

Collaborative Educational Programs for the Americas
(CEPA) Leadership Consortium
The Millennial Generation - Developing Tomorrow's Leaders
San Antonio, Texas, October 9-11, 2014
Executive Summary



CEPA 2014 once again proved to be a most enjoyable and gratifying event. The El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel was the perfect setting. The conference began with educators and scholars from OLLU, UIW, TAMUSA, UTSA providing guidance and serving as mentors to undergraduate McNair and Business Scholars. Many dynamic exchanges occurred during the round-robin discussions and the students also had the opportunity to make presentations. The Honorable Ivy Taylor, Mayor, City of San Antonio, began the general opening session by envisioning a model that encourages all universities to be at the forefront in dealing with the challenges of the 21st century. She reminded everyone of the connection that exists among the universities in San Antonio and campuses throughout the hemisphere for developing tomorrow's leaders, today. Specifically, she challenged every university in San Antonio to get involved in providing educational leadership for all young people to become productive leaders throughout the Americas. She applauded the commitment from the other top-level universities represented at this leadership event. They include Texas A&M University at College Station, to UT-Dallas and West Texas A&M University, as well as Pepperdine University on the west coast, to delegates from Washington DC, and the University of Puerto Rico.

It was a touching, heart-felt moment when the delegates heard Mayor Taylor read, "Now, therefore, I, Ivy R. Taylor, Mayor of the City of San Antonio. . . do hereby proclaim October 9-11, 2014, to be "*CEPA Conference Days*."

These conference events supported CEPA's mission:

CEPA is a Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation, and an innovative approach for developing future leaders in conjunction with their formal academic program.



Speakers: At many top-level universities, the direction has moved to recruit, coach and inspire a new generation of leaders so that they will not only do today's important work but also invent tomorrow's. Sharing their vision on leadership were (l to r): Christie Cooper, Pepperdine University; Dr. Fernando Fuentes, Global Health Fellows Program, Washington DC; and Dr. Cornell Thomas, Texas Christian University.

CEPA promotes partnerships with an interdisciplinary group of professionals to initiate a dynamic interchange of ideas with those dedicated to a common mission and philosophy



Panel of Deans: This conference pulled together the expertise and experience of leading thinkers to discuss their philosophies of leadership. Serving on the panel were Dr. Betty Merchant, The University of Texas at San Antonio; Dr. Michael Laney, Our Lady of the Lake University; Dr. Forrest Aven, University of the Incarnate Word; and Dr. Eric Lopez, Texas A&M University-San Antonio.

The goals of the event are to encourage, mentor and support new and upcoming leaders in diverse fields of interest; improve leadership through collaboration; maintain a focus on humanistic values and ethical practices; and develop independent, innovative and creative thinkers.



Collaboration: CEPA provided formal and informal opportunities for leaders to learn to be visionary, become risk-takers, and break away from old paradigms to make positive changes. Through CEPA qualities and skills are gained for a strong foundation of leadership: relentless drive to improve education, and a deep sense of integrity and inner strength.

Sound Offs

"Thanks for the opportunity to present our work on service learning in San Antonio. ...we had a great experience, and look forward to next year. We believe the CEPA conference will be one that can grow and we plan to visit with faculty and doctoral students to get them involved." Dr. Cindy Boettcher and Dr. Janet Hammer, Texas A&M University at College Station.

"It was indeed a joy and a delight to rub shoulders with you once again and glean your wisdom. KUDOS to you Dr. Dorel for a magnificent job of organizing the undergraduate activities as well as the Dean's Panel." Dr. Michael Laney, Our Lady of the Lake University.

"Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity and I hope to see you next year." Wednesday Casanova, James Laney, McNair Scholars, Our Lady of the Lake University.

CEPA 2015

Save the date! October 22-24, 2015, El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel, San Antonio, Texas