



Location: St Mary's University - One Camino Santa Maria, San Antonio, Texas 78228
Campus Fully Open & Coronavirus Rules Adhered

Day 1: December 2, 2021: University Center Building

❖ **11:30am – 12:30pm: Lunch and Symposium Orientation** Conference Room A

❖ **12:15pm: Welcome/ Introductions/Orientation**

- Leona Pallansch, PhD, Interim Dean, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, St. Mary's University
- Belinda Roman, PhD, Associate Professor, St. Mary's University
- Juan H. Flores, La Fe Policy Research & Education Center

❖ **12:40 – 1:40pm: Plenary Keynotes – Setting the Policy Table**

- 'Latino *Bienestar* (Well-Being) Among Texas's 12 Economic Regions'
 - Rogelio Saenz, Professor, UT, San Antonio
 - Alberto Assogba, Doctoral Candidate, UT, San Antonio
- Electoral Power Building Across Texas Communities'
 - Michelle Tremillo, Director, Texas Organizing Project
- 'Texas Tax System: Why Latino Needs to Change It'
 - Dick Lavine, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Every Texan

❖ **2:00-4:45pm: Concurrent 'Breakout' Panels – Presentations and Discussions**

Panel 1: Status of Texas Redistricting and Latino Electoral Representation Room B

Demographic and voter analysis, electoral organizing and advocacy, and legal efforts to increase Latino representation - Congressional, State, and Board of Education.

- Lydia Camarillo, CEO, Southwest Voter Research and Education Project
- Nina Perales, VP Litigation, Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund
- Joaquin Gonzales, Staff Attorney, Texas Civil Rights Project
- Jaclyn Uresti, President, Mexican American Legislative Caucus

Moderators: Sonic Garcia, PhD, Arturo Vega, PhD, and Joe Gershtenson, St. Mary's University

Panel 2: Housing and Labor/Employment

Room C

Presentations and round-table discussions by Community Organizers, Service Providers, and Researchers on current local and state Latino human capital investment policy priorities.

Housing

- “Latino Affordable Housing Concerns: Responsive Policy Priorities”
 - Mia Loseff, South Texas Regional Director, Texas Housers

- “Affordable Housing Budget and Funding for Families and Neighborhoods – Not Developers”
 - Joleen Garcia, Policy Director, Jalen McKee Rodriguez, San Antonio City Council District 2

- “Residential Displacement & Assistance: Housing Ordinance Reforms Needed”
 - Matthew Garcia, Staff Attorney, Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid

Labor/Employment

- “Essential Workers: Higher Wages and Benefits Are Essential Policy Responses”
 - Araceli Herrera, Director, *Domesticas Unidas*; Belinda Roman, PhD, St. Mary’s University; Graciela Sanchez, Executive Director, Esperanza Peace and Justice Center

- “Texas Jobs 1.5years after the beginning of Covid”
 - Salvador Contreras, PhD, Director, Border Economic Studies, UT, Rio Grande Valley

- "Worker Power in Texas: Local & State Organizing"
 - Juan Benitez, Director of Communications, Workers Defense Project

Moderator: Belinda Roman, PhD, St. Mary’s University

Panel 3: Education and Health

Alumni Room

Presentations and round-table discussions by Community Organizers, Service Providers, and Researchers on current local and state Latino human capital investment policy priorities.

Health

- “El Paso-Texas/Mexico Border: Uninsured and Health Workforce Policy Priorities”
 - Estela Reyes, Director, Public Relations, Centro de Salud Familiar – La Fe (La Fe)
 - Jorge Salazar, Program Director, La Fe

- “Covid-19: Mental Health Stressors, Coping Strategies, and Policies in Vulnerable Latino Communities”
 - Luz Maria Garcini – Baker Institute, Rice University and UT Health Science Center San Antonio

- “Covid-19: Latino Health and Policy Priorities”
 - Deborah Parra-Medina, Director, Latino Research Institute, UT Austin

Education

- “Public School Funding Status: Covid-19 Stimulus Impact”
 - Jaime Fuente, Policy Analysis, Every Texan
- “Bilingual Education Funding Priorities”
 - Chloe Sikes, PhD, Deputy Director of Policy, Intercultural Development Research Association (IDRA)
- “Civic and Ethnic Studies: Policies Needed to Achieve Successful Education Outcomes”
 - Irene Gomez, Ed.M., Research Engagement Strategist, IDRA
- “Covid-19 Impact on Advancing Equities in Learning Opportunities”
 - Christina Munoz, Policy Analyst, IDRA
- “Hispanic Serving Institutions as Business Serving Institutions: A Look at Outcomes and Policy Implications”
 - Vanessa Quetzeri, PhD Candidate, St. Mary University
- “A Decade of Disparities: Examining National Educational Outcomes for Male Racial Subgroups”
 - Emmet Campos, PhD, Project MALES Director, UT Austin
 - Luis Ponjuan, PhD, Project MALES Co-founder, Texas A&M
 - Victor B. Saenz, PhD, Project MALES Co-founder, Texas UT Austin

Moderator: Roger Enriquez, JD, UT San Antonio

❖ **5:00-7:00pm: Reception and Dinner**

Conference Room A

- 5:00pm: Reception
- 5:45pm: Dinner

❖ **6:00pm: Cultural Reflections**

- Margret Cantu Sanchez, PhD, St. Mary’s University

Day 2: December 3, 2021: University Center Building

❖ **8:15 – 8:45am: Breakfast**

Conference Room A

❖ **8:45 – 9:30am: Plenary Keynote**

- ‘Challenges in Addressing Latino Concerns in Municipal Government and Related State Legislative Policies’

- ‘Marissa Ximenez, President, Association of Hispanic Municipal Officials
- “Messaging: Strengthening Latino Policy Advocacy and Influence”
 - James Aldrete, El Jefe, MAP Political Communications
- “State Preemption of Local Government Ordinances and Policies: Impact on Equity and Prosperity”
 - Senator Jose Menendez, Chair, Senate Hispanic Caucus

❖ **9:40am - 12:00pm: Continuation of Panel Discussions Re-Convene Assigned Rooms**

- Summary Previous Day/Discussions Continue
- Develop Summary for Plenary Debrief

❖ **12:45 - 3:30pm: Lunch and Plenary Debrief and Action Items Conference Room A**

- Congressional Redistricting Debrief
 - Summary Redistricting Status
 - Latino Redistricting Maps
 - Advocacy Strategy
 - Legal Strategy
- Local and State Policy Table
 - Policy Issues Presented
 - Legislative/Policy Proposals
 - Advocacy Strategy
- Symposium Report

❖ **3:45 Adjournment**

Goal and Objectives

TXLPS Goal: To increase local and state policy influence leading to equitable public policies which contributes to family economic mobility opportunities.

Objectives:

- ❖ To ensure a transparent and fair redistricting process which reflects Latinos population growth communities and elected representation.
- ❖ To provide policy recommendations on issues important to Latino families.
- ❖ To provide a forum for research and community collaboration that can inform policymaking.
- ❖ To generate local/state Latino responsive