
RAYMUND A. PAREDES



Raymund A. Paredes is Texas Commissioner of Higher Education and CEO of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

Dr. Paredes spent most of his academic career at UCLA where for 30 years he taught as an English professor and served for ten years as vice chancellor for academic development. In addition, he served as special assistant to the president of the University of California System in outreach efforts to improve access to higher education for students from educationally disadvantaged communities.

Prior to joining the Coordinating Board, Dr. Paredes was director of creativity and culture at the Rockefeller Foundation.

Dr. Paredes has served on the national board of directors of Big Brothers Big Sisters; he also served as a trustee of The College Board and Mercy College of New York, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Cultural Trust. He currently serves on the board of the Association of American Colleges and Universities and was recently appointed to the Southern Regional Education Board. In 2007, he was named one of Hispanic Business Magazine's 100 Most Influential Hispanics.

Dr. Paredes was born and raised in El Paso, Texas. He attended The University of Texas at Austin, receiving a B.A. in English. He served in the U.S. Army for two years, including a 14-month tour with the First Infantry Division in Vietnam. After separation from military service, he resumed his education, receiving a master's degree in American Studies from the University of Southern California and his Ph.D. in American Civilization, from The University of Texas at Austin.