Profile

IUPLR is a national consortium of university-based centers dedicated to the advancement of the Latino intellectual presence in the United States. IUPLR works to expand the pool of Latino scholars and leaders and increase the availability of policy-relevant Latino-focused research. IUPLR headquarters, located at the Center for Mexican American Studies, University of Houston and the IUPLR Washington DC office, located at the University of California Washington Center, work to strengthen the network of centers and to enhance their institutional capacity.

Objectives

- Promote comparative, interdisciplinary, and policy-focused research;
- Develop collaborative national programs that support Latino students and faculty in higher education;
- Establish collaborative projects with scholars in the arts, culture and the humanities;
- Disseminate publications generated by the IUPLR national network of scholars.

Research

For more than 35 years IUPLR has promoted core research on issues of importance to Latino communities and the broader US society. IUPLR has become a respected national catalyst and facilitator of in-depth policy-relevant research. Through its working group model, IUPLR brings together researchers from different regions, national origins, and intellectual perspectives to conduct collaborative and interdisciplinary research generating comparative data on different Latino nationality groups.

Education

IUPLR plays a critical role in making higher education more relevant for Latinos and increasing their rates of college completion. Through its short-term intensive seminars and training and long-term internship programs, it encourages students to move through the higher education ‘pipeline’ from undergraduate to postdoctoral level. IUPLR creates opportunities for students and young researchers to increase their qualitative and quantitative skills, join research teams with senior scholars, and learn to effectively use research for policy analysis.

Outreach and Dissemination

IUPLR serves as an information clearinghouse about research on Latinos. IUPLR works to increase knowledge about the history, culture, socio-economic status, contributions, and needs of the Latino population among the general public and the academic and policy-making communities. IUPLR holds regular research and policy forums to inform policy groups, legislative groups, government organizations, and the media of the latest research findings. As an official Census Information Center, IUPLR also disseminates the most current data and studies from the US Census Bureau.

IUPLR Network of Scholars and Experts

IUPLR scholars and experts are often invited to serve on task forces; to provide testimony before Congress; and to participate in summits, conferences and roundtables. IUPLR affiliated faculty and staff often receive requests to assist in evaluating university programs and activities and to review research studies.

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