



2003 ICAP Mid-Career Professionals

Robert Lee Adams Jr. is the Associate Director of the Institute of African American Research at The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill . Previously, Robert Adams Jr. was the Deputy Director of the Howard Samuels State Management and Policy Center at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY); held a postdoctoral fellowship position at the Center for Urban Research at the CUNY Graduate Center; and worked as a consultant for the Open Society Institute (OSI-New York) and the Applied Research Center (ARC) of Oakland, California. His research interests include: education, globalization, nationalism, race and ethnicity, religion, and urban policy.

Robert holds a Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Texas at Austin, and an M.A. in Sociology from the University of Florida . He worked and conducted research in a number of countries in Africa and Latin America , including Senegal , South Africa , Brazil , Ecuador , Mexico , the Dominican Republic and Haiti .

Laurie-Ann C. Agama is an International Economist in the Office of Economics at the United States International Trade Commission. She is responsible for conducting research on trade and economic issues, leading Commission investigations, reviewing reports, and providing technical assistance to the USITC's primary clients, the United States Trade Representative and Congress. Laurie-Ann also represents the USITC at various U.S. Government interagency policy committees.

Her current responsibilities include leading an annual investigation on U.S. Trade and Investment with Sub-Saharan Africa. Other recent projects include estimating the probable economic effects of a U.S.-SACU FTA; reviewing a Commission report on trade shifts; and providing economic advice for an antidumping investigation on blast furnace coke imported from China and Japan . Laurie-Ann has a publication forthcoming in the *World Economy* on the NAFTA Preference and North American Trade.

Previously, Laurie-Ann worked as an Instructor in the Economics Department at Bowling Green State University in Ohio where she taught courses in economics, trade and finance. She mentored students and provided advice to undergraduate and graduate students interested in pursuing careers in economics and international business. Laurie-Ann earned her Ph.D in Economics and Masters in International Economics from McGill University . She obtained her Bachelor's degree in Statistics from Carleton University . Presently, she is very active in mentoring and other volunteer activities. She serves as Chair of the Diversity Committee and Board member at Green Acres School and is the Secretary of the Toastmasters International Club 1795.

Rory E. Anderson is the Government Relations Manager & Africa Policy Advisor for the U.S. office of World Vision, one of the largest, privately funded humanitarian relief and development organizations. World Vision gives direct humanitarian assistance to local populations in over 95 countries worldwide, and is operational in 24 countries in sub-Saharan Africa . Ms. Anderson represents World Vision among Washington DC-based governmental and private institutions. Her responsibilities include working in coalition with other human rights and humanitarian aid agencies to shape Africa policy and humanitarian aid practice among policy makers in Congress and the Administration. Prior to joining World Vision, Ms. Anderson consulted as an Export Marketing Specialist in Egypt , working with over 20 Egyptian agribusinesses to design and implement effective export plans. Ms. Anderson has worked as a project manager, overseeing multi-million dollar development assistance projects funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. In 1993 and 1994, Ms. Anderson worked in the White House Speechwriting Office of the President, and the President's National Policy Council. She has also worked for members on the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee focusing on U.S. policy on Africa .

Ms. Anderson holds a B.A. in International Affairs, from George Washington University , Washington , D.C. She was a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholar to the United Kingdom where she earned an M.A. in International Development from the University of Leeds .

Mark Howard Chichester is the Director of the Institute for International Public Policy (IIPP) at the UNCF Special Programs Corporation. Located in the Washington metropolitan area, the Institute addresses diversity where it intersects U.S. national and global competitiveness, which is accomplished through a comprehensive multi-year fellowship that pipelines fellows into international service careers, as well as through technical and institutional development assistance to U.S. colleges and universities. Fellows study and work around the globe from Strasbourg to Cairo to Johannesburg to Beijing ; and they hold positions in national security, diplomacy, development, trade, academia, and in the corporate sector.

