Gonzalo Valdivieso, Coordinator of PuentesUC

Gonzalo Valdivieso is an agronomer graduated from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. His field of experience and interests are related with local development and local management. He was the national director of an important Chilean program called Servicio País. He was also the former executive director of Fundamor, an organization specializing in children’s issues and education. He is currently the coordinator of PuentesUC, a program of the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile with the goal of linking and applying the university’s knowledge to the development of local governments. He is also involved with the Foundation of Rural Life.

Trinidad Vidal, PuentesUC Staff member

Trinidad Vidal is a sociologist graduated from the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile. Her fields of experience are related to topics such as local development and employment. She has worked in two important Chilean NGOs, both of them aiming to overcome poverty through community employment and higher education scholarships programs. Currently she works with PuentesUC, a program of the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile with the goal of linking and applying the university’s knowledge to the development of local governments.

Community Awareness Initiatives Responsibly-Directed by Engineers, National University of Ireland-Galway

Andrew English, Student

Andrew is from Galway, a city on the west coast of Ireland. Andrew completed an undergraduate degree in Biomedical Engineering at the National University of Ireland, Galway (NUIG) in May 2010. Andrew is currently a postgraduate student at NUIG, researching in the area of Biomaterials.

As part of his undergraduate programme at NUIG he was required to partake in a service learning programme. During this programme Andrew and several other colleagues set up the ‘Scrapheap Challenge’. The primary aim of this project was to utilize the knowledge of 3rd year engineering students to create a constructive learning environment for children in a disadvantaged area of the city, while also introducing them to engineering and encouraging team work. This project has been running for 2 years and will be an annual project at NUIG.

Andrew was invited to speak at a service learning conference held at NUIG last June. The conference is part of an ongoing project to introduce service learning to five universities in Jordan and Lebanon. This project is an EU Tempus Funded Project.
Dimitrios Zeugolis, Lecturer in Biomedical Engineering

Dimitrios Zeugolis completed his PhD at the University of Northampton in the UK in 2005. Following that, Dimitrios spent 2.5 years at the National University of Singapore, Division of Bioengineering working as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow. In 2007, Dimitrios joined NUIG as a Post-Doctoral Researcher and became a lecturer in Biomedical Engineering (Biomaterials) at the Department of Mechanical and Biomedical Engineering and Principal Investigator at the Network of Excellence for Functional Biomaterials (NFB) the following year. His research interests lie in the area of connective tissue biology, biomaterials, tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, natural biopolymers, soft and hard tissue repair, nanotechnology and functionalization of scaffolds for delivery of therapeutic or bioactive molecules. Dimitrios is also involved with Service Learning activities in collaboration with the Community Knowledge Initiative (CKI) at NUI Galway and teaches the CAIRDE (Community Awareness Initiatives Responsibly-Directed by Engineers) service learning course.

Community Builders, Wartburg College (USA)

Jordan Galles, Student

Jordan is a 4th year student at Wartburg College in Waverly, Iowa. She is majoring in Biology with minors in Psychology and Leadership. Jordan’s involvement with the Community Builders program began in her 3rd year as a part of her leadership studies at Wartburg. The Community Builders programs helped to build necessary leadership skills including: flexibility, compassion, patience, as well as development in organizational and communication skills. Jordan is also a member of the Women's Golf team at Wartburg. Following graduation, she plans to attend Physical Therapy school and, eventually, practice as a Physical Therapist.

Fred Waldstein, Director of the Institute for Leadership Education

Fred Waldstein holds the Irving R. Burling Chair in Leadership and is Professor of Political Science at Wartburg College where he is also Director of the Institute for Leadership Education which defines leadership as “taking responsibility for our communities, and making them better through public action.” Consistent with this civic engagement orientation, Fred’s current research interests pertain to the development of new educational paradigms to foster skills of critical inquiry, civil discourse, and service-learning as tools necessary to encourage civic engagement as a means to sustain democratic society. Waldstein is a graduate of Wartburg College and he holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Washington University in St. Louis.
Albert Chau, Dean of Student Affairs and Director of General Education

Dr. Albert Chau is currently the Dean of Student Affairs and Director of General Education of the University of Hong Kong. Albert received his bachelor degree in industrial engineering in 1983 and the Postgraduate Certificate in Psychology in 1984 at the University of Hong Kong, and Ph.D. in psychology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison in 1992. Since 1992, Albert has been teaching in the Department of Psychology of HKU, first as Assistant Professor and then as Associate Professor. He was Associate Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences from 2000 to 2002, Warden of University Hall from 1996 – 2006. He is currently involved in the curriculum reform for the 4-year curriculum and the planning of the centennial campus. Albert’s main research areas are cognitive psychology and college student development and learning experience.

