



HACU Town Hall: “Re-Engineering Higher Education”

Mon., Oct. 31, 3:30 - 5 p.m.

Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center
Room 007 BCD – River Level

Join us for a town hall taking place during HACU’s 25th Annual Conference, where panelists will address the future of higher education in a discussion surrounding “Re-Engineering Higher Education.”

As the nation is called to respond to a national goal to make the U.S. number one in degree attainment, a demand exists to increase the proportion of American adults receiving degrees by the year 2020. Yet, the rising costs of education in recent years, coupled with the impact of the recession on families and on state budgets have created a risk of a higher education “bubble” that may result in higher education’s pricing itself out of a middle class market. Higher education must also be prepared to address changes in a diverse student population, and explore its role in the increasing need for remediation for entering college students and the lack of career readiness among graduates.

The town hall will aim to address the following questions:

1. Can we improve the quality and efficiencies of higher education in a way which results in a lower cost to students and taxpayers?
2. Can we increase access and success for the current and next generation of new and increasingly diverse students?
3. Can a current higher education model adequately address these issues, or is a new model required?

The event will include expert panelists:

- **Francisco G. Cigarroa**, M.D.: Chancellor, The University of Texas System; member, President’s Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics.
- **Congressman Rubén Hinojosa** (D-TX): U.S. Representative of the 15th District of Texas and Ranking Member of the House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.
- **Elizabeth R. Gutierrez**, Ph.D.: Director of State Policy, Lumina Foundation for Education.
- **Moderator – Lena T. Rodriguez**, Ph.D.: Chief Marketing and Development Officer of the Urban Entrepreneur Partnership Inc (UEP), a program of the Kauffman Foundation.