
**EDUARDO
PADRÓN**

*President,
Miami Dade College*
education & philanthropy*



His excellency: He is the undisputed dean of education in Miami. While building the college into the largest institution of higher education in the country, Padrón has raised the national profile of community colleges and the students they serve. He is considered one of the most influential college presidents in the country, and shares the table with Ivy League leaders and the presidents of major state universities on a variety of national boards. He also serves on the President's Advisory Commission on Educational Excellence for Hispanics—along with Shakira.

The ultimate dreamer: Lately he's taken on the issue of the Dream Act, hoping its passage will help smooth the path to citizenship for some of his students who were brought here illegally as children. But Padrón is not a one-issue leader. He's also pushed to expand MDC into Hialeah and Doral and into nursing and culinary arts. He sees a Cinderella story in each of his students, and he's determined to give them access to the education that can be their glass slipper.