

# Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies

## Ford PAS –Who We Are

### **Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies**

The Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS) is an educational program developed by Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company, as part of its ongoing effort to encourage high school students to pursue their education and master skills necessary to build successful careers in business, engineering, technology and other challenging fields in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Ford PAS, created in collaboration with Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC), is a project and inquiry-based academic program operating in over 130 sites across 22 states since its launch in 2004. Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services established a dedicated Ford PAS Technical Assistance (Ford PAS TA) group to support the implementation of Ford PAS. This staff is based at Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services and Education Development Center.

### **Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services**

Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services is committed to creating opportunities that promote corporate citizenship, philanthropy, volunteerism and cultural diversity for those who live in the communities where Ford does business. Established in 1949 and made possible by Ford Motor Company profits, Ford Motor Company Fund supports initiatives and institutions that foster innovative education, auto-related safety, and American heritage and legacy. National programs include Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies, which provides high school students with academi-

cally rigorous 21<sup>st</sup> century learning experiences, and Driving Skills for Life, a teen-focused auto safety initiative. The Ford Volunteer Corps, established in 2005, continues Ford's legacy of caring worldwide. Through the Volunteer Corps, salaried employees, union members, retirees and their families participate in a wide range of volunteer projects in their communities. For more information on programs made possible by Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services, visit [www.ford.com](http://www.ford.com).

Ford Motor Company, a global automotive industry leader based in Dearborn, Mich., manufactures or distributes automobiles in 200 markets across six continents. With more than 280,000 employees and more than 100 plants worldwide, the company's core and affiliated automotive brands include Ford, Jaguar, Land Rover, Lincoln, Mercury, Volvo and Mazda. The company provides financial services through Ford Motor Credit Company.

### **Education Development Center, Inc.**

For nearly half a century Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC) has been a pioneer, bridging the worlds of research, policy, and practice. EDC's award-winning programs and products, developed in collaboration with partners around the globe, consistently advance learning and healthy development for individuals of all ages and institutions of all types. EDC is an international nonprofit organization and currently manages more than 335 projects in 60 countries. Learn more about EDC at [www.edc.org](http://www.edc.org).



# Biographies

## FORD PAS STAFF

**Cheryl Carrier** has been a part of Ford Motor Company for over 25 years; presently she is the Program Director of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Education Programs for Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services, the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company. Two of the programs Cheryl is responsible for are Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS) and the Ford Career Academy Innovation Community (Ford CAIC), two signature education programs at Ford Motor Company Fund. In this capacity, she manages all aspects of Ford PAS and also oversees the Ford CAIC project. Carrier joined Ford Motor Company Fund in 2004 to oversee the development of the Ford PAS program, an educational program initiated by Ford Motor Company Fund as part of its ongoing efforts to encourage high school students to pursue their education—and build successful careers—in business, engineering, and technology. Ford PAS is currently being implemented in over 130 sites across 22 states and has reached more than 10,000 students since its inception in 2004. This program reaffirms the commitment of Ford Motor Company Fund to making education a top priority. In her current position, Carrier uses her vast experience in partnership building and team leadership to oversee the program development, dissemination, direct technical assistance and regional and national partnerships with the community organizations, university and education entities, and business groups partnering with Ford on these two education projects. She was also instrumental in the development of the Ford Career Academy Innovation Community (Ford CAIC), a designation program that was created in 2006 by Ford Motor Company Fund. Ford CAIC aims to support the development of sustainable career academy networks through the implementation of a 12-point action guide. Carrier joined Ford Motor Company in May of 1978. She held numerous positions in Engineering, Finance and Business Strategy, and Investor Relations. Most recently, Carrier worked for William Clay Ford, Jr., now Chairman of Ford Motor Company. In this capacity, she assisted Mr. Ford from 1989 through 1997, as he held various management positions and was a member of the Ford Motor Company Board of Directors. In 1997, Carrier left Ford Motor Company on a special assignment to develop a Human Resource department at The Detroit Lions where she was responsible for developing human resource policy and procedures. She was also a member of the Policy, Operating and Strategy Committee. Carrier serves on the State Selection Committee of the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, an advocacy organization that brings together the business community, education leaders and policy makers and focuses on infusing 21<sup>st</sup> century skills into education. She currently resides in Rochester Michigan.

**Eliza P. Fabillar** is a senior research associate and project director of professional development at Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC). She is currently working with a team to develop a professional development program for the Ford PAS program and curriculum, including summer institutes, online professional development courses, and a training of trainers component. Ms. Fabillar also engages in education research and writing on various topics including effective pedagogy and professional development. In addition, she works closely with an advisory committee on the nationwide implementation of Ford PAS and cultivates partnerships between high schools, universities, and businesses in various states. Previously, Ms. Fabillar was education co-director at the Center for Media and Learning/American Social History Project of the City University of New York (CUNY). For over a decade, she has been instrumental in designing and leading education reform initiatives, curriculum development projects, teacher professional development programs, and school-university-community partnerships, primarily in New York City. Her work has focused on interdisciplinary, inquiry-based, multicultural education and the teaching of social studies, humanities and English language arts in secondary schools. She has also taught adult education for a labor organization and undergraduate and graduate education courses for CUNY. Ms. Fabillar has an M.A. in cultural anthropology from Columbia University and is pursuing a Ph.D. in education.

**Donna Gilley** has taught many different business courses during her 17-year tenure in the Nashville, Tennessee public schools. She was one of the first teachers of the Ford Academy of Manufacturing Sciences (pre-Ford PAS) and has worked with the Ford PAS staff in many capacities, ranging from piloting modules to training new teachers. Ms. Gilley has won many awards, including the Crystal Apple Educator Award for her work with career academies, the National High School Association Tennessee Educator of the Year, the Golden Apple/Golden Arches Award, and the Tennessee Junior Achievement Teacher of the Year award. Ms. Gilley received her undergraduate business degree from Belmont University and her M.B.A. degree from the Jack C. Massey School of Business at Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee.

