



Western Oregon
UNIVERSITY

HSI SUMMIT

**Making
Conexiones**

APRIL 26, 2023

2023 HSI SUMMIT AGENDA

9 - 9:10 a.m.

Welcome to the HSI Summit

Dr. Jesse Peters (*he/him*), President, Western Oregon University

9:10 - 9:40 a.m.

Higher Education Coordinating Commission Overview

Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom (*she/her/ella*), Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Higher Education Coordinating Commission (HECC)

9:45 - 10:40 a.m.

WOU Student Panel

Moderator: **Moshe Martinez** (*he/him*)

Panelists: **Jesus Emmanuel Villa** (*he/him/él*), **Estela Miranda** (*she/her*), **Diana Valdovinos** (*she/her/ella*), **Julieta Alarcón** (*she/her/ella*)

10:50 - 11:50 a.m.

Keynote Presentation

Jennifer Gomez-Chavez, Ed.D., Vice President for Institutional Engagement, Excelencia in Education

Noon - 12:50 p.m.

Lunch

Catered by **Los Primos**

Entertainment by **Los Conquistadores de WOU**

1 - 1:50 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions (three options offered):

1. Becoming an HSI: Opportunities and Challenges

RICHARD WOODCOCK EDUCATION CENTER 101, PASTEGA ROOM

Kathy Espino-Perez (*she/her/ella*), Assistant Professor of Psychological Sciences, Western Oregon University

Alicia Ibaraki (*she/her*), Associate Professor of Psychological Sciences, Western Oregon University

WOU is very close to becoming an HSI. In this session we explore what it means to truly be a Hispanic Serving Institution rather than a Hispanic Enrolling Institution. Dr. Kathy Espino-Pérez and Dr. Alicia Ibaraki will then present data gathered from Latinx students at WOU addressing the following themes:

- What is motivating our Latinx students to pursue a college degree
- How students perceive the fit between their personal values and WOU's values
- Understanding impact of perceived fit on levels of depression and anxiety.

There will be ample time for audience participation and discussion as we reflect on student responses and how they can inform the challenges and opportunities related to becoming an HSI.



2. Columbia Gorge Community College's Trajectory as HSI: Scaling to Serve

COLUMBIA ROOM, WERNER UNIVERSITY CENTER

Lisa AbuAssaly George (*she/they*), Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, Columbia Gorge Community College

Sara Mustonen, Director of Advising and Title III, Columbia Gorge Community College

This session will first present the historical context for CGCC and where the college is now. Future goals will be outlined as well, including projected challenges to achieving them. Attendees will have opportunities to brainstorm ways to overcome similar challenges in their home institution.

3. Student Round Table (*for students only*)

WILLAMETTE ROOM, WERNER UNIVERSITY CENTER

Discussion Moderator: **Julisa Chavez** (*she/her*), Chemeketa Community College

Discussion Moderator: **Priscila España** (*she/ella*), Western Oregon University

This session will be facilitated by one Chemeketa Community College student and one Western Oregon University student. These student moderators will lead their peers in an open discussion about how colleges and universities are meeting or are not meeting their expectations, what challenges and opportunities they find themselves experiencing, and what they hope for from their communities in the future.

2 - 2:50 p.m.

Student Presentation and Round Table Discussions (with dessert)

Presenters:

Julisa Chavez (*she/her*), Chemeketa Community College and **Priscila España** (*she/her/ella*), Western Oregon University

Facilitators:

Vivi Caleffi Prichard (*she/her/ella*), Chief Diversity Officer, Chemeketa Community College and **Luanne Carrillo-Avalos** (*she/her/ella*), Interim Director, Multicultural Student Services and Programs, Western Oregon University

2:50 - 3 p.m.

Closing Remarks

Jerry Ambris (*he/him/él*), Board of Trustees, WOU and Executive Director, Habitat for Humanity of the Mid-Willamette Valley

3 - 3:30 p.m.

Networking



PRESENTERS

(In order of the HSI Summit agenda)



Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom (she/her/ella)

Rudyane Rivera-Lindstrom is the Oregon Higher Education Coordinating Commission's first permanent Director for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). In this

new role, Rudyane leads equity and diversity efforts both internally and externally for the agency, supporting the HECC's goals for equitable outcomes in postsecondary education and training, helping staff uphold our Equity Lens in policymaking, budgeting, and supporting the HECC agency to become more inclusive, diverse, and equitable for all employees.

Rudyane brings 28 years of service in education and extensive expertise in the operationalizing of equity work, policy development, engagement, and leadership. She completed a bachelor's in Social and Behavioral Studies, a Master of Education from Portland State University, and an education administrative credential and doctoral coursework at George Fox University.



Moshe Martinez (he/him)

Moshe Martinez is a senior at WOU and is majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Spanish and Information Systems. Moshe is from Independence, Oregon, and

graduated from Central High School. During his time at WOU, he has been a part of PLUS Team, Campus Ambassadors, Destination Western PAs, Omega Delta Phi Fraternity, and the Men's Soccer Club. He currently works as an MCR Coordinator and UCS Tech. His favorite memory has been going on the Discover Leadership retreat during his first year. His advice for students: "Don't be afraid to try new things. You'll never know if you enjoy it unless you try". A fun fact about Moshe is that he and two other friends started a band last year called "Los Conquistadores" and they have played at WOU several times.



