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NERCHE Updates...

April 5, 2006 • Vol. 1, Issue 1

The New England Resource Center for Higher Education

(NERCHE) is a center for inquiry, research, and policy.

NERCHE supports administrators, faculty, and staff across the region in becoming more effective practitioners and leaders as they navigate the complexities of institutional innovation and change.

NERCHE

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NERCHE Updates is a new, bimonthly electronic newsletter for the UMass Boston community to inform you about recent events and activities. We welcome your feedback.

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Campus Diversity in Transformation: A Symposium in Celebration of the Inauguration of Chancellor Michael F. Collins

Sponsored by NERCHE, the Graduate College of Education.

*April 25, 9:30-11:00, Alumni Lounge, Campus Center
Breakfast reception and presentation*

As part of the upcoming events celebrating the inauguration of Chancellor Michael F. Collins, **Roberto Ibarra**, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of New Mexico and author of *Beyond Affirmative Action: Reframing the Context of Higher Education* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2001) will explore the implications of a shifting historical context for diversity on the academy. [More information about this and other Inaugural events...](#)

Speakers Series on Campus-Community Partnerships

On April 10, **David Maurrasse**, a leading author, speaker, and researcher on the relationship between major institutions and their surrounding communities from Columbia University, will discuss ways to engage financial institutions and philanthropic organizations in university-community partnerships, and provide guidance on how to leverage resources to strengthen projects and programs between institutions of higher education and their surrounding communities. The Speakers Series on Campus-Community Partnerships is a collaboration between NERCHE and the Worcester UniverCity Partnership that focuses on the role of colleges and universities in economic development. [More information on this series and other NERCHE partnerships...](#)

Dinner and Conversation on Diversity and the Core of the Academy

What is the future for diversity of higher education? On April 25 at the Hoagland-Pincus Conference Center in Shrewsbury, MA, join **Roberto Ibarra**, Associate Professor of Sociology at the University of New Mexico and author of *Beyond Affirmative Action: Reframing the Context of Higher Education* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2001) to explore the implications for access when colleges and universities acknowledge, support, and affirm differences in approaches to student learning. This presentation and discussion is part of NERCHE's ongoing series of all-think-tank dinner events that bring together members from NERCHE's six think tanks for administrators and faculty, with along with other practitioners, scholars, policymakers and graduate students in higher education from across New England. [More information about the All Think Tank event, including how to register...](#)

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New Funded Projects

NERCHE received a \$200,000 grant from the Ford Foundation for programs and activities that connect practitioner knowledge and experience to policy-level discussions and analysis. The project, *Informing Policy with Practice: Bringing the Perspective of Practitioners to the Policy Arena*, will (1) enhance and deepen the effectiveness of think tanks for improving practice and influencing policy change in higher education; (2) create a regional consortium for gathering institutional data that will assist campuses in New England in improving institutional practice and informing policy, and (3) develop resources focused on the Scholarship of Engagement by building on current activities around professional service and academic outreach in order to become a resource for higher education regionally and nationally for practices and policies related to the scholarship of engagement and the institutional environment that supports it. [More information on NERCHE's funded projects...](#)

The Ernest A. Lynton Award for Faculty Professional Service and Academic Outreach

This year, NERCHE reviewed 83 nominations of faculty from each region of the country and every institutional type for this annual award that honors faculty who use their expertise to serve public needs and have a lasting impact on their institutions. The outstanding quality of this year's pool of candidates resulted in the selection of three recipients: **Glynda Hull**, Professor of Language, Literacy, and Culture in the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Berkeley; **Julia Lupton**, Professor of English and Comparative Literature at the University of California, Irvine; and **Katherine O'Donnell**, Professor of Sociology at Hartwick College. [More information about the Lynton Award and recipients...](#)

NERCHE at the Graduate College of Education, UMass Boston has received support from the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, Lumina Foundation, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, The Institute for College Access and Success, the Annie E. Casey Foundation, the Atlantic Philanthropies, the Ford Foundation, the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Exxon Education Foundation, the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, The Education Resources Institute, and the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

For more information about any of the above events or activities, please contact NERCHE at (617) 287-7740 or via email at nerche@umb.edu.

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