



Sixteenth Annual Conference

Todos Juntos:

Collaboration and Unity in Uncertain Times

The following biographical information was submitted by the conference presenters for the convenience and exclusive use of conference participants.

Bios are listed by the author's last name.

A

Diego Abente

International Institute

Diego is currently the Vice President and Director of the Economic Development Department at the International Institute (IISTL), St. Louis' only immigrant focused economic development corporation. In this role, he spearheaded a twofold annual growth in lending, leading to record performance of loans to immigrant entrepreneurs in our region. This tremendous turn-around culminated with the IISTL receiving the 2015 St. Louis Arcus award.

Prior to moving to St. Louis in 2012, Diego served as Paraguay's representative at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington DC. Earlier in his career, Diego managed the operations for a non-profit working to eradicate malaria in Equatorial Guinea, Africa as well as served as General Counsel in Paraguay's Department of Treasury. Diego received his undergraduate degree in law from the Catholic University of Paraguay, and received an MS in Governance and Development Management from the University of Birmingham in the UK.

Denice Adkins

University of Missouri –Columbia

Denice Adkins is an associate professor at the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri. She was a Fulbright Scholar to Honduras in 2008 and the President of REFORMA (The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking) in 2012-13. She currently serves as Councilor-at-Large for the American Library Association and Secretary-Treasurer for the Association of Library and Information Science. Her research interests include information needs of Midwestern immigrants, library services to diverse audiences, and public libraries. She is a co-investigator on the ALISE/OCLC grant funding this project. E-mail: adkinsde@missouri.edu

Abeer Albalawi

Saudi Arabia and Saint Louis University

Dr. Abeer Albalawi is from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and has a doctorate in educational administration. She is interested in the development of education and has participated in several educational conferences inside and outside the Kingdom. She is one of several educators who are participating in "Building Leadership for Change through School Immersion" program at Saint Louis University.

Julia Albarracin

Western Illinois University

Julia Albarracin's research interests include immigration, immigrant incorporation, and Latinos and Latinas in the United States. Her recent book, *At the Core and in the Margins: Incorporation of Mexican Immigrants in Two Rural Midwestern Communities* was published in 2016 (Michigan State University Press). She has also written a number of book chapters and articles that have appeared in *AIDS and Behavior*, *AIDS Care*, *American Journal of Applied Social Psychology*, and *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*.

Edna Alfaro

Texas State University

Dr. Edna Alfaro is an Assistant Professor of Family and Child Development in the School of Family and Consumer Sciences at Texas State University. Her research focuses on how environmental, cultural, and familial factors interact with one another and impact the academic outcomes of Latino high school and college students.

Areej Alghamdi

Saudi Arabia and Saint Louis University

Mrs. Areej Alghamdi has 14 years of experience in education and is currently a computer science teacher in Saudi Arabia. She helps other teachers to learn how to integrate 21st Century skills into their lessons. She has also written some articles about how to integrate technology into education. Last year, Areej won the award for the Best Teacher in her area in Saudi Arabia. She is also one of the educators who participate in the “Building Leadership for Change through School Immersion” program. She is a Microsoft Innovated Educator and a Microsoft Certified Professional (MCP).

Karen Hunter Anderson

Illinois Community College Board

Dr. Karen Hunter Anderson, Executive Director for the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), joined the ICCB in 1999 and has served as Executive Director since 2013. Dr. Anderson’s experience includes 18 years at ICCB, 11 years with campus administration, and 12 years teaching experience, for a total of over 40 years of educational experience. Prior to her work at the ICCB, Dr. Anderson was the principal and president of Ursuline Academy in Springfield; provost, registrar, and acting president of Springfield College in Illinois; assistant professor of English at Milliken University; a trustee of St. John’s College of Nursing; and a professor and coordinator of the Bilingual Business Studies Program at Midway College in Kentucky. Dr. Anderson is currently serving as Chair for the National Council of State Directors of Community Colleges.

Dr. Anderson received her Ph.D. in Rhetoric and Composition from the University of Louisville. Dr. Anderson is also the author of an ESL college-level textbook. In November, 2010, Dr. Anderson received the Outstanding Service Award from the Illinois Council of Community College Administrators and the Meritorious Service Award in 2016 from Illinois Community College Trustees Association. As Executive Director of ICCB, she has participated in three White House Summits. She speaks four languages and has two sons.

Aaron Arredondo

University of Missouri –Columbia

Aaron Arredondo is a student in sociology at the University of Missouri, where he is conducting research on racial and spatial inequalities as they impact the lives of Latina/o/x newcomers. Currently, he is working on an article that has been recognized by the American Sociological Association and on a chapter for an edited book.

Miguel Elias Ayllon

University of Missouri –Columbia

Dr. Miguel Ayllon works as Director of International Engineering & STEM Programs at the University of Missouri, where he has worked since 2008 in multiple positions. A native of Lima, Peru and Spanish speaker, Dr. Ayllon came to the United States in 1999 as an international

student. Dr. Ayllon has also been actively engaged with MU's diversity and inclusion efforts. He served as president of MU Voz Latina (Hispanic/Latin America Faculty & Staff Association) from 2009-2014, and has been serving as advisor for the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers and the Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc since 2013. Dr. Ayllon's research agenda includes Latinos/as in higher education and development of global skills in engineering students.

Stephanie L. Barrett

University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Stephanie L. Barrett is the 4-H Program Representative for Riverside and San Bernardino Counties in Southern California. Stephanie manages the day to day operation of the 33 community clubs in the area and provides expertise in youth development and ages appropriate practices to more than 350 volunteers. Before she joined UC ANR, Stephanie volunteered for the 4-H Club program for more than 8 years holding leadership positions at the local, regional and state level. Stephanie is a very energetic and innovative leader who is constantly looking for more efficient ways to do things in the local 4-H program.

Obed B. Barron

Missouri State University

Obed B. Barron earned his Bachelor in Science of Computer Engineering at the University of Guadalajara, LAMAR campus. Currently is working on his Masters of Education and Technology at Missouri State University. Mr. Barron is an ITW's, SI, Information System Specialist in a local hospital in Missouri who is as well the trainer for new ITs. Mr. Barron has work for over 10 years with Latino Communities in southwest Missouri teaching computers skills, music, and graphic design.

Marlow Barton

Education Plus

Marlow Barton attended Southeast Missouri State University where she earned her Bachelor degree in Elementary Education with a minor in Language and Literature in 1995. In 1997 she taught English conversation and grammar overseas in Sopron, Hungary. From 1998-2003 she taught various grade levels for the Fox and Bayless School Districts. After this, she earned her Master of Arts in TESOL from Southeast Missouri State University in 2004. She then became an ESOL Specialist for the Northwest R-1 District where she grew the program from a traveling pull-out model to a center based model.

In 2007 she completed her second M.A. Degree in International Program Management from the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont. While in Vermont, she traveled to Quebec, Canada to attend an intensive French immersion course at Universite Laval. Currently she is an Instructional Specialist for the MELL program in St. Louis. She resides in Maryland Heights, Missouri with her husband David, four children, and cat.

Drew Betz

Washington State University

Drew Betz, MS, CFLE, is a Professor in the Extension Youth and Family Unit at Washington State University. She serves as a regional specialist and focuses her work on parenting and

family education. She has been championing the Fortaleciendo Familias program in her area since 2009 and has served many Latino families in her area.

Debra J. Bolton

Kansas State University

For nearly 12 years, Dr. Bolton has been an extension specialist for Kansas State University. As a focus, Debra engages in multi-lingual research in Minority-majority rural communities focusing on health, well-being, integration, and social connectedness.

Bolton is a workshop presenter/trainer: “How to Evaluate Your Programs to Show Impact”, in leadership programs: “Know Yourself, Understand Others, Improve Relationships”, and she teaches grant writing and logic model building to area non-profit agencies. Bolton also teaches writing to women working on high school diplomas.

Bolton’s current focus is helping extension agents reach underserved audiences and introducing STEM subjects to females of color. A recent recipient of a Research and Exploration Grant from National Geographic Society, Debra’s project is “Creating a Pathway to STEM for Females of Color.”

Edwin Nii Bonney

University of Missouri

Edwin Nii Bonney is a PhD student in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis in the PK12 track. His research interests include language, and immigration, language-in-education policies in multi-lingual, multi-ethnic, and multi-cultural contexts. He is also interested in informing policies that will help communities facing language shift and possible language extinction.

John Borba

University of California

John Borba has served as the 4-H Youth Development Advisor for Kern County for the past seventeen years. He has also worked in youth development programs in Tulare County and Klamath County, Oregon. He supervised military programs for the dependent youth of service personnel in California and Germany. Borba has also been active in promoting wildlife and outdoor education programs in conjunction with 4-H, the Boy Scouts of America, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Jennifer Burnett

University City School District

Burnett is the Head of English Language Learners program at Flynn Park Elementary.

C

Gustavo Carlo

University of Missouri –Columbia

Gustavo Carlo is the Millsap Professor of Diversity in the University of Missouri Department of Human Development and Family Science. His research focuses on prosocial and moral development, correlates of prosocial behavior (i.e., social cognitions and emotions, culture-related variables), and positive health and adjustment among Latino families and youth.

Bibiana Marcela Carvajal

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Bibiana Carvajal is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center where she is working on her master of public health in the department of epidemiology. She is originally from Colombia where she obtained her bachelor's degree in environmental health management. Bibiana worked with public health offices focusing on community environmental and sanitary interventions using an educational and preventive approach. She is passionate about public health, and her research areas of interest are health disparities, environmental health, and epidemiology of emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases (zoonosis). Currently, Bibiana is working at the Center for Reducing Health Disparities of the College of Public Health participating as a co-investigator in a research project assessing sense of community among Latino immigrants in two rural towns in Nebraska.

Maria Childress

St. Louis Public Schools

Maria Childress, MSW, LCSW, is a coordinator, special area for the ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program of the St. Louis Public Schools. She has been a practicing social worker since 1989. Maria has been working with the ESOL Program for 22 years. She started as a social worker with the program in 1994. She was appointed as a coordinator in August 2013. Working with the ESOL Bilingual Team, Maria provides support services to ELL students and families in a variety of ways, including crisis intervention with students and families; referrals to outside programs and agencies; problem solving with staff, students and families; professional development to district staff; and outreach to area churches, universities and organizations.

Kathryn Chval

University of Missouri –Columbia

Kathryn Chval holds the Joanne H. Hook Dean's Chair in Educational Renewal and is a Professor of Mathematics Education in the College of Education at the University of Missouri. Her research focuses on effective preparation models and support structures for teachers, effective elementary mathematics teaching for English language learners, and curriculum standards and policies.

Anna Coe

Hazelwood School District

ELL specialist

Betsy Cohen

St. Louis Mosaic Project

Betsy Cohen is Executive Director for the regional Immigration & Innovation Initiative, the St. Louis Mosaic Project. This is a collaboration of the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership and leaders of 27 organizations. The goal is that by 2020 the St. Louis region will have the fastest growth rate of foreign-born people, reversing the current declines of the regional population. St. Louis Mosaic Project is part of the World Trade Center-St. Louis within the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership.

Betsy is on Welcoming America's Leadership Advisory Group for national immigration integration strategies. She has spoken twice on the economics of immigration at the U.S.

Chamber of Commerce. Betsy is part of a U.S. delegation to Germany for immigrant/refugee integration in September 2016. She is on the Advisory Board of the St. Louis University Cook School of Business, the STL Crisis Nursery Advisory Board and the Washington University Council for Sustainability. She has been recognized as a “Most Influential Businesswoman” by the St. Louis Business Journal and the YWCA. She was recently named a judge for the 2016 John and Catherine MacArthur Foundation “100 and Change” competition to award \$100 Million to one world-changing problem/solution.

Debra Cole

Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

Debra Cole is a long time K-12 language educator. After completing a BA degree in Modern Languages and Secondary Education at Wheaton College, in Wheaton Illinois in 1985, she began her 20-year tenure with Quincy Public Schools in Quincy, IL where she taught German, Language Arts, ESL, and Spanish. In 1996, she completed her MA in Elementary Education and in 2004, a second MA in School Administration. From 2005 – 2009 she served as the Regional Coordinator for ELLs in West Central Illinois and established the Beardstown Dual Language Enrichment program in Beardstown, IL. Since moving to St. Louis in 2009, she has taught ESOL in SLPS, and as an adjunct in the TESOL program for Webster University and University of Missouri St. Louis. Currently, she is a PhD student in TESOL at UMSL and working as MELL Instructional Specialist in St. Louis. She resides in Webster Groves, MO with her husband.

Daisy Barron Collins

Missouri State University

Dr. Daisy Barron Collins earned her EdD in Educational Leadership at the University of Missouri. She has been teaching Introduction to Multicultural Education and Diversity at Missouri State University since 2013 and has worked as an advocate of Latino families in southwest Missouri for over 15 years. Currently, Dr. Collins is the Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program Coordinator whose Abstinence and evidence-based educational program focuses on Latino communities. Dr. Collins' love for literacy, bilingualism, adaptation, minority community mobilization has led her to open Spanish and ESL institutes to help new immigrants.

Sarah A. Coppersmith

University of Missouri –St. Louis

Assistant Professor of Research for the College of Education and an Adjunct Professor of Geography at Lindenwood University in the Department of History and Geography.

Juan Coronado

Julian Samora Research Institute

Dr. Juan David Coronado has been recently appointed as a postdoctoral scholar at the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University. A social historian, Coronado earned a doctoral degree in history at Texas Tech University. His dissertation, “‘I’m Not Gonna Die in this Damn Place’: Manliness, Identity, and Survival of the Mexican American Vietnam POW,” lies at the intersection of Mexican American, military, U.S. history, and gender studies.

Sandra Cox

University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh Counseling Center

Cox is the Director of the UW Oshkosh Counseling Center and has more than sixteen years of experience in higher education. She has been involved with supporting a variety of important topics and issues, including campus safety, eating and mood disorders treatment, students with disabilities, minority affairs, retention and more. She also had experience serving on a variety of task forces that address topics such as sexual assault, violence prevention and safety.

Anthony Cruz

St. Louis Community College

Dr. Cruz currently serves as Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs at St. Louis Community College in St. Louis, Missouri. During his twenty years of higher education experience, Dr. Cruz has used his expertise to provide leadership primarily in the areas of enrollment management, student support services and retention. Prior to joining St. Louis Community College, Dr. Cruz worked at several colleges and universities as a student affairs administrator including Sinclair Community College, Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, Broward College, Kaplan University, and Florida International University.

Dr. Cruz is a native of Chicago, Illinois who grew up in Miami, Florida. While living in Miami, he volunteered as a mentor and served on a variety of community based committees to increase the college awareness of Miami inner city youth. As an Ohio resident, he worked collaboratively with community partners to build pathways for students to succeed in a community college setting. In Missouri, he continues to work on initiatives to increase educational opportunities, enhance the student experience, and bolster student success.

Dr. Cruz currently serves on the Missouri Community College Association of Chief Student Affairs Officers (CSAO) Council. He previously served on the Ohio Council for Two-Year College Chief Student Affairs Officers, on the Board of Directors of the English Language Learning Foundation, Inc., Member of the Welcome Dayton Committee, and Board Trustee of the Miami Valley Child Development Centers Inc. Dr. Cruz has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Florida International University, a Master in Public Administration from Florida State University, and a Doctorate in Education from Florida International University.

D

Dannielle Joy Davis

Saint Louis University

Dr. Dannielle Joy Davis is a tenured Associate Professor of Higher Education at Saint Louis University. A graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, she has studied and conducted research in Ghana, South Africa, Senegal, Egypt, Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium. Her interdisciplinary research examines the experiences of marginalized groups in educational settings, the role of organizational policy and practice in the promotion or inhibition of egalitarian academic and occupational outcomes, and spirituality in the workplace and other learning environments. Dr. Davis is the elected Chair of the American Educational Research Association's (AERA's) Spirituality and Education Special Interest Group (SIG) and has served within the leadership of AERA's Qualitative Research SIG. She has published over 60 refereed journal articles, book chapters, volumes, academic commentaries, and reviews. Dr. Davis is Series Editor of the Information Age Publishing book series, Contemporary Perspectives on Spirituality in Education, where she coordinates and leads guest editors and authors from around

the globe in the development of scholarly volumes. She is Co-Editor and a contributing author of the books *Black Women in Leadership: Their Historical and Contemporary Contributions* (Peter Lang Publishing), *Social Justice Issues and Race in the College Classroom: Learning from Different Voices* (Emerald Group Publishing Ltd.), *Intersectionality in Education Research* (Stylus Publishing), *Specialists: Passions and Careers* (Universitas Press), and *When All Else Fails: Motherhood During Precarious Times* (Demeter Press, Forthcoming in 2018). Dr. Davis has also served as Associate Editor for *The International Journal of Religion and Spirituality in Society and Learning for Democracy: An International Journal of Thought and Practice*. She is Vice President of Professional Development for the National Girls and Women of Color Council, is a longstanding Leadership Team member with Sisters of the Academy Institute, and serves on the Editorial Review Board for the *Journal of Colorism Studies*.

Zandra de Araujo

University of Missouri

Zandra de Araujo is an assistant professor of Mathematics Education in the Department of Learning, Teaching, and Curriculum at the University of Missouri. She earned her B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Florida, M.Ed in Mathematics Education from the University of Central Florida, and Ph.D in Mathematics Education from the University of Georgia. Dr. de Araujo is a former public high school mathematics teacher and she currently teaches courses for elementary and secondary preservice teachers, inservice teachers, and graduate students. She is also the faculty mentor for the College of Education's Dorsey Scholars Program.

Dr. de Araujo's research examines teachers' use of mathematics curriculum. Her work has been published in a number of journals including the *Journal of Urban Mathematics Education*, the *Journal for Research in Mathematics Education*, *Teaching and Teacher Education*, *Teaching Children Mathematics*, and the *Journal of Mathematical Behavior*. Currently, Dr. de Araujo is a co-PI on the NSF-Funded Quality Elementary Science Teaching (QuEST) grant that examines practicum-based professional development for elementary teachers. She is also a co-PI on two other funded projects including one examining flipped mathematics teaching and a second examining a novel, field-based approach to preservice teacher learning.

Eliseo De León

Iowa State University

Eliseo De León holds a joint appointment at ISU and the State of Iowa 4-H Office, where he is the K-12 Educational Opportunities Manager. De León is an adjunct assistant professor in ISU's Food Science and Human Nutrition department, where his technical expertise is in polymers and instrumental analysis. De León is a lifetime member of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers. Since 2009, De León has been delivering STEM programming to underserved and underrepresented students and their families to raise awareness of the possibilities available in STEM higher education fields. De León received his BA degree in Chemistry from the University of California at Davis and his PhD in Materials Science and Engineering from Iowa State University in 2013.

Ricardo Diaz

University of Illinois

Ricardo Diaz has done graduate work in sociolinguistics and language acquisition at Brigham Young University and the University of Pennsylvania. In related functions at UIUC his work at the Office of Education Equity at the Graduate College recruited minority students to do graduate work. Before that, as an independent research consultant in fields that benefit and learn from Latino Communities in the U.S. he held contracts with Congreso de Latinos Unidos, the Educational Testing Service, and the Certified Contractors Network. He is principal at Xpenn Consulting and president of Superior Language Inc. Presently, he is the project manager of a three year pilot to bring the youth program, 4-H, to Latino families across the State of Illinois.

