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Picture	Full Name	HECFAA Board Position	Bio	Business Phone	E-mail Address	City
	Patricia Aguiló	Domestic Offices Outreach Co-Chair	Patricia Aguiló is Multilateral Affairs Officer in the Office of the Haiti Special Coordinator at the U.S. Department of State. She has served as a Foreign Service Officer since 2007 and as an Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor since 2011. Prior to returning to Washington in June 2012, Patty served as a Consular Officer in Tegucigalpa, Honduras and, most recently, as Staff Assistant to the U.S. Ambassador in Cairo, Egypt. Patty received a Bachelors in International Relations and Development Studies from Brown University and a Masters of Public Administration from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs. She is a first generation Cuban-American. She was born and raised in Miami but also considers New England home.			
	Jennifer Archibeque	Public Relations Committee Co-Chair	Jennifer Archibeque has been with the Department of State since 2002. She is currently the Customer Service Manager at the El Paso Passport Agency. Prior to moving back to the Southwest, Jennifer served as a Public Affairs Specialist in Washington, D.C. where she worked for 9 years as the Media Relations Officer for the Western Hemisphere at the Washington Foreign Press Center. There, she organized reporting tours for foreign media. She has also served as the Information Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Quito, completed a Congressional Fellowship and has held down the fort in the WHA Press Office. Since leaving D.C., she has made a concerted effort to engage two local Hispanic Serving Institutions by participating in career and study abroad fairs and by offering herself up as a mentor to students who request guidance about DOS careers. She is committed to increasing diversity within the Department.			El Paso
	Josué Barrera	Vice-President of Foreign Service	Josué M. Barrera recently began a new role as the Department's first Executive Diversity Outreach Manager, where he will work to promote diversity representation within the Department's civil service leadership. He began his federal career in 2006 as a participant in the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) National Internship Program with the Office of Personnel Management. His first position as State was in the Public Affairs Rapid Response Unit, which was followed by a position in the Regional Media Outreach Office. He played a pivotal part in D3.0 - the Department initiative carried out by the Office of Recruitment Examination and Employment to increase and diversify its workforce. Subsequently, he joined WHA's Summit of the Americas coordination team and most recently served as a public affairs officer on the Public Affairs and Strategic Communications team of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. He is a former member of the HACU Alumni Association Board and holds a BA in Mass Media from Houston Baptist University and an MPP from the University of Texas at Brownsville.			Washington DC
	Carmen G. Cantor	Professional Development and Speakers Co-Chair	Carmen G. Cantor Ms. Cantor is currently the Executive Director in the Bureaus of Cultural and Educational Affairs and International Information Programs and has served in that capacity since April, 2013. Previously, she served as the Executive Director of the Department of State's Bureau of Counterterrorism (CT) and as the Deputy Director of the Office of Recruitment, Examination & Employment (REE). Before re-joining the State Department, Ms. Cantor worked as Director of the Office of Civil Rights at the Foreign Agricultural Service (2007-2009) and Director of the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity of the U.S. Federal Maritime Commission in Washington, DC (2005-2007). She has received the State Department's Superior Honor Award for her outstanding performance as the first Executive Director of the Bureau of Counterterrorism and a Meritorious Honor Award for outstanding performance and for providing inspiring leadership and management in the Bureau of Human Resources' Office of Recruitment. Ms. Cantor received an M.A. in Labor Relations from the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, and a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Puerto Rico, Mayaguez Campus. She has also attended executive courses at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government; Cornell University; and the Center for Creative Leadership. She resides in Annapolis, MD, with her husband and three daughters.			Washington DC
	Frances Colón	Professional Development and Speakers Co-Chair	Dr. Frances Colón is the Deputy Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State at the U.S. Department of State where she promotes Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) dialogues: global scientific engagement for capacity-building, development and public diplomacy; S&T fellowships; women in science; and transformational technologies as tools of science diplomacy. Previously, Dr. Colón served the U.S. Department of State as the Science and Environment Adviser at the Western Hemisphere Affairs Bureau where she was responsible for providing technical advice on how environmental and scientific issues affected the U.S. Government's foreign policy objectives in the Americas. During that time, Dr. Colón coordinated climate change policy for the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas announced by President Obama in 2009, and was the lead negotiator for scientific cooperation with the region. As a AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow (2006-2008), Dr. Colón led the OES Bureau's program for Muslim world outreach through K-12 science and math education cooperation. Dr. Colón earned her Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2004 from Brandeis University and her B.S. in Biology in 1997 from the University of Puerto Rico.			Washington DC
	Michael Flores	Vice-President of Foreign Service	Michael Flores began his State Department career 14 years ago as an intern and then as a Pathways Program student before joining the Foreign Service in 2001. He has served as vice-consul in Bogota and Moscow; Consular Chief in St. Petersburg; Regional Fraud Prevention Manager based in Thailand (covering Missions throughout Southeast Asia); Special Assistant to Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security Rose Gottemoeller; and Multilateral Affairs Officer for the Office of United Nations Political Affairs. As a Pickering Fellow and an alumnus of the International Career Advancement Program (ICAP), he has worked with a well-established network of advocates helping to lift others as we achieve success in our chosen professions. He is a proud native of East			Washington DC



