



# You Belong at UConn

Dr. Fany DeJesús Hannon  
(She, Her, Hers, Ella)

# Agenda



Gratitude



In Lak'ech



Journey: Doctora Fany DeJesús  
Hannon



Belonging: It is all about our Huskies



Vision: Sense of Belonging for all



Questions and Answers



# In Lak'ech

In Lak'ech

Tú eres mi otro yo. You are my other me.

Si te hago daño a ti, If I do harm to you,

Me hago daño a mi mismo. I do harm to myself.

Si te amo y respeto, If I love and respect you,

Me amo y respeto yo. I love and respect myself. –

Pensamiento Serpentino, a Mayan Poem by  
Chicano playwright, Luiz Valdez

# My Cultural Wealth: Familial and Linguistic Capitals

## Mi historia

### Proud Honduran Immigrant

- Mi familia
- Sus sacrificios
- La hermana mayor

### Product of the U.S. Education

- Miami Dade College
- Smith College
- UConn

### Linguistic Capital

- Spanish, English, Brazilian Portuguese
- Stories

## Familial Capital



# My Aspirational and Resilience Capitals

## Adviser/Case Manager

- Miami Dade College
- 7 years
- Traditional and Non-traditional aged student body
- HSI
- Multiple Campuses
- Large, Centralized, and Public System
- Federal & State funding

## Manager of Students and Young Alumni Relations

- UConn
- 4.5 years
- Campus Partners
- Student connections with Alumni
- Fundraising and Philanthropy
- \$100K in scholarships

## Director, Puerto Rican/Latin American Cultural Center

- UConn
- 10 years
- Strategic & visionary leadership
- Retention, engagement - Latinx/a/o students and community at large
- Lawyer, policy maker, fundraiser
- State mandated Spanish trainer