Claudia P. Diaz Carrasco

University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Claudia P. Diaz Carrasco received her B.S. in Food Industry Engineering from ITESM in 2012, a M. Ag. in International Agriculture from Oklahoma State University in 2014, and a M.S. in Management and Marketing from Universidad Popular Autónoma del Estado de Puebla in 2015. As a graduate assistant, she conducted research on food security and coordinated community development projects in Puebla, Mexico. As an Area 4-H Youth Development Advisor, Claudia's primary focus is to develop, implement, evaluate, strengthen and expand local 4-H programming to better serve currently under-represented populations and places, including Latino and/or low-income youth in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties.

AnaMaria Diaz Martinez

Washington State University

AnaMaria Diaz Martinez, M.Ed., is an Assistant Professor and Human and Family Development Regional Specialist with Washington State University Extension. Her translational research focus areas are grounded in childhood obesity prevention; healthy living and nutrition in youth, families and community wellness; and program evaluation and cultural adaptations.

Michelle Dojaquez

Secretaria de Fomento Agropecuario del Estado de Baja California

Michelle Dojaquez is the State Leader in the first 4-H Program in Baja California, Mexico. She works for the Secretaria de Fomento Agropecuario as the Director of the Certificate of Excellence program. She has a Master Degree in Agro Business and a Bachelor degree in International Business.

Susan C. Dollar

Missouri State University

Dr. Susan C. Dollar is a professor of Social Work at Missouri State University. She served as the Director of the School of Social Work at Missouri State University from 2008-2012 and coordinated the MSW program from 2006-2008. She earned her M.S.W. in 1990 from the University of Missouri-Columbia and her Ph.D. in Social Work from Tulane University in 1998. Dr. Dollar's research and service work address rural health disparities among at-risk groups. Her current grant work involves sexual risk avoidance strategies among rural youth. Dr. Dollar publishes and presents regularly on rural health topics, and serves on the editorial board for the Journal of Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation.

Kimberly Dominguez

Missouri State University Student

Kimberly Dominguez, daughter of immigrants and a first generation American, is currently attending her second year at Missouri State University where she is pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Political Science with a minor in Economics and is a current Multicultural Leadership Scholar. Kimberly joined the Hispanic Heritage Group in 2007, at the age of nine, and became a youth leader of the Hispanic Heritage Group in 2011, promoting integration, acceptance of diversity, supporting home language, and the importance of keeping Hispanic roots alive through traditional folkloric dance.

She participated in her community by sharing her own experiences as a Dual Language Learner and as a co-presenter in the training of CMCA staff on many occasions, including topics such as Refugees a Forgotten Community, Working with a Culturally Diverse Community, Hispanic families living in the United States, and How to Work with an Interpreter. She participated in the Head Start center's development of the Hispanic Heritage celebrations, Refugee Day Celebrations, International Mother Language Day, among others, to promote culture diversity in Columbia, Jefferson City, and California, Missouri.

Norma Dorado-Robles

Iowa State University

Norma Dorado-Robles is an integral part of the Highway 30 4-H field team for Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. Her role is to serve as the 4-H Youth Development Field Specialist for Marshall, Tama and Benton County in Central Iowa. Dorado-Robles has worked closely with underserved populations around these communities, well before she was part of 4-H. She currently leads as one of the five community leaders for the first 4-H Club with 100% High School Hispanic students in Marshall County. Dorado-Robles is active on the Marshalltown Youth Foundation Board and the Marshalltown Crime Stoppers Board. Like 4-H, she believes that a combination of Citizenship and Leadership creates wonderful citizens within any community. She is dedicated to empowering youth to be better citizens. Dorado-Robles graduated with her BA degree in Human Services and a minor in Psychology from the Buena Vista University in 2013.

Lisa M. Dornier

University of Missouri –Columbia

Lisa M. Dornier, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research centers on language policy and planning, educational policy implementation, and immigrant childhoods, especially children's and families' integration in "new" spaces. As co-founder of the Missouri Dual Language Network, Lisa enjoys connecting people and resources for dual language learning (www.modlan.org). She also works with local agencies and educators to develop online curricula and conversations about the immigrant experience (www.lacesproject.org). Lisa's publications may be found in the American Educational Research Journal, American Journal of Education, Educational Policy, and International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism.

John F. Dulles

Human Rights Consultancy, Denver, Colorado

John Dulles is president of Human Rights Consultancy in Denver. In a federal career spanning forty years, he worked for the Library of Congress, the War on Poverty, and in professional positions with the United States Commission on Civil Rights in San Antonio, Los Angeles and Denver, where he was regional director for more than twelve years. He directed public hearings and research projects on a wide range of human rights issues, including immigration, law enforcement, education, voting rights and discrimination against Native Americans. He has written and published extensively, including reports on Native Hawaiian Land Rights, U.S.-Mexico border relations, reservation border town discrimination in New Mexico, minority business in Alaska, and racial injustice in South Dakota.

Mr. Dulles has lectured and keynoted numerous national and regional conferences. He has conducted training and educational seminars and workshops throughout the country, and is currently working to mobilize greater minority participation in the political process.

Raised in Monterrey, Mexico, he is fluent in Spanish. He was educated at the University of Arizona and the University of Texas-Austin, where he graduated with honors and was nominated for a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship.

Amy Dwiggin

University of Missouri

Amy Dwiggin is a third year mathematics education doctoral student. Previously, she taught high school mathematics for 12 years in the Macon R-I Schools in Macon, MO. Her research focuses on teacher learning of research-based instructional practices.

F

Maria G. (Lupita) Fabregas Janeiro

University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Maria G. (Lupita) Fabregas Janeiro serves as the Assistant Director for 4-H Diversity and Expansion in the University of California Cooperative Extension. She leads the largest 4-H diversity and inclusion program in the United States. She has written more than 15 journal articles in topics related to program development, inclusion and intercultural competence, an active member of the 4-H Council Latino Advisory Committee and funder of the Epsilon Sigma Phi, Latino Charter, and other organizations that support the mission of the land-grant universities by ensuring, equity, inclusion and full participation of youth, families and communities in the benefits and leadership of Cooperative Extension. She Her interests in research and professional development areas are, Program Development, Inclusion, Intercultural Competency and Diversity.

Anne Farina

Saint Louis University

Anne Farina, LCSW has over twelve years of experience in program development, evaluation, and administration. She graduated with her MSW in 2003 and obtained her LCSW in 2007.

Anne is currently a PhD student in Social Work at Saint Louis University. She has extensive training in the areas if trauma and attachment and has received clinical training in Sensorimotor Psychotherapy, Structured Sensory Intervention, play therapy, Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, and Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. Anne has clinical experience working with refugees and immigrants, children in foster care, children who were adopted, families, and couples. She believes strongly in research based programming and clinical practice

and has developed a somatic based intervention called Somatic Soothing. Anne teaches in the School of Social Work at Washington University and University of Missouri-St. Louis and has served as field instructor for MSW and BSSW students.

Virginia Fitchett

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service

Virginia is a skilled nonprofit leader with over 7 years of experience administering nationwide programs serving migrant and refugee youth. As Assistant Director for Family Reunification, Virginia's role includes expertise in organizational management, program development, grants management, budget development, and strategic planning. Virginia is an expert on issues of child welfare, unaccompanied migrant and refugee children and families, research and has developed and implemented family strengthening projects in collaboration with the LIRS network of service partners. Virginia oversees a complimentary portfolio of services to unaccompanied children and families, through a network of 34 nationwide social service partner agencies. She provides strong programmatic management, strategic vision, and leadership to a team responsible for the overall implementation, oversight and quality of the Family Reunification and Safe Release Support programs being implemented by LIRS Children Services. Prior to joining LIRS, Virginia served as an adjunct professor in English at various universities in the UK, and held positions in marketing, public relations, and global strategies at various firms in London and Durham, UK. She holds a Ph.D. in English Literature from Durham University, UK.

Jan Flora

Iowa State University

Flora is a professor for the Department of Sociology. He specializes in the areas of community, agricultural, and rural change in the United States and in developing countries. He is a community extension specialist, assisting Hispanics and other immigrant groups to become more involved in their Iowa communities. He is a former president of the Rural Sociological Society and is presently a visiting professor at UNALM in Peru. He serves on the board of the Land Institute near Salina, Kansas.

Lisa Y. Flores

University of Missouri –Columbia

Lisa Y. Flores is a Professor in Counseling Psychology at the University of Missouri, a Cambio Center Fellow and Executive Board Member of the Cambio Center. She has expertise in the career development of Latino/as and Latino/a immigrant issues and has 61 peer reviewed journal publications, 17 book chapters, and 1 co-edited book and presented over 200 conference presentations in these areas. She has been PI and co-PI on grants funded by NSF and USDA to support her research. She is Editor of the Journal of Career Development and past Associate Editor of the Journal of Counseling Psychology, and has served on the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Vocational Behavior, The Counseling Psychologist, Journal of Counseling Psychology, and Career Development Quarterly.

G

Laura Gavornik Browning

University of Missouri –Columbia

Gavornik is a doctoral Student and Graduate Research Assistant, currently studying in the field of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis.

Yolva J. Gil

University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Yolva Gil received her B.A. in Chicano/a studies and education from UCLA in 2012. As a 4-H program representative she has focused on assessing needs of underserved youth in riverside county and designing culturally relevant programming. She has also served as research assistant to improve the youth programs in the region.

