



## Using Practitioner-Driven Inquiry and Action Research to Translate Data to Practice

Traditional models of educational research are often limited by their inability to accurately capture the complexity of the challenges and situations facing practitioners. As a result, findings and recommendations are difficult to implement given the unique realities of various educational settings. In contrast, long-term research-practice partnerships that engage practitioners in the creation of solutions through the analyses of their own practices can more effectively bring about organizational learning and change. Professor Bensimon will discuss the Center for Urban Education's implementation and study of research-practice partnerships that are focused on the attainment of racial equity higher education access, retention, completion, and participation in high impact practices.



### **DECADE Diversity Speaker Series Lecture by Dr. Estela Mara Bensimon**

Professor of Higher Education  
Co-Director of Center for Urban Education

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

12:00--1:15

White Room in Cross Cultural Center  
University of California, Irvine

Dr. Estela Mara Bensimon, Ed.D., is a professor of higher education and co-director of the Center for Urban Education (CUE) at the USC Rossier School of Education. The mission of the *Center for Urban Education* is to lead socially conscious research and develop tools for institutions of higher education to produce equity in student outcomes.

Currently, Dr. Bensimon is the Principal Investigator in "Equity in Excellence" a project funded by the Ford Foundation and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation that focuses on increasing institutional capacity to use data to improve college completion among underserved student populations. She is also directing the implementation of the Equity Scorecard at the 14 campuses of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education and is the Principal Investigator in a project funded by Teagle to increase the transfer of community college first-generation students to private colleges.

Event co-sponsored by the UCI Graduate Division and School of Education

