

SACIV BOARD MEMBERS

2007-2008



San Antonio Council

FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

Dr. Bernard Buecker, Board Chair
Mr. Justin Rice, Board Vice Chair
Cav. Francesco Cristadoro, Treasurer
Mrs. Irma Reyes, Executive Director

Dr. Anthony Arabia (Former Chair)
Ms. Terry Camacho
Mrs. Mamie Campbell (Membership Chair)
Ms. Karen Davis
Mr. Jose Luis Garcia
Mrs. Janie Groves (Former Chair)
Dr. Angelika Jansen-Brown
Ms. Linda Psalmonds
Mrs. Mary Stanton Walsh
Dr. Patricia Watkins
Dr. Norman St. Clair



San Antonio Council
FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

SACIV BOARD MEMBERS

2007-2008



Dr. Bernard Buecker

Board Chairman

Dr. Buecker's contribution to citizen diplomacy began in the late 1970's as a Fulbright scholar at University of Heidelberg Faculty of Law. During the 1980s his efforts resulted in the Distinguished Service Cross (Federal Republic of Germany) and the German American Friendship Award. Dr. Buecker's work continued into the 1990's and the twenty first century. In 2003, he received the Award of Merit from the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children for Outstanding Commitment to the Protection of Children and Knowledge of Hague International Child Abduction Issues. Dr. Buecker remains active in citizen diplomacy and is the board chair for the San Antonio Council for International Visitors and the San Antonio World Trade Association (European Group) in addition to serving as Honorary Consul of the Federal Republic of Germany. Ben has been a member of SACIV since 1990.



Mr. Justin Rice

Board Vice Chairman

Mr. Justin Rice is an in-house attorney with The Nature Conservancy, a non-profit headquartered in Washington D.C. whose mission is to preserve plants, animals, and natural communities in the U.S. and abroad by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive.

Justin has spent considerable time in Latin America (including managing a fishing lodge in the Yucatan) and was a Rotary Ambassadorial Graduate Scholar at El Colegio de Mexico in Mexico City focusing on Mexican foreign policy. Justin grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas, received his law degree from the University of Texas, and conducts admission interviews for his undergrad alma mater, Rice University. Justin joined SACIV in 2000 and also serves on the board of the World Affairs Council.



Cav. Francesco Cristadoro

Treasurer

Cav. Francesco Cristadoro has been Consular correspondent of Italy from 1981 to present, in the promotion and development of activities between Italy and the United States. Cav. Francesco Cristadoro received his Masters of Science in Electronics Engineering Specialization in Nuclear Physics and Management from the University "La Sapienza" in Rome, Italy. He has been engaged in professional positions involving systems engineering and consulting for major engineering and governmental entities, including the US Air Force. He is heavily engaged in community activities and in 1991 received from the President of Italy, the title of Knight to The Order of the Republic of Italy. Cav. Cristadoro joined SACIV in 1999 and is the former President of Christopher Columbus Italian Society.



SACIV BOARD MEMBERS

2007-2008



Mrs. Irma Reyes

Executive Director

Irma Reyes' contribution to citizen diplomacy began in 1971 when as a Scouting leader she coordinated Scouting exchanges between Mexico and San Antonio. Her formal citizen diplomacy work began in 1977 as a volunteer for the Visitor's program. Irma's dedication to international visitors continued into the 1980's and in 1989 she was one of the founders of the San Antonio Council for International Visitors. Since its inception, Irma's tireless efforts and contagious smile have welcomed thousands of U.S. Department of State's international visitors here in the San Antonio area. In addition to providing many opportunities for cultural and business exchanges, Irma's efforts are an example of excellence in citizen diplomacy. Many of the visitors still remain in contact with Irma today. She has been active with many community organizations to include Catholic Charities, Refuge Resettlement, and the Woman's and Hispanic Chambers of Commerce, Free Trade Alliance, the City of San Antonio Zoning Commission, and the City of San Antonio Cable Advisory Board. Irma is one of the three founders of SACIV.



Dr. Anthony Arabia

Anthony J. Arabia, PhD, began a formative international experience in a grant from the National Science Foundation in 1959 and with graduate research degrees that led to coordination of Bangladeshi and French students and a consultant grant from the Agency for International Development for a Medical Documentation Center in Dhaka. Other professional activities were concerned with technology in China, strategic planning, administrative evaluation, and accreditation at 24 institutions, Middle States, NCATE and Southern Association, and professorships at Pittsburgh and Texas in committees for 22 doctoral research students. Dr. Arabia was awarded a Fulbright professorship (India 1988) and he is the Founding President of the Fulbright Association, San Antonio. He has been a member of SACIV since 1992, serving as Chairman from 1998-1999 and 2005-2006. Dr. Arabia is a consultant for national nonprofits and the Coppini Academy, San Antonio. Currently, he is the chair of strategic planning, SACIV.



Ms. Terry Camacho

Board Member

Ms. Terry Camacho is a former foreign service national, working at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City. She has recently become a U.S. citizen and is working at the Mexican Consulate in the legal department. She specializes in immigration issues. Ms. Camacho has been a member of SACIV since 2003. She is a recent board member, joining in November, 2007.



