

Fourth Annual GEAR UP Conference

"Partnering for Long-Term Student Success"

Tuesday, March 17, 2009 – Keynote Speaker

Aric Bostick is one of America's top youth Success and Leadership speakers. As a former teacher and coach, he has created a winning formula that teaches young people how to succeed in school and life.



Aric has spoken for some of the largest leadership organizations in America, such as People to People Ambassador programs, Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, Peer Assisted Leadership organizations, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, MADD Power Camp and at state and regional Student Council Conferences across the country. He is also one of the most sought after school assembly speakers in America.

Aric's desire to give even more to the students to whom he speaks has led him to create his own summer Success and Leadership experience called, The Camp of CHAMPS. The Camp of CHAMPS has helped hundreds of students learn how to live their dreams and to become leaders in their schools and communities. For additional information, samples of his work and videos go to <http://aricbostick.com>.

Wednesday, March 18, 2009 – General Session Speaker

Dr. Frances Contreras is a University of Washington Assistant Professor in Education Leadership and Policy Studies. Dr. Contreras will head a study of the Hispanic student achievement gap commissioned by the Washington state Legislature.



The study "seeks to understand the opportunities that Latino students and their counterparts have to learn and succeed in school by studying the context for learning, achievement levels, and parent and student perceptions, in high schools and middle schools in high concentration Latino schools and regions."

Dr. Contreras presently researches issues of equity and access for underrepresented students in the education pipeline. She addresses transitions between K-12 and higher education. Her new book will be recently published and available for purchase at the conference: [The Latino Education Crisis: The Consequences of Failed Social Policies](#). Harvard University Press. Cambridge, MA.

Dr. Contreras received her Ph.D. from Stanford University, Master of Education from Harvard University and B.A. from University of California, Berkeley.

Please ask your GEAR UP Director for more information or call Alma Benitez at RGI Corporation, at (509) 839-2700. www.rgicorporation.com

SPEAKERS

