
BEA Award in Support of Conferences and Workshop 2024

Workshop or Conference name: National Latinx Psychological Association (NLPA)

Sponsoring Organization: National Latinx Psychological Association; Hispanic/Latino Behavioral Health Center of Excellence; InterAmerican Psychological Association; the University of Puerto Rico, and Carlos Albizu University

Conference or workshop date: 10/17/2024

Goals and objectives

The clarity and nature of the conference or workshop goals and objectives and how they will enhance the training of faculty and supervisors of graduate students, interns, and/or postdoctoral fellows in psychology.

NLPA is seeking funds for our annual conference scheduled to take place on October 17-19, 2024 in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The theme of our event, Weaving A Community-Engaged Psychological Science, reflects our commitment to fostering collaborative efforts to understand, support, and empower our diverse communities. Featured keynote speakers (Drs. Steve Lopez, Teresa Chapa, Cynthia Garcia Coll, & Alison Cerezo) highlight critical approaches for doing state-of-the-art community-engaged research. We will be offering approximately 70 hours of continuation education credits across the three days.

Many presentations focus on best practices for providing culturally-informed services to diverse Latinx communities. We will have a special workshop unveiling NLPA's new treatment guidelines for best practices in training bilingual students. Other presentations focus on addressing professional development issues (e.g., imposter syndrome) and training issues (e.g., culturally-responsive curricular design, reducing burnout, and supervising from a decolonial, liberation lens).

Overall, our conference will provide cutting-edge research findings in the field of Latinx psychology to students, faculty, graduate supervisors, interns, postdoctoral fellows, and practitioners, focusing both on theoretical and practical advancement. One final note: our conference includes presentations in both Spanish and English, with interpretation of keynote and many workshops/symposia part of the programming.

Leadership

The qualifications of the person(s) identified to plan and lead the conference or workshop, relative to the topic of focus. Included in the qualifications should be evidence of national or regional leadership (e.g., publication of scholarly works related to education and training, participation/leadership in past workshops, etc.)

The 2024 NLPA Conference is being led by our President Dr. Ana J. Bridges and conference chair Dr. Oscar F. Rojas Perez. Dr. Bridges is a Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychological Science at the University of Arkansas and has published over 120 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, focusing on understanding and reducing mental health disparities in vulnerable populations. The bulk of her work includes academic-community partnerships to enhance the cultural relevance of her research. She has received numerous mentoring awards for her dedication to the training of underrepresented graduate students. Dr. Rojas Perez is an Assistant Professor at Yale School of Medicine and has published over 25 peer-reviewed articles and book chapter focusing on Latinx mental health. He recently was awarded an NIH K23 grant centered on a mental health treatment engagement intervention for Latinxs that is trauma-informed, and peer led. Both Drs. Bridges and Rojas Perez have prior experience serving on the NLPA board and have a history of working together, both serving as sponsorship co-chairs for NLPA during the 2018 year.

All keynote speakers have doctoral degrees in psychology; most are bilingual, all have impressive records of scholarly accomplishments, and all have been involved in education and training of psychology students, interns, or postdoctoral fellows. They draw on these experiences to provide education of conference-theme related topics to our attendees.

Participants

The qualifications of conference or workshop participants relative to the topic of focus, including their potential for implementing outcomes of the conference or workshop toward enhancing graduate education.

Our membership of approximately 1000 people is currently made up of ~50% students (nearly all graduate students), 20% early career professionals, and 20% mid- and later-career professionals from the disciplines of counseling, clinical, school, social, and educational psychology. Our annual conference typically attracts between 400 and 550 attendees. For this year's conference we already have nearly 450 people registered, so we anticipate exceeding 500 attendees. We are certain that our conference program will enhance the training of students, faculty, graduate supervisors, interns, postdoctoral fellows, and practitioners and provide attendees with the opportunity to share resource, acquire new knowledge on innovative approaches to science and practice, and build community.

Impact

The estimated or potential impact of the conference or workshop in terms of the diffusion of new ideas resulting from its outcomes in the education community appropriate to the proposal's focus.

The conference is designed to serve as a catalyst for the introduction and dissemination of innovative ideas and practices within the education, science, and practice communities, particularly focusing on student, faculty, graduate supervisors, interns, postdoctoral fellows, and practitioners in Latinx psychology. The conference will feature sessions where leading researchers present their most recent work, ensuring that attendees are exposed to the latest advancements in Latinx psychology. As noted above, many sessions have an explicit focus on graduate training (e.g., best practices for bilingual training; co-creation of culturally-informed graduate curricula, and supervision from a decolonial, liberation, and feminist lens). Moreover, the conference will provide numerous opportunities for attendees to connect, exchange ideas, and form professional relationships, fostering ongoing collaboration. The program sessions will also feature interactive workshops that will equip attendees

with practical skills and strategies that they can immediately implement in their work. We hope that the new insights gained from the conference program will inform the development of culturally-responsive and inclusive curricula and treatments, improving the quality of education and training provided to Latinx trainees and professionals.

Budget

The clarity and completeness of the conference or workshop budget, how realistic it is, how the grant funds are to be used to offset expenses incurred (e.g., travel, registration, speaker fees), as well as provide strong justification for the requested amount and whether the conference or workshop can be offered without BEA funding.

We request \$6,525 of BEA to provide interpretation services for keynote speakers and featured workshops during the three days of our convention. Without BEA funding, we are unlikely to be able to afford offering keynote addresses to both English and Spanish speaking conference attendees.

NLPA's board approved a conference budget of \$230,000. We faced a financial crisis this year after last year's conference expenses, which exceeded the approved budget by nearly \$300,000. This year, we have implemented numerous strategies to contain costs and increase sponsorship, including increasing membership and registration rates; negotiating lower costs with the conference hotel; aggressively fundraising; and partnering with other organizations. To date, we have obtained over \$60,000 in sponsorship, which is nearly double any prior record we held as an association. And yet, we are still counting every penny to ensure we remain within budget because we have no financial cushion after last year's expenses. One thing we did not budget for was the cost of interpreter services. We are hoping to use BEA funds to purchase interpreter services for the convention through Traducoop. Traducoop is based in Puerto Rico. They quoted us a rate of \$275/hour. We request 5 hours of interpreter services for 3 days ($\$275/\text{hour} \times 5 \text{ hours per day} \times 3 \text{ days} = \$4,125 \text{ total}$). A sound booth is also required for interpreters, which is estimated to be another \$800 per day ($\$800 \times 3 \text{ days} = \$2400 \text{ total}$).