Orlando L. Taylor is currently the Vice President for Strategic Initiatives and Research at Fielding Graduate University and the Founding Director of Fielding’s new Marie Fielder Center for Democracy, Leadership and Education. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Association of American Colleges and Universities (AACU).

Since his days as Graduate Dean and Vice Provost for Research at Howard University, Orlando has had a deep interest and commitment to the biennial Race, Ethnicity and Place Conferences. He carried that commitment with him to the presidency of The Washington, DC campus of The Chicago School of Professional Psychology. At both Howard and The Chicago School, Orlando secured partner status and provided co-sponsorship support for the REP Conferences.

Now at Fielding, Orlando has secured institutional support for REP through the aforementioned Marie Fielder Center. Named in honor of one of California’s most influential women in history, Marie was a member of Fielding’s founding family in the 1974 and a staunch advocate for social justice in California and throughout the nation.

The Marie Fielder Center for Democracy, Leadership, and Education supports new research, and advances new theories and policies to enhance our understanding of civil rights, civic engagement, and activism. It encourages new research in the area of civil rights and civic action for addressing today’s educational and social problems. The Center provides a multidisciplinary and inter-school space for Fielding’s faculty, students, and alumni across all disciplines to engage in research, public discourse, and advocacy on the advancement of social democracy, engagement, and education.

To support Fielding’s co-sponsorship and presence in the work of REP, Orlando also has made a personal donation to REP on behalf of the Marie Fielder Center.