# My Aspirational & Resilience Capitals

## Affiliate Faculty

El Instituto

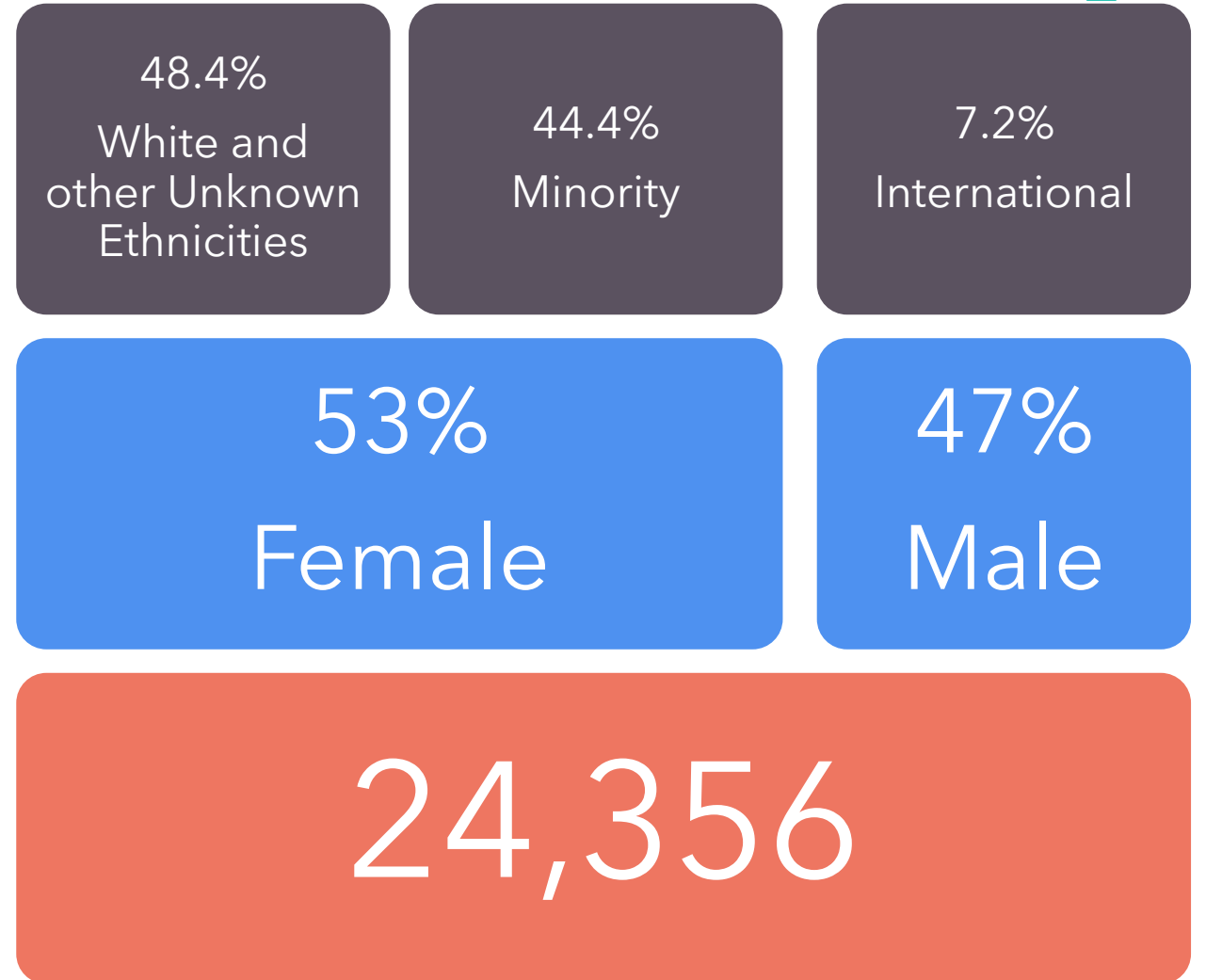
FYE

SYE

## Interim Dean of Students

- 19 months
- Student Success in Action
- Campus Partners
- Strategic Leadership
- Crisis Management
- Sense of Belonging
- Bias incidents
- Creative financing
- Fundraising

# Total University Undergraduate Enrollment (Fall 2023)







## Multiple Campuses – Undergraduate Enrollment Fall 2023

Campus	Total Enrollment
Avery Point	464
Hartford	1,473
Stamford	2,177
Waterbury	746

