



# International School Choice and Reform Conference

## 2019 PROGRAM

PESTANA POUSADA DE LISBOA HOTEL

LISBON, PORTUGAL

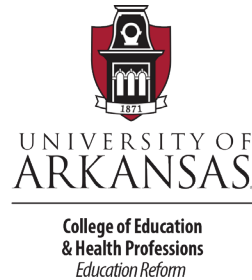
JANUARY 10 - 13



## PRESENTING SPONSOR:



## GOLD SPONSOR:



## SILVER SPONSOR:



## BRONZE SPONSOR:



## PLANNING COMMITTEE:

Antonio Pedro Barbas Homem, Universidade de Lisboa  
Nina Buchanan, University of Hawaii  
Nihad Bunar, University of Stockholm  
Marisa Ann Cannata, Vanderbilt University  
Anna Egalite, North Carolina State University  
Jan De Groof, University of Tillburg  
Robert Fox, University of Hawaii  
Keri Hunter, EdChoice  
Triin Lauri, Tallinn University  
Robert Anthony Maranto, University of Arkansas  
Pablo Meix, University of Castilla-La Mancha  
Rodrigo Queirez e Melo, Universidade Católica Portuguesa  
Yongmei Ni, University of Utah  
Benjamin Scafidi, Kennesaw State University  
Chris Torres, Michigan State University  
Kurt Willems, KU Leuven Centre for Public Law  
Patrick Wolf, University of Arkansas

# WELCOME

Olá e bem-vindos à nossa conferência!

After several years of successful conferences in the United States, the International School Choice and Reform Conference is delighted to welcome you to our 2019 conference.

This year, we're offering some new features that we hope will make your experience even more enjoyable. Lisbon is a wonderful venue for our meeting, with a first-class hotel venue, marvelous food, and world-class sights. We hope that you will take the time to visit Lisbon's castle, museums and historic center. If you can, take some time to travel on the local busses to Belém (just a few minutes away) to visit the Jerónimos Monestary and Belém Tower. And make sure to enjoy a pastel de nata with your morning coffee or tea.

ISCRC is school choice collaboration and scholarship. We are delighted to join with the Education Association for Education Law and Policy (ELA) to expand policy and legal discussions and enable even more broad ranging cross discipline research. ELA leaders have participated at all levels in the planning of this year's meeting and you will see the results in the marvelous program for which we thank Professor Ben Scafidi and his Program Committee.

While we are expressing gratitude, please join me in thanking Professor Jan DeGroof of the Universitet Antwerpen, Dr. Rodrigo Queiroz e Melo of Universidade Católica Portuguesa, and Professor Patrick Wolf of the University of Arkansas for the critical role they played in planning this conference. Particular note should be made of the contributions of EdChoice and Keri Hunter, without whom there would be no conference. There are, of course, many others to whom thanks is owed and I refer readers to the list of Planning Committee members, all of whom gave their time and expertise to making this conference a success.

More than anything else, the ISCRC has always featured high-level scholarship and the opportunity for scholars and practitioners to meet with one another in an intimate setting where future studies and collaborations will be born. It is my hope that every participant will take advantage of this opportunity to meet new colleagues and explore new points of view in the study of school choice and reform policies. This, together with the exciting paper and symposium sessions, will have made all the work worthwhile.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Fox', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Fox  
Professor Emeritus, University of Hawaii  
Conference Chair

**7:00 PM**  
Ballroom Foyer, 2nd Floor

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 10

### Welcome Reception

Robert Fox (University of Hawai'i-Hilo)

**8:00 AM**  
Pàtio Amàlia, 1st Floor

**9:00 AM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 11

### BREAKFAST

#### SESSION ONE OPTIONS

### Some Frontiers of Educational Choice in the United States

**Chair:** Lindsey Burke (Heritage Foundation)

Aaron Saiger (Fordham University) – *“Unbundling and School Choice”*

Lindsey Burke (Heritage Foundation) – *“Virtually Unheard Of: The Ed-Tech Sector’s Familiarity with Education Savings Accounts”*

Jason Bedrick (EdChoice) – *“More Than Vouchers: A Survey of Scholarship Organizations”*

Robert Maranto (University of Arkansas) – *“Combining Markets and Politics to Control Education Corruption”*

