

Miami Leadership Summit - Final Report

On March 2, 2018, the [American Bar Foundation](#) partnered with [Stephen N. Zack](#) and [Luis E. Suarez](#) of [Boies, Schiller, and Flexner](#) to hold the [Miami Leadership Summit on the Future of Hispanics](#) at the Miami-Dade College – Wolfson Campus. The convening brought together leading scholars, legal practitioners, and media representatives in the Miami area to explore key areas of opportunity through educational innovation, new images in print journalism and broadcasting, and emerging foundations for a vibrant economy. The summit was also possible thanks to sponsorship from [Boies, Schiller, and Flexner](#), [Miami-Dade College](#), and The Zack Family Foundation.

This event was part of [The Future of Latinos in the United States: Law, Opportunity, and Mobility](#), a nation-wide, interdisciplinary research initiative of the [American Bar Foundation](#). The project is devoted to understanding the current condition of Latinos in the United States, the structural barriers that impede full equality and integration for this growing population, and the sites of intervention that promise to be most impactful in promoting opportunity and mobility through law and policy. The project is a forward-looking one with a mission of ensuring the flourishing of the Latino population as a means of safeguarding the well-being of our communities, the strength of our economy, and the representativeness of our democracy. The project is committed to research that will make a difference: the aim is to generate findings that can be converted into concrete action items for reform.

[The Summit](#) opened with welcome addresses by [President of Miami-Dade College Dr. Eduardo Padrón](#) and [Stephen N. Zack](#). To provide context for the day's discussion, Professor [Alejandro Portes](#) of the University of Miami spoke about the history of Latinos in greater Miami, and Professor [Guillermo Grenier](#) of Florida International University analyzed the shifting demographic profile of the Cuban-American community in Miami on a panel moderated by [Rachel F. Moran](#) of UCLA School of Law. (Their presentations are available on the Future of Latinos website at <https://futureoflatinos.org>.) The Summit then shifted to the unique features of education for Hispanics in the Miami area. Moderated by [Luis E. Suarez](#), the panel on [Education and the Miami Hispanic Community](#) focused on the landscape of education, law, and policy issues. Panelists included General Counsel to Miami-Dade Public Schools [Walter Harvey](#), Professor [Dario Moreno](#) of Florida International University, Chief Judge of the Eleventh Circuit Court of Florida [Honorable Bertila Soto](#), and Dean [Patricia D. White](#) of University of Miami School of Law). The second panel addressed Miami's path-breaking role in addressing Hispanics' images in the media. To that end, [Stephen N. Zack](#) moderated **Miami and Image-Making: Creating the Content for an Emerging Hispanic Market**. Panelists included Professor [Sindy Chapa](#), [Sonia Diaz](#) of Balsera Communications, "[Democracy Lives in Miami](#)" creator and producer Jorge Mursuli, and reporter [Nathalia Ortiz](#) of NBC and Telemundo.

Local press covered the event, "[Future of Latinos Comes with Baggage from the Past](#)." Selections from the proceedings can be viewed on the [Future of Latinos website](#).