



Press Release

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Dr. Rodolfo F. Acuña to receive the 2016 Dr. John Hope Franklin Award

FAIRFAX, Va. — *Diverse: Issues In Higher Education* is pleased to announce that **Dr. Rodolfo F. Acuña**, professor emeritus at California State University, Northridge (CSUN), is the recipient of this year's Dr. John Hope Franklin Award.

Acuña is the founder of the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at CSUN and is also regarded as one of the academic fathers of Chicano studies. He received a doctorate in Latin American studies in 1968 with a concentration in history.

At the height of the civil rights movement, Acuña was recruited by students, faculty and the community and became the department's founding faculty member. Very quickly, he developed 45 courses and, by 1969, the department had been born. Today, it is the largest of its kind in the country.

As an activist and scholar for more than four decades, Acuña has been a leading voice in higher education and in the Mexican American community. He has authored 20 titles, 32 academic articles and chapters in books, 155 book reviews and 188 opinion pieces, according to his CSUN biography. Among his numerous award-winning books, three have received the Gustavus Myers Outstanding Book Award.

About this Award:

The Dr. John Hope Franklin Award was created in 2004 to pay tribute to the late Franklin, a historian, writer, educator and humanitarian who made significant contributions to shaping the perspective of American history in the 20th century. *Diverse* created the award to institutionalize and celebrate on an ongoing basis his scholarly contributions to the nation. The individuals and organizations chosen are those whose contributions to higher education are consistent with the highest standards of excellence.

Past recipients have included Dr. Clifton Wharton, The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Dr. Maya Angelou, the late Dr. William Friday and Dr. Johnnetta B. Cole, just to name a few.

This year's award will be presented at a reception on Monday, March 14, 2016, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. during the 98th Annual Meeting of the American Council on Education (ACE) in San Francisco, California.

For more than three decades, [Diverse: Issues In Higher Education](#) has been America's premier source of timely news, provocative commentary, insightful interviews and in-depth special reports on diversity in higher education. Savvy individuals who appreciate the crucial and ever-changing role that higher education plays in the lives of students, professionals, their families, and their communities make reading [Diverse](#) a regular habit.

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