



Immigrant Students' Journeys to Higher Education

Join us at :
Institute for Health, Health
Care Policy &
Aging Research
112 Paterson St.
New Brunswick, NJ

December 17, 2013

1pm to 5pm

RSVP by December 13 to:
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What Makes Acculturation Successful?

Given the large scale impacts of immigration on U.S. society, it is critical to understand the processes of adaptation and adjustment that immigrant youth go through to reach higher education. **This conference will report on our study of immigrant students at Rutgers University and their experiences of balancing their family cultures of origin with learning U.S. culture, what we term acculturation, to successfully get to university.** Through focus groups, we interviewed 160 immigrant students from 22 cultural organizations at Rutgers.

Our study was explicitly comparative across a diverse range of immigrant students in terms of countries of origin, social status, prior English knowledge, family educational experiences, experiences of discrimination, and social support systems. By selecting a broad group of students, we investigated this diversity, while identifying both commonalities in the acculturation process and ethnic group specific experiences. The Conference will provide insights into what families, schools, communities, and universities can do to support immigrant students' educational aspirations.



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Conference Agenda

- 1:00 - 1:10 Welcome and Overview
- 1:10 - 1:45 Presentation of Key Findings:
Peter Guarnaccia, Principal Investigator
- 1:45 - 2:00 Discussion
- 2:00 - 2:30 Panel—Rutgers Ethnic Studies Programs:
Nelson Maldonado-Torres, Latino and Hispanic Caribbean Studies
Rick Lee, Asian American Studies
Edward Ramsamy, Africana Studies
- 2:30 - 3:10 Panel—Rutgers Cultural Centers:
Carlos Fernandez, Center for Latino Arts and Culture;
Prosper Godonoo, Paul Robeson Center
Ji Lee, Asian American Cultural Center
Ria DasGupta, The Global Village
- 3:10 - 3:40 Panel—Student Research Assistants:
Nichole Hernandez
Nina Macapinlac
Reza Razvi
Hima Sathian
Ireh Shin
- 3:40 - 4:00 Discussion of Future Directions
- 4:00 - 5:00 Reception

REFRESHMENTS
WILL BE SERVED