

Long-time beacons of hope in our communities, our colleges stand on the threshold between what has been and what is yet to be. This space—known as liminality—is experienced during periods of change, and the last year has been the most transformative that many of us will experience in our lifetimes. A deadly pandemic, unemployment, illness, political violence, massive protests, and heightened awareness of racial injustice have forced us to change quickly. Many of our students are bearing the weight of the losses our communities and our country have endured. Our colleges have responded to these challenges in varying ways and with variable success, and learned that we are more nimble than we ever thought possible.

This year's theme,