

CLAUDIA PÉREZ-PELLICER

College of Arts and Sciences

Bachelor of Arts, May 2010

Major: International Relations

Robert F. Wagner School of Public Service

Master in Public Administration, 2011



Claudia Pérez-Pellicer is currently pursuing a Bachelor's degree in International Relations, which is an honors program. As a Cuban exile who has lived most of her life in Austria, she has experienced worlds of socio-political and economic extremes that have driven her personal and professional interest in sustainable development and human rights advocacy. Claudia is particularly interested in the integration of minority groups and victims of socio-political or religious oppression in Latin America and Western Europe. She will continue to apply her fluency in Spanish, German, Italian and English, and her advanced knowledge of French and Portuguese, to dissolve communication barriers that contribute to the marginalization of oppressed communities.

As a founding member of the Red Cross Youth Group in Vienna, Claudia participated in Disaster Aid Training Modules, which inspired her 'hands on' approach to activism and defined her view of the function and impact of international humanitarian organizations. As a contribution to the "2005 Red Cross Children's Awareness Weekend," she developed workshops for children and young adults to raise awareness about the devastating effect of residual landmines, and the role of entities such as the International Campaign to Ban Landmines in alleviating human suffering. She also created and implemented educational activities for a Youth-Integration program in the Austrian refugee shelter: "JUPITER".

While studying in Florence, Claudia helped manage the Center for Peace Education and Human Rights in an Italian public school where she developed interactive lesson plans in Spanish, English, and Italian to encourage reflection on global peace and tolerance. In New York, she became involved in the coordination of events at the Center for Global Affairs at NYU, where she gained further exposure to key issues in geopolitical and economic affairs. She was also employed as an independent field worker at the NYU Center for Research on Culture, Development and Education, where she studied the impact of social integration on academic achievement. Claudia is currently a Resident Assistant at NYU, where she does crisis-response, community-building and designs programs to educate students on the impact of microfinance initiatives and organizations such as Kiva.org. She is also collaborating with Pro Mujer International, an exceptional organization that helps Latin America's poorest women build livelihoods for themselves and their families, by increasing access to microcredit, business training, and healthcare services. Here, she has researched and proposed new strategies to promote the organization's efforts and strengthen the bond between Pro Mujer, its clients and its donors.

For a project commemorating the 60th Anniversary of Austrian Liberation, in collaboration with the Austrian Broadcasting Corporation (ORF), Claudia conducted an interview with a WWII veteran who witnessed torture and genocide. "Freedom, Claudia," he repeated time and time again, "is something we have to fight for every day."

Claudia is determined to further this fight for freedom by combining a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations with a Masters in Public Administration, so that she will have an understanding of effective management policies at international institutions dedicated to social change. Ultimately, she plans to fuse in-depth knowledge of international law, geopolitics, and development-economics to sustainably aid and reduce the number of refugees worldwide.

Claudia spent last summer in Bogotá, Colombia working with AVINA, an organization that builds alliances among social and business leaders, in a new approach to promote sustainable and inclusive development in Latin America. She plans to explore new networks and supply chains that can be leveraged to produce inclusive businesses, reduce inequality and thus empower the poorest members of a national as well as greater regional community.

CLAUDIA PÉREZ-PELLICER

EDUCATION

New York University, College of Arts and Science, New York, NY

Candidate for Bachelor of Arts, May 2010

Major: International Relations, Honors

New York University in Florence, Italy

Freshman Year in Florence Program, Aug. 2006- May 2007

Vienna International School, Vienna, Austria

International Baccalaureate Diploma

Bilingual Diploma (for English and Spanish - IBD)

IB Certificate (for 7th Subject within IBD- Visual Art HL)

Austrian Matura Equivalence

HONORS/SCHOLARSHIPS/AWARDS

- Startingbloc: Fellowship – New York Institute for Social Innovation, 2009
- NYU Reynolds Undergraduate Scholarship in Social Entrepreneurship, 2008
- NYU Reynolds/Youth Venture “Be A Changemaker Challenge” \$1000 Seed Grant Winner, 2008
- National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), 2007
- New York University Dean’s List, 2006-2007
- Austrian Red Cross Award: “For Two Years of Leadership: Youth- Group in Vienna,” 2006 , “For Two Years of Membership and Active Involvement,” 2006 and “Successful completion of First Disaster Aid Training Module,” 2005
- Austrian Broadcasting Corporation: Director’s Commendations: “Awarded for Excellent Work on History Project,” 2005, “Awarded for Excellent Literary Skills,” 2005, and “Awarded for Creativity, Awareness and Action,” 2005
- Vienna International School Leadership in Sport Award, 2005, and School Commendations, 2003 and 2005
- Austrian Red Cross: Awarded First Aid Training Certificate, 2004

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Pro Mujer International – Giving Women Credit, New York, NY

Microfinance Communications and Development Intern, Jan. 2009 - Present

- Researched and presented proposal for the selection of donor web-survey providers, to collect essential donor feedback and increase fundraising capabilities
- Translate financial documents in preparation for regional operations conferences, as well as interviews with Latin American clients and CEO (Lang.: Spanish and English)
- Update online microfinance program and budget profiles and assisted Communications Director in the creation of promotional materials

Department of Residential Education - NYU, New York, NY

Resident Assistant, Aug. 2008 – Present

- Develop educational, social and leadership activities for over 800 hall residents
- Enforce University housing policy and procedures
- Design programs to raise awareness for the impact of microfinance organizations such as Kiva.org
- Serve as a crisis-responder and resource to support the well-being of 96 residents

Center for Research on Culture, Development and Education (CRCDE) at NYU, New York, NY

Spanish-Speaking Fieldworker/Interviewer, Jan. – Dec. 2008

- Conducted extensive interviews and surveys with Hispanic mothers and their children in NYC
- Developed training sessions to analyze and counter academic underachievement and marginalization of ethnic minority groups in the U.S.
- Participated in weekly training sessions with fellow fieldworkers to discuss interview criteria and techniques
- Facilitated coordination of study-participants and scheduling of interviews for “Project RAP”

**NYU Center for Global Affairs – School of Continuing and Professional Studies (SCPS), New York, NY
Assistant Event Coordinator, Jan. - May 2008**

- Assisted in coordination, registration and admission to key public events
- Corresponded with event attendees, SCPS students and CGA program-applicants
- Support administrators by preparing application documents for prospective professors
- Serve as resource for prominent speakers, including senior staff members of NGOs, international lawyers and journalists

**Center of Education on Human Rights and Peace, Florence, Italy
Project Management Intern, Jan. – May 2007**

- Designed awareness projects and team-building activities on peace education
- Developed and carried out interactive lesson plans on the importance of tolerance and diversity
- Created interactive workshops on Latin American Culture – in Florentine High School (Lang.: Spanish, Italian and English)

**Vienna International School, Vienna, Austria
Human Resources Intern, Jan. – Feb. 2008**

- Assisted Director of Human Resources in management of applications and forwarding of specific department applicants
- Corresponded with prospective professors and administrators; assisted in the scheduling of interviews

Management Intern, May. -July 2007

- Assisted Business Manager and Purchasing Specialist by corresponding with company representatives
- Aided in the preparation of major contracts and took minutes at meetings (Lang.: English and German)
- Monitored and reported on progress of construction projects; designed official schedule for completion
- Catalogued and updated confidential financial and facility data

**ORF- Austrian Broadcasting Corporation, Vienna, Austria
Contributing Reporter and Translator, Jan. - May 2005**

- Selected as independent interviewer by ORF
- Planned, conducted and translated an interview with a veteran of WWII
- Published as “Interview in Honor of the 60th Anniversary of “Austrian Liberation”

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

**Inter-group Dialogue at NYU, New York, NY
Program Participant, Feb. – Sept. 2008**

- Contributed to weekly discussions of this nationally recognized program that brings diverse social identity groups together to explore innovative efforts for social change
- Presented projects and analyzed different approaches to social justice advocacy, using sustained dialogue in order to explore diversity

**Project S.I.B.L.I.N.G (NYC), New York, NY
Volunteer and Recruitment Coordinator, Jan. – Dec. 2008**

- Responsible for planning and coordination of start-up volunteers in NYC that promotes efficient allocation of resources to maintain daycare centers in outer boroughs of New York City
- Collaborated with program director on presentation for the 2008 NYU Reynolds/Youth Venture “Be a Changemaker Challenge,” resulting in a \$1000 grant