**Ilene Kantrov** directs the Center for Educational Resources and Outreach at Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC). She oversees a staff of curriculum, technology, professional development, and research experts whose mission is to improve the quality of resources and information available to students, teachers, administrators, parents, and

## Biographies continued...

the public. Dr. Kantrov has more than 25 years of experience in developing curricula and resources that promote understanding of the issues involved in curriculum and school reform. She is a senior project director for the Ford PAS program. Dr. Kantrov holds a B.A. from the University of Chicago and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Tufts University.

**Cora Landy** is an associate project director at EDC and works on the Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies program (Ford PAS). In this capacity, Ms. Landy delivers technical assistance to program sites, manages national and regional partnerships between high schools, universities, and business partners, organizes Ford PAS conferences, conducts teacher training workshops, and develops professional development programs for the Ford PAS curriculum. She also served as the architect of the Ford PAS Web site and wrote portions of the Ford PAS program and curriculum. Prior to joining EDC, Ms. Landy worked in non-profit corporate training & organizational development, and taught geography. She holds a B.A. in geography and sociology and an M.A. in geographical analysis, specializing in local and regional development, from St. Patrick's College in Maynooth, Ireland.

**Rebecca P. Lewis** is a project director for curriculum development at Education Development Center, Inc. (EDC) in Newton, Massachusetts. She currently leads curriculum development projects for the Ford Partnerships for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS) program and is a former senior technical assistance specialist at the WEEA Equity Resource Center. Ms. Lewis combines teaching experience with a range of research and technology skills. She is currently a doctoral candidate in Curriculum and Instruction at Boston College, researching the current curriculum controversy over the teaching of evolution with Dr. Marilyn Cochran-Smith, the inaugural holder of the John E. Cawthorne Endowed Chair in Teacher Education for Urban Schools. Prior to joining EDC, Ms. Lewis worked as a science and math teacher in the Boston Public Schools. Her teaching experience in both Wisconsin and Massachusetts focused on urban students facing multiple barriers. She has also taught at an agricultural preparatory high school in Ecuador. As project director for curriculum development for the Ford PAS program, Ms. Lewis works with teachers and higher education and community-based organization partners to write, promote, and provide training and professional development for the program. She creates rigorous interdisciplinary instructional materials to help middle and high school students explore ideas, analyze problems, and find solutions to the kinds of real-life challenges they will face in college and in a career,

informs and communicates with partners interested in adopting the Ford PAS program, and collaborates with a team of other directors to plan outreach and assistance to partner organizations and colleges and universities.

As a technical assistance specialist, Ms. Lewis worked with teachers, school districts, parents, and others interested in creating equitable and excellent math and science education for all students. She worked with the recipients of WEEA grants awarded by the U.S. Department of Education, and collaborated with the managing editor of the project in the production and publication of products created by the WEEA grantees. Ms. Lewis also managed and facilitated an on-line professional development course for middle school math and science teachers and conducted the evaluation and analysis for the course. She designed new course content and formats and trained others in on-line facilitation and new technologies. As part of a national collaboration, she helped conduct research on the impact of on-line learning on classroom practice and the relationship between learning style and the efficacy of the on-line learning environment.

Drawing on her doctoral work in curriculum, an MAT in biology, and a BS in agriculture, Ms. Lewis has developed a wide range of science curriculum materials, created a hands-on guide for teachers on how to integrate gender equity into existing science curricula, and has assisted in the development of classroom scenarios and working papers on math and science education.

**Millie Mitchell** is the Administrative Manager for the Ford PAS program. Ms. Mitchell joined Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services in June 2004. She works directly with Ford PAS managers, advancing their efforts to coordinate program development, build relationships with current and potential clients, manage supplier relationships, and organize meetings and conferences. Prior to joining Ford PAS, Ms. Mitchell was a paraprofessional working with middle school students in the Livonia Public Schools. Before turning to the field of education, she held sales and marketing positions at several newspapers. Ms. Mitchell holds a B.A. in business administration from Wayne State University in Detroit.

**Sandra Nicholls** began her career as an elementary and middle school teacher in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. After moving to the U.S. with her husband and daughter in 1967, she held various administrative positions until her son was born in 1970, at which time she stayed home to raise her family. In January 1979, she joined Ford Motor Company.

## Biographies continued...

Most of her career at Ford was in the corporate advertising department. While there, Sandra managed media buying, marketing communications and commercial production. She was instrumental in developing Ford's first comprehensive corporate advertising program in the Hispanic and African American markets, which continues to this day. Some highlights of her career included traveling extensively for the production of a major television commercial, which ushered in the new millennium and was shown globally in November 1999. In 2000, she covered the print production of print ads for a worldwide Earth Day edition of Time Magazine. She worked on environmental issues with Time for Kids, an educational supplement for elementary school children. She also managed the production of several television ads for public television's Nature program. In 2004, Sandra continued her career at Ford Motor Company Fund and her portfolio included the management of health care, arts and culture and education programs. Sandra has a Masters of Science degree in marketing and management from Central Michigan University. After 28 years at Ford Motor Company, Sandra retired on March 1, 2007. She is divorced, with two adult children and one impending grandchild.

**Janet Padilla** is passionate about empowering youth and continues to work with Chicago youth in various programs and capacities after 10 years. All aspects of her life involve the education arena. Ms. Padilla is also the manager of the Ford PAS program, designed to engage and excite students in business, technology, and engineering while building critical problem-solving and innovative thinking and 21<sup>st</sup> century skills. In this capacity, she is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day management of Ford PAS, including maintaining and building relationships with all national, regional and local partners, and overseeing the technical assistance activity of the project and all agencies that support the program. Prior to working on Ford PAS, Ms. Padilla worked with Ford Motor Company Fund as a contributions analyst. Ms. Padilla earned a B.A. in economics and political science and an M.A. in public policy from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor on a full ride scholarship for her leadership and dedication to public service.

**Paul J. Poledink** is the Ford PAS program development manager for Ford Motor Company Fund. An alumnus of both the University of Detroit and Wayne State University in engineering, liberal arts, and education, Mr. Poledink began his career an educator, administrator, and training consultant with teaching and administrative positions within the private and public school systems at DeLaSalle Collegiate High School, Wayne-Westland Community Schools, and

Macomb Community College. He followed these positions with a stay at the UAW-GM Center for Human Resources, where he was responsible for employee training and organizational development. Mr. Poledink joined Ford Motor Company in 1999 with the assignment of enhancing the existing Ford Academy of Manufacturing Sciences (FAMS) program which led to the inception of Ford PAS.