Other  
Identifiers

AANAPISI

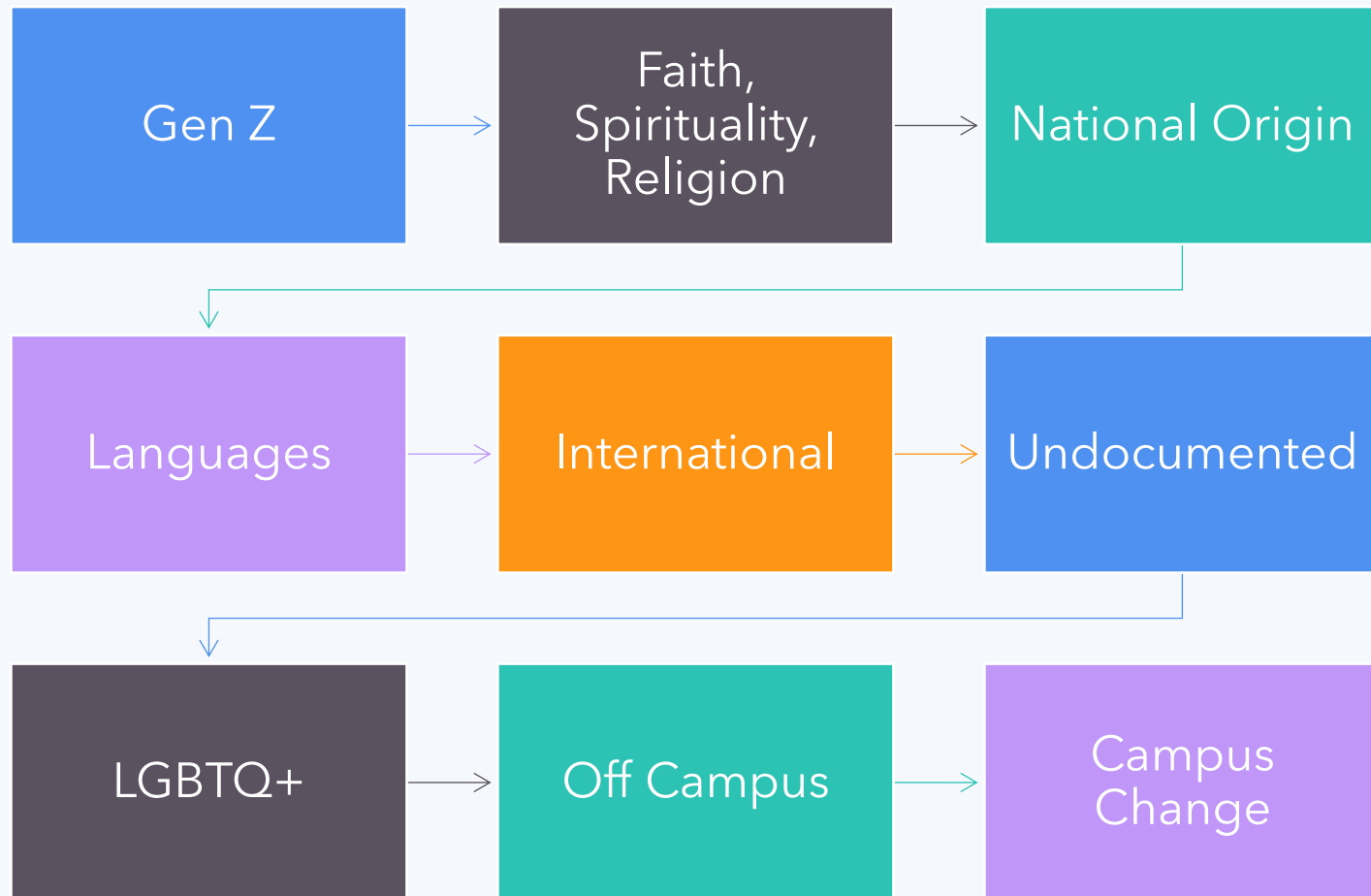
HSI

MSI

HWI

PWI

# Who are our students?



# Huskies

Loneliness

Neurodivergent

Food Insecurity

Transportation  
Insecurity

Housing Insecurity

First & Second  
Generations

College  
Affordability

Basic Needs



# Vision

## Sense of Belonging

Support Received in Peer  
Mentoring Programs

UConn  
Students

Psychological and  
Emotional

Degree and  
