



Miami-Dade County and Florida International University
Invite you to the:

XV Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities

“Municipal Leadership and Intergovernmental
Relations: Building New Bridges”

June 8 - 11, 2009
Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
Miami, Florida
USA





THE GOVERNMENT OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY AND FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE *XV INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE OF MAYORS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES* WHICH WILL FOCUS UPON *“MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS: BUILDING NEW BRIDGES”*.

The Conference provides a forum for representatives of local, regional and national governments, NGOs, various international and multilateral organizations and all of those interested in local governments issues to share experiences; information and practices; to review major local government developments; to adopt policy statements; and to discuss common goals for the strengthening of local governments.

Background: As the largest gathering of local leaders from throughout the hemisphere to occur each year, the Conference continues to build upon the many successes of the previous conferences. Throughout the region and in the difficult economic times ahead, effective local governance and strong intergovernmental relations at all levels will be more important than ever to promote the economic and physical well being of citizens. The task of effective governance can not be achieved without collaborative

governance at all different levels of government. Only through efficient, responsive and accountable governance can local governments build more equitable societies.

Participants: The Conference is annually attended by mayors, governors, legislators and other elected representatives of, as well as senior executive officials from, the local, regional and national governments of the Americas. Other attendees include academics and interested parties from the private sector, non-governmental organizations and major international and multilateral agencies. Attendees also include representatives of the media and the leadership of major municipal associations. Last year's Conference was attended by more than 600 participants - representing almost every country of the Hemisphere.

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Title: *“Municipal Leadership and Intergovernmental Relations: Building New Bridges”*, the Fifteenth Inter-American

Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities.

When: **June 8 - 11, 2009** at the Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel Miami, FL. (Opening Reception - evening of June 8, 2009).

Sponsorship: Miami-Dade County Government and the Institute for Public Management & Community Service, School of International and Public Affairs, College of Arts and Science of Florida International University.

OBJECTIVES

The year 2009 will be a very difficult one for all levels of government. Revenues will diminish, jobs will be lost and economic activity will decrease even more. Planning and managing for the impact that these problems present in terms of inequality and poverty alleviation, democracy and decentralization will require effective leadership from all levels of government. More than ever the task of building a productive, efficient and equitable municipality that promotes economic development

requires close collaboration not only among local governments but also with regional and national governments and agencies. Only close collaboration and cooperation among municipal, regional and national leaders will help alleviate the problems our hemisphere faces.

The Conference will evaluate the importance of intergovernmental relations to the present situation of local governments in our hemisphere while acknowledging the urgency of the challenges still ahead. Sessions that examine issues of strengthening civil society; expanding participation and democracy; reducing poverty and inequality; improving urban infrastructure will also be included. The conference will provide attendees with an unparalleled opportunity for sharing new tools and techniques to address the problems facing communities and local governments today

TRAINING WORKSHOPS ORGANIZED BY THE INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION

Besides the themes already mentioned, the XV Conference will include a number of concurrent training workshops, organized in conjunction with the Inter-American Foundation, in which attendees will have the opportunity to actively participate. The workshops will analyze specific examples from Latin America and the US in order to better understand the difficulties faced by local leaders in establishing operational partnerships for local development.



In setting the final agenda FIU works closely with the assistance of mayors from the hemisphere, representatives of municipal associations, as well as organizations such as the Inter-American Foundation, USAID, the IDB, the OAS and other national and regional groups.

BEST INNOVATIVE PRACTICES

Continuing an initiative launched in 2004, the XV Conference will again recognize some of the best innovative practices implemented in the hemisphere. In a special session four outstanding practices will be presented to the plenary of the Conference. If you consider that your local government has implemented or is implementing an innovative practice for the benefit of your community, please submit a brief summary of no more than 3 pages (double space, font size 12 - more than that will not be considered. No tables, charts or annexes) explaining the type of project, the difficulties and successes of its implementation as well as clearly stating the benefits to your community. Send by e-mail no later than April 15, 2009, to lagierc@fiu.edu. The Organizing Committee will select the winners of the best four practices. Those selected will be notified in May 2009.



HOTEL INFORMATION

Hilton Miami Downtown Hotel
1601 Biscayne Blvd.

Each participant is responsible for his/her own lodging and travel. Single or double room special rate \$129 + 13% taxes. For a hotel reservation, please call the Hilton Downtown Hotel directly at (305) 374-3430 by May 25, 2009 or go to <http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/groups/personalized/MIADTHF-CM607-20090603/index.jhtml>

Group Code: CM 607

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION

Hon. Carlos Alvarez, *Mayor*

Miami-Dade County

Hon. Javier D. Souto, *Commissioner*

Miami-Dade County, Board of County

Commissioners Chair, Organizing Committee

CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

Dr. Allan Rosenbaum, *Director*

Cristina A. Rodríguez-Acosta, *Deputy Director*

Institute for Public Management

and Community Service

School of International and Public Affairs

College of Arts and Science

Florida International University

REGISTRATION AND FEES

Mail, fax or e-mail Conference

Registration Form by **June 3, 2009** to:

Institute for Public Management – FIU

11200 S.W. 8th Street – PCA 365 A

Miami, FL 33199 – USA

Phone: (305) 348-1271 Fax: (305) 348-1273

E-mail: lagierc@fiu.edu

US\$250 for non-US public sector and nonprofit organizations (US\$300 after June 3). US\$350 for US public sector and nonprofit and international organizations. US\$500 for private sector organizations. Fee includes two luncheons and two evening receptions.

For more information, please contact Cristina A. Rodríguez-Acosta at Florida International University.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

American Airlines is the official airline of the Conference. American Airlines will offer a 15% discount on the lowest applicable fare for participants in this Conference. Passengers will contact their local American Airlines office or local reservations number and advise the reservation agent that he/she will be attending the Inter-American Mayors Conference in Miami and provide the agent with star reference N*MAYORS. They will be given a record locator to which they will e-mail along with their credit card number and expiration date to MIATE.TC@aa.com. You will receive an e-mail confirming that your tickets have been issued. This discount DOES NOT apply for flights originating in the United States or Canada. Discount will not apply to cash or check payment. **Travel must take place between June 2, 2009 and June 17, 2009.**



With the support of the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, the Cultural Affairs Council, the Mayor and the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners.



CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

XV Inter-American Conference of Mayors and Local Authorities
“Municipal Leadership and Intergovernmental Relations: Building New Bridges”

Miami, Florida – June 8 - 11, 2009
(Opening Reception: June 8, 2009)

(Please type or print clearly)

Please mail, fax or e-mail the Registration Form no later than June 3, 2009

*Last Name: _____

*First Name: _____

*Title: _____

Municipality/Organization: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/Province: _____ *Country: _____ Postal Code: _____

Phone (include area code): _____

Fax Number: _____

*E-mail address: _____

Do you have a US entry visa? Yes _____ No _____

Please note that registering to the Conference DOES NOT grant you a US entry visa.

Applicants for visitor visas must show that they qualify under provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act. Each participant is responsible for obtaining a US entry visa according to the requirements of your local US Consulate. Neither Florida International University nor Miami-Dade County can sponsor or help you in obtaining a visa.

If your plans change and you will not be able to attend the Conference, please notify us as soon as possible. Thank you.

**Institute for Public Management and Community Service
Florida International University
Attention: Cristina A. Rodríguez-Acosta**

11200 S.W. 8th Street, PCA 365 A
Miami, FL 33199 - USA

Telephone: (305) 348-1271

Fax: (305) 348-1273

E-mail: lagierc@fiu.edu

You should receive a confirmation of your registration.



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