

| TIME                              | CONCURRENT SESSION'S LOCATION                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
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|                                   | HAYDEÉ PIÑERO<br>BUCK AUDITORIUM                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | HALL F (A146)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | HALL F (A145)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | HALL F (A144)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 10:40-11:30 AM<br>(AST/PR TIME)   | <p><b><u>Online Learning:</u></b> <u>El impacto de la IA en la producción de cursos en línea</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Ana Milena Lucumi Orostegui, Miembro Coalición de IA para Puerto Rico</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>             | <p><b><u>Innovation:</u></b> <u>Transformando el éxito estudiantil: Estrategias innovadoras para la retención y graduación</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Doris V. Rodríguez Quiles and Cristy Nieves, EDP University of PR</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>                           | <p><b><u>Student Track:</u></b> <u>Analyzing microangiogenesis of porcine ischemic heart failure through immunohistochemical staining; Screening Compounds for Their Anti-Cell Proliferation Properties;</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Taylor Newton; Tina Prajapati, University of Houston-Downtown;</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p> | <p><b><u>Access (Track Winners):</u></b> <u>Models for Strengthening College and Career Pathways for Non-Credit English Language and GED Spanish Learners</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>John Hunt and David House, LaGuardia Community College</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>               |
| 11:40 - 12:30 PM<br>(AST/PR TIME) | <p><b><u>Innovation:</u></b> <u>Integrating technologies to support students and create meaningful connections</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Diana Melissa López Robledo, University of Puerto Rico at Ponce</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p> | <p><b><u>Student Track:</u></b> <u>Efectividad del Uso de la tecnología para ofrecimiento de servicios de tutorías</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Susana Ramirez Guedes, Derek Rosado, Fabiana Hernández, and Frances Hernández, EDP University of PR</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p> | <p><b><u>Online Learning (Track Winner):</u></b> <u>Prompt Engineering for Course Development: Wait, Confirm, Execute</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Nicholas Balderas, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                                                                                           | <p><b><u>Innovation:</u></b> <u>Innovative Pathways: Expanding Access and Inclusion Through Interdisciplinary Cybersecurity Education</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Nieves Angulo, Christelle Dejolie, Moise Koffi, and Amy Ramson, Hostos Community College</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p> |



# 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
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|                                 | HAYDEÉ PIÑERO<br>BUCK AUDITORIUM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | HALL F (A146)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | HALL F (A145)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | HALL F (A144)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 1:30 - 2:20 PM<br>(AST/PR TIME) | <p><b>Access:</b> <u>De la Habilidad Bilingüe al Profesionalismo Bilingüe: Potenciando el Vocabulario Técnico en Estudiantes de Negocios</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Dr. Azucena Herrera University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>              | <p><b>Online Learning:</b> <u>Enfoques Transformadores para el Desarrollo Profesional del Profesorado en Entornos de Educación a Distancia</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Margie L. Alvarez-Rivera, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p> | <p><b>Innovation:</b> <u>Beyond the "How-To": A Dual-Framework Model to Drive Strategic LMS Adoption and Empower Student Success</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Armando A. Amador and Nieves Angulo, Hostos Community College, CUNY</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p> | <p><b>Student Track:</b> <u>The benefits of micro-internships; Using AI to Help Students with the Transfer Process</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Celeste Meza; Jaime De Jesus Vazquez, CSUSB</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                                         |
| 2:30 - 3:20 PM<br>(AST/PR TIME) | <p><b>Online Learning:</b> <u>Uso de la inteligencia artificial en estudiantes universitarios</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Awilda Rosa-Morales and Lillian Pintado,-Sosa, Universidad Ana G. Méndez, Gurabo Campus</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>                          | <p><b>Innovation:</b> <u>From Chatbots to Coach Bots: Practical Uses of Generative AI in Higher Education</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Antonio Vantaggiato, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>                                                     | <p><b>Online Learning:</b> <u>The Power of Short-Form Media: The Art of Microlectures and Podcasts</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Jaime A. Rojas and Elizabeth Valdez, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                        | <p><b>Student Track:</b> <u>Agrobot and a sustainable future for humanity in space</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Elier Roman Ruiz, Sebastian Medina Maisonet,, and Carlos Laboy Orozco, Inter American University, Bayamón Campus</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>    |
| 3:30 - 4:20 PM<br>(AST/PR TIME) | <p><b>Access:</b> <u>El Poder de las Segundas Oportunidades: GED Solutions como Motor de Innovación y Crecimiento Comunitario</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Presenter: Gladys Sanchez, Edgar Martinez, and David Anderson GED Solutions, Inc.</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p> | <p><b>Innovation:</b> <u>Escalando el impacto de los servicios de carrera: un modelo estratégico replicable en educación superior</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Norma Cervantes and Gabriel Hernández, SYMPPLICITY</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>                               | <p><b>Innovation:</b> <u>TBC</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>TBC</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                                                                                                                                                                     | <p><b>Student Track:</b> <u>Utilizing AI to Support in Communication with ASD Individuals; STEM with Purpose</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>John M. Esparragoza; Stephanie Chavarria and Landon Sanz, University of Houston- Downtown</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p> |

