Watson Scott Swail, Ed.D.

Executive Leader | Non-Profit CEO | Education Policy Strategist | Research Innovator
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DR. WATSON SCOTT SWAIL is an accomplished executive leader with more than two decades of experience founding, leading, and scaling mission-driven organizations in the education and public policy sectors. As Founding President and Senior Research Scientist of the Educational Policy Institute (EPI), he has built and led a nationally and internationally respected nonprofit organization focused on advancing educational access, affordability, and student success. Under his leadership, the organization has conducted over 100 research and policy initiatives spanning the full education continuum, influencing institutions, governments, and foundations across North America and beyond.

Dr. Swail brings a rare combination of executive vision, operational leadership, and intellectual authority. He has successfully guided organizations through strategic planning, fundraising, program development, and large-scale research implementation, helping partners secure more than $100 million in federally funded initiatives. His leadership experience includes managing multidisciplinary teams, advising boards and senior stakeholders, and forging partnerships with prominent philanthropic organizations such as the Lumina Foundation, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and the U.S. Department of Education.

A proven nonprofit executive, Dr. Swail has deep expertise in mission alignment, organizational growth, and evidence-based decision-making. His work emphasizes measurable impact, data-driven strategy, and sustainable program design. In his concurrent role as Principal of SwailLandis, he advises higher education institutions and organizations on strategic transformation, student success initiatives, and performance analytics, further demonstrating his ability to translate vision into actionable outcomes.

Dr. Swail's leadership career reflects a consistent trajectory of increasing responsibility across both nonprofit and public-sector institutions. He has held senior roles with the Council for Opportunity in Education and the Pell Institute, as well as leadership and policy positions with SRI International and the College Board, where he directed influential national reports on college affordability and student aid. His early career as an educator and professor grounds his executive work in practical, on-the-ground experience.

Recognized as a thought leader in education policy, Dr. Swail is widely known for developing the Swail Geometric Framework for Student Retention, a globally utilized model that informs institutional strategy and student success initiatives. He is a prolific author, keynote speaker, and policy advisor, with extensive publications and testimony before the U.S. Congress.

Dr. Swail holds a Doctor of Education in Educational Policy from The George Washington University and has built a career defined by innovation, cross-sector leadership, and a commitment to expanding opportunity through strategic, high-impact nonprofit leadership.

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CURRICULUM VITAE

- Accomplished executive leader with more than two decades of experience founding, leading, and scaling mission-driven organizations in the education and public policy sectors.
- C-Suite experience for several non-profit organizations including CEO of the Educational Policy Institute.
- Conducted over 100 research and policy initiatives spanning the full education continuum, influencing institutions, governments, and foundations across North America and beyond.
- Successfully guided organizations through strategic planning, fundraising, program development, and large-scale research implementation.
- Critical knowledge of education policy and practice with a focus on empirically-driven information and leadership.
- Internationally recognized for work on postsecondary student retention and success.

Skill Sets

- Executive Leadership
- Non-Profit Management
- Strategic Planning
- Organizational Management
- System Analytics
- Policy Analysis
- Research Development
- Program Evaluation
- Data Analysis

Education

- **Ed.D., Educational Policy & Higher Education Administration, The George Washington University, Washington, DC**
  - Dissertation: The Development of a Conceptual Framework to Increase Student Retention in Science, Engineering, and Mathematics Programs at Minority Institutions of Higher Education (Awarded Phi Delta Kappa Dissertation of the Year).
- **M.Sc., Technology Education, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA**
  - Master's Thesis: Assessing the Professional Needs of Canadian Members of the International Technology Education Association.
- **School Administrative Leadership Program, St. Vital School Division, Winnipeg, MB**

  Six-month leadership course for administrators. Achieved credit for provincial administrator's certificate.
- **B.Ed. (Double Major: Mathematics/Technology), University of Manitoba/Red River College, Winnipeg, MB**
  - Split program between the University of Manitoba and Red River College. Full majors in mathematics and education.

Professional Service

American Educational Research Association (AERA)

American Evaluation Association (AEA)

Association for Institutional Research (AIR)

Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE)

Technology Education Association of Manitoba (TEAM) (President)

National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) (Reviewer)

Chapter Advisor, Phi Delta Theta Fraternity (VA Iota)

Professional Experience

President/CEO & Senior Research Scientist/Scholar, Educational Policy Institute, Virginia Beach, VA (2002-present)
The Educational Policy Institute is a nonprofit research organization focused on education issues in the United States, Canada, and internationally. As President, Dr. Swail leads the institute's research and policy portfolio, fundraising, and professional development programs, including the annual International Conference on Student Success. An internationally recognized expert in student retention, educational equity, and policy, he also consults for and serves on boards for universities and organizations. EPI has completed work for dozens of clients and partners, including the National Council on Disabilities, the Library of Congress, Pittsburgh Public Schools, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the National Action Council on Minorities in Engineering, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Lumina Foundation for Education, and others. (www.educationalpolicy.org).

Principal, SwailLandis, Virginia Beach, VA (2017-2026)
SwailLandis is a Virginia Beach-based consulting firm and subsidiary of the Educational Policy Institute. The firm brings together higher education experts with experience in administration, strategic planning, student success, data analytics, and related areas. *SwailLandis* works with institutions to plan and implement strategies that improve student success. (www.swaillandis.com).

