

July 2021

CURRICULUM VITAE

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Education:

Secondary: John F. Kennedy High School, Willingboro, NJ, USA.

College: Cook College, Rutgers University, The State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, USA.

Post-Graduate: London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, London, England

Tulane University Graduate School, New Orleans, Louisiana.

University of Texas School of Public Health, Houston, Texas.

Degrees, Diplomas and Awards:

Certification of Achievement.	Diploma, John F. Kennedy High School, June 1972.
Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.)	Environmental Science, Rutgers University, July 1977.
Master of Science Degree. Medical Demography (M.Sc.).	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, September, 1980.
Certificate of Completion.	World Health Organization, International Agency for Research on Cancer. Cancer Epidemiology Course. Instituto Superiore di Sanita, Roma, Italy, March 19-30, 1984.
Certificate of Completion.	World Health Organization, International Agency for Research on Cancer. German Cancer Research Centre. Advanced Epidemiological Methods Course. Heidelberg, Germany, June 15-26, 1987.
Certificate of Attendance.	The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Data

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Collection, Data Management, and Data Analysis for Clinical Trials Course. Baltimore, Maryland, June 9-10, 1988.

Master of Science in Epidemiology	Tulane University School of Public Health, New Orleans, Louisiana, May 1989.
Ph.D. in Epidemiology	School of Public Health University of Texas, Houston, Texas, May 1994.
Certificate of Attendance	North American Association of Cancer Registries Short Course. Central Cancer Registries: Design, Management and Use. San Francisco, California, April 1995.
Certificate of Attendance	International Association of Cancer Registries Short Course. Genetics and Cancer Epidemiology Workshop, August 16, 1998.
Certificate of Completion	Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) Basic Course for Health Assessment and Consultation. September, 1999.
Certificate of Completion.	World Health Organization, International Agency for Research on Cancer. Molecular Cancer Epidemiology Course. Sloan Kettering Memorial Cancer Center, New York, U.S., April 29-May 4, 2002.
Certificate of Completion.	U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. The Role of Public Health in the Prevention of War-Related Injuries. Montreal, Canada, May 9-11, 2002.
Certificate of Completion.	U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Second Workshop on the Role of Public Health in the Prevention of War-Related Injuries. Vienna, Austria June 3-5, 2004.
Certificate of Attendance.	The 14 th Annual Summer Institute: Principles and Practice Of Injury Prevention. John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health. Baltimore, MD July 10-15, 2005.
Certificate of Completion.	Health Disparities: A Translational Research Approach. UPR- post-doctoral Master of Science in Clinical & Translational Research & the Hispanics in Research Capability Endowment Programs. April-June 2014

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Reaching People Through Partnerships Award.

National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service. National Minority Cancer Awareness Week. April 1996.

American Red Cross Award

Volunteer of the Year Award. American Red Cross Puerto Rico Chapter. November 2014.

Public Health Work Experience

Sept. 2018, present

Consultant, Puerto Rico Hurricane Hub Technical Assistance Center.

Participate in the training and capacity building projects for disaster response and preparedness. The Puerto Rico Hurricane Response Hub Technical Assistance Center (HRH-TAC), is a program of the Puerto Rico Public Health Trust (PRPHT), a unit of the Puerto Rico Science, Technology and Research Trust (PRSTRT). The HRH-TAC provides workforce capacity development for disaster management and enhance long-term sustainability.

January 14-15, 2021

Member of IMPACT Virtual Meeting to Follow-up on Cancer Control in Jamaica (virtual).

For the International Atomic Energy Agency's Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), and the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The follow-up meeting was an abridged imPACT review process as a service provided by the IAEA to Member States based on a request from Jamaica's Ministry of Health providing an effective bottom-up approach and methodology for conducting a national cancer infrastructure needs assessment and situation analysis.

March 17-22, 2019

Member of IMPACT Review mission to Ecuador for the International Atomic Energy Agency's Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), and the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The imPACT review process is a service provided by the IAEA to a Member State based on a request from its Ministry of Health and provides an effective bottom-up approach and methodology for conducting a national cancer infrastructure needs assessment and situation analysis in a Member State requesting such assistance.

December 3-7, 2018

Member of IMPACT Review mission to Guyana for the International Atomic Energy Agency's Programme of Action for Cancer Therapy (PACT), and the International Agency for Research on Cancer. The imPACT review process is a service provided by the IAEA to a Member State based on a request from its Ministry of Health and provides an effective bottom-up approach and methodology for conducting a national cancer infrastructure needs assessment and situation analysis in a Member State requesting such assistance.

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- Sept. 2016 – Present **Co-PI, Puerto Rico Violent Deaths Reporting System (PR-VDRS), Puerto Rico Statistics Institute.** Lead the scientific component of PRV-DRS. Provide technical and scientific advice in the development of the surveillance system of violent deaths. Responsible for submitting initial program application and subsequent annual progress reports to the CDC. Develop strategy for timely collection of data from key government institutions and ensure compliance with NVDRS data quality and timeliness standards. Train personnel and supervise the implementation of program goals and objectives. Lead the analysis of data and produce reports for sharing with key partners and manuscripts for publication in peer-reviewed journals as well as communication with community organizations. Participate in monthly meetings with PR-VDRS team. Collaborate with outreach to key stakeholders.
- Sept. 2012 - Present **Co-Director, Central Cancer Registry of Puerto Rico, Comprehensive Cancer Center of Puerto Rico.** Support Registry activities including cooperative program agreements, research studies with local and international institutions. Reviewed and updated norms and procedures of cancer registry. Supervise data quality control in all Units of the Registry. Ensure continued training activities for personnel including hospital personnel that cooperate with the Registry. Analyze cancer registry data for cancer prevention programs, annual reports and any special report requested by Health Authorities or other institutions. Develop a strategic plan for data collection, editing, analysis and publication of cancer incidence and mortality in Puerto Rico.
- Sept. 2004 – Present **Epidemiology Professor, Public Health Program, Ponce Health Sciences University.** My responsibilities included the coordination de MPH General Program and actively participate in research and educational activities for students, faculty and external researchers. My specific area of interest and expertise is violence prevention and control, disaster epidemiology, development of surveillance systems to monitor external causes of injury and chronic diseases. I was the Principal Investigator of a multinational injury surveillance pilot project in five African countries (Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia) in 2006-2007. Collected surveillance data on intentional (homicide and suicide) and non-intentional injuries (road traffic related) for six months. Another completed project was the development of a database of homicide incident reports produced by the Police in Puerto Rico. This was a retrospective analysis of all homicides in Puerto Rico for the period 2004-2006. A similar project was developed with Puerto Rico's Institute of Forensic Sciences for analysis of all deaths due to homicides, suicides and road traffic injuries for a 10-year period (2001-2010). I was a consultant for the Department of Health in Tarija, Bolivia and in 2007 I organized a trainer-of-trainers workshop for implementing a injury surveillance system in the emergency department of four regional hospitals. In November 2009 I helped hospital personnel to start an injury surveillance system in the Emergency Department of Hospital San Juan de Dios in the city

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of Tarija, Bolivia. I am a volunteer of the American Red Cross since 2006 and work in disaster relief operations, under the information and planning support services (disaster assessment, analysis and planning). In 2006 I incorporated the first formal course on injury prevention in the curriculum for a Master's of Public Health program in Puerto Rico as recommended by the World Health Organization and in February 2010, the first course in disaster epidemiology. Other courses taught include Introduction to Biostatistics, Health Promotion and Disease Prevention, GIS Applications in Public Health. I also teach courses on Sampling, Advance Statistics and Epidemiological Data Analysis to Dr.Ph. students.

- Nov. 2010- Mar. 2011 **United Nations Development Program Consultant.** Temporary assignment to support two Regional Seminars on Armed Violence and Development in Latin America. Documented the experiences, lessons learned and best/promising practices of two regional “Best Practice Seminars” held in Rio de Janeiro (8-10, Nov. 2010) and Antigua, Guatemala (16-18, Nov. 2010). Wrote reports on each regional meeting and a third report with recommendations. These reports were used to inform a “Best Practice” Report that launched at the Geneva Declaration Ministerial Review Conference in November 2011.
- Sept. 2004 – Jan. 2005 **Director Epidemiology – Biostatistics Core Program (EBCP). Ponce School of Medicine.** As Director of the Epidemiology-Biostatistics Core Program, I was responsible for the establishment, implementation and coordination of the program and provide epidemiological/statistics expertise to faculty and students at the medical school. I was also responsible for promoting collaboration among different internal and external research programs.
- Feb. 2001 – Sept. 2004 **Epidemiology consultant- Ponce School of Medicine.** Participated in several studies related to asthma epidemiology in Puerto Rico. Reviewed and recommended study designs, analyzed data and participated in drafting scientific reports for publication in relevant medical journals. Supervised data collection and editing of completed questionnaires for several studies of asthma patients admitted to hospital emergency services.
- Oct. 1996 - Feb. 2001 **Director, Division of Surveillance Epidemiology and Statistics- Chronic Diseases, Department of Health of Puerto Rico.** Directed and supervised three programs under the Division: Central Cancer Registry, Telarche Registry and the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Served as Principal Investigator in the National Program of Cancer Registries and BRFSS. Served as advisor to other programs developing surveillance epidemiology strategies such as, the Early Detection of Breast and Cervical Program. Other programs for which technical assistant was provided include: Maternal and Child Health, Suicide Prevention, Diabetes Program. Served in the Advisory Board for the Countrywide Integrated Non-communicable Diseases Intervention Programme (CINDI), a Pan-American Health Organization initiative. Provide professional advise directly to the

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Secretary of Health as requested and represent the Secretary of Health in meetings with other government institutions (e.g. Puerto Rico's Legislature) and nongovernment institutions.

- Jul. 1994 - Feb. 2001 **Director, Central Cancer Registry of Puerto Rico, Department of Health of Puerto Rico.** Developed scientific activities for the Registry including cooperative studies with local and international institutions. Reviewed and updated norms and procedures of cancer registry. Supervised data quality control in all Units of the Registry. Coordinated all training activities for personnel including hospital personnel that cooperate with the Registry. Analyzed cancer registry data for cancer prevention programs, annual reports and any special report requested by the Secretary of Health. Developed a strategic plan for updating data collection, editing, analysis and publication of cancer incidence in Puerto Rico. This plan was approved and funded with over 1 million dollars in three years by a grant from the National Program of Cancer Registries, administered through CDC. These funds allowed for modernizing the data collection methods at the Registry and capacity building for Registry and Hospital personnel. Promoted and developed cancer prevention strategies. Developed a pilot project for the early detection of oral and pharyngeal cancer. This project received an award from the National Cancer Institute's Cancer Information Service in 1996.
- Feb. 1981 - Jun. 1994 **Research Associate, Pathology Department, Louisiana State University Medical Center.** Supervised a program project on the study of gastric cancer precursor lesions in Colombia and New Orleans, LA. Coordinated the collection, storage and editing of data in a mainframe computer. Data originated from different sources both within the U.S. and overseas. Participated in the analysis and reporting of results in scientific journals. The first study in Colombia entailed the follow-up of a cohort of 1,600 study subjects for a period of 5 years. Other studies include, case-control studies and descriptive epidemiology studies of cancer in Louisiana, Bolivia, Uruguay and Costa Rica. Additional studies under my supervision in Colombia included: a large chemo-prevention clinical trial of chronic gastritis and anti-*Helicobacter pylori* treatment, and a case-control study of gastritis and *Helicobacter pylori*. Participated in the analysis of a similar case-control study in New Orleans.
- Feb. 1979 - Aug. 1979 **Field Representative, New Jersey Department of Health, Cancer Registry Program, Trenton, New Jersey.** Monitored selected hospitals throughout the state for compliance and proper completion of case reports sent to the Registry. Coded tumor sites reported according to the International Classification of Diseases-Oncology guidelines.
- Jan. 1978 - Oct. 1978 **Supervisor, Cancer Registry of La Paz, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, La Paz, Bolivia.** Organized the first cancer registry in Bolivia. Contacted public and private hospitals, clinics, sanitary posts in the city to obtain the cooperation on reporting new cases of cancer diagnosed in these

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institutions. Created a filing system and record keeping, prepared monthly reports and monitored compliance of medical institutions. Supervised abstractors work and reviewed all incident reports for completion and proper coding.

Aug. 1977 - Dec. 1977 **Assistant Epidemiologist, Department of Epidemiology, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, La Paz, Bolivia.** Carried out a 5 year retrospective incidence study of measles in the city of La Paz. This data was used for M.Sc. degree dissertation research at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, England.

Injury Prevention Activities. 2001 - present

Since 2001 I have participated in the following activities while redirecting my career from cancer research into injury and violence prevention and control.

Conference Attendance/Oral and Poster Presentations.

- Attended **first seminar on The Role of Public Health in the Prevention of War-Related Injuries**, sponsored by U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Held in Montreal, Canada, May 9-11, 2002.

-Attended **Sixth World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control.** Montreal, Canada- May 12-15, 2002.

-Attended **Mexico's National Forum on Motor-vehicle Accidents.** December 10-11, 2002, Mexico City, Mexico. In preparation for this conference, I analyzed multiple cause of death data for road traffic in Puerto Rico for the period 1995-1999.

-Attended **Second Pre-conference on the Role of Public Health in the Prevention of War-related Injuries.** Vienna, Austria, June 3-5, 2004. Poster presentation: Amnesty International-Oxfam-IANSA. Control Arms Campaign.

- Attended the **Seventh World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control.** Vienna, Austria- June 6-9, 2004. Poster Presentation: Mortality due to motor-vehicle transportation accidents in Puerto Rico, 1996-2000. Oral Presentation: The use of small arms and lights weapons in the perpetration of homicide and suicide in Puerto Rico. The need to evaluate the contextual evidence.

- Attended the **International Collaborative Effort (ICE) on Injury Statistics Meeting.** Cuernavaca, México, June 1-2, 2005

-Attended **Pre-conference on Reducing Firearm-Related Mortality and Morbidity.** Durban, South Africa. 31 March – 1 April, 2006.

- Attended the **Eighth World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control.** Durban, South Africa- April 1-5, 2006. Oral Presentation: A Pilot Multinational Injury Surveillance Study.

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- Attended the **Ninth World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control**. Merida, Mexico- March 15-18, 2008. Oral Presentation: Implementing a hospital based Injury Surveillance Systems in Africa. Report from the first year experience in five countries (DRC, Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda and Zambia).

-Attended **joint meeting of the Global Burden of Diseases Injury Expert group (GBD-Injury) and the International Collaborative Effort (ICE) on Injury Statistics**. Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts, October 7-10, 2009.

-Initiated a hospital based injury surveillance system in **Hospital San Juan de Dios, Tarija, Bolivia**. November 2009.

-Attended **joint meeting of the Global Burden of Diseases Injury Expert group (GBD-Injury) and the International Collaborative Effort (ICE) on Injury Statistics**. Swansea, Wales. September 17-20, 2010.

- Attended the **Tenth World Conference on Injury Prevention and Control**. London, England- September 21-24, 2010. Presented poster with results of an analysis of forensic data on homicides and firearms in Puerto Rico for the period 2000-2007.

- **UNDP Consultant** (November 2010-April 2011) – Temporary assignment to support two Regional Seminars on Armed Violence and Development in Latin America. Documented the experiences, lessons learned and best/promising practices of two regional “Best Practice Seminars” held in Rio de Janeiro (8-10, Nov. 2010) and Antigua, Guatemala (16-18, Nov. 2010). Wrote reports on each regional meeting and a third report with recommendations. These reports were used to inform a “Best Practice” Report that launched at the Geneva Declaration Ministerial Review Conference in November 2011.

- Attended **Seminario internacional "Violencia, Armas y Atención Integral a las Víctimas**. 22-23 October, 2012 - Caracas, Venezuela. Presentation:” El Enfoque de Salud Pública.”

- Oral Presentation- **IV Encuentro Internacional y VII Nacional de la Red de Observatorios y Centros de Investigación del Delito**. 22-23 August, 2013. Cartagena de Indias, Colombia. Panel presentation: “Los desafíos de Observar y Medir la Violencia Armada- El Enfoque de la Salud Pública”

- Attended **6th Milestones of a Global Campaign for Violence Prevention Meeting**. Mexico City, Mexico, 13-14 November 2013 "Towards measurable violence prevention targets”.

-Oral Presentation- **Regional Review Conference on the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development for the Americas**. Antigua, Guatemala, 28–30 April 2014. Panel presentation: What do we know about firearms in the Americas? *Firearms and homicides in Puerto Rico*.

-Oral Presentation- **Inter-parliamentary Conference**. Lima, Peru, 21–22 May 2015. Panel presentation: Session VI: UN PoA, Armed Violence Reduction and Public Health Approaches to Small Arms. The UN Programme of Action on Illicit SALW through the lens of Public Health.

-Oral Presentation- **Seminario Regional América Latina, Parlamento Latinoamericano y Caribeño**. Panama City, Panama, 12–13 May 2017. Uniendo los puntos: Apoyar la implementación del Objetivo de

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Desarrollo Sostenible 16, el TCA y el UNPoA, a través de un mayor compromiso y acción parlamentaria en procesos internacionales. Foro Parlamentario sobre Armas Pequeñas y Ligeras. Prevención de la Violencia: El Enfoque Salubrista.

Training Workshops.

-Multinational Injury Surveillance Pilot Project. Training Workshop, Nairobi, Kenya, March 27-30, 2006

-Injury Surveillance Systems Training Workshop, Tarija, Bolivia, May 7-10, 2007.

-In 2006, incorporated the first formal course on Injury Prevention into the curriculum for Master's of Public Health at the Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences. The curriculum is based on WHO's TEACH-VIP program.

-In 2010, incorporated the first graduate course on Disaster Epidemiology into the curriculum for the Public Health Program at the Ponce School of Medicine and Health Sciences.

-In 2011 began to facilitate training workshops on International Humanitarian Law to American Red Cross staff and volunteers in Puerto Rico.

Humanitarian Assistance Work Experience

2006 - present **American Red Cross (ARC).** Became a volunteer member of the Puerto Rican chapter after the hurricane Katrina disaster in 2006. Currently I am the Puerto Rico Regional Lead for Information and Planning, in charge of coordinating disaster damage assessment immediately after a disaster as a result of hurricanes, tropical storms, and more recently earthquakes. I am also an instructor of International Humanitarian Law and instructor of Restoring Family Links program.

Actively participated in the humanitarian response to hurricane Maria in 2017 and the earthquakes in the SW region of Puerto Rico in January 2020, as ARC's Regional Lead for Information and Planning. I continue collaborating in ARC's Puerto Rico Region.

March 2010 **Iniciativa Comunitaria.** Part of medical team that provided health assistance via mobile clinics to different neighborhoods and towns around Port au Prince after the catastrophic magnitude 7.0 Mw earthquake in January 12, 2010.

December 2011 **American Red Cross.** Completed formal training as instructor on International Humanitarian Law. Plantation, Florida, U.S.

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- April 2015 **American Red Cross.** Completed formal training as instructor for the program on Restoring Family Links. Columbus, Ohio, U.S.
- Sept. 2017 – Feb. 2018 **American Red Cross.** Member of the American Red Cross Information and Planning team in response to hurricane Maria disaster in Puerto Rico.

Human Rights Work Experience - Amnesty International

- 1991 - present **AIUSA's Mexico Country Specialist.**
Through the years I have developed many contacts in Mexico to further AI's research work. Visited the Mexico-US border in many occasions. Documented new cases of HR violations that led to action by membership worldwide. In February of 1996, I organized and participated in a 4-day workshop at the US-Mexico border on the treatment of survivors of torture in cooperation with Dr. Antonio Martinez, Director of the Institute for Survivors of Torture. Similar workshops were organized in Mexico city and Dallas, Texas. The latter workshop led to the creation of a center for the treatment of survivors of torture in Dallas.
- After the massacre that occurred on December 22, 1997 in Acteal, Chiapas , I prepared a Searching Questions action file on Military, Security and Police (equipment) transfers between the US and Mexico.
- On April 2000, I represented AIUSA in a series of activities in Mexico related to the Goldman Award to two POCs: Rodolfo Montiel and Teodoro Cabrera. Part of these activities included a visit to the prison where the two POCs are currently detained. This work is part of AIUSA's new Environment and Human Rights project, in conjunction with Sierra Club. Worked extensively on the case of Mexican General Francisco Gallardo formerly a Prisoner of Conscience and released on January 2002.
- On December 2001 I participated in a series of press conferences in Mexico with colleagues from the research team at the International Secretariat. The issue presented related to the human rights violations of human rights defenders in Mexico.

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On July 2005 I was a member of an AI mission to the state of Guerrero where we visited Mr. Felipe Arreaga, an imprisoned POC. We also visited and collected testimony from Mr. Albertano Peñaloza. Mr. Peñaloza and his family survived an ambush by hired gunmen in May of 2005. As a result of this attack, two of his children were killed. An appointment with the State Attorney General was cancelled at the last minute by state government authorities. I have also initiated WARN actions on several occasions when contact with the IS research team was not possible (i.e. during the weekend).

I have been involved with the case of the women from Atenco. Barbara Italia was invited to AIUSA's AGM and had the opportunity to discuss with her further action by AI on their behalf. I wrote a proposal for funding by AIUSA Relief Fund to provide a workshop for the women of Atenco by an expert psychologist on the treatment of survivors of torture. The workshop took place in October 2009. I participated as Qi Gong instructor and taught the women of Atenco a series of Qi Gong exercises to help them release tension and strengthen their physical and mental health.

I respond to media requests (TV, radio, newspapers) for interviews and information in the US and Mexico on issues related to human rights in Mexico. I also respond to request from pro bono attorneys for letters of support for asylum applications by Mexican nationals in the US. I had the opportunity to provide expert opinion regarding human rights in Mexico at immigration courts in person and over the phone.

2010 - present

Military Security and Police Transfers Working Group-

I have rejoined this working group due to the critical need to keep this issue alive in AIUSA and my expertise in armed violence prevention in the public health field. Thorough the last two decades, AIUSA has been unable to develop its MSP work in a significant way. This work remains mainly driven by committed AIUSA volunteers.

July 2006 – June 2009

Amnesty International-USA Board of Directors.

Elected to the Board of Directors in July of 2006 for a three year term. I served as Chair of Board's International Committee. This committee discusses AI's policies and strategies and responds to consultations on international issues provided by the International Secretariat and/or International Executive Committee. Maintained communication with IEC members and IEC Committee's on a regular basis. Coordinated the Regional Meeting of the Americas, held in September 2009 in Lima, Peru. The meeting was funded by AIUSA and AI Canada to bring together AI leadership from the region to discuss key issues to be considered at the 2009 International Council Meeting in Antalya, Turkey such as proposals on governance and democracy and the new ISP 2010-2016.

1990 - 2009

AIUSA Intersectional Cooperation Committee-ISCC.

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As member of this committee (formerly known as the Committee for International Development-CID), I reviewed membership development project proposals from AI sections and structures in Latin America and the Caribbean. The committee's support for any proposal is based on the merits of each application. Members of the committee consult with relevant staff at the International Secretariat (IS) before deciding on any proposal. My role is to consult closely with sections and structures in order to clarify any questions the Committee may have, and when appropriate recommend the approval of the proposal. I was the chair of this Committee and in this capacity I coordinated AIUSA's response to the movement's initiatives for membership development initiatives and other consultations when appropriate. After the 2001 ICM, CID decided to expand its funding support for Work-on-own-country (WOOC) projects in developing sections and structures. This initiative was approved by AIUSA Board of Directors and the IS. Approved WOOC projects must have a prior approval from the IEC or IS as outlined in WOOC criteria for pilot projects (ORG 20/002/2002). More recently ISCC has modified its application form to include an evaluation process for approved applications. The ISCC application and documentation is available in all four core languages of AI. The ISCC is currently inoperative due to lack of funds.

1995 – 2010

AIUSA's delegate to EDAI Editorial Board.

AIUSA representation at this international Board is for the purpose of supporting AIUSA's efforts in developing sustainable use of AI materials in Spanish. This effort is consistent with our section's approved plan for multicultural organizational development. At the Editorial Board meeting held in May 2000 in Lima, Peru, I was elected to its Executive Committee and have served as Chair of this Exec. Committee until September of 2006. In this capacity I have participated in several consultations related to the ISP and the ongoing development of AI's new Language Policy. I have participated at the 2004 and 2006 Chair's Forum.

2004 – 2006

AIUSA's Committee on Mission, Research and Action.

This new committee appointed by the Board of Directors is made of long time AI members and experts in AI's policy. The role of this committee is to guide, supervise and report on AIUSA's responses to the movement's consultation policy processes. The committee issues recommendations to the Board of Directors on AIUSA responses to internal consultation on AI's mission, research strategies and action plans.

2001 – 2004

Amnesty International-USA Board of Directors.

Elected to the Board of Directors in July of 2001 for a three year term. Within the Board structure I was a member of the International Committee. This committee discusses AI's policies and responds to consultations on international issues of the movement.

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- 2004 – 2005 **Amnesty International-USA International Council Meeting delegate.**
Participated at the International Council Meeting to be held in Cocoyoc, Mexico, August 2005.
- 2002 – 2003 **Amnesty International-USA International Council Meeting delegate.**
Participated at the International Council Meeting held in Cocoyoc, Mexico, August 2003.
- 2000 – 2001 **Amnesty International-USA International Council Meeting delegate.** In June 2001 I organized a regional forum (held in Mexico city) in preparation for the International Council Meeting (ICM), a bi-annual meeting of AI membership where decision are made on AI's mandate, action, membership development and finances. Participated at the International Council Meeting held in Dakar, Senegal in August 16-25, 2001.
- 1994 – 2004 **Amnesty International Puerto Rican Section consultant.**
I am volunteering as a consultant to AI Puerto Rico's Board of Directors since I reside in San Juan. I've helped organize their 1995 AGM; helped update the section's By Laws; train and advice their main office staff on processing AI documents received from the IS; participated in workshops and spoke at a week-end workshop on children's human rights education. Another important activity that seems to fill a void is informing and advising the section's Board of Directors on AI's consultation to sections on issues such as Integrated Strategic Plan, Mandate Review, etc. Helped prepared their 1995 and 2001 delegations to the International Council Meetings, reviewing documents related to the meeting.
- 2000 – 2002 **Amnesty International-USA HIV/AIDS Task Force.** This task force analyzed the HIV/AIDS pandemic *vis a vis* human rights. The task force presented the terms of reference for AIUSA's work on this issue to AIUSA's Board of Directors in April 2002.
- 1993 – 2004 **Military Security and Police Transfers Working Group-**
I volunteered to be in this task force because it is an important component of AI's work on stopping and preventing human rights violations by military forces. Provided important information from School of the Americas to the International Secretariat and reviewed the first draft of AIUSA's paper on US foreign military aid. Served as Chair of this committee until March 2001. In May of 2001 I represented AI at a seminar sponsored by the Canadian government on the 2001 UN Conference: Tackling the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and presented AI's position on this issue. Representatives of the OAS member states were invited as well as, non-governmental organizations from the Americas region.
- Oct 1994 – Jun 1999 **Amnesty International-USA Board of Directors.**