**Discussant:** Robert Maranto (University of Arkansas)

**Discussant:** Corey DeAngelis (Cato Institute)

**9:00 AM**

Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

### School Turnaround and the Educator Labor Market

**Chair:** Ellen Goldring (Vanderbilt University)

Lam Pham (Vanderbilt University) – *“An Extended Evaluation of Tennessee’s Achievement School District and Local Innovation Zones”*

Erica Harbatkin (Vanderbilt University) – *“Stumbling at the Starting Block: How Baseline School Characteristics Hinder School Turnaround Efforts”*

Marisa Cannata (Vanderbilt University) – *“It’s Who You Know: The Role of Teacher Social Networks in a Changing Labor Market”*

**Discussant:** Mark Berends (University of Notre Dame)

**Discussant:** Anna Egalite (North Carolina State University)

**9:00 AM**  
Suite 212, 3rd Floor

### Choice and Equity

Daniel Gabaldon (University of Valencia) – *“Public School Choice After an Era of Institutional Abandonment: The Hidden Face of School Segregation”*

Biswajit Kar (Jawaharlal Nehru University) – *“School Choice, Segregation and the Reproduction of Disadvantages: Analysis of Intersectionalities in Indian School Market”*

Triin Lauri (Tallinn University) and Kaire Põder (Estonian Business School) – *“Discrimination or explained differences: Individual and school level effects explaining achievement gap in Russian Schools of Estonia and Latvia”*

Daniela Drobna (University of St. Cyril and Methodius in Trnava) – *“Education policy in Slovakia with focus on socially deprived groups”*

**10:30 AM**  
Lobby Bar

**BREAK**

---

**SESSION TWO OPTIONS**

---

**10:45 AM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**Empirical Analyses of U.S. Choice Programs**

**Chair:** Albert Cheng (University of Arkansas)

Corey DeAngelis (Cato Institute) – *“The Effects of Regulations on Private School Choice Program Participation: Experimental Evidence from Florida”*

Paul Peterson (Harvard University) – *“Experimentally Estimated Impacts of School Vouchers On College Degree Attainment: An Update”*

Anna Egalite (North Carolina State University) – *“An Impact Analysis of North Carolina’s Opportunity Scholarship Program on Student Achievement”*

John Merrifield (University of Texas-San Antonio) – *“Tax-Credit Scholarship Funding Determinants”*

**Discussant:** Macke Raymond (Stanford University)

**Discussant:** Eric Hanushek (Stanford University)

**10:45 AM**  
Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

**Media Coverage, Politics and the School Choice Debate:  
Does a Lack of Media Understanding of School Choice Leave Defining it by  
Political Pressure Groups?**

**Chair:** Brian Calle (CEO, LA Weekly and Chapman University)

Loretta Sanchez (former U.S. Congresswoman and Leadership Fellow, Harvard University)

Sharon Quirk-Silva (member of the California State Assembly and a retired teacher)

Robert Enlow (EdChoice)

**10:45 AM**  
Suite 212, 3rd Floor

**Governance, Regulation, and Choice**

Maria Smirnova (University of Manchester) – *“Banning Excessive Privatization of Public Education while Ensuring Freedom of Education: Finding the Right Balance”*

Nadezhda Knyaginina (HSE University) – *“Multi-Level Governance of Education in Russia: Current Issues and Search for Balance of Powers”*

Dragos Efrim (S.C.A. Duțescu & Partners) – *“Government monopoly on school textbooks: a quality standard or limitation of educational freedom?”*

**12:15 PM**  
Pàtio Amàlia, 1st Floor

**LUNCH - Keynote Address**

Nina Buchanan (University of Hawai‘i-Hilo) and Rodrigo Queiroz e Melo (Portuguese Catholic University) – *Introductory Remarks*

Paul Rowe – *“Educate Together – An example of an independent actor provoking systemic change”*

**1:45 PM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

---

### A Multifaceted View of Homeschooling in the United States, Canada, and France

**Chair:** Albert Cheng (University of Arkansas)

David Sikkink (Notre Dame)

Christine Brabant (Université de Montréal)

Eric Wearne (Holy Spirit College)

Philippe Bongrand (University of Cergy-Pontoise)

**Discussant:** Michael Donnelly (Home School Legal Defense Association)

**Discussant:** Albert Cheng (University of Arkansas)

**1:45 PM**  
Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

### What Impact Can Evidence Have on Policy Decisions?

**Moderator:** Macke Raymond (Stanford)

Michael Stone (former CEO, New Schools for New Orleans)

