



WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON  
EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR HISPANICS



# National Conversations on English Learner Education:

## *What Makes for Quality Education for English Learners in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century?*

*Sponsored by:*

**The Office of English Language Acquisition (OELA),  
U.S. Department of Education**

*In partnership with:*

**The Office of Elementary and Secondary Education (OESE)  
The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS)  
The Office for Civil Rights (OCR)**

**The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics  
The White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders**

**May 9-10, 2011**

**InterContinental New York Barclay  
111 East 48<sup>th</sup> Street  
New York, New York**



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May 9-10, 2011  
 Agenda  
 New York, New York

#### OBJECTIVES

- **Highlight Key Issues:** To identify current areas of major concern in EL education and discuss possible solutions.
- **Promising Practices and Networking:** To promote dialogue among a diverse assembly of EL stakeholders and to encourage collaboration, information sharing, and discussion on promising practices for classrooms and schools.
- **Reform:** To define new directions for reform and transformation in English Learner Education.

Monday, May 9, 2011	
11.00 am – 1.00 pm	Sign-In and Registration
1.00 pm	<p><b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b></p> <p><b>Rosalinda B. Barrera</b>, Assistant Deputy Secretary          Director, Office of English Language Acquisition          U. S. Department of Education</p>
2.30 pm	<p><b><i>Kiva Session</i></b></p> <p>Participants will hear brief responses to a major question on English Learner education from a panel of six presenters randomly selected from the audience. Seated in round tables, participants will engage in small-group conversations based on what they heard and want to discuss. After a few minutes of discussion and reflection, each participant will write his or her own comments and/or questions on index cards, which will be collected and transcribed. This process permits all participants to engage in meaningful dialogue, allows a larger number of perspectives to be included in the conversation, and produces a written document that captures the group's knowledge and perspective on the issues discussed. The afternoon will consist of three rounds of this process including one 15-minute break.</p> <p><b>Facilitator: Juan Sepúlveda</b>, Executive Director, The White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanics, U. S. Department of Education</p>
5.00 pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>

<b>Tuesday, May 10, 2011</b>	
7.00 am – 9.00 am	Sign-In and Registration
9.00 am	<p><b>Opening Remarks and Sharing Highlights from the Kiva Session</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Juan Sepúlveda</b></p>
9.15 am	<p><b>Introduction to <i>Open Space Process</i></b></p> <p>Participants will be introduced to the Open Space Process which will be the format used to convene today's group conversations.</p> <p><b>Speaker/Facilitator: Juan Sepúlveda</b></p>
9.30 am	<p><b><i>Open Space Group Sessions</i></b></p> <p>Participants will have the opportunity to lead and/or participate in numerous group conversations on a topic, issue, or activity of their choice. A volunteer scribe from each group will record discussion highlights, recommendations, and next steps. Notes will be collected and transcribed. There is no time limit on how long conversations may last. Morning/afternoon breaks and lunch are to be taken at participants' discretion.</p> <p><b>Facilitator: Juan Sepúlveda</b></p>
4.30 pm	<p><b>Sharing Highlights</b></p> <p><b>Facilitator: Juan Sepúlveda</b></p>
5.00 pm	<p><b>Closing Remarks and Next Steps</b></p> <p><b>Rosalinda B. Barrera</b>, Assistant Deputy Secretary Director, Office of English Language Acquisition, U.S. Department of Education</p>