



Fifteenth Annual Conference

Latinos in the Heartland: Building Bridges, Dialogue, and Opportunity

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

Denice Adkins

University of Missouri

Denice Adkins is an associate professor in the School of Information Science & Learning Technologies. Her work focuses primarily on Latinos, their information behaviors, and public library services to Latino communities. She served as the president of REFORMA (The National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking) in 2012-13, and she is currently a Councilor-at-Large for the American Library Association.

Cintia Aguilar

North Carolina State University

Cintia Aguilar is a Community and Rural Development Extension Associate, Latino Affairs for North Carolina State University Cooperative Extension System (NCCES). She holds a master degree in Psychology from the University of Costa Rica. She has worked with Latino families for the last 18 years. Cintia leads NCCES organizational structure development to promote engagement with the Latino community, develops and/or adapts programs and resources for Latino audiences, and develops partnerships with Latino-serving organizations and community agencies. She leads the NC Cooperative Extension Latino Advisory Council. Cintia, Dr. Andrew Behnke, and Diana Urieta developed the *Juntos para una Mejor Educación* program to prevent Latino students' high school dropout and promote higher education. She contributed to the development of the *Better Food Better Health* program, SNAP-Ed curriculum for Latino Families. Cintia also co-leads the development and implementation of the NCCE model to provide educational opportunities and resources to farmers, Latino farmworkers, and their families on issues associated with health and work safety. Cintia developed the *N.C. 4-H Fotonovela* a bilingual resource to promote 4-H participation and to educate Latino families on the importance of engagement in extracurricular activities.

Rafaela Albiter

Turtle Creek Elementary School

Rafaela Albiter has a Bachelor of Education minor in Art from Universidad Pedagógica Nacional (México). Currently she is a kindergarten teacher at Turtle Creek Elementary School (Delavan-Darien School District, WI)

Edna Alfaro

Texas State University

Dr. Edna C. 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.

Karissa Anderson

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

Karissa Anderson is Manager of Advocacy and Policy Research with The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis and St. Louis Graduates, where she manages education policy interns and is building out a state-wide coalition of students advocating for equity in higher education. Karissa graduated May 2015 with a Masters in Social Work from Saint Louis University and from Southeast Missouri State University in 2012 with a Bachelor's of Science in

Communication. She works on policy issues that affect access to higher education – particularly around affordability for low-income, first-generation college students, undocumented students and students of color. Karissa has testified before numerous commissions and legislative bodies, and has authored a number of editorial pieces.

Dr. Juan Andrade, Jr.

United States Hispanic Leadership Institute

Dr. Juan Andrade is the President of the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute. USHLI has registered 2.3 million voters, published 425 studies on Latino demographics, trained over 900,000 present/future leaders, awarded over \$1.3 million in scholarships and internships, and sponsors the largest Latino leadership conference in the nation. He is one of the most highly decorated Latino leaders in the nation, only the 4th Latino in history to be honored by both the government of the United States and the government of Mexico. In 2001 he received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Bill Clinton at the White House. In 2011 he received the National Ohtli Award, the highest honor presented by the people and government of Mexico for distinguished service to the Mexican and Mexican American community in the United States. Originally from Brownwood, Texas, as a boy he sold newspapers and worked in restaurants washing dishes, pots and pans. As a farm worker he picked cotton and hoed weeds in cabbage, watermelon, cantaloupe, peanut and cotton fields. As a high school and college student he worked in factories and meatpacking plants. He has earned five degrees including a BA from Howard Payne University, a M.Ed from Antioch College, an Ed.S and Ed.D from Northern Illinois University, and a post-doctorate MA from Loyola University Chicago.

Karina Arango

Ritenour School District, Missouri

Karina Arango graduated from Fontbonne University in spring 2015 as the first college graduate in her family. She has advocated throughout Missouri on the importance of equal access to postsecondary financial aid opportunities for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and undocumented students. She has years of experience working on education policies, through internships with The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis, Deaconess Foundation and St. Louis Graduates. Karina's work has been recognized in the St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Kansas City's Fox News, the Columbia Daily Tribune and Nine Network of Public Media. In spring of 2015, she was featured as Latina to Watch in *¡en Contacto!* the official magazine of the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Metropolitan St. Louis. Karina currently works for Ritenour School District in The International Welcome Center as a Teacher's Assistant for the English Language Learners (ELL) Department.

Aaron Arredondo

University of Missouri

Aaron Arredondo is a doctoral student in the Sociology department at the University of Missouri, where he focuses on race and ethnicity, spatial inequalities, and Latina/os in the U.S. Heartland. Coming from the Texas-Mexico border, his first settlement away from home was in the new destination area of northwest Arkansas, where he earned a master's in Sociology from the University of Arkansas. Since 2015, Aaron's research has focused on various dimensions of social inclusion at the community level, in an effort to recognize Latina/os as deserving equals to all other members in their local receiving communities across the South and Midwest.

Jorge Atilas

Oklahoma State University

Dr. Jorge H. Atilas is a professor of Housing and the associate dean for extension and engagement in the College of Human Sciences at Oklahoma State University. He leads Family and Consumer Sciences Extension programs to enhance OSU's capacity to address the most critical issues affecting Oklahomans. Dr. Atilas served as associate dean at the University of Georgia, where he also served as the Family and Consumer Sciences State Program Leader for Cooperative Extension and a leader in Latino outreach. He received his bachelor's degree in architecture from the Dominican Republic, his master's degree in urban and regional planning, and his Ph.D. in housing, from Virginia Tech. Dr. Atilas has worked in the private and public sectors managing housing finance and development projects in the United States and the Dominican Republic. His research and extension scholarship has focused on affordable housing, indoor air quality, energy conservation, home safety and water quality protection.

Irund A-wan

Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa.

Irund A-wan is the Vice-President and Community ID Coordinator for the Center for Worker Justice of Eastern Iowa.

B

Juan Bao

Iowa State University

Juan Bao is a 2nd year Ph.D student in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Iowa State University. She is now working with Dr. Kimberly Greder on the Rural Families Speak about Health project. She received a master degree in Agricultural Economics and Management in China in 2012. Her current research interests include food insecurity, family rituals, family health, family resilience and cross culture, particularly in the rural areas.

Carlos Barcenias

Center for Rural Affairs

Carlos is a Community Organizer and Facilitator with the Center for Rural Affairs, Working in effort to create more inclusive communities in rural towns impacted by changing demographics. Prior to that he served as the Executive Director of the Grand Island Multicultural Coalition in Grand Island NE. During his time in this position, he facilitated conversations regarding diversity and worked with minority communities providing services in multiple languages and developed trainings and workshops for multiple agencies and organizations. For the last 12 years Carlos has focused on work around intercultural competence and creating stronger communities through cultural engagement and understanding. Originally from Mexico, Carlos has lived in Nebraska since 1994. His volunteer efforts include serving as board member for the Grand Island Public Schools and along with his wife Angela starting in 2015 they organize the Central Nebraska Ethnic Festival in Grand Island, NE a 3 day cultural festival that brings diverse, food, arts and entertainment to central Nebraska!

Cynthia Bell-Jimenez

Turtle Creek Elementary School

Cynthia Bell-Jimenez has a M.S. and M.S.Ed. from the Universidad Latinoamericana in San José (Costa Rica). Currently, she is a kindergarten teacher at Turtle Creek Elementary School (Delavan-Darien School District, WI).

Marianne Bird

University of California Cooperative Extension

Marianne, 4-H Youth Development Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension, has worked to expand quality programs and enhance the 4-H image in Sacramento County for 18 years. This includes broadening Extension's reach to more communities within the very diverse Sacramento area. Her passion is bringing new learning opportunities to young people, and her partnerships with after school programs and school districts have enabled thousands of children to participate in the Youth Experiences in Science Project, 4-H Water Wizards, and nationally recognized 4-H On the Wild Side environmental education program. Marianne discovered her love for working with youth as a young adult counselor at summer camp, and though she spends most of her time developing, administrating and evaluating programs, working with kids in the outdoors is still the best part of her job.

Kristin Bogdonas

University of Illinois Extension

Kristin Bogdonas is the Unit 7 Nutrition and Wellness Educator for University of Illinois Extension serving Henry, Mercer, Rock Island and Stark counties. She focuses her efforts on developing healthier communities and impacting different levels of the social ecological model to help improve quality of life and reduce risk of chronic disease through prevention education. Bogdonas prefers to reach her audiences through face-to-face, interactive programming as well as web-based platforms and social media outlets. She contributes to two blogs, Illinois Nutrition Edition and Turnip the Beet!. By working collaboratively with an extensive network, Bogdonas meets the needs of the community to extend knowledge and change lives. Bogdonas earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Family and Consumer Sciences with an emphasis in Food, Nutrition and Dietetics from Illinois State University. She then went on to earn her post-graduate degree in the Master of Public Health program at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. During her graduate studies, she instructed Foundations of Human Health, and was employed by the Center for Rural Health and Social Service Development where she worked with the Illinois CATCH onto Health! Consortium and the CATCH onto Health! grant. She now resides in Moline, IL. and enjoys yoga, hiking, cooking new foods, and attending the many different festivals and events in the Quad Cities Area.