Vice President, Council for Opportunity in Education & Founding Director, Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education, Washington DC (2001-2002)
The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) is a Washington, DC-based membership organization focused on the federal TRIO programs. Dr. Swail served as Vice President for Research and, through that role, became the founding Executive Director of COE's Pell Institute. The Institute conducts primary and secondary research focused on low-income, first-generation, and students with disabilities.

Senior Policy Analyst, SRI International, Rosslyn, VA (2000-2001)
SRI International is a multinational consulting firm based in Menlo Park, California, with offices in Rosslyn, Virginia, and other locations worldwide. At SRI, Dr. Swail conducted policy research on educational opportunity, academic preparation, virtual instruction, teacher preparation, and student financial aid. He developed and coordinated projects from inception, supported fundraising, and contributed to planning, statistical analysis, research design, and policy development on key education issues.

Associate Director for Policy Analysis, The College Board, Washington DC (1997-2000)
The College Board is best known for the SAT and AP programs and is a broad nonprofit organization dedicated to expanding educational opportunity. During his tenure, Dr. Swail analyzed data on academic preparation, college access, and postsecondary success. He directed and produced the annual *Trends in Student Aid* and *Trends in College Pricing* reports, which provided detailed national data on college costs and student aid.

His other research addressed educational opportunity for low-income and disadvantaged students, distance education, and virtual instruction. Dr. Swail also provided data and expertise to members of Congress and the media and chaired the ConnectED 2000 National Summit on college preparation and outreach in San Diego, California.

Coordinator of Special Projects, EQUITY 2000, The College Board, Washington DC (1996)
Dr. Swail served with the College Board's EQUITY 2000 special project, supporting strategic planning and implementation for this innovative public school reform initiative. His responsibilities included preparing reports for funders and stakeholders, writing funding proposals, coordinating research, and supporting website and database development.

Assistant Professor (Adjunct), The Graduate School of Education and Human Development, The George Washington University, Washington DC (1995-2002)
Dr. Swail taught graduate courses in educational research methodology, program evaluation, and statistics, including online research courses in GWU's master's program.

Senior Research Associate, Individual Monitoring Systems, Inc., Annapolis, MD (1995-1996)
Individual Monitoring Systems was an educational psychology firm. Dr. Swail conducted instrument development, data collection, and data analysis for a series of HIV-related mental health videos for middle and high school students, sponsored by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH).

Associate, The McKenzie Group, Inc., Washington DC (1993-1996)
The McKenzie Group was a comprehensive educational consulting firm serving clients such as the National Science Foundation, U.S. Navy, RJR Nabisco, Seagram & Sons, and school districts nationwide. Dr. Swail's responsibilities included research instrument design, client communications, needs assessments, project development, strategic planning, report writing, and production of major publications.

Instructor, Benjamin Syms Middle School, Hampton, VA (1991-1993)
Dr. Swail taught at Syms Middle School, a National School of Excellence, where he developed a Learning Activity Package program for middle school technology and curricula in computer networking, programming, desktop publishing, computer numerical control (CNC) robotics, and CADD. He also built partnerships with NASA/Langley Research Center and coached extracurricular activities, including Odyssey of the Mind and the Technology Student Association.

Adjunct Faculty Member, Department of Occupational and Technical Studies, Old Dominion University, Norfolk, VA (1990-1993)
Dr. Swail served as Virginia's state curriculum director for a new high school technology curriculum, coordinated and taught graduate-level courses for technology educators, and instructed additional core departmental courses.

Middle School Graphic Communications Instructor, St. Vital School Division, Winnipeg, MB (1985-2000)
Dr. Swail taught junior high students for five years in a magnet school. His instructional areas included architectural drafting, computer-aided design, photography, animation, and design theory. He incorporated individual and group projects, problem-solving, critical thinking, and multimedia into his instruction.

Recent/Current Research Projects (Principal Investigator)

- 2024-2028, Westchester Community College (NY) Title V Evaluation
- 2024-2028, Harper College (IL) Title V Evaluation & Strategic Plan for Hawks Care Resource Center
- 2023-2024, Strategic Planning, Concerned Black Alumni of Princeton (NJ) (CBAP)

- 2022-2024, Virginia Department of Education research and data support (VA)
- 2022-2027, Broward College (FL), Title III Evaluation
- 2022-2023, Hawaii Department of Education (HI), 21st Century Community Learning Centers Statewide Evaluation
- 2021-22, Evaluation of Princeton Prize in Race Relations, Princeton University (NJ)
- 2021-22, Evaluation of WSU Tech Practical Nursing Program, WSU Tech (KS)
- 2020-2022, Evaluation of Magnet Schools Assistance Program (MSAP), East Baton Rouge Parish School System (LA)
- 2019-2020, Needs Assessment, Valencia College (FL)
- 2019, Change Management, Seattle Colleges (WA)
- 2018-2019, Study of Peer Tutoring, AVID Center (CA)
- 2017-2021, Evaluation, Bergen College (NJ) Title V Project
- 2017-2021, Evaluation, Wilmington College (OH) Title III Project
- 2015, Evaluation, College Success Foundation – District of Columbia (CSF-DC), Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
- 2013-2018, Evaluation, Arizona State University (AZ), *University PREP* Race to the Top (RTTT) Initiative
- 2012-2017, Evaluation, US Department of Education, OSEP Personnel Development Program Data Collection System: Scholar Data Report and Service Obligations Tracking System (DC)
- 2012-2017, Evaluation of St. Vrain School District (CO) Academic Excellence through STEM Innovation Race to the Top Grant
- 2012-2013 Evaluation of US Department of Education, International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE) Program (DC)

Publications

Swail, Watson S. (Ed.) (2026). *The ROI of Higher Education.* Educational Policy Institute Press.

