

## Latinas in Higher Education: Plática Series

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### Project Summary

The aim of this project was to develop an in-person plática (talks) and networking series that would bring together Latina students and professionals across Southern California to highlight their unique stories and experiences. The purpose of this plática series was to (1) bring together scholars and community leaders to interrogate the challenges Latinas face in higher education and the workforce, 2) develop a community of support for Latina scholars and professionals, and (3) provide concrete advice for younger Latina students and professionals. My hope was that this series would contribute to the ongoing research and conversations about Latina women and educational attainment. Based on attendance, participation, and feedback from participants, I can confidently say that I met my project's objectives. While I was not able to host multiple pláticas as I had initially intended, the networking event I hosted was very successful. 35 latina women were able to attend the event.

### Impacts

By highlighting the stories and experiences of Latina scholars and early professionals, this networking event inspired rising Latina students and professionals to pursue their educational and career goals. The event also facilitated connections between participants, potentially leading to collaborations, mentorship opportunities, and professional growth. This event was a catalyst for building a robust network of Latina students across the UC and CSU systems.