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**EDUCATION:**

- 2012           **Florida International University, Department of Political Science**  
Ph. D. Candidate, Dissertation Project- "Illicit Interest Groups and Their Impact on U.S. - Colombian Relations: A Study of the Treaty of Extradition" This is a dissertation directed under Dr. Eduardo Gamarra.
- 2006           **Florida International University, Labor Center**  
Graduate Certificate on Conflict Resolution
- 2003           **Public Outreach Conference Certificate**, George Mason University
- April 2003     **Florida International University, Department of Political Science**  
Ph.D. Graduate Student Coursework; Composite Exams on: Comparative Politics, International Politics, and Research Methods; and Proposal completed.
- Dec. 2002     **Florida International University, Department of Political Science**  
M.A. in Political Science, Thesis- "A Two-Level Game Analysis of the Issue of Extradition in US-Colombian Relations."
- April 2002     **Florida International University, Latin American Caribbean Studies**  
Graduate Certificate in Brazil Studies  
**Florida International University, Latin American Caribbean Studies**  
Graduate Certificate in Latin American and Caribbean Studies
- June 2001     **University of Michigan**  
ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research
- May 1997      **Florida Atlantic University, Department of Political Science**  
B.A. in Political Science
- May 1996      **Florida Atlantic University, Department of Microbiology**  
B.S. in Microbiology  
Minor in French

**AWARDS AND HONORS:**

- 2005           **International Studies Association Graduate Student Travel Grant**
- 2004           **Tinker Field Research Grant**, Florida International University
- 2001-2004     **Teaching Assistantship**, Florida International University
- 2003           **First Prize Paper Competition Recipient**, First Annual Florida Student Conference in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Hosted by Florida International Univ. & University of Miami. Paper title: "The Dynamics of Executive Legislative Relations in Colombia Examined in the Context of Electoral Reform."
- 2001           **American Political Science Association Graduate Student Travel Grant**

- 1999-2001 **Carnegie Mellon Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship**
- 1998-1999 **Teaching Assistantship**, Florida International University
- 1997 **Pi Sigma Alpha Society Inauguration** – Florida Atlantic University
- 1996-1997 **Student Government Best Agency** - Florida Atlantic University
- 1996 **President's Honor List**, Florida Atlantic University
- 1991-1992 **Florida Atlantic University Foundation Scholarship**

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE:**

- 2011-2012 **University of Miami, Political Science Department**, Instructor, *Latin American Politics and Society (POL385)*
- Spring 2004 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**, Teaching Assistant, *Sex, Power and Politics and Ancient and Medieval Theory*, Assisting Professor Judith Stiehm.
- Fall 2003 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**. Instructor, *Dynamics in World Politics (INR 2002)*.
- Spring 2003 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**. Instructor, *Dynamics in World Politics (INR 2002)*.
- Fall 2002 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**, Teaching Assistant, *Public Opinion and Legislative Process*, Assisted Professor Keith Dougherty.
- Spring 2002 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**. Teaching Assistant, *American Politics*, Assisted Professor Virginia Chanley.
- Fall 2001 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**. Teaching Assistant, *American Politics and Political Parties*, Assisted Professor Keith Dougherty.
- Spring 1999 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**. Teaching Assistant, *American Foreign Policy*, Professor Dario Moreno.
- Fall 1998 **Florida International University, Political Science Department**. Teaching Assistant, *World Prospects and Issues*, Professor Jeanne Kates.

#### **PAPERS AND CONFERENCES:**

- 2009 "The Bolivarian Connection: Hugo Chavez and The FARC." Panelist at the **Mid-West Political Science Association**, Chicago, Illinois, April.
- 2005 "Illicit Interest Groups and Their Influence on US-Colombian Relations: A Study of the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias (FARC)." Panelist at the **International Studies Association**, Honolulu, Hawaii, March.
- 2004 "Illicit Interest Groups: A Study of the Cali Cartel." Panelist at the **Latin American Studies Association XXV**, Las Vegas, NV, October.
- "Illicit Interest Groups and Their Influence on US-Colombian Relations: A Study of the Medellin Cartel and the Issue of Extradition." Panelist at the **International Studies Association**, Montreal, Canada, March.

- 2003 "The Dynamics of Executive Legislative Relations in Colombia Examined in the Context of Electoral Reform." Panelist at the **Latin American Studies Association XXIV**, Dallas, TX, March.
- "A Two-Level Game Analysis of the Issue of Extradition in the Relations Between the United States and Colombia." Presented at the **Florida Political Science Association Conference**, Tampa, FL, March.
- 2002 "*Mas de lo Mismo* in Electoral Democracies." Runner-up award recipient at the **Colombian Studies Institute Conference at Florida International University**, April.
- "Assessing the Influence of Drug Traffic in Brazil: Consequences, Perceptions, Actions and Limitations." Presented at the **Graduate Student Paper Conference at Florida International University**, March.
- 2001 "The Side Effects of the US Policy on Drugs: A Study of Intervention in Colombia." Poster session in the annual **American Political Science Association Conference** in San Francisco, California, September.
- "The Side Effects of the US Policy on Drugs: A Study of Intervention in Colombia." Presented at the **Western Political Science Assoc. Conference**. Las Vegas, NE, March.
- 2000 "A Look at Anti-Political Party Sentiment in Venezuela." Presented at the **ILASA Conference**, Austin, TX, February.

#### **PUBLICATIONS:**

- 2009 "Illicit Interest Groups and Their Influence on US-Colombian Relations: A Study of the Medellin Cartel." In *Interest Groups & Lobbying: Volume Three – Latin America, Africa, the Middle East, and Asia*. (Ed.) Colin Magrath. Dublin: Edwin Mellen Press.
- 2008 "Illicit interest groups, Social Capital, and Conflict: A study of the FARC." In *The Paradox of Social Capital: Fueling Conflict and Building Peace through Trust and Networks*. (Ed.) Michaelene Fox. New York: Routledge/Taylor & Francis.
- 2001 "'Should I stay or Should I go,' the Colombian Dilemma." In Ciudadano C. LACC, Miami, FL, January.
- "The Colombian Diaspora in South Florida." Contributed as part of the research team, headed by Dr. Michael Collier and Dr. Eduardo Gamarra. LACC, Miami, FL, May.

#### **ORGANIZATIONS:**

**Political Science Organization- Florida International University** - President, 2000-2003. Web Designer/Manager, 2001-2005.

**Pi Sigma Alpha Society- Florida International University** - Vice President, 2001-2002.

**WRGP 88.1 FM- Florida International University**- Host of radio program, 1998-2002.

#### **RELATED WORK/INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCE:**

- 2009 **Bravo Music Inc./Brain Music**. Web Developer. Deerfield Beach, FL.
- 2002 **Kroll, The Risk Consulting Company, Marketing Department**. Marketing Coordinator for the Anti-Money Laundering and Compliance Services Group. Miami, FL.

2000-2001 **Latin American and Caribbean Center, Institute for International Professional Svcs.**  
Lecture Coordinator for the Masters in Political Campaign Management. Miami, FL.

June 2000 **American Red Cross.** Human Resources Assistant. Miami FL.

March 2000 **Latin American Studies Association Conference.** Conference Aid. Miami, FL.

**ACTIVE PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS:**

American Political Science Association  
International Studies Association  
Latin American Studies Association  
Southern Political Science Association

**LANGUAGES:**

English and Spanish (Fluent), Portuguese (Advanced), French (Intermediate).

**REFERENCES:**

**Astrid Arraras**, Assistant Professor, FIU. (305) 348-6428 <arrarasa@fiu.edu>

**Ronald Cox**, Associate Professor, FIU. (305) 348-2227 <coxr@fiu.edu>

**Keith Dougherty**, Associate Professor, UGA. (305) 348-2227 <dougherk@uga.edu>

**Eduardo Gamarra**, Professor, FIU, (305) 348-2227 <gamarrae@fiu.edu>

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**Timothy Power**, Graduate Director, FIU until 2005. Professor at Oxford Centre for Brazilian Studies  
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