**Angela H. Polk** began work at Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services as Ford PAS Coordinator in October 2006. Prior to joining the Fund, Angela served as the Ford PAS Director at the University of Detroit Mercy (UDM). In this capacity, she supported the Ford PAS program at 8 local high schools and a 30 member Ford PAS Business Education Advisory Council (BEAC). Additionally, Angela has over 18 years of pre-college programming experience. She has made professional contributions in administration, program development, and advisory board service to communities and pre-college programs across the country. In May of 2008 Angela will further endorse her community, educational and administrative experiences through a Master's degree in Community Development.

**Michael Schmidt** has worked on education and workforce development issues in both the public and private sectors. Mr. Schmidt joined Ford Motor Company in July of 1996, and he currently serves as the Director of Education and Community Development for the Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services. In this capacity, he oversees Ford's major national partnerships with public K-12 education – including the Henry Ford Academy and the Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS)- as well as the company's relationships with colleges and universities. Before coming to Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services, Mr. Schmidt worked on a number of educational initiatives for the company, including managing the design and launch of the Henry Ford Academy, serving as the chair of the National Employer Leadership Council, and working as a member of the joint UAW/Ford team that designed the UAW/Ford Family Service and Learning Center initiative. Before joining Ford, Mike worked on national education and workforce development issues as a Senior Policy Analyst in President Clinton's Domestic Policy Council in Washington, DC from 1993 to 1996. In this capacity, he participated in the creation and implementation of a number of initiatives, including Goals 2000, School to Work, and the Technology Learning Challenge program. He also worked on federal training and development policy for the U.S. Office of Personnel Management and served as a staff member for the Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills

## Biographies continued...

(SCANS) at the U.S. Department of Labor. Mr. Schmidt earned a B.A. from the University of Michigan and a Masters of Public Management from the University of Maryland School of Public Affairs.

**Sonya Tung** is a technology associate at EDC, responsible for managing and supporting Web development and online initiatives for the Ford PAS program. With the Ford PAS team, she works on a variety of projects, including the Web site, blogs, and online community-building. She also serves as art coordinator and graphic designer, and has written portions of the Ford PAS curriculum. Ms. Tung joined EDC in April 2002. She received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from York University in Toronto, Canada, and a certificate in Applied Internet Technology from ITI in Toronto. She recently relocated from the Boston area to Silver Spring, Maryland, and is based in EDC's Washington, D.C., office.

**James G. Vella** is president, Ford Motor Company Fund and Community Services. In this role, he leads all philanthropic and community service-related activities, including coordination of volunteer efforts by Ford employees and all activities of the Ford Motor Company Fund, a separate philanthropic organization funded largely by Ford Motor Company profits. Ford Fund's primary focus is education, and it also supports organizations and innovative programs that promote automotive safety education and assist communities with a variety of needs. In 2005, Ford Fund dedicated nearly \$80 million to educational, auto-related safety educa-

tion and American legacy initiatives. Prior to Vella's current assignment, he served as Visiting University Professor, a position he assumed in December 2005. In June 2004, Vella became Ford Motor Company's chief of staff, after serving as vice president, Public Affairs and chief of staff since April 2003. Vella was appointed vice president, Public Affairs in August 2002 after having been elected a vice president of Ford Motor Company and named vice president, Corporate Public Affairs in November 2001. Prior to that, he had been executive director, Corporate Communications, since June 2000. Vella joined Ford in 1988 as a producer for the Ford Communications Network coordinating internal television programs. He held a series of Public Affairs positions, including broadcast news manager, regional news manager for the Northeast region, director of Public Affairs for Ford's global manufacturing operations and director of Public Affairs global operations. Before joining Ford, Vella worked in television news at local affiliate stations for 14 years. His television career included news management assignments at WJBK-TV in Detroit, KNSD-TV (formerly KCST-TV) in San Diego, and WBNS-TV in Columbus, Ohio. He is a native of Detroit, Mich., and holds a bachelor's degree in Communications from the University of Detroit-Mercy. He serves on the board of directors for the Automotive Hall of Fame, Detroit Public Television, and the Henry Ford Academy. He also serves on the Board and Executive Committee of Detroit Renaissance, the Board of Advisors for the Henry Ford Heart and Vascular Institute, and he is a trustee and Chairman of the Ford Motor Company Fund.

## FORD PAS PANELISTS

**Janeecé Docal**, Bell Multicultural High School, Washington, D.C.

**Carol Henley**, Howard University, Washington, D.C.

**Scott Roark**, Romulus Community High School, Romulus MI

**Cynthia M. Andersen** is the principal of Advanced Technology Academy (ATA), where the Ford PAS program is implemented in various courses. Ms. Andersen previously taught the Ford PAS Program for four years at ATA. Ms.

Anderson has seventeen years of teaching experience and 6 years of corporate experience. Ms. Andersen holds a B.S. in Accounting from Madonna University, an M.S. in Business Education from Eastern Michigan University, a Management Certificate (AMA), a professional secondary and vocational certification in the state of Michigan, and a Ford PAS certification for completion of the Professional Development Institute and the Ford PAS Train the Trainer. Ms. Andersen is also a member of the Michigan Certified Public Accountants.

**Phyllis Baca** is an Assistant Professor at Santa Fe Community College in Santa Fe, New Mexico. She aligns herself with the American Competitiveness Initiative in

## Biographies continued...

that her over-arching goal is to double the number of underrepresented minorities graduating in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) programs by the year 2010. She serves on several committees including the NM Higher Education Department's Engineering Task Force, the NM Higher Education Department's Advisory Committee for Private Post-Secondary Schools, Santa Fe Community College's President's Diversity Task Force, and the local Dual-Enrollment Committee. She and a partner have owned an engineering consulting business and also worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory. She has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and received licensure from New Mexico for teaching secondary math, science, and computer technology education. A short eighteen months ago, she began her career in academia and focused on revitalizing the Pre-Engineering and Engineering Technologies program through clear career pathways tied to State and National career clusters. The program includes grades 9 through 16 with multiple exit and entry points using project-based curriculum to retain underrepresented minorities. Her passion is to present STEM opportunities to low-income, Hispanic students through high school dual-enrollment and eventually retain them as first generation college students.

