



Keynote Speakers' Addresses and Workshop Presentations

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION – “Resources for HSIs: Building Engagement with the Fulbright Program”

Presented in English

8:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Room: Laguna 1 & 2

HSIs are uniquely positioned to be excellent partners with the Fulbright Program. Fulbright awards for faculty and students, Scholar-In-Residence awards for institutions and Outreach Lecturing Fund visits are three excellent ways to engage internationally.

Presenter:

Michelle Bolourchi
Outreach & Recruitment Specialist
Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program
Institute of International Education
Washington, District of Columbia
USA

PRE-CONFERENCE SESSION – “The HSI Program at the National Science Foundation (NSF)”

Presented in English

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Room: Laguna 1 & 2

Presenters will discuss NSF Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI Program). The HSI Program focuses on enhancing the quality of undergraduate STEM education at HSIs and seeks to increase the retention and graduation rates of students pursuing associate or baccalaureate degrees in STEM. In addition, the HSI Program seeks to build capacity at HSIs that typically do not receive high levels of NSF grant funding.

Presenters:

Dr. Ellen Carpenter
Program Director
Division of Undergraduate Education
National Science Foundation
Alexandria, Virginia
USA

Dr. Minerva Cordero
Program Director, ADVANCE and HSI Programs
National Science Foundation
Alexandria, Virginia
USA

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Plenary Session I – “Disaster Preparedness, Vulnerability and Resiliency: The Role of Colleges and Universities”

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

San Juan Ballroom 1 – 4

Speakers:

Dr. Havidán Rodríguez
President
University at Albany, SUNY
Albany, New York
USA

[Prof. Wilma Santiago-Gabreilini](#)

Acting chancellor
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
USA

[Dr. Jorge A. Vanegas](#)

Dean
Texas A&M University System
College Station, Texas
USA

Moderator:

Diana Z. Rodriguez
President
San Bernardino Valley College
San Bernardino, California
USA

Concurrent Sessions (1–6)

Session 1

Thursday, May 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

[“Universities as Agents of Change in Disasters for Sustainable Transitions”](#)

Presented in English and Spanish

Room: Laguna 1

Extreme weather events are windows of opportunities for major transformations towards sustainable futures. This panel focuses on the role of universities in enhancing resilience at the community, regional and national levels. We will present the experiences of UPR's National Institute for Energy and Island Sustainability before, during and after Hurricane María, and introduce the RISE network as a national adaptive learning institution. Ethical issues of universities' involvement in post-disaster environments will also be discussed.

Presenters:

Dr. Marla Pérez-Lugo
Professor of Sociology
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Cecilio Ortiz García
Professor of Political Science
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Fernando Rivera
Associate Professor of Sociology
University of Central Florida
Orlando, Florida
USA

Session 2

Thursday, May 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

[“Recovering From an Earthquake: The Case of CETYS University”](#)

Presented in English

Room: Laguna 2

This session will review the actions taken by CETYS University in the aftermath of the earthquake that hit Mexico's northwest in 2010, and how CETYS' Mexicali campus was able to resume normal activities within three weeks. The session will provide an in-depth look at the effects on the campus' infrastructure and master plan, the President and top leadership's actions and response, and the role of the Governing Board in an extreme event such as an earthquake.

Presenter:

Dr. Scott Venezia
Chief Internationalization Officer
CETYS University System
Mexicali, Baja California
México

Session 3

Thursday, May 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

[“Development and Implementation of Academic strategies to Reinstate Classes after a Natural Disaster”](#)

Presented in English and Spanish

Room: Bahía 1

[\(Description of the presentation\)](#)

Three chancellors from the Universidad Ana G. Méndez share their experiences regarding the development and implementation of academic strategies in order to reinstate classes after a natural disaster. During this presentation the panelists will provide an overview of the challenges that they faced after Hurricane María impacted their respective campuses. As a result of the experiences, the panelists will illustrate how their students were able to complete the semester. At the same time, professors were challenged to modify their courses and the course evaluation methods.

Presenters:

Dr. David Méndez
Chancellor
Ana G. Méndez University, Gurabo
Gurabo, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Mildred Huertas Sola
Chancellor
Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina
Carolina, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Carlos Padín Bibiloni
Chancellor
Ana G. Méndez University, Cupey
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Thursday, May 2, 2019

Session 4

Thursday, May 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

[“International Student-Scientist Partnerships: Investigating Tropical Hurricane Disturbance in Western Mexico”](#)

Presented in English

Room: Bahía 2

Tropical storms are becoming stronger as global temperatures rise due to climate change. We describe a Latinx, student-centered program that creates future international leaders by developing training partnerships between American and Mexican scientists. Functioning with support from the National Science Foundation (NSF), our team brings together American students and Mexican scientists to investigate the response of an endangered tropical dry forest to category 5 hurricane Patricia that struck coastal Jalisco, Mexico in October 2015.

