



**INDIANA COMMISSION** *for*  
**HIGHER EDUCATION**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

Monday, December 2, 2019

## **Focus on Equity at Student Advocates Conference, Dec. 16-17**

*State Commission for Higher Education Hosting Fifth Annual Conference in Indianapolis*

(INDIANAPOLIS) – Indiana college advisors, mentors, student leaders and other advocates are encouraged to join the [Indiana Commission for Higher Education](http://www.in.gov/che/) for the 2019 Indiana Student Advocates Conference, December 16-17 in Indianapolis.

The fifth annual conference will focus on educational equity and offer attendees the opportunity through breakout sessions to discover innovative practices, share success stories and learn about state policies and initiatives impacting college completion and student success.

Sponsored by the Strada Education Network, the Student Advocates Conference will be held at the Indiana Marriott North, 3645 River Crossing Parkway, Indianapolis. The two-day event is free to attend.

Keynote speakers include:

- **Alexandra Bernadotte**, founder and CEO of Beyond 12, a nonprofit organization aimed at increasing the number of underserved students who earn a college degree through personalized coaching and technology.
- **Tom Morales**, co-founder and CEO of the Morales Group, Inc., an Indianapolis-based staffing agency with locations across the country.
- **Dr. Sue Ellspermann**, ninth president of Indiana's Ivy Tech Community College, the state's community college system with over 40 locations around Indiana, serving more than 75 communities.

A new feature of the conference in 2019 is a series of "INspire Talks," designed as 15-minute "Ted Talk"-style presentations from speakers focusing on themes related to educational equity, including race/ethnicity, socioeconomic status, geography, gender, age and more.

Attendees may register [online](http://www.in.gov/che/).

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### **About the Indiana Commission for Higher Education**

The Indiana Commission for Higher Education is a 14-member public body created in 1971 to define the missions of Indiana's colleges and universities, plan and coordinate the state's postsecondary education system, and ensure that Indiana's higher education system is aligned to meet the needs of students and the state. The Commission includes representatives from each Congressional district, three at-large members, a college faculty representative and a college student representative. Learn more about the Commission's *Reaching Higher, Delivering Value* strategic plan at [www.in.gov/che/](http://www.in.gov/che/).