

### Our Mission

The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College-CUNY is a research institute that is dedicated to the study and interpretation of the Puerto Rican experience in the United States and that produces and disseminates relevant interdisciplinary research. Centro also collects, preserves, and provides access to library resources documenting Puerto Rican history and culture. We seek to link scholarship to social action and policy debates and to contribute to the betterment of our community and enrichment of Puerto Rican studies

### Research

Our research department investigates, documents, and broadens the understanding of the Puerto Rican experience in the U.S. We heighten the impact of the data by sharing it in research-based conferences and publishing in original publications and refereed journals.

### Library and Archives

The Centro Library and Archives is the world's only institution solely dedicated to collecting, preserving, and disseminating the story of the stateside Puerto Rican. Our collections include audio and video oral histories, photographs, original works by prominent writers and artists, papers of elected officials, early records of major community organizations, and other primary materials available nowhere else. A major strength of the Library collection is the history of Puerto Ricans in the United States, particularly in New York and the Northeast region, and also in all the areas of the humanities, the social sciences and the arts.

### Education

We support and expand the area of Puerto Rican Studies by offering opportunities for students and educators. Our Cultural Ambassadors Program educates our young people to be ambassadors of our rich history. For more information: [centopr.nationbuilder.com/ambassador](http://centopr.nationbuilder.com/ambassador)

### Publications

Centro Press enables us to engage in robust participation in the fields of Puerto Rican, Latino, New York City, and American Studies. By taking advantage of our vast archival resources and connections in the Puerto Rican community, we disseminate crucial information about the Puerto Rican experience and contribution to the political, economic, and social cultures of the United States through the following mediums:

- CENTRO Journal - the premier journal of Puerto Rican studies and the place to go for contemporary analyses of the Puerto Rican experience.
- Centro Voices – our e-magazine profiles the multiple manifestations of Puerto Rican identity and culture.
- Puerto Rican Voices – videos highlighting the contributions of Puerto Ricans in the U.S.

### Data Center

The Data Center packages and disseminates the most current information about Puerto Ricans. This information is provided to present socioeconomic and demographic portraits of the Puerto Rican population. The purpose is to provide basic descriptive information to scholars, policy makers and the public in general. The sources for this information are publically available repositories, such as the U.S. Census Bureau.

### Events

Centro events look into our past, portray our present and explore our future, with lectures, panel discussions, performances, art exhibits and more.

The series *Puerto Rico, Puerto Ricans* conferences bring together stateside Puerto Ricans to gain a broader understanding of how the economic and humanitarian crisis in Puerto Rico have affected those stateside.

Visit us on the web at:

<https://centopr.hunter.cuny.edu>

[Centopr.nationbuilder.com](http://Centopr.nationbuilder.com)



@centopr



**CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

# Puerto Rico Puerto Ricans PRSA Symposium

**Saturday, October 28  
10 am - 5 pm**

**#RebuildPR**

8:30 a.m. **REGISTRATION**

9:00 a.m. **PUERTO RICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION BUSINESS MEETING** Room 220

9:00 a.m. **REBUILD PUERTO RICO VOLUNTEER AND CULTURAL AMBASSADORS TRAINING**, Centro Library & Archives, Room 120

10:30 a.m. **WELCOME** Second Floor Auditorium  
William Vélez, President of the Puerto Rican Studies Association, and Professor Emeritus of Sociology, College of Letters and Science, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (WI)

**Sen. Gustavo Rivera**, SD33, New York State Senate

**José Luis Cruz**, President of the Herbert H. Lehman College, City University of New York (NY)

**MASTERS OF CEREMONY:**

**Carlos Vargas-Ramos**, Research Associate at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies, Hunter College, City University of New York (NY)

**Charles R. Venator-Santiago**, Associate Professor, Political Science and El Instituto: Institute for Latino/a, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies, University of Connecticut (CT)

10:45 a.m. **INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: REBUILD PUERTO RICO** Second Floor Auditorium

**Edwin Meléndez**, Director, Center for Puerto Rican Studies; Professor of Urban Affairs and Planning, Hunter College, City University of New York (NY)

11:30 p.m. **CONCURRENT PANELS: REBUILD PUERTO RICO, SESSION 1**

1 Energy Room 217

2 Health Room 220  
3 Education Room 326  
4 Environment Room 328  
5 Food and Agriculture Room 330  
6 Nonprofit Sector and Grassroots Advocacy Room 331

12:45 p.m. **LUNCH**

1:45 p.m. **CONCURRENT PANELS: REBUILD PUERTO RICO, SESSION 2**

1 Economic Development Room 217  
2 Diaspora Engagement and Media Room 220  
3 On-site Psychosocial Interventions in Interdisciplinary Teams Room 326  
4 Housing Room 328  
5 Faith Based Room 330  
6 Creativity to Reimagine Puerto Rico for Sustainable Prosperity Room 331

3:15 p.m. **CONCURRENT PANELS: ACADEMIC SESSIONS**

1 Humanitarian Crisis Room 217  
2 Economic Crisis and Policy Responses Room 220  
3 Fiscal Crisis and the Debt Room 326  
4 Politics and Government Room 328  
5 Migration Room 330  
6 Literature and Humanities Room 331

4:45-5:15 **REBUILD PUERTO RICO PROTOCOL AND CLOSING REMARKS**  
Second Floor Auditorium

5:15-6:15 **RECEPTION**