



Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators

SAN DIEGO MESA COLLEGE



Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)



Mesa College is designated as a "Hispanic Serving Institution," meaning more than 25% of the student population is Latinx/Hispanic.

Title III Grant: Meant to fund "STEM Conexiones" (STEM Connections), and support Hispanic and low-income students in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math).

Title V Grant: Meant to improve the retention and graduation rates of Mesa's diverse population, particularly its Latinx students, through systematic, institutional changes and improvements.



AHSIE Attendees

Leticia P. López Title III and Title V Acting Program Manager

Juan U. Bernal Title V Math Course Redesigner

Natchel Bello Luna Lead Peer Navigator | AHSIE Student Scholar

Yolanda Cataño Title III Administrative Technician

Mariam Kushkaki Title V Classroom Tutoring Program

Brian Mackus STEM Instructional Support Supervisor

Ikuko McAnally Title V Administrative Technician

Agustin Rivera AVANZA, Peer Navigator / CRUISE

Latinx STEM Successalidation Theory



- The Latino Students Guide to STEM
 Careers by Dr. Laura Rendón
- HSI Typology (from Enrolling to Serving)
 - "Constructing an Organizational Identity to HSIs" by Dr. Gina Garcia
- NSF Grant Competition for HSIs
 - Upcoming Opportunities (S-STEM, ATE, MRI, IUSE, ADVANCE, etc.)
 - Application assistance available from SFA NSF Kickstarter Program
- STEM Best Practices

STEM Redesign



- STEM curriculum alignment
 - "Flight" plans and program-geared advising
- Project-based learning in STEM
 - Peer mentoring (cell biology and experimentation)
- Learning communities
- Culturally Responsive Pedagogy

Classroom
Tutoring
Dragram



- Embedded tutoring program
- Best practices and challenges
 - Training, peer learning, genuine connections
 - Retention, success, and equity gap
- Strengthening faculty engagement
 - Role of faculty (UCSB reference)

Administrative Involvement



- Zooming out: Hispanic-Enrolling vs Hispanic-Serving
- Culture shift of intentionality and inclusiveness on campus
- Biggest challenge: Finding our place as grants within the institution and the district
 - U.S. Department of Education, district, and institution

AVANZA and **Peer Navigators**



- Student Support
 - Target needs
 - Coaching
 - Communication
 - "Refer, not Fix"
 - Mentorship
- Family Engagement
 - Family Member / Parent Academy
 - Validating college journey as a family effort
 - Empower families and connect them with campus

Thank You!