Swail, Watson S. (2026, October). Occupational Projections 2035. *EPICenter.* Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson. S., Wehmeyer, Connie, and Landis, Kimberly A. (2026). *On-time high school graduation: What educators need to know* (*Policy Perspectives*). Education Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S. (2025, November). The Massification of Higher Education. *EPICenter.* Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S. (2025). Nursing Student Success: A Research Review. *Policy Perspectives.* Virginia Beach, VA: Education Policy Institute Press.

Swail, Watson S. (2025). Literature Reviews, Meta-Analyses, and Meta-Ethnographies. Virginia Beach, VA: Education Policy Institute Press.

Swail, Watson S., Landis, Kimberly A., and Wehmeyer, Connie (December, 2023). *High School Graduation: What You Need to Know.* A K12 Info-Brief. Prepared for the Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Quality.

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Swail, Watson S. (2019*). The Student Success Papers. Volume 1.* Virginia Beach, VA: Education Policy Institute Press.

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Harris-Van Keuren, C., Bowden, A.B., and Swail, W. S. (2018). *Reading Enhancement for Advancing Development (READ) Bangladesh — Cost-Effectiveness Analysis.* Washington, DC: United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

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Swail, Watson S., Quinn, K., Landis, K., and Fung, M. (2012). *2012 Directory of Pre-College Outreach Programs.* Washington, DC: Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S., Quinn, K., Landis, K., and Fung, M. (2012). *A Blueprint for Success: Case Studies of Successful Pre-College Outreach Programs.* Washington, DC: Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S. (2011). "In Search of a Better Mousetrap: A Look at Higher Education Ranking Systems." *College & University.* AACRAO: Washington, DC.

Swail, Watson S., Dickerson, Shawn, and White, Rachel (2010). *National Disability Policy: A Progress Report.* Washington, DC: National Council on Disability.

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Swail, Watson S., Willis, Ronald C., and Mullen, Rebecca M. (2007, December). *Decision 2008*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S. and Hosford, Sarah (2007, November). *Missouri Students and the Pathways to College*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

Baumann, Paul, Cabrera, Alberto, and Swail, Watson S. (2007, October). *An Annotated Bibliography of Latino Educational Research*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

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Swail, Watson S. (2006, September). "The Buy-In Challenge." *Student Success*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S. (2006, May). "Strategies to Increase Student Success." *Student Success*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

Swail, Watson S. (2006, March). "Barriers to Student Retention and Success on Campuses." *Student Success*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

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Williams, Adriane, and Swail, Watson S. (2005). *Focus on Results: An Academic Impact Analysis of the Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP)*. Virginia Beach, VA: Educational Policy Institute.

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Swail, Watson S. and Williams, Adriane (2005, June). "The No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 and the Pathways to College Network Framework: Mutually Supportive Visions and Complementary Goals." *Research Brief*. Honolulu, HI: Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL).

Williams, Adriane, and Swail, Watson S. (2005). Is More Better? The Impact of Postsecondary Education on the Economic and Social Well-Being of American Society. Washington, DC: Educational Policy Institute.

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Martinez, M., Klopott, S., Swail, W., & Williams, A. (2004). *School Reform and College Access Success: A Review*. Honolulu, HI: Pathways to College Network & Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL).

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Swail, Watson S. (2004). "Legislation to Improve Graduation Rates Could Have the Opposite Effect." *The Chronicle of Higher Education.* Volume 50, Issue 20, P. B16.

Swail, Watson S., Redd, Kenneth, and Perna, Laura (2003). *Retaining Minority Students In Higher Education.* An ASHE-ERIC Reader. San Francisco. CA: Jossey-Bass.

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Perna, Laura W., and Swail, Watson S. (2002). "Pre-College Outreach and Early Intervention Programs." In Heller's *Condition of Access*. Westport, CT: Praeger Publishers and the American Council on Education.

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Swail, Watson S., and Kampits, Eva (2001). "Distance Education & Accreditation—Riding a Tide of Opportunity. In Ratcliff and Lubinescu's (Eds) *Making the Connection Between Accreditation and Learning Outcomes,* a New Directions in Higher Education Sourcebook. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass Publishers.

Swail, Watson S., and Roth, David (2001*).* "The Role of Outreach in the Effort to Reform Our Schools." In the ERIC Review themed journal, *Early Intervention for College Programs*, Carol Boston (editor). Washington, DC: ERIC Clearinghouse for Higher Education.

Perna, Laura, Fenske, Robert, and Swail, Watson S. (2001). "Overview of Early Intervention Programs." In the ERIC Review themed journal, *Early Intervention for College Programs*, Carol Boston (editor). Washington, DC: ERIC Clearinghouse for Higher Education.

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Swail, Watson S., and Roth, David (2001). *Certification and Teacher Preparation in the United States*. A report prepared for the Pacific Resources for Education and Learning (PREL). Honolulu, HI: PREL.