Jesus Emmanuel Villa (he/him/él)

Jesus is a third-year student majoring in middle/high pre-education with a concentration in Spanish and minor in ESOL. He is from Medford, Oregon and graduated from South

Medford High in 2020. He is a first generation college student and wants to teach high school Spanish once he graduates. He chose Western Oregon University because of the small campus size, location, and the diversity within the student population.



Estela Miranda (she/her)

Estela is currently a sophomore majoring in Exercise Science with a concentration in Fitness and Human Performance. She is involved in the Womens + Rugby Club team here at WOU as well

as the Salem Attack Owls Rugby Club. Estela enjoys being active and absolutely loves weight training. She's looking to incorporate this learning and experience into her career.



Diana Valdovinos (she/her/ella)

Diana is currently a freshman, who graduated from Woodburn high school. Her major is Pre-Education (Early Childhood/Elementary), with an ESOL (English to Speakers of

Other Languages) minor. Her career goal is to become a Bilingual Elementary School Teacher, then later on a Counselor. In her spare time, she loves doing yoga, reading, and listening to music.



Julieta Alarcón (she/her/ella)

Julieta is a freshman majoring in Bilingual Elementary Education. She is passionate about teaching, her family, and her kitties. She is Mexican-



American, and very thankful and honored to be a part of the Mexican community and culture. She likes to spend time hanging out with her siblings, cooking and baking, shopping, reading, going on walks, and playing with her cats.



Jennifer Gomez-Chavez,

Ed.D (*she/her/ella*)

Jennifer serves as the Vice President for Institutional Engagement for Excelencia in Education. In her role, she supports the advancement of institutional transformation

to intentionally serve Latino students through engaging with institutions and their leaders to connect them to Excelencia's programs, services, resources and research. She facilitates a network of affiliates through outreach strategies, engaging them in learning communities, keeping them informed about policy issues, and ensuring that they receive support to advance their efforts. Jennifer's portfolio includes:

- *Presidents for Latino Student Success,*
- *Affiliate Engagement in the Network, Policy, Liaison for Institutional programs and practitioners, and*
- *Liaison for Emerging HSIs*

Jennifer is a native New Mexican born and raised in Hagerman, a small rural farming community. Jennifer has 30 years of experience working with low-income, and students from underrepresented backgrounds through her positions with the LULAC National Educational Service Center and the University of New Mexico (UNM) in Albuquerque. She holds a B.A. in Criminal Justice, a Master's in Counseling, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership. Jennifer retired from the University of New Mexico where she spent 27 years in various roles that include: Special Assistant to the Associate Vice Chancellor for the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at UNM Health Sciences Center and main campus, Executive Director of the Unidos Project, Central Region Director for ENLACE New Mexico, Director of Collective Impact Initiatives and an adjunct faculty member. She led the first Title V grant at UNM main campus and was named as the inaugural Director of Student Success for the university.

Los Conquistadores de WOU

Left to right: **Aaron Juarez** (*he/him/él*), sophomore, business major; **Moshe Martinez** (*he/him/él*), senior, computer science major; **Raul Sagrero Gaona** (*he/him/él*), sophomore, psychology major



Moshe, Raul, and Aaron met in 2021 during the Destination Western program while being in the same cohort. During one of their cohort bonding events, the three of them jammed out together and from there, Los Conquistadores de WOU came to be. Since then, Los Conquistadores have played for events like the Freedom Center showcase and Wolf-It Down. All three are good friends and enjoy playing older and more modern Spanish music.



Kathy Espino-Pérez

(*she/her/ella*)

Kathy Espino-Pérez is an assistant professor of Psychological Sciences at WOU. Dr. Espino-Pérez is Latina and the first in her family to graduate from college. Her research

has focused on the experience of racial/ethnic minorities in college as well as the psychological and physical consequences of discrimination among racial/ethnic minorities. We subscribe to the idea that science is best when conducted collectively, or with a CREW. Dr. Espino-Pérez is committed to using her training in social psychology and lived experience as a Latina to highlight resilience and build community in higher education among Latino/a/xs.



Alicia Ibaraki *(she/her)*
Alicia Ibaraki is an associate professor of Psychological Sciences at WOU. She completed her doctoral training at the University of Oregon and her predoctoral internship at the Waianae

Coast Comprehensive Health Center. A trained clinical psychologist, Dr. Ibaraki focuses on understanding how cultural values and pressures influence the mental health issues experienced in emerging adults. Her most recent work examines the ways that Latinx college students perceive their culture as sources of both strength and barriers as they pursue a college degree.



