



## Biography

### Keynote Presentations

**Marcelo Giugale** is the World Bank's Director of Economic Policy and Poverty Reduction Programs for Latin-America. An international development leader, his twenty years of experience span the Middle East, Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Latin America. He has led senior-level policy dialogue and ten billion dollars in financing operations across the development spectrum. He has published widely on economic policy, finance, development economics, business, agriculture, and applied econometrics. Notably, he was the chief editor of collections of policy notes published for the presidential transitions in Mexico (2000), Colombia (2002), Ecuador (2003), Bolivia (2006) and Peru (2006). A citizen of Argentina and Italy, he has received decorations from the governments of Bolivia and Peru, and has taught at the American University in Cairo, the London School of Economics, and the Universidad Católica Argentina. He holds a PhD and a MSc from The London School of Economics, and a Suma-cum-Laude BA in Economics from Universidad Católica Argentina.

**Ambassador Thomas A. Shannon** was confirmed as Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs on October 7, 2005. A career member of the Senior Foreign Service, Mr. Shannon served as Special Assistant to the President and Senior Director for Western Hemisphere Affairs at the National Security Council from 2003 to 2005. From 2002 to 2003, he was Deputy Assistant Secretary of Western Hemisphere Affairs at the Department of State, where he was Director of Andean Affairs from 2001 to 2002. He was U.S. Deputy Permanent Representative to the Organization of American States (OAS) from 2000 to 2001. He served as Director for Inter-American Affairs at the National Security Council from 1999 to 2000; as Political Counselor at the U.S. Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela from 1996 to 1999; and as Regional Labor Attaché at the U.S. Consulate General in Johannesburg, South Africa from 1992 to 1996. During his career as a Foreign Service Officer, Mr. Shannon also served as Special Assistant to the Ambassador at the U.S. Embassy in Brasilia, Brazil from 1989 to 1992; as Country Officer for Cameroon, Gabon, and Sao Tome and Principe from 1987 to 1989; and as the Consular/Political Rotational Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Guatemala City, Guatemala from 1984 to 1986. Mr. Shannon holds a Doctorate and a Master's degree in politics from Oxford University, and a B.A. in Government and Philosophy from the College of William and Mary.

### Facing the Financial Crisis: Implications for Local Governments

**Mr. Luis Manuel Martínez** is the director at Standard & Poor's Mexico's Director of State and Municipal Certification, Water Services and Universities. He joined Standard & Poor's in 2004 and previously worked as a cooperate analysis for the infrastructure section. Before joining S&P Luis Manuel Martínez worked for the North American Development Bank in San Antonio, TX as a Project Manager. He began his career as a credit analysis in 1998 for the Cooperative Bank within the National Bank of Mexico, Member of Citigroup. Mr. Martínez BA in Economics from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México and received MBA from the Kenan Flagler Business School at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

**Gerardo Reyes-Tagle** is a fiscal economist from the division of Fiscal and Municipal Management in the inter-American Development Bank (IDB). He has more than 10 years of experiences working in subjects related to taxes, public expenditure and debt sustainability. He also performed as a chief of taxation from the Treasury Department. He did post-graduate work in Public Policy and Economics at Georgetown University and Economics at George Washington University in the Washington, DC.

**Norman Noel Quijano González** is the current mayor of San Salvador. He is a dentist and entered into politics after taking a position as the Director of Social Action for the Municipality between 1989-1994. After 1994, he participated in five legislative sessions and served as a secretary for the Executive Director for Legislative Assembly for the 2006-2009. In 2008, he was named as a candidate for the ARENA party, which he nominated for the January 18, 2009 open elections and won after May 2 of the same year. He is married and has three girls.

**David Rivera** is a Florida State Representative. He serves on the Rules, Agenda and the Budget committees. He was the principal promoter of Florida's first Conference on Democracy and Good Governance of the Americas. He has worked within the State Department, served as a legislative assistant in the US congress and as an advisor to the United Nations Commissions for Human Rights. He received his masters in public administration from Florida International University.

#### Municipal Leadership and Intergovernmental Relations: Its New Importance in Challenging Times

**Raul O. Benitez** currently services as the Minister of Production and Economic development for the Province of San Juan, Argentina. He has also serviced as the Economic and Public Works Ministries and the Treasury Secretary for the same province. He has a doctor in Economics from the Catholic Pontific University of Argentina and a Masters in International Political Economy and a BA in Economics. He has also post-graduate studies from Harvard University and other universities in the US, Brazil, Ecuador and Uruguay. He has served as an economist for the World Bank and as a consultant for the IDB, working with Colombia, Peru, Paraguay, Bolivia and other places in Argentina. Mr. Benitez has taught micro and macro economics in the Catholic University of Cuyo and the National University of San Juan.

**Jorge Gabriel Macías Llamas** received his law degree from the University of Guanajuato in 1992; a Masters degree in Accounting and a Judicial Specialty from the Federal Supreme Court Institute. He teaches Masters students in Constitutional, Administrative Civil Law at La Salle Bajino, AC. He also teaches Accounting and Administration at the University of Guanajuato. From 1992-99 was a litigation lawyer who was a founder of the Law office "Servicios Profesionales de Seguridad Jurídica, S.A. de C.V." and was in charge of the corporate portfolio. From 1999- 2007, he served as the Director of Finance and Administration for the State of Guanajuato from 2005-2007. Since 2007 he has appointed to be the general coordinator for the Public Information Office for the State of Guanajuato.

**Don Slesnick** is serving his fourth term on the City Commission. Prior to being elected to office in 2001, he served a total of 12 years on the Planning and Zoning Board and previously served on the City's Emergency Management Board. Mayor Slesnick is a Vietnam veteran and a former U. S. Army advisor to NATO forces in Germany. The Mayor has served on a number of government committees at the county level. He served as Chairman of the Miami-Dade County Cultural Affairs Council, he served on the Miami-Dade Mayor's Aviation Blue Ribbon Panel and he received the Miami-Dade County 1998 Medal of Merit for Leadership for chairing the task force that helped attract the U. S. Southern Command to South Florida. Mayor Slesnick is the managing partner for Slesnick & Casey, a law firm representing public sector employee organizations. Previously, he held management positions with the Dade County Public Schools and the Dade County Police Department. He holds a BA from the University of Virginia, a J.D. From the University of Florida and a MPA from Florida International University.

**Luis Alberto Wager**, national senator of the Paraguay. He is a leader of the Liberal Party and has a long history of political activity in the country. He was the first democratically elected government for the Central Department. He was also the Minister of Agriculture, and has often served on various occasions as a legislator. He is a promoter of decentralization policy and public defender for local autonomy.

**Arne Svensson** has 35 years of experience in the administrative reform process of central, regional and local government, including decentralization, democracy and governance, legislative and parliamentary development, citizens participation, governmental relations, state and local governments, civil society, devolution, organizational development, management and public administration. He has been a senior consultant for more than 500 public and private organizations, including the United Nations, the European Commission, and governments around the world. He has carried out assignments for more than 200 municipalities and has more than 29 years has management consultant responsible for public sector reform at central, regional and local level, including creating new policies, strategies and structures for the public sector.

#### Intergovernmental Relations: the Role of Municipal Associations

**José Octavio Acosta Arévalo.** Finished his studies in Sociology from the Autonomous Metropolitan University and received a degree in Municipal Administration from the Iberoamerican University. He was the founder and director of Municipal Development Institute for the PRD (1997-2000). He also worked as the Executive Director of Association of Local Authorities A.C. (AALMAC) from 1998- 2000 and is currently the Director of Training for the National Institute for Federalism and Municipal Development (INAFED). He is a professor of public policy and governance in a variety of Universities and Institute, among them include: the Colegio Nacional de Ciencias Políticas y Administración Pública, the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, the Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila, the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León, the Instituto Nacional para el Desarrollo Social (INDESOL) y el Tecnológico de Monterrey. He has developed a variety of projects among them the promotion and coordination of municipal associations in Mexico, the National Forum for Public Service and the Strengthening of Municipal Institutions for Rural Development. He is the author of various manuals and articles in journals specialized in public administration.

**Gilberto Toro Giraldo**, Executive Director of the Colombian Federation of Municipalities, and has a specialty in Administrative Law from the University of Medellin. He is an expert in decentralization policy; fiscal and political autonomy of cities; and the management of public interest for Colombian municipalities and the integration of local mandates. He has served as the Alternative Secretary for the Latin American Chapter of the Local Authorities Union, IULA/CELCADEL and is a member of the Consultation group for Civil society for the IDB, the Latin American Network, which represents more than 15 countries and of the Municipalities of Latin American Federations of Cities, Municipalities and Associations FLACMA.

**Carlos Pinto** is the Executive Director of COMURES, the largest municipal association in El Salvador. Its mission is to promote, strengthen and defend proactively the autonomy and competitiveness of cities, in a democratic framework while strengthening local development and union in character.

**Venancio Diaz Escobar** is the mayor of the City of San Miguel, Paraguay. He is the vice president of the Paraguayan Organization for Inter-Municipal Cooperation (OPACI) where he represents his department Misiones.

#### Welcome – Inter-American Foundation Workshops

**Ambassador Larry L. Palmer** is the seventh president of the Inter-American Foundation, a U.S. government foreign assistance agency supporting grassroots development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Amb. Palmer entered the Foreign Service in 1982. He became U.S. Ambassador to Honduras in 2002 and also worked in Quito, Ecuador, as Chargé d’Affaires and as Deputy Chief of Mission starting in August 1999. In the Dominican Republic, he served as vice consul from 1982 to 1984, and performed as a personnel officer in Montevideo, Uruguay, and Asuncion, Paraguay, from 1984 to 1986. Born in Augusta, GA, Amb. Palmer graduated from Emory University (B.A., 1970) and completed his graduate training at Texas Southern University (M.Ed., African History, 1973) and Indiana University Bloomington (Ed. D., Higher Education Administration and African Studies, 1978).