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Swail, Watson S. (2000). "Educational Opportunity and the Role of Pre-College Outreach Programs." In *2001 Outreach Program Handbook*. New York, NY: The College Board, pp. viii-xiii).

Swail, Watson S., and Perna, Laura W. (2000). "A View of the Landscape." In *2001 Outreach Program Handbook*. New York, NY: The College Board, pp. xvii-xxxvi).

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Swail, Watson S. (May, 2000). "Beyond Access: Increasing the Odds of College Success." *Phi Delta Kappan*. Indianapolis, IN.

Swail, Watson S. and Holmes, Dennis (March 2000). "Minority Student Persistence: A Framework for Retention." In Sheila T. Gregory (ed.) *The Academic Achievement of Minority Students: Perspectives, Practices, and Prescriptions*. The University Press of America: Lanham, MD.

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Swail, Watson Scott (January, 2000). "Is College Affordable? Sorting Perception and Reality." Policy Brief. *The College Board Review*. No. 189/190. New York, NY: The College Board.

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Swail, Watson Scott (1999). "The Virtual University and Educational Opportunity: Panacea or False Hope?" *Higher Education Management*. Volume 11, No. 2, pp. 43-56.

Galloway, Fred J., and Swail, Watson Scott (November 1999). Institutional Retention Strategies at Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Their Effects on Cohort Default Rates: 1987-1995. Washington, DC: Sallie Mae Education Institute.

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Gladieux, Lawrence E., Astor, Bart, and Swail, Watson S. (1998). *Memory, Reason, and Imagination: A Quarter Century of Pell Grants*. New York, NY: The College Entrance Examination Board.

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Swail, Watson S. (1998). "Postsecondary Education: Student Success, Not Just Access." In S. Halperin (ed.) *The Forgotten Half Revisited — 1998*. Washington, DC: American Youth Policy Forum.

Swail, W. S. (1995). *A conceptual framework for student retention in science, engineering, and mathematics*. A dissertation conducted at the George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Ritz, John M., and Swail, Watson S. (1994, Winter/Spring). "Technology Assessment: Integrating Technology, People, and the Environment." *The Journal of Technology Studies*. 20 (1), pp. 51-56.

Swail, Watson S. (1993, Summer). "Year -Round Schools: A Real Possibility in the New Wave of Education." *Journal of the Virginia Technology Education Association*, pp. 2-5, 11.

Swail, Watson S. (1992, March). "Forecasting for the Future: The Foundation of a Technology Assessment." *The Technology Teacher*. pp. 23-29.

Peer Reviewed/Refereed Publications

1. Swail, Watson S. (Ed.) (2026, *forthcoming*). *The ROI of Higher Education*. Educational Policy Institute Press.
2. Swail, Watson S., Landis, Kimberly A., and Wehmeyer, Connie (December, 2023). *High School Graduation: What You Need to Know*. A K12 Info-Brief. Prepared for the Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Quality.
3. Swail, Watson S. and Landis, Kimberly A. (May, 2023). *Comprehensive Needs Assessments*. A K12 Info-Brief. Prepared for the Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Quality.
4. Swail, Watson S. and Landis, Kimberly A. (April, 2023). *Instructional Rounds: A Review*. A K12 Info-Brief. Prepared for the Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Quality.
5. Swail, Watson S. and Landis, Kimberly A. (March, 2023). *Teacher Recruitment and Retention*. A K12 Info-Brief. Prepared for the Virginia Department of Education, Office of School Quality.

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7. Harris-Van Keuren, C., Bowden, A.B., and Swail, W. S. (2018). *Reading Enhancement for Advancing Development (READ) Bangladesh — Cost-Effectiveness Analysis.* Washington, DC: United States Agency for International Development (USAID).
8. Swail, Watson S. (2014, June). *"A Different Viewpoint on Student Retention." Higher Learning Research Communications. Volume 4, Number 2.*
9. Swail, Watson S. (2013). "Roundtable: Finding Superman Editor Responds." *Journal of School Choice* (7:94-97). London, UK: Taylor & Francis Group.
10. Swail, Watson S. (Ed.) (2012). *Finding Superman: Debating the Future of Public Education in America.* New York, NY: Teachers College Press.
11. Swail, Watson S. (Ed.) (2012). "Finding Superman." In Watson Scott Swail's (Ed.) *Finding Superman: Debating the Future of Public Education in America.* New York, NY: Teachers College Press.
12. Swail, Watson S. (2011). "In Search of a Better Mousetrap: A Look at Higher Education Ranking Systems." *College & University.* AACRAO: Washington, DC.
13. Swail, Watson S., Dickerson, Shawn, and White, Rachel (2010). *National Disability Policy: A Progress Report.* Washington, DC: National Council on Disability.
14. Swail, Watson S., Broff, Nancy, and Faubert, Jenny (2010). *Graduating At-Risk Students: A Cross-Sector Analysis.* Washington, DC: Imagine America Foundation.
15. Swail, Watson S., Broff, Nancy, and Faubert, Jenny (2009, August). "Leveling the Playing Field for All Schools, Including Career Colleges." *Career Education Review.* Oshkosh, WI: Workforce Communications. Pp. 53-58.
16. Shaffer, Patricia Moore, and Swail, Watson S. (2009, October). Making Decisions about Teacher Professional Development: Practices in 8 Alabama School Districts. Evidence-Based Education Request Desk, Regional Education Laboratory, Southeast SERVE Center.
17. Swail, Watson S., Jaeschke, Sarah, and Rasmussen, Chris (2009, October). *Measuring Up – A Midwestern Perspective on the National Report Card — 2002 to 2008.* Minneapolis, MN: Midwestern Higher Education Compact.
18. *Swail, Watson S., Mullen, Rebecca, Gardner, Hyniea, and Reed, Jeremy (2008, February). Engaging Faculty and Staff: An Imperative for Fostering Retention, Advising, and Smart Borrowing.* Round Rock, TX: Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation.
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21. Swail, Watson S. (2006). *California Trends in Student Aid: 1994-95 to 2003-04*. Rancho Cordova, CA: Edfund.
22. Swail, Watson S., Hosford, Sarah, Chubin, Daryl, Malcom, Shirley, and Pomerance, Laura (2006). "Education and Human Resources in the FY 2007 Budget." *In AAAS Report XXXI: Research and Development FY 2007*: Washington, DC: American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS).
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56. Ritz, John M., and Swail, Watson S. (1994, Winter/Spring). "Technology Assessment: Integrating Technology, People, and the Environment." *The Journal of Technology Studies*. 20 (1), pp. 51-56.
57. Swail, Watson S. (1993, Summer). "Year -Round Schools: A Real Possibility in the New Wave of Education." *Journal of the Virginia Technology Education Association*, pp. 2-5, 11.
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Presentations