Lisa AbuAssaly George *(she/they)*
Lisa AbuAssaly George is a first-generation student who received an MA in Sociology and Certificate in Chicano & Latino Studies from Portland State University, with a focus

on equity in education. Since then, Ms. George's extensive experience as a DEI leader and professional development specialist has led her to present locally and nationally on best practices in inclusive pedagogy, anti-racist teaching, culture shift, building culturally responsive and inclusive community partnerships, and DEI-focused student and employee development.

Recently she served in the inaugural role of Multicultural Student Success Coordinator at Mt. Hood Community College. Last November she was chosen as Columbia Gorge Community College's first Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.



Sara Mustonen *(she/her)*
Sara Mustonen, M.Ed. Leadership, is director of advising and Title III at Columbia Gorge Community College, located in The Dalles, Ore. As an original resident

of Northeast Portland, she returned to her neighborhood to research barriers of access to equitable educational experiences for Black and Latino youth while studying at Concordia University.

Designing and implementing culturally responsive support programming based on student voices has served to be her greatest strength in promoting Latino student success initiatives for over the last decade. In her previous position in advising at Tillamook Bay Community College, she assisted in administration of the HECC-sponsored First-Generation Student Success grant and collaboratively worked toward achievement of ambitious institutional goals of improving student success and doubling graduation rates.



Julisa Chavez *(she/her)*
Julisa Chavez identifies as Chicana and cisgender. She is a student at Chemeketa Community College, enrolled in the Human Services program. She plans to transfer to Portland State University

this fall. Additionally, Julisa is an advocate that volunteers with the Center for Hope and Safety, a site dedicated to assisting survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Julisa's grandparents, mother and most of her family were born in Michoacan, Mexico while she was born and raised in the United States, and experienced her culture differently than her tias and tios. Julisa is proud that her heritage originates from San Jeronimo, Michoacan. Living with her family that has experienced acculturation has shown her that the college experience can be different for their community. She is intrigued by conversations that happen in the Hispanic community because they are immensely diverse.

Julisa likes to read LGBTQ+ literature, fantasy, and psychological thriller books in my free time. She also enjoys spending time with her six-year-old and her partner. Sometimes she will play video games such as Sims4 and animal crossing. Julisa mostly enjoys being around others whether that be a dinner party or an outing for ice cream.



Priscila Española

(she/her/ella)

Priscila is a senior at Western Oregon University double majoring in Public Policy & Administration, and Spanish. She is from Medford, Ore., and grew up in Washington,

Oregon, and Guadalajara, Mexico. During her time at Western, she has been involved in several organizations. She currently serves as the President of Kappa Delta Chi sorority, the Fundraising Chair for the Multicultural Student Union, a committee member for the HSI Committee, and as a Campus Ambassador. In the past, she has also held positions on PLUS Team, Destination Western, MECHA, and Unidos. Priscila will be graduating this June and publishing a thesis on leadership accessibility.

HSI SUMMIT STUDENT STAFF



Jessica Garibay Ochoa

(she/her/ella)

Jessica is a first-generation college student at Western Oregon University. She is currently a third-year student double majoring in Public Health and Psychology. Her career

goal is to become a pediatric nurse, so after she graduates from WOU she plans on applying to the Oregon Health and Science University nursing program to further her education. A fun fact about Jessica is that she loves traveling and exploring new places with friends and family.



Alessandra Cervantes

Ramirez *(she/her/ella)*

Alessandra is a sophomore at WOU, who prefers to speak in Spanish. She was born in Albany, Ore., but at a young age her parents moved to Mexico where she grew up. Then

at 15-years-old, she moved back to Oregon. Her career goal is to become a Spanish teacher, that way she can help her students to have more

knowledge about Hispanic culture and history. She has a full-time job at Seeds Italian Bistro as a kitchen worker, and she is the first in her family to attend a university.



Litzy Ku Beiza

(she/her/ella)

Litzy is a second-year student here at WOU and she is from Salem, Ore. Her major is Criminal Justice with a minor in Forensic Psychology. She is thinking of going either into juvenile

delinquency or corrections; there are many fields to choose from in criminal justice so her interests may change.



Mary Ayala-Velazquez

(she/her/ella)

Mary's hometown is Albany, Ore. This is her third year here at WOU. She is majoring in Psychology and minoring in Early Childhood studies.

She is hoping to find a career that has to do with working with children or youth. Mary chose WOU because she wanted to be on a college campus that was close to home and has smaller class sizes. In her free time, she likes to spend time with her friends and try out different coffee shops. She also likes to travel, and most recently have gotten into baking, crocheting, and knitting.

HSI SUMMIT WORKING GROUP

Chelle Batchelor (*she/they*), Dean of Library and Academic Innovation

Doris Cancel-Tirado (*she/her/ella*), Professor, Public Health Program Coordinator

Luanne Carrillo-Avalos (*she/her/ella*), Interim Director, Multicultural Student Services and Programs

Anna Hernandez-Hunter (*she/her/ella*), Interim Director, Admissions

Sarah Lockwood (*she/her*), Facilities Scheduling Manager, Student Engagement

Emmanuel Macias (*he/him/él*), Executive Assistant, Student Affairs

Dominique Vargas (*she/her*), Executive Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

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