



HACU

HISPANIC
ASSOCIATION
OF COLLEGES &
UNIVERSITIES

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THE VOICE

OF HISPANIC HIGHER EDUCATION



**Hispanics and the
Higher Education Act
Message from the President**

EARLY REGISTRATION DEADLINE NEARS FOR 16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

■ The “Early Bird” Registration deadline is July 28 for HACU’s 16th Annual Conference Oct. 26-29 in Denver, Colorado. More than 1,500 educators, administrators, advocates, public policy makers and corporate, community and student leaders are expected to attend the conference. The conference theme is “Hispanic Empowerment: America’s Key to Prosperity.” This year’s conference will feature the latest trends, research and issues of importance to Hispanic higher education, with daily workshops, plenary sessions, professional networking opportunities, career fairs and a lively Town Hall meeting. For more information and registration forms, visit www.hacu.net.

NURSING PROGRAM HONORED

■ An innovative Accelerated Evening and Weekend Nursing Program at HACU associate member Grossmont College in California has won a prestigious Student Success Award from the Board of Governors and Chancellor’s Office of the California Community Colleges. Grossmont’s program addressed a chronic shortage of nurses in Southern California by creating an accelerated program of instruction presented during hours that are non-traditional, but well suited to the nursing profession: nights and weekends. Other innovative elements of the program include a funding partnership with the Grossmont Healthcare District and a year-round schedule for clinical and classroom components that enable students to complete the RN (Registered Nurse) program in 18 months.

HELP FOR CAREGIVERS

■ HACU member Santa Monica College, in partnership with California’s WISE Senior Services programs, will launch a pilot educational program, dubbed “WISE Care 4 Caregivers.” The pilot project will provide free classes to long-term home caregivers in Los Angeles County that will include such topics as stress reduction techniques and computer online research skills. The educational component will be administered by Santa Monica College’s Emeritus College, which offers classes and special programs for older adults. “This is a unique and much-needed program for an often overlooked group of people,” said Maggie Hall, associate dean of Santa Monica College’s Emeritus College. “It’s going to be even more important as baby boomers get older and need care.”

HACR WELCOMES CHCI

■ The Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility (HACR) welcomed the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI) as a new member of the HACR Coalition. Congressman Silvestre Reyes of Texas, chair of CHCI and chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, will serve on the HACR board of directors. “The CHCI is proud to be an official partner in HACR’s exemplary efforts to ensure there is equitable Hispanic representation at all levels in Corporate America,” Reyes said. HACU President and CEO Antonio Flores is Vice Chair of HACR, a coalition of the nation’s largest Hispanic organizations.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

■ The University of New Mexico has been awarded an \$87,000 grant to help prepare students for careers in economic and community development. The HACU member university received the funds through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Community Work Study Program. The program was designed to offer financial assistance and work experience to minority and economically disadvantaged students enrolled in graduate community development programs, or closely related programs such as urban planning, public policy or public administration.

COMPUTERS ON CAMPUS

■ Beginning in the fall of 2002, every incoming freshman at HACU member St. Mary’s University in San Antonio will receive a wireless-ready Dell notebook computer. St. Mary’s University is the first undergraduate institution in San Antonio to offer a Dell University Honors Program funded by Texas-based Dell Computer Corp. As part of the honors program, Dell also will be providing training, on-site depot repair services and support.

DISTANCE EDUCATION

■ New Mexico State University is using distance education tools to teach Boeing Inc. employees the latest developments in engineering. For the last five years, the HACU member university has offered master’s degrees in industrial or mechanical engineering to Boeing employees through the company’s training centers in California, Washington, Texas and Tennessee. New Mexico State is able to deliver its instruction at Boeing’s training centers. In addition, it provides the lectures in a variety of media – cassette tapes, CDs, DVDs or as downloadable presentations on the Internet.

OVERVIEW

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

HACU’s 16th Annual Conference
October 26-29, 2002
The Adam’s Mark Hotel, Denver, CO
To register: visit www.hacu.net

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ABOUT HACU

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities represents more than 318 member and associate member colleges and universities in the United States, Puerto Rico and abroad with high Hispanic student enrollment rates — including federally designated Hispanic-Serving Institutions. HACU's mission is to improve access to and the quality of post-secondary educational opportunities for Hispanic students; to meet the needs of business, industry and government through the development and sharing of resources, information and expertise; and to promote the development and success of member and associate member colleges and universities.