Meredith Byrnes

Rutgers University

Meredith Byrnes is a Doctoral Candidate in the Graduate School of Education at Rutgers University. She earned a B.S. in Psychology with a minor in Spanish from Carnegie Mellon University and an M.A. in Bilingual/Bicultural Education at Columbia Teacher's College. She is a former Dual-Language Kindergarten teacher in Brooklyn, NY and first-grade teacher in Barcelona, Spain.

C

Jaime Cardwell

Ritenour School District, Missouri

Jamie Cardwell is the lead teacher for the International Welcome Center at Ritenour High School. With over 16 years of teaching experience, Jamie has taught various classes in curriculum methods, teacher education, writing, and assessment to adolescents through adults. She earned her B.S. in Education from Illinois State University, M.A. in English (TESL) from Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville, and is currently a doctoral student at Walden University. She has published several articles on various topics relating to ELLs and has presented at numerous conferences. Jamie will be moving to Ankara, Turkey at the end of August to teach English classes at Bilkent University for two years.

Gustavo Carlo

University of Missouri

Dr. Gustavo Carlo is the [Millsap Professor of Diversity and Multicultural Studies](#) in the Human Development and Family Science Department at the University of Missouri - Columbia, and the Director of the Center for Family Policy and Research.

His research focuses on prosocial and moral development among children and adolescents, including a focus on the positive health and adjustment among Latino families and youth. He examines temperament, family correlates, social cognitions and emotions, and culture-related variables associated with prosocial and moral development.

He has authored or coauthored over one hundred reviewed journal articles, and edited several volumes, including most recently [Rural Ethnic Minority Youth and Families in the United States](#) (2016), and [Prosocial Development: A Multidimensional Approach](#)(2014).

Jen-Hao Chen

University of Missouri

Jen-Hao Chen is an assistant professor in Health Sciences at the University of Missouri. Dr. Chen's research involves using large-scale social surveys to examine the role of social conditions on health over the life span.

Diego L. Conejo

University of Missouri

Diego Conejo is doctoral student in the Human Development and Family Science Department at the University of Missouri-Columbia. His research focuses on self-regulation, moral reasoning and prosocial behavior in childhood.

Mary Crist

Turtle Creek Elementary School

Mary Crist has a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations and a Post Baccalaureate in Education from Mount Mary College in Milwaukee, WI. She earned a Master's degree in Education with Bilingual and ESL certifications from UW-Whitewater. She has taught Dual Immersion in districts in Wisconsin and currently teaches Dual Immersion 1st Grader at Turtle Creek Elementary School in Delavan Wisconsin.

Teresa Curtis

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension

Teresa Curtis, MPH is a State Specialist for the University of Wisconsin-Cooperative Extension's Nutrition Education Program. She provides leadership to program planning, delivery, and evaluation as it relates to underserved low-income audiences. In addition, Teresa co-facilitates organizational level projects that promote sustainable and equitable engagement of colleagues and community members. Teresa is also a facilitator for UW-Colleges and Extension's Multicultural Awareness Program and a member of the leadership team for eXtension's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Community of Practice.

D

Carla A. Dawson

Whyld Girls Program

Carla A. Dawson is currently the Gender Specific Coordinator for the Whyld Girls. She has worked with students as a Teacher and as Family Advocate for the Head Start Program. Her passion is working with children and families. She received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Education from Drake University in 2009. Carla is a WRL National Board Member, the community representative for the Legal Aid Society of Des Moines, the Vice President of the Des Moines Catholic Worker, and a community member of the New York Catholic Worker.

Rocío Delgado

Trinity University

Rocio Delgado is associate professor and special and bilingual/ESL education program director at Trinity University in San Antonio, TX. Her research interests include the education of culturally and linguistically diverse students with/without disabilities, collaboration among school professionals, and family and school relationships.

Sonia Dhaliwal

University of Missouri

Dr. Sonia Dhaliwal is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist who received her graduate training at the School of Professional Psychology, Pacific University, OR. She then completed her Clinical Internship at Michigan State University followed by her post-doctoral training at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Dr. Dhaliwal was trained as an Emotion Focused therapist and her clinical interests lie in working with Complex Trauma within non-majority populations and running Substance Use and Eating Disorder groups. She is also passionate about issues pertaining to the experience of clinical supervision and mentorship in non-majority graduate students. In addition, Dr. Dhaliwal works closely with the United Nations in collaborating on International Women's issues and is a member of the Psychologist Coalition for the United Nations (PCUN). She was recently announced chair of the Marketing subcommittee of Division 52 (International Psychology) within APA.

David Diaz

University of Missouri

David Diaz is a first year doctoral student in the Counseling Psychology program at the University of Missouri-Columbia. His research and applied interests include underrepresented students in higher education, particularly Latina/os from under-resourced communities. He is currently involved in Dr. Lisa Flores' research team studying persistence among women and Latina/os pursuing engineering degrees.

