

# CREATING ACCESS FOR NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS AT UCF

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## THE ACCESS OVERVIEW

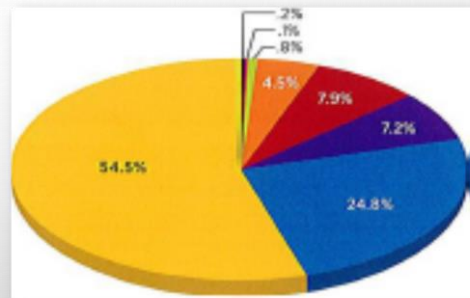
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## INTRODUCTION

WITH A POPULATION OF 66,000, UCF IS AN INSTITUTION TO BE RECOGNIZED.

- PRESIDENT HITT'S FOURTH GOAL "TO BECOME MORE INCLUSIVE AND DIVERSE"
- THE UNIVERSITY'S ETHNIC MINORITY ENROLLMENT STANDS AT 45.4%
- AS OF SPRING 2017, UCF RECOGNIZED AS AN EMERGING HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTION (HSI).
- NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS ONLY MAKE UP .2% OF THE STUDENT POPULATION

UCF Minority Enrollment



American Indian/Alaska Native .2%, Asian 7.9%, Black 7.2%, Hispanic/Latino 24.9%, White 54.5%, Multiracial 4.5%, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander .1%, Not Reported .8%

## ABSTRACT

AMONG ALL STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS, NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS REMAIN THE LOWEST IN ENROLLMENT NUMBERS. WITH NO TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (TBCU)S IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA, UCF CAN TAKE NECESSARY STEPS TO INCREASE ENROLLMENT OF NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENTS; SPECIFICALLY STUDENTS WHO IDENTIFY AS SEMINOLE OR MICCOSUKEE INDIAN. THE CONTENT OF THIS RESEARCH PROJECT WILL FURTHER EXPLORE HISTORICAL INFLUENCES AND PERCEPTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION, AND ITS INFLUENCE ON LOW ENROLLMENT AND LOW RETENTION NUMBERS, ENROLLMENT DATA, STATISTICS AND STUDENT PROGRAMMING IMPLEMENTED FOR RETENTION PURPOSES. DUE TO THE CONTENT OF THIS TOPIC, THE FOLLOWING TERMS WILL BE USED INTERCHANGEABLY: NATIVE AMERICAN, AMERICAN INDIAN AND ALASKA NATIVE, STUDENT DEMOGRAPHIC, STUDENT POPULATION.

## KEY RESEARCH FINDINGS

- ACCORDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND NATIONAL CENTER FOR EDUCATION STATISTICS, IN 2006 AMERICAN INDIAN/ALASKA NATIVE STUDENTS ACCOUNTED FOR 1% OF TOTAL ENROLLMENT IN COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.
- 39% OF NATIVE STUDENTS WHO ENROLLED IN A FOUR YEAR INSTITUTION IN THE FALL OF 2004 COMPLETED A BACHELORS DEGREE BY 2010 COMPARED TO 62% OF WHITE STUDENTS (NATIVE YOUTH REPORT P 19, 2014).
- CULTURALLY TRADITIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS CAN EITHER EXPERIENCE RESISTANCE OR TRANSCULTURATION ADJUSTING TO CAMPUS LIFE IMPACTING RETENTION AND PERSISTENCE (HUFFMAN, 2011).
- PROCESS OF ESTRANGEMENT IS A SERIES OF STAGES EXPLAINING ACTS OF RESISTANCE AND THE PERCEPTION OF THE INSTITUTION ITSELF IN ASSIMILATION.
  - **INITIAL ALIENATION\***
  - DISILLUSIONMENT
  - EMOTIONAL REJECTION
  - **DISENGAGEMENT\***

## UCF STATISTICS

### UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS NATIVE AMERICAN & OTHER VS. ONLY NATIVE AMERICAN

	Native American and Other	Only Native American	Total
	N	N	N
Fall 2013	530	114	644
Fall 2014	608	105	713
Fall 2015	705	106	811
Fall 2016	763	93	856
Fall 2017	786	95	881

Source: SDCF, Institutional Knowledge Management

### UNDERGRADUATE NATIVE AMERICAN INDIAN STUDENTS AND THEIR OTHER DECLARATIONS

	American Indian	Hispanic	White	African American	Asian
	N	N	N	N	N
Fall 2013	644	167	379	117	63
Fall 2014	713	200	427	130	63
Fall 2015	811	255	478	169	75
Fall 2016	856	276	544	190	78
Fall 2017	881	313	542	208	84

Source: SDCF, Institutional Knowledge Management

## THE NEXT STEPS

- Development of relationships with local tribal councils.
- Research other Predominately White Institutions (PWIs) with a larger enrollment of Native American students.
- Benchmark and partner with the University of Oklahoma (UO) on how to develop programming for Native American students.
- Research American Indian Retention Program (AIRP) and American Indian Cultural Center at UO.



1. Miccosukee Tribe of Indians
  - 2,3,4,5,6. Seminole Tribe of Florida
- \*The only federally recognized tribes in Florida\*

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