By Antonio R. Flores,
President and CEO



HACU is shaping a compelling agenda for Congress and the nation that will call for critically needed increases in funding and program support for Hispanic higher education within the legislative language of the Higher Education Act (HEA). With Congress due to vote on reauthorization of the HEA next year, HACU is aggressively pursuing efforts now to most effectively address the college and career needs of our nation's youngest and largest ethnic population.

This spring, a series of dynamic HEA Focus Group Meetings with HACU-member higher education institutions produced a wide-ranging series of proposals that will be incorporated into HACU's HEA Reauthorization Agenda for Congress.

HACU is indebted to the stellar leadership of the University of Texas at San Antonio, California State University at Fullerton, Miami-Dade Community College's Inter American Campus, Northeastern Illinois University, University of the Sacred Heart in Puerto Rico and Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York for co-hosting these important regional meetings that will benefit all of us in the year ahead.

HACU thanks Congressman Ciro Rodriguez and representatives of other members of Congress who also actively participated at these crucial meetings.

HACU also is grateful for the support of all leaders and allies of HACU member and partner higher education institutions who participated in an earlier national survey on issues of importance to the reauthorization process.

Strikingly, student financial aid issues were of paramount importance to survey respondents, with 91 percent listing financial aid issues as the foremost of three top arenas they believe should be addressed in Reauthorization of the HEA.

Strengthening the higher education pipeline comprised the second and third highest priorities: with 56 percent of respondents agreeing that strengthening the two-year to four-year higher education institutional transfer process was a top priority, and 53 percent stating that articulation between K-12 systems and higher education systems in general was a top priority.

More than 60 percent of those surveyed by HACU stated that the limited

availability of resources to supplement existing financial aid programs has become a critical factor impacting Hispanic student enrollment. Fifty-seven percent of respondents listed family financial obligations as the second most significant financial obstacle.

One financial aid issue that has dominated discussions, surveys and focus group meetings is the continuing decline of available direct federal grants versus expensive student loans now available to all higher education students. For Hispanics, this issue is a key contributing factor to comparatively low college completion rates.

Of those Hispanic higher education leaders surveyed by HACU, 79 percent ranked the need to provide greater support from Pell Grants and other direct financial aid as imperative in addressing HEA reauthorization. Sixty percent also believe greater availability of scholarships, assistantships and fellowships will substantially increase Hispanic higher education retention and graduation rates.

Compounding the challenge of low Hispanic undergraduate completion rates is the corresponding lack of Hispanics obtaining advanced degrees. More than half (55 percent) of respondents to the HACU survey believe higher education systems are doing little to attract, enroll and graduate Hispanic students in advanced and professional degree programs. Fifty-six percent believe federal incentives should be provided to colleges and universities that increase minority enrollment and graduation rates in graduate and professional programs.

The HACU survey and HEA Focus Group Meetings provided HACU important tools to ultimately create a HEA Reauthorization Agenda that will best address concerns raised by administrators and staff at our member and partner institutions.

Just as imperative to this process is grass roots participation from every one of our member and partner institutions, allies and supporters at HEA panel sessions at HACU's 16th Annual Conference, scheduled October 26-29 in Denver, Colorado. Record attendance at this impactful national platform for Hispanic higher education is expected from higher education, corporate, community, government agency and student leaders, and national public policy makers.

MERRILL LYNCH, CONGRESSMAN BECERRA HONORED

More than 50 congressional, corporate and educational leaders from Southern California gathered in Los Angeles recently to honor Congressman Xavier Becerra of Los Angeles and Merrill Lynch for their support of higher education institutions serving large numbers of Hispanic students.

Merrill Lynch was honored for its long time support of higher education, including a \$25,000 contribution presented to HACU for a new college scholarship program.

“Merrill Lynch is proud to support young people who are attending colleges and universities and gaining the knowledge necessary to succeed in the 21st century,” said Michael Salazar, a financial advisor in California for Merrill Lynch. “This grant represents an investment in our community and its future.”

Congressman Becerra, a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, also was honored at the HACU-sponsored luncheon for his leadership in gaining federal recognition and funding for higher education institutions serving Hispanic students. The event was hosted by HACU member California State University at Los Angeles.

