

Open Deliberation/Coffee Chat with Congresswoman Lucille Roybal

**University-Student Union Theater:
Monday, April 9th - 3:00-4:45**

I. Background

- A. Lucille Roybal is the first Mexican American woman elected to Congress. She is the U.S. representative for California's 40th Congressional District since 1993 and a CSULA alumni, who continues to play a vital role in advocacy. Having Roybal as a guest speaker will help showcase an inspiring story. Roybal is co-author of the DREAMERs Act and is a huge supporter of minorities. Being that she has been reelected ten times emphasizes her hard efforts and stability towards being congresswoman of L.A..

Having influential leader, Lucille Roybal as a speaker will leave us feeling empowered. In her own words *"Continue to work hard and never let anyone convince you of the myth that you lack talent and have no value. Believe in yourself, believe in your brilliance and **don't confuse your lack of experience or your lack of opportunity with lack of intelligence**. Remember true success is following your passion and doing what you love most."* Lucille's visit will bring Cal State LA student body together by motivating us to never give up and to always keep striving regardless of the circumstance.

II. Objective

- A. Open deliberation with Roybal, to allow CSULA students the opportunity to listen to her successes and failures, she is an inspiration for being the first women and a minority. Influential speakers are proven to give students vision and focus, towards their own pathways.
- B. Roybal is involved with ongoing issues such as DACA and Dream therefore, we would like students to feel connected with the community and stay informed of ongoing issues that pertain to these acts.
- C. Attending these events is a reminder of why being involved is beneficial. Staying proactive with campus events enhances confidence, allows students to form connections and proves success.

III. Planning

A. Event Blurp:

- Student are invited to join us in welcoming our special guest speaker Congresswoman Lucille Roybal, during this event students will be allowed the opportunity to listen and interact in an open discussion. Discussion on topics that can have a positive impact such as overcoming intimidation, securing pell grants and making college more affordable for low-income students in addition Roybal, is the original co-author of DREAM ACT providing us with an opportunity with in depth knowledge of these issues as well as many other ongoing issues.

It is up to the student body as a whole to make a change. It is up to the student body of CSULA to stay informed and add input through open discussion to empower us all. It is up to ourselves and colleagues to listen and challenge one another to reach our highest successes and remain connected with our community and our congresswoman/men in ensuring equality and growth as a whole.

B. Event Program

3:00-3:15	Check in, Mixer and coffee
3:15-3:25	Student Opening Speech - Introduction of the event/ objective
3:25-3:30	Introduce Lucille Roybal - with background
3:30-4:00	Coffee Talk between Roybal and Dr. Raphe Sonenshein
4:00-4:15	Question and Answer - Open Forum
4:15- 4:45	Reception/ Meet and Greet

Possible Questions (coffee chat)

- Legacy of father?
- Difficulties of being a woman/ first Mexican/American women in congress?
- Dream Act?
- DACA?
- TPS?
- Importance of civic engagement?
- Experience at Cal State L.A.?
- She offers plenty of grants what are some importances of supporting education? How does it change a community?

- Outlook to the future?

IV. Intended Outcomes

- Students will learn the importance of Civic Engagement and political participation.
- Students will learn how to stay informed and involved with their elected representatives.
- Students will learn about current issues making national headlines such as the Dream Act.
- Students will learn about the history of Latina/o politics through the legacy of a pioneer of ethnic politics.
- Students will learn about the benefits of seeking a career in public service.
- Students will be able to envision success stories and as well as hear about overcoming challenges.
- Students will get the opportunity to have an open discussion

V. Evaluation

- A. At the end of the forum surveys for both volunteers and students will be provided to get feedback on event.
- B. Successes & failures will be documented for future references.

Roybal Quotes

‘You also have many members of Congress like me who are working to protect student loan programs and Pell Grants which help make college a reality for more than 9 million low-and-middle income students across the country.’

“No matter what seemingly insurmountable barriers you face, such as treading new and unknown waters as the first in your family to attend college, or as a first-generation American or an undocumented student, just like those before us, you must never let go of your hopes and aspirations even when they seem an impossible dream.”

“Continue to work hard and never let anyone convince you of the myth that you lack talent and have no value. Believe in yourself, believe in your brilliance and don’t confuse your lack of experience or your lack of opportunity with lack of intelligence. Remember true success is following your passion and doing what you love most.”

“At the end of your journey success may look different for each of you, but it will nonetheless be success. And wherever your success takes you, never forget where you came from, and always give back to your community. Like those who opened the doors of opportunity for others, widen those doors and open new ones for the next generation of students who follow you.”