Claudia P. Diaz Carrasco

University of California Cooperative Extension

As a 4-H Youth Development Advisor for the University of California Cooperative Extension 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 and families in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Prior to joining UC ANR, Claudia received B.S. in Food Industry Engineering from Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in 2012, a Master of Agriculture 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 led several team projects involving the competitive assessment of a particular country and cluster. She also worked collaboratively with firms and non-profit organizations to begin development projects in rural areas of the state of Puebla, Mexico.

Lisa N. Dorner

University of Missouri

Lisa M. Dorner, 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*.

Dawn Downes

The REACH Healthcare Foundation

Dawn Downes is a Senior Program Officer for the REACH Healthcare Foundation. In this role, she is responsible for program development and grants administration in the Foundation's funding priority areas of oral health, mental health and safety net services, as well as for special initiatives. Downes joined REACH in 2007 to direct the Foundation's first initiative, Project Ready Smile, a three-year, joint children's oral health project of the REACH Foundation and Health Care Foundation of Greater Kansas City. Downes previously developed and directed community education programs on child abuse and child protection for Sunflower House, a child abuse prevention and child advocacy organization that serves Johnson and Wyandotte counties. She has a background in child development and parent support for at-risk families. Downes was born and raised in northern Iowa, but has called the Kansas City metro area home for the past 17 years.

John F. Dulles

Human Rights Consultancy

John Dulles is president of Human Rights Consultancy in Denver. In a federal career spanning forty years, he worked 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. Mr. Dulles is passionate and effective advocate and educator for human rights.

F

Maria G. (Lupita) Fabregas Janeiro

University of California

Lupita is originally from Mexico. She accepted the position as Assistant Director for 4-H Diversity and Expansion in UCANR in 2015. Before working in California, she worked in Mexico and at Oklahoma State University, College of Human Sciences as Clinical Assistant Professor, Multicultural and Community Engagement Specialist. She studied her undergraduate degree in Monterrey Tech in Agriculture Engineering and Animal Sciences, her master's in Education from UPAEP and Doctoral Degree in Agricultural Education, at Oklahoma State University. Lupita's interests in research and professional development areas are, Inclusion of Latinos in 4-H, 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 of 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.

Lisa Y. Flores

University of Missouri

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

Donna García

University of Missouri Extension

Donna M. Garcia has practiced and served in education/youth development for throughout her career. She began as a middle school and special education teacher and continued as an elementary and middle school principal for twenty years. Donna has worked with MU Extension 4-H for the past nine years. She began as an Urban Youth Development Specialist and is now the Youth Futures College Access State Specialist. She works with those who are reaching out to vulnerable, underrepresented, primarily first generation 4-Hers and helping prepare them for college and the workforce.

Carla Gibson

The REACH Healthcare Foundation

Carla Gibson is a Senior Program Officer responsible for program and initiative development and administration of grants at the REACH Healthcare Foundation, a health conversion foundation that directs resources to increasing access to quality, affordable health coverage and care in a six-county area that spans Kansas and Missouri. Gibson has guided the foundation's Health Equity investments, beginning with a Cultural Competency Initiative started in 2008 that has expanded awareness and commitment to cultural competency and inclusion, and professional development and policy change in health and human services organizations in the Greater Kansas City region. Gibson directed foundation funding for the "A Picture of Health: The 2015 State of Black Kansas City" report that examined health and other influences on the health of black and Latino residents in the metropolitan area. She is program officer for a REACH Foundation investment in CCO to build expertise and capacity in the area of racial equity to lead conversations and actions in this area. She also served as program officer on grants to expand school-based, bilingual mental health services to meet the needs of underserved populations, and as program officer on a grant to support the health of rural migrant farm workers.

Sonia E. Giron

University of Missouri

Sonia is a rising 4th year doctoral student in the Developmental Psychology training area within the Psychological Sciences department at the University of Missouri, where she is advised by Dr. Nicole Campione-Barr. She has been a Cambio Center student fellow since Fall 2015 and her faculty mentor has been Dr. Gus Carlo. Her research focuses on adolescent development and the role family and peers have on adolescent adjustment. Sonia hopes her future work will focus on and benefit Latin@ adolescents, families, and communities.

Melinda Gonzales-Backen

Florida State University

Dr. Melinda Gonzales-Backen is an Assistant Professor in the Family & Child Sciences at Florida State University. Her research program focuses on how cultural strengths and cultural stressors predict Latino adolescent adjustment.

Kimberly Greder

Iowa State University

Kimberly Greder is an associate professor and Extension Specialist in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Iowa State University. She provides co-leadership for the Rural Families Speak about Health project, a multi-state effort focused on examining the mental and physical health of rural families with low incomes and young children. She is particularly interested in the health and well-being of Latino immigrant families.

Jessica Guild

University of California

Jessica Guild has been with the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources since March, 2013 as the 4-H Program Coordinator. Jessica earned a Master of Arts degree from Goucher College in Baltimore, Maryland in Cultural Sustainability and a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American and Latino Studies (Honors in the Major) from the University of California, Santa Cruz. For her Master's thesis, Guild pursued the intersection of technology and community movements, through the creation of a website detailing the practice of Cultural Sustainability and its potential impacts on community and cultural organizations. Outside of the academic environment, Jessica has helped launch for-profit and non-profit youth organizations, learning the in-and-outs of business development, marketing, and strategic planning. Jessica has a multi-cultural background, straddling two states and several countries. Her background and experiences inspired her to pursue a career path in grassroots community movements for environmental and agricultural sustainability.

Zehra Gülseven

University of Missouri

Zehra Gülseven is doctoral student in Human Development and Family Science Department at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on parenting and sociocultural correlates of prosocial behavior.

H

Edmund 'Ted' Hamann

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Dr. Edmund 'Ted' Hamann is a Professor in the Department of Teaching, Learning, & Teacher Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Trained as an anthropologist of education, he is particularly interested in how the ways educational decision-makers imagine their constituent populations in turn shape the educational policies and practices they support for those populations. In particular, he is interested in how education decision-makers imagine transnationally mobile populations, notably those who have moved between Mexico and the United States. On the US side, he has helped found the subfield of research on education in the New Latino Diaspora. He is co-editor (with Stanton Wortham and Enrique G. Murillo, Jr.) of *Revisiting Education in the New Latino Diaspora* (Information Age Press, 2015; details here, and

New Books in Education podcast here), coauthor of *Alumnos Transnacionales: Las Escuelas Mexicanas Frente a la Globalización* (Secretaría de Educación Pública de México, 2008), and more than 50 journal articles and book chapters. In 2015 he was recognized by the American Anthropology Association winning its Anthropology in Public Policy Award. He began his career teaching an experimental bilingual family literacy curriculum in the Argentine district of Kansas City, Kansas.

Paulina Hampel

University of Missouri

Paulina Hampel is an undergraduate student at the University of Missouri. She is currently working towards a degree in Elementary Education. As a member of The Honors Program for the College of Education, she was given the opportunity to collaborate with Denice Adkins on this project.

Russell Hill

University of California

Russell Hill received B.A. in Anthropology from California State University, Fresno in 1998 and a Master's in Public Administration from California State University, Stanislaus in 2003. He recently celebrated 10 years of Distinguished Service Award through his employment with the University of California. As an Area 4-H Youth Development Advisor Russell has 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 and families in Merced, Madera and Mariposa Counties. Prior to his current role he served for five years as a local 4-H Program Representative and three years as the Director of the Statewide 4-H Military Partnership.

Shannon Horrillo

University of California

Shannon Horrillo is the Associate Director of 4-H Program and Policy and provides leadership to the implementation of the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources 4-H Youth Development Program (4-H YDP). Shannon is responsible for creating and implementing strategic ways and programs to support the growth and development of the 4-H YDP, volunteers, and staff. She leads efforts to increase access to the program among underrepresented, diverse audiences, remove barriers to participation, improve hiring practices to increase diversity of staff within the organization and improve intercultural competence of staff. Shannon's expertise is in organizational systems, youth development within contexts, and evaluation. She holds a master's degree in Child Development and a Ph.D. in Human Development from the University of California, Davis.

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 Wisconsin-Extension/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.

Jorge Inzunza

Turtle Creek Elementary School

Jorge Inzunza is a psychologist, graduate of the University of Chile. He earned a Master in Social and Human Sciences from the University of Paris-Nanterre. He has a Ph.D. in Education from the University of Campinas (Brazil). He is a teacher at Turtle Creek Elementary School (Delavan-Darien School District, WI).

J

Catherine Jesberger

Turtle Creek Elementary School

Catherine Jesberger is the Vice President of the Parent-Teacher Organization of Turtle Creek Elementary School (Delavan, WI). She is a Bilingual Special Ed Aide at Turtle Creek Elementary. She is part of the Parent Advisory Committee for children with IEPs through the Delavan Darien School District. Currently, she is a student seeking a baccalaureate degree in Nursing.

Samantha Jones

University of Missouri

Samantha Jones is a Doctoral student in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on sibling relationship dynamics during adolescence and young adulthood, investigating cultural factors and daily experiences that impact sibling relationship quality, adjustment, and academic outcomes of Latino adolescents and young adults.

K

Sarah E. Killoren

University of Missouri

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

Sujin is a Postdoctoral Scholar in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, MU. Sujin's research interests include bilingual/literacy education for diverse learners, immigrant youth identity development, and language education policy. She is currently designing and conducting a mixed-method research project on how school board members' sense-making of demographic changes shapes educational policy.