“Congressman Xavier Becerra has been a tireless supporter of Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) before Congress,” said HACU President and CEO Antonio Flores. “From the initial recognition of the importance of these institutions in the Higher Education Act to the on-going effort to secure adequate funding, Congressman Becerra has been a good friend to HACU and to the schools and students we serve,” Flores said.

Merrill Lynch has provided leadership to Wall Street firms in California by implementing its California Partnership for



Michael Salazar of Merrill Lynch (left) at the formal presentation of a contribution from Merrill Lynch to HACU President and CEO Antonio Flores for HACU.

Economic Achievement. The program has committed nearly a quarter billion dollars to promote economic opportunities in traditionally underserved communities in California.

The program, a joint effort with The Greenlining Institute and local community organizations, seeks to expand Merrill Lynch's efforts to promote entrepreneurship and economic development in historically under-served communities.

Sixty-eight California colleges and universities are HACU member HSIs, and an additional 26 California higher education institutions are HACU associate member campuses. Fifty California HSIs have received more than \$27 million under Title V of the Higher Education Act over just the last three years.

HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTE RECEIVES ETHICS AWARD

The Human Rights Institute at HACU member St. Thomas University in Miami, Florida, received the 2001 ARETE Award for Program of the Year from the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics & Public Trust. The award is made each year to a program demonstrating evidence of good governance through ethical leadership, integrity and accountability.

The Human Rights Institute was created in 1992 as a demonstration of St. Thomas University's willingness to transform its values and beliefs into action and service to the community. The focus of its work is research, education, social advocacy, and direct service. The Institute also issues recommendations to local and federal government leaders on human rights issues.

Law students from the St. Thomas University School of Law volunteer in the institute as part of the 40-hour pro bono requirement necessary for graduation.

“Many students get involved in the programs and stay beyond the required hours,” said Human Rights Institute Director Maria Dominguez. In addition, graduate and undergraduate students assist in research and participate in the direct service aspect of the program such as interviewing clients.

The Human Rights Institute conducts a number of projects, including the Cuban-Haitian Immigration Project (CHIP) and KIP (Knowledge is Power). KIP provides legal services and educational workshops to residents in local communities. For more information on the Human Rights Institute, visit www.stu.edu/lawschool.



From left: Professor Siegfried Wiessner, Educational Director of the Human Rights Institute at St. Thomas University; Maria Dominguez, Director of the Human Rights Institute; Rev. Msgr. Franklyn M. Casale, President, St. Thomas University, and Kerry E. Rosenthal, Chair of the Miami-Dade County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust.

HACU JOINS NATIONAL INITIATIVE TO PROMOTE PUBLIC SERVICE CAREERS

HACU joined the national Partnership for Public Service to promote public service careers in a new initiative targeting college students throughout the country.

HACU joined other national education associations, more than 300 colleges and universities, the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and 38 other federal agencies in the Partnership's "A Call to Serve: Leaders in Education Allied for Public Service." The initiative will inform students about federal employment opportunities, and promote the importance of a strong, diverse public service sector.

"Hispanics remain the only under-represented ethnic group in the federal labor force. Joining the Partnership for Public Service will encourage greater and wider Hispanic participation in public service, particularly in leadership positions within the federal work force," said HACU President and CEO Antonio Flores.

HACU's 320 member and partner colleges and universities serve the largest concentrations of Hispanic higher education students, currently enrolling more than two-thirds of all U.S. Hispanic college students.

The nation's youngest and largest ethnic population also is expected to make up nearly half (48.8 percent) of the U.S. college age population between 2000 and 2015, Flores said. "HACU member institutions are and will continue to be an invaluable reservoir of Hispanic talent and human resources for the nation," he said.

"Hispanics already make up one of every three new workers joining the U.S. labor force overall at a time when projections are that 50 percent of the federal work force will be eligible for retirement within the next few years. HACU member colleges and universities can play a critical role in addressing this public service sector challenge," Flores said.

"Indeed, introducing future generations of our nation's leaders to public service career opportunities will benefit all of us in promoting creation of a federal work force and public service leadership more reflective of our diverse citizenry," Flores said. HACU this summer is celebrating the 10th Anniversary of

HACU's National Internship Program (HNIP), which has introduced more than 3,800 Hispanic college students to public service sector careers through paid internships with participating federal agencies.