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Elected to the Board of Directors in June of 1994 for a two year term and re-elected to a 3-year term. Within the Board structure I chaired the International Committee. I also served as Chair and Board Liaison to the Cultural Diversification Resource Group for the period of Oct. 1995 to Oct. 1996. I was part of the Membership Action Team (MAT) that developed a blueprint for new membership servicing strategies, the building block for the Boston Action Plan. Other tasks completed while on the Board of Directors include coordinating AIUSA's response to:

- The International Executive Committee regarding the re-structuring of Grouping IV and former Grouping V.
- The consultation on Criteria for Identifying Development Priorities consultation.
- The consultation on the Integrated Strategic Plan prior to the 1997 International Council Meeting.
- The first round of consultation on Mandate Review

In October of 1995 I presented a strategy for AIUSA's Communications Department on the use of AI's Spanish material in the US. This strategy identifies ways in which AIUSA can and should incorporate Spanish speakers and materials in media activities. I have kept this effort through the years and will continue to do so until there is a sustainable program in place across all Departments (see EDAI delegate below).

In October of 1996 I participated in the International Conference on Torture, hosted by AI-Sweden in Stockholm, as part of AIUSA's delegation. This conference was a consultation process with NGO's from around the world, in preparation of AI's third Campaign Against Torture.

As Board member I represented AIUSA to the 1995, 1996 and 1997 Grouping IV meetings. At the 1996 meeting I was elected as member of the Grouping's Coordinating Committee. In 1997 I was named Chair of the Coordinating Committee.

1989 - 1991

AIUSA Nominating Committee.

By the second year I was named chair of this committee. As a result of this experience I introduced successfully a resolution to AIUSA elections rules that requires Board members to notify the Nominating Committee if they plan to modify the slate of candidates two weeks before the Board meeting where the slate is approved, and that changes of the slate by the Board requires a two thirds majority vote.

1991 – 1992

Houston Group 23 member.

Organized press conference for AI's campaign on Mexico. This press conference was done in English and Spanish. Thereafter became the local AI spokesperson for the Spanish press. Participated on a live debate with Mexican Consul on the local PBS TV station. A second taped debate in a Spanish TV station went so well for us that the Consul walked out of the set,

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in the middle of the recording. Unfortunately, the Consul was successful in blocking the airing of the one-hour debate. Participated in the organization of a demonstration against HR violations in Mexico in front of the Consulate office in Houston with the local AI group. Coordinated the work for AI's exhibition booth at the First International Spanish Book Fair held in Houston in September 1991.

1983 - 1990

Area Coordinator for the State of Louisiana.

Organized, supported and facilitated, resources for AI groups in the State, including university groups. Invited as main speaker in many occasions, including AI group meetings, as well as, meetings of other organizations interested in AI.

1981 - 1991

New Orleans, Group 143 member

- Country campaign coordinator for: Guatemala, Turkey, Morocco.
- Group Coordinator for 3 years.
- Trained as Trainer for workshops and group presentations in all areas of AI work.
- Help coordinate AIUSA's regional meetings held in New Orleans in 1985 and 1990.
- Campaign coordinator for: Campaign Against Torture, Refugee Campaign, Guatemala (street children) and other campaigns.
- Prisoner of Conscience (POC) coordinator. Organized letter writing for a POC in Turkey and another POC in Rumania.

Skills:

Languages: Speak, read and write English and Spanish fluently. Computer software: Extensive use of statistical computer software packages such as SAS, STATA, SPSS, Epi-Info. Extensive use and knowledge of office software such as, word processing, spreadsheets, presentations and desktop publishing software.

Extra-curricular Activities

Play tennis, kayaking. Instructor of Qi Gong as taught by Grandmaster Hong Liu. Practice Reiki Jin Kei Do (Level III). Wood carving as a hobby. Member of Amnesty International since 1981. Member of the American Red Cross since 2006. Follow shamanic traditions of the Andes.

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Publications- Diego E. Zavala

1. Correa P, Zavala D. Patterns of cancer frequency in Latin America. In: **Cancer Prevention in Developing Countries**. Aoki K, Tominaga S, Hirayama T, Hirota Y (eds.). The University of Nagoya Press, Nagoya, Japan, pp. 227-235, 1982.
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