Dear SIU Community,

This COU will feature articulate and passionate students from SIU campuses who will share their insights on why student success is not only important to them but also how it plays a pivotal role in shaping the educational landscape. The conversation will be centered around the principle of “no decision about us without us,” emphasizing the significance of including student perspectives in decision-making processes that directly impact their educational journey.

Our student panelists, representing diverse backgrounds and experiences, will shed light on the multifaceted aspects of student success and the tangible benefits it brings to both individuals and the broader educational communities across SIU campuses. By participating in this discussion, we aim to foster a deeper understanding of the challenges students face and the collaborative efforts required to create an inclusive and supportive learning environment and increase retention and graduation rates. Your presence and engagement in this dialogue will contribute to a more holistic perspective on student success and help inform future decisions that directly affect SIU students.

A question-and-answer session will follow where audience participants can use the YouTube comment section or submit questions before or during the event by emailing doris.williams@siu.edu.

FEBRUARY 26, 2024
12:00 PM - 1:30 PM

Conversations of Understanding have become a fixture across the SIU System and on our individual campuses. They are a series of exchanges where students, alumni, faculty, staff and the broader SIU communities can share their experiences and thoughts on a variety of themes related to antiracism, diversity, equity and inclusion. We want to be a model for others in higher education and be recognized as a leader in our region and beyond for our work in fostering understanding of relevant contemporary issues.

A CONVERSATION OF UNDERSTANDING

Sarah Alli-Brown
Black Affairs Council
SIU Carbondale

Rushma Baskota
Center for International Education
SIU Carbondale

Lauren Harris
Student Trustee
SIU Edwardsville

Victor Ludwig
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Sponsored by the SIU System President’s Office and the SIU System Diversity Advisory Council