Now the nation's largest Hispanic college internship program, HNIP has earned accolades from the White House as a proven means to attract interest in public service careers. The U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) lists HNIP as Point Four in the OPM Nine-Point Hispanic Employment Initiative. Hispanics currently represent 6.5 percent of the federal work force, which is 4.6 percent below the current Hispanic civilian labor employment level.

The competitive HACU National Internship Program annually attracts hundreds of top students from colleges and universities throughout the country to spring, summer and fall internships at federal agencies and offices in Washington, D.C., and at locations throughout the U.S.

A recent poll by the Partnership for Public Service showed that only one in six college-educated Americans expresses significant interest in federal employment, and that the single greatest barrier to recruitment is a lack of information.

Recent surveys by HNIP showed that most former interns are considering federal service careers as a direct result of information they obtained through their federal internship experiences.

"In fact, many of our former interns now are full-time federal employees. HACU's National Internship Program already is making a difference," said HNIP Executive Director William Rafael Gil.

"Many of the federal agencies and higher education institutions that have joined the 'A Call to Serve' initiative are familiar to us as long-standing partners of HNIP. The participation of HACU and HNIP in this new initiative of the Partnership for Public Service will bolster our efforts to promote a more diverse federal labor force," Gil said.



16TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
DENVER, COLORADO
OCTOBER 26-29, 2002

MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Attend HACU's 16th Annual Conference
"Hispanic Empowerment: America's Key to Prosperity"

Featuring these Conference Tracks:

Diversity and Higher Education Leadership • Strengthening our HSIs: A National Imperative
The Education Pipeline: Pre-K to Ph.D. Models for Success • The Emerging Majority: Demographics and Empowerment

For more information and registration forms, visit www.hacu.net



HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERS ADDRESS HEA REAUTHORIZATION

Higher education leaders and congressional representatives from throughout the country participated in a series of critically timed HACU focus group meetings that will lay the groundwork for Higher Education Act (HEA) proposals to substantially increase funding and program support for Hispanic higher education.

Congress is scheduled to vote next year on Reauthorization of the Act, which will determine the flow of federal funds to all higher education institutions and students for the next five years.

Regional HEA Focus Group Meetings in late May and June co-hosted by HACU and HACU member Hispanic-Serving Institutions in Texas, California, Florida, Illinois, New York and Puerto Rico attracted high attendance, and produced a series of proposals that will contribute to a formal HACU HEA Reauthorization Agenda for Congress.

HACU's 16th Annual Conference October 26-29 in Denver, Colorado, also will feature a national session on HEA Reauthorization that will attract the attendance of higher education leaders, supporters and advocates from throughout the country.

"It is imperative that HACU presents a unified, grass roots voice for the education needs of the nation's youngest and largest ethnic population. The HEA Focus Group Meetings, as well as continuing discussions that will take place at HACU's 16th Annual Conference in October, are a critical component to meeting that objective," said HACU President and CEO Antonio Flores.

Members of Congress or their representatives joined presidents and key staff of HACU member and partner colleges and universities at each of the HEA Focus Group meetings. Speakers and participants at each of the meetings stressed the need to act now to ensure that Hispanic higher education is accorded high priority.

"Congress and advocacy organizations already are debating proposed changes that will be considered before a final vote by the 108th Congress on amendments to the Act," said Milton Gordon, president of HACU member California State University at Fullerton and a member of the HACU Governing Board.

The focus group meetings were co-hosted by and held at Cal State University-Fullerton, the Downtown Campus of the University of Texas San Antonio, the Inter American Campus of Miami-Dade Community College, Northeastern Illinois University, the University of the Sacred Heart in Puerto Rico and Herbert H. Lehman College of the City University of New York.

U.S. Representative Ciro Rodriguez of Texas, a member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, pledged the continuing support of the Caucus, which has been instrumental in efforts to win record new funding for HSIs in recent years. The Caucus is eagerly awaiting HACU's Reauthorization recommendations, Rodriguez said.

"You are the best advocates Hispanic-Serving Institutions have," HACU Legislative Affairs Director Luis Maldonado told forum participants. "You are the experts. Your elected officials want to hear from you."



HACU Vice President for Government Affairs Gumeindo Salas leads a discussion on proposals for change to the Higher Education Act.

Raul Luna, a congressional district director for U.S. Representative Loretta Sanchez of California, told forum participants that much of the decision-making process occurs long before formal votes are scheduled in Congress. "You can't wait until the last minute," Luna said.

