

5.5.5 Presentations at the International Conference on Urban Education

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON URBAN EDUCATION
NOV. 3-5 2017
SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO**

Presentation # 1

Title: University of Puerto Rico's projects to promote access

Strand: Education (P-12; Higher; Adult; Community) in Urban Contexts

Session Type: Paper

Descriptors: Higher education, student recruitment and retention, under represented population

Abstract:

In 2008, the following projects were developed by UPR System: *Center for University Access (CUA)* located at the UPR- Mayagüez Campus and the *College Access Challenge Grant Program (CACGP)* serving the whole UPR system. These initiatives recognize that economic development within the "knowledge society" can only be accomplished by ensuring that every individual, regardless of their socioeconomic background, has the opportunity to receive a post-secondary education. The goal of these projects is to provide programs aimed to reduce the recruitment gap that exists between the affluent and less-affluent student groups. The Panel will describe the activities developed by these projects to help reduce the access gap and the lessons learned along the way.

Contact information:

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Presentation #2

Title: Professional development for English teachers of 21st century learners

Strand: Education (P-12; Higher; Adult; Community) in Urban Contexts

Session Type: Roundtable

Descriptors: Technology; art; teacher professional development

Abstract:

For the past 10 years this Project has offered a professional training program to teachers of English that would help them understand and serve the needs of their students and the demands of 21st century society. It responded to the needs of urban schools within the urban area of San Juan, allowing these teachers to update their knowledge regarding the latest developments in teaching English as a second language. The Project impacted teachers from elementary and middle schools who designed innovative lesson plans integrating art and technology to promote learning of listening, speaking, reading comprehension, and writing skills in English. Sample lessons designed by the participants as a result of the Project will be shared at the presentation.

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Presentation #3

Title: Collaborative Project to Complement Neighboring Schools
Strand: Education (P-12; Higher; Adult; Community) in Urban Contexts
Session Type: Roundtable
Descriptors: Collaboration, partnership school-university
Abstract:

Since August, 2015, the College of Education at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus has been piloting the Collaborative Project to Complement Neighboring Schools. Three public schools located in the Río Piedras community and two public schools located within the Greater San Juan Area have participated in the project. The Roundtable will focus on three different initiatives developed with the Luis Muñoz Rivera Elementary School (LMR): Art in LMR, the Reading and Writing Project, and the Enrichment Education for Parents Project. Gladys Capella, Ed.D., (liaison between the University and the School), a professor from the UPR Elementary School, and a teacher from LMR School will share their experiences with each one of these initiatives.

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Presentation # 4

Title: University-School Encounters: A Project in Student-Teacher Development
Strand: Education (P-12; Higher; Adult; Community) in Urban Contexts
Session Type: Panel with a video demonstration
Descriptors: School student immersion, university access, Teacher Induction, School-university partnership, Collaboration
Abstract:

The University-School Encounters project promotes the establishment of a connection between urban public school students and teachers with the College of Education at the University of Puerto Rico (UPR). As a teacher preparation program, we wish to reconnect with our graduates in a manner that can provide support to their educational projects. The project also develops educational and fun activities that students can enjoy and actively participate in. We want to encourage students to see themselves, not only as future college students, but also as future teaching professionals. The video will provide live demonstrations of excellent and participatory pedagogical practices.

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Presentation # 5**Title:** Teaching Social Studies in Urban Contexts: Rethinking methodology and content**Strand:** Education (P-12; Higher; Adult; Community) in Urban Contexts**Session Type:** Roundtable**Descriptors:** Social Studies, Curriculum Integration,**Abstract:**

Students at the elementary school level perceive the Social Studies Curriculum as a set of irrelevant facts. However, when learners use their environment as a laboratory and are engaged in research, the class becomes a powerful tool for understanding their context and its relationship with the Social Studies class. Changing the curriculum requires revising content and methodology, as well as the integration of other disciplines. This presentation will demonstrate how to use an integrated approach within the Social Studies Curriculum that will give students a broader and deeper perspective of their urban context. We will present themes such as *Rediscovering the City* which includes segments such as: *How do we get to the city?* (oral history), *Discovering nooks* (Architecture, Geography), *Urban markets* (Science, Math), and *Recreational spaces in urban contexts* (Art).

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