

**DREAM Act Symposium**  
**Development Relief, Education of Alien Minors Act**  
**S. 729 – H.R. 1751**  
**Challenges and Opportunities:**  
***Conversation about Immigration, Education and Public Policy***  
April 9, 2009  
Hughes-Trigg Student Center  
Southern Methodist University  
Dallas, Texas

**AGENDA**

8:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m. – Registration (Ballroom area)

9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. – **Welcome** (Theatre)

Dr. Cordelia Candelaria, Dean of Dedman School, Southern Methodist University

***Setting the stage: Why is this important and what should we come away with at the end of the day?***

Yolette Garcia, Larry James, Rene Martinez

9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. – Morning Plenary (Theatre)

***What is the economic and public policy impact of having well-trained graduates unable to work?  
In what ways may this affect the American economy, our country's edge in innovation and  
intellectual capital?***

Moderator: Michael Sorrell, J.D., President, Paul Quinn College

Speakers:

Diana Flores, Vice Chair, Board of Trustees, Dallas County Community College District

Dr. Marcus Martin, President, Education Is Freedom, Inc.

Dr. Lloyd Jeff Dumas, Professor of Political Economy, Economics, and Public Policy, UT-Dallas

Dr. Edward Rincon, President, Rincon & Associates

Dr. Felix Zamora, President, Mountain View Community College

**Q & A**

**BREAK**

11:30 – 1:30 p.m.—Lunch with Keynote Address Followed by Panel Discussion  
**Ballrooms Central and West**

Invocation: Tom Landis with Rene Martinez

***A Blueprint for U.S. Immigration Reform***

Keynote Speaker: Frank Sharry, President and Founder, America's Voice

Introduction: Dr. David J. Chard, Dean of the Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development

Invited Respondents

Moderator: Cal Jillson, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Political Science Professor, Dedman College, SMU

Anne Estrada, Consultant and Former Dallas Regional Director of Immigration and Naturalization Service

Harold W. Stanley, the Geurin-Pettus Distinguished Chair in American Politics and Political Economy, Dedman College, SMU

Nathan Cortez , Assistant Professor of Law, Dedman School of Law, SMU

Beto Cardenas, Vinson & Elkins, Former Congressional Staffer to Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson

**Q & A**

**BREAK**

1:45 p.m. –2:30 p.m. – Action/Dialogue Sessions (choose 1 or 2)

**RED Session – Accessing Higher Education (The Forum)**

Accessing higher education may be a daunting, but not impossible process. Join experts from higher education and community organizations for a discussion that will cover the historical context of the federal and state versions of the DREAM Act and learn how to leverage existing resources to go to public/private colleges and universities in Texas.

Facilitators:

Fernando Salazar, Director, Hispanic Student Affairs, SMU

Michelle Bobadilla, Senior Associate Vice President for Outreach Services, UT Arlington

Leila Gary, Public Policy Analyst, Education Is Freedom

Rey De Los Santos, Director, LULAC

**BLUE Session – Beyond Student Status - Employment and Workforce issues - (Ballroom East)**

Many students face the great uncertainty of whether they will be able to use their degrees to enter the workforce following graduation. This session will cover the requirements for employment authorization in the U.S. and any special requirements to enlist in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Facilitators:

Major Jose Ortiz. U.S. Army Reserve, JAG Corps

Tessy Ortiz, Attorney at Law

2:30 – 4:00 p.m. – Action/Dialogue Sessions

**RED Session 3—A Call for Student Leadership (The Forum)**

The Mega Marches of 2006 around the United States were galvanized by students in a digital age who used texting, blogs, facebook, and email to communicate with their peers and effect change. This session will address the motivations of student leadership, and the challenges and opportunities students face as they mobilize.

Facilitators:

Liz Cedillo-Pereira, Attorney At Law

Ramiro Luna - DREAM Act.com

Julietta Garibay - University Leadership Initiative

Benny Veliz

**BLUE Session – Legal Rights Track (Ballroom East)**

Many immigrants find themselves in ICE custody following routine traffic stops or as a result of worksite raids. What, if any, legal rights do they have and what are practical steps for exercising those rights?

Facilitators:

Eric Cedillo, Cedillo-Pereira & Cedillo, PLLC

Erin Pederson – Catholic Charities of Dallas

David Mullins, Catholic Charities of Dallas

3:15 p.m. - **Wrap-Up and Summary of Next Steps (The Forum)**

Moderator: Yolette Garcia, Assistant Dean, External Affairs and Outreach, Annette Caldwell Simmons School of Education and Human Development

5:00 p.m. – **Reception Ballroom area**

**Invited Entertainment:**

**Excerpt from *Son of A Immigrant or How to Owe the Dream* by Phillip Morales, SMU Alumnus and Dallas Playwright**