

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION		
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM (AST/PR TIME)	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus		
9:00 AM - 10:15 AM (AST/PR TIME)	Opening Plenary: <u>Framing with Excelencia: What works Using Data, Practice, and Leadership</u> Presenter: <u>Deborah A. Santiago, CEO, Excelencia in Education</u> Language: English	Haydeé Piñero Buck Auditorium		
10:15 AM - 12:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Coffee Station	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus		
TIME	CONCURRENT SESSION'S LOCATION			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A143)	HALL F (A144)	HALL F (A145)
10:40-11:30 AM (AST/PR TIME)	Online Learning: <u>El impacto de la IA en la producción de cursos en línea</u> Presenter: <u>Ana Milena Lucumi Orostegui, Miembro coalición de IA para Puerto Rico</u> Language: Spanish	Innovation: <u>Transformando el éxito estudiantil: Estrategias innovadoras para la retención y graduación</u> Presenters: <u>Doris V. Rodríguez Quiles and Cristy Nieves, EDP University of PR</u> Language: Spanish	Student Track: <u>Analyzing microangiogenesis of porcine ischemic heart failure through immunohistochemical staining; Screening Compounds for Their Anti-Cell Proliferation Properties</u> Presenters: <u>Taylor Newton; Tina Prajapati, University of Houston-Downtown</u> Language: English	Access (Track Winners): <u>Models for Strengthening College and Career Pathways for Non-Credit English Language and GED Spanish Learners</u> Presenters: <u>John Hunt and David Housel, LaGuardia Community College</u> Language: English
11:40 - 12:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Access: <u>De la Habilidad Bilingüe al Profesionalismo Bilingüe: Potenciando el Vocabulario Técnico en Estudiantes de Negocios</u> Presenter: <u>Dr. Azucena Herrera University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u> Language: Spanish	Student Track: <u>Efectividad del Uso de la tecnología para ofrecimiento de servicios de tutorías</u> Presenters: <u>Susana Ramirez Guedes, Derek Rosado, Fabiana Hernández, and Frances Hernández, EDP University of PR</u> Language: Spanish	Student Track: <u>Utilizing AI to Support in Communication with ASD Individuals; STEM with Purpose</u> Presenters: <u>John M. Esparragoza; Stephanie Chavarria, and Landon Sanz, University of Houston-Downtown</u> Language: English	Innovation: <u>Innovative Pathways: Expanding Access and Inclusion Through Interdisciplinary Cybersecurity Education</u> Presenters: <u>Nieves Angulo, Christelle Dejolie, Moise Koffi, and Amy Ramson, Hostos Community College</u> Language: English



Conference Program

First Day | Thursday, February 12, 2026

To highlight and celebrate the outstanding work that strategically use technology to achieve student success in Higher Education!

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
12:30 - 1:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	LUNCH	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus
1:30 PM - 4:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	CLOSED SESSION: HETS Board of Directors Meeting	Conference Room, Chancelor's Building
1:30 PM - 3:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Coffee Station	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University Carolina Campus

TIME	CONCURRENT SESSION'S LOCATION			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A143)	HALL F (A144)	HALL F (A145)
1:30 - 2:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Innovation: <u>Integrating technologies to support students and create meaningful connections</u> Presenter: <u>Diana Melissa López Robledo, University of Puerto Rico at Ponce</u> Language: Spanish	Online Learning: <u>Enfoques Transformadores para el Desarrollo Profesional del Profesorado en Entornos de Educación a Distancia</u> Presenter: <u>Margie L. Alvarez-Rivera, Universidad de Puerto Rico</u> Language: Spanish	Online Learning (Track Winner): <u>Prompt Engineering for Course Development: Wait, Confirm, Execute</u> Presenter: <u>Nicholas Balderas, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u> Language: English	Access: <u>Flip of Fate: Innovative Experiential Learning in Negotiation Education</u> Presenter: <u>Djordje Djordjevic, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valle</u> Language: English
2:30 - 3:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Online Learning: <u>Uso de la inteligencia artificial en estudiantes universitarios</u> Presenters: <u>Awilda Rosa-Morales and Lillian Pintado,-Sosa, Universidad Ana G. Méndez, Gurabo Campus</u> Language: Spanish	Innovation: <u>From Chatbots to Coach Bots: Practical Uses of Generative AI in Higher Education</u> Presenter: <u>Antonio Vantaggiato, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón</u> Language: Spanish	Student Track: <u>Agrobot and a sustainable future for humanity in space</u> Presenters: <u>Elier Roman Ruiz, Sebastian Medina Maisonet,, and Carlos Laboy Orozco, Inter American University, Bayamón Campus</u> Language: English	Innovation: <u>Beyond the "How-To": A Dual-Framework Model to Drive Strategic LMS Adoption and Empower Student Success</u> Presenters: <u>Armando A. Amador and Nieves Angulo, Hostos Community College, CUNY</u> Language: English
3:30 - 4:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Access: <u>El Poder de las Segundas Oportunidades: GED Solutions como Motor de Innovación y Crecimiento Comunitario</u> Presenter: <u>Gladys Sanchez Santiago, GED Solutions, Inc.</u> Language: Spanish	Innovation: <u>Escalando el impacto de los servicios de carrera: un modelo estratégico replicable en educación superior</u> Presenter: TBC Language: Spanish	Online Learning: <u>The Power of Short-Form Media: The Art of Microlectures and Podcasts</u> Presenters: <u>Jaime A. Rojas and Elizabeth Valdez, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u> Language: English	Innovation: <u>Tech-Powered Apprenticeships: Using Digital Platforms to Expand Access and Improve Work-Based Learning Outcomes for Hispanic Learners</u> Presenters: <u>Carlos Vazquez and Roger Rodriguez, Miami EdTech</u> Language: English