Robert Enlow (EdChoice)

**1:45 PM**  
Suite 212, 3rd Floor

### Religion, Secularization, and School Choice

Stefan Phillipsen and Pieter Huisman (Utrecht University) – *“The changing role of religion in school choice in the Netherlands”*

Paul Zoontjens (Tilburg University) – *“School choice in the context of a plural and secularized school system”*

Johan Lievens (VU Amsterdam & KU Leuven) and Kurt Willems (KU Leuven), *“Is the dream of (Jewish) schools coming to an end? Flemish education policy and its impact on school choice”*

Asher Maoz (Dean Peres Academic Center Law School) – *“From School Choice to Uniformity and Back to School Choice – The Case of Israel”*

**3:15 PM**  
Lobby Bar

### BREAK

**3:30 PM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

---

### SESSION FOUR OPTIONS

### The Future of School Funding in the United States: Creating a More Equitable System and Expanding Educational Freedom

**Moderator:** Martin Lueken (EdChoice)

Paul DiPerna (EdChoice)

Benjamin Scafidi (Kennesaw State University)

James Shuls (University of Missouri, Saint Louis)

Patrick Wolf (University of Arkansas)

**3:30 pm**  
Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

## School Choice in the United States: Opportunities and Challenges in Urban Communities

Karen Drezner (Leveraging Leaders) – Critical Conversation Leader

Over the past two decades, school choice has flourished across the United States. This is particularly poignant for urban communities, where educational quality has been a significant concern for far too long. Although many cities have faced a myriad of challenges, including but not limited to financial reallocations, student enrollment variances, shifting political interests and the powerful influence of teacher unions, fascinating innovative models have developed, and cross sector collaborations have blossomed. Participants will focus on a variety of case studies from cities like Boston, New York City and New Orleans. Utilizing what they learn from these case studies as well as their own expertise and experience, they will engage in critical dialogue to 1) identify and consider how to successfully overcome key policy and practice challenges and 2) contemplate how to create and maintain diverse communities of high-quality schools that ensure all students thrive academically, developmentally and civically.

**Panelist:** Sonia Park (Diverse Charter Schools Coalition)

**3:30 PM**  
Suite 212, 3rd Floor

## Education, Rights, and Public Policies

Miguel Angel Sancho Gargallo (European Foundation Society and Education) – *“The Right to Education as a Framework for Education Policies”*

Marco I. Matthijsen (Global Education Law Forum) – *“Towards an International Monitor of Education Rights (IMER)”*

Balázs Sz. GERENCSÉR (Pázmány Péter Catholic University) – *“Protecting Language and Minority Rights through School Choice”*

José Luis M. López-Muñoz (University of Valladolid) – *“Public funding of non-governmental schools as a constitutional duty in Spain”*

**5:00 PM**

**Conclude for the day**

**8:00 PM**

**OPTIONAL GROUP DINNER (This is not a hosted event and details will be provided at the conference.)**

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 12

**8:00 AM**  
Pàtio Amàlia, 1st Floor

**BREAKFAST**

---

### SESSION FIVE OPTIONS

---

**9:00 AM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

## Charter Schools I

**Chair:** Drew Catt (EdChoice)

Jessica Sutter (EdPro Consulting) – *“Missing from the Room Where It Happens: Parents and Families in Charter School Restart Decisions”*

Brian Beabout (University of New Orleans) and Shante Williams (The University of New Orleans) – *“Leading Alone: How School Leaders Experience a Charter/District Turnaround School in New Orleans, Louisiana”*

Wagma Mommamdi (University of Colorado) – *“Charter School Access: Policies, Practices and Ramifications”*

Timothy Weekes (Holy Names University) – *“Characteristics of High-Performing Charter Schools Serving Under-Represented Minority and Low-Income Students”*

**9:00 AM**  
Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

**Discussant:** Marisa Cannata (Vanderbilt University)

**Discussant:** Cara Candal (Pioneer Institute)

**Are Muslim Schools the New Catholic Schools?**  
**Roundtable on Charles Glenn's Muslim Educators in American Communities**

**Moderator:** Robert Maranto (University of Arkansas)

Charles Glenn (Boston University)

David Sikkink (University of Notre Dame)

Anna Egalite (North Carolina State University)

