

Kimberly Charles

From: Allison Pease
Sent: Thursday, September 15, 2022 4:30 PM
To: Allison Pease
Subject: AA - Hispanic Heritage Month Felicidades to our Champions

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Today marks the beginning of Hispanic Heritage Month which provides Academic Affairs the opportunity to acknowledge the role we play in creating educational equity as an Hispanic-Serving Institution and to celebrate the contributions and accomplishments our faculty and staff have made in the past year to advance the educational advancement of our Latinx students and/or awareness of the accomplishments and heritage of Hispanics in the U.S.

FELICIDADES to **Dean of Research and Student Professional Advancement, Anthony Carpi**, who was awarded a five-year grant of \$4,700,000 from the Department of Education for promoting Hispanic scientists by expanding the number and retention of Hispanic students in our CUNY Justice Academy computer science and science majors as well as providing alumni and career mentoring.

FELICIDADES to **Manuel Chaparro, Supervisor of the Modern Language Center**, who earned a BRAVO award this year for outstanding management of the learning center, including success with Spanish tutors and Hispanic heritage students whose increased attendance at the learning center (a visit of 4 or more times) correlated to more successful outcomes and decreases in DFWI rates.

FELICIDADES to **Professor Lissette Delgado-Cruzata, Sciences**, who has been awarded a \$200,000 National Science Foundation grant to transform the pedagogical approach in our introductory science courses to be culturally affirming and anti-racist, with specific emphasis on improving the graduation of Hispanic students in STEM. Dr. Delgado-Cruzata was also awarded a \$10,000 BRESI grant to expand the peer mentorship "Female Empowerment through Mentoring Minorities in STEM (FEMMS).

FELICIDADES to **Professor Virginia Diaz-Mendoza, SEEK**, who is one of two selected Andrew W. Mellon Transformative Learning in the Humanities Pedagogy Co-Leaders helping faculty from around CUNY design equitable, creative, student-centered pedagogical research for the rich diversity of CUNY students. Dr. Diaz-Mendoza was also awarded a \$5,000 BRESI grant to work with SEEK instructors to provide humanizing educational experiences for SEEK students.

FELICIDADES to **Professors Cristina Lozano- Argüelles and Aída Martínez-Gómez, Modern Languages and Literature**, who are part of a \$630,384 Department of Education grant to develop, pilot, and research the impact of an interpreting curriculum to address the strengths and needs of future interpreters who are heritage speakers. This project will expand the nation's capacity to train heritage language students in the professional field of translation and interpreting.

FELICIDADES to **Professor José Luis Morín, Latin American and Latinx Studies**, who founded the Elia Morín Scholarship Program for students and this year increased giving to eight students to support academic and career success among LLS majors and minors.

FELICIDADES to **Professor Lisandro Pérez, Latin American and Latinx Studies**, who was one of 18 members named to the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Latino’s Scholarly Advisory Committee this year.

FELICIDADES to Professor **Belinda Rincón, Latin American and Latinx Studies and English**, who was awarded a **\$20,000 BRESI grant** to help the LLS Department to promote greater understanding and awareness of racially-motivated violence targeting Latinx communities in the United States by mentoring students in a variety of research projects, including: ten student research projects and presentations, an online resource site designed and maintained by students on the history and legacy of anti-Latinx violence, a theatrical performance, and a public capstone symposium featuring student projects.

FELICIDADES to **Nancy Yang, Director of First Year Programs SASP**, who founded and directs the CREAR Futuros peer coaching program with \$65,000 annual support from the Hispanics Federation. CF peer coaches work with 200 freshmen and sophomores in the *Adelante!* program, a two-year cohort program that supports the academic success and community engagement of Latinx students. Adelante! was created on multiple HSI grants by **Assistant Dean of Student Engagement and Retention Kate Szur**, with the support and inspiration of faculty from the Department of Latin American and Latinx Studies: **Professors José Luis Morín, Lisandro Pérez, Isabel Martinez and Jodie Roure**.

One of the risks of lists such as these is omitting important contributors – I am sure I don’t know all that happens. But I do know that we want to celebrate those in our community who lead us to improve the educational attainment of our Hispanic students and to advance awareness of the contributions that the long presence of Latinos in the United States and in New York has made.

We are a proud HSI, dedicated to justice. The contributions of our community to *serve* our Hispanic students make me even prouder.

Saludos cordiales,

Allison

Allison Pease
Interim Provost & Vice President of Academic Affairs



524 West 59th Street
New York, NY 10019
(212) 237-8101