San Antonio Council
FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

SACIV BOARD MEMBERS

2007-2008



Mrs. Mamie Benitez Campbell

Board Member, Membership Chair

Mrs. Mamie Benitez Campbell (formerly of the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas) has been a community activist in San Antonio for over 25 years, actively participating in the local San Antonio Women's Chamber of Commerce, Business Professional Women's Organizations as well as other local chambers and organizations. Mamie's contribution to citizen diplomacy spans a depth and breadth of areas that serve our city, community and nation. Mrs. Campbell is currently serving as president of the Alamo Chapter Unit 1836 of the Ladies' Auxiliary, Military Order of the Purple Heart (LAMOPH) as well as LAMOPH National Community Service Chairman. In addition to LAMOPH, Mamie serves on the boards of the San Antonio Council for International Visitors and Network Power Texas. Mamie has been a SACIV member since 2001.

Ms. Karen Davis

Board Member

Karen Davis recently retired from the San Antonio Express-News, where she worked for 24 years in a variety of reporting and editing positions. She was editor of the Neighbors zoned community sections at the time of her retirement. Prior to moving to San Antonio, she was a reporter for the Dallas Morning News and the Odessa American. She graduated from the University of North Texas with a BA in journalism and is a native of Fort Worth. Ms. Davis joined the board in November, 2007.

Mr. Jose Luis Garcia

Board Member



Mr. Jose Luis Garcia was the Chief of Protocol for the City of San Antonio for 18 years. He was also the vice chair for the National League of Sister Cities. Mr. Garcia is involved in numerous community activities. In May, 2006 Mr. Garcia was named Aviation Marketing Manager for the City of San Antonio's Aviation Department by City Manager Sheryl L. Sculley. He is currently developing a community based San Antonio-Mexico Strategic Marketing Program in coordination with consultants from Vancouver, Canada. The plan focuses on increasing consumer awareness in Mexico of San Antonio key sectors: Healthcare & Biosciences, Tourism & Aviation, Education & Culture, Financial Services, General Business Services and Heavy & Light Industry. Mr. Garcia also provides assistance in coordinating various airport activities with the San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau and the City of San Antonio's International Affairs, Economic Development and Cultural Affairs Departments, as well as other community entities and organizations. Mr. Garcia has been a member of SACIV since 2000. Mr. Garcia recently joined the board in November, 2007.



San Antonio Council
FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

SACIV BOARD MEMBERS

2007-2008



Mrs. Janie Groves

Board Member, Former Board Chair

Mrs. Janie Groves is active leader in a number of community organizations. Professionally she designed and ran the first home network shopping program on television. Janie also was president of a multimillion dollar advertising firm, Cheney & Groves. She is an active member of the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce and International Women's Forum. Mrs. Groves and her husband Alvin (an internationally highly respected architect, who designed part of the San Antonio River Walk) travel extensively both domestically and internationally. Mrs. Groves has been a SACIV member since 1992.

Dr. Angelika Jansen-Brown

Board Member



Dr. Jansen has worn many hats in her professional life – but it always had to do with citizen diplomacy. It started approximately 30 years in NYC when she helped build an institute of the German Department of New York University that had a sole purpose – bringing Americans and Germans together by ways of learning the German Language and exchanging cultural programs. When she came to San Antonio she continued this path when she opened the Jansen-Perez Galleries with a partner, this time opening communication channels via visual art with Mexico and San Antonio. This work triggered cooperation with Monterrey and The Smithsonian Institute in Washington, D.C. She is on several cultural and educational boards in San Antonio. With SACIV she has been a member since 1991 and has hosted many international visitors.

Ms. Linda Psalmonds

Board Member



Linda Psalmonds is a global marketing and analytical consultant for one the most respected international data and customer solutions corporations in the world. Her work experiences also include executive level positions at three of the nation's largest specialty retailers. She also teaches cultural diversity and mathematics online. Linda's community work includes chairing the corporate challenge for various Arthritis Foundations, participating in Habitat for Humanity projects as well as actively participating with her church and other interfaith groups. Recently she designed and implemented a Celebrating Citizen Diplomacy program. Academically, Linda is currently completing her doctorate in management. Her dissertation title is *An Ethnographic Study: Exploring Fashion Leadership Expectations Between Customers and Specialty Fashion Apparel Retailers*. Linda has been an active member of SACIV since 2005.



San Antonio Council
FOR INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

SACIV BOARD MEMBERS

2007-2008



Mrs. Mary Stanton Walsh

Board Member, Former Board Secretary

Mrs. Mary Stanton Walsh is retired and currently serves on several community boards. Mrs. Walsh is formerly from Laredo where she managed several international travel agencies. Academically, Mrs. Walsh's bachelor's degree is in design. She created and successfully marketed clothing designs in the 1960s. Mary and her husband Michael Walsh (former air attaché to Rangoon, Burma) have traveled extensively both domestically and internationally. Mrs. Walsh is very active in the community and is one of the founders of both SACIV and C-Fire, a non-profit organization that supports fire departments at the local and state levels.



Dr. Patricia Watkins

Board Member

Dr. Patricia Watkins is the Vice President, International Programs at the University of the Incarnate Word. Dr. Watkins has been a member of SACIV since 2005.



Dr. Norman St. Clair

Board Member

Dr. Norman St. Clair is the Director, International Initiatives at the University of the Incarnate Word. In his role, Dr. St. Clair establishes and maintains sister university programs (currently at 93 sister universities in 31 countries) as well as manages a team of coordinators assigned to recruit international students, which currently represents 51 countries and 10% of the University's overall student population. He also develops and manage special cultural and academic programs for short-term international visiting groups. Dr. St. Clair also serves as the point person for communications with the international partners (extensive international travel required). Dr. St. Clair's doctoral focused on International Education and Entrepreneurship. He is an active member of SACIV, contributing weekly to the organization on activities ranging from the website to meeting with international visitors. Dr. St. Clair has been a member of SACIV since 2005.