Alla Gonzalez Del Castillo

St. Louis Public Schools

Alla Gonzalez Del Castillo, Ph.D. is a director of ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program in St. Louis Public Schools. Alla has been a language educator for 15 years. She began her career as English as a Foreign Language teacher in Ukraine. When she relocated to St. Louis, Alla joined St. Louis Public Schools as an ESOL teacher where she piloted an elementary newcomer classroom. Serving 4 years as an Academic Instructional Coach, she focused her work on supporting teacher reflection through the use of cognitive coaching techniques. In her current role, Alla guides teachers and staff working to address the needs of over 2,700 ELLs. She promotes collaborative practices in linguistically diverse classrooms and intentional language development.

Robert Greenhaw

Confluence Charter Schools

ESOL Coordinator for the South City Campus.

Zehra Gülseven

University of Missouri –Columbia

Zehra Gülseven is a doctoral student in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on prosocial behavior, moral identity and moral development with parenting and cultural correlates.

H

Matthew Hall

Cornell University

Hall is an Associate Professor of Policy Analysis & Management and Sociology, and the Training Director for the Cornell Population Center. A sociologist and demographer by training, Hall's research focuses on racial/ethnic inequality, immigration, and neighborhood change.

Gabrielle Hane

Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri

Gabi Hane is an AmeriCorps VISTA serving at Catholic Charities of Southern Missouri. Gabi works with emergency management, community members and nonprofit organizations to effectively bring resources and disaster preparedness information to limited-English speakers. Gabi graduated with a B.A. in Intercultural Studies from Southwest Baptist University and a Masters of Public Administration from Missouri State University, where she researched the effects of dynamic social vulnerabilities on emergency management.

Russell Hill

University of California

Russell Hill is a trained Qualified Administrator in the Intercultural Developmental Inventory, Inc; a co-chair to the University of California's 4-H Diversity Workgroup; a member of several research projects including 4-H Volunteer Culture, a multi-state Youth Retention Study, and From the Ground Up. His passion is working with volunteers and organizations to make positive changes that affect the lives of the communities that they serve and delivering strong 4-H STEM programming in many different settings.

Stanton Hudson

University of Missouri

Stan Hudson is a health literacy expert and health policy analyst with 18 years of experience in health services research and 11 years of experience in health literacy, with a focus on curriculum development. Over the last seven years he has led the development and pilot testing of health literacy education programs for consumers, health professionals, public health agents, consumer advocates and health educators. In 2014, he became an NCCJ-certified Facilitator and has developed and implemented inclusion and diversity trainings for health and public health professionals in training and practice. Hudson holds an MA in sociology from the University of Missouri and BA degrees in history, political science and sociology from Columbia College.

I***Armando Ibarra***

University of Wisconsin –Extension

Armando Ibarra is an assistant professor with the Department of Labor Education and faculty with the Chicano and Latino Studies program at the University of WisconsinExtension/Madison. He received Bachelor of Arts degrees in Sociology and Spanish, a Master's in Public Administration, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of California, Irvine. Armando has extensive and diverse research and teaching experience. His research areas include the study of international labor migration, Latino community development and incorporation, and organized labor in the U.S. Dr. Ibarra's personal history influences much of his scholarship and pedagogy. In 1974 his family immigrated to the United States from rural Mexico to work as agricultural field hands in California's Central Valley. They settled in a farm labor camp where he spent his adolescent years. The family survived by working on agricultural farms performing a variety of jobs, such as harvesting fruits and vegetables during spring and summer and preparing and maintaining crops in the fall and winter. Dr. Ibarra is uniquely positioned within his institutions and engages in traditional university and community based research and teaching. His current research and teaching include applied research projects, adult education and outreach to Latino workers and communities across the country, books and articles.

Clara Irazábal Zurita

University of Missouri-Kansas City

Clara Irazábal is the Director of the Latina/o Studies Program and Professor of Planning with tenure in the Department of Architecture, Urban Planning + Design (AUPD) at the University of Missouri, Kansas City (UMKC). Before joining UMKC, she was the Latin Lab Director and Associate Professor of Urban Planning in the Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and

Preservation at Columbia University, New York City. She got her PhD from the University of California at Berkeley and has two master degrees. In her research and teaching, she explores the interactions of culture, politics, and placemaking, and their impact on community development and socio-spatial justice in Latin American cities and Latino and immigrant communities. Irazábal has published academic work in English, Spanish, Portuguese, and Italian. She is the author of *Urban Governance and City Making in the Americas: Curitiba and Portland* (Ashgate, 2005) and the editor of *Transbordering Latin Americas: Liminal Places, Cultures, and Powers (T)Here* (Routledge 2014) and *Ordinary Places, Extraordinary Events: Citizenship, Democracy, and Public Space in Latin America* (Routledge 2008, 2015). Irazábal has worked as consultant, researcher, and/or professor in multiple countries of the Americas, Europe, and Asia.

J

Stephen Jeanetta

University of Missouri –Columbia

Dr. Stephen Jeanetta's extension work focuses on fostering the development of community organizations, the development and facilitation of community planning processes, and building inclusive communities. Dr. Jeanetta has also served as coordinator of the Community Development Academy since 1999. His research with the Latino community has focused on understanding the effects of community climate and social networks on the process of integration into rural communities. In addition, Dr. Jeanetta is currently engaged in research projects that seek to understand why Latino farmers in Missouri are not utilizing USDA programs, exploring relationships between Latino newcomers and access to healthcare resources, and connecting Latino newcomers to healthcare resources in the community. He has been engaged in the leadership of Cambio de Colores since the first conference in 2002 and is a founding member of the Cambio Center and serves as its Interim Director.

K

Sarah Killoren

University of Missouri –Columbia

Dr. Sarah E. Killoren is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on parent-adolescent and sibling relationship dynamics, contributions of parents and siblings to adolescents' sexual health and positive development, and Latino adolescent and young adult adjustment.

Sujin Kim

University of Missouri –St. Louis

Assistant Research Professor and coordinator of the Federal Grant Project QTEL (Quality Teachers for English Learning). Her expertise lies in Language Education and Higher Education.

George Knight

Arizona State University

George P. Knight is a Professor Emeritus in the Department of Psychology at Arizona State University. His research focuses on acculturation and enculturation among U.S. Mexican families, ethnic identity, prosocial behavior, and cross-ethnic measurement equivalence.

Vin Ko***St. Louis Mosaic Project***

Vin Ko joined the St. Louis Mosaic Project as Senior Program Manager at the beginning of 2015. As Senior Program Manager, Vin ensures the success of Mosaic's targeted programs by managing and supporting the over 700 Mosaic Ambassadors, regional entrepreneurs, and international student retention initiatives in St. Louis. Under the leadership of Executive Director Betsy Cohen, he leverages targeted digital media campaigns to grow the Mosaic's many initiatives. Vin's professional experience and dedication to our international community plays a crucial role in supporting the Mosaic Project's goal of making St. Louis the fastest growing major region for immigration by 2020.

Since moving back to St. Louis in 2010 Vin has started and grown a local pick up soccer organization known as St. Louis Pick Up Soccer, starting with a group about 40 people to over 4,000 members playing all over the region. Vin was a member of the FOCUS St. Louis Emerging Leaders Program, TEDxGatewayArch Leadership Board, and FBI Citizens Academy. In addition, Vin currently serves on the Ladue Education Foundation Board, The St. Louis Civic Pride Foundation Executive Board, The Downtown STL Inc Board of Directors, the Asian American Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the Advisory Board for Peter and Paul Community Services' Club Soccer Team, "The St. Louis Roadies."

Michael Kohler***Western Illinois University***

Michael Kohler is a recent graduate from Western Illinois University, where he received his MA in Political Science. His research interests include political parties and their role in society, democratization, social movements, and election analysis. His Master's thesis analyzed the liberal political parties that participated in elections in Tunisia and Egypt following the Arab Spring. More recently, he has been researching the political landscape of the Midwest to identify voting trends.

L***Lupe Landeros******National 4-H Council***

Landeros has been the Program Development Manager since 2014. She is also the County Extension Director for the Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Dianey Leal***Texas A&M University***

Leal is a graduate student at The Bush School of Government and Public Service, where she is currently pursuing her master's in public service and administration. She currently serves as one of the project leads for the school's Public Service Organization and seats as a non-voting member for Twin City Mission, a nonprofit organization that works collectively to meet the needs of homeless individuals and families.

Dominic James Ledesma Perzichilli***University of Wisconsin –Madison***

Dominic has been the University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension's Language Access Coordinator since August of 2016. His position is focused on addressing systemic issues of

language access tied to educational programming across the state. His professional background includes experience in K-12 U.S. public education, student affairs in higher education, land-grant institutions, K-12 education in Mexico, and language access services management. He earned a B.A. from UW-Madison and a master's degree in translation and interpretation from the Universidad Autónoma de Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Mexico. Dominic is also a doctoral student in the department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His research interests include language access policies, Civil Rights (Title VI) accountability and compliance, language-based discrimination, multilingual settings and services in education, and the linguistic and cultural diversity of the Upper Midwestern United States. Dominic is a native of St. Paul, Minnesota.

Bo Hyun Lee

University of Missouri –Columbia

Lee is a Ph.D. student part of the Educational & Counseling Psychology Department

Melissa Leon

University of Nebraska Medical Center

Melissa Leon is a recent graduate from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health, where she obtained a Master's degree in Public Health focused on Community-Oriented Primary Care. She aims to bridge clinical medicine and public health to assist high-risk populations. Currently, she assists minority health disparities research with the Center for Reducing Health Disparities and Rural Health Education Network at UNMC's College of Public Health. Her research interests include racial and ethnic health disparities, access to health care, patient-provider communication, and cultural competency.

Yongsun Lim

Saint Louis University

Yongsun (Loelle) Lim obtained bachelor's degree in Mathematics at Daejun University in Korea, a Master's degree in TESOL and an educational specialist degree in English Education at Missouri University (MU). Now she is pursuing her Ph.D. in Administration in Higher Education at Saint Louis University. While pursuing her Master's and Specialist degree at MU, she taught Korean language to the undergraduate students and also worked at Asian Affairs Center as a program coordinator for cultural diversity and English Language Learning programs for 6 years. Before joining in American higher education, she worked in a few prestige private English institutes in South Korea for 8 years as a faculty member, a chair of faculty, and a branch manager.

Tammy Lorch

University of Minnesota

Lorch is a Regional Extension Educator in Youth Development for the University of Minnesota Extension Office in Mankato since 2015.

M

Myriam Marquez

Central Missouri Community Action Head Start Program

Myriam Marquez is originally from Chihuahua, Mexico. She graduated from the Instituto Tecnológico de Chihuahua, Mexico with a BC in Industrial Relations and a minor in Human Relations. She is currently working at Central Missouri Community Action as Interpretive Services Specialist in the Head Start Program.

In 1998, due to the necessity of promoting integration into the community, acceptance of diversity, and appreciation of differences, Myriam and her husband, Edgar, created a non-profit organization called Hispanic Heritage Group to support active participation of parents in the education of their children, and the importance of keeping home language and their Hispanic roots alive.

She provides training for CMCA Teachers on topics such as Refugees a Forgotten Community, Working with Culturally Diverse Communities, Hispanic Families living in the United States, and How to Work with an Interpreter, among others.

Miriam Martínez

University of Nebraska –Lincoln

Miriam received her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Texas-Permian Basin in 2007. She also received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 2014. She is currently a Graduate Research Assistant in the Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Laboratory headed by Dr. Kimberly Andrews Espy.

Ricardo Martínez

Iowa State University

Ricardo is a Ph.D. Student in Mathematics Education. Martínez's official Ph.D. emphasis is in mathematics education, but he found the best of both worlds when he was able to begin helping Professor I in the creation of her upcoming "Teaching Mathematics for English Language Learners" course.

Rubén O. Martínez

Michigan State University

Dr. Rubén O. Martínez is professor of sociology and director of the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University. His research interests include neoliberalism and Latinos, diversity leadership in higher education, institutional and societal change, education and ethnic minorities, youth development, Latino labor and entrepreneurship, and environmental justice issues. Dr. Martínez is the editor of the Latinos in the United States book series with the Michigan State University Press. He has three co-authored books: *Chicanos in Higher Education* (1993), *Diversity Leadership in Higher Education* (2007), and *A Brief History of Cristo Rey Church in Lansing, MI* (2012). His edited volume on *Latinos in the Midwest* was published in 2011, and his co-edited volume on *Latino College Presidents: In Their Own Words* was published in 2013. A co-edited volume on *Occupational Health Disparities among Racial and Ethnic Minorities: Formulating Research Needs and Directions* is forthcoming from the American Psychological Association.

Deanna Marx

University of Missouri –Kansas City

Marx is a senior student service coordinator for the Department of Education.

Kevin McDonald

University of Missouri System

Kevin McDonald is the University of Missouri System's Chief Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion officer, and was recently named the University of Missouri's Interim Vice Chancellor for Inclusion, Diversity, and Equity. He joined the both organizations this month after serving as vice president and associate provost for diversity and inclusion at Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT).

As a diversity and inclusion professional, McDonald has developed a significant track record of transformational contributions toward organizational equity, diversity, and inclusion goals. His efforts revolve around inextricably binding organizational pursuits of excellence with diversity and inclusion efforts. From access and success, to education and scholarship and institutional infrastructures, Dr. McDonald has worked collaboratively to create initiatives that positively impact policies, practices, and processes.

Prior to RIT, he held positions at several other universities, including as vice president for equity and inclusion at Virginia Tech, as associate director for compliance and conflict resolution at Johns Hopkins University, and as campus compliance officer at the University of Maryland, College Park. Prior to his work in higher education, McDonald worked for the U.S. Department of Justice and for Network Solutions, Inc.

McDonald holds a law degree from The Ohio State University and a doctoral degree in higher education leadership from the University of Rochester. He received his undergraduate degree in psychology from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, MI.

Sara McElmurry

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs

Sara McElmurry joined the Chicago Council on Global Affairs in 2014 as assistant director of immigration. Previously, she was communications manager for the Latino Policy Forum, where she developed media advocacy strategies for the organization's immigration, housing, and education policy work. She was also a research professor at the Universidad Tecnológica de la Mixteca in Oaxaca, Mexico. McElmurry earned BA degrees in Spanish and communications from Bradley University and an MA in linguistics from Northeastern Illinois University.

Bertha Mendoza

Kansas State University Research and Extension

Bertha G. Mendoza has been the EFNEP/FNP Extension Agent for the Southwest Area Office since 2009. Bertha holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education from Kansas State University and two Masters of Science in Special Education Adaptive and Gifted from Fort Hays State University.

Bertha's special fields of interest are education, nutrition and health. She believes in the value of creating community partnerships and actively pursues collaboration as a way to address important community concerns. Bertha was born in Chihuahua, Mexico; she came to the United States in 1993. She lives in Holcomb, and has worked for education for the last twelve-plus years in the areas of adult and family literacy and currently serves in the fields of Nutrition and Adult Education for low income audiences.

Aliah Mestrovich Seay

National 4-H Council

Mestrovich is the New Youth and Adult Audiences Specialist for 4-H Youth Development.

Denzil Mohammed

The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc.

An intercultural communications professional and journalist, Denzil Mohammed works to build understanding across boundaries utilizing an asset-based approach. He believes immigrants' success is a crucial component of America's economic and social well-being. As director of the Public Education Institute at The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. in Malden, MA, he manages specialized online education, a variety of research initiatives, New England's only Immigrant Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, and collaborative public events that promote immigrants as economic and social assets to America. On immigration, he has appeared in The Boston Globe and the New England Journal of Higher Education. Denzil is a frequent speaker at education, workforce development and immigrant integration webinars and conferences.

Heba Mostafa

Saint Louis University

Heba Mostafa is a Ph.D. student in Educations Foundations, School of Education, Saint Louis University. She studies acculturation of minority groups, including ethnocultural groups, immigrants, and international students. Her research interest is in acculturation, multicultural awareness, and global citizenship. In her dissertation, Mostafa explores the way in which Asian Indian American develop their multiple identities through their acculturation experiences in the USA. She is currently engaged in conducting a quantitative study, that investigates international students' motivations, residency, and satisfaction, and a qualitative study that investigates the experiences of international graduate female Muslim students.

Heather Moulaison Sandy

University of Missouri –Columbia

Heather Moulaison Sandy is an assistant professor at the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies at the University of Missouri. Moulaison Sandy's primary research focus is the organization of information in the online environment, leading her to investigate areas related to the use of web-based and mobile technologies in libraries. An ardent Francophile and 2008-2009 Fulbright senior scholar in Morocco, Moulaison Sandy is also interested in international and intercultural aspects of access to information. She is a co-investigator on the ALISE/OCLC grant funding this project. E-mail: moulaisonhe@missouri.edu

N

O

Elena Okanovic

St. Louis Public Schools

Elena Okanovic, M.Ed., is an ESOL coordinator of ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program in St. Louis Public Schools. Elena has been working in the ESOL and EFL education for 17 years. She began her career as a French as a Foreign Language in Kaliningrad, Russia and Gomel, Belarus. After she she relocated to St. Louis, Elena joined the Saint Louis Public school in 2001 an ESOL bilingual teacher assistant. After 8 years working as an ESOL teacher, Elena assumed the

position as ESOL instructional coordinator for the district. In her current role she works closely with ESOL office staff, ESOL teachers, and mainstream teachers to address the needs of ELLs across the district. She also leads the ESOL district professional development committee providing PDs and coaching.

J.S. Onésimo (Ness) Sandoval

Saint Louis University

J.S. Onésimo Sandoval is an Associate Professor from the Department of Sociology & Anthropology. He is co-director of the Ph.D. program in Public and Social Policy. His primary research interests focus on the intersection of Demographic Techniques and Computational Spatial Science to study spatial inequality in American cities.

Gina Ord

Washington State University

Gina Ord, MS, OTR/L, is an Assistant Professor in Extension at Washington State University and Director of Yakima County. Her program focus areas are food and nutrition, parent and family education, and health through the lifespan. She oversees several health and nutrition programs, including the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program, which serves over 80% Latinos. She speaks Spanish and enjoys working with people of diverse ages, ethnic origins and physical abilities.

Javier Orozco

Archdiocese of St. Louis

Orozco, OFS, Ph.D., is the Executive Director of Intercultural and Interreligious Affairs.

P

Uzziel Pecina

University of Missouri –Kansas City

Pecina is an Assistant Clinical Professor & Program Coordinator of the Division of Educational Leadership, Policy & Foundations.

Mariana Pacheco

University of Wisconsin

Dr. Mariana Pacheco's research focuses on how emergent bi(multi)lingual students use their language and literacy abilities across contexts in and out of school. She examines the ways in which different contexts provide bi(multi)lingual and English Learner students meaningful opportunities to use their full cultural, linguistic, and intellectual resources. She is currently developing a project to collaborate and support bilingual teachers interested in ways to leverage students' resources in the classroom, particularly the translanguaging practices that could enhance learning opportunities for bi(multi)lingual students. In more current work, she explores the extent to which language ideologies affect the privileging of English in bilingual classrooms and how this could limit learning opportunities and create harmful schooling contexts for non-dominant bilingual students in particular.