#### Promoting Local Economic Development, Poverty Alleviation and Job Creation

**José Dibos Vargas** is an agronomist by profession from the Catholic Pontific University of Peru. He has served as a Director for the Special Committee for Land Privatization for Pro-Investment, Peru, among other jobs. His vocation is to service the community and previously was previously a candidate for the mayor from La Molina, where he has lived for more than 30 years. He was elected in 2002-2006 and was reelected with an overall majority under his second term, which will serve from 2007-2010.

**Ms. Suzanne Salichs**, a native of Miami, has over 25 years experience in federal and local government. She began her career with Miami-Dade County in 1987 with the Office of Community and Economic Development and joined Team Metro in 1995, where she was instrumental in the creation of the South Dade, Kendall and Melrose neighborhood service centers. Suzanne joined the office of Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez in 2007 and oversees the Senior Housing Assistance Repair Program (SHARP) and the Mayor's Community and Economic Development Initiative, providing resources, training and opportunities to community based organizations. Ms. Salichs has just completed her

doctoral coursework in higher education and leadership and intends to submit her dissertation proposal this fall. She serves on the board of directors of Bay Point Schools, KIDCO Child Care Center, Housing Opportunities Project for Excellence (HOPE), and the YMCA of Greater Miami. She served as past president of the ASPA South Florida Chapter.

**Christina Machion Quilaqueo** is the Latin America Program Official in the Office of International Affairs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC. In this capacity for over ten years, she serves as the liaison between the Department and foreign governments on issues related to housing, urban and community development. Previously, Christina served as a Peace Corps volunteer in Teodoro Schmidt, Chile, working in the Office of Community Development in the local municipality. She led a team of municipal officials in conducting needs assessments with community groups to design a community development plan for the township. Christina holds a Masters of Public Administration in International Public Service and Development from Rutgers University and a B.A. in Spanish for International Service from the Catholic University of America.

**Heidi Jane Smith** is a research associate for the Institute for Public Management and Community Service. She began FIU's doctoral program in public management in Fall 2007. Previously, she worked as a public affairs specialist at the Inter-American Foundation, an independent US federal agency that manages \$25 million annually in grants for community-based organizations in Latin America for economic development. She also consulted on issues of Local Government at the Organization of American States (OAS). Ms. Smith earned a MPP from American University, Washington DC, specializing in international development policy, and a BA from the University of Wisconsin-Madison majoring in political science, Spanish and Latin American studies. She has also studied at the Universidad Nacional de La Plata in Argentina; Universidad Pontificia de Católica in Santiago, Chile; and Liaoning University in Shenyang, China.

#### Effectiveness in Public Service Delivery

**Carlos Falquez Batallas**, is the mayor of Machala, Ecuador. For the first few years of this life, he lived in the city of Pasaje, which he finished elementary, and he finished high school in Cuenca and Quito graduating from the National School of Mejia. Afterward he joined the School Board and eventually became the principal of the school Carmen Mora de Escalada of Pasaje, where he was one of the youngest. With the support of the Escalada Mora family, teachers, and citizens of Pasaje founded the Soccer team of El Oro, which won the National Championship of Ecuador. In 1988, he began his political career when he was named representative to congress. Mr. Falquez Batallas has represented government in both local and national arenas.

**Carlos Alberto Baena López** is the president of the Political Movement MIRA and a Commissioner for the city of Bogotá, Colombia. Since 26 of January, he has been the president of the MIRA. He is a lawyer from the Externado University of Colombia and has a specialist degree in tax management from the same university. He also has a Masters degree in administration from the University Los Andes. He was the founder of the movement and was also the president from 2001-2003. His political work includes public management with an inclusive social model, transparent administration and the respect for the environment and citizen participation. He has been recognized as the best commissioner of Bogotá for five consecutive years.

**Mr. Terry Murphy** is the Senior Policy Advisor to the Chair of the Miami-Dade County Government Operations and Environment Committee. He began his career with Miami-Dade County in 1988 and is currently pursuing a doctorate in public management at FIU. He has presented conference papers relating to the structure and form of local government, and is currently exploring the strategic impact of GIS technology on the field of economic development. He is a University of Iowa graduate and earned an MPA from FIU in 2002. As president of the South Florida Chapter of ASPA, Mr. Murphy is enthusiastic about the value of public sector service.

