



June 22-24, 2022

Presenters' Bios

Sheri Anderson

Dr. Sheri Anderson is an applied linguist and specializes in second language acquisition (SLA), specifically on Spanish SLA of adult learners in the study abroad context. She graduated with her Ph.D. in Spanish Applied Linguistics from the Department of Spanish & Portuguese from Georgetown University (2012), and currently teaches in the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures at Saint Louis University in Saint Louis. She teaches beginning and intermediate Spanish language classes as well as several linguistics and sociolinguistics courses, such as History of the Spanish Language and Spanish in the United States. Currently, she works to foster community engagement experiences for SLU students where they can use their Spanish language skills and make meaningful connections to the local Hispanic population.

Irma Arteaga

Dr. Arteaga is an Associate Professor at the Truman School of Public Affairs, University of Missouri. She earned a Master in Public Policy and a Ph.D. in Applied Economics from the University of Minnesota. Her research seeks to understand the consequences of early childhood investments over the life course. Specifically, Dr. Arteaga examines the role of contextual factors and program dosage, intensity, and components on children's well-being. Her research agenda has three dominant themes: analysis of the short-term effects of early childhood interventions and program delivery on children's well-being, analysis of the long-term effects of child policy on children's well-being, and analysis of early childhood investments in the developing world. She particularly focuses on effects of policies, programs, and interventions in low-income, Hispanic, and English Language Learners. Her research has been funded by different agencies including but not limited to USDA, USDHSS, and the World Bank. Her work has been published in various journals including Science, Social Science & Medicine, Economics of Education Review, Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy, Population Research and Policy Review, and Children and Youth Services Review, among others.

Mohammed Ashkar

Mohammed Ashkar is an undergraduate student at Saint Louis University. After learning about the disconnect between the clinical and business side of healthcare, he was inspired to pursue a major in Health Management coupled with a Spanish minor, stemming from his native language, Arabic. His recent volunteer work with LifeWise STL inspired him to apply for a community engagement grant, culminating in an multidisciplinary program targeted towards Spanish-speaking families that would span 3 months: "La Salud es Sabrosa".



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Daisy Indira Barrón

Dr. Daisy Indira Barrón is the National Managing Director for Cross-Content in Leadership Development at Teach for America. Dr. Barrón holds a bachelor's degree in mass communication and Spanish from Evangel University, MO, a master's in art in teaching with an emphasis in Spanish from Missouri State University, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership from the University of Missouri-Columbia, MO. She has a TESOL certificate from Cambridge University. Dr. Barrón has taught master level classes, multicultural education, and diversity at the several universities and provided services for Latinos in Southwest Missouri for the last 19 years.

Paola Beltrán Gutierrez

Paola Beltran Gutierrez is a junior at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign majoring in Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communications. Paola identifies as a Spanish-speaking social scientist and plans to continue studying the importance of language and identity in society.

Debra Bolton

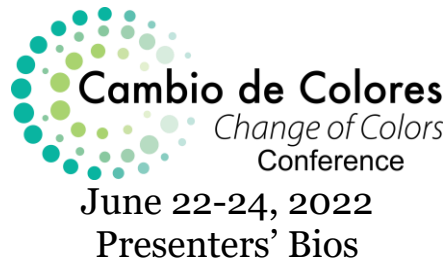
Dr. Debra Bolton, director of intercultural learning and academic success and faculty member in the department of geography and geospatial sciences at Kansas State University, plays a key role in fostering cultural advocacy, civility and intercultural learning through education to address historical exclusions of multiple identities socially and academically. Intercultural learning and development includes LGBT Resource Center. Bolton continues her passion for research as the current chair of NCERA216, a multistate research group focusing on Latinos and other immigrant community integration, leadership, education, health, well-being, and social networks.

Nicole Campione-Barr

My research interests focus on family relationships during adolescence and how multiple relationships impact one another as well as how they impact adolescent development and adjustment. My current areas of interest are: what adolescents disclose about to mothers, fathers, and siblings, the content of siblings' conflicts during adolescence and how they impact relationship quality and individual adjustment, the impact of sibling relationships and sibling ordinal status on adolescent autonomy, and interaction and communication differences between multiple parent-child dyads within the same family.

Marcela Carvajal-Suarez

Marcela Carvajal is an Outreach Project Specialist and PhD student at the College of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. She is part of a Latino outreach and engagement team that focuses on community-based



health research and education initiatives in areas such as tobacco control, agricultural health and safety, immigrant integration, and community well-being.

Cynthia Chasteen

Cynthia Chasteen, PhD, serves as the Migrant Education and English language learning (MELL) Instructional Specialist for the Heart of MO RPDC at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Chasteen earned her PhD in Teaching and Learning Processes with an emphasis in TESOL from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, where she also received an M.Ed. in Secondary Education/K-12 World Language Teaching Certification (Spanish) and an ESOL endorsement. She completed her undergraduate work at Auburn University and earned a BA in Journalism and Minor in Spanish. Chasteen also works as an Assistant Adjunct Professor for the College of Education and Human Development and UMS's College of Education and facilitates TESOL courses for both graduate and undergraduate students. She recently completed a Train the Trainer program with Alive & Well Communities and facilitates trauma-informed trainings for schools. Chasteen is also a certified yoga and mindfulness instructor for adults and children (E-RYT 200, RCYT) and working on an advanced yoga teacher training with an emphasis on yoga therapy as well as yoga for athletes and bilingual (Spanish/English) Ashtanga and Rocket Yoga. Her research interests include social emotional learning for English learners and the impact of mindfulness and yoga on teachers and students.

Emily Crawford-Rossi

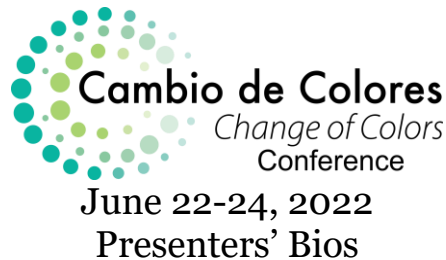
Emily Crawford, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at the University of Missouri. Her research explores issues of leadership and immigration in Pk-12 public schools in urban and rural contexts. Specifically, her research examines the intersections among immigration policy, educational policy and leadership, and ethics.

Marissa Cuellar

Marissa Cuellar is a graduate student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha completing a Master of Public Administration with a concentration in Public Policy. Her academic interest in issues specific to Latino communities began while pursuing her Bachelor's in Chicana and Chicano Studies at the University of New Mexico. Previously working in community organizations and public education, she will begin a role as a Science and Research Analyst at Abt Associates in the Social and Economic Policy Division.

David Davis

David Davis joined the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as the Deputy District Director for the St. Louis District Office on August 2, 2021. Prior to joining the



Commission, David served as Chief Counsel of the Missouri Department of Social Services, Administrative Hearings Unit after serving as a hearing officer and then managing attorney in the hearing unit. Before entering government service, David was an attorney in private practice for over 20 years. During his litigation career, he represented plaintiffs and defendants in a wide variety of cases, including employment and civil rights matters.

Ricardo Diaz

After years in advancing adult literacy at the National Center in Adult Literacy and the International Literacy Institute at the University of Pennsylvania, I have opted for working closer to home. Through my company, I help Latinos integrate in the workplace and in educational settings; experiential positive youth development is the key to both involve families and open the way for individual progress. Latinos are the largest minority in the USA; business and educational entities are seeking to include our voice and needs in their agendas; it's our turn to suffer the negatives of being the recently arrived and it's also our turn to take on the responsibility of turning the great opportunities of this country into progress for everyone. Nos toca.

Susan Dollar

Dr. Susan Dollar is a professor of Social Work at Missouri State University. She earned her M.S.W. in 1990 from the University of Missouri-Columbia and her Ph.D. in Social Work from Tulane University in 1998. Dr. Dollar's research and grant writing projects address rural health disparities and health literacy.

Cristian Doña-Reveco

Cristián Doña-Reveco is Director of the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies (OLLAS) and Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. His research interests are on migration decisions, migration policies, and the access to social rights by Latin American immigrants in the Americas. At OLLAS his current research includes several community-engaged research projects on Latinos in Nebraska. In his research, he uses oral histories and life stories, news media content analysis, policy and archival analysis, and quantitative methods. He holds a PhD in Sociology and History (2012) from Michigan State University and a Licenciatura and Professional Degree in Sociology from Universidad de Chile (2002). He has published articles on international migration in South America at *International Migration*, *Migration Letters*, *Journal of Urban Affairs*, the *Latin Americanist*, as well as book chapters and technical reports.



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Lisa Dorner

Lisa Dorner is an Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis and a Cambio Center Faculty Fellow 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.

Sabrina Escalante

Sabrina Escalante, born and raised in Black Hills, South Dakota, received her Bachelors of Art at the University of South Dakota with a double major in History and English. She is currently in her last semester in the M.A. program of USD. Her scope in history ranges from Mexican American History, the American West, America's grasslands, and Colonial Mexico.

Elena Foulis

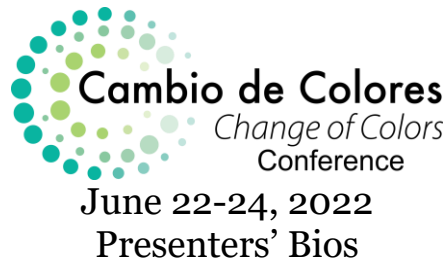
Elena Foulis is a Clinical Associate Professor of Spanish and the Associate Director of the Center for Ethnic Studies at The Ohio State University. Her research and teaching interests include U.S. Latina/o literature, Spanish for Heritage Learners, and Oral History. She teaches undergraduate courses in service-learning, Latin American Literature, and Spanish for Heritage Learners at Ohio State. Her articles explore Latin@ voices through oral history and performance, oral history as participatory pedagogy in service-learning classrooms, identity and place through linguistic landscape and ethnography and family history in advanced heritage language writing courses. She has published a book entitled Latin@ Stories Across Ohio and is the host and producer for the Latin@ Stories Podcast.

Christina Garcia

Christina García is an Assistant Professor of Spanish and Linguistics at Saint Louis University and teaches all levels of Spanish language, including courses in Spanish for the Health Professions and Hispanic Linguistics. Her research interests include Spanish phonetics, dialect variation, and the impact of community engagement on language students. Outside of the classroom, she serves as the Community Outreach & Service-Learning Coordinator for the Spanish program and organizes opportunities for Spanish students to get involved in the St. Louis community using their language skills.

Daniel Gonzales

Daniel Gonzales earned his M.A. in Museum Studies from the University of Missouri-Saint Louis in the spring of 2010 as an E. Desmond Lee Fellow. Following graduation, he began work as a researcher at the Missouri History Museum. In 2013, Daniel took on the position of Museum Curator with the St. Louis County Parks system later working as



historian for St. Louis County. In 2018, he became Director of Exhibitions Research at the Indiana Historical Society.

Rob Greenhaw

Rob Greenhaw provides consultation to schools that are working to implement high-quality, comprehensive and collaborative educational programs for English Learners (ELs). He also leads professional development workshops that focus on providing practical strategies to instruct and assess EL students at all levels and across content areas. Rob has 18 years of educational experience in a variety of roles including Spanish, Elementary, and EL teacher as well as EL Program Coordinator. Rob is passionate about working with teachers to help them feel confident in their ability to meet the needs of their EL students who he believes can not only meet grade-level standards, but exceed them.

Alejandra Gudiño

Alejandra Gudiño is the Director of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion for Columbia College Campus and the 39 locations nationwide. Alejandra has more than 25 years of experience working in higher education, with a focus on community outreach and participatory research initiatives. Alejandra received her MS in Museum in Mexico City, an MBA in Missouri, is a Difficult Dialogue Fellow for the Ford Foundation, and the Co-Director of a Research Project in Ecuador since 2002. She previously directed projects under the University of Missouri Outreach and Extension as its statewide cultural inclusion and diversity coordinator, as an extension specialist in Human Environmental Science, and later as the campus-wide inclusive education coordinator for the Division of Inclusion, Diversity & Equity for the University of Missouri.

Karen Hayes

Karen D. Hayes is an African American educator concerned with increasing college access and college equity. She is currently an assistant project director at Columbia College in the Enrollment Management and Marketing division. Karen is part of the inaugural team creating the TRiO Educational Opportunity Center at CC, a US federal grant program. Her charge is to support Missouri adults on the path to meaningful jobs through higher education and training. Karen has taught for over twenty years in high school and college. She received her bachelor's degree in Library Science and Women's Studies from the University of Missouri.

Jocelyn Hernandez-Swanson

Jocelyn Hernandez-Swanson is a leadership and civic engagement educator with the University of Minnesota Extension Center for Community Vitality. As an LCE educator she works with community members and partners as a resource in cultivating efficient



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and effective leadership and civic engagement practices. Specializing in working with the Latine community and using racial equity frameworks, Jocelyn brings experience working at North Hennepin Community College, the City of Brooklyn Park, and the City of Minneapolis.

Lisa Hinz

Lisa Hinz is an Associate Extension Professor with the University of Minnesota Extension specializing in Leadership and Civic Engagement. Lisa works with public and community-minded individuals and organizations across the state, providing workshops on leadership, facilitation, and public participation. Helping people build their skills and insights for working together in the public realm more effectively is her focus.

Andi Kenuam

Andi Kenuam is the Senior Director of Online Education at Columbia College and Chair of the college's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion committee. Andi received their Master of Education from ASU while working full-time teaching underserved youth as part of Teach for America. Before joining Columbia College, they created adaptive assessments, online learning games, and mobile apps with award-winning educational technology companies including Learning Today, Curriculum Associates, and the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Sarah Killoren

Dr. Sarah Killoren primarily focuses on processes of sibling influence, associations between interpersonal relationships and adolescent and young adult well-being, and Latina/o/x families

Ervin F. Leiva

Ervin F. Leiva is a third-year doctoral student in applied and agricultural economics at Mizzou working under Professor Corinne Valdivia. Before starting his PhD program, he worked for seventeen years in collective international development in Latin America and the Caribbean with non-government organizations, the U.S. Government, and the private sector advocating for growth and change among underserved communities. While living in Nicaragua, he was also a part-time cattle and equine farmer. He was a Fulbright scholar at Iowa State University and graduated with a double degree in animal and dairy science. He was later awarded a Master of Science in ruminant nutrition from the University of Florida.

Amy Leman

Amy M. Leman is an assistant professor in the Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication program at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Her research



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interests include evaluating effective strategies for teaching and learning in classrooms as well as out-of-school time programs in community settings. Leman's work is informed by her background as a 4-H youth development educator and work with positive youth development practices. Leman has a doctorate and master's degree in public administration from the University of Illinois Springfield and a bachelor's degree in human development and family studies from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

Carol Lickenbrock

Carol Lickenbrock has been teaching multilingual students for over 25 years: first in Japan and now in St. Louis. She is currently an EL specialist and Middle School Lead Teacher in Parkway School District. Her doctoral work was on engaging middle school emergent bilinguals as critical literacy.

Tammy Lorch

Since 2015, Tammy Lorch has worked as an Extension Educator with the University of Minnesota leading youth program quality efforts as it relates to 4-H youth development across 18 counties in southeast Minnesota. Additionally, she now supervises seven 4-H Program Coordinators in five counties. In 2018 she was instrumental in securing an additional position for a .75 FTE 4-H Program Coordinator to work specifically with new audiences in one of the counties. She has attended the Cambio de Colores conference since 2016 and although she is often one of the few Anglos in the room, she returns year after year to learn from so many amazing experts.

Antonio Maldonado

Antonio Maldonado was appointed to the Missouri Commission on Human Rights by Governor Mike Parson on April 4, 2022. He is also the Chairman of the Board for the Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis, serves on the St. Louis Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and is the President of the Puerto Rican Society, Inc. He was named the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce's Member of the Year in 2014, earned the Hispanic Leaders Group of Greater St. Louis' Anthony B. Ramirez "Esperanza Award" in 2015, and earned the Puerto Rican Society's First Torch Bearer Award in 2017. Mr. Maldonado owned and operated Puckett Floor Coverings in the St. Louis area from 1999 until his retirement in 2012. He served as an airman in the United State Air Force from 1966 until his honorable discharge in 1969. Mr. Maldonado received an associate's degree in business administration from Inter-American University in Puerto Rico and earned a Minority Business Certificate from Dartmouth University in New Hampshire.



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Ruben Martinez

Dr. Rubén O. Martinez is professor of sociology and the former director of the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University. He is a specialist in institutional and societal change, American race relations, diversity leadership in higher education, education and ethno-racial minorities, youth development, Latino labor and entrepreneurship, and environmental justice. He is the editor of the Latinos in the United States book series with Michigan State University Press (15 volumes published to date). He has numerous publications, including several journal articles and book chapters, as well as three co-authored and two co-edited books.

Jorge Carlos Martinez Palomares

Undergrad in International Relations at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Master in Agricultural Economics at Universidad Autónoma Chapingo, (UACH), Master in Agricultural Economics At Texas A&M University-College Station, and Ph.D. student in Agricultural and Applied Economics at University of Missouri-Columbia.

Grace Moore

Grace Moore is a student in Saint Louis University's combined Master's in Medical Nutrition and Dietetic Internship program. She has a B.S. in Nutritional Sciences from the University of California, Berkeley, where she played a key role in addressing basic needs and food insecurity through her work as an intern at the Basic Needs Center and volunteer work with the campus Food Pantry. Her Master's thesis focuses on dietary acculturation of immigrant Hispanic maternal feeding patterns.

Martin Mulligan

Martin Mulligan graduated from the Universidad Nacional of Nicaragua with degrees in journalism and literature. His undergraduate thesis investigated the digital literature disseminated by the first blogger generation of Nicaragua. He also worked as a cultural and political journalist for various Nicaraguan media. In 2014, he completed his Master's degree in Spanish from the University of Missouri. And in 2021 he completed his PhD. on Hispanic Literature and Culture Studies researching on the violence in Mexico from the narratives music and narcoculture produced in the current US-Mexico War On Drugs.

Idalia Nuñez

Dr. Idalia Nuñez is an Assistant Professor of Language and Literacy at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her research interests are on bilingual education, bilingualism, biliteracy, and the translanguaging practices and transnational knowledge of Chicana/Latina students, families, and communities. Dr. Nuñez's research, teaching,



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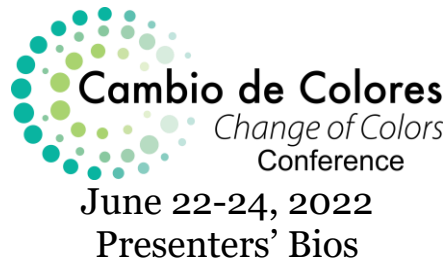
and advocacy efforts are focused on supporting the educational needs of bilingual and multilingual students of Color. Her research has been published in *Research in the Teaching of English*, *Language Arts*, *Bilingual Research Journal*, *Journal of Teacher Education*, *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*, *Literacy Research: Theory, Method, and Practice*, etc.

Edgar Palacios

Edgar J. Palacios is the President & CEO (founder) of the Latinx Education Collaborative (LEC), a nonprofit, start-up organization that works to increase the representation of Latinx education professionals in K-12. Edgar previously owned a nonprofit consultancy (EJPKC, LLC) and has had the privilege of working with organizations such as Community Builders of Kansas City; Junior Achievement of Greater Kansas City; El Centro, Inc.; Show Me KC Schools; and the Kauffman Foundation. A bilingual nonprofit executive, Edgar served as Executive Director of Blue Hills Community Services (BHCS), a community development corporation situated in the heart of Kansas City's urban core and led BHCS through a merger with Swope Community Builders. Prior to his time at Blue Hills, Edgar also served as Senior Director of Resource Development & Community Engagement at Connections to Success and Chief Engagement Officer at Central Exchange. Edgar is an MBA graduate of Rockhurst University. He earned a Bachelor of Music degree at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Passionate about his community, Edgar has served as president of both Young Latino Professionals (YLP) of Greater Kansas City and the Kansas City chapter of the National Society of Hispanic MBAs. He also dedicates time to serving on nonprofit boards.

Jamille Palacios

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida. Experienced Teaching Assistant Professor of economics and applied business. Courses taught include microeconomics, macroeconomics, managerial decision making, marketing of new products and commodities, food marketing systems, computer applications, and financial records in various delivery methods (face-to-face, online, and hybrid). Skilled in educational technology, instructional design, student development, creating surveys, marketing research, and big data analysis. Most comfortable using Stata, but have also used E-views, GAMS, Gauss, and SAS. Research agenda include topics in labor markets, corporate social responsibility, and marketing. Engaged in service on campus for inclusion and diversity, curriculum development, and outside campus on financial mobility and sustainability of small entrepreneurs. Fully bilingual (Spanish and English).



Emma Pauer

Emma Pauer is a Senior at Saint Louis University studying Spanish on the pre-med track. During her time at SLU, she has discovered a passion for the intersection between Spanish and medicine and aims to become a pediatrician serving in a predominantly Spanish-speaking, immigrant community in the future. Emma is currently a semi-finalist for the Fulbright grant and hopes to teach English in Mexico for a year before attending medical school. Emma is originally from Glen Ellyn, IL where she grew up with her two younger sisters, her wonderful parents, and her dog, Patrick.

Sophia Piral

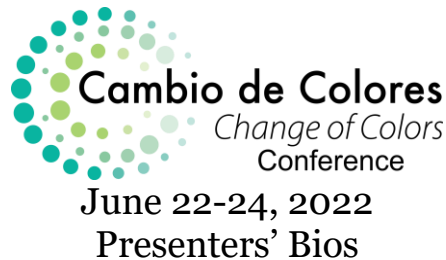
I am a Fulbright alumna from Guatemala currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis at the University of Missouri. I am developing research about irregular migration, especially about immigrant minors, their families, and their relationship with the K-12 schools in the U.S. As an IPMA certified project manager and a certified non-profit manager, social impact and sustainability mentor, strategic communicator, and activist, I enjoy teamwork aiming for better conditions and more opportunities for vulnerable populations and *poblaciones vulneradas*. I am passionate about collaborative and comprehensive approaches to social development, research, and policymaking. I have worked on Human Rights, irregular migration, women's and youth rights, LGBTQ+ rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and education rights to contribute to reducing inequality gaps in Guatemala and for Guatemalans outside the country.

Graciela Quinones-Rodriguez

Graciela Quinonez-Rodriguez: Psychiatric Social Worker--decades of psychotherapies for all generations and diverse populations; college students, communities of color, Latinxs, immigrants, survivors of violence.

Athena Ramos

Dr. Athena Ramos is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health Promotion and is affiliated with the Center for Reducing Health Disparities and the Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH) at the University of Nebraska Medical Center (UNMC) in Omaha, Nebraska. She leads a Latino outreach and engagement team and serves as principal investigator for a number of community-based health and social research and education initiatives in such areas as occupational health and safety within the agrifood system, immigrant integration, and community well-being.



Angelica Reina

Dr. Angelica S. Reina is an Assistant Professor and the Latinx/Hispanic Outreach Coordinator for the Child Development and Education Program at Tulsa Community College. Prior to this position, she worked as a Child Development and Parenting Education Specialist for Family and Consumer Sciences Extension at the University of Kentucky. Additionally, she has been involved in extensive research in different areas impacting Latinx/Hispanic families living in the US: 1) the experiences of Latina victims with domestic violence services, 2) physical and mental health among Latina immigrant mothers, 3) Latino youth schooling experience, and 4) the development of resilience in the face of life dramatic situations. Her research work has been deeply guided by critical feminist perspectives and informed by socio-structural contexts and culture.

Diana Rios

Diana Rios: Senior faculty, media, drama television, HBO and Netflix programming, Chicax-Latinx Studies, Women Studies.

Avelina Rivero

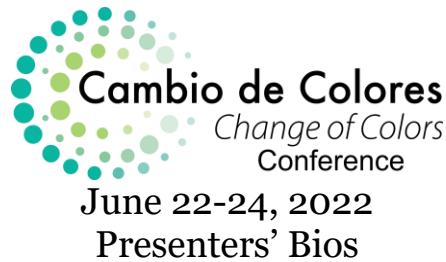
Avelina Rivero: I am a first-generation Latina graduate student who studies body image (i.e., body image shame, body appreciation), Latinx families (i.e., parent-adolescent, sibling relationships, and dynamics), culture, and mental health outcomes in Latinas. Specifically, I examine the processes in which family members influence Latinas' body image. I also explore the influence of parental differential treatment on Latinas' parent-adolescent and sibling relationship quality. Lastly, I examine the role culture plays in Latinx families' interactions.

Maria Romo-Palafox

María Romo-Palafox is an Assistant Professor of Nutrition and Dietetics at Saint Louis University who teaches nutrition counseling and nutrition education to undergraduate students. Maria provides a unique perspective as an immigrant who underwent her dietitian training in Mexico. Her research focuses on the social, cultural, and environmental determinants of dietary patterns with specific focus on the process of dietary acculturation of Hispanic immigrant parents.

Joy Roos

Joy Roos is a fourth-year Ph.D. student in the Human Development and Family Science department at the University of Missouri. Her doctoral research investigates the impact of adversities such as acculturative stress and experiences of discrimination on immigrant youths' positive adjustment as well as the protective role of cultural values and resources. She also examines the role of intergroup prosocial behavior (i.e., helping



across social group contexts) in improving intergroup relations including those between immigrant youth and their receiving communities.

