



**Obama Administration Relations with Central America:
A Conversation with Seven U.S. Ambassadors**

Tuesday, February 1, 2011
8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
Fifth Floor Conference Room

Speakers' Biographies

Ambassador Anne Slaughter Andrew became the first woman to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Costa Rica in December 2009. Prior to her service as Ambassador, she founded New Energy Nexus, LLC. She also co-founded Anson Group LLC and served as co-owner and Director until 2007. Ambassador Andrew was previously a partner at the Patton & Boggs law firm and Co-Chair of the Environment/Energy Team at Baker & Daniels. Ambassador Andrew received a Bachelor of Arts from Georgetown University and a Juris Doctorate from Indiana University School of Law at Indianapolis.

Ambassador Mari Carmen Aponte began her service as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of El Salvador in December 2009. She had served as a consultant and solo law practitioner since 2005 and has been a member of the Council on Foreign Relations since 1995. From 1979 to 1980 Ambassador Aponte served as a White House Fellow assigned to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. She has also worked on the state level as Executive Director of the Puerto Rico Federal Affairs Administration. Ambassador Aponte holds a Bachelor of Arts from Rosemont College, a Master of Arts Degree from Villanova University, and a law degree from Temple University.

Ambassador Robert J. Callahan was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to Nicaragua in July 2008. He was the first public diplomacy fellow at the School of Media and Public Affairs at the George Washington University. Ambassador Callahan previously served as Director of Public Affairs at the Office of the Director of National Intelligence in Washington, DC. Ambassador Callahan joined the Foreign Service in 1979 and has since served in Costa Rica, Honduras, London, Bolivia, Athens, Rome, and Baghdad. He has also taught at the National War College in Washington, D.C. and worked as an editor at Loyola University Press. Ambassador Callahan holds a Bachelor of Arts in Modern European History from Loyola University in Chicago and a Master of Arts in American History from DePaul University in Chicago.

Ambassador Hugo Llorens was confirmed as U.S. Ambassador to Honduras in April 2008. Prior to this position, he served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassies in Madrid and Buenos Aires. From 2002-2003, Ambassador Llorens served as the Director of Andean Affairs at the National Security Council. Past experience includes the position of Principal Officer at the U.S. Consulate General in Vancouver, Canada; Deputy Director of the Office of Economic Policy and Summit Coordination in the Bureau of Inter-American Affairs; and Assistant Treasurer at the Chase Manhattan Bank, International Division. Ambassador Llorens received a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service from Georgetown University, a Master of Science degree in National Security Studies from the National War College, and a Master of Arts in Economics from the University of Kent, Canterbury, England.

Ambassador Stephen G. McFarland was sworn in as U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala in June 2008. He