Career

Academic Subject  
Knowledge

# Dean of Students

1

**Dean of Students  
Office**

**Associate Dean,  
Maureen Armstrong**

2

**Office of Care and  
Concern**

**Director TBD**

3

**Family Relations,  
Faith & Spirituality,  
Off-Campus  
Services**

**Associate Dean,  
John Armstrong**

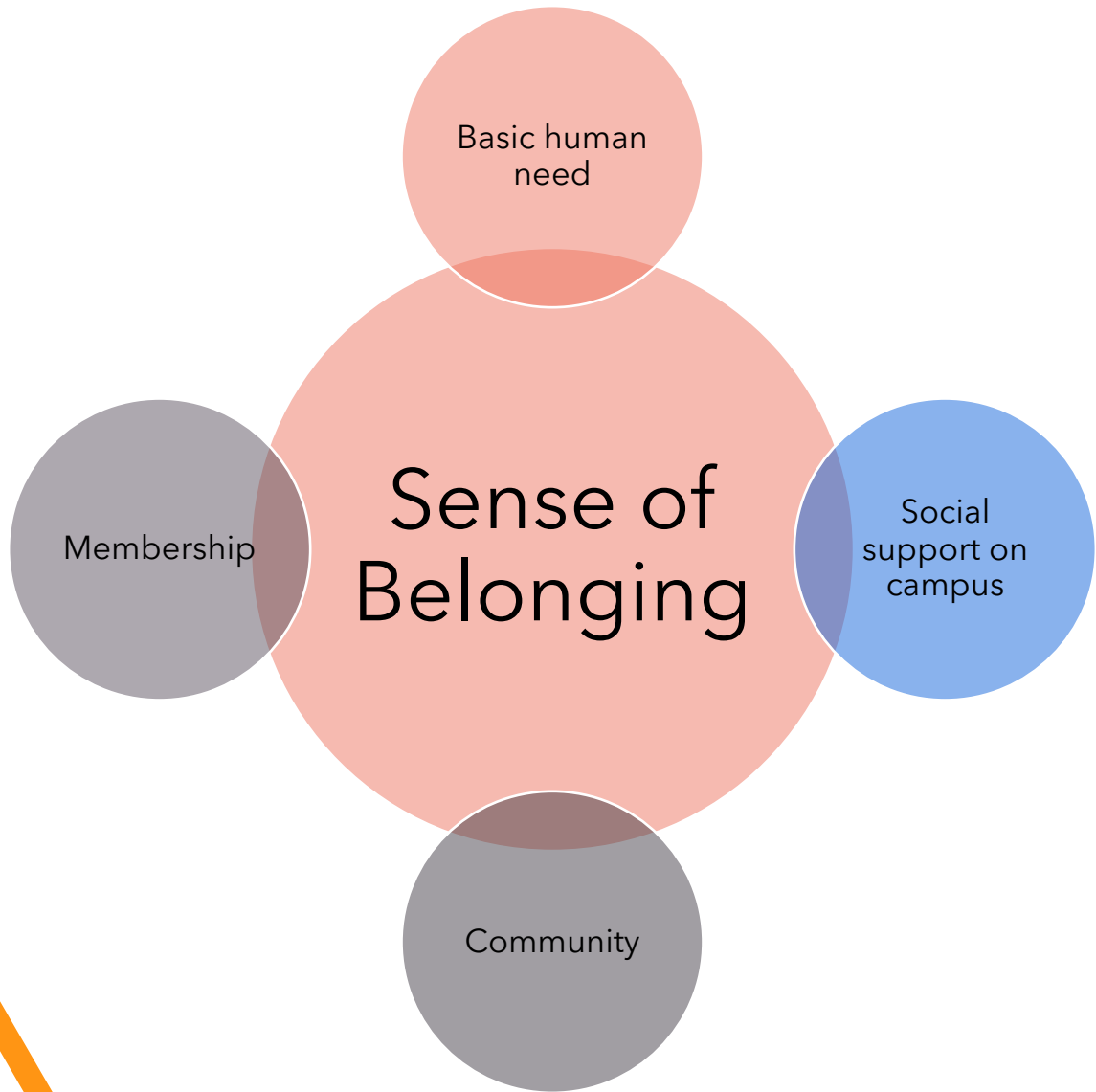
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**Campus Change  
Peer Mentoring  
Program**