Swail, Watson S., Costin, Claudia, Galan-Muros, Victoria, and Dua, Andre (September 1, 2021). *North, South East, West (and Central).* A presentation at QS Americas 2021 Conference. Virtual Conference, September 1-2, 2021.

Caridi, Jamie, and Swail, Watson S. (July 26, 2021). *Retention Amid a Pandemic: Trends, Tensions, and Considerations.* A presentation at the 32nd Annual National Small College Enrollment Conference, July 26-28, 2021.

Swail, Watson S. (October 2017). *The ROI of Higher Education.* A presentation at The College Board National Forum, Washington, DC, October 25-27, 2017.

Swail, Watson S., Hunt, Jennifer, McCarthy, Elizabeth, and Gonzalez, Deborah (July 18, 2017). *Challenges (and Solutions?) of Collecting Counterfactual Data from Schools and States.* I3 Project Directors' Conference, Washington, DC, July 17-18, 2017.

Swail, Watson S. (May 15-16, 2017). *Retention 101: A Workshop for UW Platteville.* Platteville, WI.

Swail, Watson S. (September 25, 2015). *Higher Education: A Critical Perspective.* A Presentation to the NAFSA Board of Directors, Washington, DC, September 25, 2015).

Swail, Watson S. (July 15, 2015). *Retaining Students in Higher Education.* A Presentation at SEMWorks Annual Small Colleges Conference, Orlando, FL, July 15, 2015.

Swail, Watson S. (October 7, 2013). *Unlocking the Retention Puzzle.* A Presentation at Sacramento State University, Sacramento, CA, October 7, 2013.

Swail, Watson S. (August 19-20, 2013). *Student Retention at Northwestern State University.* A Presentation at Northwestern State University, Shreveport, LA, August 19-20, 2013.

Swail, Watson S., Quinn, Kate, and Landis, Kimberly (November 15, 2012). *Promising Practices in College Access Programs: A National Study of Data-Driven Programs.* A Presentation at the 2012 Association for the Study of Higher Education Annual Conference, Las Vegas, NV, November 15, 2012.

Swail, Watson S. (November 2, 2012). What does the future hold? A presentation at the Learning to Earning: Higher Education and the Changing Job Market, sponsored by the Higher Education Quality Council of Ontario (HEQCO) and the Educational Policy Institute, November 1-2, 2012, Toronto, ON.

Swail, Watson S. (May 22, 2012). *Finding Superman… and Other Stories.* A presentation for the Ohio Legislative Caucus, Columbus, Ohio.

Swail, Watson S., and Quinn, Kate (April 16, 2012). *SciTech—Initial Outcomes of a Magnet-School Start-Up.* A presentation at the AERA Conference in Vancouver, BC.

Swail, Watson S., Quinn, Kate, & Kalvesmaki, Andrea (April 16, 2012). *Assessing the Effectiveness of a GEAR UP Program: An Evaluative Case Study.* A presentation at the AERA Conference in Vancouver, BC.

Swail, Watson S., and Quinn, Kate (April 16, 2012). *The Role of College Access Programs in College Completion: Case Studies of Promising Practices.* A presentation at the AERA Conference in Vancouver, BC.

Swail, Watson S. (October 27, 2011). "Critical Reflections and Comparative Policy Perspectives. Presentation at the *Achieving Equity through Innovation: A Canada-United States Colloquium*, Toronto, ON, sponsored by the Canadian Education Association (CEA) and the Stanford Center for Opportunity Policy in Education (SCOPE).

Swail, Watson S. (September 23, 2011). Private higher education: Its place in higher education system and its role in development of mass higher education, enhancement knowledge and innovation. Presentation at the Private Higher Education and Its Contribution to Enhancement of Innovation Potential of Europe in the Global Competitive Environment conference, Warsaw, Poland.