Mr. Chichester has overseen the awarding of capacity building grants to colleges and universities serving diverse populations; he spearheaded the development of the Institute's web-based information and tracking system (WITS); and he frequently is called upon to address international workforce development and foreign policy issues in a wide variety of forums, both foreign and domestic. For the past three years, Mr. Chichester served as counsel to The Horizon Group, a small Washington-based consulting firm servicing media clients in Africa and the U.S. He was a founder and chairman of Horizon Interactive, an interactive multimedia startup; and was appointed by the District of Columbia Mayor to two terms on the D.C. Human Rights Commission.

Prior to that, Mr. Chichester was a Shapiro Fellow at Kyung Hee University in the Republic of Korea , where he had an independent study in Korean politics, language, and culture during the 1993-94 nuclear crises on the Korean peninsula. His time in Korea followed a stint at the U.S. Department of State, where he served on the policy coordination staff of the Director General of the Foreign Service. Before his tenure in Foggy Bottom, Mr. Chichester was a research associate at General Instrument Corporation. Mr. Chichester holds degrees in business and law from The George Washington University, and he has participated in the Managing Global Business

executive education program at Georgetown University 's McDonough School of Business. He is married to Colette Emily Chichester and has three children.

Tina Choi was most recently a White House Fellow and Special Advisor serving in the office of the U.S. Trade Representative in the Executive Office of the President, working on e-commerce, biotechnology, and trade capacity development issues. Immediately prior, she was a graduate student in the Foreign Service Programme at Oxford University , a specialized post-graduate course of international law, finance, politics, and diplomatic studies. Before attending Oxford , she was living in Istanbul researching civil society/private sector partnerships and headed the Global Teaching and Learning Project at the United Nations.

In November 1997, she was honored along with Marian Wright Edelman, Sonia Gandhi, and Jane Goodall as a "Woman Redefining Leadership" by the State of the World Forum. She serves on the boards of the Oxonian Society, the Star Media Foundation and Global Youth Connect. She has previously served on the board of the association for Women in Development (where she was Chair of the Young Women Leaders Program). Tina has been selected as a participant for the Remarque Forum, the U.S. Japan Leadership Program, and was awarded an Ambassadorial Scholarship by the Rotary Foundation.

Tina was at Harvard University where she received a Master's degree in social and education policy, with a focus on organizational behavior and leadership training. She graduated magna cum laude from Wellesley College , where she majored in Political Science (with a focus on Latin American studies). Following Wellesley , Tina was awarded a prestigious Echoing Green Public Service Fellowship to start a non-profit legal service. She is fluent in Spanish and Korean and speaks conversational French and Turkish. Having moved nearly a dozen times by age fifteen, she is accustomed to and adapts well to changing environments. Tina is a pianist and violinist and loves to read, paint, travel, and nap.

Nima Patel Edwards is currently a Senior Analyst in the International Affairs and Trade team at the U.S. General Accounting Office in Washington D.C. During her time with GAO, Ms Patel Edwards has worked on a variety of reviews, including the Asian financial crisis, international assistance to Russia and international efforts to provide debt relief to developing countries. Nima is currently leading a review of U.S. funded anticorruption programs in sub-Saharan Africa . For 3 years prior to GAO, she held a variety of positions while working in active and post conflict countries including southern Sudan , Rwanda and the Balkans. Ms Patel Edwards also worked at the U.N. Development Fund for Women in New York and for a local Indian NGO in New Delhi .

Nima Patel Edwards received her MIA from the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University in 1994 and her B.A. in Economics at the University of Pittsburgh in 1992.

Heidi Gomez is currently serving as a political officer at the U.S. Embassy in Beijing where she reports on China 's external relationships with North Korea , India and Pakistan . Prior to her current assignment, she served as consul where she analyzed the systemic weaknesses of the U.S. bilateral visa agreement with the Chinese government. Working with senior management, she helped implement reforms to restore the integrity of our bilateral visa program. In 1999-

2001, Ms. Gomez served as the Commercial Attaché at the US Embassy in San Salvador where she organized trade missions, designed programs to facilitate e-commerce development, and promoted the use of environmental technologies. During her tenure there, Ms. Gomez was awarded a Meritorious Honor Award for building the largest and most profitable commercial program in Central America and the Caribbean . In 1997 and 1998, Ms. Gomez also worked at the U.S. Embassy in Kuala Lumpur where she served as the Deputy Policy Coordinator for the APEC summit. The Department of State awarded her two Superior Honor Awards for her efforts in promoting key U.S. trade policy initiatives, including e-commerce and financial services liberalization.

