"Creating Campus Culture: What Works for Latina/o Student Success"
IOWA LATINA/O EDUCATION INITIATIVE CONFERENCE 2015 | 3

Conference Schedule Overview

8:00 am  Registration and Continental Breakfast

9:00 - 10:15  Opening Remarks | Main Conference Room
Dr. Larry Ebbers, Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Dr. Norma Perez-Kahler, Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA
Dr. Chris Duree, Iowa Valley Community College District, Marshalltown, IA

General Session
Developing a Culture of College Access and Success for Latin@ Students
Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick, Maricopa Community College District, Tempe, AZ

10:15 - 10:30  Break

10:30 - 11:30  General Session | Main Conference Room
Be the Key: Unlock the Potential of Diversity for Academic Success and Societal Renewal
Dr. Socorro Herrera, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

11:30 - 12:30  Lunch and Networking – Catered by Dos Rios, Des Moines, IA

12:30 - 1:15  Student Panel
Moderated by Dr. Lyn Brodersen, Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Guadalupe López, Des Moines Area Community College, Des Moines, IA
Esdras Murillo-Larios, Iowa State University, Ames, IA
Andres Rodriguez, Marshalltown Community College, Marshalltown, IA
Griselda Tello, North Iowa Area Community College, Mason City, IA

1:15 - 1:30  Break

1:30 - 2:30  General Session | Main Conference Room
Engaging Our Head, Heart, Hands, and Feet to Support Latin@ Student Success (and for the Betterment of Us All)
Diane Finnerty, University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

2:30 - 2:45  Break

2:45 - 3:45  Lightning Rounds | Best Practices: Iowa Student Success Programs
Facilitated by Dr. Robin Lilienthal, Marshalltown Community College, Marshalltown, IA

3:45 - 4:00  Closing Comments | Main Conference Room
Diane Finnerty, University of Iowa, Dr. Larry Ebbers, Dr. Michelle Robinson, Iowa State University,
Dr. Norma Perez-Kahler, Des Moines Area Community College
Featured Speakers:

Maria Harper-Marinick, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost
Maricopa Community Colleges

Maria Harper-Marinick, Ph.D., is Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost for the Maricopa Community College District. She works closely with the Chancellor to develop and implement the District’s strategic plan; lead initiatives to enhance access and increase student success; and build the stature and recognition of the District and its ten colleges locally, nationally, and internationally. Dr. Harper-Marinick also provides oversight for all areas within academic and student affairs; institutional effectiveness and research; university relations and transfer; grants development; high school to college pathways programs; workforce development; and small business development.

Dr. Harper-Marinick serves on several boards and councils including the federal Advisory Committee on Student Financial Assistance (Chair) by appointment of U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan; Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders (Chair); National Community College Hispanic Council (President-Elect); National Advisory Board for the Center for Community College Student Engagement (CCCSE); ETS National Community College Advisory Council; American Association for Community Colleges’ Commission on Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity; League for Innovation in the Community College; Corporate Voices Community College Advisory Board; Arizona Minority Education Policy Analysis Center (AMEPAC, Chair); Arizona Business and Education Coalition (ABEC); Arizona Public Engagement Task Force; Arizona’s College and Career Readiness Partnership; Morrison Institute for Public Policy’s Latino Public Policy Center Advisory Board; Morrison Institute for Public Policy’s CTE Advisory Committee; Arizona Women in Higher Education Executive Board; Arizona’s Latina Giving Circle; Florence Crittenton of Arizona Board; Girls Leadership Academy of Arizona Board; Arizona State University President’s University Council; and Arizona Superintendent for Public Instruction’s Higher Education Advisory Group.

From the Dominican Republic, Dr. Harper-Marinick came to Arizona State University as a Fulbright Scholar in 1982. She has authored scholarly articles and chapters and presented at national conferences.

Dr. Harper-Marinick has been the recipient of awards and recognitions, most recently she received the 2012 Victoria Foundation’s Alfredo de los Santos Service in Higher Education Award and the 2013 Arizona Diamondbacks Hispanic Community Leadership Award, and was selected as one of the 25 Most Influential Hispanic Business Leaders in Arizona by the AZ Business Magazine and one of the Valley’s Most Admired Leaders by the Phoenix Business Journal.

Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick enjoys travel, music, theater, dancing, and reading. She treasures the time spent with her husband Michael and her children John and Gabrielle.
Featured Speakers:

Socorro Herrera, Professor of Elementary Education
Kansas State University

Dr. Socorro Herrera serves as a professor of Elementary Education at Kansas State University and directs the Center for Intercultural and Multilingual Advocacy (CIMA) in the College of Education. Her K-12 teaching experience includes an emphasis on literacy development. Her research focuses on literacy opportunities with culturally and linguistically diverse students, reading strategies, and teacher preparation for diversity in the classroom.


Diane Finnerty, Assistant Provost for Faculty
University of Iowa

Diane Finnerty, M.S., currently serves as Assistant Provost for Faculty in the University of Iowa Office of the Provost and holds an adjunct faculty appointment in the UI School of Social Work. Diane has worked at UI in varying capacities since 1994, including serving as Director of Cultural Competence Initiatives and Director of Training at the School of Social Work’s National Resource Center for Family Centered Practice, and as Diversity Resources Coordinator in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Diversity. Diane has taught at the university on topics ranging from multiculturalism in higher education; discrimination, oppression and diversity; leadership in a diverse society; race/class/gender in the U.S.; international business; and study seminars on immigration and global economics in England and Mexico.

Prior to coming to the University, Diane worked in several community-based organizations, including the Emma Goldman Clinic for Women, the YWCA Sexual Assault Intervention Program, the Family Violence Center, and the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and has served on the Board of Directors for several community organizations. Diane has over twenty-five years’ experience working with individuals and organizations on issues of cultural competence, racial justice, immigration, LGBT identity, and alliance-building. Diane is a fifth generation Iowan of German-Irish descent, and brings a particular commitment to understanding issues of diversity and equity in a Midwestern context.
**Session Overview**

**General Sessions**

**Developing a Culture of College Access and Success for Latin@ Students**
Dr. Maria Harper-Marinick, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Maricopa Community College District

The session will present national issues that are or will be impacting the success of our Latin@ students including data related to access and equity, and will discuss conditions for student success, examples of promising Latino student success initiatives, and the role of community college leaders play in the success agenda.

**Be the Key: Unlock the Potential of Diversity for Academic Success and Societal Renewal**
Dr. Socorro Herrera, Professor of Elementary Education, Kansas State University

According to Brian Mitchell, retired president of Bucknell University, American colleges and universities must look more like the rest of America if they are to remain relevant in the 21st century. Accordingly, the linking of access in these centers of learning to diversity is essential and perhaps America’s best path to retrain its citizens for a postindustrial economy. Yet, increasing demographic diversity in society and in America’s Colleges challenges community college educators to better understand students’ cultural backgrounds, experiential biographies, needs, and potentials for excellence. This presentation will challenge community college educators to audit their own beliefs and assumptions – the first and fundamental step toward culturally responsive practices with diverse students and families. Participants will be asked to reflect on the meaning perspectives they hold about what is possible for culturally and linguistically diverse students, given current socio-political agendas. Participants will leave with tangible tools necessary to lead and create conditions in professional practice that are highly differentiated, academically potent, and culturally responsive.

**Engaging Our Head, Heart, Hands, and Feet to Support Latin@ Student Success (and for the Betterment of Us All)**
Diane Finnerty, Assistant Provost for Faculty, University of Iowa

In this presentation, Ms. Finnerty will explore actions each of us can take on- and off-campus to support Latin@ students success. We will discuss our individual and institutional motivations for caring about Latin@ students’ success, explore a model for assessing stages of development, and identify ways in which we can strengthen our efforts - regardless of where we are on the journey.
**Session Overview**

**Lightning Rounds**

**Al Éxito**
Marcela Hermosillo-Tarin, Education Consultant, Iowa Department of Education
Dawn Oropeza, Executive Director, Al Éxito

Al Éxito (AÉ) is Iowa’s only statewide organization that empowers Latinos to succeed in life and in Iowa by encouraging the pursuit of higher education through leadership training, mentorship, and afterschool/summer programs. AÉ motivates and prepares middle and high school Latinos to be successful in school and for post-high school education by engaging the students with successful adult leaders in their communities and additional academic experiences. AÉ also engages and informs Latino families about the importance of higher education for the success of their children and ultimately their community.

Al Éxito has developed key strategies to reach the organization’s goals. For each strategy, AÉ has developed asset-based curriculum and related program activities that preserve and respect cultural values/traditions while providing educational experiences in a safe environment. In doing so, Al Éxito enables Latino students and their families to visualize and plan for the future.

Al Éxito Programs Include:
- Afterschool Programming - Middle School and Movimiento High School Program
- Monthly Mentor and Leadership Programs
- Academic Support - Tutoring Sessions and Additional Educational Experiences
- College Awareness - Interactive Latino Student and Faculty Lead Experiences
- Parental Engagement Programs
- Latino Leadership Development

**IINSPIRE LSAMP**
Korey Kollasch, Ph.D. Student & Program Assistant for IINSPIRE-LSAMP, Iowa State University

The Iowa Illinois Nebraska STEM Partnership for Innovation in Research and Education (IINSPIRE) is an NSF LSAMP (Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation) alliance among 16 two-year and four-year colleges and universities working together to broaden the participation of underrepresented students in STEM education. We will achieve our goal by: 1) Focusing on transitions from high school and community colleges, 2) Implementing rigorous academic and research preparation, and 3) Providing student access to financial resources.

For more information:
www.iinspiresamp.iastate.edu
www.nsf.gov/LSAMP

Korey Kollasch is a second year PhD student in higher education at Iowa State University and is in his third year as a program assistant for IINSPIRE-LSAMP.

**Iowa 4-H Maize Retreat**
John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas, 4H Director, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach
Frank Dunn-Young, 4H Field Specialist, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach

Iowa 4-H is holding the first annual bilingual/multi-cultural retreat for youth entering grades 9th through 12th in the 2015-2016 school year. Maize is designed to tap into Latino and Native American culture, history and achievements as an entry point into the 4-H Program Priorities: Healthy Living, STEM, Citizenship and Leadership, and Communications and the Arts.
Session Overview

Lightning Rounds

Iowa Valley Community College District’s (IVCCD) Business Education Alliance: JBS Marshalltown Scholarship Program
Jennifer Wilson, IVCCD Education & Training Center Director
Dr. Chris Duree, IVCCD Chancellor

Student success for our immigrant populations often requires that we go outside of the traditional campus walls to make a positive impact. Learn how Iowa Valley Community College District played a leadership role in forming the Marshalltown Business Education Alliance, leveraged multiple community resources to secure an ESL scholarship program for all non-English speaking employees at a local pork processing plant, and provided services to nearly 100 of their employees in the first year of implementation.

Latino Family Night at Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Urban Campus
Dr. Norma Pérez-Kahler, Director of TRIO-Student Support Services, Des Moines Area Community College Urban Campus

After last year’s Iowa Latina/o Education Initiative Conference, a group of administrators, faculty and staff from DMACC-Urban Campus who attended the conference gathered to discuss takeaways and best practices. One of the topics surrounding our conversation was how to foster dialogue with the Hispanic community and bring them to campus to show them the education opportunities our institution has to offer – from improving their English-language skills, to entering the educational workforce, to continuing their higher education.

Research shows that Latino students and families value education, and that family is central to this community and to its decision-making processes. Therefore, we decided to invite the whole family to visit our campus to learn firsthand what DMACC has to offer each member of the family, and the Latino Family Night at DMACC Urban Campus was born! While we wanted the Hispanic community to get acquainted with DMACC, this event was developed with the goal of assisting Latino students and their families to prepare for and graduate from college.

The outcomes have surpassed our initial objectives: these Family Nights draw over a hundred Spanish-speaking students and their families to learn about the typical education journey with a focus on starting at a community college. To ensure everyone would feel welcomed and get the most of all information, the event is totally bilingual (Spanish/English). Students and their families meet college representatives and students and become familiar with college and community resources that support college readiness. Highlights of Latino Family Night at DMACC Urban Campus include: a scholarship raffle, bilingual materials, step-by-step application procedures, financial aid information, a student panel, childcare with bilingual activities, and much more.