Individual institutions can make a difference, said Frank Reyes, assistant to the chancellor for governmental affairs at HACU member San Bernardino Community College District and a member of the HACU Governing Board.

"When we talk to our elected officials, they will listen to us. We are the leaders. We are the spokesmen," Reyes said. "It's really up to us. We cannot wait until Reauthorization takes place."

The HEA Focus Group Meetings followed a national survey of HACU member and partner institutions. "These meetings have been highly successful. They were well attended, and produced dynamic discussions of importance to every component of our higher education goals," said HACU Vice President for Government Affairs Gumeindo Salas. "These meetings represent the first step of several that we will take to engage our membership in the process."

Salas said a draft document containing findings and proposals would be forwarded to all HACU member and partner institutions in August. A preliminary proposal shaped by responses to the draft document will be presented for discussion to the leadership of the U.S. Department of Education in September, he said.

HEA proposals, which will be continually updated, will be presented at HACU's 16th Annual Conference in October for further review. In November, HACU will present a revised draft to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and Senate Hispanic-Serving Institutions Coalition. By early next year, a final, formal document will be readied to present to Congress. Each of the regional focus group meetings in late May and

Continued on Page 7 ➔

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

■ **Joseph Wang**, an analytical chemist and professor at HACU member New Mexico State University, has been honored by the Institute for Scientific Information as the most cited scientist in the world of engineering during the past decade. Wang is internationally recognized in the rapidly emerging field of micro-instrumentation – the development of hand-held devices that, in his words, “take the lab to the source rather than taking samples to the lab.” For example, Wang’s research contributed to the development of the Gluco Watch, a wristwatch-like blood glucose monitor for use by diabetics.

RESEARCH AWARD

■ **Peter Geltner**, Dean of Institutional Research at HACU member Santa Monica College in California, has won the 2002 Practitioner Recognition Award from the National Council for Research and Planning. The council is an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges. The annual award goes to an individual who has made a significant contribution in the application of research and planning to institutional decision making.

COLLEGE PRESIDENT NAMED

■ **Zoila Clara Brennan**, as of July 1, becomes the first Latina to be appointed president of a college in Chicago. Brennan, a native of Peru, was unanimously approved to become president of HACU member St. Augustine College in Chicago. St. Augustine College is the only bilingual (English/Spanish) college in the Midwest. “Dr. Brennan belongs to an elite group of Hispanic women with doctorates. Few serve as presidents of institutions of higher education,” said St. Augustine Board of Governors Chair Joel Arce, president of Aztec Material Service Corp. St. Augustine College boasts an enrollment that is 86 percent Hispanic and 76 percent female.

DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

■ **Sonia Gutierrez Konradi** has been named executive director of development at HACU member University of Texas at San Antonio. Konradi is an electrical engineer who holds a bachelor’s degree from HACU associate member University of Texas at Austin and a master’s degree from HACU associate member California State University at

Berkeley. Konradi is the former director of corporate relations for the College of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin. Throughout the 1990s, Koinradi also directed the University of Texas at Austin’s equal opportunity program for minority students in engineering, overseeing outreach, recruitment, advising, counseling and student success programs.

UPWARD BOUND

■ **Martina Granados**, a 12-year veteran of the Upward Bound program at HACU member California State University at Fresno, has been named director of the university’s federally funded Upward Bound program designed to help low-income high school students to prepare for college. Granados, a graduate of Cal State-Fresno, oversees two components: Upward Bound Classic and Upward Bound ESL (English as a Second Language). Upward Bound offers services ranging from career advising, cultural activities, field trips and after-school tutorials to five-week summer residential programs.

HIGHER EDUCATION ACT

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June produced a series of proposals from participants to address in shaping HACU’s HEA Agenda, title by title. For example, Title V (Developing Institutions) of the HEA remains the chief vehicle for targeting funds specifically to Hispanic-Serving Institutions, or HSIs, which have a full-time Hispanic student enrollment that is at least 25 percent Hispanic.

Every HACU member and partner institution has a stake in how Congress votes on all HEA Titles. In addition to Title V, there are: Title I (General Provisions), Title II (Teacher Quality), Title III (Institutional Aid), Title IV (Student Assistance), Title VI (International Education Programs), Title VII (Graduate and Postsecondary Improvement Programs), Title VII (Studies, Reports, Related Programs) and Title IX (Amendments to Other Laws).