Francisco (Paco) Palmieri
President

Los Angeles and has earned degrees from California State University, Long Beach (BA), George Washington University (MA), and the U.S. Army War College (MA). Throughout his career, Michael has worked with Civil and Foreign Service personnel to promote U.S. national interests and enhance diversity in the State Department.

Francisco (Paco) Palmieri is a proud Colombian-American. He is a past President of the Board of the Washington D.C. Spanish-speaking drug rehabilitation center, Neighbors' Consejo, and the Discovery School Board in Honduras. He currently serves in the Executive Secretariat and previously worked as the Director of the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs' Office of Policy, Planning, and Coordination with other WHA tours in the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Honduras and on the Venezuela desk. His other Senior Foreign Service experience includes Director of the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement's Embassy Baghdad Office and Latin American Programs Office. He also was a Legislative Management Officer. He earned a M.S. from the National War College in June 2006 and his A.B. in Politics from Princeton University in 1983. He also attended the University of Texas's Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs.

Washington DC

Paloma H. Gonzalez
Secretary

Paloma Gonzalez is a first generation Mexican-American and like many of you, she joined the State Department to change the face of our diplomacy. She has served in Bogota, Colombia, Tijuana, Mexico, and is currently a Staff Assistant for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, she worked in a non-profit organization that helped minority children go to college. She is a Rangel Fellow and holds a B.A. in International Affairs from Lewis and Clark College and a M.S. in Foreign Service from Georgetown University.

Washington DC

Virginia T. Hernandez
Membership Chair

Virginia T. Hernandez is a Grant Management Specialist for the Office of the Executive Director, Federal Assistance Division. In this position, I serve as the Desk Officer for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs (WHA) and write policy for Federal financial assistance. She conducts training regionally and domestically on federal assistance programming and supports the Policy Analysts as Point of Contact for all other regional bureaus/offices and overseas posts. She has been employed with the Department of State since January 200. Her prior experience encompasses working in local government, hand-in-hand with police departments for the City of Las Vegas, Concord, and Fort Worth. In these positions she wrote ordinances pertaining to zoning and Quality of Life issues for homelessness, human trafficking, and historic and neighborhood preservation. She also worked for the U.S. Census Bureau as the Local Census Office Manager (LCOM) in Davis, CA, during the Decennial Census 2000, successfully managing a large geographically dispersed field staff of 1,877 employees and office staff of 125 employees for the Census 2000 data collection operations of 257,900 households in northern California covering 4,227 square miles. During this time, she conducted a special regional windshield survey to ensure a more accurate count of traditionally undercounted populations specifically the migrant/seasonal population. This program was recognized by Congress as an excellent format for locating and counting the hard-to-enumerate populations, and is currently being utilized to ensure an accurate count of the undercounted. She is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas with a B.S. in Business Administration with an emphasis in Management and has graduate coursework in Quantitative Analysis from UNLV.

