



FACULTY FOCUS

Enhancing Connection and Sense of Belonging

Meaningful campus connections can have a significant impact on how students develop and maintain their academic mindset. Three strategies that can help students feel a greater sense of connection and belonging include:

- **Involvement in student organizations**, especially those that may have academic expectations (i.e. minimum GPA requirement to stay active) or align with the student's academic or educational interests. These organizations may be housed in an academic department and/or one of our 250 registered student organizations (RSOs) in Student Leadership and Involvement.
- **Engagement in experiences that connect students to their community and an affinity group** in both the campus and Memphis area. These opportunities are particularly important for students who do not live on campus or may be considered post-traditional (often classified as 25 years of age or older). For more information, visit our office of Adult, Off Campus, and Transfer Student Services. Additionally, our office of Veteran & Military Student Services is a great resource for veteran and military students.
- **On-campus Living** can help increase students' sense of connection to campus. There are a number of opportunities for students to connect with others who share their interests, such as our living and learning communities (LLC). Regardless of whether they reside in an LLC or not, students are welcomed to get involved within their residence hall to feel a better sense of connection and belonging. For more information, they can contact our staff in Residence Life.