Swail, Watson S. (December 14, 2010). Saving Lives: Strategies that help students prepare, apply, enroll, and succeed in higher education. OCAN/OASFAA Annual Conference, Columbus, OH.

Swail, Watson S., and Collier, Harvest (November 9, 2010). *Road Map to a Campus-Wide Retention Program.* Presentation at the 2010 AACRAO SEM Conference, Nashville, TN.

Swail, Watson S. (November 7, 2010). *In Search of a Better Mousetrap: A Look at Higher Education Ranking Systems.* Presentation at the AACRAO Executive Forum, Nashville, TN.

Swail, Watson S. (October 27, 2010). Closing Keynote at the University of Toronto/Stanford School of Education Conference on Teaching and Learning, Toronto, ON.

Swail, Watson S. (October 20, 2010). *The Fierce Urgency of Now.* A keynote presentation to the NavityMiguel Conference, Washington, DC.

Swail, Watson S. (December 9, 2010). *College Readiness and Rigorous Opportunities for All Students.* AVID National Conference, Dallas, TX.

Swail, Watson S. (May 21, 2010). *Seeding the Knowledge Economy: Education and Economic Development.* Presentation at The Council of State Governments' Economic Summit of the States, New York, NY.

Swail, Watson S. (April 23, 2010). *Retaining Students in Higher Education.* A presentation to the faculty and staff of Columbus State Community College, Columbus, OH.

Swail, Watson S. (May 7, 2010). *Defining Student Success at Fanshawe College.* A presentation to the Board of Governors of Fanshawe College, London, ON.

Swail, Watson S. (Various, 2010). *Importance of K-12 and College Readiness Standards in the United States.* Presentations with the Council of State Governments in Miami, FL (April 18-19), Washington, DC (April 28-29), Chicago, IL (May 2-3), and Honolulu, HI (June 21).

Swail, Watson S. (November 12, 2010). *America's Educational System Goes Back to School.* Presentation to The Council of State Governments 2009 Annual Conference, La Quinta, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (September 17-18, 2009). *International Forum on Student Retention,* Bogota, Colombia.

Swail, Watson S. (October 14, 2009). *Educational Access & Success with an EDGE.* A presentation to Traveler's Insurance, Hartford, CT.

Swail, Watson S. (October 5, 2009). *Retaining Students in Private Higher Education in Virginia.* A presentation to the Virginia Foundation for Independent Colleges, Charlottesville, VA.

Swail, Watson S. (August 12, 2009). *A History of College Access & Success.* Ohio College Access Network, Columbus, OH.

Swail, Watson S. (July 21, 2009). *Evaluation Strategies for GEAR UP Programs.* A presentation at the NCCEP National Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (November 7, 2008). *Retention 101: A Primer with a Plan.* A Keynote Presentation to the Staff of El Centro Community College, Dallas, TX.

Swail, Watson S. (October 17, 2008). *Talking Progress: Moving from Challenges to Solutions for Latino Students and American Society.* A presentation at the NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Annual Conference, San Antonio, TX.

Swail, Watson S., Orr, Dominic, Vossensteyn, Hans, and Dobson, Ian (August 27, 2007). *Increasing Student Retention and Persistence in Higher Education: An International Perspective.* A Presentation at the European Association for Institutional Research (EAIR) Conference, Innsbruck, Austria.

Swail, Watson S. (January 29, 2007). *Evaluation Strategies for College Access Programs.* An online presentation for the National Council Higher Educational Loan Programs (NCHELP).

Swail, Watson S. (June 14, 2006). Latino Students and the Educational Pipeline. A presentation to the College Board's Latino Task Force, Washington, DC.

Swail, Watson S. (May 18, 2006). Trends that will Change the Face of Higher Education. Presentation at the North East Loan Authority (NELA) meeting, Seattle, WA.

Swail, Watson S. (April 25, 2006). Seven Guiding Questions for Student Retention. A presentation to the Southwest Regional P-16 Conference, Austin, TX.

Swail, Watson S. (March 31, 2006). Keeping Latino Students in School: A Framework for Understanding Student Persistence. A presentation at the Innovative Educators Conference, San Diego, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (March 28, 2006). Changing Latino Lives: Undertaking the Difficult Work of Institutional and Cultural Change. A presentation at the National Latino Education Summit, San Juan, PR.

Swail, Watson S. (February, 2006). Serving Students: Recommitting Ourselves to What Matters Most. A presentation at Red River College, Winnipeg, MB.

Swail, Watson S. (February, 2006). Trends that will Change the Face of Higher Education. Presentation at the Sallie Mae Annual Meeting, Miami, FL.

Swail, Watson S. (January, 2006). From Here to Eternity: A Love Story or Slasher Flick: You Decide. A presentation at the National Council on Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHELP) conference, Los Angeles, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (November 17, 2005). The Cost of Student Retention. A presentation for the Canada Student Loans Program, Default Management Workshop, Montreal, QC.

Swail, Watson S. (October 2005). Breaking Down Institutional Barriers to Improve Student Success. A presentation to the faculty at Palm Beach Community College, West Palm Beach, FL.

Swail, Watson S. (August 2005). Postsecondary Access and Success in Colorado. A presentation to the Colorado Minority Success Task Force, Denver, CO.