Jamille Palacios Rivera

University of Missouri –Columbia

Jamille Palacios is an assistant teaching professor in the Agricultural and Applied Economics Department (AAE) at the University of Missouri, Columbia and Cambio de Colores Center fellow. Teaching projects she is undertaking include: development of a hybrid course in data analysis with Excel; development of an agribusiness management teaching game; 3rd edition of custom text book in applied microeconomics; and 1st edition of a marketing plan workbook. She is also an academic advisor, coach and advisor of MU NAMA, and active in several committees in the department, CAFNR and MU-Columbia. Her research interests are on investments in corporate social responsibility in agribusiness as a private PR policy to improve sustainability and wellbeing of farmworkers. She is currently analyzing the current situation of the Fair Food program and agreements between farm labor groups and food retailers to improve farm working conditions and wage rates. Public policies related to farm labor availability and flexibility (guest worker programs, deportations, and direct hire of farmworkers versus contracting, and investment in mechanization versus manual labor in food production) are also in her research topics.

Preceding this appointment, she was assistant professor and chair of the Agriculture Program at Ivy Tech Community College in Lafayette, IN. Indiana Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP) Campus Director (2011-2013). Part of her duties were coordinating LSAMP undergraduate research programs and related events; conduct abstract and poster presentation workshops; mentor students conducting undergraduate research; participate in LSAMP leadership meetings; prepare end of year reports; and keep track of budget. The program expanded undergraduate research program from only summer to all semester; increased the number of participants from two to fifteen; coordinated an undergraduate research trip to Mexico strengthening collaboration with one of the College's international partners; two Ivy Tech LSAMP posters presented at the 2013 Indiana LSAMP Annual Conference were awarded 2nd Place and Student Choice.

Elver Pardo

University of Florida

Elver Pardo, Extension Agent II/ 4-H Youth Development since 2002, is currently working for the UF/IFAS Extension in Orange County Florida since December 2011. Elver brought to Florida an understanding of 4-H youth development, as he worked as a 4-H Specialist in Missouri for more than eight years. In Orange County, Elver takes the lead for Animal Science, Natural Resources and Leadership programming. His efforts have been recognized not only by parents, volunteers, club leaders and 4-H members, but also by key supporters and partners within the Orange County 4-H Program. Elver is an individual who able to both nicely balance 4-H program directives and community needs; especially with the engagement of diverse youth and adults. He has expertise in the areas of leadership, career exploration and outreach programs for minorities. Elver is recognized by his efforts in developing leaders, creating and implementing career exploration programs and executing outreach programs for minorities, especially Latino/Hispanic populations, honoring his own heritage and background. Elver is a native from Colombia, South America, received a master's degree from Drury University in 2002 and psychology degree from Universidad Santo Tomas, Colombia in 1998.

Julia Pedrosa

Catholic Charities of Kansas City –St. Joseph

Julia Pedrosa is an AmeriCorps VISTA serving at Catholic Charities of Kansas City – St. Joseph, where she helps build capacity and provide effective disaster preparedness for limited-English speakers. Julia is currently pursuing her Masters in Public Administration at the University of Kansas and has a bachelor's degree in Journalism from the University of Brasilia, Brazil. Before becoming a VISTA, Julia worked for a couple years as a journalist in Brazil, covering the Brazilian president, Congress and the Finance Ministry.

Nathaly Perez

Catholic Legal Immigration Network, Inc. (CLINIC)

Ms. Nathaly Perez is a Field Support Coordinator in the Capacity Building Section of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC). She provides training and consultation on program management and DOJ Recognition and Accreditation issues to her assigned 87 charitable immigration service providers in 13 states. She worked as Program Manager and partially accredited representative to the Office of Immigrant Services of Catholic Charities of East Tennessee (CCETN), for seven years prior to joining CLINIC. While at CCETN she managed a diverse client caseload, conducted numerous community outreach presentations in both English and Spanish to various audiences about immigration law topics, implemented and expanded the use of LawLogix's EDGE case management system, and developed detailed program policies and procedures to manage a staff of four in three office locations serving 36 counties. She attended the University of Tennessee-Knoxville and graduated with a BA in Spanish and International Business. She currently maintains partial accreditation as a Naturalization workshop volunteer with Hogar Immigrant Services, a program of Catholic Charities-Diocese of Arlington, Virginia.

Lisette Piedra

University of Illinois at Urban –Champaign

Lisette Piedra is an Associate Professor at the University of Illinois Urbana- Champaign School of Social Work. Her research explores the social consequences of an increasingly diverse society by examining how the language and culture of immigrants affect their access to and use of social and health services. Specifically, her analyses have focused on three interrelated topics, as they apply to Latino immigrants: (1) the mental health service barriers created by linguistic and cultural incongruence, (2) the increased need for bilingual and interpretational services in communities with rapidly growing immigrant populations, and (3) the adaption of interventions to these new service contexts through university and community partnerships. Dr. Piedra's earlier work applies social work practice theory to the needs of communities that have experienced a rapid growth in their immigrant Latino population. Her recent work builds on this conceptual foundation by adapting a cognitive behavioral treatment (CBT) to meet the linguistic and cultural needs of depressed immigrant mothers living in communities with new Hispanic populations. Subsequently, she developed Vida Alegre [Happy/Contented Life], a 10-week group CBT to address maternal depression and that trains bilingual BSW and graduate students to implement the model.

Sarah L. Pierotti

University of Missouri –Columbia

Sarah L. Pierotti is a Doctoral Candidate in the University of Missouri Department of Human Development and Family Science. Her research interests focus on prosocial behavior, Latino

cultural value socialization, and sociocognitive and socioemotive correlates of prosocial behavior.

Christina Pope

Welcoming America

Christina Pope is a regional manager at Welcoming America, where she provides technical assistance and programming to Welcoming America members in the Midwest and Northeast. Before joining Welcoming America, Christina managed international student programs at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. Prior to her time at the University, Christina served in various capacities in the areas of immigrant inclusion and international education, including roles at the immigrant community-based organization CASA in Maryland and at K-12 schools in Recife, Brazil as a Fulbright English Teaching Assistant.

Stephanie Potochnick

University of Missouri –Columbia

Stephanie Potochnick is an assistant professor at the Truman School of Public Affairs and Public Health program at the University of Missouri. Her work examines the health and educational impacts of policies on immigrant children and families' well-being.

Chris Presley

Saint Louis University

Chris Presley graduated from the University of Mississippi in 2012, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Biology. He completed his Master's degree in Higher Education Administration from the University of South Carolina and currently works for the Olin Business School at Washington University in St. Louis. Presley is a Ph.D. student in Higher Education Administration at Saint Louis University.

Jason Purnell

Washington University in St. Louis

Jason Purnell is an assistant professor in the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis. He is trained in both applied psychology and public health. Dr. Purnell leads the For the Sake of All project, a multidisciplinary civic education and mobilization initiative highlighting the regional significance of disparities in health and life outcomes for African Americans in St. Louis, MO. The project and a report by the same name released in May 2014 have been a critical resource in the wake of the unrest that followed the fatal shooting of Michael Brown in the suburban St. Louis city of Ferguson in August of that year. Several of the report's recommendations are included among the signature calls to action of the Ferguson Commission appointed by the Missouri's governor. Purnell and his team and partners have been instrumental in convening cross-sector stakeholders for strategic response to disparities in health, education, and economic status.

Dr. Purnell's research focuses on health equity and the social determinants of health, with a special emphasis on the social, cultural, and economic factors that influence health behaviors and health outcomes. He is also interested in how communities can be mobilized to respond to health inequity. His work has been published in leading scientific journals such as JAMA, American Journal of Public Health, Annual Review of Public Health, and Journal of Clinical Oncology. Significant interest in For the Sake of All has led to coverage by NPR, the Washington Post,

Bloomberg Businessweek, Mclean's (Canada), Korea Times (Korea), the "Joe Madison Show" on SiriusXM Radio, vox.com, and the St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Dr. Purnell graduated magna cum laude from Harvard University, with a bachelor's degree in Government and Philosophy. His doctoral degree in counseling psychology is from The Ohio State University, and his masters in public health is from the University of Rochester School of Medicine & Dentistry. Dr. Purnell is also a licensed psychologist in the State of Missouri.

Q

R

Tojan Rahhal

University of Missouri –Columbia

Dr. Tojan Rahhal works as Director of Diversity and Outreach Initiatives at the College of Engineering in the University of Missouri. She graduated from North Carolina State University with a BS in Biomedical Engineering and went on to pursue a PhD in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (UNC-Ch). Outside of her research efforts, she demonstrated commitment to service and leadership in the academic community, promoting awareness of issues regarding equality in science. Dr. Rahhal also developed a new Cross-Cultural Leadership Development Workshop to advance leadership skills as they relate to the diversity and understanding of cultural differences in our global workforce. She currently owns Alliance Professional Development (www.Alliance-Professional.com) where she works on providing customized workshops focusing on leadership, soft skills, and cultural awareness for companies and organizations. At MU she focuses on facilitating outreach, recruitment, retention, and overall success for all members of our community, but especially those from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in engineering.

Gabriela Ramírez-Arellano

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis

Before joining the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis, Gabriela Ramírez-Arellano worked with aspiring entrepreneurs and small business owners through TechTown Detroit and ProsperUS Detroit. Her business, Community Alliance solutions, served small and medium-sized businesses, entrepreneurs and organizations with an emphasis on immigrant-, minority-, and women-owned businesses. She worked with organizations to provide cultural competency, training, technical assistance, mentorship and helped develop the Spanish-language curriculum, marketing and social media collateral as well as workshops.

