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Courageous Conversations With Female College Presidents

TUESDAY, MARCH 16, 2021 • 1:00 PST, 2:00 MST, 3:00 CST, 4:00 EST

PANEL LEADER

**Dr. Ryan Ross**

*Assoc. V. Chancellor Student Affairs, Equity, & Inclusion
Colorado Community College System*

An educator, speaker, and actualization coach, Dr. Ross is committed to access, equity, and the development of leaders. After fourteen years of educational work, Ross transitioned from executive leadership at the Community College of Denver to become Regional Manager for Mobilization for the American Petroleum Institute. There, he is focused on STEM awareness in students and building workforce opportunities in the energy industry for women, minorities, and veterans.

PANEL LEADER

**Dr. Karen McNeil-Miller**

CEO, Colorado Health Foundation

Karen McNeil-Miller describes social and human impact as the center of her life's work. Karen helps guide the Foundation to determine the most impactful investment of human, financial and influence capital on behalf of the Coloradans who need it most. She says, "I chose this important field of work to be on the ground in Colorado communities and to get closer to those in need—many through no fault of their own—and assist in every way I could." Previously, she served for a decade as president of the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust.

**Dr. Irma Becerra**

President, Marymount University

Dr. Becerra's goal is for Marymount to achieve national and international recognition for innovation and commitment to student success, alumni achievement, and faculty and staff excellence. She is adding market-driven academic programs that prioritize career preparation, expanding educational access for students, and targeting programming to meet societal needs and changing demographics. Her career has blended mathematics, engineering and systems thinking and processes in her studies, teaching, and administrative leadership.

**Dr. Shirley M. Collado**

President, Ithaca College

Dr. Collado is designing and implementing innovative approaches to higher education that expand student access and success. She is a national thought leader on developing successful cross-sector collaborations, building equity, inclusion, and full participation in organizations, and strengthening the pathway to the professoriate and leadership roles in higher education. At Ithaca, she has launched efforts to facilitate cross-disciplinary collaboration and develop the talent of faculty, staff, and students.

**Dr. Mirta M. Martin**

President, Fairmont State University

Dr. Martin has 30 years of experience in higher education, banking, advisory and consulting. Her career involves work in both the public and private sectors as well as in public-private partnerships. Her higher education experience is diverse. Mirta has served in a variety of faculty, administrative, executive and trustee positions, where she earned respect as a strong advocate and transformative leader for education. Born in Havana, Cuba, and an immigrant to the U.S., she is dedicated to promoting access to affordable educational opportunities to improve humanity.

**Dr. Betsy Oudenhoven**

President, Community College of Aurora

Dr. Oudenhoven believes in the Jesuit philosophy of education for the greater good and she is passionate about community colleges and the incredible students they serve. Betsy has been the President at Aurora for the past eight years, where they aspire to be the college where every student succeeds—every one. She has over 40 years of experience in higher education and has worked at four-year public state universities in the Midwest and upstate New York, and community colleges in the Chicagoland.

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