#### Sponsors

**Hon. Carlos Álvarez** was re-elected overwhelmingly by voters to a second term on August 26, 2008, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Alvarez continues to usher in a new era of integrity and accountability in local government.

Mayor Alvarez oversees the day-to-day operations of Miami-Dade County government which employs more than 30,000 employees and operates with a budget of \$7 billion dollars. The Mayor is responsible for the management of all administrative departments within the County, following a decision made by voters in January 23, 2007, to change the way Miami-Dade County government was run.

His priorities include keeping the County's two largest economic engines - the Airport and Seaport - competitive; stimulating the economy by championing public infrastructure projects, including a Marlins Baseball Stadium and a Port Tunnel; and, holding the Urban Development Boundary to prevent urban sprawl. Mayor Alvarez has also been an advocate for senior citizens and individuals suffering from mental illness. Mayor Alvarez first entered elected office on November 16, 2004, after a distinguished 28-year public service career in the Miami-Dade Police Department.

**Sen. Javier D. Souto** was first elected Miami-Dade County Commissioner representing District 10 in April 1993. He was reelected in 1994, 1998, 2002, and 2006. His Commission district includes portions of Kendall and Westchester. Commissioner Souto was elected to the Florida House of Representatives in November 1984 and was reelected in 1986. Souto was elected to the State Senate in 1988 and re-elected in 1990, serving as Senator until the completion of his mandate in 1992.

Commissioner Souto was born in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba, on December 15, 1938. In Cuba, he attended La Salle Elementary School in Sancti Spiritus and La Salle High School in Havana (graduated 1956). After that he attended Villanova University and the University of Havana. He graduated from the University of Miami School of Business in 1967.

Commissioner Souto is a veteran of the Bay of Pigs Invasion (a founding member, #2504) where he was active in the Infiltration Teams. He served for several years, after the Bay of Pigs, with the CIA sponsored Special Missions groups. He is also a Realtor. For almost 25 years he worked for Burroughs Wellcome Co., now GlaxoSmithKline in Marketing, Sales and Management. He is retired from that pharmaceutical firm.

**Allan Rosenbaum** is the Director of the Institute for Public Management and Community Service and professor of Public Administration at FIU since 1994. He has worked in local, state and national government in the United States and has consulted extensively both within the United States and in most parts of the world and for the United Nations. He currently serves as President of the International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration in Brussels, Belgium and on the Executive Council of - and as Chairperson of- the International Committee of the US-based National Association of School of Public Affairs and Administration. He has written extensively on issues of democratization, public administration, governance reform, decentralization and strengthening of local governance. Dr. Rosenbaum received his BA in history from University of Miami in 1963, a master's degree in education from the University of Southern Illinois in 1964; another masters in political science and public administration from the University of Berkeley in 1967, and his doctorate in political science from the University of Chicago in 1976.

**Cristina A. Rodríguez Lagier de Acosta** is the Institute deputy director, received her Bachelors Degree in International Relations and Political Science from Universidad del Salvador in Argentina and a Masters Degree in Latin American Affairs from Georgetown University in the United States. Since 1994 has been the Deputy Director of IPMCS. In that role she is responsible for the design, coordination and implementation of the Institute's programs including projects, conferences, field missions, and the Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities. She has been a researcher at the Organization of American States' Unit for the Promotion of Democracy and at the Inter-American Dialogue. A native of Argentina, Mrs. Rodriguez-Acosta has had considerable experience on issues of democratization, governance reform, decentralization and strengthening of local governance in various parts of Latin America and oversaw the Institute's extensive activities in Paraguay.

**Victor Flecha** is a continuing senior research associate at IPMCS. He received his Ph.D. at the University of Paris, I – Sorbonne and was a professor of Sociology and Public Policy at the Catholic University of Paraguay. He is the president of Coplanea, a distinguished non-governmental organization located in Asuncion, Paraguay, and a frequent participant in various research and technical assistance projects carried out by IPMCS. Dr. Flecha is the author of numerous books, articles and essays dealing with issues of democracy, decentralization and citizen participation in Latin America. He has worked very closely with various international organizations, including the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations Development Program, and the OAS. He has also served as a weekly columnist on Paraguayan and Latin-American political affairs for the most prominent daily newspapers in Paraguay.

**Mr. Jeisson Rodriguez** is the Institute's program assistant. He is a native of Colombia where he studied law at the Military University Nueva Granada. In Colombia, he worked as the youth program coordinator for the "MIRA" political party. Mr. Rodriguez moved to Miami to finish his undergraduate degree at St. Thomas University in political science, where he also served as a student senator and president of the Association of Latin American Students (ALAS). Mr. Rodriguez has participated in leadership conferences and has been involved in advocacy for social justice issues.

**Carli Valdez** is the Institute for Public Management and Community Service's primary staff assistant. Originally born in the US, Ms. Valdes lived in Mexico for many years. She graduated from Georgetown University.