**Kamilah Banks** joined Texas Southern University (TSU) in 2004, and she served TSU in various capacities such as a staff member and adjunct professor in the Jesse H. Jones School of Business. Currently, Ms. Banks is drawing upon her formal education, practical knowledge, and work experience to teach TSU business, management, and marketing students. Prior to joining TSU, she worked for three years as an Account Executive at a distinguished advertising agency in Birmingham, Alabama. Ms. Banks earned a B.S. in Marketing at Tuskegee University, and an MBA from the Jesse H. Jones School of Business at Texas Southern University.

**Richard K. Delano** splits his work life between two consulting firms. He is marketing director and senior associate of LifeCourse Associates, a company he helped establish in 1997 with best-selling authors William Strauss and Neil Howe. LifeCourse Associates is a consulting and publishing firm built around the generational theories developed by the authors over the last decade. In addition to his work with LifeCourse, Rick is president of Social Marketing Services. Social marketers draw on commercial marketing strategies to reduce expensive social behaviors like smoking, dropping out of school or not sending in your census form. Past clients have included state health departments, the Census Bureau, National Highway Transportation Administration, and the CDC. Currently, his social marketing activities are focusing

on high school redesign to improve high school graduation and college completion rates. Rick has long believed that career academies, small learning communities themed to careers, are the most successful redesign strategy, particularly when made part of a community-wide initiative. He served on the board of the National Career Academy Coalition for 10 years and recently was elected to the board of the National Career Technical Education Foundation. Rick currently leads the Ford Motor Company Fund CAIC advisory council. Rick is a 30 year veteran in magazine publishing industry. He managed custom publishing for Scholastic Inc. in New York, consulted on new business development for Hearst magazines, and managed business development for Time and Scientific American magazines. He served in both enlisted and officer ranks of the US Marine Corps from 1968-1972, including a tour as a communication officer in Vietnam. He graduated from College of the Desert Community College in 1972 and San Jose State University in 1974. Rick was elected this year to the school board in Bridgehampton and makes his home in Bridgehampton on Long Island in New York State.

**Octavio Arturo Dominguez**, has devoted himself to progressive causes throughout his professional career; Mr. Dominguez joined LULAC National Educational Service Centers (LNESEC) in March of 2006 as a member of the resource development and project management team. As National Development Coordinator, he is responsible for maintaining current funding streams, identifying and securing new resources, as well as managing external relations and logistics for LNESEC's national network of programs. Mr. Dominguez also manages LNESEC's STEM education initiative, the LULAC Ford PAS Science Corps, along with partners at EDC and the Ford Motor Company Fund. Previously, he worked on behalf of the Democratic National Committee as a Field Manager and Volunteer Coordinator in Seattle, WA; and as a Research and Lab Assistant in Princeton, NJ. Mr. Dominguez holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology from Princeton University.

**Dr. Carol Folbre** provides an expertise in professional development with demonstrated success, curriculum and large-scale testing assessment enrichment, proposal and grant writing, and teaching and staff innovation. She currently consults for Ford Motor Company Fund to expand Career Academy Innovation Communities (CAICs) and the Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS) program and curriculum throughout Texas. Dr. Folbre received her Ph.D. in English literature, a M.A. in English, and has her Texas Certification in Elementary and Secondary Education. She

## Biographies continued...

has taught English for over nine years in the public and private sectors of San Antonio and has published articles, written and received grants to develop curricula, directs the Texas initiative for expanding CAICs and Ford PAS, and has given various presentations nationwide on education-related topics. Before joining Ford PAS, Dr. Folbre worked for Karta Technologies as a political liaison, creating solid contacts with four Texas congressmen, and worked for Educational Testing Service (ETS) and at Harcourt Educational Measurement as an Assessment Specialist for English Language Arts and proposal manager, developing large-scale testing assessments for California-based EXIT exams, as well as assessments for the over 12 states nationwide.

**Alice Furstenau** was born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan. She received her B.S. in Business Education/Accounting from Central Michigan University and her M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction from Michigan State University. She has been married for 20 years to Mike, who is in the USAF, and they have one daughter, Ariel, who is 15 years old. They have lived all over the country and moved to San Antonio last year. She is teaching Freshman Prep at Highlands High School in San Antonio Independent School District. She has enjoyed using Ford PAS this year in her classes and has seen her students mature in their thinking skills.

**Noelia Guajardo** has been in education since 1971 when she received a B.A. in Business Education from Pan American University (now the University of Texas-Pan American) and went to work at Sharyland ISD in the business department. In 1973 she started working at Pharr-San Juan-Alamo ISD where she taught for 26 years in the Career and Technical Education (CTE) Department. Seven years ago, she became the director of that department. In this capacity, she works with instructors from three campuses. Each campus has over 2,000 students with an average of fifteen CTE instructors per campus. The population is about 98% Hispanic and about 20% of the high school students are Limited English Proficient (LEP). About 50% of the high school students are enrolled in CTE courses every year.

**Jan Hathaway** graduated from Central Michigan University in 1974 with a teaching degree in Business Education. She has been involved with a variety of teaching experiences ever since. She attended Eastern Michigan University for her Master's and vocational education certification. Ms. Hathaway received her Career Development Facilitators Certification through Oakland University and became certified as a True Colors Facilitator through Wayne County RESA. Ms. Hathaway has taken all of these educational ex-

periences and incorporated them into a variety of teaching experiences which include traditional classroom, alternative education, teaching at an all-girls residential treatment facility, and her current position at the Michael Berry Career Center with Dearborn Public Schools where she has implemented and taught the Ford PAS program for the past two years.