Originally from LaPlace , LA , Ms. Gomez is a graduate of Georgetown 's School of Foreign Service and Princeton University 's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs. In 1994, she attended the London School of Economics as a visiting student. Ms. Gomez is a U.S. Department of State Pickering Fellow and a member of the Rotary Club. She has organized several fundraisers to raise money for educational programs that target economically disadvantaged youth, including Sponsors for Educational Opportunity and her alma mater, The Louisiana School for Math, Science and the Arts. Ms. Gomez speaks fluent Spanish and intermediate Mandarin.

Kenneth A. Goodwin Jr. is currently a Bank Examiner/Financial Analyst and is an original participant of the Federal Reserves Bank of New York 's (FRBNY) Professional Development/ Sequential Assignment Program. During his three-year tenure at the FRBNY, Ken served as a Financial Analyst for both Regional Banks and Foreign Banking Organizations, particularly Japanese regional banks. He twice served as an Analyst for the Interagency Country Exposure Review Committee, where he had the responsibility of assessing sovereign economic and financial strength for a portfolio of emerging market countries.

Prior to joining the FRBNY, Ken worked as a Senior Qualified Retirement Specialist for First Union National Bank (now Wachovia) at the corporation's main headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina, where he was responsible for the investment maintenance and management for small-and-mid level businesses with a capitalization level no greater than \$10 million. In addition, Ken worked abroad in Tokyo while completing his graduate internship with the Japanese conglomerate Ito-Yokado Group. There he served as a Manager-Trainee in an intensive top-to-bottom strategic management program learning the Fifth Generation Operation system at the Seven-Eleven Stores, ultimately creating a strategic plan for market segmentation of potential Seven-Eleven stores in the Yamagata Prefecture .

Ken has an M.B.A in Finance from Temple University and a B.S. in Business Management from Johnson C. Smith University. He had also completed his senior year of undergraduate studies as an exchange student in the Reconnaissance-Japan Student Exchange Program at Obirin University in Tokyo . He speaks Japanese.

Alethea Baleri Gordon is a foreign policy advisor at the U.S. Department of State. At present, Ms. Gordon serves as the Under Secretary for Political Affairs' primary advisor on policy issues related to African affairs, global counter-terrorism, economic and business affairs, democracy, human rights, labor, environment and international health.

After completing graduate school, Ms Gordon was awarded a Presidential Management Internship (PMI) with the U.S. Department of State. As a PMI, Ms. Gordon worked as a policy advisor for the President's Interagency Council on Women, a legislative fellow for the House Committee on International Relations, and briefly served as a political reporting officer and a consultant on HIV/AIDS to U.S. Embassy-Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire and West Africa . She completed the PMI program in September 2000 and went on to be a Regional Democracy Policy Officer in the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor. In June 2002, Ms. Gordon began service in the Office of the Under Secretary for Political Affairs.

In 1995, Ms. Gordon received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and African studies on full scholarship from the University of Michigan , Ann Arbor . In 1996, she was awarded a Robert W. Woodruff Fellowship to pursue graduate study at Emory University 's Rollins School of Public Health in Atlanta , Georgia . Ms. Gordon received a Masters Degree in International Health Management in 1998. Ms. Gordon uses her spare time for reading, painting, mentoring and community service. For the past five years, she has regularly tutored students in reading and math at Miner Elementary School in Northeast Washington , DC . She is frequently invited to participate in public speaking events for college students and young professionals.

Damber K. Gurung is currently a Public Health Analyst with the HIV/AIDS Administration, Department of Health, D. C. Government, where his responsibilities include assisting in analysis, implementation and management of AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) serving about 2,000 indigent clients. Prior to this (1999 to 2002), he was a consultant with the World Bank where he co-supervised a rural HIV/AIDS initiative (RAIDS) that was piloted in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Cote d'Ivoire, Guinea, Malawi, Niger and Nigeria. In addition, he was involved in Multi-country/Multi sectoral AIDS Projects (MAP) preparations as Health Economist or HIV/AIDS specialist. Additionally, he consulted with UNAIDS and USAID on HIV/AIDS issues that involved country/national level training and publications. During the period, he visited several African countries on missions.

Mr. Gurung also served Prince George 's County Maryland 's mentally ill community as a Health Systems Analyst during 1998 to June 2003. The mental health care system serviced 7,000 consumers with 300 providers and over \$50m per year. During 1997/1998, Mr. Gurung was health Economist for PharMark Corporation, a health care consulting firm based in Arlington , Virginia . At PharMark, he helped complete a Drug Market Share study and participated in health economic evaluations. Damber Gurung was an assistant professor at Clemson University for two years (1995 to 1997) where he co-supervised a Master's level thesis on Health Care System Comparison, taught health care economics/finance and wrote papers under a project for South Carolina 's Department of Health and Human Services. He also taught economics, marketing and statistics at Clemson University and Webster's University. Mr. Gurung has co-authored World Bank and UNAIDS publications, has an awarded peer reviewed paper, a monograph, several abstracts and working papers. His prior (5 years) commitments included applied/field project work on rural economic development in Nepal and India .

Mr. Gurung possesses a Doctorate in Applied Economics (1995) from Clemson University , South Carolina , and a Master's in Development Economics from University of California , Davis , where he was a Fulbright scholar (1983 to 1986). He completed his prior college degrees

in Nepal and India . He is fluent in English, Nepali and Hindi. He also has limited proficiency in Urdu and is learning French.

Christine M. Harbaugh is the Political-Economic/Consular Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Vientiane, Laos, her first tour as a Foreign Service Officer. Prior to joining the Department of State, she worked in Bosnia-Herzegovina (1997-2000) in various capacities with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Initially she was involved with all aspects of international elections supervision. Ms Harbaugh was the Head of Field Office/Democratization Officer, promoting civil society, political party development, return of refugees and freedom of the press. Her final position was as Senior Democratization Officer for Regional Center Sarajevo. There she was responsible for an international and national staff of 27 persons who were implementing programs in support of Good Governance, Rule of Law, Political Party Development, Refugee Return, and Civil Society and Gender Development.

Christine worked as Program Manager (1994-1997) of a Rockefeller Foundation project. She administered and coordinated all activities of the multicultural, community-building project in 3 rural areas of Oregon . In addition, Christine has management experience (1988-1992) with major hospitality industry corporations, such as Inter-Continental and Hyatt Hotels, and with the government of Puerto Rico .

Christine holds a Master of Science with Merit in Social Policy and Planning in Developing Countries from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She received a Bachelor of Science in Hotel Administration concentrating in Marketing and Tourism from Cornell University . She is bilingual in English and Spanish and speaks some Serbo-Croat, Lao, and French. Christine grew up in Puerto Rico . Her hobbies include traveling, hiking, camping and skiing, among other activities.

Margaret Huang , a human rights advocate for nearly a decade, joined the International Human Rights Law Group in 2002. As Director of International Advocacy, she oversees the Law Group's programs to link local-level human rights activists to international and regional human rights systems. Her responsibilities include managing the U.S. Racial Discrimination Program and the Advocacy Bridge Program.

Prior to joining the Law Group, Ms. Huang was a Program Director with the Robert F. Kennedy Memorial Center for Human Rights, working with the winners of the RFK Human Rights Award from Asia and the Middle East to influence US policy and UN actions on human rights concerns. She oversaw the RFK Center 's work to lobby governments at the UN Commission on Human Rights and at the UN World Conference Against Racism on issues of racial and caste discrimination. Margaret also organized advocacy efforts to promote human rights in countries such as Indonesia and China , and she provided training to activists and youth groups on how to influence US foreign policy.

