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# MDC HONORS COLLEGE DEAN AS ASPEN PRESIDENTIAL FELLOW

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STAFF REPORT— [APRIL 23, 2019](#)

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MIAMI, Fla. – Miami Dade College’s (MDC) Honors College Dean Dr. Pascale Charlot has been selected by the Aspen Institute’s College Excellence Program to join the 2019-2020 class of the Aspen Presidential Fellowship for Community College Excellence.

The prestigious leadership program is aimed at preparing the next generation of community college presidents to transform institutions to achieve higher and more equitable levels of student success, both in college and in the labor market.

“Dr. Charlot is dedicated to the education and success of MDC students as they travel along their educational and career paths,” said MDC President Dr. Eduardo J.

Padrón. “I know she will bring the same focus, energy and leadership to the Aspen Presidential Fellowship program.”

Charlot and the other Aspen Presidential Fellows will embark on a 10-month fellowship beginning in July 2019. Delivered in collaboration with the Stanford Educational Leadership Initiative, the fellows will work with mentors – current and former community college presidents – who have achieved exceptional outcomes for students throughout their careers.

Fellows will also learn from national experts about ways to harness data to assess student success outcomes, strategies for internal change leadership, and how to create strong external partnerships with K-12 schools, four-year colleges, and employers.

The Aspen Presidential Fellowship responds to a specific and growing need for a new generation of leaders who are well-equipped to meet the challenges of the future. Nationally, nearly 80 percent of community college presidents plan to retire in the next decade.

The pathway to replace them has traditionally excluded women and people of color. The incoming class of Aspen Presidential Fellows is 65 percent female and non-binary, 43 percent are people of color, and their institutions vary widely in size and location.

“Evidence shows that substantial improvements in student success are achieved only when presidents have the commitment and skill needed to lead change within their institutions and through partnerships in the community,” said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute’s College Excellence Program.

“These fellows have been chosen because they embody that commitment and, we believe, will build their skills even further to become transformational presidents.”

Dr. Charlot was selected through a rigorous process that considered her abilities to take strategic risks, lead strong teams and cultivate partnerships, and focus on results-oriented improvements in student success and access.

The MDC Honors College she leads is one of the most recognized programs of its kind in the nation, often praised by the media and important organizations for its success. It was lauded by TIME magazine as an “Ivy Stepladder” in a major story.

Recently, MDC received the prestigious 2019 Aspen Prize for College Excellence, the nation’s top recognition of high achievement and performance among state colleges.