

Doris Cancel-Tirado, PhD, MPH
Biography

Dr. Cancel-Tirado is the Associate Dean of Students Services and Well-being for the College of Health and Professor of Public Health at Oregon State University Division. She holds a doctorate in Human Development and Family Science and a Master's in Public Health from Oregon State University. She has held other notable leadership roles, including being appointed by Oregon's Governor to the Oregon Commission for Women and serving as the Co-Chair for the Western Oregon University (WOU) Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Advisory Board.

Dr. Cancel-Tirado is passionate about students' success. During her time at WOU, she actively served in roles dedicated to enhancing students' academic experiences and well-being and amplifying their voices on diversity, equity, and inclusion issues. She actively engages in recruitment initiatives and partners with different schools and community colleges to build pathways for transfer students into 4-year degrees and undergraduate students into graduate programs. She also has a strong state and nationwide network that she engages to sponsor and develop meaningful professional experiences for her students and mentees.

Before becoming a faculty member at WOU, Dr. Cancel-Tirado worked as a Bilingual Mental Health Counselor and a Qualified Mental Health Provider in Oregon, Washington, and Florida. She was also a licensed Psychologist in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. She earned her Master's degree in Counseling Psychology at the Interamerican University of Puerto Rico and her Bachelor's degree in Psychology at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus.

Dr. Cancel-Tirado's interdisciplinary research lies at the intersection of program implementation and evaluation, human development, family science, human services and public health. Dr. Cancel-Tirado focuses her research on the well-being of immigrants from Latin America and rural low-income families, addressing critical issues such as health disparities, sexual health, food security, and poverty. She has served as the PI and Co-PI of various foundation grants and received the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Connections competitive grant. She has also been an active member, and the Oregon Co-PI, for the NIFA Multi-state Research Project Rural Family Speak.

Dr. Cancel-Tirado strives to create positive and transformative experiences for individuals and families, and empower marginalized communities through her expertise and advocacy. She firmly believes and supports public education and believes it is our most essential tool for social mobility and equity.