

CALCULUS ROUNDTABLE

PRESS RELEASE

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Title: New report lists the ‘Top 50 STEM Colleges and Universities for Latinx Students’

Intro: The nonprofit, Calculus Roundtable has released its third and updated ‘Top 50 STEM Colleges and Universities for Latinx Students’ report. The long awaited updated list, used in college admission offices across the country is now available as a premium guide for parents, students and administrators looking for qualities in colleges that meet the needs of Latinx students interested in everything from astrophysics to zoology. According to the report, this year’s list was compiled using research-based indicators including culturally inclusive curricula, faculty diversity, number of Pell Grant recipients and more. Visit calculusroundtable.org/latinxtop50 to view the full report.

According to a new report released today by the nonprofit Calculus Roundtable , Latinos now represent the largest minority group in colleges and universities across America and yet, in the University of California system alone, less than 5 % of Latinx students declare a major in a STEM degree.

“ This tells us that there is still much more work to be done when it comes to making sure these institutions are culturally inclusive and supportive of all students, says Calculus Roundtable Executive Director, Jim Hollis.

To compile their Top 50 list, Calculus Roundtable used research-based indicators including graduation rates for Latinos in STEM majors; percentage of Latinx faculty Latinx; number of graduate degrees awarded annually to Latinos majoring in STEM disciplines; availability of financial aid, grants and scholarships specifically earmarked for Latinx students in STEM studies; plus additional qualitative measures such as campus diversity initiatives and mentorship programs aimed at supporting Latinx students’ success in science, technology, engineering, and math.

The top 50 list was compiled through an extensive research process using publicly available data sets, interviews and surveys – features a range of four-year universities from small liberal arts institutions to large state schools, with nearly half (24) located on the East Coast corridor.

According to the report's creators, one of the main goals is to help dispel myths of Latinx students where they are and what they can achieve academically. While strides have been made, the report indicates that many Latinx students do not receive the proper preparation in high school for admissions into many higher level math and science university programs.

In addition to the comprehensive list, the report offers valuable insights about what makes these institutions so successful in recruiting and graduating Latinx STEM majors. Many of these colleges have made concerted efforts to become more culturally inclusive, which is reflected in their offerings and campus life. Altogether, this report underscores how important it is that all educational institutions take into account the unique needs of their Latinx students.

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“As the fastest growing demographic in the United States, it’s important that we focus on creating welcoming environments for Latinx students throughout their educational journey – from Pre-Kindergarten through graduate school,” said Yolanda Ferraloro, Director of Research for Calculus Roundtable. “This report provides valuable information for families looking for quality higher education options that reflect Latinx identities and meet our unique needs as a community. We hope administrators take note of what is working well at some of these schools so they can emulate these practices elsewhere.”

“Our goal with this guide is simple,” Ms Ferraloro continued, “We want every Latino student who dreams of having a career in science or math, regardless of their background or zip code, to have access to information about institutional climates that will support them.”

So whether you’re a parent looking for guidance or a student ready to take on the challenge posed by a rigorous science or math degree program, make sure you check out this indispensable resource first.
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