Presenters:

Dr. Daniel Beck
Professor of Biology, Program Director, Center of Latino and Latin American Studies
Central Washington University
Ellensburg, Washington
USA

Samuel J. Gutiérrez
Latinx Student, Biology, & Anthropology: Brother 2 Brother President
Central Washington University
Ellensburg, Washington
USA

Session 5

Thursday, May 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

[“Beyond Canned Foods: Using High-Impact Practices for Sustained Disaster Relief”](#)

Presented in English

Room: San Cristóbal

Following climate-related crises, students have the desire to contribute but efforts wane as impacts of the crises fade from media coverage. Universities can serve as a force for social change through implementation of high-impact practices (Kuh, 2008) to facilitate longer-term engagement with disaster relief efforts. In this session, the authors present an example of how living-learning programs can leverage service-learning to develop more robust responses to climate-related disasters in both the short- and long-term.

Presenters:

Dr. Julie Parenteau
Global Village Director
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, North Carolina
USA

Dr. Anna Patton
Impact Leadership Village Director
North Carolina State University
Raleigh, North Carolina
USA

Session 6

Thursday, May 2, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“Routine, Novel, Emergent – A Renaissance Movement toward Resiliency”

Presented in English

Room: San Gerónimo

Resiliency starts with being able to identify and plan for the expected and the unexpected. Successfully responding to and managing large-scale crisis depend on an organization's ability to identify the routine, the novel and the emergent. A renaissance of learning from our failures will best prepare us for the future. This presentation will look at how urban universities in particular can learn from past events to anticipate and respond to future events more effectively.

Presenters:

Dr. Aaron Aska
Chief Operating Officer
New Jersey City University
Jersey City, New Jersey
USA

Dr. Ron Hurley
Associate Vice President of Public Safety
New Jersey City University
Jersey City, New Jersey
USA

Lunch (Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) Puerto Rico – Presentation)

Thursday, May 2, 2019

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

San Juan Ballroom 1 – 4

Speakers:

Daniel Whittle
Senior Attorney/Senior Director
Oceans and Clean Energy Programs
Environmental Defense Fund
Raleigh, North Carolina
USA

Agustín F. Carbó
Senior Manager in the Energy Program
Environmental Defense Fund
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Convener:

Prof. Agnes Mojica
Chancellor
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Germán
San Germán, Puerto Rico
USA

Concurrent Sessions (7–12)

Session 7

Thursday, May 2, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“Providing a Safe Campus After a Disaster”

Presented in English

Room: Laguna 1

The findings and lessons learned after hurricane María provided Universidad Ana G. Méndez, Recinto de Cupey (previously Universidad Metropolitana) with enough information to establish the UMET Safe Campus project. Its goals are to: strengthen the infrastructure of UAGM's campuses; provide students with information and supplies to be prepared for future emergencies; deliver students with strategies to cope with issues related to emergencies and their aftermath so that they are able to complete their degrees; and develop a sustainable and innovative initiative that links the attainment of basic students' needs with General Education Competencies.

Presenters:

Dr. Roxanna Domenech-Cruz
Associate Dean, Humanities
Ana G. Méndez University, Cupey
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Karen González-Charneco
Dean of the School of Science, Technology and the Environment
Ana G. Méndez University, Cupey
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Session 8

Thursday, May 2, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“Bouncing Back from an Emergency: A Coordinated Effort”

Presented in English

Room: Laguna 2

In moments of uncertainty, a coordinated response can help higher education institutions deal with an emergency. Using a proactive approach, universities can educate individuals and groups to minimize the impact of emergencies. Higher education institutions need to delineate roles, responsibilities and procedures for academic units, staff, and students. Similarly, universities and colleges can be pioneers in their communities by working closely with local, national, and international agencies to effectively address emergencies.

Presenters:

Dr. Yuleinys A. Castillo
Assistant Professor
Stephen F. Austin State University
Nacogdoches, Texas
USA

Dr. Suzanne Maniss
Associate Professor/Chair – Department of Counseling
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
Edinburg, Texas
USA

Session 9

Thursday, May 2, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“Collaborative Research on Resilient Infrastructure and Sustainability Education”

Presented in Spanish

Room: Bahía 1

(Description of the presentation)

This NSF funded project is a collaborative effort between Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) to develop an interdisciplinary program in resilient and sustainable infrastructure. This academic program rests on an undergraduate curricular sequence that provides the intellectual and practical academic spaces to educate students through real life case studies research and by exposing them to hands-on solutions for real problems/projects in real practice settings.

