

For Immediate Release

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Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity Launches Advisory Council

Austin, Texas—November 6, 2019: The Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) is pleased to announce the formation of a new advisory council. The group is a committee of individuals representing the educator preparation profession and their respective institutions, PK-12 school districts, and education reform organizations to provide thought partnership for BranchED’s work.

BranchED Advisory Council members include:

- **Dr. Rose Chu:** Senior Policy Fellow at Minnesota Education Equity Partnership
- **Dr. Belinda Bustos Flores:** Associate Dean of Professional Preparation, Assessment, and Accreditation, and a Professor in the Department of Bicultural-Bilingual Studies, College of Education and Human Development at the University of Texas at San Antonio.
- **Dr. Nicholas Hartlep:** Robert Charles Billings Endowed Chair in Education at Berea College where he chairs the Department of Education Studies.
- **Dr. Rita Kohli:** Associate Professor in the Education, Society and Culture Program in the Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Riverside
- **Dr. Carmelita Lamb:** Associate Dean for the Liffrig Family School of Education and Behavioral Sciences at the University of Mary, Bismarck, ND.
- **Dr. Willis Walter:** Dean/Associate Professor for Virginia State University’s College of Education

“This dedicated group of individuals will assist with developing new initiatives, services and projects, identifying best practices in educator preparation, and sharing ideas with the broader educator preparation community,” said Dr. Damara Hightower Mitchell, BranchED’s VP of Engagement and Partnerships and the liaison to the Advisory Council.

Dr. Cassandra Herring, Founder, President, and CEO noted, “We are honored to have such a distinguished group serve as a sounding board for BranchED’s current activities and future directions.”

For more information about BranchED’s Advisory Council, please visit

<https://www.educatordiversity.org/advisory-council/>

About Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity

Branch Alliance for Educator Diversity (BranchED) is the only non-profit organization in the country dedicated to strengthening, growing, and amplifying the impact of educator preparation at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs), with the longer-range goals of both diversifying the teaching profession and intentionally addressing critical issues of educational equity for all students. The organization’s vision is for all students to have access to diverse, highly effective educators. To learn more about BranchED’s work, please visit www.educatordiversity.org.

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