

September 8th, 2021

12:00 pm – 1:30pm

Register in Advance [Here](#)

Title: The Current and Future State of HSIs

As the numbers of Latino college students increases, the role of HSIs and their potential is important. This session will share analysis from more than 25 years of federal investment and the current state of HSIs. Speakers will address the road ahead and the potential for colleges and universities to move from a focus on enrolling to intentionally serving Latino students, and all students.

Speaker Biographies

Sarita E. Brown

Sarita E. Brown is Co-Founder & President of Excelencia in Education. A recognized leader and advocate for equity in higher education, she began her career at the University of Texas at Austin, where she built a national model for increasing the number of students of color in graduate education and in the academy. Once in Washington, DC, Sarita served in leadership roles in higher education associations, at American University and the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute. She was appointed as the Executive Director of the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans during the Clinton Administration.

As Excelencia's President, Sarita is responsible for the vision and governance of the organization, working with the Board of Directors to communicate with stakeholders and identify forward-thinking partners, funders and investors to support Excelencia's mission. With over 30 years of experience catalyzing and supporting higher educational institutions and leaders to address equity, she applies her skills and energies to expanding Presidents for Latino Student Success, Excelencia's national network of college and university leaders who have committed to making their institutions learning environments where Latino students thrive. For more information, please see <https://www.edexcelencia.org/bio-Sarita-Brown>.

Deborah A. Santiago

Deborah A. Santiago is the Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Excelencia in Education. Known nationally as an innovator, thought leader, and educational visionary, she has researched and identified evidence-based practices and strategies to intentionally serve Latino students for more than 20 years. She has held leadership positions with education organizations around the country, including the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans and the Los Angeles Alliance for Student Achievement.

As CEO, Deborah is responsible for operations and resources for the organization and leads Excelencia's efforts to expand and leverage community-informed research in improving educational opportunities for students, working directly with education leaders, and informing campus practices as well as state and federal policies. Driven by a deep desire to advance asset-based, student-centered understanding of the needs and opportunities for the Latino community, Deborah is a sought-after speaker about equity in higher education and her work has been cited in numerous publications, including The New York Times, The Washington Post, The Economist, and The Chronicle of Higher Education. For more information, please see <https://www.edexcelencia.org/bio-Deborah-Santiago>.