Joy holds a master's degree in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis where she studied strategies to promote the social and economic development of marginalized communities. Prior to her Ph.D., she worked in the non-profit sector where she developed and evaluated programs to promote Latinx youth leadership and college access.

Selena Salgado-Espino

Selena Salgado-Espino is a recent graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where she studied Human Development and Family Studies. As an undergraduate, she was involved in activism for undocumented students on campus while initiating research surrounding cultural humility. Through her research, she has examined and assessed ways to improve health equity training that fosters cultural humility in clinical settings. Finally, as an aspiring medical student, Selena is currently enrolled in a gap year program through PCC Wellness Clinics as she takes time to focus on MCAT studies to apply to the upcoming application cycle.

Ness Sandoval

J.S. Onésimo Sandoval is a professor of sociology and demography at Saint Louis University. He has been conducting research at the intersection of Demography and Computational Spatial Science to study the spatial hierarchy of inequality in American cities. He also has been working in the emerging fields of Forensic GISc, social-environmental synthesis, and the applications of spatial-temporal multi-scaled models to study social, economic, and environmental patterns of inequality. His research currently focuses on spatial inequality, Latino and immigration demographic patterns, and crime patterns in American cities. He recently founded two geospatial applied community projects: Demography 4 Democracy and Coding for Spatial Justice. Both projects are designed to empower community members to envision the future they want for their neighborhoods and acquire the resources to make their visions happen. Professor Sandoval is the Associate Director of the Taylor Geospatial Institute, Co-Director of the Ph.D. Public and Social Policy Program and the Director of the MS Sociology Program.

Karen Schmeits

Karen Schmeits is a MPH student at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in the College of Public Health. She is also a graduate assistant with the Center for Reducing Health Disparities and has worked on numerous research projects addressing Hispanic/Latino health, substance abuse prevention, and farmworker health and safety.



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Marcelo Siles

Dr. Marcelo E. Siles holds a Ph.D. in Agricultural Economics from Michigan State University. He is currently working as a Research Specialist with the Julian Samora Research Institute at Michigan State University and has extensive experience working in higher education and research. His previous posts include working as Executive Director of International Programs at Old Dominion University and at Northern Michigan University. His research interest is on Latino businesses starts-up and development, constraints facing Latino farmers, and the impact of social capital motives in the adoption of appropriate technology by Latino and disadvantage farmers.

Daisy Skelly

Daisy Skelly is the Title III Coordinator and teacher of English language development (ESOL) for the Wright City R-II School District. She is also an adjunct faculty member at Lindenwood University, where she is the instructor for TESOL methods, pedagogy of second language acquisition, and gifted education courses. Daisy has over 20 years of experience working in schools and with families as a classroom teacher, parent educator with Parents As Teachers, ELD teacher, and volunteer. Daisy completed her Ed.D degree in Instructional Leadership, with an emphasis in andragogy, at Lindenwood University, and prior to that a Master's degree with an emphasis in early childhood education. She earned her Bachelor of Science degrees in elementary and middle school education from the University of Central Missouri. Daisy's mission is to create a positive learning environment that utilizes current research and best practices to empower and advocate English learners, their families, and their teachers to successfully develop proficiency in reading, writing, listening, and speaking academic English.

Priscila Soto Prado

Priscila Soto Prado is an MPH student at the College of Public Health at the University of Nebraska Medical Center. She is a graduate assistant with the Center for Reducing Health Disparities. Her research interests include Latino health disparities, geriatrics, and healthcare organization and management.

Theresa Torres

Theresa Torres, PhD, is an associate professor of Latinx and Latin American studies and sociology at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. She specializes in Latinx studies, immigration, race and ethnic studies, and gender studies. Torres has publications on Latinas and Latinos in higher education, Latinx students, and Latina religious practices. In 2013, she published *The Paradox of Latina Religious Leadership in the Catholic Church: Las Guadalupanas of Kansas City*. She is currently editing a book with Daniel Gonzales on Latinx Communities in Missouri. And is working on a third book social



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justice leadership, Transformational Resistant Leaders, based on interviews and ethnographic studies of leaders and activists.

Natalia Trinidad

Natalia Trinidad, MPH, is an Outreach Project Specialist with the Center for Reducing Health Disparities at the University of Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska. Natalia has been doing community outreach, engagement, and community-based research with the Latino community for several years.

