



Sarita E. Brown is Co-founder & President of *Excelencia in Education*, a national not-for-profit organization dedicated to accelerating Latino success in higher education by linking research, policy, and practice to serve Latino students.

For over three decades she has served in leadership positions at prominent educational institutions and at the highest levels of government, working to implement effective strategies to raise academic achievement and opportunities for low-income and students of color. Coming to the nation's capital to work for educational associations, Ms. Brown was appointed Executive Director of the White House Initiative for Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans under President Bill Clinton and U.S. Secretary of Education Richard Riley. Taking her skills and experience to the not-for-profit sector, she launched the Hispanic Scholarship Fund Institute and in 2004, co-founded *Excelencia in Education* in Washington, DC.

She currently plays a major role expanding Presidents for Latino Student Success, *Excelencia's* national network of college and university leaders who commit to making their institutions learning environments where Latino students thrive.

Ms. Brown is recognized as a tireless advocate for educational equity. Her leadership and contributions have been recognized by many including with the Medal of Service from Teachers College, Columbia University, the Harold G. McGraw Jr. Prize in Education for "innovative thinking, strong leadership and accomplishment by example", the Harry S. Truman Award from the American Association of Community Colleges, the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators, and the American Association of University Women. She has received Honorary Doctorates from Carlos Albizu University, California State University, Channel Islands, North Carolina State University, and the University of Saint Joseph.

She currently serves on the Advisory Council of the Center for First-generation Student Success and the Committee on Addressing Women of Color in Tech for the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine.