

CATALINA VELASQUEZ

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EDUCATION

Georgetown University, Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service

Washington, D.C.
August 2011

Bachelors of Science, International Politics: International Law, Norms, & Institutions, 3.3 GPA

Coursework Highlights: Non-Violence Theory & Practice, Social Justice & Conflict Studies, Epidemiological Approaches: Population Health, Immigration Conflicts: US & Australian Perspectives, Human Rights & International Relations, Culture & Diplomacy, International Law, International Trade, International Finance, Military & Security Strategies in World Politics;

Certificate/Minor, Women and Gender Studies, 3.67 GPA

Coursework Highlights: Intro to Women & Gender Studies, Feminist Theory, Women & the Law, Gender & Global Laws, Women's International Human Rights, Capstone Thesis Class;

Capstone Thesis- Immigrant Women: the Documented, the Undocumented, & the Invisible;
Supervisors: Dr. Velez & Dr. You Me Park

Miami Dade Honors College Dual Language Program, InterAmerican Campus

Miami, FL
May 2008

Associate of Arts, International Relations, 3.7 GPA Highest Honors & Distinction

Coursework Highlights: Human Sexuality, Multicultural Commerce & Regulations, Statistics/Research Methods, International Relations, Energy & Natural Environment, Macro-Economics, Micro-Economics, Survey of World Religions, Calculus & Analytical Geometry;

Cypress Springs High School

Katy, TX
May 2006

Standard High School Diploma - Recommended Track

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Transnational feminism, gender and sexuality studies, queer theory, postcolonial theory, migrant and ethnic minority discourses, normalcy studies, South American literature and history, South American feminist movements, Latina feminisms: theory and practice, indigenous studies, native feminism, sovereignty and self-determination, womanist theology, social constructionism, queer of color theory, women and the law, moral panics of sex work, the criminalization of sex work, feminist media studies, activism and gender/race formations, feminist geography, epistemologies of the South, comparative migration histories in the Americas, Latinx youth movements, Latinx politics;

WORK EXPERIENCE

Consult Catalina, LLC

Washington, D.C.
March 2011-Present

President

- Manage a portfolio of 10 clients on policy and public relations on issue areas of immigration, foreign policy and public health;
- Work with clients to develop strategic messaging for national campaigns and strategies to yield desired results;
- Develop a strategic plan to advance Consult Catalina's mission and objectives and to promote revenue, profitability, and growth as a small LLC;
- Review activity reports and financial statements to determine progress and status in attaining objectives and revise objectives and plans in accordance with current conditions;
- Evaluate performance of six external consultants and vendors for compliance with established policies and objectives of Consult Catalina and contributions in attaining objectives;
- Actively seek and participate in public speaking engagements nationwide;

Casa Ruby Inc.*Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships and Communications*

Washington, D.C.

January 2014-September 2017

- Developed and implemented an integrated, organization wide strategic communications plan to strengthen Casa Ruby brand identity across key stakeholder audiences;
- Raised 1.5 million dollars through grant writing, small and major donor relationships;
- Oversaw and executed, as needed, all materials intended for public consumption to ensure alignment with strategic communications plan;
- Exercised judgment to prioritize media opportunities, and prepare talking points, speeches, presentations and other supporting materials as needed;
- Served as lead point person on media interactions that help promote and/or impact the organization, actively cultivating and managing press relationships;
- Managed the editorial direction, design, production and distribution of all organization publications;
- Supported the Executive Director with grant writing, policy analysis, and fundraising initiatives;
- Curated content, built synergy, and increased online audience engagement by 50 percent;

People For the American Way Foundation (PFAWF)*Interim Executive Director of Young People For (YP4)*

Washington, D.C.

February 2016-August 2016

- Conducted a strategic visioning and planning process that engages YP4 Staff, fellows, and Alumni, in partnership with PFAW Foundation staff, to chart a course for the next 10 years;
- Established annual program goals, and ensure all subsequent YP4 programming is guided by our values, mission, and goals;
- Managed fellowship recruitment of over 150 young people across the U.S.;
- Oversaw 10 staff with their weekly, quarterly and annual goals;
- Developed and managed annual program budget of 1 million dollars;
- Acted as chief external spokesperson for and representative of Young People For;
- Built strong and strategic partnerships that advanced YP4's mission and bolstered the work of our allies at the local, state, regional, and national levels such as Sister Song, PPF, HRC, Democracy Matters, among others;
- Established revenue goals to resource actual and aspirational programming needs;
- Served as principal fundraiser for YP4 securing over \$500,000 for the next fiscal year while attending meetings with investors and assisting in the development of funding proposals and reports;

National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health (NLIRH)*Policy Analyst*

Washington, D.C.

April 2014-February 2015

- Worked with the Director of Government Relations and Public Affairs to implement and oversee short-and-long-term policy projects as well as manage several other projects that raise public awareness about the effectiveness of pending and existing legislation; Policy projects focused on national and state topics: reproductive rights, health equity, immigration, LGBTQ and sexual liberation;
- Conducted federal and state legislative analysis; research and prepare state and federal briefs, fact sheets, public education campaign materials, and all other policy related publications;
- Worked with NLIRH's grassroots activists in target areas to design and implement national and state advocacy campaigns;
- Conducted weekly trainings, presentations, and press interviews on behalf of NLIRH at national and local conferences, events, and state and federal legislative meetings and briefings as well as national and local coalitions;

CoStar Group*Research Associate*

Washington, D.C.

March 2012-July 2013

- Conducted daily personal interviews with CoStar Customers, maintaining relationships and providing up-to-date information and analytics to strengthen customer relationships;
- Created quarterly market reports with statistics and analysis for retail, industrial and office markets, issuing various sales-comparable reports based on lease and sale transactions and capturing /verifying information on legal documents such as deeds and contracts;
- Calculated daily commercial real estate analytics including absorption rates, vacancy rates, and capitalization rates, with an understanding of the macro-economic impact the industry has on the overall economy;
- Trained newly hired staff, explaining the company expectations, metric system and portfolio management procedures;

Labor Council for Latin American Advancement (LCLAA)*Policy Analyst and Communications Associate*

Washington, D.C.

November 2011-April 2012

- Co-authored the publication "Trabajadoras," a human rights report on the status of working Latinas in the U.S.;

- Wrote policy recommendations and advocacy documents such as op-eds, talking points, position statements, and press releases in both English and Spanish;
- Published a series of “Know Your Rights” guides in both English and Spanish to the LCLAA website;

SKILLS

- Fluent in Spanish and English. Proficient in Italian: Advanced Level. Reasonable understanding of written Portuguese;
- Mastery of HTML, CSS, and Javascript Programming languages;
- Extensive experience using statistical software: SAS and R;
- Paid formal training in project management and data analysis;
- Women’s Health specific training in Research Methods;

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

- 2017 Women of Excellence Award from the DC Mayor Bowser Office of Women Affairs, March 2017;
- 2017 Advocacy Award by the Latino History Project, February 2017;
- Named one of Mitu’s “[Young Latinos that are Leaving a Footprint in Politics.](#)” August 2016;
- Named one of Rolling Stone “[16 Young Americans Shaping the 2016 Election.](#)” May 2016;
- Recipient of the *President’s Volunteer Award* from the President’s Council on Service and Civic Participation, June 2007;

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING

- National Co-Chair of the Equality March for Unity and Pride. March 2017 - Present;
- Co-Founder and Board Vice-Chair of U.S. Senator Sander’s Presidential Campaign legacy organization: Our Revolution, August 2016 - Present;
- Co-Founder and Board Member Megaphone Strategies, July 2016 - Present;
- Board Co-Chair GetEqual, May 2016 - Present;
- Founder and Board Member Trans United Fund, April 2016 - Present;
- Co-Founder and Advisory Council Member United We DREAM’s Queer Undocumented Immigrant Project, April 2015 - Present;
- District of Columbia Appointed Commissioner on Latino Community Development, December 2013 - June 2017;
- Ambassador for Peace by the Universal Peace Federation and the Inter-religious and International Federation for World Peace, November 2008 - Present;
- PSI BETA National Honor Society for Psychology Majors, Spring 2008;
- PHI THETA KAPPA Honor Society, Fall 2007;

PUBLICATIONS

Refereed:

- Velasquez, C. (2014, November). *Colorado Community Survey on Sexual and Reproductive Rights, Access, and Justice* (Rep.). Washington, DC: National Latina Institute for Reproductive Health. Conducted a cross sectional survey with collaboration from the Latino Research and Policy Center at the University of Colorado, Colorado School of Public Health at the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, the Anthropology Department at the University of Colorado, Denver, Florence Crittenton Services, and Youth Tech Health and developed a report that shared the findings of the survey with the entire delegation of Colorado House Representatives and Senators. The research looked at 14 to 24 year old parenting, pregnant, and non-pregnant female and male youth. Half of the sample was Latino. This work examined attitudes and identified the prevalence of risk behaviors within this demographic.
- Velasquez, C., Sanchez, H., PhD, Delgado, A., Villa, D., & Fetterolf, I. P. (2012). *Trabajadoras: Challenges and Conditions of Latina Workers in the United States* (pp. 1-140, Rep.). Washington, DC: Labor Council For Latin American Advancement. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from https://www.lclaa.org/images/pdf/Trabajadoras_Report.pdf.

Non-Refereed:

- Velasquez, C. (2017, February 20). 13 Unsettling Realities of an Undocumented Immigrant During Trump's Presidency. *Everyday Feminism*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://everydayfeminism.com/2017/02/undocumented-during-trump/>
- James, S. E., Herman, J. L., Raskin, S., M., M., Mottet, L., & Anafi, M. (2016). *The Report of the 2015 U.S. Transgender Survey* (pp. 1-302, Rep.). Washington, DC: National Center of Transgender Equality.
Contributed to the research design and methods, interpretation of data, and writing of the largest survey and report on transgender people in the U.S.
- Velasquez, C. (2016, June 09). Bathroom Bills Don't Just Harm Trans People . *The Advocate*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://www.advocate.com/commentary/2016/6/09/bathroom-bills-dont-just-harm-trans-people>
- Velasquez, C. (2016, June 09). 10 Myths We Must Debunk About Transgender Love. *Huffington Post*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from https://www.huffingtonpost.com/catalina-velasquez/10-myths-we-must-debunk-a_b_10320488.html?
- Velasquez, C. (2016, March 20). The Un-Jesuit Way of Celebrating Education. *Medium - People For The American Way*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://medium.com/@peoplefor/the-un-jesuit-way-of-celebrating-education-76b5d6785e84>

INVITED TALKS & TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Velasquez, C., Caballero, B., Adelman, L., & Duffy, J., JD. (2017, August). *Keep Your Tiny, White Hands Off Me: Strategies and Solutions for Black and Brown Bodily Autonomy*. Lecture presented in Hyatt Regency Hotel 265 Peachtree St NE, Atlanta, Georgia.
- Velasquez, C., Turner, N., Flores, L., Cohen, L., & Hightower, J. (2017, June 10). *Empowering Locals: The Power of the Revolution*. Lecture presented at People Power Summit in Exhibit Hall B North, McCormick Place, located at 2301 S King Drive, Chicago, Illinois.
- Velasquez, C., Mora, H., Nelson, A., Lint, A., Howard, A., & Campbell, C. (2017, February 24). Best Practices: Creating a Transgender-Affirming Organization [Video blog post]. Retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iqINaamFaDA>
- Velasquez, C., & Ray, R. (2016, November 1). *Intersections: Identity in Images*. Lecture presented at University of Maryland Office of Diversity & Inclusion (ODI) and Sociology Department, College Park, Maryland.
- Velasquez, C., Aduelo, S., Stamp, N., & Thompson, M. (2016, August). *Youth Council: Issues Affecting Younger Voters*. Lecture presented at Democratic National Convention in Convention Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Velasquez, C., Ordonez, H., Ross, B., Peoples, A., & Watkins, J. (2016, July 16). *Rejecting the Pale, Male and Stale Leadership Pipeline: A Roadmap to Building Inclusive Organizations*. Lecture presented at Netroots Nation in America's Center Convention Complex, St. Louis, Missouri.
- Velasquez, C., Gonzalez-Rojas, J., Perez, Z., Stamp, N., & Ordonez, H. (2016, July 14). *WISE LATINXS: How to Build Power for 2016 and Beyond*. Lecture presented at Netroots Nation in America's Center Convention Complex, St. Louis, Missouri.
- Velasquez, C., & Jayes-Green, J. (2016, June 10). *Plenary: Intersectionality & Cross-Movement Organizing*. Lecture presented at United We DREAM Undocumented Youth Congress in George R. Brown Convention Center 1001 Avenida De Las Americas, Houston, Texas.

- Velasquez, C., Peoples, A., Hearn, E., Laney, T., & Davis, J. (2016, January 15). *Criminal (In)justice: the Impact of Criminalization on the LGBTQ community*. Lecture presented at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Civil and Human Rights Conference in Washington Hilton Hotel, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C., & Hunter, L. (2015, October 10). *Trans Women of Color Collective: Shifting the Narrative*. Lecture presented at Transformative Social Justice Leadership Global Prize in Kalamazoo College Arcus Center for Social Justice Leadership, Kalamazoo, Michigan.
- Velasquez, C., Cendana, G., Rodriguez, M., & Gonzales, H. (2015, August 27). *Keynote Panel: Immigration and the Labor Justice Movement*. Lecture presented at Pride at Work's Regional Conference, Orlando, Florida.
- Velasquez, C. (2015, August 26). *LGBTQ Communities and Poverty Interventions*. Lecture presented at Emerson National Hunger Fellows Program 22nd Class Field Training in Congressional Hunger Center 400 North Capitol Street NW Suite G100, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C., & Keisling, M. (2015, June 30). *The T is not Silent: Conversation About Transgender Lives*. Lecture presented at AFL-CIO Pride in 815 16th St NW, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C. (2015, May 2). *Building Our Leadership Across the Field*. Lecture presented at National Summit for LGBTQ Leaders of Color in The White House, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C. (2015, April 22). *Diversity and Inclusivity in Mental Health*. Lecture presented at Maryland Psychological Association of Graduate Students (MPAGS) Diversity Initiative Lecture Series in Loyola University Maryland Knott Hall B01 4501 N Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Velasquez, C., & Baker, K. E. (2015, March 23). *Trans Communities of Color and their Access to Health Services: A Spiraling Effect*. Lecture presented at University of Pennsylvania Nursing School Transgender Lecture Series in John Morgan Class of '62 Auditorium, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.
- Velasquez, C. (2015, January 27). *Gender in Policy - Required Lecture*. Lecture presented at Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute 2014-2015 Public Policy and Graduate Fellowship Leadership Training, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C. (2014, December 10). *LGBTQ Immigrants and Detention*. Lecture presented at Roots Camp 2014 in Microsoft DC Offices, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C. (2014, December 10). *#RealTalk: Cross-Movement Building and Intersectionality*. Lecture presented at Roots Camp 2014 in Microsoft DC Offices, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C. (2014, November 9). *Conditions of Queer and Transgender Immigrants in Detention*. Lecture presented at United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Washington, District of Columbia.
- Velasquez, C., & McGuire, K. (2014, September). *Plenary: Religious Refusals: New Interpretations of Freedom of Religion as a License to Discriminate*. Lecture presented at 2014 Gay and Lesbian Medical Association Conference, Baltimore, Maryland.
- Velasquez, C., & Freedman, R. (2014, August 19). *Using Religion as an Excuse to Deny Public Services to Queer and Transgender Populations*. Lecture presented at the 2014 Transgender Faith Conference, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Velasquez, C., & Gruberg, S., JD. (2014, August 28). *Health Justice and Immigrant Rights: A Queer and Gender Lens*. Lecture presented at 2014 Queering Immigration Conference, New York City, New York.

Velasquez, C. (2014, July). *Transgender Immigrants Barriers to Healthcare Part 1*. Lecture presented at National Transgender Health Conference in Convention Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Velasquez, C. (2014, July). *Transgender Immigrants Barriers to Healthcare Part 2*. Lecture presented at National Transgender Health Conference in Convention Center, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Velasquez, C. (2014, June 10). *Reproductive Justice and the LGBTQ Liberation Movement*. Lecture presented at National Center for Lesbian Rights Webinar Series, Washington, District of Columbia.

Velasquez, C., & Tomchin, O., JD. (2014, May 2). *Queering Reproductive Justice*. Lecture presented at 2014 Detention Watch Network Conference, Washington, District of Columbia.

Velasquez, C. (2013, March). *Testimony in Favor of Extending Driver Licenses for DC residents who are Undocumented*. In-Person Testimony presented at District of Columbia Government - Office of the Mayor, Washington, District of Columbia.

MEDIA & FEATURED PUBLICATIONS

Broadcasting & Radio:

Are the hopes of 800,000 DREAMers set to become nightmares? [Live TV]. (2017, September 10). Washington, District of Columbia: Al Jazeera: The Stream. <http://stream.aljazeera.com/story/201709110635-0025504>

A Nation Of Immigrants, 'A Nation Of Laws' [Live Radio]. (2017, September 05). In *IA*. Washington, District of Columbia: NPR. Retrieved October 28, 2017, [fromhttps://the1a.org/shows/2017-09-06/a-nation-of-immigrants-a-nation-of-laws](https://the1a.org/shows/2017-09-06/a-nation-of-immigrants-a-nation-of-laws)

Transgender and Undocumented People in the Hearth of Washington DC [Live TV]. (2017, July 01). Washington, District of Columbia: Mitu. <http://www.facebook.com/wearemitu/videos/1488297794564043/>

It's Larger Than Pride': Activists Consider Path Forward For LGBT Movement [Live Radio]. (2017, June 29). In *All Things Considered*. Washington, District of Columbia: NPR. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <http://www.npr.org/2017/06/29/534916059/its-larger-than-pride-activists-consider-path-forward-for-lgbt-movement>