Ramírez-Arellano feels she has found a home in St. Louis today. Outside of work, she and her husband own a Mexican Restaurant in O'Fallon, MO and she is on the board of the St. Charles University of Missouri Extension, a part of the Sts. Joachim and Ann Care Service Social Justice Committee, and an advocate for individual and family financial literacy in the community.

Karlos Ramírez

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro St. Louis

President and CEO of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metro St. Louis.

Athena K. Ramos

University of Nebraska Medical Center's Center for Reducing Health Disparities

Athena Ramos is currently the Community Health Program Manager for the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) in Omaha, Nebraska. She leads a Latino outreach and engagement team and serves as principal investigator for a number of community-based health research and education initiatives including a tobacco control program, immigrant and migrant farmworker health studies, and various women and youth-focused programs. She is an experienced administrator and junior researcher with proven ability to develop and implement social and human service programs with culturally diverse populations. She has over 15 years of experience in management operations, public relations, strategic planning, health promotion and educational programming. She also is a sought after speaker for various workshops on health disparities, community development and engagement, and cultural considerations within health and healthcare. In February 2015, she was a speaker at TEDx UNO. Athena recently completed a PhD in International Family & Community Studies from Clemson University. She has two Master's degrees – one in Business Administration (MBA) and one in Urban Studies as well as a Bachelor's degree (BS) in Public Administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Athena continuously strives to bring a sense of hope and vitality to the work that she does both personally and professionally.

Meredith Rataj

Catholic Charities of St. Louis

Southside Center Site Director for the St. Francis Community Services.

Kaylee Robertson

University of Missouri –St. Louis

Kaylee Robertson is a recent graduate of the University of Missouri – St. Louis. She graduated with a Bachelor's of Science in Elementary Education with an emphasis on Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages. Kaylee was the membership officer for Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society in Education. During the conference her focus is on learning how to differentiate learning for English Language Learners in her classroom and how to create a culturally responsive classroom.

Maria Rodriguez-Alcala

University of Missouri –Columbia

Maria Rodriguez-Alcala is a native of Paraguay. She has an undergraduate degree in agricultural economics from Texas A&M University and an MS also in agricultural economics from University of Missouri. Before beginning her PhD, she worked for a think tank in Sao Paulo (Brazil) where she did research in agricultural trade and managed a large project in the four Mercosur countries funded by the InterAmerican Development Bank. She then held a teaching/advising position at University of Missouri in the department of Agricultural and Applied Economics. She is currently working on her PhD in Sustainable Development in the department of Rural Sociology and holds a research assistantship with the Cambio Center. Her current research focuses on the Latino population in the state of Missouri.

Ryan Rumpf

Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

ELL Curriculum Director.

Cara Russell
Bayless School District
ELL Instructor

S
Jacqui Schilling
Mehlville School District
ELL Instructor

Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty
University of California
Lynn Schmitt-McQuitty works as a county-based faculty member for the University of California Cooperative Extension and serve the geographic region of Santa Cruz, Monterey and San Benito Counties with youth development programming in non formal science. Lynn graduated from the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point with a BS degree in Elementary Education with an emphasis in Outdoor Education in 1987, and obtained my MS degree in Outdoor Education in 1991 from Northern Illinois University.

Rebecca Sero
Washington State University
Rebecca Sero, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor and the Evaluation Specialist for Washington State University Extension. In this position, Rebecca is responsible for increasing the organization's capacity to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of its programs and services.

Mary Shannon
Casa de Salud, St. Louis, MO
Mary Shannon is a Case Manager and Community Health Worker at Casa de Salud, a non-profit clinic serving the uninsured and under-insured immigrant communities of St. Louis. Mary coordinates Casa's Home Health Education Program. Prior to joining Casa, Mary lived in Nicaragua working for the health and development organization Global Brigades. Mary graduated from Saint Louis University in 2014 with a B.A. in Political Science, International Studies, and Spanish.

Suzanne Sierra
St. Louis Mosaic Project
Suzanne Sierra, owner of Sierra Public Relations, LLC, has more than 20 years' experience in a variety of communication disciplines. Her expertise lies in helping clients identify and tell their story to external and internal audiences through traditional and social media. Since 2009 when she launched Sierra Public Relations, she has worked with corporate and non-profit organizations providing them with strategic counsel, media outreach, social media strategy and crisis communications.
Suzanne currently serves as the Latino Outreach Consultant for the St. Louis Mosaic Project, a regional initiative of the St. Louis Economic Development Partnership and the World Trade Center-St. Louis. Suzanne works closely with the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, local community-based organizations, universities and leaders to help Mosaic realize its mission to

transform St. Louis into the fastest growing metropolitan area for immigration by 2020 and promote regional prosperity through immigration and innovation.

Helany Sinkler

Esperanza Center, Catholic Charities of Baltimore

Helany Sinkler is the Family Reunification Program Manager at Catholic Charities of Baltimore's Esperanza Center, a comprehensive resource center for immigrants in Maryland. In this role, Helany's responsibilities include providing leadership for the family reunification case management program, working with and supporting recently arrived minors and their families. Prior to serving in this role, Helany was the residential supervisor at St. Vincent's Villa, a residential treatment center for children with emotional and behavioral disabilities. Helany has over 10 years of experience in working with children and families with behavioral and mental health needs. Helany developed a passion and strong sense of devotion for the nonprofit sector as an undergraduate student volunteering at St. Michael's Outreach Center, where she worked with individuals facing homelessness. She is a native of Honduras and understands the struggles and challenges recent arrivals face in the United States. Helany received a BS in Psychology from Towson University and is currently working on her MBA at Loyola University of Maryland. Helany lives in Towson, Maryland and enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband, 6-year old son, and dog Rufus.

Erin Smith

University of Missouri –Columbia

Erin Smith is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Learning, Teaching, and Curriculum in the College of Education at the University of Missouri. Her research interests include the mathematical success of emergent bi/multilingual learners and the application of positioning theory to examine discursive practices in mathematics classrooms.

R. Alex Smith

University of Missouri –Columbia

R. Alex Smith is a Doctoral Candidate at the University of Missouri-Columbia in the Department of Special Education. His dissertation is on using Curriculum Based Measures (CBM) and motivated behavior measures to identify and monitor risk in writing for young English Learners. His research interests include data-based decision making, teacher education, implementation science, prevention science, Learning Disabilities, and writing.

Kim Song

University of Missouri –St. Louis

Kim H. Song, Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, received her Ed.D in Instructional Processes from Southern Illinois University –Edwardsville in 1991. Kim is particularly interested in dual language acquisition of young children, teachers' cultural competence, children's academic language acquisition, efficacy of online courses and language teacher training. With the DOE QTEL grant team, she has developed a TESOL module for the teacher education faculty and students <http://sites.google.com/site/umslqtel/educational-modules>, and the grant research team has several collaborative research agenda that includes cultural intelligence of the elementary content teachers, nonnative English speaking teachers in America, teachers' attitude toward English language learners (ELL), improving academic

content competence of ELL. Kim as a research team leader has used qualitative and qualitative research methods to proceed the research agenda. The research data includes surveys, Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) data, audio/video data and follow-up interviews with grant participating teachers, selected parents and ELLs. A key question in this project will be whether and how the 6 TESOL courses and professional development workshops have impact on teachers' content pedagogy and instructional strategies for their ELL.

Katherine E. Soule

University of California

Dr. Katherine Soule is the University of California Cooperative Extension Youth, Families, and Communities Advisor in San Luis Obispo & Santa Barbara Counties. Katherine's programs engage thousands of youth, individuals, and families annually. She brings a commitment to providing open and welcoming work environments and program spaces to all individuals. Katherine utilizes critical sociological analysis in her approach to researching and addressing community needs. She is involved in research and advocacy for marginalized populations and works to help others around the nation increase the inclusivity of their programs.

Nancy Spargo

St. Louis Center for Family Development

Nancy Spargo is the chief executive officer and co-founder of St. Louis Center for Family Development. She is a graduate of the School of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. Ms. Spargo promotes organizational growth and development through participation and leadership within multiple collaborations and networking groups in the St. Louis area.

Ioana Staiculescu

University of Missouri

Ioana Staiculescu is the research specialist at the Center for Health Policy at the University of Missouri. She is involved in all educational activities related to creating inclusive health care environments and health literacy. Staiculescu has more than five year experience working on health disparities projects and health literacy education activities, with focus on both quantitative and qualitative methods. She is involved in the program evaluation, research and coordination support for the Health Literacy Maintenance of Certification Quality Improvement Program. Staiculescu is also a certified FaciliTrainer by NCCJ St. Louis to assess, design and deliver effective, quality diversity and inclusion programs.

Staiculescu graduated from the University of Medicine and Pharmacy "Carol Davila" in Bucharest, Romania, with the specialization in general medicine. She earned a Master of Public Health degree, with a focus on health promotion and policy, from the University of Missouri.

Daniel B. Stewart

SAGE of PROMO fund

Dan Stewart joined PROMO in April 2017 as Program Coordinator of SAGE of PROMO fund. Through his experience with working in the aging field, researching older adults and advocating on behalf of marginalized communities he brings a unique connection of experiences. Originally from Texas, Dan found his way to St. Louis and has called it home for the past 10 years. Dan received a Bachelor's in psychology from Saint Louis University (SLU), a Master's of Science in Gerontology from University of Missouri-St. Louis (UMSL), and is currently

working on his Doctorate in Social Work from SLU. His research focuses on health care access among LGBTQ older adults and dementia interventions. He presents nationally on his work. While a Master's student, Dan interned at SAGE Metro St. Louis (now SAGE of PROMO Fund) working under the direction of Sherrill Wayland where he developed a guide on residents' rights for transgender older adults seeking long term care placement. He is passionate in educating members of the LGBT community, aging community, and beyond on the importance of supporting, advocating, and educating on behalf of Missouri's older LGBT adults. He, his wife Hannah, and their pets (Bogey, Honey, and Bowski) happily live in Tower Grove East.