| TIME                                | ACTIVITY                                                                                                                                                                                              | LOCATION                                                                   |
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| 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)      | <p>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></p> <p>Language: English</p> | 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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|                                  | HAYDEÉ PIÑERO<br>BUCK AUDITORIUM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | HALL F (A146)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | HALL F (A145)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | HALL F (A144)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| 10:40-11:30 AM<br>(AST/PR TIME)  | <p><b><u>Innovation (Winners All Tracks):</u></b> How an AI social capital bot helped LaGuardia Community College Students land job offers through building relationships.</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Jessica Perez, LaGuardia Community College (CUNY) and Nitzan Pelman, Founder &amp; CEO, Climb Together</u></p> <p>Language: English</p> | <p><b><u>Student Track:</u></b> Innovation in Puerto Rican Robotics</p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Jairon J. Carrasco Cortés, Isamar De Los Santos Ortiz, and Yamira A. Franco, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, Bayamón Campus</u></p> <p>Language: English</p> | <p><b><u>Online Learning: Digital Ethics: Fostering Integrity in the Age AI</u></b></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Roberto Rivera and Claudia Vela, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>                                          | <p><b><u>Access: Flip of Fate: Innovative Experiential Learning in Negotiation Education</u></b></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Djordje Djordjevic, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valle</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>                                                                                           |
| 11: 40-12:30 PM<br>(AST/PR TIME) | <p><b><u>Online Learning:</u></b> <u>La calidad importa, pero no es suficiente: diseño de experiencias de aprendizaje en línea en la era de la IA</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>José R. Ferrer López, Catedrático, Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez, Universidad de Puerto Rico</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>                             | <p><b><u>Student: Track:</u></b> TBC</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> TBC</p> <p>Language: TBC</p>                                                                                                                                                                              | <p><b><u>Online Learning:</u></b> <u>Empowering Hispanic Learners Through AI Integration: Best Practices in Online Course Design</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Presenter: Elga D. Sepúlveda Suárez, Culinary Institute LeNotre</u></p> <p>Language: English</p> | <p><b><u>Student Track:</u></b> <u>Framed by others: A Technology-Based Investigation of Contextual Effects on Body Perception; Using gene editing technology and AI to advance scientific investigation.</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Samantha Coronado; Richard Corsey, CSUSB</u></p> <p>Language: English</p> |



# 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                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
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|                              | HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | HALL F (A146)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | HALL F (A145)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | HALL F (A144)                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 1:30 - 2:20 PM (AST/PR TIME) | <p><b>Online Learning:</b> <u>Tendencias Longitudinales del Desempeño en Simulaciones de Negocios</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Moises Laguna-Nieves and Gadiel Ramírez-Rodríguez, Universidad Ana G. Méndez</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p> | <p><b>Student (Track Winner):</b> <u>Building Multilingual Pathways: Glossary-Informed Machine Translation</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Pamela Doran, SUNY Empire State University</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                                                   | <p><b>Innovation:</b> <u>Puerto Rico's Cybersecurity and AI Center of Excellence</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Eric Belardo, Yarice Hidalgo and Loritza Grillasca, Raíces Cyber</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                                                                                                                        | <p><b>Access:</b> <u>Scaling Accessibility Education: A Fellowship Program Driving Curricular and Institutional Transformation</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Rolando Méndez, Teach Access</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p> |
| 2:30 - 3:20 PM (AST/PR TIME) | <p><b>Access:</b> <u>De briefs creativos a bots tutores: Innovaciones con IA para potenciar el éxito estudiantil</u></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> <u>Iliana Ballester-Panelli, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p>      | <p><b>Innovation:</b> <u>Developing Scientific and Language Skills with High-Fidelity Labs for English &amp; Chemistry Mastery in</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Abner J. Colón and Sherlie Vázquez, Ponce Health Sciences University</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> Spanish</p> | <p><b>Student Track:</b> <u>Huntington's Disease as a Biosocial Challenge; Interactive Cuadrillas Game: Digital platform for the preservation and cultural learning of Meta, Colombia</u></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b> <u>Sarah Alejandra, Andrey Korol Franco Calderón, Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia</u></p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p> | <p><b>Student Track:</b> TBC</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> TBC BMCC</p> <p><b>Language:</b> English</p>                                                                                                                                  |
| 3:30 - 4:00 PM (AST/PR TIME) | Closing Reception                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |