



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

2019 Virtual HETS Best Practices Showcase

**Celebrating Innovation in Access, Retention and Online Learning and Technology Integration
to Promote Hispanic Student Success in Higher Education
February 7 to February 15, 2019**

Introduction

The Hispanic Educational Technology Services Consortium (HETS) would like to highlight and celebrate the outstanding work of its member institutions in meaningfully and strategically using technology to achieve Hispanic student success. Taking place in **February 7 to February 15, 2019**, the **2019 Virtual HETS Best Practices Showcase will focus on three main tracks: Access, Retention and Online Learning and Technology Integration in Higher Education**. These topics were identified through the survey HETS office sent to all member institutions, and are included on the HETS Strategic Plan approved by the Board of Directors. This **event will be a combination of live and asynchronous online presentations** with forums to interact with presenters and participants.

HETS has defined a “best practice” as an innovative approach or strategy that, with the effective use of technology, has proven to **increase recruitment, promote student success, improve student retention and completion, and provide institutions with viable, effective, and efficient approaches for Online Learning and Technology Integration in Higher Education**. Overall, it will be a showcase of innovative technology strategies in Higher Education focused on impacting the Hispanic student population by enhancing retention, college completion, and successful learning outcomes.

Certainly, **HETS member institutions are experts in dealing with the Hispanic population and finding ways to provide them with opportunities to succeed**, and we want to open a space for them to share this expertise. Once again, **online participants** will be not only able to learn from the showcased works, but also find solutions to many common issues and even establish new possibilities for collaboration with other institutions and potential partners.

Showcase Tracks

Access

This track targets innovative projects that focus on increasing Hispanics’ access to higher Education and Internationalization initiatives. The project is expected to have had success in demonstrating ways to facilitate Hispanics’ understanding and awareness about opportunities available to access and succeed in Higher Education. This track is intended to **showcase innovative practices that strategically use technology to promote or enhance internationalization activities in distance education and regular programs**. Some examples include:

- Hispanic-focused projects that use technology tools and resources to increase access to Higher Education, and increase student mobility
- Creative technology initiatives developed to help overcome Hispanics’ barriers to Higher Education and facilitate college entry
- Best practices focused on inclusion strategies, and facilitating broader access to disadvantaged populations, including the technology-assessment gap

- Best practices that showcase positive aspects of diversity, and multicultural life in your current campus environment
- Best practices in addressing internationalization issues in both face-to-face education and distance education

Retention

This track is intended to **showcase innovative practices that strategically use technology to support, drive, and optimize retention of Hispanic students in online courses**, and **promoting the effective development and implementation of assessment efforts through the innovative and strategic use of technology in Distance Learning**. It considers projects that innovatively and strategically use technology to track, measure, support, and assess Hispanic student learning success and projects that demonstrate how their approach has had a significant impact on their success in supporting and increasing Hispanic student retention in online courses or programs. Some examples include:

- Projects that demonstrate how your institution adapt student support services to promote a higher level of motivation among students in the online environment
- Projects that demonstrate how your institutions manage/perform student assessment in distance education
- Best practices using technology to assess student's performance in online environments, and its features and effectiveness
- Strategic use of technology to manage/deal/support student body diversity in distance education and cultural shock avoidance in the online environment
- Projects that demonstrate how your institution promote quality in the online environment
- Projects that demonstrated the usefulness of new technologies like mobile technology and social media, tablets, lecture capture, among others, to increase retention among Hispanics
- Best practices using technology to deal with student motivation and engagement in the online and face to face environments
- Implementation of technology-based remediation, counseling, tutoring, or mentoring services in English, Spanish or Bilingual
- Identify risk factors associated with financial crisis, to develop online support services to help students overcome them

Online Learning and Technology Integration

This track is intended to showcase innovative practices that strategically use technology to support, drive, and optimize online courses or programs, and promoting the effective development and design through the innovative and strategic use of technology in Distance Learning. We seek presentations with the one of the following topics:

- Projects that demonstrate how your institution promote quality in the online environment
- Projects that demonstrate how your institutions design and offer mobile learning
- Best practices in online courses using web 2.0 tools and open source applications

- Projects that demonstrate how your institution manage/assure the integration of new technologies like tablets and smartphones, interactive tools for discussion used in classrooms and online, digital publication and learning experience, Cloud Services, design and delivery of online and hybrid programs, M learning, focusing on demonstrations of technology usage
- Projects that demonstrate how your institution address cultural diversity among students on virtual learning environments, with emphasis on immigrant Hispanic students, and providing for the acquisition and development of coping and adaptive strategies such as resiliency
- Projects using analytics as a source of students' learning assessment processes, and assessment and development of existing or new virtual academic programs

Evaluation Criteria

The Evaluation Committee will evaluate submitted projects on the basis of the following criteria. Each area will be rated on a scale from 1 to 7 (1= non-satisfactory; 7 =outstanding), for a maximum of 63 points.

1. Level of innovation
2. Meaningful use of technology - demonstrates not only how technologies were put in place but also how effectively those technologies were to achieving the goals in performance in online or traditional environments
3. Demonstrated benefit to overall student success and institutional effectiveness
4. Contribution to decision-making and improvement processes
5. Usefulness and cost-effectiveness
6. Use of specific examples, evidence, or indicators to demonstrate success
7. Quality of the proposal
8. Hispanic focus
9. Lessons learned

Evaluation Committee

Evaluation Committee members are selected from HETS Member Institutions, based on their expertise with the nominated track to validate their peers' proposals.

Process to submit your proposal

Submit a short proposal (no more than five pages long) using the electronic platform available at; https://hets.org/wp-admin/admin-ajax.php?action=frm_forms_preview&form=cmb10t342. Include the following information:

- Track
- Name and your position at your institution
- Institution
- Department
- Language: the proposal can be submitted and presented (if selected) in English or Spanish
- Title and general description of the project including:
 - Demonstrated benefit to overall student success and institutional effectiveness
 - Contribution to decision-making and improvement processes
 - Usefulness and cost-effectiveness
 - Use of specific examples, evidence, or indicators to demonstrate success
 - Hispanic focus
 - Lessons learned

- Description of the technology or technologies used
- Explain how your project results or accomplishments helped **support one or more of the following** items:
 - optimize retention of Hispanic students in online or regular courses or programs
 - promote the effective development and implementation of assessment efforts
 - innovative practices that strategically use technology to promote or enhance internationalization activities in distance education and traditional programs
 - innovative practices that strategically use technology to promote or enhance placement efforts at institutions
- Discuss why this project should be considered a “best practice”
- Highlights of your proposed presentation
- Brief bio of the presenter(s) – (up to 100 words each) profile photo is optional, but highly recommended

Make sure to take into account the above mentioned **evaluation criteria** when writing your proposal. The deadline to submit your proposal is **November 26, 2018**, and the **expected date to notify the status** of your proposal is **December 17, 2018**. **Presentations of up to three presenters will be considered**. Allotted **time for live presentation will be of 30 minutes for presentation and up to 15 minutes** for participants’ questions. Allotted **time for upload / asynchronous presentations will be up to 30 minutes** and participants’ questions will be submitted online and sent by email to be replied.

Live online presentations:

The **highest scored three presentations** (one per track) will be presenting live upon speakers’ availability. Presentations will be recorded to have them accessible to all participants after the session. Presenter is responsible of technical requirements and to coordinate tests prior the presentation to guaranty the connection to HETS platform. These presentations will be selected based on the evaluations score.

Asynchronous presentations:

Selected additional **scored presentations besides the top three** will be upload it asynchronous at the designated virtual area from the opening date. Presenter is responsible of recording a video in the format **required to upload it by January 25, 2019** with the Power Point presentation. The video **will be up to 30 minutes** long. All participants’ questions should be replied in a period of 48 hours, after posted. Presenters will have access to the system where presentations are uploaded to read questions and be able to answer them for the benefit of all participants. Participants will have the option of see the presentation online or download it to see it offline.

Date and Location

The 2019 Virtual HETS Best Practices Showcase will take place from **February 7 to February 15, 2019** totally **online**, and will be a combination of live presentations and uploaded ones.

Who Should Participate

Academic leaders, Distance Learning Directors, Academic and Student Affairs Vice Presidents or Deans, faculty, technology staff, investigators, corporate representatives related to technology and education, students and general public.

Registration Fees

- HETS Members: **free of charge** (need to register with their institutional email account)
- Regular Fee: **\$50.00** (per track) / **\$100.00** (all tracks)

Additional details on webcast access, as well as the final program, will be available shortly.

**Proposed Schedule per week
 February 7 to February 15, 2019**

1st Week –February 7, 2019

February 7	<i>Live Opening Presentation @ the Turabo University, AGMUS</i>	1:30 - 3:00 pm (EST)
Asynchronous presentations will be uploaded and available 24 hours from February 7 to February 15, 2019.		

2nd week – February 11 to 15, 2019

February 12	Track 1: Access (top highest scored presentation)	3:00 - 4:15 pm (EST)
February 13	Track 2: Retention (top highest scored presentation)	3:00 - 4:15 pm (EST)
February 14	Track 3: Online Learning/Technology Integration (top highest scored presentation)	3:00 - 4:15 pm (EST)
Live webcasted presentations will be archived at the platform and accessible with the rest of asynchronous presentations.		