



# MARIA DIAZ, PH.D.

## VICE PRESIDENT, HIGHER ED.

I increase undergraduate student performance  
by 97% through innovative assistive technology

TECHNOLOGY EXPERT // AUTHOR // PROFESSOR // RESEARCHER // TED TALK: 3.5+ MILLION VIEWS

### Maria Diaz

Award-winning Assistive Technology Expert | Transforming student learning

The Institute of Higher Learning  
Harvard University \* Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Greater Boston Area \* 500+ Connections

### ABOUT

I believe every student has unlimited capacity to influence the world, and as Vice President for The Institute of Higher Learning, I have the privilege to champion that belief every day. For 20 years, I have been actively engaged in driving and designing assistive technology solutions that provide undergraduate students with visual disabilities opportunities to excel in a digitized society.

### THE RESULTS:

- Innovative screen reader software that converts text to synthesized speech; available in 30 languages
- 17 acclaimed publications; 11 textbooks; recognized in 8 Education Journals---won 6 awards
- 20+ years of technical expertise and leadership---including computer programming and fiscal management
- 3-year \$5 million grant from US Department of Education; four additional grants totaling \$6 million

### GREATEST SUCCESSES:

The students I met over the years are my greatest joy. During my TED Talk in 2018, I took the opportunity to introduce and share students' stories with an audience that ultimately reached 3.5+ million views worldwide. View the TED Talk on my website: [MariaDSpeaks.com](http://MariaDSpeaks.com). Moreover, the talented and dedicated colleagues I have the honor to lead, learn, and collaborate are indeed an inspiration.

### WHAT'S NEXT:

SUCCESS Magazine selected me as a new thought leader in the field of Assistive Technology. Follow me on LinkedIn as I share my expertise and trend-related content through stories and videos. I look forward to seeing you there!

### Specialties:

- Information Technology
- Data Analysis and Systems Management
- Quantitative Research
- Student Learning and Curriculum Development
- Leadership and Strategic Planning
- Fluent in Spanish and Mandarin

CONTACT: [MariaDSpeaks.com](http://MariaDSpeaks.com)