

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM (AST/PR TIME)	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Lobby, Haydeé Piñero Buck Auditorium, 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	Lobby, Haydeé Piñero Buck Auditorium, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus

TIME	CONCURRENT SESSION'S LOCATION			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A146)	HALL F (A145)	HALL F (A144)
10:40-11:30 AM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Online Learning: <u>El impacto de la IA en la producción de cursos en línea</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Ana Milena Lucumi Orostegui, Miembro Coalición de IA para Puerto Rico</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Innovation: <u>Transformando el éxito estudiantil: Estrategias innovadoras para la retención y graduación</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Doris V. Rodríguez Quiles and Cristy Nieves, EDP University of PR</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>Analyzing microangiogenesis of porcine ischemic heart failure through immunohistochemical staining; Screening Compounds for Their Anti-Cell Proliferation Properties;</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Taylor Newton; Tina Prajapati, University of Houston-Downtown;</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Access (Track Winners): <u>Models for Strengthening College and Career Pathways for Non-Credit English Language and GED Spanish Learners</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>John Hunt and David Housel, LaGuardia Community College, CUNY</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>
11:40 - 12:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Innovation: <u>Integrating technologies to support students and create meaningful connections</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Diana Melissa López Robledo, University of Puerto Rico at Ponce</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>Efectividad del Uso de la tecnología para ofrecimiento de servicios de tutorías</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Susana Ramirez Guedes, Derek Rosado, Fabiana Hernández, and Frances Hernández, EDP University of PR</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Online Learning (Track Winner): <u>Prompt Engineering for Course Development: Wait, Confirm, Execute</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Nicholas Balderas, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Innovation: <u>Innovative Pathways: Expanding Access and Inclusion Through Interdisciplinary Cybersecurity Education</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Nieves Angulo, Christelle Dejolie, Moise Koffi, and Amy Ramson, Hostos Community College, CUNY</u></p> <p>Language: 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			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A146)	HALL F (A145)	HALL F (A144)
1:30 - 2:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Access: <u>De la Habilidad Bilingüe al Profesionalismo Bilingüe: Potenciando el Vocabulario Técnico en Estudiantes de Negocios</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Dr. Azucena Herrera University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Online Learning: <u>Enfoques Transformadores para el Desarrollo Profesional del Profesorado en Entornos de Educación a Distancia</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Margie L. Alvarez-Rivera, University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Innovation: <u>Beyond the "How-To": A Dual-Framework Model to Drive Strategic LMS Adoption and Empower Student Success</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Armando A. Amador and Nieves Angulo, Hostos Community College, CUNY</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>The benefits of micro-internships; Using AI to Help Students with the Transfer Process; Innovating STEM Education and Community Engagement at Bronx Community College</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Celeste Meza; Jaime De Jesus Vazquez, California State University San Bernardino; John Rosa and Justin De Jesus, Bronx Community College, CUNY</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>
2:30 - 3:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Online Learning: <u>Uso de la inteligencia artificial en estudiantes universitarios</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Awilda Rosa-Morales and Lillian Pintado,-Sosa, Universidad Ana G. Méndez, Gurabo Campus</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Innovation: <u>From Chatbots to Coach Bots: Practical Uses of Generative AI in Higher Education</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Antonio Vantaggiato, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Online Learning: <u>The Power of Short-Form Media: The Art of Microlectures and Podcasts</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Jaime A. Rojas and Elizabeth Valdez, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>Agrobot and a sustainable future for humanity in space</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Elier Roman Ruiz, Sebastian Medina Maisonet,, and Carlos Laboy Orozco, Inter American University, Bayamón Campus</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>
