CHCI Graduate Fellows Host Capitol Hill Policy Briefing Series on Education

Education 2015-03-13 06:56:33

Washington, DC - The Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute (CHCI), the nation's premier Latino youth leadership development and educational services organization, and its 2014-15 class of CHCI Graduate Fellows, will host the first session of the 2015 Capitol Hill Policy Briefing Series on Monday, March 16 at the Cannon House Office Building. National leaders and subject matter experts will participate on three diverse panels featuring in-depth discussions addressing some of the most critical education issues facing the Latino community today. The Fellows will also present white papers on the topic of each panel.

"This class of fellows has worked very hard to create insightful and powerful white papers on issues we all should be talking about to improve our communities," said Esther Aguilera, CHCI President & CEO. "The panels the fellows will convene enhance their research with thought-provoking discussions with the foremost leaders in their respective fields of work."

What: **2015 Capitol Hill Policy Briefing Series**

Who: **CHCI 2014-15 Graduate Fellows**

Where: Cannon House Office Building – Room 122

Washington, DC 20515

When: March 16, 2015

9:30 – 10:45 am

"Hispanic-Serving Institutions and the Viability of a Federal Ratings System"

11:00 am – 12:15 pm
"Reaching for 2020: The Role of Latino Community College Success in National College Completion Goals"

1:00 – 2:15 pm
"*College Knowledge as Cultural Capital*"

See summit links below for complete list of speakers

For more information on speakers and panelists, please visit the **2015 Capitol Hill Policy Briefing Series**.

For media RSVPs, please send email to Scott Gunderson Rosa at sgrosa@chci.org.

2015 Capitol Hill Policy Briefing Series
Cannon House Office Building – Room 122

9:30 – 10:45 am	**"Hispanic Serving Institutions and the Viability of a Federal Rating System"** *Moderated by CHCI- McDonald's Higher Education Graduate Fellow Félix Muñiz Jr. 2015 Higher Education Graduate Briefing White Paper - Félix Muñiz Jr.* In seeking to address present challenges concerning college affordability and institutional quality, President Barack Obama has announced an ambitious plan to implement a Postsecondary Institutional Rating System (PIRS). Harnessing relevant student data, the system intends to: 1) provide families with reliable consumer information on college choice; 2) inform institutional policy and practice; 3) and enable an accountability structure within the federal financial aid program. Seen as a potential high stakes evaluation, a frequent question for the U.S. Department of Education has been how it will come to define college value and rate institutional performance. Other recurrent questions pertain to the unintended impacts of PIRS implementation, particularly upon the nation's diverse set of academic institutions and the wide array of students they serve. For Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs), these questions figure prominently. This briefing brings together experts to comment on the viability of PIRS to serve as an effective transparency and accountability tool for HSIs. ***Click here to learn more about this briefing.***
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	**"Reaching for 2020: The Role of Latino Community College Success in National College Completion Goals"** *Moderated by CHCI Higher Education Graduate Fellow Tracie Sánchez 2015 Higher Education Graduate Briefing White Paper - Tracie Sánchez* Ambitious national completion goals set by the Obama Administration have prompted dialogue around unmet workforce demands, educational equity, and the role of Latino college completion. Although representing a significant portion of the American mosaic, educational attainment for Latinos remains relatively low, as they continue to face barriers towards college completion. In 2012, it is estimated that 21.3 percent of Latino adults had earned an associate's degree or higher compared to a 40.1 percent average of adults in the country. To increase college completion among Latinos, federal policy must play a central role by ensuring sustained funding of Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSIs) and advocating for more efficient streamlining of students from community college to four-year institutions. This briefing explores recommendations for re-authorization of the Higher Education Act, which advances the country's push to once again become the most educated country in the world by addressing concerns of equity among Latino college students across the country. ***Click here to learn more about this briefing.***
12:15 – 1:00 pm	**Afternoon Intermission**

1:00 – 2:15 pm	**"College Knowledge as Cultural Capital"** *Moderated by CHCI Secondary Education Graduate Fellow Braulio Salas* *2015 Secondary Education Graduate Briefing White Paper - Braulio Salas* In its current form, the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), fails to require State Educational Agencies (SEAs) or Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) to provide families with information regarding post-secondary attainment. The limited access to college knowledge is one of various factors that contribute to reduced post-secondary enrollment rates among Latinos. The reauthorization of ESEA provides an opportunity for Congress to improve Latino enrollment rates by strengthening the parental involvement provisions already present in the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act, the most recent reauthorization of ESEA. By amending the legislation to incorporate crucial language on parental engagement, Congress will provide states and local entities with important guidance regarding the type of engagement that should be taking place. This briefing will bring together experts to discuss the importance of developing the whole child and highlight the role that parent engagement plays in student college attainment. ***Click here to learn more about this briefing.***

About CHCI

CHCI is the premier Hispanic nonprofit and nonpartisan 501(c)(3) leadership development organization in the country that educates, empowers, and connects Latino youth by providing leadership development programs and educational services. CHCI directly impacts the lives of more than 1,700 students and young professionals each year through its fellowships, congressional internships, scholarships, Ready to Lead (R2L®) college readiness program, and R2L NextGen program. CHCI NextOpp is its latest resource allowing young Latinos to save, search and share life-changing opportunities for Latinos across the United States.

The CHCI Board of Directors is comprised of Hispanic members of Congress, nonprofit, union and corporate leaders. Visit www.chci.org, or join us on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram.

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