Washington DC

Juliana Leticia Moreno
Domestic Offices Outreach Co-Chair

Juliana Leticia Moreno currently works as an HR Specialist for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security for the Office of Recruitment. Juliana began her career with the State Department in 2009, as a Public Affairs intern for the U.S. Mission to the U.N. Prior to moving to the DC area, she worked at the Diplomatic Security Los Angeles Field Office for 3 years, where she supported Diplomatic Security Special Agents. In addition, she contributed to DOS recruitment efforts as a volunteer recruiter, conducting informational sessions on student programs, scholarships, and career opportunities in the southern California region. Ms. Moreno's experiences have equipped her for recruitment, event planning, fundraising, and organizational management. She has experience in multi-agency cooperation through working relationships in the law enforcement, diplomatic, and consular communities. As a Domestic Offices Outreach Member-at-large, she proposes to facilitate the interaction and contribution of the domestic offices' community through continuous communication via informational announcements and surveys.

Arlington

Ana Janaina Nelson
Social Activities Committee Co-Chair

Ana Janaina Nelson is a Department of State Desk Officer for Brazil. On the Brazil Desk, Jana is one of three policy analysts responsible for managing the bilateral relationship with Brazil and has briefed U.S. Government officials on several high-profile visits to and from Brazil. Those trips include that of President Obama's March 2011 trip to Latin America and President Dilma's March 2012 visit to the U.S. Previously, Jana served as Country Director at the Office of the Under-Secretary of Defense for Policy working on bilateral defense dialogues with Brazil, Chile and El Salvador and as a Foreign Policy Fellow in Senator Barbara Boxer's Office. Before joining the U.S. government, Jana was a consultant for the Eurasia Group and for the Brazil Institute at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Jana received her M.A. degree from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and her B.A. in International Relations from the University of Brasilia. She is a Presidential Management Fellow alumna, a member of the DC alumni chapter for The Carter Center, a member of Women in International Security and she is a board member for the Hispanic Employee Council of Foreign Affairs Agencies. She speaks fluent Portuguese and Spanish, and has a working knowledge of French.

Washington D.C.

Silvana Rodriguez
Overseas Outreach Coordinator Co-Chair

A Foreign Service Officer since 2006, **Silvana Rodriguez** is currently serving in the Office of Russian Affairs covering Russia's foreign policy and political-military issues. Prior to that, she served at the U.S. Embassy in

Washington DC

Argentina in the Consular Section. During her first assignment as the Political Officer in Madagascar and the Comoros, Silvana enjoyed working with her UN counterparts to coordinate election observation, anti-human trafficking, and post-conflict efforts. Prior to joining the State Department, Silvana worked for three years at AALC (formerly Armitage Associates), where she assisted mostly defense and energy clients with projects in the East Asia, Afghanistan, the former Soviet Union, and the United States in assessing and mitigating political risk, developing relationships with key government officials, performing market entry feasibility assessments, and identifying joint venture partners. She also completed a research internship at the Center for Nonproliferation Studies focusing on Iran's chemical and biological weapons capability. Silvana received a bachelor's degree in international relations at Stanford University.