Gabrielle Kline

University of Missouri

Gabrielle Kline is a Doctoral student in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on sibling relationships during emerging adulthood, sibling relationships among Mexican American emerging adults, and how cultural values influence their sibling relationships.

L

Alana LeBrón

University of Michigan

Alana LeBrón is a Postdoctoral Fellow at the National Center for Institutional Diversity at the University of Michigan School of Social Work.

Katrina Liu

University of Wisconsin

Katrina Liu, is a Ph.D in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with specializations in teacher education and educational leadership and policy analysis. Dr. Liu's current research includes preparing critically reflective teachers for transformative learning, developing self-sustaining communities of practice for teacher professional development, and understanding social capital and resilience among teachers of color.

M

Sandy Magaña

University of Illinois-Chicago

Sandy Magaña, PhD, MSW, is a professor in Disability and Human Development at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Magaña's research focus is on the cultural context of families who care for persons with disabilities and mental illness and the experiences of parents who have disabilities. She has been a leader in investigating racial and ethnic disparities among children with autism and developmental disabilities and among their family caregivers. Building on this research, Magaña has developed culturally relevant interventions to address these disparities, bringing the Promotora de Salud (community health worker) model to the disability world. She is in the process of leading a large two-site randomized trial of an intervention that seeks to empower Latino parents of children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). She is also director of the newly established Family Support Research and Training Center (FSRTC).

Daniel Malacara

University of Wisconsin Extension

Daniel Malacara, MBA, is a lifelong resident of Wisconsin. The grandson of migrant farmworkers and sharecroppers, who settled permanently in Wisconsin shortly after WW II. His father (who worked in an auto factory for 36 years) and his stay at mother, who got their GEDs while in their late 30s, stressed education to their 8 children, as a “vehicle” out of poverty, and the “road” to self-determination. Through education, you could achieve anything. Daniel has worked in higher education for 29 years, the last 24 for the University of Wisconsin Extension, Division of Cooperative Extension. His role as Assistant Dean, places him in a leadership role of an \$80 million/900 employee enterprise. His primary responsibilities are management of the financial resources and administrative policies.

Felipe Martínez

The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis

A first-generation graduate, Felipe Martinez serves as the Immigrant Student Advisor at The Scholarship Foundation of St. Louis where he works to support undocumented students’ access to post-secondary education. Felipe has provided significant training and resource support to St. Louis area guidance counselors and nonprofit program personnel new to the issues facing undocumented students. In addition to his work with immigrant students, Felipe’s work at the Foundation includes providing ongoing advising in a semi-rural Missouri school district, in an inner-ring suburban district, and over the summer months at St. Louis Graduates High School to College Center. Originally from California, Felipe worked six years in a Gear Up program in the San Diego area and has served as a student mentor and advisor to countless first-generation & undocumented students. He is a graduate of University of California-San Diego.

Mayra Elena Martínez

University of Iowa

Mayra Elena Martínez is the Digital Health Program Coordinator for the eHealth and eNovation Center at University of Iowa Health Ventures.

Rubén O. Martínez

Michigan State University

Dr. Rubén O. Martinez 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. Martinez 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.

Carla A. McNelly

Iowa State University

Carla A. McNelly is currently the Post-Doctoral Research Associate for the ISU 4U Promise program at Iowa State University. In June 2014, she completed a PhD in Critical and Socio-cultural Studies in Education. The common thread throughout her academic work, is the exploration and advancement of human rights. Dr. McNelly's current research interests are cross-cultural communication, decolonizing methodologies, Indigenous cultural survival, the history of Honduras, immigration, transnationalism, bilingual and multilingual education, United States and international bilingual education policy, and Latin@ parent engagement.

Marlén Mendoza

University of Iowa

Marlén Mendoza is an Undergraduate Research Assistant at the University of Iowa College of Public Health.

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.

Fe Moncloa

Fe Moncloa is a 4-H Youth Development Advisor in Santa Clara County, California. She is a bilingual and bicultural native Spanish-speaking researcher interested in identifying Latino/a cultural relevant practices in civic engagement and community youth development. Fe is responsible for training and development of diverse 4-H volunteers, and extending the program to diverse audiences. She has experience in implementing community and youth leadership programs, cross-age science teaching, and training diverse after school staff to implement experiential science programs. She received a Master's Degree in International Public Administration in 1993 from the Middlebury Institute and a Ph.D. in Education in 2015 from the University of California, Santa Cruz.

N

Nicole L. Novak

University of Michigan

Nicole Novak is a PhD Candidate in Epidemiology at the University of Michigan School of Public Health.

P

Elver A. Pardo

University of Florida IFAS Extension

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.