3:30 - 4:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Access: <u>El Poder de las Segundas Oportunidades: GED Solutions como Motor de Innovación y Crecimiento Comunitario</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Presenter: Gladys Sanchez, Edgar Martinez, and David Anderson GED Solutions, Inc.</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Innovation: <u>Escalando el impacto de los servicios de carrera: un modelo estratégico replicable en educación superior</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Norma Cervantes and Gabriel Hernández, SYMPLICITY</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Innovation: <u>Higher-education alignment "Connecting Higher Education with ISOC and ICANN to Expand Access and Innovation."</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Eng. Eduardo Díaz and Alfredo Calderón</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>Utilizing AI to Support in Communication with ASD Individuals; STEM with Purpose</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>John M. Esparragoza; Stephanie Chavarria and Landon Sanz, University of Houston-Downtown</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8:00 - 9:00 AM (AST / PR TIME)	Registration and Continental Breakfast	Lobby, Haydeé Piñero Buck Auditorium, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus
9:00 - 9:15 AM (AST / PR TIME)	Track Winners' Plenary: <u>Access by John Hunt; Innovation by Nitzan Pelman; Online Learning by Nicholas Balderas; and 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 (A146)	HALL F (A145)	HALL F (A144)
10:40-11:30 AM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Innovation (Winners All Tracks): <u>How an AI social capital bot helped LaGuardia Community College Students land job offers through building relationships.</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Jessica Perez, LaGuardia Community College CUNY and Nitzan Pelman, Founder & CEO, Climb Together</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Online Learning: <u>Diseñar la libertad de cátedra en la era de la IA: gobernanza académica y compliance en Online Learning</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Alice Casanova, Albizu University</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>Innovation in Puerto Rican Robotics</u></p> <p>Presenters: <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>Access: <u>Flip of Fate: Innovative Experiential Learning in Negotiation Education</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Djordje Djordjevic, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>
11: 40-12:30 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Online Learning: <u>La calidad importa, pero no es suficiente: diseño de experiencias de aprendizaje en línea en la era de la IA</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>José R. Ferrer López, Catedrático, Recinto Universitario de Mayagüez, Universidad de Puerto Rico</u></p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Student Track: <u>BioYarn: An Eco-Friendly Approach to The Fiber Arts; Alga Sargaco</u></p> <p>Presenter: <u>Andrea M. Arriaga; Genesis Matos Morales; Andrea Rodríguez</u></p> <p>Language: English/Spanish</p>	<p>Online Learning: <u>Digital Ethics: Fostering Integrity in the Age AI</u></p> <p>Presenters: <u>Roberto Rivera and Claudia Vela, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley</u></p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Student Track: <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>Presenters: <u>Samantha Coronado; Richard Corsey, California State University San Bernardino</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			
	HAYDEÉ PIÑERO BUCK AUDITORIUM	HALL F (A146)	HALL F (A145)	HALL F (A144)
1:30 - 2:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Online Learning: Tendencias Longitudinales del Desempeño en Simulaciones de Negocios</p> <p>Presenters: Moises Laguna-Nieves and Gadiel Ramírez-Rodríguez, Universidad Ana G. Méndez, Cupey Campus</p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Student (Track Winner): Building Multilingual Pathways: Glossary-Informed Machine Translation</p> <p>Presenter: Pamela Doran, SUNY Empire State University</p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Innovation: Puerto Rico's Cybersecurity and AI Center of Excellence</p> <p>Presenters: Eric Belardo, Yarice Hidalgo and Loritza Grillasca, Raíces Cyber</p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Access: Scaling Accessibility Education: A Fellowship Program Driving Curricular and Institutional Transformation</p> <p>Presenter: Rolando Méndez, Teach Access</p> <p>Language: English</p>
2:30 - 3:20 PM (AST/PR TIME)	<p>Access: De briefs creativos a bots tutores: Innovaciones con IA para potenciar el éxito estudiantil</p> <p>Presenter: Iliana Ballester-Panelli, Universidad del Sagrado Corazón</p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Innovation: Developing Scientific and Language Skills with High-Fidelity Labs for English & Chemistry Mastery in Nursing Students</p> <p>Presenters: Abner J. Colón and Sherlie Vázquez, Ponce Health Sciences University</p> <p>Language: Spanish</p>	<p>Student Track: Huntington's Disease as a Biosocial Challenge; Interactive Cuadrillas Game: Digital platform for the preservation and cultural learning of Meta, Colombia</p> <p>Presenters: Sarah Alejandra; Andrey Korol Franco Calderón, Universidad Cooperativa de Colombia</p> <p>Language: English</p>	<p>Student Track: AccessAble: Creating an Accessible Study Platform for Students with Dyslexia; Technology as an Academic Reset; Automating Event Management</p> <p>Presenters: Stanley Hernandez; Brittany Vasquez; Jake Torres, Borough of Manhattan Community College, CUNY</p> <p>Language: English</p>
3:30 - 4:00 PM (AST/PR TIME)	Closing Reception		Jesús T. Piñero Building Square, Ana G. Méndez University, Carolina Campus	