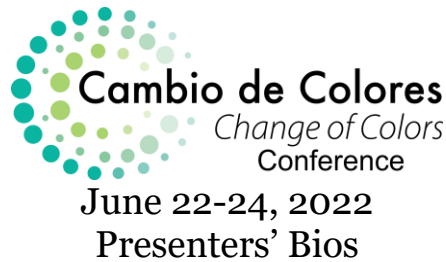
Sal Valadez

Sal Valadez is a Mexican immigrant, a high school drop-out, a U.S. Army Veteran, and a graduate of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa where he was awarded an M.A. in Political Science (Alternative Futures Program) and a B.A. in Political Science. He is also a 2019 Fellow of the Washington University in St Louis Community Research Fellows Training Program (CRFT).

He is employed by the LiUNA (Laborers International Union of North America) – Midwest Region (Springfield, IL) and the Missouri & Kansas Laborers District Council (Wentzville, MO). He serves as the Representative for Diversity, Outreach & Marketing. Sal's responsibilities include community engagement and collaboration on issues of mutual concern with workers and their families, immigrant, ethnic, and historically disadvantaged, underserved, and underrepresented communities. Throughout his career, Sal has been an advocate on issues related to workforce development, worker rights, language access, diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Corinne Valdivia

Corinne Valdivia is Professor of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the Division of Applied Social Sciences (DASS), College of Agriculture Food and Natural Resource (CAFNR) at the University of Missouri (MU). She holds the D. Howard Doane Professorship in Agricultural Economics. Her research focuses on how people and communities adapt to transformational changes brought about by globalization, innovations, climate change, and migration. Valdivia collaborates in interdisciplinary projects, using translational research processes for the co-creation of knowledge in East Africa, Andean communities in Bolivia and Peru, and rural communities of USA's Midwest. Valdivia is Founding Fellow of Cambio Center and the Cambio de Colores Conference at MU. She directs research projects to learn and develop best practices that facilitate the integration of immigrants and newcomers, as workers, entrepreneurs, farmers, and families in Missouri and the Midwest, funded by National Institute for Food and Agriculture.



Alisa Warren

Dr. Alisa Warren has served as the Executive Director for the Missouri Commission on Human Rights, the state agency that works to prevent and eliminate discrimination in employment, housing, and public accommodations. Her dedication to fighting bias and promoting inclusion manifests itself in her extensive efforts through education and outreach initiatives. Building networks between government, business, and advocacy groups is a focus, as she believes that vibrant community partnerships are key to advancing justice. Dr. Warren has also appeared as a subject matter expert in the field of civil and human rights on numerous television and radio programs, trained thousands of people on human rights laws, elimination of bias, diversity, equity, and inclusion, women's rights, and as a keynote speaker at many local, state, and national events.

Dr. Warren holds a B.S. in Human Environmental Sciences, Master's in Public Administration; and a Ph.D. in Applied Social Sciences in Community Development and Social Disparities all from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Dr. Warren serves in leadership roles with a number of local, state and national organizations including: FOCUS St. Louis Board of Directors; the International Association of Official Human Rights Agencies 1st Vice President; the Consortium on Racial and Ethnic Fairness in the Courts, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Joint Standing Committee; and the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Missouri State Advisory Committee.

Celina Wille

I have 23 years of work experience in Land Grant Institutions on various management, teaching, outreach and capacity building roles. I was a 4-H and Youth Development Specialist at Texas A&M University, SNAP-Ed program manager for the Michigan Nutrition Network, and program evaluator for the Health and Nutrition Institute at Michigan State University Extension. While at Michigan State University, I was Associate Director of Diversity and Pluralism in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and taught courses on campus and abroad in the Department of Community Sustainability. Overseas, I have managed USAID projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and currently work as technical consultant for a USAID-funded food and nutrition project in Guatemala. My academic background is in Agricultural and Extension Education.

Eileen Wolfington

Eileen Wolfington is the bilingual health and wellness coordinator for LifeWise StL, a nonprofit agency that delivers holistic programs and services to the economically disadvantaged. Coaching Latina women to exercise and motivating them to attend health and nutrition education classes resulted as a passion after working for five years as a promotora de salud for a nonprofit clinic. She received a BA in General Business from the University of Wisconsin - Whitewater and a Master of Education in Adult Education from the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

