

## **CHLI Holds Fourth Annual Future Leaders Conference for Students and Young Professionals on Capitol Hill**

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Washington, DC – The Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute (CHLI) hosted its Fourth Annual CHLI Future Leaders Conference on Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at the Congressional Auditorium in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center. The conference centered on the theme, “Diversity and 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills in the Global Economy: Gaining the Competitive Edge in today’s Workforce”, and included the participation of experts from the public and private sectors, as well as Members of Congress and representatives of Fortune 500 companies. More than 200 student interns, young professionals, congressional staffers, and community leaders attended the half-day conference and career networking luncheon.

“I am very proud of the CHLI Futures Leaders Conference and all the wonderful young people who attended this year’s gathering. CHLI continues to lead in the development of ways for young leaders to enhance their skills,” said CHLI Chairman, Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart.

Speakers and members of the audience took part in two panel discussions: “Climbing the Corporate Ladder: Tricks of the Trade from Young Professionals” and “Movers and Shakers: Tips and Techniques from Young Leaders on the Rise”. Both discussions centered on young leaders and their path to success in a changing global economy, and provided conference participants with strategies on how to obtain and maintain a career in business and public service.

Six Members of Congress: U.S. Representatives Henry Cuellar (TX-28), Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18), Lincoln Diaz-Balart (FL-21), Aaron Schock (IL-18), Jared Polis (CO-2) and Mario Diaz-Balart (FL-25), provided their insights on how to gain the competitive edge in today’s workforce.

“I salute the Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute on the success of its Future Leaders Conference and am grateful to have been the Keynote Speaker. I hope my message about leadership and public service challenged the students to make a difference and go after their dreams no matter what their age or circumstance is.” – Rep. Aaron Schock.

Since 2007, the CHLI Future Leaders Conference has provided students and young professionals the opportunity to participate in policy briefings, workshops, networking and presentations from local, national, and international leaders in Washington, DC, and select cities through out the country.

The Fourth Annual CHLI Future Leaders Conference was made possible by the Presidential Sponsor – Ford Motor Company, the Co-Host for the Career Networking Lunch - Pfizer, and the media partner - Capital Wire PR.

“Ford has a legacy of commitment toward education,” said Jim Vella, Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services president. “We are proud to support the CHLI Future Leaders

Conference that focuses on how young people can gain a competitive edge in today’s workforce.”

Previous conference speakers have included Former President of Mexico, Vicente Fox, U.S. Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), Hector Morales, IDB President, Luis Alberto Moreno, and U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary, Carlos Gutierrez.

### **About CHLI**

The Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute is a 501(C)(3) not-for-profit and non-partisan organization dedicated to creating a broader awareness of the diversity of thought, heritage, interests and views of Americans of Hispanic and Portuguese descent.

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