



9:00 AM–9:30 AM

Networking Session

Speed Networking activity that allows participants to interact with several other participants in short rotating sessions during the half hour session.

9:30 AM–10:00 AM

Break

10:00 AM–11:15 AM

Student Research Conference Poster Presentations

Student poster presenters from multiple STEM fields will present their most current research and findings to fellow attendees and faculty poster judges.

11:15 AM–11:30 AM

Break

11:30 AM–12:30 PM

Considering the Professoriate in STEM, Personal Testimonials, Part I

**Speakers:**



**Carlos A. Silvera Batista, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Vanderbilt University

[Profile](#)



**Mauro Rodriguez Jr., Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, School of Engineering, Brown University

[Profile](#)



**Mayra S. Artiles, Ph.D.**

Assistant Professor, Ira A. Fulton Schools of Engineering, Arizona State University (ASU)

[Profile](#)



**Elena Ortiz, Ph.D.**

Faculty Member, Department of Biology, Phoenix College

[Profile](#)

Presenters will speak about their own personal and educational experiences as they encourage and motivate students to pursue a Ph.D. and ultimately enter careers in the professoriate and beyond.

12:30 PM–1:00 PM

Lunch Break

1:00 PM–2:00 PM

Training Workshop - How to Apply To and Fund  
Graduate School

**Speaker:**



**Julianne Vernon, Ph.D.**

Associate Dean for Academic Success,  
School of Engineering,  
Vanderbilt University

[Profile](#)

Students will receive advice and learn about specific strategies and techniques for submitting successful graduate school applications.

2:00 PM–3:15 PM

Student Research Conference Poster Presentations

Student poster presenters from multiple STEM fields will present their most current research and findings to fellow attendees and faculty poster judges.

3:15 PM–3:45 PM

Closing Remarks

# Saturday, March 26, 2022

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## TIME

9:00 AM–10:00 AM

## SESSION

Opening Remarks and Keynote

### Speakers:



**Jean Andino, Ph.D., P.E.**

Director, Western Alliance to Expand Student Opportunities (WAESO)

[Profile](#)



**Olivia A. Graeve, Ph.D.**

Professor, Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering, University of California, San Diego

[Profile](#)

Dr. Jean Andino, WAESO Program Director, will welcome back conference attendees for day two of the WAESO Student Research Conference. Dr. Olivia Graeve will speak about her education, personal experiences and career in the professoriate.

10:00 AM–10:15 AM

Break

10:15 AM–11:30 AM

Student Research Conference Poster Presentations

Student poster presenters from multiple STEM fields will present their most current research and findings to fellow attendees and faculty poster judges.

11:30 AM–12:30 PM

Considering the Professoriate in STEM, Personal Testimonials, Part II

**Speakers:**



**Antonio "Tony" García, Ph.D.**  
Associate Dean of Academics,  
Office of Academics, College of  
Engineering, New Mexico State  
University  
[Profile](#)



**Teresa Leyba Ruiz, Ph.D.**  
President,  
Glendale Community College  
[Profile](#)



**Clayton J. Clark II, Ph.D., P.E.**  
Associate Dean, Academic  
Affairs, College of Engineering  
and Professor, Dept. of Civil,  
Architectural and Environmental  
Engineering, North Carolina A&T  
State University  
[Profile](#)

Presenters will speak about their own personal and educational experiences as they encourage and motivate students to pursue a Ph.D. and ultimately enter careers in the professoriate and beyond.

12:30 PM–1:00 PM

Networking Session

Speed Networking activity that allows participants to interact with several other participants in short rotating sessions during the half hour session.

1:00 PM–1:30 PM

Closing Remarks and End of Conference

Dr. Jean Andino, WAESO Program Director, will adjourn this year's conference and invite all participants to join us again in 2023!