Accion Ejecutiva El Futuro de DACA Y DAPA+ [Live TV]. (2016, April 17). Washington, District of Columbia: Univision. <https://www.facebook.com/univisionnoticias/videos/10154413084614796/>

Undocumented Immigrant Living in DC Tells Her Story [Recorded TV]. (2017, February 08). Washington, District of Columbia: WUSA9. <http://www.wusa9.com/news/local/undocumented-immigrant-living-in-dc-tells-her-story/403046656>

Unfinished Business: Movements [Live TV]. (2016, November 18). Washington, District of Columbia: The Atlantic. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AsECD1nd944&feature=youtu.be>

Undocumented Trans Community Puts Pressure on SCOTUS [Live TV]. (2016, April 19). Washington, District of Columbia: GVH Live. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a0H7VUzErPs>

In-Print Featured:

Brammer, J. P. (2017, September 08). DACA Reversal Could Be 'Death Sentence' for LGBTQ Immigrants. *NBC News*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/amp/daca-reversal-could-be-death-sentence-lgbtq-immigrants-n799281>

- Rodriguez-Jimenez, J. (2017, June 07). Here's Why An Undocumented Trans Latina Helped Create The LGBTQ Pride March Of Our Lifetime. *Mitu*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://wearemitu.com/fierce/heres-why-an-undocumented-trans-latina-helped-create-the-lgbtq-pride-march-of-our-lifetime/>
- Reichard, R. (2017, May 10). Woman Crush(ing the Patriarchy) Wednesday: Catalina Velasquez. *Latina Magazine*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <http://www.latina.com/lifestyle/our-issues/woman-crushing-patriarchy-wednesday-catalina-velasquez>
- Vargas, T., & Hendrix, S. (2017, February 08). In Trump's capital, undocumented immigrants live and work in the shadow of the White House. *The Washington Post*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/in-trumps-capital-undocumented-immigrants-live-and-work-in-the-shadow-of-the-white-house/2017/02/07/ed837844-e8d3-11e6-b82f-687d6e6a3e7c_story.html?utm_term=.c6b1a3a7ca92
- Uffalussy, J. G. (2016, February 19). 16 Ideas for Obama's Last Months in Office. *Glamour*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://www.glamour.com/story/we-the-people-wishes-for-presi>
- Cepeda, E. J. (2016, February 17). What I've Learned: Trans Colombiana Brings Social Justice Awareness. *NBC News*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/latino/what-i-ve-learned-trans-colombiana-brings-social-justice-awareness-n517481>
- Ortiz, G. (2015, December 08). Presidential Candidate Bernie Sanders Meets With DREAMers, DAPA-Eligible Parents. *America's Voice*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <https://americasvoice.org/blog/presidential-candidate-bernie-sanders-meets-with-dreamers-dapa-eligible-parents/>
- Univision. (2015, December 07). Bernie Sanders Escucha Historias de Inmigrantes en Evento de Campaña. *Univision*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <http://www.univision.com/noticias/destino-2016/bernie-sanders-escucha-historias-de-inmigrantes-en-evento-de-campana>
- Morrison, A. (2015, June 15). Rachel Dolezal, Caitlyn Jenner Comparison Rejected By Transgender Women Of Color, LGBT Activists. *International Business Times (IBT)*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <http://www.ibtimes.com/rachel-dolezal-caitlyn-jenner-comparison-rejected-transgender-women-color-lgbt-1967789>
- Little, R. (2015, June 05). Humane Asylum. For LGBTQ immigrants in D.C., Waiting is the Hardest Part. *Washington City Paper*. Retrieved October 28, 2017, from <http://www.washingtoncitypaper.com/news/article/13046901/humane-asylum-for-lgbtq-immigrants-in-dc-waiting-is-the>

ADDITIONAL EDUCATION

- Trauma Is In The Room: Tools For Facilitators & Accessible Trainings from Washington Peace Center. June 2016;
- Management Intensive Training for Equity, Inclusion, & Results at The Management Center. March 2016;
- Research Methods & Clinical Trial Design Training Course at the George Washington University Milken Institute School of Public Health and the Jacobs Institute of Women's Health, December 2015;
- *Conflict Analysis* Course Certificate from the United States Peace Institute, January 2010;
- Alumnus of the Washington Center for Internships and Academic Seminars: "Leaders on Leadership", May 2007;
- *Business Etiquette and International Protocol Seminar* Certification, November 2006;
- Basic Banking Certification on *Financial Education*, October 2006;
- *Spanish Business Seminar* Certification by CIPEJ (Congreso Internacional de Empresarios Jovenes), October 2006;