About First-Gen Zone
First-Gen Zone is aimed at informing, empowering and mobilizing ASU faculty and staff regarding the unique experiences of first-generation college students. First-generation students comprise over 35% of the ASU undergraduate and graduate student body and are one of the fastest growing demographics in the nation. The training will offer research-based information, tangible tips and actionable steps to 100 faculty and staff who want to enhance their skill set in support of the success of first-generation students. Training will include a first-generation scholar/national expert and an ASU alum as the keynote, concurrent sessions addressing a wide array of issues and opportunities, and highlights of existing university programs and initiatives. The training will create an intentional opportunity for the ASU community to exchange ideas and partner. It is envisioned that this training will spark additional dialogue and support for first-generation students at ASU.

Who Should Submit a Proposal
We are seeking proposals from both faculty and staff who have experience working with first-generation college students. We encourage proposals from diverse groups of professionals, including but not limited to those working in the following areas: student recruitment, K-12 outreach/pipeline, new student and family programs, student retention, student engagement, academic advising, residence life, academic support, financial aid and scholarship services, career and professional development services, and wellness. We also welcome proposals from administrators, faculty, researchers, graduate students, and others connected to helping first-generation students be successful at ASU. Our hope is to receive proposals from newer and seasoned professionals alike, and we welcome proposals from individuals at all ASU campuses.

Why Submit a Proposal

- Contribute to the body of knowledge at the university for serving first-generation college students
- Help ASU fulfill its university charter of being “measured not by whom it excludes, but rather by whom it includes and how they succeed”
- University exposure for your ideas and for your college or department
- Professional development

Potential Topics (offered merely as examples; proposals are not limited to these topics)

- Classroom Success
- College Preparation
- Communications
- Engagement
- Finding Community
- First-Gen Families
- First-Gen Plus (Intersectionality)
- First-Gen Strengths
- Graduate Student Support
- Mentorship from Staff or Faculty
- Navigating ASU
- Peer Support
- Program Assessment
- Resilience
- Retention and Graduation
- Sense of Belonging
- Student Data Tracking
- Understanding Institutional Jargon and Systems
Types of Sessions

We are seeking proposals for the following two types of sessions:

- Concurrent Workshops: 50-minute session offering a presentation and/or training on serving first-generation students
- Lightning Talks: 5- to 7-minute overview of an ASU program or service for first-generation students

Selection Criteria

- Thought Provoking - The presentation will stimulate new ideas and/or ways of thinking among audience members. It may even challenge attendees’ preconceived notions in some way.
- Interactivity - Attendees will be engaged by the presenter(s), have the opportunity to contribute ideas and/or critique, and won’t simply be “talked at.”
- Advances the Field - The presentation is timely, and it makes a novel contribution which pushes the boundaries of the field and challenges attendees to reexamine what is possible.
- Action Oriented - This presentation will result in producing deliverables and/or tangible strategies that attendees can implement to support first-generation students.

Proposal Components

- Concurrent Workshops:
  - Session title (15 words max)
  - Presenter name(s) and ASU title(s)
  - Session abstract - for use in the conference program (150-200 words)
  - Intended audience level
  - Interactivity - how will you engage the audience? (1 or 2 sentences)
  - List of key actionable takeaways (beyond awareness)

- Lightning Talks:
  - Session title (15 words max)
  - Presenter name(s) and ASU title(s)
  - 3-4 sentence description of the program or service and how it supports first-generation students

Key Dates

- Proposals Due: Monday, May 20 by noon
- Proposal Notices Sent: Wednesday, May 29
- First-Gen Zone: Tuesday, June 25

Proposal Submission Link: http://links.asu.edu/FirstGenZoneProposals

Questions: Contact Dr. Kevin Correa at K.Correa@asu.edu