Stephen F. Austin State University SFA ScholarWorks

**Diversity Conference** 

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#### Learning from HSI Success Stories - Opportunities for Implementation at SFA

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# Introductions

**POPCORN** - After you introduce yourself, you'll select a person to go next!

Name, Role, Knowledge of HSIs (Level 1 - None, Level 5 - Expert) & Why





# Learning from HSI Success Stories: Opportunities for Implementation at SFA

Wilma Córdova Dr. Sarah M. Straub



## Agenda



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# 01

#### Background

Identifying key terms and outlining our protocol

# 02

Presentation

Analysis of SFA's current status and sharing Texas success stories

# 03

#### Analysis

Decision criteria and assessing possible alternatives

# 04

#### Conclusion

Selecting final suggestions to share with OMA



"What does it mean, at an organizational level, to <u>serve</u> Latinx students?"

-Gina Ann Garcia

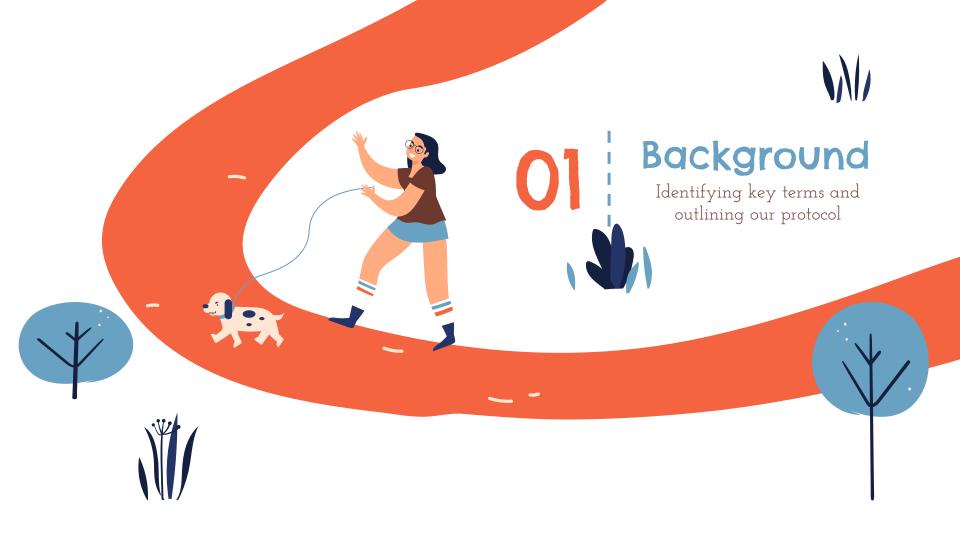
















# Key Terms

Race is a social construct. And, our society has given it power. It is different than ethnicity.

- Latino/a/@
- Latinx
- Hispanic

What legacy/power/emotion do these terms evoke?



## Hispanic Serving Institution



#### **Traditional Definition**

Public and private, two- and four-year, not-for-profit, degree-granting, postsecondary institutions that enroll at least 25% full-time equivalent enrollment (FTE) Latinx undergraduate students.

# Our Push

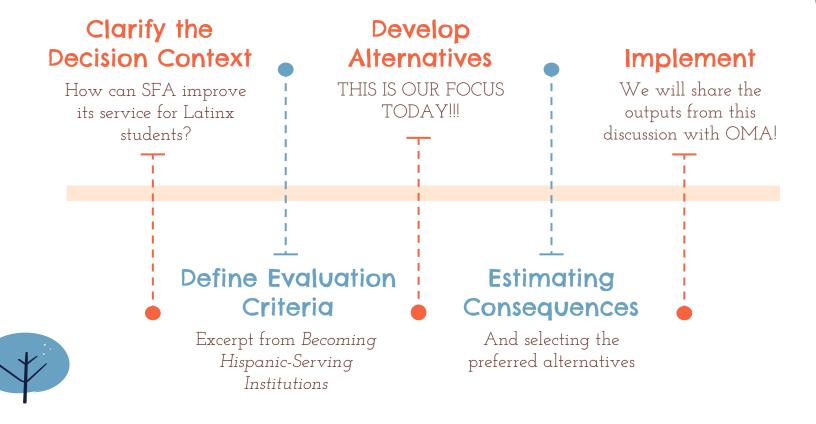
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Universities and colleges that provide culturally enhancing educational experiences and evaluate the white normative standards for ways to improve equity and access for FTE Latinx undergraduate students.