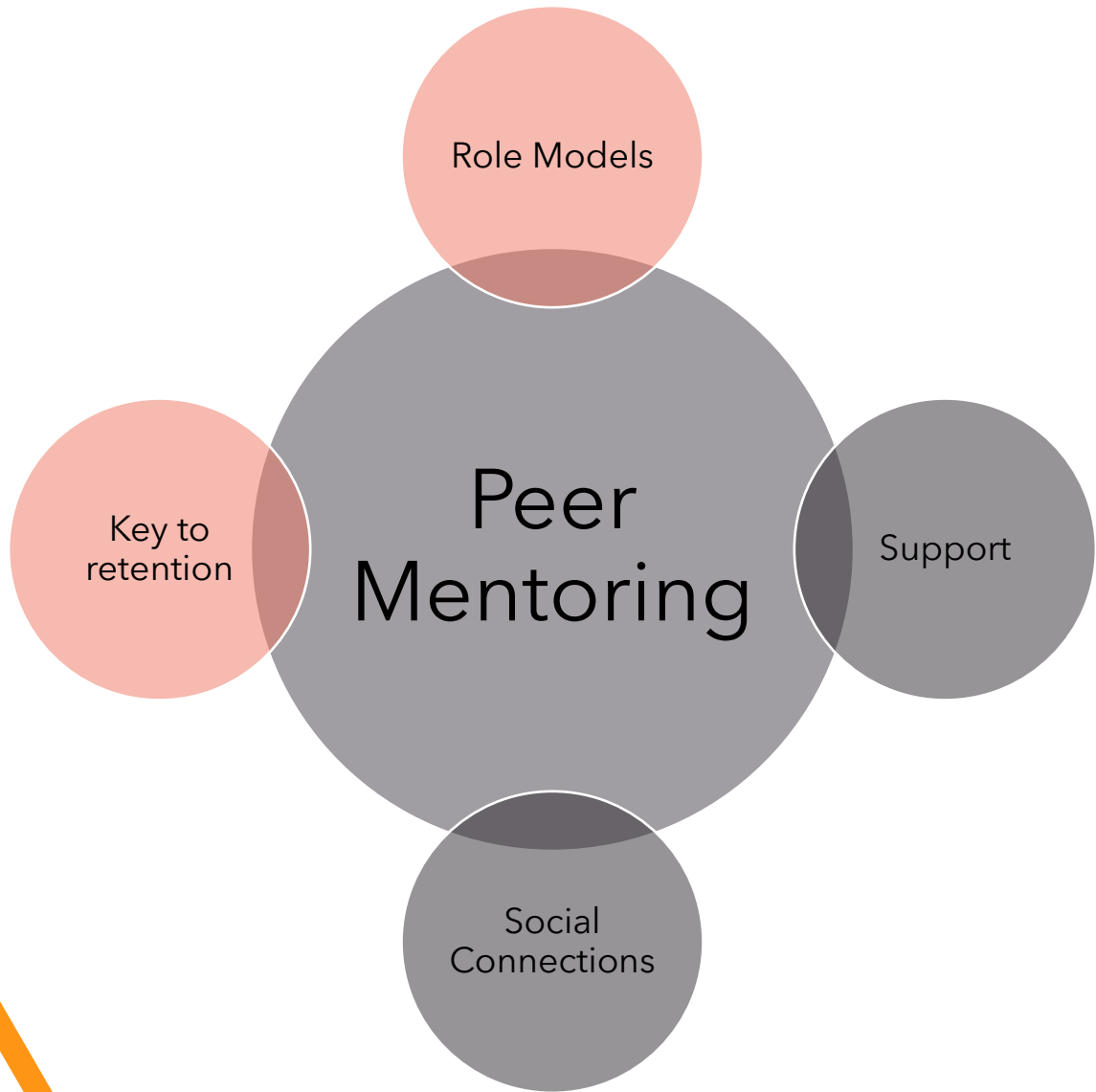
**Dr. Michael  
Finiguerra**

**“If you are a Husky, you belong at UConn”**

Strayhorn (2012) defined sense of belonging as a basic human need and motivation.



“Without METAS, FYE, and being an RA, I couldn’t have graduated from UConn...”



Crisp et al., (2017) argued that the role of peer mentors are an important piece in providing formal and informal ways of mentoring.

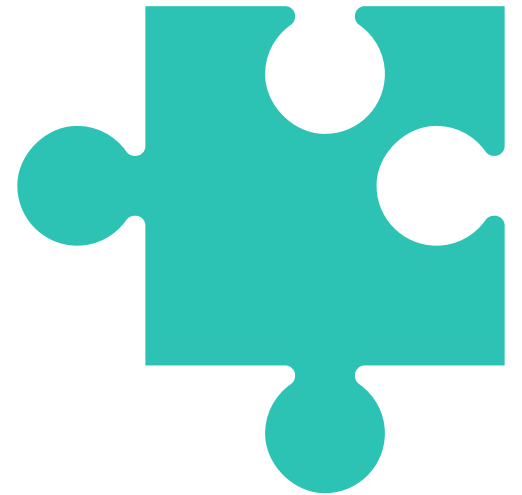
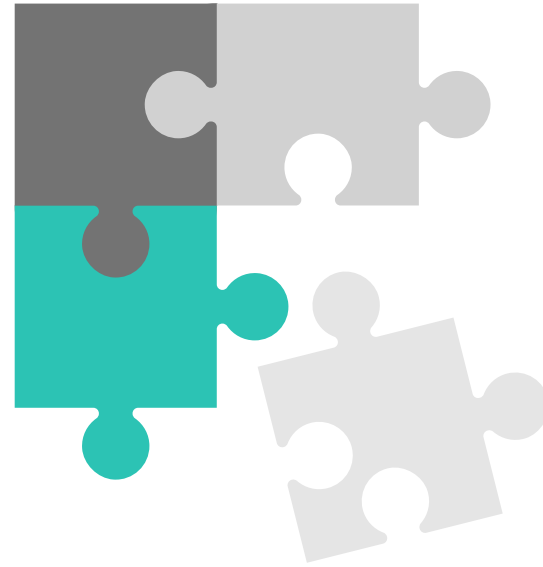






Proposition

Colleagues, will you build  
community and foster a sense of  
belonging with me?



# I want to hear from you and learn with you!

- [Email: fany.hannon@uconn.edu](mailto:fany.hannon@uconn.edu)
- Follow me @uconn.dos
- Text me @860-984-7651
- Stop by Wilbur Cross RM 203  
Dean of Students Office
- Request a meeting:  
[Jennifer.brodie@uconn.edu](mailto:Jennifer.brodie@uconn.edu)

