



## 2000 ICAP Mid-Career Professionals

**Charisse Adamson** works for USAID as the Ghana Desk Officer, where she serves as a liaison between USAID/Ghana and USAID /Washington. Prior to assuming her current duties in 1999, she was the Deputy Director of the USAID Program Office in Guatemala City, Guatemala, there she provided budget, policy, monitoring, and evaluation support to a bilateral & regional program totaling \$84million. Previously, Ms Adamson has done Consultant work in Washington D.C., and worked as a Special Assistant to the Director with Save the Children in Somalia. Ms Adamson studied a year at the University of Ghana. She received her B.A. in History from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She has obtained two M.A. degrees from the University of Wisconsin, Madison: in American History and Agriculture Economics.

**Nicole Bibbins** is a Special Assistant to the Department Coordinator for Counterterrorism with the U.S. Department of State. Prior to assuming her current duties in 1999 she worked two years as a Balkan Refuge Affairs Officer. Ms Bibbins received two Superior Honor Awards for Kosovo policy work, as recognition of her work in Kosovo from January 1999 through April 1999. She attained her B.A. in International Affairs with minor in German from the college of William and Mary. She has also studied at Humboldt Universitat in Berlin, Germany. Ms Bibbins received a Master of Science in Foreign Service, with a concentration in U.S. Foreign Policy, from Georgetown University.

**Kem C. Carter** is currently special assistant to Ambassador Ruth A. Davis, Director of the State Department's Foreign Service Institute. She was previously a special assistant to Ambassador Mary A. Ryan, serving as the deputy of the Visa Office's Congressional and Diplomatic Liaison section. Prior to that assignment, she worked three years on the personal staff of U.S. Senator, Ernest F. Hollings (D-SC) handling immigration casework and special projects. Preceding that position, she was the staff assistant to the Senate Commerce Committee's Consumer Subcommittee, chaired by then U.S. Senator, Albert Gore, Jr. She worked briefly on the advance staff of Vice President Albert Gore, Jr. during the 1996 Presidential election. Ms Carter has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the University of South Carolina

**Traci L. Patterson Cook** has worked as Special Assistant to the Deputy Director for the U.S. Peace Corps at the headquarters office in Washington, DC. for nearly two years; prior to this, she worked in the Office of Volunteer Support at the Peace Corps, where she assisted the Director of Special Services and five other Special Service Officers in managing all crises intervention for Peace Corps volunteers and their families. She holds a Masters of Arts in Teaching/ Middle

Grades Education, in Social Studies and English, from Emory University in Atlanta, GA, she and is a candidate for the Masters of Science degree in Information Systems Technology at George Washington University in Washington, DC.

**William Chapman**, is a Manager of International Projects at the Port Authority of NY&NJ. He has been employed at the Port Authority for 12 years in various positions. Mr. Chapman managed the Port Authority's Southern Africa Office in Johannesburg from 1994 to 1997. The SA office was intended to identify business development opportunities for the Port Authority and businesses in the New York/New Jersey region. Prior to the Port Authority, William served as a Program Associate for economic development in Governor Mario Cuomo's Office for 3 years. He received his B.A. from Cornell University and his MPA from the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton University.

**Anthony C. Fernandes** is currently working at the US Embassy in Ottawa, Canada, as a political officer in the political section. His title is 2nd secretary, vice consul. Before arriving in Ottawa Mr. Fernandes was a consular officer at the US Consulate General in Shenyang, China. Mr. Fernandes has worked for the South African Council of Churches in South Africa, the law firm of Laryea, Laryea & Co. in Accra, Ghana, the National Democratic Institute in Ghana, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Nigeria and he was a Legislative Assistant to Congressman Joseph Kennedy at his Washington, DC office. Mr. Fernandes has a Juris Doctorat from the University of Minnesota Law School, and a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science from Boston College. He has studied at the Complutense University in Madrid, Spain and Moscow University. Mr. Fernandes is a member of the Bar in Massachusetts.

**Mercedes Carmela Fitchett** is an International Economist with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC. She has held this position from 1994 to present. Ms Fitchett represents the Department in trade negotiations on NAFTA and the Free Trade Area of the Americas. As part of the Women's Executive Leadership (WEL) program, she worked as an International Trade Consultant with Nike, Inc., Beaverton, OR, from April 1-July 21, 2000. She worked in a small team, which developed the concept paper and strategy during a feasibility study and eventual lobbying process to establish new legislation associated with sustainably developed product. Also through WEL, Ms Fitchett was a Trade Legislative Fellow, for the Senate Finance Committee, Minority Staff, Wash., DC, from Jan. - March 2000, covering issues such as the Africa and Caribbean trade bill, U.S.-EU agricultural trade issues, and the China trade bill. She started her career in 1994 at the Department of Commerce in Washington, DC as a Trade Remedy Law Specialist, conducting countervailing duty reviews. Ms Fitchett pursued her education at the Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris, European Union Program, Paris Summer 1993. She was awarded her M.S., from the School of Foreign Service, Georgetown University, Washington, D.C. 1993. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Cum Laude, from Pomona College, Claremont, CA, 1991. Ms Fitchett is also an avid tennis player and was a captain of her NCAA III college tennis team.