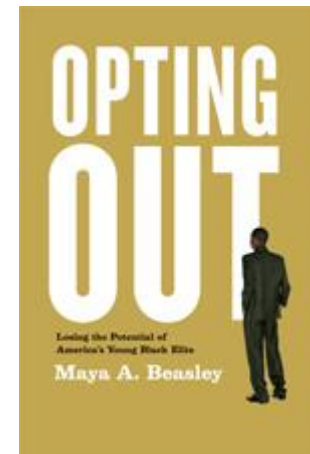
# Key Debate II – Getting Beyond the Elites

- Fans and critics of the new ratings from *The New York Times*
- Impact on Washington U in St. Louis

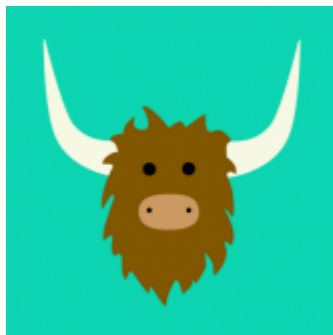


# Key Debate III – When Enrolling and Completing Aren't Enough

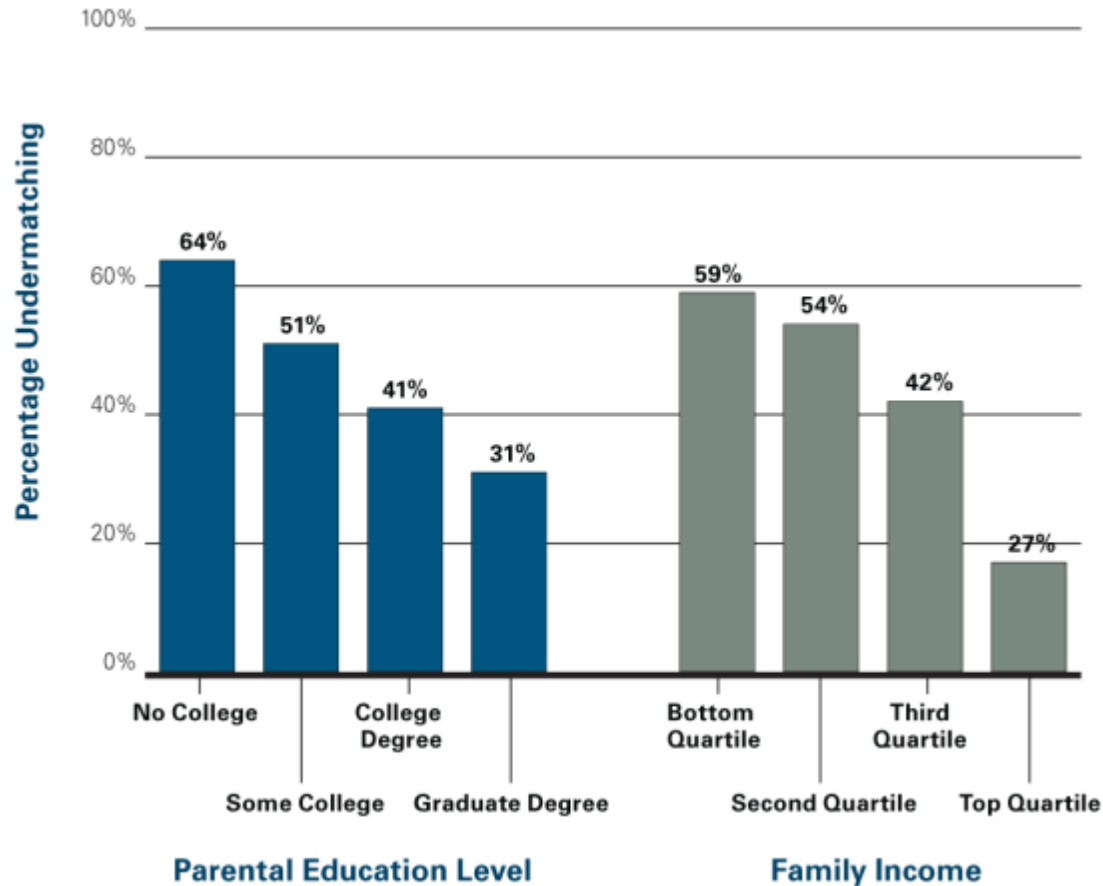
- The fields of study selected by black students
- The gap in impact of minority and other students attending an elite college



# Key Debate IV – Facing Hostile Climates



# Key Debate V – Undermatching

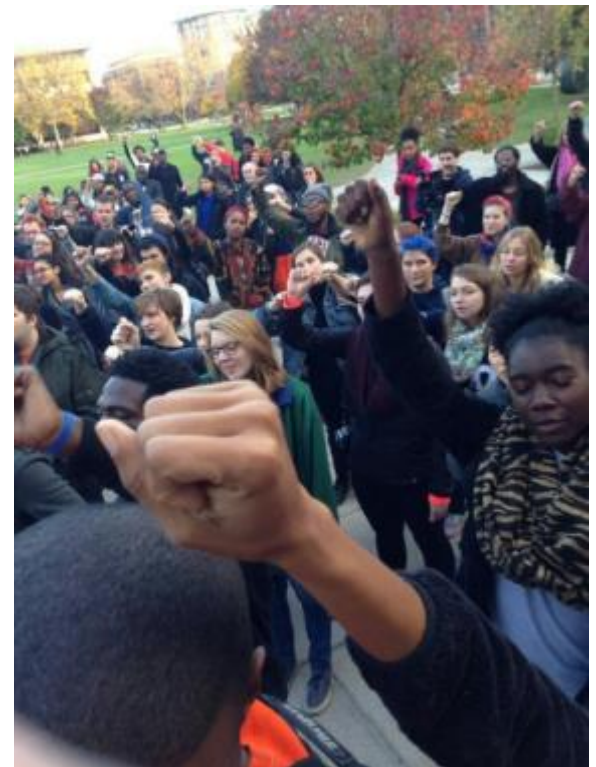


# Key Debate VI – Affirmative Action

- The evolving law
- Results in states without affirmative action
- Debates about class vs. race
- Justice O'Connor's 25 year deadline
- Political vs. legal issues

# Key Debate VII – Policies Against Diversity?

- The quest for “full pay” students
- The quest for international students
- Recruiting by zip code
- A focus on ratings vs. focus on diversity





# Key Debate VIII – Alternative Admissions Ideas

- Where colleges recruit
- The role of testing
- Evaluating the high school context
- Throwing out traditional applications
- Potential vs. accomplishment
- Community college transfers



# Key Debate IX – Reaching Latino Students

- Geography (but far beyond the states people first think about)
- Desires to enroll close to home and to avoid debt
- Immigration debates (even though vast majority of Latino college students are 100% legal in U.S.)
- Growing numbers and how that distorts whether enough progress has been made

## Key Debate X – Asian Americans and Diversity

- Diversity of groups and view that some Asian groups' needs are ignored
- Allegations and lawsuits charging the colleges are discriminating against Asian applicants



# With Thanks ....

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- Your questions
- Your ideas for future coverage