Ms. Huang previously managed a regional women's rights program for the Asia Foundation, where she was responsible for a \$2 million USAID grant supporting women's organizations in several Asian countries. In 1995-1996, she served as a professional staff member for the US

Senate Foreign Relations Committee, where she advised committee members on policy issues related to Asia , Africa , foreign aid, women's rights, and international law. She currently sits on the Board of Directors of Women's EDGE, a coalition advocating for gender integration into US development and trade policy, and she is an adjunct professor for the Women and Politics Institute at American University . Ms. Huang holds a Master of International Affairs degree in Human Rights from Columbia University and a bachelor's degree from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University .

Amani M'Bale-Poveda is an Africanist with six years of international economic development experience. Currently working with Catholic Relief Services, Zimbabwe Program, she is the Senior Program Manager for Economic Strengthening. Her work centers on designing economic development strategies in an emergency context, which includes the HIV/AIDS pandemic and famine. Prior to her current post Amani served as the Program Manager for Microfinance with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Benin . There she was responsible for managing USG Title II funds and supervising a team to manage local partnerships, improve program and management quality, and meet performance indicators of a multi-regional Village Banking Program.

Previous to CRS, Amani worked with Aid to Artisans Ghana as a Consultant Team Manager, with USAID/Tanzania as a Private Sector Development Intern, with Citibank/Tanzania as a Corporate Marketing Officer, with UNDP's Special Unit for Microfinance as Africa Program Consultant and with local NGOs in Eastern Africa in the economic/business development arena. In the medium term, Amani is interested in fostering African trade development, specifically linking African businesses with international markets. In the long-term, she hopes to own several businesses: a holistic day care center, a children's clothing company which supplies one of a kind children's clothes and accessories from national and international artisans and a gourmet restaurant.

Amani holds a Master of International Affairs degree in Economic and Political Development from Columbia University 's School of International and Public Affairs (SIPA). She received her undergraduate degree in Africana History and International Politics from New York University . She speaks Swahili, French and is learning Shona and Spanish. Amani is married to Joshua Poveda, a gourmet chef.

Rosemarie McBean is currently serving as a project officer with Academic Associates PeaceWorks, a Nigerian NGO in Abuja , Nigeria . She supports programs in conflict management and peace education to build capacities for managing conflict through studies, intervention and peace awareness in society. Most recently she consulted with the National Democratic Institute ♦ Nigeria office to develop and implement its domestic election-monitoring program for the April 2003 general elections.

Ms. McBean has a ten-year record of results-oriented and demonstrated human resources management, workforce development, organizational development, project management, training and facilitation and strategic planning skills. She now applies her experience in the area of project management for community-based projects in developing countries.

Rosemarie McBean holds a Master of Arts in Sociology/Conflict Analysis and Resolution from George Mason University and a Bachelors degree in Public Relations/Journalism from Columbia Union College .

Janice McCain has worked in the Office of Inspector General at the U.S. Department of State for the past five years. As a consular inspector, Ms. McCain reviews management control, consular support systems, and border security issues related to the issuance of visas to foreign nationals. She will also conduct post inspections at U.S. embassies overseas. Prior to becoming an inspector last April, she served as a Senior Management Analyst in OIG's Office of Audits. She describes her work as interesting and challenging, having conducted audits and program reviews on a host of topics including: the enforcement of export controls on munitions commodities, humanitarian assistance for women refugees in Africa and the Balkans, and management oversight of cultural exchange programs.

Ms. McCain is a doctoral student in Howard University 's Department of African Studies where her concentration is in development studies. She is writing her dissertation on women's economic development in Lesotho and plans to complete her degree in Spring 2004. While Ms. McCain's current emphasis is on women's advancement in the Southern Africa region, she is also interested in the prospects for women's development under Shari'a Law in the Sudan . She has enjoyed several fellowships and academic awards that have enabled her to study and work abroad. Major awards include the Fulbright-Hays Scholarship, the Patricia Roberts Harris Public Affairs Internship, the Sasakawa Peace Fellowship, and the Women in International Security (WIIS) Fellowship. Ms. McCain has also worked as an intern at the U.S. Consulate in Durban , South Africa and at U.S. Agency for International Development.

Ms. McCain has traveled extensively throughout Africa , Asia , Europe and the Caribbean for academic, professional and personal pursuits. Janice plans to run at least one international marathon per year as a means of broadening her worldview.

Roger P. Mireles is a Senior Policy Advisor in the International Trade Policy office of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS), an agency responsible for the promotion of U.S. food and agricultural exports in the global marketplace. He has worked there for almost ten years. In his current position, he advises senior management staff in the development and implementation of U.S. trade policy, specifically in the regions of Asia and the Western hemisphere (including Canada and Mexico). He has represented the Department in various international trade negotiations with foreign officials. Additionally, he is responsible for supervising the work of several international economists in his division, while serving as one of the Department's principal trade negotiators on agricultural issues in the U.S. Government's current and ongoing efforts to establish a comprehensive U.S.-Central American Free Trade Agreement.

Prior to his current position, Mr. Mireles was an International Economist at FAS, focusing his work on bilateral trade relations with countries in the Western hemisphere, including Canada and Mexico , the Middle East , the former Soviet Union , and Asia . During his tenure in that position, he was selected for several leadership positions, including an appointment to serve as the U.S. Chair of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Agricultural Technical

Cooperation Experts Group. His previous experience also included representing the Department in World Trade Organization (WTO) accession negotiations with Russia , Saudi Arabia , and Jordan , and in the Department's efforts to create a free trade agreement with the Government of Israel. His efforts in working with various countries on a number agricultural trade matters and work in the advancement of U.S. interests in the WTO garnered him several awards and recognitions.

Mr. Mireles is also actively involved in the Department's overall efforts to create a more diverse workforce. In this regard, he served as a member of the Secretary's Hispanic Issues Task Force and the FAS Recruitment Committee. He was appointed by the Department to serve on several leadership positions, including Vice President of the USDA Hispanic Emphasis Program Council and Vice Chair of the FAS Equal Employment Opportunity Advisory Council. This year, Mr. Mireles was awarded the Foreign Agricultural Services' Civil Rights Award. Mr. Mireles is a native of San Antonio , Texas , and received a Master of Agriculture and Bachelor of Business Administration from Texas A&M University .

Leaksmay Norin is a Foreign Affairs Officer with the Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons. She is responsible for developing and implementing policy regarding human trafficking. Prior to assuming her current duties in 2003, she worked on human rights/democratization issues as the OSCE (Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) Desk Officer at the Department of State. Ms. Norin was the action officer responsible for monitoring and promoting U.S. foreign policy interests with the OSCE, a regional security organization. She also worked on international trade issues as a Desk Officer and Policy Analyst at the Department of Commerce.

Leaksmay Norin was born in Cambodia and came to the United States as a refugee in 1975. She received her Bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia and her Master's degree from George Washington University .

Christine S. Pilcavage is the US Agency for International Development (USAID)-Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Collaboration Advisor in Population, Health and Nutrition. She began her International Development Fellowship as part of the personnel exchange program between the two agencies at USAID in Washington, followed by placements at JICA's headquarters in Tokyo, the field offices in the Philippines and Cambodia, and has been in Kenya for the past year.

Prior to her work with JICA and USAID, Christine was a Program Coordinator assisting in the implementation of one of Japan 's largest exchange programs at the Council of Local Authorities for International Relations (CLAIR), a quasi-governmental organization of the Ministry of Home Affairs in Japan . Before working with CLAIR, Christine worked with the Osaka City Government as a Coordinator for International Relations. She also volunteered as a counselor and educator, and served as board members with various HIV/AIDS NGOs during her stay in Japan .

Ms. Pilcavage attained her dual bachelor degrees in Economics and Psychology, with a minor in Japanese Studies, from UC San Diego. She received an M.I.A. from Columbia University's School of International and Public Affairs and an M.P.H. from School of Public Health .

L. Stephine Poston is a Public Relations Analyst with the Pueblo of Sandia, New Mexico . Stephine has worked for her tribe for over ten years in various capacities from tribal planner to director of health safety and education. Ms. Poston has worked on land claim issues and was instrumental in developing model health and education programs for her tribe. Prior to this, she worked for the federal government for over eight years.

Stephine Poston is a 1998 Ambassador with Americans for Indian Opportunity (AIO). Because of Stephine's work with AIO and other indigenous people of New Zealand and South America , she has been invited to participate in the program at an international level. She recently attended a conference in Crete on globalization. Stephine earned her Bachelor of Business Administration Degree from the University of New Mexico and her Master of Arts in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix .

Stephine has been recognized as a *Woman on the Move* in the state of New Mexico and an *Up and Comer* with the University of New Mexico. She has two sons, Marcus and Jon, and enjoys sports and learning her Tiwa language.

Vivita Rozenbergs is an International Relations Officer with the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs where she administers technical assistance projects implemented by the International Labor Organization and other organizations that provide educational opportunities to children removed from exploitative labor worldwide. She is responsible for tracking the child labor situation in South Asia and Europe , and transnational problems such as HIV/AIDS and the trafficking of children. She provides technical guidance on project design and contributes to reports on international child labor issues for congressionally mandated publications.

Ms. Rozenbergs has eight years of development experience and has carried out a variety of assignments in the international arena. In Washington , D.C. , she has worked as a field support specialist with International Services of the American Red Cross and as a consultant with the AIDS Campaign Team for Africa at the World Bank. During five years overseas, she served as the Technical Cooperation Officer for the Baltic States with the Canadian Embassy, implemented a USAID-funded agricultural reform project for Land O'Lakes, Inc. in Latvia , and was an interpreter with the Supreme Council (Parliament) of Latvia Press Center . There she also helped manage crisis communications with the international media during the 1991 coup attempt. Ms. Rozenbergs received a Master of Public Affairs degree from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs, University of Texas at Austin , and a Bachelor of Arts degree in International Relations from the University of Minnesota .

Laura Trejo is an attorney with substantial international experience in a corporate and government agency practice. Ms. Trejo currently works for the Office of International Law at the Department of Transportation where she advises on a variety of international economic issues for her country portfolio, which includes South America (except Brazil), Eastern Europe , Russia ,

Egypt , the Middle East , Hungary , and Spain . Laura has participated in more than 15 rounds of aviation negotiations with nine countries during her tenure at the Office of International Law. In 1995, the Office of International Law received the Secretary's Gold Medal for innovative solution in aviation based on open skies aviation negotiations. Sixteen of the current 59 open skies countries are or have been part of her country portfolio. In addition, she represents the office of the General Counsel on the interagency working groups that work on the Chile , Singapore , and Morocco Free Trade Agreements as well as the Free Trade Area of the Americas . Laura received an USTR certificate of appreciation for her participation in the interagency working group on the Chile Free Trade Agreement. Prior to working for the government, Laura worked as an associate in a law firm in the District of Columbia . She interacted with foreign government representatives, congressional staff, and members of the private sector working in the international/legislative department.

Laura is on the rosters of trained mediators for the One DOT Sharing Neutrals Program and the government-wide Sharing Neutrals Program to mediate employment disputes for alleged discrimination. She is a member of REMEDE, a Spanish-speaking mediators networking group. REMEDE's vision is to promote positive inter-cultural relations by empowering Spanish language communities in the District of Columbia metropolitan area. Professional activities include the Association of Women in International Trade WIIT). Laura is the coordinator of WIIT's mentorship program and a co-chair of the Western Hemisphere Committee. In addition, Laura is the President of the Federal Toastmasters Club and holds a Toastmaster's Advanced (Bronze) Public Speaking Certificate and a Competent Leader Certificate.

Laura Trejo, a native of Chula Vista , California , received a B.A. degree from Smith College as a Government major. Her post graduate experience includes a Master's in Public Administration (with an emphasis in developing countries) from the Woodrow Wilson School , Princeton University , and a JD degree from Boalt Hall, University of California at Berkeley . Laura is a bilingual English/Spanish speaker and has a working knowledge of Portuguese. Laura has studied taekwon do and yoga for the last six years. In addition to travel, she enjoys hiking when time permits.

