



PRESS RELEASE

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CREEED Board Member Dr. Gilberto Moreno Receives Ed.D, Sylvia Hopp and Adrian J. Rodriguez Appointed to CREEED Board

EL PASO, TX - The Council on Regional Economic Expansion and Educational Development (CREEED) extends its congratulations to CREEED board member Dr. Gilberto Moreno, who recently received his Ed.D from the University of Texas at El Paso after successfully completing the Doctoral Program in Educational Leadership and Administration. CREEED also welcomes Sylvia Hopp, former superintendent of San Elizario Independent School District, and Adrian J. Rodriguez, Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Assistant Secretary at El Paso Electric, to its board of directors.

"We are thrilled to have such accomplished leaders serving on the board of directors of CREEED. I want to personally congratulate Dr. Moreno on his academic and personal achievement. His pursuit of higher education and dedication to the intersection of education and community engagement is precisely the type of model CREEED follows to fulfill its mission," said Richard A. Castro, Chairman of the CREEED Board. "With the addition of such high-caliber individuals as Sylvia Hopp and Adrian J. Rodriguez to the board, we are strengthening our commitment to students and re-energizing our efforts as we look ahead to 2018."

Dr. Moreno completed his Doctor of Education, focusing on Educational Leadership. His illustrative career in the private sector, as well as serving as a clinical professor at the College of Engineering at UTEP, provided the impetus to embark on this endeavor in 2013 while continuing to work full time. His dissertation, *A Value-based Case Study to Increasing Community Mentoring in STEM for Hispanic Students*, is a reflection of his personal commitment to bridge the business and education worlds, and develop the next generation's leaders.

"My desire to facilitate partnerships between the business and education communities, and to serve as an example to my grandchildren of the importance of pursuing higher education, no matter the circumstance, are what inspired me to earn my doctorate. It is also the reason I proudly serve on CREEED's board of directors, where we leverage the business community's resources to create solutions in partnership with the educational leaders of our community," said Dr. Gilberto Moreno, CREEED board member and Lead Strategist and Consultant for Prestige Consulting Services.

Sylvia Hopp and Adrian J. Rodriguez will join a board of eighteen board of directors, comprised of Borderplex community leaders.

After an admirable career spanning 42 years in education, Mrs. Sylvia Hopp retired earlier this year from her post as superintendent of San Elizario Independent School District. During her 17 years at San Elizario Independent School District - five of which she served as superintendent – Mrs. Hopp helped spearhead important district initiatives aimed at closing education attainment gaps and bringing needed resources to the school district, including passage of a \$28 million bond in 2014.

Adrian J. Rodriguez currently oversees El Paso Electric's legal and regulatory departments, serving as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Assistant Secretary. Before joining El Paso Electric, Rodriguez was an attorney in the Dallas office of international law firm Vinson & Elkins LLP, where he practiced in the energy regulation practice group and complex commercial litigation practice group.

"CREEED is always seeking visionary and proven community leaders to help us execute our mission of supporting students to obtain a postsecondary degree or credential," said Eduardo Rodriguez, CREEED's Interim Chief Executive Officer. "Our board has never been stronger. Dr. Moreno's passion for education and cultivating the talents of the next generation is fundamental to our values and mission. In both Sylvia Hopp and Adrian J. Rodriguez, we have dedicated champions for education and business savvy individuals. I welcome them both and look forward to continue working with our entire board to harness our combined resources to further enrich our community through increasing educational attainment outcomes."

To learn more about the CREEED Board of Directors and to read the full bios of Sylvia Hopp and Adrian J. Rodriguez, please visit <http://www.creed.org>.

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