

NEWSLTR



Dear M.O.C.I Members & Supporters,

Your voice matters, everyday, but now more than ever. Early voting begins this month for the elections in November. We encourage you to exercise your right, make your voice heard, and vote early. *Together we can make a difference.*

- M.O.C.I. Executive Team

Contact Us: M.O.C. Initiative
moci@nmsu.edu



Find us on Instagram:
[NMSUmenofcolor](#)

"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

- Martin Luther King Jr.

Males are Falling Behind: The Gender Disparity In College Enrollment

There is a silent and invisible enemy inside the walls of our US higher education system. This enemy is hiding in plain sight, where no one has given the issue air or sunlight to be visible. Consequently, it has become an "open secret". We are talking about the gender enrollment disparity which directly concerns males who have encountered a constant decrease in college enrollment. Research shows that during the 2020-21 school year, the proportion of women enrolled grew to a historical number of 61%, a record high. This number is asymmetrical when we look at the graduation rates (i.e., 65% of women got a diploma, whereas less than 40% of men did). If this trend continues, two women will earn a college degree for every one male in the years to come. Additionally, colleges and universities had 1.5 million fewer students than five years ago, and males accounted for 71% of the decline. However, males represent more than 50% of the college-age population in the US. Unfortunately, postsecondary institutions (e.g., two years, four years, private, and public) have yet to come to a consensus on the underlining issues or solutions to solving the high rate of attrition for male students, particularly males of color.



Story of Code Switching on Campus

When I attended my first meeting with the University Administrative Council with high-profile executives, the voice that sprung from my throat was unfamiliar as I talked to a room full of White directives. Without thought, I have shifted my attitude and language. My thoughts were calculated, quickened, and in search of the "right" things to say. I enunciated each consonant and vowel and stressed each syllable.

It was the first time I noticed I had code-switched.

Admittedly, I was ashamed for abandoning my native tongue—Hispanic Colloquial Spanglish—and sense of self in an effort to assimilate into a space of power and authority.

Code-switching is an age-old practice familiar to many men of color in the United States. This practice is a performative expression that has helped some of us thrive in mainstream culture, but it has also helped many of us just survive.

-Sergio Madrid

Upcoming Events:

- **10/7:** Study & Chill MOCI sessions: Thursdays from 4-6 PM, American Indian Student Center. Room 112 - North Training Room
- **10/09:** Slot Canyon Hike w/ American Indian Programs. Three start times to provide social distancing: 9:00 AM, 10:00 AM, and 10:30 AM
- **10/11:** Keep on Pushing Panel Discussion, 3:00-4:00PM
- **10/13:** MOCI General Meeting every other week meetings at Corbett center Socorro 218 Room (Wednesdays from 6:00 - 7:30 pm)
- **10/15** College Skate Night w/ Diversity Programs & ASNMSU @ the Spot, 8-11 PM

<https://provost.nmsu.edu/student-resources/men-of-color/>