Marshalltown Education Partnership: An Early-Access College Program for First Generation, Low Income Students
Marisol Aguero, MEP Program Coordinator, Marshalltown Community College
Nate Chua, Director of Retention and Learning Services, Marshalltown Community College

Marshalltown Education Partnership (MEP) is a community and college partnership that creates a culture of support and expectation of success for first generation, low income Marshalltown High School students. The program focuses on topics related to academic success and college access during high school which results in a half-tuition scholarship to Marshalltown Community College for those participants who qualify. MEP students at MCC receive additional support to ensure their success and completion. We will share best practices for working with first generation, low income students and answer questions about the lessons learned during the 10-year history of the MEP program.
Session Overview

Lightning Rounds

**North Iowa Area Community College (NIACC) Dream Scholar Award**
Valeria Gonzalez, Bilingual Enrollment Advisor & Success Coach for Diverse Populations, North Iowa Area Community College

This lightning round will highlight the process of creating a $3,500 scholarship for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) students to attend NIACC. We will also outline the application process and requirements for the scholarship. In addition, we will discuss community outreach strategies and relationship building within the region.

**Northwest Iowa Community College: Latino Community Events**
Norma Azpeitia, Bilingual Career Pathway Navigator/Academic Specialist, Northwest Iowa Community College

In the last few years, Sioux County Iowa has seen an increase of Latino families not only in the school districts but in our ESL and HSED programs. As part of a recruitment initiative, the Admissions Office at Northwest Iowa Community College (NCC) hosted a series of Latino Community Meetings. The community meetings were a joint effort with the Adult Literacy Program and were held in conjunction with NCC ESL/HSED classes. The presentations were all in Spanish and open to the public. The guests learned about opportunities in higher education, financial aid and scholarship opportunities at NCC. Our goal was to promote our credit and non-credit courses to the HSED students. In addition, we also wanted to share the information with other parents that may have children in our area high schools. The community events provided a great opportunity for NCC to build relationships with the Latino Community.

**Student Panel**

**Guadalupe López, Des Moines Area Community College**

Guadalupe López is a student at Des Moines Area Community College majoring in Business Administration. Guadalupe, an Iowan, has family origins in Oaxaca Mexico.

Guadalupe is currently the President of the Student Activities Council, Secretary and Former President of the Latino Student Club, and member of the International Club. Guadalupe plans to transfer to a university and pursue a degree in international business.

**Esdras Murillo-Larios, Iowa State University**

Esdras Misael Murillo is a Senior in Electrical Engineering at Iowa State University and graduate of Des Moines Area Community College. Esdras is currently working as a Research assistant in Energy Utilization at ISU with Professor Ulrike Passe. Esdras plans to work on modeling and understanding energy production and management from renewables such as wind, solar and others.

**Andres Rodriguez, Marshalltown Community College**

Andres Rodriguez, a native of San Bernardino, California attended Marshalltown High School. Andres is currently a student at Marshalltown Community College and is on the Dean’s List. Andres is an active student who is a member of the Student Senate, Student Activity Counsel VP and Education Partnership (MEP).

**Griselda Tello, North Iowa Area Community College**

Griselda Tello is a student at North Iowa Area Community College. She graduated with her AA in 2014 from NIACC and is currently a second year nursing student. She was one of three privileged DACA students to receive the 2014-2015 Dream Scholar Award. After graduating with an ADN degree she plans on working full-time as a nurse while continuing her education towards a bachelor’s degree.
Conference Notes
Sponsors

Iowa State University:
Office of the President, The Community College Leadership Program,
School of Education, College of Human Sciences, ISU Extension and Outreach,
Iowa Valley Community College District and Des Moines Area Community College

Iowa Latina/o Education Initiative Program Planning Committee

Norma Azpeitia, Northwest Iowa Community College
Dr. Lyn Brodersen, Iowa State University
Nancy Camarillo, Iowa State University
Tabatha Cruz, Iowa State University
Dr. Chris Duree, Iowa Valley Community College District
Dr. Larry Ebbers, Iowa State University
Dr. Teresa Garcia, Southeastern Community College
Val Gonzalez, North Iowa Area Community College
Marcela Hermosillo-Tarin, Iowa Department of Education
Joan Jaimes, Marshalltown IA
Barb Jennings, Iowa Valley Community College District
Korey Kollasch, Iowa State University
Dr. Robin Lilienthal, Marshalltown Community College
Dr. Norma Perez-Kahler, Des Moines Area Community College
Dr. Sarah Rodriguez, Iowa State University

Dr. Michelle Robinson, Conference Coordinator, Iowa State University

Event Caterer

Dos Rios Restaurant, Des Moines, IA
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