Lymari Torres Reyes	Social Activities Committee Co-Chairs	<p>Lymari Torres Reyes works as a Program Analyst for the Office of Management Analysis and Coordination in Passport Services, Bureau of Consular Affairs. She started her career with the State Department in 2007 as a Passport Specialist at the Philadelphia Passport Agency. In 2010, Lymari was selected to participate in the New Leader Program. As part of the Program, she completed a detail assignment as Desk Officer for the African and Western Hemisphere Affairs Divisions. She recently came back from a 3-month TDY in the U.S. Consulate in Sao Paulo, Brazil. Lymari was born and raised in Puerto Rico. She possess a Bachelor's degree in Modern Languages and a Master's in Translation. In PR, she worked as a freelance Translator and Interpreter and a Protocol Officer for the Department of State of Puerto Rico.</p>	Washington DC
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Gilberto (Beto) TorresVela	Hispanic Heritage Month Committee Co-Chairs	<p>Gilberto "Beto" TorresVela was born and lived in Mexico until he graduated from college with a B.S. in Industrial Engineering. Ten years after moving to the United States, Beto returned to school to pursue an interest in history, diplomacy, and politics with the firm objective to work for the Department of State. He graduated with a B.A. in Government and International Politics in 2007, a Master's in International Relations in 2010, and completed a Graduate Certificate program through the National Intelligence University in Strategic Intelligence with a concentration in Africa in 2012. Beto is currently an Economic Officer at the Office of the Coordinator for Cuban Affairs. Beto is passionate about bridging cultural differences and fostering mutual understanding and respect between diverse peoples. Beto is particularly appreciative of contributions Hispanics have made in shaping American society.</p>	Washington DC
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Francisco Trigo	Treasurer	<p>Francisco Trigo is a Mexican-American born and raised in the Midwest, specifically rural Minnesota and Kansas City, Missouri. Civil servant currently working in the EX office of CT Bureau doing resource management and analysis; have also worked in WHA/EX and HR/REE. Served in a treasurer role for American University's Men's Club Ice Hockey Team, where he managed a \$30k budget while leading fundraising drives, vendor and university relationships and dues collection process.</p>	Washington DC
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Mary Vargas	Overseas Outreach Coordinator Co-Chair	<p>Mary Vargas is a career Foreign Service Officer with experience in Latin America, South Asia, and the Middle East. She joined the State Department in 2004 as a Pickering Fellow and has received numerous Department honors for her work in advancing humanitarian diplomacy and her outreach to diverse voices in some of the world's toughest environments. Mary previously served as Refugee Admissions Coordinator in the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad where she oversaw one of the U.S.'s largest refugee resettlement operations. She also worked as a political officer in Karachi, Pakistan where she refocused the mission's outreach towards civil society and minority leaders in an increasingly hostile political environment. Mary began her career as a visa and American citizen services officer in Tijuana, Mexico, where she met her husband and fellow Foreign Service Officer Clayton Alderman. Mary earned a Master's in International Relations and Pacific Studies from the University of California in San Diego and graduated from The George Washington University. She is a native speaker of Spanish, is fluent in French and Portuguese, and is developing her Arabic language in preparation for her and her husband's upcoming tour in Jerusalem. She is an avid foodie and rock climber and is very much looking forward to the opportunity of serving on HECFAA's Executive Board.</p>	
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E. Giovanni Vizcardo L.	Public Relations Committee Chair	<p>E. Giovanni Vizcardo L. has been with the US Department of State since 2005 working at the Foreign Service Institute within the School of Language Studies.</p>	Arlington
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Being born, raised and educated in Peru, he holds a BA in Communication Sciences majored in Journalism from University of San Martin de Porres. In Lima, Peru, he was part of the Media Corps in Radio, TV and newspapers until he moved to Montreal, Canada in the late 90's, where he started specializing in languages. His interests in community projects took him to Europe, earning a M.Ed. in Training Foreign Language Instructors from the University of Barcelona.

Even though he works full time as Training Specialist in the School of Language Studies at the US Foreign Service Institute, he is a columnist for Hispanic media in Washington DC, and a TV International Correspondent for Peruvian Media as part-time jobs.

Heather Wild	Hispanic Heritage Month Committee Co-Chair	<p>Heather Wild is a program coordinator in the Office of Global Youth Issues. Previously, Miss Wild has worked in EUR's Front Office, in INL, and at the OIG. Miss Wild is an active member of the State community. Miss Wild is the Department of State's coordinator for Miriam's Kitchen (a local soup kitchen and case services provider for DC homeless) and an active member of HECFAA. Last year Miss Wild came up with the idea of bring Labor Activist Dolores Huerta to the Department for Hispanic Heritage month and lead that effort which was the most successful Hispanic Heritage month event HECFAA has put on to date. Miss Wild also led HECFAA's efforts to acquire its 301(c)3 status drawing on her experience from founding a local nonprofit in DC. Miss Wild is an avid sports fan and loves all New York teams, the Colombia National Football team, and the Georgetown Hoyas. Miss Wild's mother is from Colombia and she was raised between Mexico, Colombia, London, and New York. Wild holds a BA</p>	Washington
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in Government and International Politics from George Mason University and a Masters in Forensic Accounting from Georgetown University. She looks forward to coordinating HECFAA's membership for many wonderful activities and working with other groups to organize social events for HECFAA members.

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