

**LATINX  
CHICANX**

ACADEMIC  
EXCELLENCE  
INITIATIVE

APRIL 23, 2019

# LATINX CHICANX

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# UC San Diego's Latinx/Chicanx Academic Excellence Initiative: Cultivating a Latinx Thriving Campus

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April 23, 2019

# Hispanic-Serving Institution (HSI)

HSI = 25% full-time Latinx/Chicanx students

Emerging HSI = 15-24% full-time Latinx/Chicanx students

UC San Diego is currently at **20%** full-time Latinx/Chicanx students.

# HSI Goal for UC SAN DIEGO

To become a Model HSI and Model STEM HSI

*By building institutional capacity and infrastructure to support Latinx, first-generation, and URM academic success.*



# Why Both Designations at UC San Diego

## STEM HSI

- UC San Diego is known for its strength in STEM
- Dovetails on existing faculty led programs to advance URM graduates in STEM
- Partnership with Health Sciences Hispanic Center of Excellence
- Advance new and innovative transfer and articulation agreements between two-year and four-year institutions in such fields

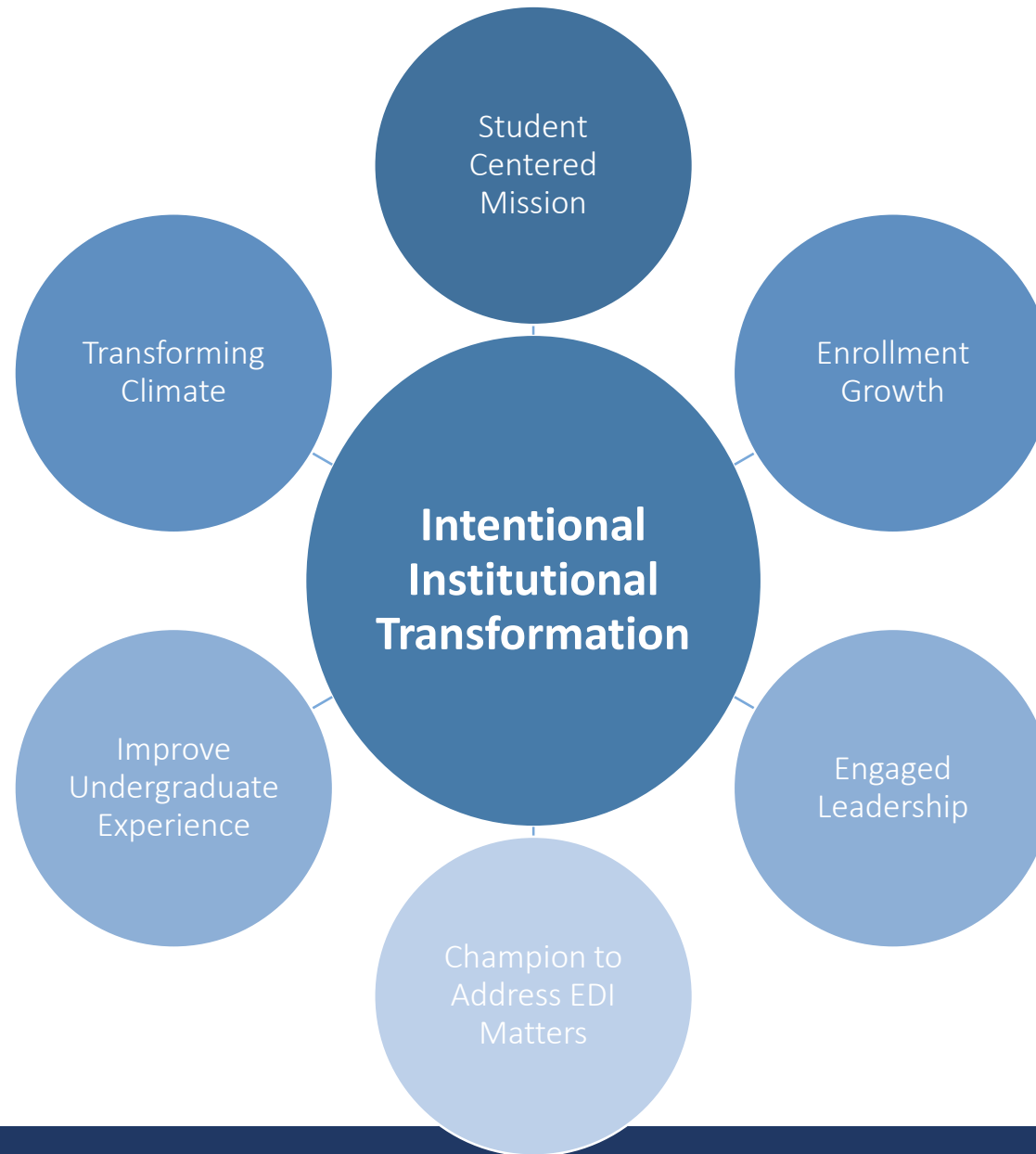
## HSI

- Invest in future populations and high Latinx potential
- Increasingly diverse pool of eligible students
- Campus' goal to increase student enrollment
- Changing demography of K-12 education
- Use of the Eligibility in the Local Context Program (ELC)
- High Latinx yield rate



Why HSI?  
Why Now?

UC San  
Diego  
where  
generations  
rise!



# Timeline



## April 2016

- Proposed Joint Academic Senate-Administration Task Force.
- Summer deliberations with Academic Senate Committees.

## August 2016

- Charge and launch of Task Force.

## October 2016

- Task Force began meeting.
- We also convened student leaders from Latinx organizations.

## May 2017

- HSI Task Force Report submitted to Chancellor, VC-EDI, VCSA and Senate.

## September 2017

- VCs prioritized 5 of the 15 Task Force recommendations.

## October 2017

- HSI Work Group participants asked to serve.

## February 2018

- HSI Work Group launches to implement the HSI Task Force recommendations.

## November 2018

- One of the central Task Force recommendations—establish a **Latinx/Chicanx Academic Excellence Initiative**—is launched.

# Our Process



- Be Inclusive
- Be Intentional
- Be Student-Centered
- Keep Strategic Partners Informed

# Academic Partners

- Proposed Joint Academic Senate-Administration Task Force
- Summer Deliberations with Academic Senate Committees
- Taskforce Charged and Launched

## Task Force Members (2016 – 2017)

- Gerardo Arellano: Director, Raza Resource Centro
- Frances Contreras: Associate Professor, Education Studies
- Alan Daly: Professor, Education Studies
- Cynthia Dávalos: Chief of Staff, Student Affairs
- Vonda Garcia: Director, Financial Aid
- Olivia Graeve: Professor, Mechanical/Aerospace Engineering; Chair, Academic Senate Committee on Diversity and Equity
- Kathleen Johnson: Assistant Dean, Undergraduate Education
- Gilberto Mosqueda: Associate Professor, Structural Engineering; Chair, Academic Senate Committee on Admissions
- Frank Silva: Chief of Staff, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
- Tom Wong: Assistant Professor, Political Science
- Kristina Wong Davis: Director, Admissions

# Student Partners

- Active outreach to Latinx student organizations
  - Undergraduate and graduate
  - 45+ student representatives from a wide variety of student organizations participated throughout the process
  - A series of four student forums
- **Faith/Service Based** (e.g., La Fe, Catholic Community at UCSD, Project Nicaragua)
  - **Cultural** (e.g., Latin American Student Organization, Ballet Folklórico La Joya de México)
  - **Academic/Scholarly** (e.g., SACNAS Chapter at UCSD, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Raza Graduate Student Association)
  - **Social Justice/Political** (e.g., Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano@ de Aztlan [MEChA])
  - **Greek Life** (e.g., Lambda Theta Nu Sorority Inc, Nu Alpha Kappa Fraternity Inc, Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc)
  - **Athletic (Recreational)** (e.g., the Salsa Club at UCSD, Argentine Tango Club)

# Development Process of Task Force Recommendations

Comprehensive set of recommendations designed to assist in strategically developing infrastructure for:

- student academic success
- emotional development and support
- professional expertise and responsiveness to the needs of diverse students
- increased parent and Hispanic community engagement

**Tandem engagement of Task Force members and Latinx student leaders**

- Task Force Process: 6 Meetings**
1. Secondary data review
  2. Discussion of student challenges
  3. Recommendation development
  4. Recommendation development
  5. Refinement via subcommittees
  6. Priority mapping of recommendations

- Student Process: 4 Meetings**
1. Discussion of challenges faced at UC San Diego
  2. Recommendation development
  3. Feedback on recommendations
  4. Priority mapping of recommendations



# Task Force Recommendations

1. Launch a **Latinx/Chicanx Academic Excellence Initiative** with off-campus endowment to provide scholarships to Latinx/Chicanx students.
2. Analyze student success programming data and student usage trends to **enhance the academic support system**.
3. Create an exemplar Office of Parent and Family Programs (PFP) that uniquely supports and engages parents of Latinx students<sup>[1]</sup> by enhancing and scaling resources that makes UC San Diego a first choice campus.
4. Institutionalize UC San Diego's **student-centered mission** by charging a work group to create "Principles for Student-Centered Experience."
5. Develop innovative methods for **improving college readiness** at the high school level and Analytical Writing Placement Examination passing rates at Latinx/Chicanx feeder schools.

<sup>[1]</sup> The design of the program would serve all parents of all students.



# Establishing the UC San Diego Latinx/Chicanx Academic Excellence Initiative Work Group

- VC-EDI and VCSA jointly established a work group led by faculty, students, and staff to develop and operationalize Task Force recommendations.
- Partnered with Office for Strategic Initiatives to facilitate meetings to achieve objectives and to ensure an inclusive and well documented process.



# **Advancing Student Success**

## **Transforming Policy, Practice, & Culture**

# Diversity and Inclusion Advancing Student Success

Ensure the success of first-generation and URM students through programs focused on teaching, learning, student's academic self concept, sense of belonging and social agency.



# Best Practices at Work at UC San Diego

Over the past five years, UC San Diego has made significant advances in programming to increase student access, success, and sense of belonging. A few examples are:

## Early intervention through bridge and orientation programs

- OASIS Summer Bridge
- CASP 101
- TRiO Student Support Services
- PATHways to STEM (PATHS)

## Proactive, holistic support and mentoring

- Success Coaching
- Peer-to-peer support
- Faculty mentoring program

## Encouraging student engagement inside and outside the classroom

- Undergraduate research opportunities
- Study abroad
- Learning opportunities for undocumented students
- Research and Writing Collective

## HUBS of teaching and learning

- IDEA Student Center
- Teaching + Learning Commons
- OASIS

## Community building and social capital

- Undocumented Student Resource Center
- Raza Resource Centro
- Faculty First Gen Initiative
- Raza Living and Learning Community



# Where are we now?

- Established a work group of faculty, students and staff to develop mission and vision for a Latinx/Chicanx Academic Excellence Initiative and operationalize Task Force recommendations with EDI.
- Hosting key events with community leaders and alumni to build our base of partners in this effort.
- Engaging key stakeholders to fulfill our student-centered mission.
- Partnership with Univision, to promote UC San Diego to the Latinx community.

# Q & A

For more information:

<http://diversity.ucsd.edu/initiatives/latinx-academic-excellence/index.html>

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