

Trending Book Publications

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INTENTIONAL EXCELLENCE


Rodríguez

PETER LANG


Are we bold enough to recognize our own excellence in our schools and communities? This question drives *Intentional Excellence*, an audacious attempt at developing a Pedagogy of Excellence in Latina/o schools and communities as a result of observations, insights, and lessons learned from work with schools and communities across the United States. Louie F. Rodríguez argues that while there is no shortage of excellence in some of the schools and communities that struggle the most, there is a pedagogical void, or an Excellence Paradox, that has disallowed excellence from being used as a potential tool to transform the culture of education. This book offers an additive framework for committed stakeholders and outlines six key observations including the contagious nature of excellence, excellence as a responsibility, the political viability of excellence, the additive possibilities of excellence, the role of excellence as a curricular and pedagogical tool, and the role of excellence in working toward equity and social justice in education. Rodríguez discusses a series of case studies that have used Excellence Campaigns to organize, define, and recognize their own excellence. The book also discusses the possibilities of excellence beyond education and proposes a new role in education to make excellence happen: Excellence Engineers. The book concludes with a theory of action that is necessary for excellence to thrive in the twenty-first century. Our children and communities deserve to see themselves as "models of excellence" and this book proposes a pedagogy to help get us there.

"In this compelling new book, Louie F. Rodríguez shows us that rather than aiming for higher achievement (as measured by improvements in test scores), schools serving low-income students of color must aim for excellence. He does more than merely implore us to do this, he provides concrete examples to show how this is and can be done. For those who believe that education has the power to transform lives by igniting aspirations, expanding opportunities, and cultivating a love of learning, this book will be an invaluable resource."

—Pedro A. Noguera, Peter L. Agnew Professor of Education and Executive Director, Metropolitan Center for Research on Equity and the Transformation of Schools, New York University

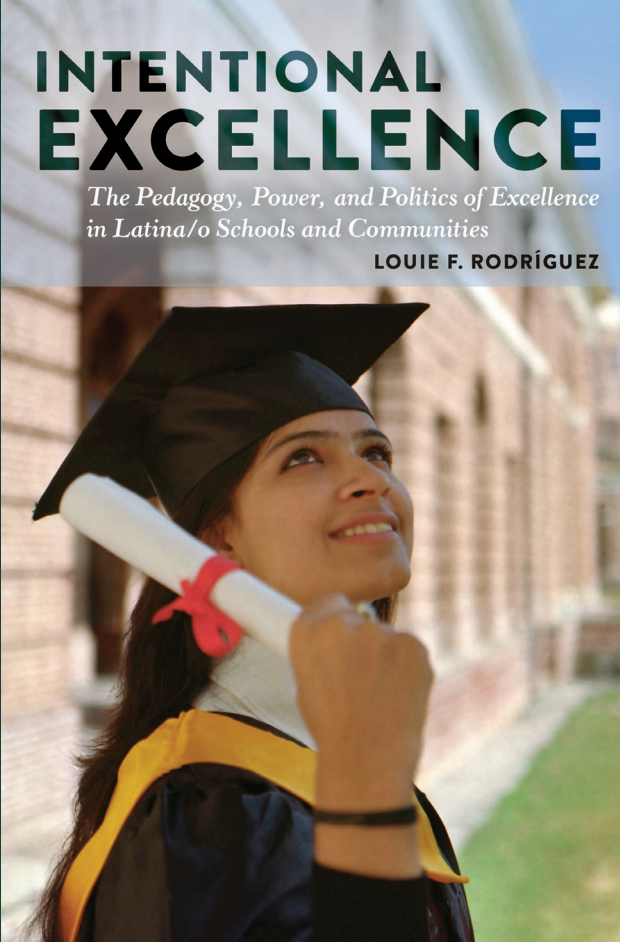


Louie F. Rodríguez is an associate professor of educational leadership at California State University, San Bernardino. His work focuses on equity issues in urban schools and communities and examines and explores what works, particularly from the perspective of students' voices. He completed his masters and doctorate degrees at Harvard University.



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Critical Studies of LATINOS/AS in the Americas



INTENTIONAL EXCELLENCE

The Pedagogy, Power, and Politics of Excellence in Latina/o Schools and Communities

LOUIE F. RODRÍGUEZ

Intentional Excellence: The Pedagogy, Power, and Politics of Excellence in Latina/o Schools and Communities

By Louie F. Rodríguez

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