



DIALOGUE ON DIVERSITY

OVER TWENTY FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE TO AMERICA'S DIVERSE COMMUNITIES

Press Advisory

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Washington, D.C. September 9, 2017 — This week's is the twenty fourth renewing of the classic Entrepreneurship and Information Technology program that is the essential trademark of Dialogue on Diversity's message. "It is joined this year," Ms. Cristina Caballero, Dialogue on Diversity President/CEO, remarked "by a set of additional themes, the twin concerns brought together by the broader net cast in an analysis of contemporary society and economy. First is the theme of education, with the rigor of STEM studies, as it engages the Millennial generation; the other theme is the commencement, on the very date of our conference, of Hispanic Heritage Month."

After a greeting and introductions by Jackie Reyes-Yanes, Director of the D.C. Office on Latino Affairs, a principal Conference sponsor, the state of information technology as a scientific and engineering phenomenon is set out by a trio of experts, **Kim Keenan**, President/CEO of the Multicultural Media Telecom and Internet Council, and **Travis R. Hall** of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration; followed by **Monique Rivière** of Byte Back, a Washington grass-roots computer/IT training operation. **Dr. Adrian Gropper**, Chief Technology Officer at the leading privacy advocacy group, Patient Privacy Rights, reviews the state of privacy in an internet age.

The training, or education, of the emerging modern entrepreneur forms a basic topic. **Roberta Rincón**, researcher on Women and Girls, Society of Women Engineers, holds forth on the telling combine of mathematical savvy and spunk that propels women and girls to the heights in the tech professions. **Dr. Maria Sevillano** of the Ana G. Méndez University in the Capital Region will review her three decades at the academic lectern inculcating the well-focused fundamentals of business administration. **Oswaldo Acosta** of the Latino Economic Development Center described that organization's System for capital funding-plus-training offered for budding entrepreneurs.

The aggressive policy initiatives of the present District of Columbia city administration have turned Washington, now not only the political capital, but to something of a hotbed of a burgeoning small business initiatives. **Courtney Snowden**, Deputy Mayor for Economic Development, reviews the gathering speed of this flourishing of economic activity. Director **Melinda Bolling** reviews the work of the all-important Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, which presides over a dauntingly long list of public administrative functions, all essential for aid and requiring compliance as well of the young local enterprises. **Julio Güity-Guevara**, Deputy Director for the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs, speaking on the now ascendant goal of a Green Economy for Washington, will recount the crucial stages of environmental efforts, both locally and globally.

Diana Marrero and her panel of public relations experts from the newly christened The Hill Latino (an offshoot of the venerable The Hill public affairs paper) ponder the topics of branding and shaping an enterprise for most potent marketing.

Sharon Pinder, long-time business consultant, IT designer, and battler for non-discriminatory dealing for minority firms presents the story of her own present post: heading the Minority Supplier Development Council for the Capital Area, where she has energized the supplier diversity programs affecting scores of area small businesses. **Jorge Salichs**, attorney specializing in matters of international investment and trade, **Gisselle Rohmer** of the World Bank, each expert on the economies of Latin America and the Caribbean, incl. Puerto Rico, and **Prof. Andrew Wyner** of BAU University in Washington, discuss the questions of foreign trade and its feasibility for small U.S. producers.

The preparations in these final days before the Conference are hastening to completion against the somber backdrop of the difficult to believe succession of two unusually violent hurricanes with more said to be on the way, with destruction of houses, small businesses, and the clutter of a satisfied life that had made a home. Not only that, but the simultaneous revocation of the deportation relief instituted by the previous Administration. Justified by its proponents as a exaltation of the majesty of the Law, while, as we have argued in these pages, the pertinent question is what we face as policy-makers, not enforcers of past rules, which are now to be judged inexpedient, even pernicious. We labor the while to make our civic and economic life productive and humane, and that is the abiding purpose of our Dialogue's work.

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