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November 30, 2020

HSI Task Force  
UC Davis

Re: HSI Task Force Phase 2 – Implementation

Dear Colleagues:

I write today to invite you to serve on the HSI Task Force as it enters Phase 2-Implementation. Convened in 2018, the HSI Task Force was originally charged with defining what success meant for a research intensive, public land-grant, Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) in California, a state where more than half of all high school graduates are Latinx.

That goal was met. I wish to thank all members of the original task force, and especially the two co-chairs, Raquel Aldana and Rahim Reed, for producing the 2019 report, *Investing in Rising Scholars and Serving the State of California: What It Means to be a Hispanic Serving Institution*. Deeply researched and emerging from many conversations with students, faculty, staff, community leaders, and public officials, the report adopted an asset-oriented view of “rising scholars” and presented a vision of UC Davis as “a culturally responsive learning community that fulfills the mission of a Research 1 and land grant university, closing the equity gap in higher education; enabling all of its community members, including Rising Scholars, to thrive and reach their full potential; and elevating our excellence in public service and scholarship.”

In support of that vision, the report outlined 11 top priorities for the Davis campus and four main goals - and within those goals, more than 50 recommendations. Under the leadership of Lorena Oropeza, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Diversity, and Mark A. López, Chief of Staff to Vice Chancellor Tull, the Implementation Task Force is charged with developing subcommittees to implement specific recommendations, particularly in regard to recruitment, retention/persistence, communications, and funding.

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Also, I ask that the task force provide a summary accountability report outlining what strategies these subcommittees have developed, and what goals they have achieved, by June 27, 2021. If you do not wish serve on a subcommittee of the Implementation Task Force, please let Mark or Lorena know by December 15.

I realize that, in an era of a pandemic and budget deficits, a reframing of priorities may be in order. Despite the rising enrollments of Chicax/Latinx students, in 2019, and HSI grant awards in 2020 based on domestic enrollments and partnerships, UC Davis has not received the U.S. Department of Education's official federal HSI designation. Certainly, part of the work of the Implementation HSI Task Force will be to move forward under these difficult circumstances.

Thank you for your contributions to this vitally important undertaking that will enhance the services and support UC Davis provides to all our students.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary S. May". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "G" and "M".

Gary S. May  
Chancellor

/am

Attachment - HSI Task Force member list

Attachment

## **HSI Task Force – Implementation Member List**

Neptaly “Taty” Aguilera, California Aggie Alumni Association, Board Member  
Ignacio “Nacho” Alarcón, Assistant Director, AB540 and Undocumented Student Center  
Raquel Aldana, Professor of Law (Co-chair of HSI Report Task Force)  
Edwin Arevalo, Executive Director, Academic Senate  
Sheri Atkinson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Life, Campus Community and Retention Services  
Molly Bechtel, Chair, Staff Assembly  
Laura M. Bohóquez Garcia, Director, AB540 and Undocumented Student Center  
Caroline Cabias, Chicano Latino Alumni Association  
Griselda Castro, Emerita Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs  
Laura Cerruti, Analyst, DEI  
Cynthia Ching, Interim Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education  
Lillian Cruz-Orengo, Assistant Professor, Anatomy, Physiology, and Cell Biology  
Marcela Cuellar, Associate Professor, School of Education  
Natalia Deeb-Sossa, Associate Professor, Chicano and Chicana Studies  
Efren Diaz, Chicano Latino Alumni Association  
Leticia Garay, Latino Staff and Faculty Association  
Alicia Garcia, Graduate Student, School of Education  
Jorge Garcia, Health Sciences Associate Clinical Professor of Internal Medicine, and Faculty Director of Student and Resident Diversity  
Blas Guerrero, Director, Strategic Diversity Recruitment Initiatives and Transfer Programs  
Devin Horton, Graduate Diversity Officer, STEM  
Don Hunt, Associate Vice Chancellor, Enrollment Management  
Carlos Jackson, Chair, Chicana and Chicano Studies  
Kevin Johnson, Dean, School of Law  
Kristin Lagattuta, Professor, Psychology  
Mark A. López, Chief of Staff to Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, (Co-chair, Implementation Task Force)  
Sergio Maravilla, Undergraduate, Anthropology, Community and Regional Development  
Alma Martinez, Student Affairs Officer, Chicana and Chicano Studies

## HSI Task Force Member List

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Lina Mendez, Interim Director, Center for Chicanx and Latinx Academic Student Success

Josephine Moreno, Graduate Diversity Officer, HASS and Education

Kimberly Nettles-Barcelon, CAMPSSAH Faculty Director

Tom O'Donnell, Analyst, Office of Academic Diversity, DEI

Lorena Oropeza, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Diversity (Co-chair, Implementation Task Force)

Daniel Potter, Professor, Plant Sciences

Rahim Reed, Associate Executive Vice Chancellor, Office of Campus Community Relations, DEI (Co-chair HSI Report Task Force)

Pablo Reguerín, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs

Elizabeth Rice, Chair, Educational Affairs Committee of the Academic Federation

Timo Rico, Executive Director, Center for Student Affairs Assessment

Cathy Rodriguez Aguirre, President and CEO, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Kathryn Russ, Undergraduate Council of the Academic Senate

Rachel Teagle, Director, Manetti Shrem Museum of Art

Hendry Ton, Associate Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Inclusion

Dana Topousis, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer

Renetta Garrison Tull, Vice Chancellor of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Mariel Vazquez, CAMPOS Faculty Director

*(Updated: November 30, 2020)*