

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Conexiones is in its 7th year and I have seen it impact students each year: they meet their best friends, join a student organization, find new support systems in the faculty, staff and LCC, and some have even secured jobs or assistantships at the LCC.

You are here today to connect and to learn. At your age, I was often too timid to talk to the person next to me, to put myself out there for fear of looking, well, dumb. But as my mom always said, and it's true, "nadie te esta viendo". In other words, so many others here may also be too shy to put themselves out there and worried about what you're thinking. We all have our stuff--some of us have it more figured out than others. So, today, I ask those more quiet or more scared ones to take a chance on your community, put yourself out there. To the more seasoned students, be the person that makes everyone feel comfortable, like they've known you forever. Together, let's make sure everyone feels included.

Soak up the knowledge that today's facilitator's will impart on you. Take notes, raise your hand--take a chance on yourself and trust that you will be fine, maybe even great.

Thanks to everyone who help bring Conexiones to fruition: Volunteer Drivers, Facilitators, Beck Ag Staff and the LCC staff. I deeply appreciate your commitment to student success.

Abrazos,

Carina Olaru
Director, First-Gen College Student, PhD Student,
DePaul Alumna, Proud Latina





LATINO CULTURAL CENTER STAFF



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Linda Azucena Ontiveros *Undergraduate Student Employee*



Alyssa Hiller Undergraduate Student Employee

AGENDA

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM Meet at the LCC for

transportation to Beck Ag

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast and Student

Organization Resource Fair

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM Welcome

11:20 AM - 12:10 PM Morning Workshop Sessions

12:15 PM - 1:15 PM Lunch

1:15 PM - 1:30 PM Break & Networking

1:30 PM - 2:20 PM Afternoon Workshop Sessions

2:30 PM Wrap-Up and Group Picture

2:45 PM Transportation to LCC



Latino Cultural Center

SESSION 1 WORKSHOPS



Developing a Productive Relationship with your Advisor ROOM 111A



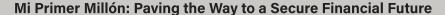
Clinical Assistant Professor, Special Education, Applied Behavior Analysis, Educational Studies, Purdue University

Ofelia Castra Schepers, PhD

Assistant Professor, Literacy and Language, Curriculum and Instruction, Purdue University



Besides the coursework and research, one of the most important components of your graduate education is the relationship with your advisor. While we all dream of finding the perfect mentor, all relationships require work. Join us to discuss ways to develop and grow positive mentoring relationships from the students perspective.





ROOM 111B

Facilitator: Wille Cruz

Senior Diversity Recruiter, Human Resources, Purdue University

Join us as we explore essential strategies for achieving financial success and stability. Through personal narratives and lessons learned a long the way, the presenter will offer practical insights and actionable steps to help you build a secure financial future. Whether you're just starting or seeking to enhance your financial strategy, this presentation will provide valuable guidance to turn your financial goals into reality.



Make a Statement and Great First Impression

ROOM 117

Facilitator: Vanessa Ortiz

Associate Director, Alumni Engagement for Career Services, Krannert Professional Development Center, Purdue University

TAs the saying goes, "you never get a second chance to make a good first impression." We all want to make a great first impression, especially when related to networking and interviewing. Join this session to learn how to create your personal introduction so that you can confidently introduce yourself to new people. There will be time to practice your introduction and you will leave with the tools to shine at any networking event.



Growing from Failure: Growth Mindsets within Purdue University ROOM 141

Facilitator: Josh Delgado

Student Success Coach, Purdue Promise, Purdue University

We have all experienced failure at least once throughout our everyday lives. Whether it be personal or academic, failure is a state that is accompanied by many negative thoughts and emotions. However, is it possible to learn, grow and even appreciate failure? Throughout this presentation of short discussions, we will go over Growth Mindsets within higher education and how we can learn, grow, and appreciate the act of failure. In order to better understand and convert even our worst losses into bigger victories!

SESSION 2 WORKSHOPS



Am I a Leader? ROOM 117

Facilitator: Lucero Duran Trinidad

Lecturer and Chief Flight Instructor, Polytechnic Institute, Purdue University

When you think of a leader, what do you think about? If we compare the answers to this question, there is a common theme of expectations, skills, and knowledge – we'll call this a "mold". So, if we don't fit into this "mold", does that mean we are not a leader? Many of us are leaders, we just don't see ourselves as such due to the "mold" that society and/or your area of study/work established. Using my story to the guide the session, we will discuss how changing your views on what a leader is will open opportunities for leadership, provide guidance on how to grow or become a leader, and how to keep pushing forward when you feel defeated and think "maybe this is not meant for me."



Thriving Through Transition: Navigating College Life with Resilience and Confidence ROOM 111B

Facilitator: Naz Zerka

Staff Therapist, Counseling and Psychological Services, Purdue University

This talk is designed to empower students as they embark on their college journey. This session will cover essential strategies for managing stress, building a supportive community, and maintaining mental well-being. Attendees will learn practical tips for balancing academic pressures with personal growth, fostering resilience, and confidently navigating the unique challenges and opportunities of college life.





Facilitator: Jacqueline Borchert Professional Writing Specialist, Purdue OWL, Purdue University

This workshop will provide an overview on US-American higher education writing. The goal of this presentation will be to empower students to use their voices while understanding conventions to make informed decisions on their writing. We will go through disciplinary conventions, genre analysis, reverse engineering, citations, and cultural writing patterns. These will be applied both to humanities writing conventions and STEM writing conventions. However, this will all be presented through a racial justice lens that will include in-depth discussions about linguistic justice, audience, and White Mainstream English. The workshop will provide information on ways to advocate for oneself in their writing in the context of the myth of standard English. Additionally, this workshop aims to help Latinx students know more about the resources available to them on campus for writing. There will be time set aside for questions and comments at the end of the presentation.



Crafting Your Career Story: Strategies for an Outstanding Resume ROOM 111A

Facilitator: Wille Cruz

Senior Diversity Recruiter, Human Resources, Purdue University

In this session, participants will gain crucial insights into crafting resumes that resonate with employers. We will delve into what employers prioritize in candidates and emphasize the significance of tailoring resumes to alight with specific job roles and organizational needs. By the end of this presentation, attendees will be equipped with practical strategies to effectively showcase their skills and experiences, increasing their chances of landing their ideal job.

WORKSHOP FEEDBACK

Please use the follwing QR code to provide feedback to workshop facilitators.





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