# **Protocol: Structured Decision Making**



## What is our goal? Where do you think SFA is and why?

HIGH	Latinx-Producing Latinx-Serving		
LOW	Latinx-Enrolling	Latinx-Enhancing	
	LOW	HIGH	



## **Best Practices**

#### UTSA

Faculty university-wide implement a "**pedagogy of equity**," which includes encouraging students to understand their identities in relation to their home communities and responding to students' racial, ethnic, and cultural forms of expression through the inclusion of issues & narratives that represent their students (Núñez et al., 2010)

#### Case Study University

This university provided Spanish-language conversation courses to faculty and strongly-encouraged, supported faculty in taking these courses. Aligned with the benefits of bilingualism with regard to openness and the unique experiences of existing in a language that is not your first.

#### Case Study University

Dedicated director of government relations that connects to federal organizations that are funding grants for HSIs and share/support these opportunities with faculty

### **Group** Conversation

We will be collecting ideas on the next slide and then narrowing them down.

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# Assessing Possible Alternatives



	What does SFA do?	What can SFA do?	What can SFA do?
Provide Curricula and programs that are grounded in justice and equity	Pedagogy of equity in Ed Studies	Remove SAT, ACT requirement Have active organized conversations about the current social justice issues and topics Support faculty seeking to diversify their curriculum and facilitate conversations about justice and equity in the classroom Integrate DEI focused-high impact practices across the curricula.	Provide more support to Spanish students who are struggling with writing courses Ensure the classrooms are a SAFE space where all students can exchange ideas
Hire faculty, staff, & admin committed to justice and liberation	Q - what sort of practices do we have to support FOC when they DO come?	Hire/promote latinx faculty to leadership and administration positions Recruit more diverse admin for a more diverse perspective in decision making	New hire/ Continuous cultural training Establish support systems for staff in order to help them feel heard and to motivate them to stay at SFA
Value and embrace non dominant input, process, and outcome variables	Partnerships with junior colleges like Lonestar & Angelina	Provide university surveys in multiple languages Support students who seek out information/learning on indeginous Latino cultures	Support our Spanish-speaking parents at events like Showcase

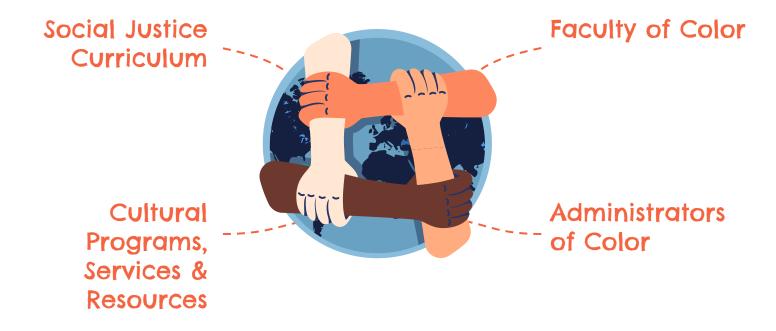
# Assessing Possible Alternatives



	What does SFA do?	What can SFA do?	What can SFA do?
Reinforce bilingualism & the preservation of the Spanish language	Spanish language classes/language tables/clubs, Portuguese classes for heritage language learners Bilingual Education Student Organization - does a lot of work outside of school thought	Spanish conversation courses for profs Hire more bilingual staff and faculty Provide courses in Spanish only Play spanish music on campus Allow students to introduce themselves in their preferred language. Provide support for them.	Talk with old Spanish families in Nacogdoches to see how they have preserved the language (and meet their community).
Provide high-touch practices for students, including advising and experiential learning	Service learning projects in Latinx neighborhoods in Nac. Counseling Services will be starting a Latinx Support Group.	Study Away Allow students to discuss their own personal LATINX experiences Offer a more inclusive culture that truly embraces and celebrates LATINX culture Communication with families to share value of programs (such as study away/abroad) relating to future employability and advancement.	Campus Rec programming - Zumba de Mayo, etc. with educational components like nutrition and student org involvement
Provide students with a diverse financial aid package	Financial Aid Staff having the proper training/resources in assisting students of the Latinx community with the options for more scholarships/grants Have additional in house grants	Hire financial aid staff that are experts in Hispanic scholarships and DACA and advertise these services more widely Place increased marketing on use of state financial aid possible, not just federal aid.	Financial aid staff being more engaging to help find the right scholarships Scholarship funding

# Top 4













Does anyone have any questions? <u>straubsm@sfasu.edu</u> <u>wcordova@sfasu.edu</u>



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