**Meals-on-Heels, New York, NY
Student Volunteer, Nov. 2007 – Nov. 2008**

- Delivered meals to senior, homebound citizens
- Provided feedback on their health condition to program coordinators and social workers

**American Red Cross @ NYU
Club Member, Sept. 2007 –May 2008**

- Attended club meetings and participated in introductory Red Cross volunteer information and training-sessions

“Corri La Vita”- 2006, Florence, Italy

Event Participant, Oct. 2006

- Participated in Walk/Run fundraiser to support Breast Cancer Patients and Research

Austrian Red Cross, Vienna, Austria

Project Manager and Youth Group Leader, Aug. 2004 – May 2006

- Co-founded Red Cross Youth Organization: “RK- JUGEND”
- Obtained First Aid Training Certificate
- Completed Disaster Aid Training Modules with Austrian “DAT”/“KHD”
- Led group-activities and discussions throughout “Children’s Awareness Weekend”/ “Landeslager 2005”
- Designed workshops to address global impact of residual land mines and raise awareness for role of international humanitarian organizations
- Managed Educational Program at Refugee Shelter: “JUPITER”; designed, carried out and supervised interactive educational programs for resident children, ages 6-12

ACTIVITIES

Startingbloc: Greater New York Institute for Social Innovation, New York, NY

Fellow and Member of Winning Team of Social Innovation Competition, March 2009

- Applied strategic, cross-sector consulting techniques in a team of seven Fellows
- Developed a new product-line for the sustainable eco-capitalist firm: TerraCycle
- Explored current private-public sector partnerships through lectures and discussions with leading academics, corporate innovators, social entrepreneurs, activists and government officials

National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH), New York, NY

Official Member and Retreat Participant, Nov. 2007 – Present

- Participated in NYU ‘MORE- Sophomore Leadership Retreat, designed to develop project-management, team-building and leadership skills
- Contributed to “NEXT STEP” Social Justice Retreat, awareness-raising workshop to promote social justice education and human rights advocacy
- Inducted to organization following nomination by leadership retreat supervisors

Cuban American Student Association (CASA), New York, NY

Club President, Sept. 2007 – Present

- Develop and promote cultural events to raise awareness for Human Rights issues
- Collaborate with Raíces de Esperanza, an international network of young activists working to educate and promote democracy in Cuba
- Coordinate lectures and exclusive documentary screenings with New York University and Columbia University Faculty
- Head bi-weekly meetings and event-planning sessions to explore Cuban Culture at NYU
- Involvement enhanced Independent Research Project “Cuba: On Politics and Economic Development”

NYU Career Advantage Internship Program (CAIP), New York, NY

Sept. 2007 – May 2008

- Took part in Alumni Mentoring Program, aimed at exploring career opportunities with international humanitarian organizations such as the United Nations
- Attended regular career-exploration workshops, placement and orientation sessions for international students

NYU Economics and NYU Politics Club, New York, NY

Club Member, Sept. 2007 – May 2008

- Attended guest lectures and discussion sessions hosted by the Liberal Studies Program
- Discussant on the relationship between urban infrastructures and economic development as impacted by the potential economic recession in the U.S.

Latin and Ballroom Dance Club and NYU Dance Team, New York, NY

Sept. – Dec. 2007

- Attended variety of cultural dance-workshops and weekly training sessions
- Competed in NYU Top Hat Ballroom Dance Contest

NYU Creative Writing: “Untitled” Florence, Italy and New York, NY

Contributing Performer/Writer, Sept. 2006 – Present

- Presented short stories and poems of own composition at five “Untitled” open-mic events through NYU in Florence in 2006 and at various venues in New York City

PUBLICATIONS

ORF- Austrian Broadcasting Company, May 2005

- *Interview in Honor of the 60th Anniversary of Austrian Liberation* Independent interview was published on web, in collaboration with news.ORF.at

Service Matters, New York University – May 2008

- *Teaching Tolerance Through Language*, Article discussing the role of NYU Community Service initiatives abroad; published in collaboration with Cesar A. Francia

LANGUAGES

- Fluent in Spanish, German, Italian and English, Advanced French and Portuguese