Julie M. Wang is a Program Officer in the Office of the President at The Asia Foundation, an international non-profit organization headquartered in San Francisco . Since February 2001, she has managed program and financial administration for the Asia Pacific Philanthropy Consortium (APPC), an informal network of organizations promoting philanthropy and non-profit sector development in Asia Pacific societies. Her work at the Foundation also included temporary assignments in the Foundation's offices in Islamabad , Pakistan and Jakarta , Indonesia , and conducting prospect research in the Foundation's External Relations department. Prior to joining The Asia Foundation, Julie held full-time or internship positions in several U.S. government agencies, including the U.S. Overseas Private Investment Corporation (Office of Economic Analysis), the U.S. Department of State (Bureau of Economic and Business Affairs), and the Corporation for National Service (Office of the General Counsel).

Julie received an M.A. in International Affairs from The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) and a Bachelor's degree in Foreign Service from

Georgetown University . She also studied at the Hopkins-Nanjing Center in Nanjing , China and Institut d'Etudes Politiques in Paris, France

Rick Yoneoka is currently assigned to U.S. Embassy Berlin as a political officer where he monitors, analyzes, and reports on political and social changes in the former Soviet Union , Baltic States , Eastern Europe , and Asia . He also covers the UN and other international organization issues as they relate to Germany . Ricks's prior assignment was as the General Service Officer in Bujumbura , Burundi . His mission was to maintain embassy operations in the midst of an on-going civil war (with constant water and power outages and shortages of supplies, all of which had to be airlifted into the country). Mr. Yoneoka managed a staff of seventy employees and a multi-million-dollar budget. Given the small size of the embassy he spent a significant amount of time as the Acting Administrative Officer reporting directly to the Deputy Chief of Mission and the Ambassador. Rick was tasked with helping to reopen the public diplomacy office in Burundi , which was closed in 1996 following an escalation in the civil war. Rick Yoneoka was awarded the State Department's Superior Honor Award, a Group Meritorious Award, and was nominated for State Department's General Service Officer of the Year.

Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Rick worked for Congresswoman Louise Slaughter in Rochester , New York , where his portfolio included business, economic development, high technology, labor, telecommunications and public outreach. He also served on Slaughter's campaign team as a Political Consultant where he worked extensively in fund-raising and message development. Before entering government service, he spent a year as a technical editor/writer on the private business side of a billion-dollar government contract with Eastman Kodak Company. In between earning his MSc in International Relations from the London School of Economics and his BA in International Relations and German from Tufts University , Rick held the position of Senior English Lecturer at the University of Lodz, Poland.

Afia Zakiya has been a scholar, researcher and educator in the areas of Political Science, Africana Studies and International Education and Development for over 9 years. Afia holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Clark Atlanta University where she completed courses specializing in African Politics and Culture, Women and Development through the Africana Women's Studies Program, and International Relations, among other areas. Her dissertation examined environment and development issues in Madagascar where she spent 10 months during primary research. Afia holds a dual master's degree in Public Policy and Organizational Change/Development. She has worked in policy development and as a researcher and organizational development consultant in the US and in Africa .

Afia is currently entering her second year as an Institute of International Education (IIE), Investing in Women in Development (IWID) Fellow, placed with the USAID Africa Bureau as the bureau's Gender Specialist. Prior to this appointment, she served for two years as an International Foundation for Education and Self-Help (IFESH) volunteer teacher. As an IFESH teacher, she served first in Ethiopia working on girls education and then in Ghana , where she taught graduate courses at the Centre for Development Studies, Cape Coast University . She also worked with the African Studies Department at UCC to develop course curricula, develop research proposals and establish university linkage programs with universities and colleges in America .

For four years, Afia was an Assistant Professor of Political Science and Africana Studies at Morris Brown College in Atlanta , Georgia , prior to joining IFESH and IIE/USAID. She remains actively involved with her former students and their development and actively supports independent African centered schools. Born in Picayune, Mississippi , Afia enjoys traditional African music and dance and promotes natural healing.