



NEW YORK STATE SENATE

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"I am proud to celebrate and honor the outstanding efforts of the State University of New York and its Office of Diversity and Educational Equity in recruiting and retaining diverse populations into the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics."

Dear STEM Conference Participants:

My personal greetings and congratulations to the State University of New York's Office of Diversity and Educational Equity for sponsoring this invaluable conference highlighting successful strategies for recruitment and retention of diverse populations into the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

As an educator myself, I have seen firsthand the extraordinary difference that an effective diversity program can have, not only to the education of students, but to the future those students will build for generations to come. I share SUNY ODEE's vision that emphasizes a diverse educational foundation not as an obligation, but as an acknowledgement that the gift brought to the table by underrepresented populations is a broadening of the dialogue, a gift the importance of which cannot be underestimated.

On behalf of the New York State Senate, I wish you a successful and enjoyable conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pedro Espada, Jr." in a cursive style.

PEDRO ESPADA, JR.
New York State Senate Majority Leader

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