Alvin Wong, Student

Alvin Wong is a year 4 student studying in politics and law at the University of Hong Kong. Alvin is interested in learning how institutions guide/channel/manipulate/control human behavior in relation to human nature. He is particularly interested in political philosophy and legal theory and has written an undergraduate thesis on “affluent citizen’s responsibility to the global poor”. Alvin hopes to start a small social enterprise this year. The company will run education programs that take uni-students to developing countries. It will work to include more educational elements than many international service programs and will have an eye on helping local partners in developing countries build their own capacity.

Student Leaders for Service, Portland State University (USA)

Jon Hurst, Student

Jon Hurst is a North Westerner from the United States of America. He is a self proclaimed “life-long student” studying Community Development at Portland State University. Jon’s central interests are rooted in self enhancement, edification, and illumination for the common man. His school and life focuses have a complimentary emphasis in education, leadership, communication, and environmental sciences. His aspirations are to utilize various mediums for the imaging & marketing of values such as sustainable practices, community service,
and civic involvement. Jon joined Student Leaders for Service (SLS) because he recognized an opportunity to imbibe, study, access, engage and encourage a culture of “learning through service.” SLS has assisted Jon in identifying and gleaning the unique components of facilitating a livelihood of an enriched quality of life - for all mankind. Jon believes in the age old saying “teach a man to fish feed him for a life time.” He considers himself a connoisseur of perspective and values collective efforts that lead to empowered people. He has a deep appreciation for how people think, why they think the way they do, and what they think about. Jon likes to daydream, read, write, draw, travel, and brew beer. He is currently working on a project called “free conversation.”

Amy Spring, Assistant Director for Community-University Partnerships

Ms. Spring works with PSU students, faculty, staff, and community partners to facilitate and support community-based learning. She has been responsible for coordinating and facilitating assessment activities, faculty and student development workshops, student and faculty participation in community-based work, the development of community-based curriculum, and all grant financial and programmatic reporting. She developed and manages the Student Leaders for Service Program in which students work in community organizations as leaders and advocates for community engagement. On the national level, Amy has presented and published on a range of topics including: student leadership development in service learning; impact assessment of service learning on students, faculty and community partners, and defining, documenting & evaluating the scholarships of engagement and teaching. She received her Masters degree in Public Administration from Portland State University’s Hatfield School of Government. Her emphasis of study was service learning and its impacts on students, faculty, and community partners. She received her undergraduate degrees in Sociology and Urban Studies and Planning. She is the proud mother of Easton (11) and Fiona (13) Spring.

Ubunye, University of Cape Town (South Africa)

Judith Favish, Director of Institutional Planning

Judith Favish is Director: Institutional Planning at the University of Cape Town. In addition to responsibility for institutional information, institutional planning, academic planning, quality assurance, and promoting social responsiveness, she is the co-convener of a task team responsible for implementing a Memorandum of Understanding signed between four universities in the province and the provincial administration. Prior to this position, she was Director: Institutional Planning and Transformation at the Cape Technikon (2000-2003); and before that Director of Policy and Planning in the Gauteng Department of Education (GDE). She holds a Postgraduate Diploma in Policy, Leadership and Management in Higher Education from the University of the Western Cape, and an MA in Adult and
Continuing Education from the University of Warwick (UK). Since 2005 she has been a member of the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) Executive Committee and Board, and sits on the Governing Board of the Children’s Institute at the University of Cape Town. She was previously a member of the Boards of the Learning Cape, the Centre for Extended Learning, and the National Board for Further Education and Training.

Jacqui Watson, Student

Jacqui Watson is currently a 3rd year Business Science Marketing student at the University of Cape Town. Jacqui lived in residence at the University for 2 years and served as the Head Student in her final year. She now lives in a house with 5 friends. Jacqui joined Ubunye as the Director of the Media School in 2009 and has been actively involved in the operations and sponsorship of the project for the past year. Next year she hopes to be involved in the Coordination Committee of Ubunye and help give direction to each of the 4 projects. In her spare time Jacqui enjoys relaxing with friends and taking photographs. Jacqui has a strong desire to enter social marketing when she graduates at the end of next year.

Vidas-Móviles (Moving Lives), Pontificia Universidad Javeriana (Colombia)

Ingrid Schuler Garcia, Academic Dean for the Faculty of Sciences

Ingrid Schuler Garcia received her Bachelor’s degree from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Colombia and her PhD from the Université Paris XI Orsay. She is currently the Academic Dean for the Faculty of Sciences at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, as well as a member of the Board of Directors of the university. Ingrid is an Associate Professor of Biology and a member of the Plant Biotechnology Group of the Faculty of Sciences. Since 2009 Ingrid has been in charge of the “Vidas Móviles” Social Responsibility Program of the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana where about 7 Faculties participate in the healthcare field and establishment of new enterprises.

Ivan Solarte, Academic Dean of the School of Medicine

Ivan Solarte is a medical doctor and graduate from the School of Medicine at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Colombia. He is now a professor in the School of Medicine at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, and Academic Dean of the School of Medicine since 2005.
Susan Stroud, ICP Executive Director

Susan is the founder and Executive Director of Innovations in Civic Participation (ICP). One of the White House architects of the National and Community Trust Act of 1993, she served in senior positions at the Corporation for National and Community Service to implement AmeriCorps and Learn and Serve America. Previously, she was the founding director of Campus Compact, a national coalition of university presidents, and the Swearer Center for Public Service at Brown University. Susan worked in several countries while consulting to the Ford Foundation, most notably helping to create a network of university-based programs in South Africa and various service initiatives in Russia and Mexico. Susan is the founding president of the International Council on National Youth Policy and a senior fellow at the Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service at Tufts University.

Dean Rob Hollister, Tisch College, Tufts University

Rob Hollister is dean of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service and holds the Pierre and Pamela Omidyar Chair of Citizenship and Public Service. A specialist in citizen participation in public affairs, he has been engaged in teaching graduate and undergraduate students, practicing professionals, and citizens for over 30 years, and has led planning and development of Tufts’ uniquely comprehensive approach to education for active citizenship. Rob holds a B.A. in sociology and anthropology from Antioch College, and an M.C.P. (master’s degree in city planning) from Harvard University. He received his Ph.D. from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at M.I.T., where he wrote a dissertation on “From Consumer Participation to Community Control of Neighborhood Health Centers.”

John Pollock, Talloires Network Program Assistant, ICP

John assists in communications, outreach, membership relations, development, research, writing, and other projects for the Talloires Network. He is a graduate from the University of Notre Dame with a B.A. in Political Science and Arabic. John’s coursework focused on international relations and Middle East political issues. John has interned with two refugee resettlement agencies as well as the Middle East Institute, and he studied abroad in Jordan. His main interests include international relations, the growth of civil society in developing countries, and political/social issues in the Middle East.
Guest facilitator:

**Seth Pollack, Director of Service Learning Institute at CSUMB**

Dr. Seth Pollack is Professor of Service Learning, and the director of the Service Learning Institute at California State University, Monterey Bay. He has a PhD in International Development Education from Stanford University and an MA in Organizational Sociology, also from Stanford. In 2005, Dr. Pollack was awarded the prestigious Thomas Ehrlich Faculty Award for Service Learning, recognized for his scholarship on the institutionalization of service learning in higher education and the integration of service learning with issues of diversity and social justice. In 2008-09, Dr. Pollack served as a Fulbright Scholar in Cape Town, South Africa, focusing on service learning curriculum development at both the University of Cape Town and the University of the Western Cape. Previous to his work in higher education, Dr. Pollack worked for ten years in grassroots community development in West Africa, Central America and South Asia. Dr. Pollack’s scholarship focuses on teaching civic engagement, social change, and the role of educational institutions as facilitators of community-based societal transformation.