



**AACTE President/CEO Dr. Lynn M. Gangone Script for  
Member Video Message – June 20, 2019**

HELLO AGAIN!

Last week was AACTE's Washington Week! And what a week it was! Our time together began with the State Leaders Institute, where we welcomed colleagues from around the country who volunteer within each state. In fact, AACTE has 47 state chapters that engage in vital work at the local and state levels. Led in collaboration with AACTE's government and state relations team, Deb Koolbeck and Ward Cummings, the two days of the State Leaders Institute provided leaders with the tools and perspectives, from advocacy to social media, needed to advocate for educator preparation throughout the country.

Our Holmes Scholars, and Holmes master's students, joined us for the annual Holmes Summer Policy Institute. Bringing together these students is one of the highlights of our work! Dr. Brandon

Tadashi Frost, our Holmes Scholar coordinator, prepared an exciting agenda that included Dr. Lorelle Espinoza from the America Council of Education, and author of Race and Ethnicity in Higher Education: A Status Report. Our Holmes students learned so much from their two days together, and had an opportunity to go from theory to practice as they continued their engagement throughout the week.

AACTE members, colleagues, and students then converged on Capitol Hill for AACTE's Day on the Hill. From increasing teacher diversity to a renewed respect for the teaching profession, AACTE members engaged with Congressional office staff to advocate for educator preparation and for their support in making education the center of American values.

While AACTE's Washington Week is our annual policy and advocacy event, rest assured, AACTE tackles all of these issues, and more, on your behalf throughout the year as well. Whether it's collaborating with the 100-member Coalition for Teaching Quality, which AACTE leads, or listening to Hill testimony and speaking

with staff and elected officials on both sides of the aisle, or testifying, such as I have, on various issues like school safety, AACTE is on the ground and continually moving our legislative agenda forward. You can trust AACTE to be your “go to” place for up-to-the minute information on policies and legislation, such as the Higher Education Act that is currently being debated, because a vital part of YOUR membership is OUR advocacy on your behalf!

Thank you for listening, have a great day, and stay tuned to AACTE.ORG for the latest information on our legislative work.

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