

International Symposium Student Track

Connecting Education, Careers, & Technology
Through Global Collaboration



San José, Costa Rica - Costa Rica Marriott Hacienda Belén

June 8-12, 2025

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International Symposium Student Track

Connecting Education, Careers, & Technology Through Global Collaboration

Sunday, June 8

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Welcome Dinner

Monday, June 9

8:30 – 9:20 a.m.
The Importance of Study Abroad and International Exchange Opportunities

Presenters:
Yudi Lewis, Ph.D.
Executive Director of Hispanic-Serving Institutions Initiatives,
Weber State University, USA

Rudy M. Ortiz, Ph.D.
Professor, University of California, Merced, USA

9:20 – 9:30 a.m.
Guiding Remarks from HACU Leadership

Presenter:
Antonio R. Flores, Ph.D.
President and CEO, HACU

9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
The Importance of Mentoring Experience for Underrepresented Students While Abroad

Presenter:
Ana Solis
Adviser, EducationUSA Advising Center at Centro Cultural
Costarricense–Norteamericano, Costa Rica

10:30 – 10:45 a.m.
Coffee Break

10:45 – 11:45 a.m.
Shaping your STEM Future: Tools, Goals and Growth

Presenter:
Yoel Rodriguez, Ph.D.
Professor
Hostos Community College, USA

12:00 – 1:15 pm
Lunch

1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Departure from Marriott Costa Rica Hacienda Belén Hotel to the Universidad de Iberoamérica Faculties Building

3:00 – 3:15 p.m.
Welcome to UNIBE

3:15 – 3:45 p.m.
UNIBersal Gateway to Global Excellence

3:45 – 5:00 p.m.
Immersive Experiences with UNIBE Student Ambassadors

5:00 – 5:30 p.m.
Costa Rica Welcomes You: Pura Vida Celebration

5:30 – 6:00 p.m.
Departure from UNIBE to the farewell venue

6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Farewell dinner

7:30 – 8:15 p.m.
Departure to Marriott Costa Rica Hacienda Belén Hotel

Tuesday, June 10

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

AI in Higher Ed: Unlocking the Future of Learning and Career Readiness

Presenter:

Guillermo Díaz, Jr.

Founder and CEO, Conectado, Inc. USA

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Coffee Break

10:15 - 11:45 a.m.

Global Opportunities with Costa Rica: Innovation, Trade, and Career Pathways

Presenter:

Mario Sáenz Alfaro

Exports Development Principal Director, PROCOMER, Costa Rica

12:00 – 1:15 pm

Lunch

1:30 – 2:20 p.m.

Departure from Marriott Costa Rica Hacienda Belén Hotel to Universidad Hispanoamericana, UH Health Sciences Building. Enjoy guided bus tour of downtown San José.

2:15 – 2:20 p.m.

Arrival at UH Health Sciences Building

2:30 – 3:20 p.m.

UH Bilingual Student Ambassadors will accompany visiting students and will share in an intercultural exchange session

3:20 – 4:20 p.m.

UH Academic Experience:

Live simulation scenarios in internationally accredited simulation hospital. Unique experience in anatomy and basic sciences labs.

4:20 – 4:25 p.m.

Meet at entrance and depart to UH Sports Campus

5:00 – 5:10 p.m.

Arrival at the UH Sports Campus

5:30 – 6:45 p.m.

Experience Costa Rican culture and gastronomy

Sustainability in Higher Education in Costa Rica:

Giovani Jiménez

Professor of the School of Tourism, Universidad Hispanoamericana Health Sciences Simulation Experience, UH, Costa Rica

Dinner with UH administrators

7:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Departure to Marriott Costa Rica Hacienda Belén Hotel

Wednesday, June 11

8:30 – 10:00 a.m.

Bridging Cultures Through Education: The Impact of International Research and Study Abroad

Presenter:

Britt Rios-Ellis, Ph.D.

President, California State University, Stanislaus, USA

10:00 – 10:15 a.m.

Coffee Break

10:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Expand Your Horizons: Study, Intern, and Grow with GlobalEdu Costa Rica

Presenter:

Luis Felipe Dobles Junqueira

Member of the Governing Board, GlobalEdu, Costa Rica

12:00 – 1:15 p.m.

Lunch

1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Break

2:45 – 3:15 p.m.

Departure from Marriott Costa Rica Hacienda Belén Hotel to Universidad Santa Paula

3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Welcome Remarks

Rocío Valverde Gallegos, Ph.D.

President, Universidad Santa Paula, USP, Costa Rica

4:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Presentation about USP

Erika Cyrus, Ph.D.

Director of Physical Therapy School, Universidad Santa Paula, USP, Costa Rica

4:30 – 5:00 p.m.

Guided tour of the university

5:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Culture and Diversity: To Learn from New Perspectives

5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Dinner and Cultural Presentation

7:00 – 7:15 p.m.

Departure to Marriott Costa Rica Hacienda Belén Hotel

Thursday, June 12

ALL DAY

HACU International Symposium

6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Dinner and La Academia Graduation Ceremony

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