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8:00 - 9:00 AM (AST / PR TIME)	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus
9:00 - 9:15 AM (AST / PR TIME)	Track Winners' Session: <u>Access by John Hunt</u>; <u>Innovation by Nitzan Pelman</u>; <u>Online Learning by Nicholas Balderas</u>; and <u>Student: Pamela Doran</u> Language: English	Haydeé Piñero Buck Auditorium
10:15 AM -12:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Coffee Station	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus
10:30 AM - 12:30 PM (AST / PR TIME)	CLOSED SESSION: HETS Board of Director Meeting - Corporate Session	Conference Room, Chanchelor's Building

TIME	CONCURRENT SESSION'S LOCATION			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A143)	HALL F (A144)	HALL F (A145)
10:40-11:30 AM (AST/PR TIME)	<u>Innovation (Winners All Tracks):</u> <u>How an AI social capital bot helped LaGuardia Community College Students land job offers through building relationships.</u> Presenters: <u>Jessica Perez, LaGuardia Community College (CUNY) and Nitzan Pelman, Founder & CEO, Climb Together</u> Language: English	Student Track: TBC Presenters: TBC Language: TBC	<u>Online Learning:</u> <u>Digital Ethics: Fostering Integrity in the Age AI</u> Presenters: <u>Roberto Rivera and Claudia Vela, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u> Language: English	Student Track: TBC Presenter: TBC Language: TBC
11: 40-12:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Online Learning: TBC Presenter: TBC Language: Spanish	<u>Student: Track:</u> <u>Transforming Visual Merchandising: A Digital Platform to Redefine Retail Planning and Strategy.</u> Presenter: <u>Joyce De Leon Nery, Inter American University of PR, Metro Campus</u> Language: English	<u>Online Learning:</u> <u>Educational Techonology in Undergraduated Research Training at an HIS</u> Presenters: <u>Felisha Herrera and Anthony Villarreal, San Diego State University</u> Language: English	Student Track: TBC Presenter: TBC Language: TBC



Conference Program

Second Day | Friday, February 13, 2026

To highlight and celebrate the outstanding work that strategically use technology to achieve student success in Higher Education!

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
12:30 - 1:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	LUNCH	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus
1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Coffee Station	Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus

TIME	CONCURRENT SESSION'S LOCATION			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A143)	HALL F (A144)	HALL F (A145)
1:30 - 2:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Online Learning: <u>Tendencias Longitudinales del Desempeño en Simulaciones de Negocios</u> Presenters: <u>Moises Laguna-Nieves and Gadiel Ramírez-Rodríguez, Universidad Ana G. Méndez</u> Language: Spanish	Student (Track Winner): <u>Building Multilingual Pathways: Glossary-Informed Machine Translation</u> Presenter: <u>Pamela Doran, SUNY Empire State University</u> Language: English	Innovation: <u>Puerto Rico's Cybersecurity and AI Center of Excellence</u> Presenters: <u>Eric Belardo, Yarice Hidalgo and Loritza Grillasca, Raíces Cyber</u> Language: English	Student Track: <u>Innovation in Puerto Rican Robotics</u> Presentes: <u>Jairon J. Carrasco Cortés, Isamar De Los Santos Ortiz, and Yamira A. Franco-Munroe, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus</u> Language: English
2:30 - 3:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Access: <u>De briefs creativos a bots tutores: Innovaciones con IA para potenciar el éxito estudiantil</u> Presenter: <u>Iliana Ballester-Panelli, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón</u> Language: Spanish	Innovation: <u>Developing Scientific and Language Skills with High-Fidelity Labs for English & Chemistry Mastery in</u> Presenters: <u>Abner J. Colón and Sherlie Vázquez, Ponce Health Sciences University</u> Language: Spanish	Online Learning: <u>Empowering Hispanic Learners Through AI Integration: Best Practices in Online Course Design</u> Presenter: <u>Elga D. Sepúlveda Suárez, Culinary Institute LeNotre</u> Language: English	Access: <u>Scaling Accessibility Education: A Fellowship Program Driving Curricular and Institutional Transformation</u> Presenter: <u>Rolando Méndez, Teach Access</u> Language: English
3:30 - 4:00 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Closing Reception		Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus	