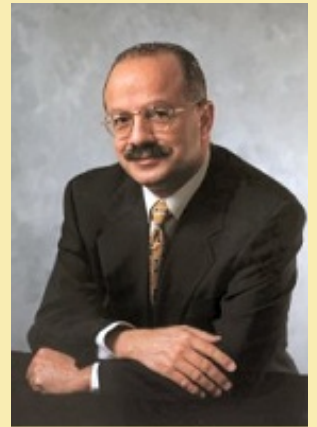


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Eduardo J. Padrón
President

Message from the President

Wednesday, August 27, 2003

Service Learning: An Integral Component in Higher Education

MDC has always recognized its role as a participant in the life of the community, well beyond the traditional classroom settings that we make available. Our commitment to remain an engaged partner has been reaffirmed through our service learning efforts.

MDC's Center for Community Involvement has become a national model for programs across the country. Our faculty and students have demonstrated the valuable link between student learning and community involvement. As well, our faculty have had the chance to fulfill continuing education requirements while supporting student efforts.

A recent visit from Campus Compact, the national collaborative of service learning colleges, produced a glowing report of MDC's efforts. In fact, service learning is an integral learning component at all six campuses, with extensive faculty involvement. The Center for Community Involvement, with coordinators distributed among the campuses, provides valuable support for program development.

Congratulations to everyone who has contributed to this worthy effort.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Padrón', written in a cursive style.