Presenters:

Dr. Carla López del Puerto
Associate Professor
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Humberto Cavallin
Professor
University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras
Río Piedras, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Canny Bellido
Professor
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Oscar Marcelo Suárez Professor
University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
Mayagüez, Puerto Rico
USA

Session 10
Thursday, May 2, 2019
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“Strengthening and Empowering Students for Community Resilience”

Presented in English
Room: Bahía 2

Santa Fe Community College's (SFCC) renewable energy assets, green training programs and its commitment to sustainable economic development serves as a model for local climate change action. This workshop will explore how an organization can address food, water, and energy solutions for local community resiliency.

Presenters:

Dr. Camilla Bustamante
Dean, School of Trades, Advanced Technologies
Santa Fe Community College
Santa Fe, New Mexico
USA

Dr. Stephen M. Gómez
Chair, Trades and Advanced Technologies
Santa Fe Community College
Santa Fe, New Mexico
USA

Charlie Shultz
Lead Faculty
Controlled Environment Agriculture
Santa Fe Community College
Santa Fe, New Mexico
USA

Luke Spangenburg
Director of Biofuels, Center of Excellence, Training Center Corporation
Santa Fe Community College
Santa Fe, New Mexico
USA

Session 11
Thursday, May 2, 2019
3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

“Social Change through Internationalization in New Mexico, Spain and Costa Rica”

Presented in English and Spanish
Room: San Cristóbal

This presentation highlights the way in which universities can collaborate to support social change through international student mobility and programs. Creative programming that includes community service learning and scholarship funding from government and social organizations mobilize students and faculty. As we face challenges with geo-political and global economic issues, the role of universities to support international collaboration is critical to support the social change necessary to promote the union of our countries and our people.

Presenters:

[The University of New Mexico Presentation](#)

Dr. Paul Edmunds

Director, Center for English Language and American Culture (CELAC), Associate Director, Global Education Office
The University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
USA

Dr. Eliseo "Cheo" Torres

Vice President for Student Affairs
The University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico
USA

[Elizabeth Rodríguez](#)

Global Education Director
Universidad de Iberoamérica (UNIBE)
San José, San José
Costa Rica

[Dr. Marta Walliser](#)

Director
Infinite Spur
Madrid, Madrid
Spain

Session 12

Thursday, May 2, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

[“Crisis Preparation at Home and Abroad – A Dual Approach”](#)

Presented in English

Room: San Gerónimo

This panel will discuss some best practices for crisis preparation for highly internationalized campuses. Crises that arise can impact a full campus, groups on campus or groups off campus. We will explore many of the best practices used to mitigate as well as manage crises impacting various groups like international students, study abroad groups and individuals, as well as the campus at large.

Presenter:

Jack Hobson

Sr. Director

California State University, Fullerton

Fullerton, California

USA

Friday, May 3, 2019

Plenary Session II – “Crisis Management & Emergency Preparedness – What Federal Agencies and NGOs Want you to Know”

9:00 – 10:30 a.m.

San Juan Ballroom 1 – 4

Speakers:

[Lee Vanessa Feliciano Márquez](#)

[\(Video Hurricane María\)](#) – [\(Video Recovery\)](#)

Regional Executive

American Red Cross, Caribbean Region

San Juan, Puerto Rico

USA

[Dr. Irma A. Lawrence](#)

National Program Leader

National Institute of Food and Agriculture

DOCE/NIFA/USDA

Washington, District of Columbia

USA

[Orlando Olivera](#)

Capacity Building Sector Director

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

San Juan, Puerto Rico

USA

Moderator:

Dr. Monte E. Pérez

President

Los Angeles Mission College

Sylmar, California

USA

Concurrent Sessions (13–18)

Session 13

Friday, May 3, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“Hurricane María: The Impact on Small Businesses in Puerto Rico”

Presented in Spanish

Room: Laguna 1

This session will present a summary of Puerto Rico's economy before and after the impact of Hurricane María and how this meteorological event affected small businesses. After the disaster, business operations were damaged both physically and economically and this created a great challenge for business owners to continue their operations. The small businesses generate a big impact on the economy of Puerto Rico.

