36th APICE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Higher Education in Transformation: The Decisions That Will Shape Its Future
Sustainability, Financing and New Educational Pathways

ACADEMIC AGENDA AND OBJECTIVES

General Information

- Date: Tuesday, October 27 to Thursday, October 29, 2026
- Format: Online – Zoom platform
- Time: 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Colombia Time
- Platform: Zoom

General Objective

To promote analysis and strategic reflection on the transformations that are redefining higher education and the decisions that universities, educational financing institutions, and other stakeholders in the ecosystem will need to make to strengthen their relevance, value, and sustainability in the face of new educational pathways and social, labor, technological, and economic changes in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Specific Objectives

1. Analyze the transformations in the profiles, expectations, and educational pathways of those entering higher education, and their implications for access, retention, well-being, employability, and the value of education.

2. Examine the strategic decisions that universities and educational financing institutions will need to address in response to social and technological changes through more flexible and relevant academic, financial, and governance models.

3. Explore models, experiences, and partnerships that contribute to the sustainability and financing of higher education and new educational pathways, identifying lessons learned and alternatives with potential for application in Latin America and the Caribbean.

ACADEMIC AGENDA

DAY 1 – Tuesday, October 27

What is changing in higher education and among its students?

8: 30 - 8:40	**Opening of the 36th ÁPICE International Conference 2026** **Questions guiding the three-day Conference:** What is changing? What should we decide? What responses are emerging? **Jorge Téllez**. Executive Director, APICE.
8:40 – 9:10	Conference **Rethinking Employability: What Can Institutions of Higher Education Do in the Face of an Uncertain Future?** **Victoria Galán-Muros**. International Higher Education Expert. APICE
9:10 – 9:50	Conference **Higher Education Towards the Future: Global Trends and Challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean** **Vanja Gutović**. Head of Policy Analysis and International Cooperation, IESALC – UNESCO.
9:50 - 10: 35	Conference **The Student of the Future: New Educational Pathways, Expectations, and Ways of Engaging with Higher Education** **Francesc Pedró**. Former Director of IESALC – UNESCO. Professor, U. Pompeu Fabra.
10:35– 11:40	Panel Discussion **From Access to Success: Where Are the Main Challenges in Student Educational Pathways Today?** • **Miryam Angarita**. Rectora. Escuela Colombiana de Ingeniería Julio Garavito. Colombia. • **Candelario Miranda**. Corporate President. Universidad Filadelfia. México. • **Liliana Beltrán**. General Manager. Finky. Colombia. Moderator: **Jorge Téllez**. Executive Director, APICE
11:40 – 12:10	Conference **From Access to Success: Where Are the Main Challenges for Educational Financing Institutions?** **Efraín Miranda Carballo**. Executive Secretary. Comisión Nacional de Préstamos para la Educación, CONAPE. Costa Rica.
12:10– 12:45	Conference **Well-Being and Mental Health: A Condition for Success in New Educational Pathways?** **Daniel Eisenberg**. Researcher and Professor. Universidad de UCLA. California, EEUU.

Patrocinadores: Finky Credyty ValCredit

2:45 – 13:00	Closing **From Transformations to Decisions: What Does the First Day Leave Us With?** **Carlos Aparicio**. International Higher Education Expert. APICE.

DAY 2 – Wednesday, October 28

In the Face of Transformations, What Decisions Should Higher Education Make Today?

8: 30 - 8:40	**Connection: Day 1 → Day 2** **Jorge Téllez**. Executive Director. APICE.
8:40 – 9:20	Conference*:* **Higher Education Facing a New Scenario: Strategic Decisions for Latin America and the Caribbean** **Andreas Blom**. Global Education Practice Manager for Latin America and the Caribbean. World Bank.
9: 20 – 10:00	Conference*:* **From Strategy to Transformation: Comprehensive Sustainability from the Experience of Ewha Womans University, Korea**
10:00 – 10:40	Conference*:* **AI and Higher Education: What Decisions Should We Make Today and What Should We Not Delegate?** **Oscar Aparicio**. President, Academia Hispanoamericana de Doctores, AHD.
10:40 – 11:20	Conference*:* **Governance Under Uncertainty: The Decisions That Will Shape Higher Education Institutions Over the Next Decade** **Jamil Salmi**. *International Higher Education Expert.*
11:20 – 11:50	Conference*:* **The Environment Has Changed: What Should We Start Doing Differently Today?** **Ana Aquino**. General Director. BECALAB. Guatemala
11:50 – 12:20	Conference*:* **From Strategy to Action: What Decisions Should Educational Loan Institutions Make Today?** **Jorge Hernández Meza**. CEO. Sinergia Global. México.
12.20 – 12:50	Conference*:* **In Light of New Scenarios, What Decisions Should Higher Education Make Today?** **Víctor Hugo Malagón**. Executive Director of the Global Compact Network Colombia.
12:50– 13:00	Cierre **Keys to Decision-Making: What Should Our Institutions Start Reviewing Today?** **Carlos Aparicio**. International Higher Education Expert. APICE

Patrocinadores: Finky Credyty ValCredit

DAY 3 – Thursday, October 29

What Responses Do We Need to Make the Higher Education of the Future Sustainable, Financeable, and Viable?

8:30 – 8:40	**Connection**: Day 2 → Day 3. **Carlos Aparicio**. International Higher Education Expert. APICE.
8:40 – 9:20	Conference **Who Pays for Higher Education? International Models and Challenges for Latin America and the Caribbean** Regional Development Dynamics Division, OECD Development Centre.
9:20 – 10:00	Conference **Financing New Educational Opportunities: Transformations and Lessons Learned from Africa** **John Machayi.** Chief Executive Officer- Higher Education Loans and Scholarships Board, HELSB. Zambia President. African Association of Higher Education Financing Agencies, AAHEFA.
10:00 – 10:40	Conference **Financing New Educational Pathways: What Models Do We Need for a New Reality?** **Elena Arias**. Senior Education Specialist **Magali Ramos**. Consultant in the Economics of Higher Education Inter-American Development Bank, IDB.
10: 40 – 11:20	Conference **Who Will Finance the Higher Education of the Future? New Actors, New Models, and New Pathways** *Participation being confirmed*
11:20 – 12:30	Panel Discussion **How Can We Make the Higher Education We Need Sustainable and Financeable?** • **Karina Morales**. General Manager. Centro para el Análisis de Políticas Públicas en Educación Superior, CAPPES. Perú. • **Alejandro Rodríguez**. Administrative Director. Universidad Panamericana. México. • **Daglys Brizo**. Executive Vice President. UNITEC Honduras. Moderator: **Enrique Prieto**. Former President APICE.
12:30 – 12:50	Conference **New Partnerships for Sustainable and Financeable Higher Education** **Carlos Aparicio**. International Higher Education Expert. APICE.
12:50 – 13:00	Conclusions **From Decisions to Action: An Agenda for Higher Education** **Jorge Téllez**. Executive Director. APICE.
13:00 – 13:05	**Closing of the 36th Conference** **Efrain Miranda Carballo**. Chair of the Board of Directors of ÁPICE.

Patrocinadores: Finky Credyty ValCredit