Krista Perreira

University of North Carolina

Krista Perreira is a Professor in Public Policy at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. She is a health economist who studies disparities in health, education, and economic well-being and inter-relationships between family, health and social policy.

Sarah Pierotti

University of Missouri

Sarah L. Pierotti is doctoral student in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Her research focuses on prosocial behavior, Latino cultural values, and cultural value socialization.

Christina Pope

Welcoming America

Christina Pope is a regional manager at Welcoming America, where she provides technical assistance and programming to the Welcoming Economies Global Network and other 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. Christina earned her bachelor's degree in Comparative Literature and American Studies at Oberlin College.

Stephanie Potochnick

University of Missouri

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.

R

Athena Ramos

University of Nebraska Medical Center

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 where she leads a Latino outreach and engagement team and serves as principal investigator for a number of community-based health research and education initiatives. She is an experienced administrator and junior researcher with proven ability to develop and implement social and human service programs with culturally diverse populations.

Athena is currently working towards her PhD in International Family and Community Studies at Clemson University. She received a Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA) in 2009, a Master's degree (MS) in 2004 in Urban Studies, and her Bachelor's degree (BS) in 2002 in Public Administration from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Additionally, she also received her national certification as a Public Manager (CPM) in 2008.

Katherine Richardson Bruna

Iowa State University

Dr. Katherine Richardson Bruna is an Associate Professor in Multicultural Education in the School of Education at Iowa State University. She is a former bilingual instructional aide and ESL teacher. At ISU, Katherine developed a body of rich ethnographic research on the science education experiences of Mexican immigrant youth in US schools. This work took her into schools, communities, and households of both rural Iowa and Mexico. The courses she teaches on Multicultural Education, Bilingualism, Bilingual Education, and US Mexican Youth, and Interpretive Inquiry Methods, reflect these theoretical and methodological interests and approaches. As the Founding Director of the ISU 4U Promise, a partnership between ISU and two elementary schools in urban Des Moines neighborhoods, Katherine continues her commitment to educational equity and responsive and responsible theory-practice relationships. During last year's Cambio de Colores keynote, Katherine introduced the Design Dialogues project featured by this year's presentation.

Brianna Routh

Iowa State University

Brianna Routh is a doctoral student in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies at Iowa State University. She brings experience as an Extension Educator in a rural mid-western community as well a background in public health and as a Registered Dietitian to her research assistantship with the multi-state Rural Families Speak about Health project under the supervision of Dr. Kimberly Greder. She is particularly interested in family influences on health and nutrition for Latino families.

S

Onésimo Sandoval

Saint Louis University

Ness Sandoval is an associate professor of sociology and co-director of the public and social policy Ph.D program at Saint Louis University. Ness has several research interests: (1) Latino demography; (2) urban inequality; (3) immigrant populations, and (4) spatial statistics.

Xiomara Santana

University of Iowa

Xiomara Santana is an Undergraduate Research Assistant at the University of Iowa College of Public Health.

Jessica Sierk

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Jessica Sierk recently received her Ph.D. in Educational Studies with an emphasis in Social Analysis, Educational Policy and Reform from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her dissertation, *Coming of Age in the New Latino Diaspora: An Ethnographic Study of High School Seniors in Nebraska*, looked at how Latin@ and White students from two NLD communities made sense of the racial, ethnic, and linguistic divisions present in their schools as they transitioned from high school to their post-secondary experiences (college/university, military, work). In the fall, she will begin a new position as an Assistant Professor of Education at St. Lawrence University in Canton, New York.

Jeffrey S. Smith

Kansas State University

Jeffrey Smith earned his terminal degree from Arizona State University in 1997 and joined the Geography faculty at Kansas State University in 1998. Dr. Smith has published twenty refereed journal articles, seven book chapters, and an edited textbook. His research focuses on understanding the intersection between culture, place, and the built environment. In 2006 he was awarded a Transnational Fellowship from the Mexico-North Research Network to explore the impact that migration and remittances are having on the cultural landscape of rural Mexico.

Rosamond Smith

University of Iowa

Rosamond Smith is a MPH Candidate at the University of Iowa College of Public Health.

Berenice Solis

Turtle Creek Elementary School

Berenice Solis is the President of the Parent-Teacher Organization of Turtle Creek Elementary School (Delavan, WI). Currently, she is a student seeking a baccalaureate degree in social work and psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Leya Speasmaker

Catholic Legal Immigration Network

Ms. Speasmaker serves as a Field Support Coordinator and Integration Program Manager for CLINIC and works from Austin, Texas. As a Field Support Coordinator, she helps grow the capacity of the national network of charitable immigration service providers by providing training and consultation to organizations on program management and capacity building. As the Integration Program Manager, she coordinates CLINIC's resources and technical support on integration within the CLINIC network. Ms. Speasmaker is a graduate of the University of Virginia, where she earned a B.A. in English and a Master of Teaching degree. She is also a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, where she earned a Master of Public Affairs and a

Master of Arts in Latin American Studies. Prior to working at CLINIC, she taught English as a Second language in Virginia, Ecuador, and Texas, and she speaks Spanish.

