



Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Leadership Conference

Analisa Sulaica, Mexican American Studies 2022

Professional Development

SUMMARY

I attended the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's (CHCI) 2019 Leadership Conference as a Southwest Airlines Student Ambassador. CHCI is a nonprofit and nonpartisan organization dedicated to providing special educational and leadership programs and opportunities to promising Latinos "You Count! ¡Tú Cuentas!" was the conference theme: inspired by the upcoming census that will have a big influence on Americans, especially the Latino community. I heard from many influential Latino leaders, many of which hold leadership positions within CHCI themselves. My goal for this experience was to improve myself as a professional. I wanted display the same hospitality and compassion that has embraced me here, at the University of Texas at San Antonio.



SPICES

The conference's goal is to bring professionals and leaders into a synonymous space to network and collaborate on ideas and goals. This offered me a perfect opportunity to further my professional development

HERBS

I learned a lot about issues being faced by my community, and as a professional and leader I will continue to push for equitable change and reform in any way possible

LEARNING OUTCOMES

During this experience, I had to practice resilience. I had never been in a plane before. I had never taken a Lyft ride before. Unfortunately, I also experienced debit fraud for the first time during this trip. I faced many challenges, of varying degrees, and I displayed adaptability and resilience in my management of these obstacles and completion of this experience, despite the challenges.



IMPACT

After completing this experience, I feel more confident in myself as a professional. I was able to communicate with people from all different types of backgrounds. I have an opportunity to continue to build myself from this point forward to do everything I can in my power to represent my Latino heritage, community, and university in any space possible.

ADVICE

Carry cash or visa gift cards, because debit fraud is not fun. Do not be afraid to schedule an extra day to explore! Professors are very flexible, and they will likely understand.