Presenters:

Brenda Rodríguez Galarza

Regional Director of SBTDC (Small Business & Technology Development Center)

Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Germán

San Germán, Puerto Rico

USA

Félix J. Saez Febles
Business Advisor
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Germán
San Germán, Puerto Rico
USA

Prof. Agnes Mojica Comas
Chancellor
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, San Germán
San Germán, Puerto Rico
USA

Session 14
Friday, May 3, 2019
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“ACUP Promotes Education as the Primary Tool for Recovery”

Presented in Spanish
Room: Laguna 2

After the impact by Hurricane María and the challenges facing Puerto Rico, such as: the economic and fiscal crisis, a weak socioeconomic development and ongoing migration, the Association of Private Colleges and Universities of Puerto Rico (ACUP), through its leadership, emphasizes that through education recovery will be achieved and give way to a prosperous nation. ACUP shares its vision for collaboration as well as various actions to promote a favorable economy.

Presenters:

Dr. Carmen J. Cividanes-Lago
Executive Director
Association of Private Colleges and Universities of Puerto Rico (ACUP)
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Obed Jiménez-Vélez
President ACUP & President Antillean Adventist University
Association of Private Colleges and Universities of Puerto Rico (ACUP) and Antillean Adventist University
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Gladys T. Nieves-Vázquez
First Vice President ACUP & President EDP University
Association of Private Colleges and Universities of Puerto Rico (ACUP) and EDP University
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Manuel J. Fernós López-Cepero
President Standing Committee on Legislation ACUP & President Inter American University of Puerto Rico
Association of Private Colleges and Universities of Puerto Rico (ACUP) and Inter American University of Puerto Rico
San Juan, Puerto Rico
USA

Session 15
Friday, May 3, 2019
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“Student and Staff Outreach Following Hurricane Harvey”

Presented in English
Room: Bahía 1

The University of Houston, Downtown (UHD) Scholars Academy noticed the needs of its undergraduate students through their non-attendance (physically and online), mainly from the lack of internet, electrical, and phone services. Our academic unit followed the lead of our President Juan Muñoz who asked the question "How is everyone in your unit?". Status checks were through text-outs, phone trees and social media. Academics rearranged content, due dates, and flexed on assignment submissions. Many of the modifications exist today well after the Harvey experience.

Presenter:

Dr. Mary Jo Parker
Executive Director Scholars Academy/ National Science Faculty
University of Houston-Downtown
Houston, Texas
USA

Session 16
Friday, May 3, 2019
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“Institutions of Higher Education and their Research about Climate Change”

Presented in Spanish
Room: Bahía 2
([Brochure](#))

Agreements related to climate change include the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement. Colombia is an example of how to apply Article 6 of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), through ambitious policies and plans aimed at educating its population. Small and poor countries do not have the capacity to develop high-level research that contributes to minimizing climate change because they lack high-level academic researchers and the technological infrastructure.

Presenter:

Elsy Escolar SantoDomingo
Chancellor
Escuela Especializada en Ingeniería ITCA-FEPADE
Santa Tecla, La Libertad
El Salvador

Session 17
Friday, May 3, 2019
11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

“Hurricane María: Our Experience and How we Adapted, Prepared and Bounced Back”

Presented in Spanish
Room: San Cristóbal

The Interamerican University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla Campus implemented several recovery strategies after Hurricane María along with a plan to deal with future emergencies. This presentation shows what resulted from the university's administration experience in facing this emergency and encourages the development of recommendations that include input from the audience. The intent is to develop strategies that are applicable to the planning for emergencies and natural disasters for the welfare of the students.

Presenter:

Dr. Rubén Hernández
Assistant Profesor
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Aguadilla
Aguadilla, Puerto Rico
USA

Session 18

Friday, May 3, 2019

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**“Interamerican University of Puerto Rico (INTER) in the Wake of the Crisis Post-Hurricane María:
Initiatives in Support of the Community and Ecology.”**

Presented in Spanish

Room: San Gerónimo

This session will discuss the initiatives and efforts undertaken by the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico (INTER) in the wake of the crisis caused by Hurricane María on September 20, 2017. Highlighted will be the planning and development of strategies to support low-income sectors impacted by this atmospheric phenomenon in the areas that serve the Barranquitas and Guayama campuses. The projects that will be emphasized will be those that address the agricultural and energy crisis

Presenters:

Dr. Juan A. Negrón Berríos
Chancellor
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Barranquitas
Barranquitas, Puerto Rico
USA

Dr. Angela De Jesús
Chancellor
Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Guayama
Guayama, Puerto Rico
USA