Mandy Stewart

Texas Woman's University

Mandy Stewart is Assistant Professor in the Department of Reading at Texas Woman's University where she studies the literacies of adolescent immigrant youth. She is the author of *Understanding Adolescent Immigrants: Moving toward and Extraordinary Discourse for Extraordinary Youth* from Lexington Books and the forthcoming *Keeping it REAL! Relevant, Engaging, and Affirming Literacy Instruction for Adolescent English Learners* from Teachers College Press. She regularly learns in high schools with multilingual immigrant students and their teachers through the support of the U.S. Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition as she directs the ELLevate! grant.

Cara Streit

University of Missouri

Cara Streit recently graduated from the Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri. This fall she will be an Assistant Professor in the Department of Individual, Family, and Community Education at the University of New Mexico. Her research focuses on the roles of family relationships, social cognitions, and cultural processes on prosocial development.

T

Jennifer Tello Buntin

Lewis University

Jennifer Tello Buntin obtained her Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2010 and is now an Assistant Professor at Lewis University, Department of Sociology.

Lauren D. Terzis

Saint Louis University

Lauren D. Terzis, MSW is a third year doctoral student in the School of Social Work at Saint Louis University. She holds a Masters in Social Work from Saint Louis University, and a Bachelors of Science in Sociology and Psychology from Illinois State University. She is a native of Sydney, Australia, and attended The University of Sydney prior to pursuing her education in the United States. Her main research interests include the immigrant and refugee population, in particular the immigrant paradox, and comparing behaviors between immigrants and native-born Americans.

Lt. Col (Ret) Jaime Torres

Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis

Jaime Torres was born in Playa-Ponce, Puerto Rico. He obtained his high school diploma with honors in 1962 from *Colegio Ponceño de Varones* in Ponce, Puerto Rico and graduated from the *College of Agriculture and Mechanics Arts, University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez, Puerto Rico* in 1966 with a Bachelor's Degree in Science, majoring in Chemistry. In 1975 he earned a Master of Arts in Education from *Pepperdine University in Malibu, California*. He is also a graduate of Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Air War College, United States Air Force Education Academies.

After 26 years on active duty, he retired and a year later was employed by Harris-Stowe State University to manage and implement a new US Department of Education program called Educational Talent Search. Also, there, he coordinated the *REACH* Program with Missouri's Division of Youth Services and later was appointed Harris-Stowe's first Director of International Programs. After eight years, he was recruited and appointed by *St. Louis Community College* as Director of International Education

As Director of the Office of International Education at St. Louis Community College, he established innovative academic programs; supervised and trained scholars from Haiti, Central America, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Sweden, Macedonia, and England in special professional educational programs funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), U.S. State Department and the Department of Education. Managed Study Abroad Programs for Greece, France, China, Thailand, England, Turkey, Costa Rica, Spain, Italy, Macedonia and Central America. In 2006, he was one of four selected by the White House as a US-Korean Commission Fulbright Scholar the first community college to receive such recognition.

Col. Torres is active in the community and has led or served on many board of directors. Among the boards, he had served or is serving are the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, the Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis, the Chair of the Hispanic Scholarship Alliance, the World Affairs Council, Sister Cities San Luis Potosi-St. Louis Friendship Committee, Association of the US Army, National Kidney Foundation and the Puerto Rican Society. On January 2015, he was elected as the Chair for the Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis. Awards he has received from his civic endeavors are the prestigious Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Lifetime Achievement Award for 2013, Anthony B. Ramirez *Premio Esperanza* from the Hispanic Leaders Group, the *Civic Person of the Year* from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in 2010 and the *National Hispanic of the Year 2011* from the National Football League (Rams Organization).

His military decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Achievement Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. Unit citations include the AF Medal of Excellence with one Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC) and the AF Outstanding Unit Award. His foreign campaigns include Republic of Vietnam Cross, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Service Award with one Silver OLC, AF Overseas Long Tour Ribbon with one OLC, AF Overseas Short Tour Ribbon, AF Training Ribbon, and Vietnam Service Medal.

He is married to Raquel, a retired USAF Major, of Caguas, P.R. They had two daughters: Erica Juanita (deceased) and Rebecca Luciana, a linguist graduate of Eastern Illinois University and

now Assistant Manager at The W Hotel and owns and manages boutique restaurant & hotels in New Jersey & New York.

Lina Trigos-Carrillo

University of Missouri –Columbia

Lina Trigos-Carrillo is a postdoctoral fellow at the Campus Writing Program of the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on critical perspectives to academic writing, and community and family literacy of minorities and emergent bilinguals across the Americas.

Heather Tuckson

St. Louis Public Schools

ELL Instructor

U

Adriano Udani

University of Missouri-St. Louis

Adriano Udani is an Assistant Professor of Political Science with a joint appointment in the School of Public Policy and Administration. He specializes in the study of political attitudes toward immigrant groups and policy decisions that affect immigrant treatment in the United States. Along with David Kimball, Adriano is the principal investigator of a national study that explains why immigrant resentment influences perceptions of voter fraud in U.S. elections. He is conducting another national study that explores how citizens determine how much punishment or leniency immigrants deserve in the United States. Adriano also investigates how federal admissions of temporary immigrant labor influence state and local employment restrictions.

Diana Urieta

North Carolina State University

Urieta is the Extension Associate and National Juntos Program Director at the Department of Youth, Family, and Community Sciences.

V

Sal Valadez

Sal Valadez is the Diversity, Outreach and Marketing Representative at LiUNA Midwest Region. Sal was recently awarded a Best Practices Award from SLCCC, who detailed his accomplishments:

Born in Mexico, his father was one of the World War II railroad Braceros —Mexicans who were sent under arrangements between the U.S. and Mexico to keep the railroads running in the U.S. during the war. They were subject to racism, unsafe working conditions and poor living arrangements.

After Sal Valadez arrived from Mexico with his family, this inclusion champion grew up in Aurora, IL. He dropped out of high school, served in the U.S. Army and subsequently earned his GED, high school diploma, Bachelors and Masters degrees from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. He acquired extensive experience in the non-profit and higher education sectors prior to joining the Laborers International Union of North America. He is currently the greater St. Louis Diversity, Outreach and Marketing Representative for the Laborers International Union of North America Midwest Region.

“Among his achievements, he single handedly designed and organized events from Central and Southern Illinois to Franklin County to connect immigrants and other at risk populations with resources,” Daniel said. “This includes employment opportunities in construction as well efforts to address health, education, shelter and basic human needs. One project has been a health fair at St. Cecilia’s Catholic Church which completed its third annual event last year. The fair offers free health screens, immigration and education resources and live music. The region’s labor unions are invited participants to help focus on establishing relationships based on mutual trust and respect.”

Valadez built working relationships with community resources such as; St. Louis Mosaic Project, Immigrant Service Provider Network, Human Trafficking Collaborative Network, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, Cambio De Colores, and Gateway Welcome Project.

Corinne Valdivia

University of Missouri

Dr. Corinne Valdivia specializes in economic and rural development. She focuses on how individuals, families and communities adapt to change and how information can support the process of building strategies that are resilient and improve well-being. Her focus is on decision-making, risk management and pathways for technological uptake and market integration that lead to sustainable livelihoods. Dr. Valdivia, along with colleagues from MU, initiated Cambio de Colores in 2002. She is a founding member of MU’s Cambio Center and serves on its executive board. Her research with Latino families focuses on their livelihood strategies and experiences in the process of integrating to a new community. She has completed two research projects in collaboration with Cambio Center Fellows: the first on asset-building strategies of newcomers in three new settlement communities in Missouri, and the second on community integration. She is studying entrepreneurship as a livelihood strategy in rural communities of Missouri, and working on a new project on Latino agricultural entrepreneurship, with colleagues at Cambio Center, Michigan State, and Iowa. Internationally, her research and outreach takes places in the Andes of Peru and Bolivia and East Africa.

Laura Valencia

University of Florida

Valencia is part of the Osceola Extension Faculty for 4-H Youth Development

Patricia Venegas

University of Wisconsin –Madison

Dr. Venegas most recently taught graduate and undergraduate courses in bilingualism and bi-literacy in schools, while she was finishing her Ph.D. at UW-Madison. Her research experience and interests include investigating literacy practices of immigrant families and children between home and school.

W

Kristine Walentik

St. Francis Community Services

Walentik is the staff attorney for the Catholic Immigration Law Project, which guides immigrants in applying for citizenship, averts deportations, and establishes guardianship for minors who arrive in the United States without their parents.

Steven Worker

University of California

Steven Worker, PhD, serves as the 4-H Youth Development Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension in Marin, Sonoma, and Napa counties. Worker develops, implements, and evaluates educational programs to promote positive youth development and STEM education. Worker's applied research focuses on critical topics in learning in out-of-school time; access and equity in positive youth development; and educator pedagogy in experiential STEM learning. Worker earned a MS in community development and a PhD in education from the University of California, Davis.

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Z

Amanda Zamudio

University of Arizona

As a 4-H alumni, Amanda Zamudio is passionate about youth in agriculture and an Assistant 4-H Agent in Santa Cruz County. She received her Bachelor of Science in Animal Sciences and Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the University of Arizona. Amanda has been a 4-H agent for four years both in Wyoming and in Arizona and a graduate from the University of Arizona. She is passionate about club programs, animal science projects, and is currently expanding her programming along the Mexico border in Santa Cruz County. She is also an active member of the National 4-H Latino Advisory Committee.