



Dr. Paige Niehaus is a distinguished educator and leader with a steadfast commitment to promoting diversity and inclusion in higher education. With a Doctor of Education from Ferris State University, a Master of Science from the University of St. Francis, and both Bachelor of Science and Associate in Arts degrees from the same institution, as well as an Associate in Applied Science from Joliet Junior College, Dr. Niehaus brings a wealth of academic knowledge and experience to her role as President of the Dale Mabry Campus at Hillsborough Community College (HCC), where she has served for the past three years.

In her capacity as President, Dr. Niehaus has demonstrated exemplary leadership, striving to foster a culture of compassion, and understanding within HCC. She is dedicated to ensuring that the institution remains human-centered, employing design thinking to address the evolving needs of students, faculty, staff, and the wider community. Dr. Niehaus has been instrumental in championing HCC's "SOMOS" Hispanic and Latino Advisory Council, actively promoting bilingual awareness and inclusivity through various initiatives at the college.

Outside of her professional duties, Dr. Niehaus is deeply engaged in community service, exemplifying the values of servant leadership. She is a committed Rotarian with the Rotary Club of Tampa and holds positions on several boards, including the HCA Florida South Tampa Hospital Board of Trustees, the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the City of Tampa's Drew Park Community Redevelopment Agency Community Advisory Committee.

Dr. Niehaus's involvement in various organizations further underscores her dedication to promoting diversity and equity in education. She is an active member of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) and serves as Vice Chair of the HCA Florida South Tampa Hospital Board and as a Board Member of the West Tampa Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, she is a President Academy Executive Committee Member of the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC).

Dr. Niehaus's commitment to advancing the interests of the Hispanic community extends beyond her professional affiliations. She has been recognized for her outstanding contributions, including receiving the 2023 PTK Paragon New President's Award and the 2022 HCC Champions of Diversity Awards for Exemplary Administrator. Her dedication to diversity and inclusion was further acknowledged by her participation in the 2022 Aspen Institute College Excellence Program.

Throughout her tenure at HCC, Dr. Niehaus has demonstrated a proactive approach to supporting Hispanic students. She established a multidisciplinary task force to assess and improve services for this demographic, fostering collaboration and inclusivity across campus departments. Her advocacy for the Hispanic community is not limited to campus; she actively represents their interests within the college administration as an honorary member of SOMOS, ensuring their voices are heard in decision-making processes.

In recognition of her exceptional leadership and advocacy, Dr. Niehaus has been recognized as the recipient of the 2024 Tampa Hispanic Heritage, Inc. Leadership class "Orgullo" award. Her unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusivity embodies the values celebrated by this esteemed honor, making her a truly deserving candidate.