Catherine Warrick (Villanova University)

Jan De Groof (College of Europe)

**10:30 AM**  
Lobby Bar

**BREAK**

---

**SESSION SIX OPTIONS**

---

**10:45 AM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**Charter Schools II**

**Chair:** Ellen Goldring (Vanderbilt University)

Kathy Hayes (Southern Methodist University) – *"Kids or cash? Exploring charter schools' response to declining government revenues"*

Ellen Goldring (Vanderbilt University) – *"Innovation in Charter Schools: An Analysis of Teaching and Learning Practices"*

Eric Hanushek (Stanford University) – *"The Evolution of Charter School Quality"*

Macke Raymond (Stanford University) – *"What Have We Learned from Charter School Research?"*

**Discussant:** Patrick Wolf (University of Arkansas)

**Discussant:** Anna Egalite (North Carolina State University)

**Discussant:** Benjamin Scafidi (Kennesaw State University)

**"Freedom of education Index – Correlation with selected indicators 2018"**

Jan De Groof (College of Europe)

Ignasi Grau i Callizo (International Organization for the Right to Education and Freedom of Education)

Michael Donnelly (Home School Legal Defense Association)

Maria Smirnova (University of Manchester)

**10:45 AM**  
Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

**12:15 PM**  
Pàtio Amàlia, 1st Floor

**LUNCH**

---

**SESSION SEVEN OPTIONS**

---

**1:45 PM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**Educators and Schools; Assessment and Achievement**

**Chair:** James Shuls (University of Missouri, Saint Louis)

Sherrie Reed (University of California at Davis) – *"Doing More for Less? Staffing Patterns in California Charter Schools"*

Michael McShane (EdChoice) – “Assessing the Private School “Skills Gap”: What Teachers Know and What They Need To”

Nadezhda Knyaginina (HSE University) – “Legal Problems of Quality Assessment in Education in Russia”

Patrick Wolf (University of Arkansas) – “Intermediate Results of the Louisiana Scholarship Program: Achievement, Impact Heterogeneity, Selection, and Attainment”

**Discussant:** Benjamin Scafidi (Kennesaw State University)

**Discussant:** James Shuls (University of Missouri, Saint Louis)

**1:45 PM**

Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

### Charter Schools III

**Chair:** Nina Buchanan (University of Hawai‘i-Hilo)

Madeline Mavrogordato (Michigan State University) – “Mapping Access: To What Extent Are English Learners Choosing Charter Schools in Texas?”

Ian Kingsbury (University of Arkansas) – “Charter School Regulation as a Barrier to Entry”

Jacob Kirksey (University of California, Santa Barbara) – “Attending’ Elementary Charter Schools: Examining a Nationally Representative Cohort”

Cara Candal (Pioneer Institute) – “When School Choice Depends Upon School Failure: The Impacts of Charter School Policy in Massachusetts, USA”

**Discussant:** John Merrifield (University of Texas-San Antonio)

**Discussant:** Nina Buchanan (University of Hawai‘i-Hilo)

**1:45 PM**

Suite 212, 3rd Floor

### Education Choice, Law and Policy

**Chair:** Aaron Saiger (Fordham University)

Leslie Hiner (EdChoice) “Legal Challenges to Educational Freedom: Best Defense and Offense

Marius Smit (North-West University) “School Choice Reform in South Africa – an Education Law Perspective”

Lew Andrews (Yankee Institute) “Education Savings Accounts: Empowering Kids and Saving Money in Connecticut”

Benjamin Scafidi (Kennesaw State University) - “Will Universal Choice Cause More Sorting by Race and Income Across Schools?”

**Discussant:** Aaron Saiger (Fordham University)

**Discussant:** Julian Vasquez Heilig (California State University Sacramento)

**3:15 PM**

Lobby Bar

### BREAK

---

### SESSION EIGHT OPTIONS

---

**3:30 PM**

Ballroom, 2nd Floor

### Vouchers in North Carolina and Indiana

**Chair:** Eric Wearne (Holy Spirit College)

Anna Egalite (North Carolina State University) – “Early Adopters vs Cautious Observers: Private School Leaders Respond to the Introduction of Targeted School Vouchers in North Carolina”

Andrew Swindell (University of California, Los Angeles) – *“The slippery slope: A case study of the Indiana choice scholarship voucher program”*