Swail, Watson S. (August 30, 2005). Latino Students and the Educational Pipeline. A presentation to the Western Interstate Council on Higher Education (WICHE), Boulder, CO.

Swail, Watson S. (June 21, 2005). Latino Students and the Educational Pipeline. A presentation to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, Austin, TX.

Swail, Watson S. (May 30, 2005). Changes in Tuition Policy. A presentation at the Association for Institutional Research, San Diego, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (April 2005). Serving Students: The Role of Financial Aid in Student Retention. A presentation at the Ohio Association for Student Financial Aid Association (OASFAA) Annual Conference, Akron, OH.

Swail, Watson S. (January 15, 2005). Access, Cost, and Quality: One Analyst's Weltanschauung. A presentation at the European Association for Institutional Research (EAIR) winter symposium, Miami, FL.

Swail, Watson S., and Sean Junor (November 12, 2003). *Changes in Tuition Policy: Natural Policy Experiments in Five Countries.* A presentation at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), Portland, OR.

Swail, Watson S., and Patrick Terenzini, Alberto Cabrera, and Andrea Venezia (November 12, 2003). Public Policy to Increase Access to Postsecondary Education. A presentation at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE), Portland, OR.

Swail, Watson S., and Sean Junor (Monday, October 22, 2003). *The Impact of Tuition Policies on Access and Affordability: An International Comparison.* A Presentation at the Council for Institutional Research and Planning Association (CIRPA), Halifax, NS.

Swail, Watson S., and Sean Junor (October 13, 2003). *The Impact of Tuition Policies on Access and Affordability: An International Comparison.* A Presentation at the Council for Institutional Research and Planning Association (CIRPA), Halifax, NS.

Swail, Watson S. (October 2, 2003). *The Affordability of University Education: An Analysis of Higher Education in Canada and the United States.* A presentation at the annual research conference of the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation, Ottawa, ON.

Swail, Watson S., and Lee, John (September 22, 2003). *Retention: Preparing Students for Postsecondary Success.* A presentation at the National College Access Network annual conference. Crystal City, VA.

Swail, Watson S., and Alex I. Usher (August 22, 2003). *The Impact of Tuition Policies on Access and Affordability: An International Comparison.* A Presentation at the European Association for Institutional Research, Limerick, IR.

Swail, Watson S. (June 16, 2003). *University Reform and Accessibility of Higher Education. An Annotation of the U.S. Experience.* A presentation at the Conference on University Reforms and Access to Higher Education, Prague, CZ, June 15-17, 2003.

Swail, Watson S. (May 20, 2003). *Quality Assurance in Higher Education: An International Perspective.* Panel discussion at the Association for Institutional Research Annual Conference, Tampa, FL.

Swail, Watson S. and Pat Dallet (May 22, 2003). *Florida Financial Aid Trends Report.* Project Findings. A presentation at the Florida Assocation for Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA), Orlando, FL.

Swail, Watson S., John B. Lee, and Lana Muraskin (May 15, 2003). *Findings from a National Study of Student Retention.* A presentation at the Student Aid Research Conference, Annapolis, MD.

Swail, Watson S., and Usher, Alex (May 15, 2003). *The Impact of Tuition Policies on Access and Affordability: An International Comparison.* A presentation at the Student Aid Research Conference, Annapolis, MD.

Swail, Watson S. and David Wright (October 30, 2002). *Florida Financial Aid Trends Report.* A presentation at the Florida Assocation for Student Financial Aid Administrators (FASFAA), Destin, FL.

Swail, Watson S. (October 5, 2002). *Closing the Gap: Progress Toward Accessibility.* A presentation at the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities, Vancouver, BC.

Swail, Watson S. (September 24, 2002). *Ten Critical Factors: Pathways to College Opportunity for Our Youth.* A presentation at the National College Access Network Annual Conference, Cleveland, OH.

Swail, Watson S. and Ken Redd (June 4, 2002). *Retaining Minority Students at Four-Year Colleges and Universities.* A presentation at the AIR conference, Toronto, ON.

Swail, Watson S. (April 5, 2002). *Pre-College Programs In America.* A presentation at the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation's Annual Conference, Ottawa, ON.

Swail, Watson S. (June 29, 2001). *The Role of Pre-College Programs and College Opportunity in America.* A presentation at the CalSOAP Summit, June 7-9, 2001, Oakland, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (June 4, 2001). *The Role of Higher Education and the New Demographics.* Presented at 2001 Forum of the Association for Institutional Research (AIR), Long Beach, CA.

Swail, Watson S. and others (May 10, 2001). *Higher Education Finance and Economic Opportunity in the Golden State.* A presentation at the NASSGAP/NCHELP Research Conference, Seattle, WA.

Swail, Watson S. and Kampits, Eva (April 4, 2001). *The Role of Accreditation in the Information Age: An American Perspective on an International Affair.* A presentation at the International Council of Distance Education (ICDE) Annual Conference, Dusseldorf, Germany.

