

# Learning From Men of Color: Serving at-potential populations

This interactive session highlights a study in which 1300, academically successful, men of color were used to consider factors which contribute to low retention and high failure rates of at-potential learners. The findings of this study have been used to inform how the academic, advising, and student support services at our university serves at-potential students effectively and efficiently. It has also led to 16% and 14% increases in course passage and retention (respectively) within the Education Studies and Educator Preparation programs. In this session, participants will evaluate long standing practices that may be supporting or hindering students whose cultural aspects differ from the mainstream student the university serves. They will learn strategies to meet the needs of at-potential learners, and more importantly ways to implement them without reducing the rigor or relevance of their programs.

# Dr. Newton Miller

Dr. Newton Miller has been committed to the education arena since 1995 when converted non-traditionally from the ranks of the engineering field. His research interest lies within educating at-potential populations, focusing on the systemic thinking tied to student achievement, effective school cultures, and facilitating programming and instruction that promotes educational success within at-potential adult populations.

Dr. Miller currently serves as the Lead Faculty of the Education Studies and Educator Preparation programs at the University of Arizona Global Campus. Some of his contributions to the world of education have been lauded by honors like the Impact Award from the Urban League 2018; Provost Award for Outstanding Faculty, from Ashford University, 2014 and the Excellence in Teaching Award from Swarthmore College, 2012. He is the author of “Why Some Seeds Don’t Grow” a book that sheds light on high impact principles needed to enhance the educating, mentoring, and parenting of urban youth.

Dr. Miller believes educators are meant to facilitate the thinking that changes the world; thus, his mantra is: Educate ... Motivate ... Help Them Grow!

Fun Fact: Dr. Miller’s dream job was as a Structural Engineer until he stood in front of a classroom of knowledge-hungry, inner-city students. It was at that moment he knew his true purpose and career path was to be an educator

