Science Citizenship: My Path from the Lab to Washington, D.C., to Going Local

Frances Colón
Chief Executive Officer, Jasperi Consulting

Wednesday, April 3, 2019 • Noon to 1 p.m.
Student Union Memorial Center • Union Kiva

Frances Colón and Jasperi Consulting provide science, environment and technology policy advice to higher education institutions and to state and national policy-makers. Colón will speak on the importance of scientific civic engagement, from international negotiations to neighborhood-level evidence-based decision-making. After completing her PhD in neuroscience in 1997 at Brandeis University, Colón moved to Washington, D.C., to begin a career in federal science policy-making. For 10 years she represented the United States globally on topics ranging from climate change to the advancement of women scientists to the re-engagement of Cuba through science cooperation. She left the U.S. Department of State in 2017 to focus on influencing knowledge-based decision-making at the city and state level.

Colón is a 2018 New Voices Fellow of the National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine. From 2012 to 2017 she was Deputy Science and Technology Adviser to the U.S. Secretary of State, where she led the re-engagement of scientific collaboration with Cuba and coordinated climate change policy for the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas. She has a BS in biology from the University of Puerto Rico, and is the founder of Cenadores PR, a nonprofit that facilitates collaboration between the Puerto Rican diaspora and civil society on the island. In 2016, CNET named her one of the 20 most influential Latinos in technology. She is an alumna of the National Hispana Leadership Institute, the U.S.-Japan Leadership Program, and the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations Young Leaders Forum.

The talk is open to the public. For information contact Hassan Vafai at hvafai@email.arizona.edu or 520.621.5949.