Drew Catt (EdChoice) – *“Indiana’s Schooling Deserts Hoosier Communities Lacking Highly-Rated or Multi-Sector Educational Options”*

Anna Egalite (North Carolina State University) – *“The School Choice Tipping Point: An Analysis of the Competitive Effects of the Indiana Voucher Program on Public District Schools”*

**Discussant:** Ian Kingsbury (University of Arkansas)

**Discussant:** Jacob Kirksey (University of California, Santa Barbara)

### **School Choice and Black Communities: Discussing Educational Equity and Educational Racism Beyond Test Scores**

**Chair:** Steven L. Nelson (University of Memphis)  
Timberly L. Baker (University of Southern Indiana) – *“Continued disparate discipline: Theorizing state takeover districts’ impact on the continued oppression of Black girls”*

Jennifer E. Grace (University of Indianapolis) – *“‘Tryin’ to survive’: Black male students’ understandings of the role of race and racism in the school-to-prison pipeline”*

Taylor R. Tartera (University of Memphis) – *“Memphis Charter Schools and their Adaptation Under ESSA”*

Steven L. Nelson (University of Memphis) – *“Are Black parents locked out of challenging disproportionately low charter school board representation? Assessing the role of the federal courts in building a house of cards”*

**Discussant:** Brian R. Beabout (University of New Orleans)

**Discussant:** Julian Vasquez Helig (California State University, Sacramento)

### **Choice and Reform Together**

**Chair:** John Merrifield (University of Texas-San Antonio) – *“School Choice and Teacher Pay”*

Svetlana Savelieva (NRU Higher School of Economics) – *“School Choice and Signals: Schools Signaling Parents”*

Paolo Mattei (University of Milan “La Statale”) – *“Merit pay policies and innovation in public schools in comparative perspective: measurement and conceptual challenges”*

Peter Biro (Hungarian Academy of Sciences) – *“Complexity of finding Pareto-efficient allocations of highest welfare”*

**Discussant:** Michael McShane (EdChoice)

**Discussant:** Sherrie Reed (University of California at Davis)

### **Conclude for the day**

### **ELA RECEPTION**

Open to All Conference Attendees and sponsored by the ELA – Universidade Europeia / IADE: <https://www.iade.europeia.pt/>  
Address: Av. Dom Carlos | 4, 1200-649 Lisboa, Portugal

**3:30 PM**

Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

**3:30 PM**

Suite 212, 3rd Floor

**5:00 PM**

**6:00 PM**

Fábrica

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 13

**8:00 AM**  
Pàtio Amàlia

**BREAKFAST**

---

### SESSION NINE OPTIONS

---

**9:00 AM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**65 Years After Brown: Black Children, School Choice, and the Push for High-Quality Education**

**Chair:** Ain Grooms (University of Iowa)

Sheneka Williams (University of Georgia)

Joshua Childs (University of Texas at Austin)

Cheryl Fields-Smith (University of Georgia)

**9:00 AM**  
Terreiro do Paço, 1st Floor

**School Choice Around the World**

Francesco Magni (University of Bergamo) – *“School Choice in Italy: recent trends and current perspectives”*

Inántsý Pap Ágnes (Saint Athanasius Greek Catholic Theological College) – *“Free School Choice in the Byzantine Rite Catholic Schools in Hungary”*

Daniel Gabaldon (University of Valencia) – *What do families value when selecting a kindergarten?*

Elda De Waal (North-West University) – *“Shaping schooling by exploring learner and parental contributions towards democratic school choice and reform practices in South Africa”*

**10:30 AM**  
Lobby Bar

**BREAK**

---

### SESSION TEN OPTIONS

---

**10:45 AM**  
Ballroom, 2nd Floor

**The Genealogy of School Choice Policies in the West**

**Chair:** Rodrigo Queiroz e Melo (Portuguese Catholic University)

Charles Glenn (Boston University)

**Discussant:** Jan De Groof (College of Europe)

**Discussant:** Patrick Wolf (University of Arkansas)

**12:15 PM**  
Pàtio Amàlia, 1st Floor

**LUNCH**

**1:30 PM**

**Conference Concludes**



International  
School Choice  
and Reform  
Conference

[ISCRWEB.ORG](http://ISCRWEB.ORG)

***SAVE THE DATE!***

*ISCRC 2020*

*FORT LAUDERDALE, FL*

*JANUARY 16-20, 2020*