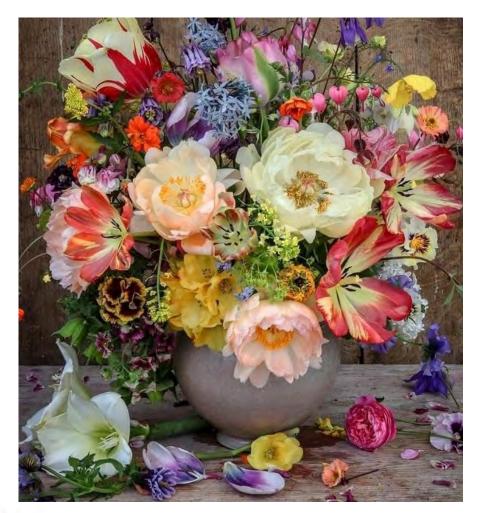# Introduction and Ice Breaker

- Leah Jones Schneblin
  - Director of Academic Advising
    - Methodist College Peoria, IL
      - Co-Sponsor of Student Government Association
      - Sponsor of First Generation Student Committee
  - EdD Candidate (May, 2024) Bradley University

ISAC
Illinois Student Assistance Commission

First Gen Symposium

Unique and the Same

Who We Are and Who We Serve

- Small, Private Health Professions and Nursing College
  - Peoria, IL
  - Offer typical student services
- 2022-2023
  - 550 Students
    - 220 Students were self-reported First-Generation Students
    - Primarily serving Non-Traditional students
- NCLEX Pass rates 2023 up 13% to 96%
  - Total First-time, U.S.-educated 88.56%

Why Student Led

- Helps students to determine:
  - What is realistic
  - How to resolve conflict
  - What options are available
  - Appropriateness of programming
  - Ultimately creates student buy-in and participation
- Based on research including Horlick, M., Masterton, D., and Kalet, A. *Medical Education Online (2006),* Learning Skills of Professionalism: a Student-Led Professionalism Curriculum, p. 1-8

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First Gen Symposium

Supporting Our First-Gen Students

- More communication from those who have gone before them
  - Faculty, Staff, Alumni, Community Members
  - Better understanding of how to make decisions about higher education
- Student Led Podcast
  - Dean of Nursing
  - Chancellor of Methodist College
  - Faculty
  - Staff
  - Community, Board of Directors, and Alumni

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Supporting Our First-Gen Students

- More Information about Financial Aid
  - Impact of credit hours
  - Drop, Withdraw, WF
  - Summer Classes
- Financial Literacy
  - Credit, Credit Scores
  - Private Loans
  - Scholarships

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Supporting Our First-Gen Students

- Career Support
  - Beyond a traditional career center
    - Networking with health system recruiters
    - Understanding the hiring process
      - Timelines
      - Dress Code
      - Wardrobe Access
    - What to do to differentiate themselves in the future

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Supporting Our First-Gen Students

- Understanding the College Hierarchy
  - Who does what
  - What do these jobs mean
    - Breaking down ADA, Registrar, Bursar, Financial Aid, Advising, Tutoring, SI, Health Records
  - What resources are available to me
    - How do I access them
    - Where are they located/what is the access
    - How can I ask for something I need that isn't offered

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Supporting Our First-Gen Students

- Future Direction
  - Formalizing Structure and Budget
  - Submitting IRB proposal to measure success of First-Gen students
    - Increased retention
    - Increased usage of services available to students
    - Increased services available to students