



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN COLORADO**  
Office of the President

October 17, 2024

**Invitation to Serve: Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Steering Committee**

**Kirsty Fleming**, Provost and Executive Vice President – *HSI Steering Committee Co-Chair*

**Rodolfo (Rudy) Vargas**, Director of HSI Initiatives and Director, César Chávez Cultural Center and DREAMer Engagement Program – *HSI Steering Committee Co-Chair*

**Danica Brown**, Community Director, Housing and Residential Education

**Teresa Castro**, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations

**Whitney Duncan**, Associate Director of HSI Initiatives and Professor, Department of Anthropology

**Jenna Finley**, Associate Vice President, Division of Student Affairs

**Andrea James**, Associate Professor, School of Biological Sciences

**Crystal Ibarra-Santoyo**, Advising and Retention Specialist, College of Natural and Health Sciences

**Brandon Lagunas**, Assistant Director, Center for Human Enrichment

**Pete Lien**, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management

**Stephen Lovewell**, Director, Gender and Sexuality Resource Center and Interim Executive Director, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

**Jen Mayer**, Interim Associate Dean and Head of Scholarly Communication, University Libraries

**Kyle Nelson**, Professor and chair, Department of Sociology

**Erika Pepmeyer**, Director of Admissions

**Aldo Romero**, Director, Cumbres Program

**Javier Vinasco Guzman**, Associate Director of HSI Initiatives and Professor and Director of Latinx Music and Associate Professor of Music

**Janine weaver-douglas**, Director, Marcus Garvey Cultural Center and Interim Executive Director, Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

**Andrea Wurst**, Assistant Director of Financial Aid and Outreach and Campus and Community Relations

I write to invite you to serve as a member of the Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Steering Committee for the 2024-25 academic year. The committee is appointed by and advisory to the president and will be co-chaired by Provost and Executive Vice President Kirsty Fleming and Director of HSI Initiatives Rudy Vargas. The committee is charged this academic year with:


- Reviewing reports compiled by the 2023-24 committee and gathering additional information, as needed, to prioritize recommendations for immediate, short, and long-term investments in infrastructure, programs, services, and campus culture consistent with the university's commitments and goals as an HSI;
- Contributing to the federal application process to maintain the HSI designation by reviewing eligibility criteria and timelines and supporting collection of relevant institutional data;
- Engaging in efforts to identify and develop proposals for external funding opportunities;
- Supporting the development of core values statements and messaging points to convey to various audiences the university's commitments and goals as an HSI; and

- Fostering collaborative partnerships with a broad range of internal and external stakeholders and organizations to build community and a culture of belonging.

Four meetings have been scheduled for the academic year, beginning with an initial meeting on Wednesday, October 30 from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. A series of calendar invitations will follow.

The work of the HSI Steering Committee is of great importance to the university, and I thank you in advance for your service.

Sincerely,



Andy Feinstein  
President