Some participants suggested that Congress consider including part-time students as well as full-time students, in designating institutions as HSIs. “Otherwise, you’re losing out on a lot of students,” one participant said.

Other participants proposed eliminating the two-year waiting period for Title V grant recipients applying for subsequent Title V grants. Others proposed eliminating restrictions that prevent institutions receiving funds under one Title from receiving funds contained within other HEA Titles.

Other proposals included providing additional legislative language and funding support for increased collaboration between community colleges and four-year institutions, as well as for augmenting international exchange programs to add a focus on cross-cultural studies to the current focus on language studies.

One participant suggested that allocations be increased to allow more campuses to offer students work-study programs during summer months. Another suggested proposing that community college students be eligible for maximum Pell Grants now available to four-year students.

Others advocated for providing federal financial aid now denied to students who are otherwise eligible, but who have not yet been formally approved for U.S. citizenship – a process that can take years because of existing citizenship application backlogs.

“It is imperative that HACU presents a unified, grass roots voice for the education needs of the nation’s youngest and largest ethnic population.”

FAST CARS AND FUEL EFFICIENCY AT UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA



By Jeffrey Quinones-Diaz

It is not outlandish to introduce the average consumer automobile industry to the fast paced and glamorous world of “hot rod” racing. Car owners and the automotive industry, to make average cars faster and more efficient, continually manufacture new gadgets and accessories.

Hot rod owners spend countless hours making considerable alterations to convert an average vehicle to a “super duper” racing machine. Such changes range from making a car’s exterior more aerodynamic to using methanol, an alcohol-based fuel, to improve vehicle performance and acceleration.

Many of these accessories, or a facsimile of the original, end up at retail stores, available to be used with average consumer vehicles. Among those products are fuel additives, which are advertised as having the capability to improve the car’s performance and fuel efficiency.

To celebrate it’s 50th anniversary, the National Hot Rod Association (NHRA) held it first racing meet outside of the continental United States at the Salinas Speedway in Puerto Rico last year.

This historic meet was significant when a slightly modified consumer vehicle, a 1980 Chevrolet Malibu, won the highest award given by the NHRA, the prestigious Goldman Award. This vehicle had been transformed into a race car by adding a high octane, low emissions, non-toxic fuel called gasohol. This fuel, which is significantly different from the racing industry’s traditional fuel, methanol, is composed of 90 percent gasoline and 10 percent ethanol (ethyl alcohol).

This automobile is an integral part of a research project developed by Heriberto Batiz, an associate professor of chemistry in the Department of Science and Allied Health at HACU member Universidad

Metropolitana (UMET) in San Juan, Puerto Rico. In fact, the prize-winning Malibu was dubbed the “UMET Malibu.” The project, “Fuel from Biotechnology, Bioremediation and Environmental Chemistry,” is seeking to provide a local fuel source and to find ways to conserve gasoline by increasing its octane rating with the addition of 10 percent gasoline (gasohol).

The major goal of this project is to study the economic prospects for developing an “intelligent” recycling process, geared to the acid and biological conversion of high cellulose content materials.

The major goal of this project is to study the economic prospects for developing an “intelligent” recycling process, geared to the acid and biological conversion of high cellulose content materials such as paper, grasses, and other recyclable products to ethanol (ethyl alcohol).

The end product would be a highly efficient method to improve the gasoline octane rating, potentially reducing the cost of producing fuel alcohol to less than 25 cents per gallon.

The use of a car such as the UMET Malibu in competitive racing is just the starting point in an effort to use biotechnology to create a major alternative to reduce emissions from consumer vehicles and to make intelligent use of recyclable waste. Batiz

intends to extend his research to explore the commercial potential of this process.

“This goal may be achieved by developing a unified fermentation process to produce 95 percent ethyl alcohol (ethanol), mainly from recycled materials such as paper and other carbohydrate containing products,” Batiz said.

“Alcohol fuels to be blended with gasoline can be derived from the cellulose of paper and grasses in significant quantities. Ethyl alcohol is the most promising outlet for some of the presently unused waste paper, wood materials and food waste that can be chemically or biologically processed, but are unsuited for other uses,” he said.

Extracting ethyl alcohol from paper, wood, grasses and other materials with high cellulose content is based on a hydrolysis process common for 150 years, but now benefiting from improvements in the common chemical reaction with water that will make the end product more competitive, using acid catalysts. Batiz believes that by adding ethanol to gasoline, a vehicle’s performance can be increased and significantly reduce the car’s emissions.

This project is a major component of the undergraduate science research program at Universidad Metropolitana. Students have worked with Batiz conducting introductory work on the enzymatic degradation of crystalline cellulose, which is considered to be a key step in the efficient production of ethyl alcohol from cellulose.

“I believe that producing gasohol on a larger scale could easily accomplish national goals of promoting the use of ethyl alcohol as fuel, and at the same time help decrease the production of Green House gases significantly,” Batiz said.

Jeffrey Quinones-Diaz is Director of Public Relations at Universidad Metropolitana.

NURSING STUDENTS REQUIRED TO LEARN SPANISH

*¿Cuándo fue la última vez que vio a su médico?
(When is the last time you saw a doctor?)*

Beginning this fall, nursing students at the University of Texas at Austin will add Spanish language lessons to their class schedule.

The School of Nursing at the HACU associate member university will require junior and senior nursing students to take a one-semester, three-credit-hour course in basic Spanish language skills.

Changing demographics in a state with an already large Spanish-speaking population led Dr. Orlando Kelm, an associate professor of Spanish and Portuguese, together with a team of graduate students, to design "Spanish for Health Professionals" for the nursing students. School of Nursing faculty members already have begun to take the course to gain background knowledge to better assist students in the program.

"Both the health care professional and his or her patient can become frustrated when they can't communicate with each other," said School of Nursing Dean Dolores Sands. "This Spanish instruction program will greatly benefit nursing students as they enter their field and provide them with the ability to assist a greater number of patients in a culturally diverse population."

In the course, students will learn to conduct several types of interviews to obtain information and provide necessary information to patients. The Eligibility Assessment Interview is

designed to show students how to ask patients simple background questions. These questions focus on information such as name, address, date of birth, living arrangements and insurance.

Students also will learn to ask questions that focus on the patient's medical history, social and emotional support system, community services and financial resources. The course also will instruct students how to ask a patient questions about their availability and location in order to make future appointments.

"Texas is a little behind in preparing individuals to deal with the changing population," said Kelm, who also coordinates the university's business language programs for both Spanish and Portuguese.

"The course is designed for students with little or no background in Spanish. We're not really teaching them how to speak Spanish as much as we are how to do certain tasks in Spanish. By the end of the semester, I think they will be surprised at how much they have learned. Some may want to go on and study more."

Randy Walker, president of the university's Nursing Student's Association, believes learning Spanish is a must for nursing students, and for that matter, anyone in the health care profession. "I can tell you firsthand that there have been numerous occasions, during my clinical rotations in area hospitals, that the ability to speak Spanish to my patients would have made all the difference," he said.



*The new Spanish language requirement will provide better health care for patients such as those who visit The University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing Del Valle Children's Wellness Center, where patients are mostly Spanish speakers. Pictured here are Del Valle resident Stephanie Gomez and her son, Derek, who is receiving a checkup at the center from School of Nursing faculty member Pat Budd, R.N.
Photo by Marsha Miller*

BILINGUAL EDUCATION INITIATIVE

HACU member University of Texas-Pan American and HACU associate member Southwest Texas State University are partners in a new alliance designed to increase the number of bilingual education and English as a Second Language (ESL) teachers in Texas.

The campuses were selected by the Intercultural Development Research Association to participate in the first Bilingual Education Collaborating Alliance (BECA) funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

The project will benefit targeted school districts in South Texas with large numbers of Limited English-Proficient (LEP) students.

"The main goal is to increase the number of qualified bilingual education teachers in the area because there are many students enrolled in school who do not understand English, and the number increases every year," said Jose Ruiz-Escalante, an education professor at the University of Texas-Pan American.

"Students who speak a language other than English have the right to

comprehensible instruction to foster their learning," Ruiz-Escalante said.

Beginning this summer, 85 qualified bilingual and Spanish proficient professionals and recent college graduates in fields other than education who are interested in becoming bilingual education or ESL teachers will be recruited, trained, certified and placed in the targeted school districts. "Participants in the project will be teaching in a bilingual classroom by fall 2002," Ruiz-Escalante said.

In 2001, the University of Texas-Pan American certified 285 bilingual education teachers, ranking first in the nation for preparing bilingual teachers.

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National Science Foundation, Arlington, VA

NSF's Directorate for Computer and Information Science and Engineering (CISE) seeks candidates for Director, Division of Experimental and Integrative Activities (EIA). EIA supported experimental research generally spans several CISE areas and often involves infrastructure needs. EIA plays a major integrative role in linking research and education through support for both CISE-specific and NSF-wide activities. Information about the Division's activities may be found at www.nsf.gov/home/cise.

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Applicants must have a Ph.D. or equivalent professional experience in computer and information sciences and engineering or related scientific or engineering field, substantial research administration experience, and demonstrated leadership skills.

Announcement S20020125, with position requirements and application procedures, is located on the NSF Home Page at www.nsf.gov/jobs. Applicants may also obtain the announcements by contacting the Executive Personnel Staff, 703-292-8755 (Hearing impaired individuals may call TDD 703-292-8044). Applications must be received by August 9, 2002.

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Executive Director ADELANTE! U.S. Education Leadership Fund

Founded in 1997 in San Antonio, Texas, the ADELANTE! U.S. Educational Leadership Fund is a nonprofit organization established to provide scholarship support, internships and leadership development opportunities to Hispanic American students.

The Board of Directors invites qualified dynamic professionals to apply for the position of Executive Director to manage all activities of the organization including fundraising, program development, public and media relations, marketing, personnel and fiscal management. The ideal candidate will be an accomplished leader with a Bachelor's degree (MBA preferred) in Business, Public Administration, Social Science or closely related field with extensive knowledge of Hispanic education issues, outstanding written and oral communication skills, excellent presentation and public speaking skills, demonstrated ability to raise funds and a minimum of five years experience in development, marketing, or corporate and public relations. Bilingual proficiency is strongly preferred. Must have experience in Windows environment and facility with spreadsheets, word processing, and presentation software. Qualified candidates interested in being considered should send resume with salary history to:

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Executive Director

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops is seeking qualified applicants for the position, Executive Director, Secretariat for the Church in Latin America. The Executive Director directs a staff of four in providing support to the Bishops' Committee on the Church in Latin America; manages an annual national collection of \$6 million and processes and prepares recommendations for grants to the Church in Latin America; conducts research to support the work of the bishops' committee and the secretariat; and promotes awareness and education among U.S. Catholics about the pastoral life and needs of the Church in Latin America. The Executive Director develops educational, promotional and campaign materials to support the annual collection; oversees communications with diocesan directors who represent their national collections and with dioceses in Latin America regarding grant solicitation and processing; facilitates communication between the Church in Latin America and the USCCB; develops educational materials and programs to raise consciousness in the United States about the Church in Latin America; serves as a resource for other departments of the USCCB in their relations with the Church in Latin America; travels to Latin America with bishop committee members; and collaborates with the Council of Latin American Bishops (CELAM), including attendance at meetings.

Leading candidates must have a master's degree in theology, pastoral ministry, international studies or Latin American studies, with experience in Latin America, as a region and Church. Complete fluency in Spanish is required and knowledge of Portuguese and French is beneficial. Additionally, the successful candidate will have at least seven years of directly related professional experience, and extensive knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Church in the United States and in Latin America, including an understanding of pastoral life and needs in Latin America. Also, strong writing and public speaking skills are required. Other helpful experience includes: fundraising or collection activities at the parish or diocesan level; grant solicitation, analysis, processing and accountability; diplomatic relations or training; familiarity with religious education and formation; and ability to balance unlimited needs against limited resources. Experience having lived, worked, studied or traveled in Latin America is beneficial as well. Computer skills in word processing (Microsoft Word), E-mail and Internet helpful. Competitive salary and excellent benefits including relocation assistance. Qualified and interested candidates should apply by August 16, 2002 to: Linda Hunt, Director, Office of Human Resources, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), 3211 Fourth Street, NE, Washington, DC 20017-1194, fax (202) 541-3412 or e-mail resumes@usccb.org.

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EDUCATION



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Positions are open until filled. Applications will be kept for one year and considered for any vacancies that present during that time period.

To request a required District application form, contact: Riverside Community College District, Human Resources, 4800 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92506
Phone: (909) 222-8593
Website: www.rccd.cc.ca.us

A completed District application form, cover letter, current resume or vita, three current professional reference letters, transcripts verifying college coursework and degrees must be submitted to Human Resources. Legible photocopies of transcripts may be submitted; official transcripts required upon employment.

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