Swail, Watson S. and others (November 15, 2000). *Swimming Again the Tide: A discussion of low-income families and college opportunity*. A presentation at the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) conference, Sacramento, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (2000). Preparing America's Disadvantaged for College: Programs that Increase College Opportunity. In A. F. Cabrera and S. M. La Nasa (Eds.), *New Directions for Institutional Research: No. 107. Understanding the College Choice of Disadvantaged Students* (pp. 85-101). San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Swail, Watson S., and David Roth (July 26, 2000). *ConnectED 2000 and implications for the Pacific Island nations.* A presentation at the PREL Conference, Koror, Republic of Palau.

Swail, Watson S. (June 5, 2000). *Cyberlearning and Educational Opportunity,* plus *Early Intervention Programs–A National Perspective.* Two presentations to the National TRIO Directors' Conference, Miami Beach, VA.

Swail, Watson S. (June 5, 2000). *School-to-Work and the SAT*: An Analysis of the 1999 Student Descriptive Questionnaire Data Set with Respect to Students with School-to-Work Type-Experience. Paper prepared for the National School to Work Office.

Swail, Watson S. (April 20, 2000). *Trends in College Pricing, Student Aid, and Virtual Instruction.* Presentation to the Virginia Association of Management Analysis and Planning.

Swail, Watson S. (March 2, 2000). *Pre-College Outreach Programs and the Pacific Islands.* A workshop for educational leaders from the Hawaiian Islands and other pacific islands. Sponsored by the Pacific Resources for Educational Leadership (PREL), Honolulu, HI.

Swail, Watson S. (December 9, 1999). *Federal and State Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid.* A presentation to the Ohio Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (OAFSAA), Columbus, OH.

Swail, Watson S. (December 3, 1999). *Narrowing the Digital Divide — Assessing the Impact on Educational Opportunity and Access for all Students.* A presentation at the 114th Annual Meeting of the New England Association of Schools & Colleges, Inc. Boston, MA.

Swail, Watson S. (November 22, 1999). *A National Perspective on College Outreach.* A keynote presentation at the "Collaboration" conference sponsored by the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office. Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, MN.

Swail, Watson S. (November 16, 1999). *Trends in College Pricing and Student Aid 1999.* A presentation to the Virginia Association of Management Analysis and Reporting. Norfolk, VA.

Swail, Watson S. (November 9, 1999). *Pre-College Programs: A National Perspective.* A presentation for the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area, Washington, DC.

Swail, Watson S. (October 28, 1999). *Do Pre-College Outreach Programs Really Work?* A Panel Discussion. A presentation at the College Board's National Forum. San Diego, CA.

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Watson Scott Swail (October 26, 1999*). Virtual University and Educational Opportunity.* A presentation at the EDUCAUSE Convention. Long Beach, CA.

Swail, Watson S. (October 15, 1999). *Access and Opportunity Via the Internet.* A presentation at the New York Academy of Sciences conference, "Virtual Higher Education: Critical Perspectives." October 15, 1999, Hunter College, New York City, NY.

Swail, Watson S. (July 9, 1999). *The Convergence of K-12 and Higher Education in America.* A presentation at the 8th Annual European Access Network Conference, Malta, July 7-10, 1999.

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Swail, Watson S. (1999). *Financial Aid is Not Enough.* A presentation at the NASSGAP/NCHELP Research Conference, May 6, 1999, Savannah, GA.

Swail, Watson S., and Holmes, Dennis (1999). *Minority Student Persistence: A Model for Colleges and Universities.* A paper presented at the 1999 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Conference, April 21, 1999, Montreal, Quebec.

Perna, Laura, and Swail, Watson S. (1998). *Early Intervention Programs: How Effective are they at Increasing Access to College?* Paper presented at the 1998 ASHE conference, November 7, 1998, Miami, FL.

Gladieux, Lawrence E., and Swail, Watson S. (1998). *The Virtual University and Educational Opportunity: Panacea or False Hope.* A paper presented at the Conference on the Lifelong Learning Challenge: Competition or Co-operation, Programme on Institutional Management in Higher Education Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris, France, September 7, 1998.

Swail, Watson S. (1998). *Recruitment and Retention of Minority Students: Best Practices.* A presentation to the Virginia Commission on Access and Diversity in Higher Education, State Legislature, Richmond, Virginia, August 28, 1998.

Swail, Watson S. (1998). *Preparation, Access, and Persistence: Three Areas of Focus Toward Equal Opportunities for all Students.* A presentation to the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, Virginia Beach, VA, June 4, 1998.

Swail, Watson S., Davis, J., and Galloway, F. (1998). *Institutional Retention Strategies at HBCUs and Their Effect on Cohort Default Rates.* Paper presented at the Association for Institutional Research Annual Conference, May 18, 1998, Minneapolis, MN.

Swail, Watson S. (1995). *A Framework for Student Retention at Minority Institutions of Higher Education.* Paper presented at the 1995 National Conference for Higher Education for Black Student Retention, November 12-17, Washington, DC.

Swail, Watson S. (1995). *A Geometric Theory of Persistence and Achievement.* Paper presented at the 1995 National Conference for Higher Education for Black Student Retention, November 12-17, Washington, DC.

Swail, Watson S. (1993). *The Inventor Card: Getting Children Motivated to Learn about Inventors and Inventions.* Paper presented at the 1993 International Technology Education Association International Conference, Charlotte, NC.

Ritz, John M., and Swail, Watson S. (1992*). Technology Assessment: Integrating Technology, People and the Environment.* Paper presented at the 1992 International Technology Education Association International Conference, Minneapolis, MN.