**Barry Hawthorne** is the Chief Executive Officer of the Advanced Technology Academy (ATA) and owner of its Charter Public School Management Company. ATA has developed the "Platinum Model" of Ford PAS and received national accreditation through the North Central Association. Mr. Hawthorne expanded his program to grades K-12 where he has enrolled over 900 students. His school is currently aligning Ford PAS with the ACT Work Keys and Michigan Virtual High School. Mr. Hawthorne has an extensive record of public service and management experience. He served as Deputy Director of the Michigan Department of Labor, Acting Director of the Michigan Employment Relations Commission, and Executive Director of the Wayne County Employment and Training Department in the nation's fifth largest county. Mr. Hawthorne is a graduate of Eastern Michigan University. He is currently Vice President of the Dearborn Optimist Club.

**Melanie Hwalek, Ph.D.** is the founder of SPEC Associates, a national research and evaluation company headquartered in Detroit, Michigan. Melanie received her doctorate in Applied Social Psychology from Wayne State University in Detroit where she specialized in research design and methodology. Applied Social Psychology is the study of individual and group attitudes and behaviors in real world settings. Within this field, Melanie's subspecialty is psychometrics, the measurement of psychological concepts. Melanie has been doing program evaluation work for almost 30 years. During this time she has conducted more than 200 evaluations for more than 150 organizations. Melanie also conducts training on topics related to evaluation, outcome measurement and quality data collection. She is the author of many published articles in journals such as *Basic and Applied Social Psychology*, *Social Work*, *New Directions in Evaluation*, and *New Designs for Youth Development*. Dr. Hwalek has presented her work at national conferences including the American Evaluation Association, American Psychological Association, and the Society for the Study of Social Problems.

**Dr. James D. Hinga** is Project Director of the Ford PAS program at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. He has over thirty years of teaching experience at the high school,

## Biographies continued...

college, and graduate levels, and has been a long-time leader in the field of educational travel. Dr. Hinga's business experience includes serving as a corporate officer for several educational travel companies, serving as president and COO of a large travel club, and owning and operating his own global education companies. He received his Ph.D. from The University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in Education Administration in 1986. He also holds a B.A. from Oakland University in Education/History and an M.A. from U of M-Ann Arbor in American Culture. He has done additional graduate study at Columbia University, Wayne State University and Michigan State University; and has developed curriculum for government-sponsored programs, educational organizations, and a graduate seminary.

**Sheila Hoetger** has been an educator for over 25 years in a variety of school systems. She graduated from Eastern Michigan receiving both a bachelor and master degrees in Business Education. Sheila is currently teaching at Holmes Middle School in Livonia, Michigan. The Ford PAS curriculum is taught in a class to 8th graders titled Integrated Problem Solving that is co-taught with David Mitchell.

**Gilbert S. Maldonado** is Director of Corporate & Foundation Relations and Co-Director of The Hispanic Engineering, Science, and Technology (HESTEC) Program at The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) located in Edinburg, Texas. A regionally-based, comprehensive multicultural institution located in one of the fastest growing regions of the country. Mr. Maldonado has more than 15 years of progressive, professional and administrative experience, with the last twenty 8 years focused on the management and fundraising of higher education outreach programs and initiatives. He holds a Masters Degree in Education from The University of Texas Pan American and a Bachelor of Arts from St. Mary's University. Mr. Maldonado is responsible for leading and managing the UTPA Office of Corporate & Foundation Relations within the Division of External Affairs. He has primary responsibility for institutional advancement, fundraising, marketing and management of grants from corporate and private foundations and special events, such as the Hispanic Engineering, Science, and Technology Week ([www.hestec.org](http://www.hestec.org)) Each year, HESTEC attracts thousands of young students, teachers, parents, as well as corporate and government leaders to the UTPA campus. The week of HESTEC activities will include presentations by world-class leaders, innovative technology exhibits and challenging student competitions.

**Kim McNulty** manages the Career Pathways Initiative for the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership which is work-

ing to increase college and career opportunities for youth throughout the greater Palm Springs, California region. In November 2006, this James Irvine Foundation funded initiative was recognized as a national best practice by Ford Motor Company Fund through their *Career Academy Innovation Community* initiative. Prior to this position, Kim served as Executive Director for the Palm Springs Economic Development Corporation; six years as Director of Marketing for Maryanov Madsen Gordon & Campbell, CPAs and thirteen years with the Palm Springs Desert Resorts Convention and Visitors Bureau as Communications Manager and Film Commissioner for the desert resort communities.

**Hans K. Meeder** is President of the Meeder Consulting Group, LLC, a firm offering assistance in education and workforce policy analysis, leadership development, and governmental relations. Meeder has an extensive and varied career in education policy. He has served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for Education in the U.S. Department of Education Office of Vocational and Adult Education, policy and outreach director for the House of Representatives Committee on Education and the Workforce, senior vice president for workforce and postsecondary education at the National Alliance of Business, and Executive Director of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Workforce Commission. His areas of expertise include high school reform, career technical education, community colleges, adult literacy and government management. Meeder earned his B.A. from the University of Maryland College Park and holds an MBA from the University of Maryland University College.

**Catherine Meyer** has taught many different Family and Consumer Science courses during her 27 years as a teacher in the South San Antonio ISD in San Antonio, Texas. Ms. Meyer has taught the Ford PAS curriculum for the past 2 years to her 8th grade Skills for Living classes. Ms. Meyer was selected as Kazen Middle School Teacher of the Year in 2002. Ms. Meyer received her BS in Home Economics Education in 1977 from the University of Texas at Austin and her MA in Human Resources in 1997 from Webster University in St. Louis Missouri.

**David Mitchell** is a teacher leader at Holmes Middle School in Livonia, Michigan. He currently teaches 8th Grade Adv. Computer Technology and 8th Grade Integrated Problem Solving (based on Ford PAS). He has an undergrad in Finance from Western Michigan University and Master's in Education (Business and Social Studies) from Wayne State University.

## Biographies continued...

**Sandy Mittelsteadt** is a member of the Ford Motor Company Fund Ford PAS/CAIC National Advisory Group. She is an expert in all aspects of career academies and small learning communities development. Sandy is the co-author of *The Career Academy Toolkit* book, the most-widely used book for academies. Sandy has worked as a teacher in an academy, a lead teacher, an academy director, a district School-to-Career Coordinator, Assistant State Supervisor, Executive Director of the National Career Academy Coalition, and Education Liaison for the Association for Career and Technical Education.

**Gina Morrissey** is a Program Coordinator in the Workforce Education and Development Office (WE-DO) within University College at Arizona State University. One of Gina's main focuses is providing service and support to Arizona Ford PAS students, teachers, and schools. Another main area of focus for Gina is providing awareness and training sessions on Ford PAS to key people in Arizona. Because Ford PAS implementation is relatively new in Arizona, much of Gina's time is also spent building an Arizona Ford PAS Community of Practice. With a heart for teaching, serving, and learning, Gina loves her job! She is also pursuing an advanced degree in Math. Prior to working at ASU, Gina was a fifth and sixth grade combination classroom teacher. She also spent a year as a full-time volunteer on a traveling retreat team that worked extensively with youth across the US and Canada. After this year of volunteer work, Gina stayed on at this non-profit organization where she recruited, trained, and supervised the volunteers, developed activities and dramas to effectively "reach" and engage youth, scheduled and organized hundreds of events, and eventually served as the Executive Director. Gina has a Bachelor of Science in Education degree with a focus in Math from Northern State University in South Dakota and is pursuing an advanced degree in Math at Arizona State University.

**Francis "Bud" Muylaert** is the Ford PAS and Engineering teacher at West Bloomfield High School in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Bud worked in graphic design for several years and then began to work for Detroit Edison while pursuing a degree in Education. Bud graduated from Eastern Michigan University in 2003 and started his career at River Rouge High School. Fortunately, Bud was hired as the Ford PAS engineering teacher for West Bloomfield in 2005 and has been working there ever since. Bud completed his Masters program at University of Michigan in April 2007 in Special Education and is currently working toward Doctorial degree in Technology. As a Ford PAS teacher, Bud has been able to merge his real world experiences with hands

on classroom curriculum. Highlights of his program are the Ford PAS engineering academy and Mentor for advanced special projects for junior and senior students. His students have benefited from the Ford PAS partnership and Bud looks forward to a continuing venture with the program.

**Mike Neubig** is the former High School Redesign Coordinator and guidance counselor for Westerville City Schools in Westerville, Oh. Westerville City Schools is a former USDOE Cohort Two Smaller Learning Community grantee. Mike has hands on experience in transforming a school schedule from the traditional model, to that of SLC's. Now an author and consultant, Mike has assisted hundreds of schools across the country to schedule Smaller Learning Communities, Career Academies, and other cohort based programs. Mike trains school leaders on strategies to provide equitable access for all students to high level curriculum, as well as many other strategies to ensure scheduling success. Mike focuses on the use of elective lanes, flexible blocks, hybrid schedules, and built in common planning time for teachers. Mike also teaches school leaders how to use the schedule to provide built-in intervention and models for innovative use of time for improved learning. Mike founded his own consulting company in 2005 titled "Capture Educational Consulting". Mike is also a founding member of "The American Alliance for Innovative Schools", a USDOE SLC grant peer reviewer, and one of fifteen Practitioner Leaders for the USDOE. Mike is a presenter and consultant for schools on a national level and provides support for Siemens, ACTE, Ford PAS, Knowledgeworks, and other initiatives seeking to support the transformation of America's High Schools.

**Richard D. Roberts (PhD)** is a Senior Research Scientist in the Center for New Constructs, R&D at ETS, Princeton, New Jersey. A former faculty member of The University of Sydney (and before that a National Research Council Fellow), his area of specialization is individual differences. Within this field, he has conducted research and published over 100 articles and book chapters on the topics of human cognitive abilities, emotional intelligence, personality, time management, self-confidence, sensory processes, aging, test anxiety, processing speed, and human chronotype. He is currently working on the development of several new ETS products and services, including web-based self-help assessments and interventions for middle school, high school, and community college students. Co-edited books include "Learning and Individual Differences: Content, Trait, and Process Determinants", "Emotional Intelligence: An International Handbook", "Extending Intelligence: Enhance-

## Biographies continued...

ment and New Constructs”, and “The Science of Emotional Intelligence: Knowns and Unknowns”. He is also the co-author of: “Emotional Intelligence: Science and Myth” and “Emotional Intelligence: A Primer”.

**Dave Rodgers** is a first year Engineering Design teacher at Tolles Career and Technical Center, which serves 7 school districts. Mr. Rodgers is married and has three daughters. Mr. Rodgers owned an electrical contracting business. He was licensed by the State of Ohio as an electrical safety inspector. He designed and installed electrical systems. Mr. Rodgers has extensive experience in the engineering field including employment with the following corporations—Sverdrup Corporation, M&M Mars, T. Marzetti Company and D&D Design. Mr. Rodgers has worked in Canada, Germany, Mexico, England, Austria, Japan, France and Italy. Mr. Rodgers also served in the United States Marine Corps. Mr. Rodgers obtained his B.S. from Franklin University and is currently working on his M.A. at Ohio State University.

**Christina Salas** is a Senior Education Specialist for the GEAR UP Partnership with the Region One Education Service Center located in Edinburg, Texas. Christina currently serves as the Ford PAS Site Coordinator for Region One GEAR UP and as the liaison for Region One Schools and the Ford PAS program. Christina has more than 7 years of experience in education ranging from post-secondary institutions to public schools. Her experiences include working as a college recruiter, teacher, and most currently as an education specialist. Christina received a Masters in Education Administration and a Bachelor’s in Business Administration with specialization in Marketing from the University of Texas-Pan American.

**Kate Soderstrom** is the Ford PAS coordinator for West Bloomfield school district in West Bloomfield, Michigan. After attending Hanover College and American University in London in a business program, she decided to change educational paths. She enrolled in the Technical Manufacturing school at Purdue University to participate in their co-op program. Kate began working for Cummins Engine Company while still in school and had the opportunity to experience hands-on learning. After graduation from Purdue, she moved to Michigan working for General Motors as a Quality Engineer. Kate functioned first as a first line supervisor and then continued her career as a quality engineer; she remained with the auto industry for 5 years. After taking off several years as a full time Mom to three small children, she decided to merge her industrial expertise with

education and work with the Ford PAS program in the West Bloomfield school district as Ford PAS coordinator. It could not have been a more perfect fit for everyone involved! Kate has been able to share her knowledge and experience with her students, the community and the District by leveraging resources, grant dollars and opportunities for the educational advancement of all.

**Kathy Sommers** is currently the Assistant Director of Career Technical and Adult Education for the Ohio Department of Education. In this role Dr. Sommers gives leadership to the Transportation, Construction, Manufacturing, Health Careers, Human Services, Law and Public Safety; and Science and Engineering Career Fields. She has worked extensively with various businesses and industries across Ohio to link educational programming and technical competencies to industry and workforce needs. She is currently the State Director for the Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies Ohio as well as the State Director of Project Lead The Way Ohio. She has been recognized by WoodLINKS USA and Project Lead the Way for her education leadership and was recently recognized by the Ohio Department of Education as the employee of the year. Dr. Sommers also serves as adjunct faculty in the College of Education Graduate School at Ashland University.

**Feliberto (Fil) Valdez, Jr.**, serves as the Center Director of the LULAC National Educational Service Centers, Inc. (LNESEC), of Corpus Christi, Texas. LNESEC is a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit agency whose mission is to provide the highest quality educational opportunities needed for the development of life-long learners and leaders. During his thirteen years with the LNESEC, Mr. Valdez has held various positions including Middle School Program Coordinator, High School Educational Advisor, as well as his present position as Center Director. Mr. Valdez has been instrumental in the development of numerous LNESEC outreach initiatives designed to meet the needs of the agency’s disadvantaged target population. These programs include: LNESEC Science Corps; Year-long LNESEC Young Readers’; LNESEC Middle School A.C.C.E.S.; and, the LNESEC Teen Pregnancy Prevention Conference. LNESEC 400 Mann Street - Suite 513, Corpus Christi, Texas 78401-2047, (361) 883-5134, [fvaldez@lnesc.org](mailto:fvaldez@lnesc.org)

**Ernesto J. Villarreal** is Special Projects Coordinator at The University of Texas-Pan American located in Edinburg, Texas. Mr. Villarreal operates under the External Affairs Division in the Corporate & Foundation Relations Office. Mr. Villarreal currently serves as the Ford PAS Coordinator

## Biographies continued...

for the South Texas Region and as the Ford Motor Company liaison for the University in a variety of special events. Mr. Villarreal has more than 5 years of experience in multicultural marketing strategy, corporate relations, Hispanic event coordination, international business operations, and public relations. With the last 2 years concentrated in managing corporate special projects, philanthropic practices and the coordination of educational outreach programs. Mr. Villarreal received a Masters in Business Administration (MBA) and a Bachelor's in Business Administration with specialization in Marketing from the University of Texas-Pan American.

**Gilda Wilkinson** has been a professional educator for thirty-two years. She is currently the Social Studies Department Chair at Highlands High School in the San Antonio (TX) Independent School District (SAISD). She was selected by Dr. Amy Jo Baker, Social Studies Curriculum and Instruction Director, to field test the Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS) Economics Modules in the Spring 2006. With the approval of Ford PAS Modules 13 and 14, Mrs. Wilkinson then taught Modules 13 and 14 to her Economics class in the Fall 2006. Mrs. Wilkinson received a M.A. in Education and a B.S. in Geography and History and has her Texas Certification in Composite Social Studies.

Mrs. Wilkinson has taught seventh and eighth grade Social Studies in the Houston, Alief, and Klein ISDs located in the Houston, Texas area from 1970–1980, all Social Studies classes including the electives, Psychology and Sociology in Ingram ISD from 1985–2002, and all Social Studies classes with the exception of American History while teaching in SAISD. Ford PAS Economics is Mrs. Wilkinson's passion. She strongly believes that the Ford PAS program teaches students the necessity of Twenty-first Century Skills including research skills needed to be successful post baccalaureate students, adults and life-long learners.

**Justin Zych** is certified to teach English and Environmental Studies at the secondary level. Mr. Zych also began teaching Ford PAS in the spring of 2006. He's been teaching at Spring Ridge Academy, a therapeutic boarding school serving teenage women from across the country, for six years and functions as mentor and graduate advisor for students at Prescott College, in Prescott, Arizona. He co-coordinated the experience of the National Youth Delegation at the National Town Meeting for a Sustainable Future in Detroit, Michigan (1999), and assisted the Youth Delegates with their final report to the President's Council for Sustainable Development during the Clinton Administration.

## FORD PAS HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS

**Mohamed Mrou** –Michael Berry Career Center

**Amy Weave** –Michael Berry Career Center

**Nicole Adams** is a junior at West Bloomfield high school. She resides in West Bloomfield, Michigan. Nicole has been very active in the high school as a cross country runner, and robotics club member. Her interests are also in photography and art. She has competed for the last two years in OCCRA robotics competition and Robofest challenges. She looks forward to leading this group next year. She has also been very active in the Females in Engineering program started this past year to encourage women to pursue degrees in engineering. Nicole is a natural leader and is very competent in everything that she does.

**Sierra Brewton** is a junior at Advanced Technology Academy in Dearborn, Michigan. Sierra lives with her mother Marcia and father Freddie in Detroit, Michigan. She excels

in English and public speaking. She is a natural leader and enjoys the opportunities that Ford PAS offers in solving real world problems. Since the second grade, she has been an active member in the Girl Scouts. She is also a member of the People to People World Leadership Forum. Sierra enjoys playing softball, going to the mall, and traveling. Her immediate goals include attending Central Michigan University and becoming a successful entrepreneur.

**My name is Kelsey Amber Brown** and I was born in San Antonio, Texas. My father is Stephen Wallace Brown and my mother is Linda Marlene Brown. I have two older sisters Randi Kay Brown and Jessica Nichole Brown. I spend a lot of my time teaching and playing with my niece which some people call my little mini-me she likes to be my shadow. My favorite sports are soccer and volleyball, which I play for my high school. My hobbies are horseback riding, and hanging out with my friends. I am also a part of the Girl Scout association. This year I have received twenty community service

## Biographies continued...

hours mostly for helping at elementary Olympics with special education students. I really enjoy working with these students, it's very rewarding. I am looking forward to the end of my freshmen year and returning to the challenge as a sophomore.

**My name is Liane Lenne Carrillo.** I am currently 15 years of age. Born in San Antonio, Texas. I am very talkative, loud, outgoing, and down to earth. I have a younger sister, who I love to take care of. I am currently a ninth grader at Highlands High School. I played JV soccer where I meet lots of girls that helped me get through this school year. School, what can I say, I love to learn! If someone was to ask what is Liane like? They would most likely reply "smart". I have always done very well in school. A-B honor roll and Junior National Honor Society are only of the many achievements I have done in the short 15 years of my life. While many people say smart equals nerd, I say smart equals happiness. My mom is one of the strongest people in the world ever. She has raised two wonderful kids. She works hard to make sure her babies always have the best. She has been my inspiration, my hope, and my faith. I have learned to be independent and I will be successful in life. After high school I will go to college and get a Masters in Medicine to become a Pediatrician.

**My name is Antwon Crutcher** and I am a senior at John Overton High School. During the past year I have taken business classes with Ms. Gilley where I was introduced to Ford PAS. I enjoyed Module 7 and I especially like the business plan project. I used my project to compete in the regional and state Business Professionals of America competition. In both competitions, I placed first. I then advanced to compete in the BPA National competition in New York City. Next year, I plan to attend Nashville State Community College. I look forward to being able to attend the conference in June. I know that I will meet many interesting people and improve my business skills.

**My name is Basra Mohamed** and I am a senior at John Overton Comprehensive High School. After high school, I plan to attend Middle Tennessee State University this fall to major in Political Science and possibly minor in Business. After that, I plan to attend Law School. I have used Module 7 this year in Ms. Gilley's Business Management class to construct a business plan. Module 7 was very helpful to me and my classmates. I appreciate the opportunity you have given me to attend the conference this summer, which I am looking forward to.

**Brian Okorn** moved to Michigan in 2004 when his family relocated here. Residing in West Bloomfield, Michigan, Brian attended West Bloomfield high school. During his freshman year of high school, Brian enrolled in his first Ford PAS class in the engineering concepts and design and has been taking them ever since. He was the captain of the robotics club and brought the team to the semi finals in this year's competition. Brian was a mentor for the Ford PAS engineering academy, working with underclassmen and middle school students. He will be attending Vanderbilt University in the fall as an engineering student and is one of the winners of the Ford PAS/SME scholarships.

**My name is Avolon Vincent Owens II** and I am a student at the Advanced Technology Academy. I live in Detroit, Michigan. I am in my senior year and currently in the last module of the Ford PAS Program. I have taken all of the Ford PAS modules from the beginning. I am planning on attending Prairie View A&M University in Prairie View Texas. I will be enrolled in the school of Engineering under the discipline of Chemical Engineering. I am also a member and President of the National Honor Society ATA chapter. I enjoy almost all sports especially football and basketball. I love to read. I loved the module where we were able to create our own business plan because it allowed a lot of room for creativity.

## FORD PAS ALUMNI—COLLEGE MENTORS

**Christel August Haygood** is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willie (Faye) Haygood. She is a native of Tuskegee, Alabama. Christel is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. During her school career, she was involved with cheerleading, track, dance, and drama club. Also, she participated in Student Government Association (SGA), Math Club,

National Junior Honor Society, and a Ford PAS student. She is also involved in her college career in activities that include, English Club, rave Revue Modeling Troupe, and Mount Olive Youth and College Choir (MOYC2). In her community, Christel holds the position as Assistant Cheerleading Coach at Tuskegee Institute Middle School, a Red Cross Volunteer

## Biographies continued...

and a former Macon County Junior Miss. She attends Tuskegee University in Tuskegee, Alabama where she is a Sophomore with a major in English and History. After graduation, Christel plans to attend Howard University for Law School. Her ambition is to become a Civil Lawyer.

**Kyra G. Jones** is the daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Kenneth G. Jones hailing from the beautiful, historic city of Tuskegee, Alabama. Kyra is a recent graduate of Booker T. Washington High School and a Ford PAS Alumnus. She is currently a student at Tuskegee University pursuing a Bachelor of Science Degree in Food Science. Kyra also serves as a Tuskegee University Student Ambassador. Her main career goal is to impact the food industry in the fields of product development, research and sensory. Her hobbies include study-

ing, reading, and meeting new people. Kyra has one sister Karina, 22, and one brother, Kenneth II, 8.

**My name is Brittany Thompson-Johnson;** I was born October 27, 1987 in Detroit, Michigan. I graduated with honors in 2005, from Advanced Technology Academy in Dearborn, Michigan. I currently attend the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor and majoring in Nursing with a minor in Spanish. In regards to graduate school, I intend on applying for a dual degree program where I would receive a Master of Science degree in Nursing Business & Health Systems and an MBA degree from the School Business Administration concurrently. Integrating this dual degree in the professional world will launch many opportunities for my future career goals.

## FORD PAS—STUDENT TRACK FACILITATOR

**Bill Delano** is a reporter/documentary film maker whose introduction to TV production began with an internship at FRONTLINE on the hit show “Is Wal-Mart Good For America”. Upon graduating, he directed, shot, and edited his first documentary entitled “Chasing Lance: the Fans Story”, which aired in prime time on the Travel Channel. He has trained Video Journalists for the launch of a new television network and taught Grad Students the art of one-man-band TV production at Northwestern University. After traveling to North-eastern Brazil this past Spring to participate in a Non-Profit Documentary film Project, he landed a position on a new Backpack Journalism show called “Not Your Average Travel Guide”. He is currently living in New Orleans and is in post-production on his 7th episode.