Kathie Starkweather

Center for Rural Affairs

Kathie works as the Director of the Center for Rural Affairs' Farm and Community Program. In that capacity she is leading an effort to create more inclusive communities in rural towns impacted by changing demographics. She has been with the Center for over 10 years. Prior to that she worked as a Rural Sociologist with USDA and worked with a 7-state region on a number of things that involved small towns. During her time in this position, she identified a need to improve the diversity within the agency and developed the presentation titled unconscious bias. It's been changed/tweaked and refined over the years. She has shared this information well over 100 times across the country. Starkweather has two adult daughters, a son-in-law and two adorable grandchildren with another one on the way. Her volunteer efforts include the Backpack program; serving as a Teammate; and upon noticing that was a lack of diversity in LPS volleyball programs, started a program for minority girls.

Emily Stuart

Kingdom House

Emily Stuart is the Coordinator of Program Evaluation at Kingdom House. A native of Arizona, Ms. Stuart has her Master in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis, and a B.A. from the University of Arizona in Linguistics and Political Science. With ten years of nonprofit experience, Ms. Stuart specializes in program design and evaluation, fund prospecting, and grant writing. Additionally, Ms. Stuart is an adjunct professor of Mental Health Policy at Washington University's Brown School of Social Work, and recently provided research support for the Ferguson Commission.

T

Olivia Temrowski

Synod Community Services and the Washtenaw ID Project, Michigan

Olivia Temrowski is Executive Assistant for Synod Community Services and the Washtenaw ID Project (Washtenaw County, MI).

V

Laura Valencia

University of Florida IFAS Extension

Laura E. Valencia has been with the University of Florida IFAS Extension since 2002. She is the Osceola County 4-H Agent, where she has been since 2014, specializing on outreach and engagement of diverse audiences with non-traditional programs. She is a member of the National 4-H Council Hispanic Advisory Committee since its beginning in 2015, a member of the NAE4-HA Diversity Taskforce since 2012, and is an active member of FAE4-HA. Her 4-H programming focuses on Healthy Living, Workforce Preparedness, Environmental Education and Citizenship and Leadership.

Elizabeth Villalobos Elizondo

University of California

Elizabeth Villalobos Elizondo (Liz) has extensive experience in community and youth engagement. Liz joined the University of California Cooperative Extension in 2004 representing the 5 a Day social marketing campaign for the Central Valley, California. Liz specifically worked with various youth organizations to implement nutrition and physical activity into their recreation time. A great fit for Liz as she had experience in after-school, summer and day camp programming. Taking a leave from the Cooperative Extension Liz worked in community relations, grant development, and volunteer oversight for a municipality in rural Tulare County. She later returned moving into the Calfresh Nutrition Education program, focusing more on training modules, lesson development and evaluation for rural school sites. Liz currently serves as the Fresno County 4-H Program Representative, beginning in July of 2013. Liz's education includes completing a M.A. in Leadership Studies, College of Business from Fresno Pacific University and a B.S. in Social and Behavioral Sciences from University of Phoenix. Liz's passion is college and career readiness for central valley youth, volunteering for organizations that provide opportunities for families to learn about college readiness and entry.

W

Eileen Wolfington

Kingdom House

Eileen Wolfington is the Health and Wellness Program Coordinator for Kingdom House. Originally from Wisconsin, Eileen grew up in a multicultural home. Born of an immigrant mother from Mexico and a father from Puerto Rico, she uses her culture and beliefs as an advantage to apply her skills in a culturally appropriate manner. After a 33-year banking career, Eileen worked for five years as a "promotora de salud" (community health worker) for a clinic called Casa de Salud. This exposure to public health transformed her life while igniting a lifetime commitment to coach others to live a healthier lifestyle one person at a time. Eileen is a trained Zumba instructor, Chronic Disease Self-Management facilitator, Operation Food Search - Cooking Matters facilitator, YMCA Diabetes Prevention Program lifestyle coach and a Diabetes Empowerment Education Program facilitator. Her hobby is performing and teaching folkloric dance. She has a B.B.A. in General Business and a M.Ed. in Adult Education.

Z

Jiajia Zhu

Beijing Normal University

Jiajia Zhu is a second year doctoral student in the Institute of Clinical and Counseling Psychology, Beijing Normal University. She is a visiting scholar at the University of Missouri-Columbia, being advised by Dr. Lisa Flores. Her research interests include women engineering students' professional identity and persistence, and family's influence on adolescents' career development.