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NATIONAL URBAN FELLOWS INC

FACTS

Background

National Urban Fellows, Inc., a private not-for-profit 501(c) 3 organization, was founded in 1969 as a cooperative project of Yale University, the National League of Cities and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, with financial support from the Ford Foundation. Initially charged with a mission to identify, recruit and train minority men and women to occupy leadership and policy-making positions in America's cities, the organization expanded its purpose in 1980, to address the economic and community leadership needs of rural America. It has since added programs to increase opportunities for women and minorities in business and industry (1985), as well as in the field of environmental science and management (1990). After 26 years, the National Urban Fellows, Inc. stands as a model for leadership training, having qualified nearly 700 men and women -- African Americans, Hispanics, Whites, Native Americans, Asian Americans, and others -- for executive positions in public and private institutions throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Africa and of Europe.

Programs

- **National Urban/Rural Fellows** - The cornerstone of National Urban Fellows, Inc., this fourteen-month fellowship provides mid-career professionals in the public sector an opportunity to enhance their leadership skills and earn a Master in Public Administration.
- **Corporate Executive Fellows** - The Corporate Executive Fellows program, a two-year fellowship, prepares corporate executives for senior-level management careers and affords participants an opportunity to earn a Master in Business Administration.
- **Environmental Science and Management Fellows** - Initiated in 1991, the program is also a two-year fellowship that leads participants to a Master of Science degree and is a source for diverse leadership in the areas of environmental protection, conservation and management.

Core Elements

While each program has specific admission requirements, all fellowship programs combine intense academic study with professional experience in their respective field, and leadership forums to focus on public policy issues and share professional and personal experiences. Core program elements include:

- **Academic course of study** leading to a Master degree
- **Mentorship** enduring a minimum of nine months to twelve months with a senior level executive in the public or private sector
- **Mid-year conference** with fellows and mentors, to concentrate on strategies to enhance the nation's leadership
- **Stipends** of $20,000 to $30,000 per fellowship program
- **Book, travel and relocation** allowance

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National Urban Fellows, Inc. 55 West 44th Street, Suite 600 New York, New York 10036 (212) 921-9400 Fax: (212) 921-9572

Programs: National Urban/Rural Fellows, Corporate Executive Fellows, and Environmental Science & Management Fellows

NATIONAL URBAN FELLOWS INC

Luis Alvarez
President

As President of National Urban Fellows, Inc., since 1976, Luis Alvarez oversees the management of one of the country's premiere national leadership development programs geared toward professional mid-career minorities and women. Now in its 26th year, the National Urban Fellows, Inc. has celebrated the graduations of 683 individuals who now occupy significant leadership positions nationwide.

Through vision and foresight, Mr. Alvarez (a graduate of the program, Class of 1972) has expanded the National Urban Fellows, Inc. programs to include not only the National Urban/Rural Fellows, but also the Corporate Executive Fellows launched in 1985 and the Environmental Science & Management Fellows created in 1990. The mission of all three fellowships is to enhance the participation of mid-career professionals who are women, minorities and members of socially disadvantaged groups in the public, corporate and environmental arenas.

Prior to joining the National Urban Fellows, Inc., Mr. Alvarez was Chief Executive Officer of ASPIRA of America, Inc. (1972-1975). Under his guidance, ASPIRA of America prospered and played a significant role in expanding and strengthening educational opportunities for Hispanic children which culminated in the famous legal decision *ASPIRA Consent Decree vs. The Board of Education of New York City*.

As Special Assistant to the U.S. Commissioner of Education in 1971, Luis was directly involved in the formulation of U.S. educational policies and assuring their implementation across the United States, Puerto Rico and Guam. Among the significant educational legislation which he helped to design for the U.S. Office of Education were: The Bilingual Education Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, and the Career Education and Education Renewal Act.

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Mr. Alvarez has been invited to serve as Board Director of numerous national and local institutions which include:

Present:

Board Member - Puerto Rican Legal Defense & Education Fund
Board Member - Police Athletic League
Board Member - United Hospital Fund
Trustee - Children's Television Workshop
Secretary to the Corporation - LatinoNet
Chairman - National Community for Latino Leadership

Former:

Trustee - WNET/Thirteen
Chairman of the Board - Bronx Lebanon Hospital Center

Among the numerous awards and citations Luis has received in recognition of his vision and accomplishments are:

- Aspen Institute Society of Fellows
- The Whitney M. Young, Jr. Award
- National Hispanic Hero Award
- The Mid-West Voter Registration & Education Project
- The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Recognition Award

In the field of international affairs, Luis served as a member of the U.S. Official Delegation at the Panama Canal Transfer as well as a member of the Hispanic Leaders Delegation to Israel.

Married to the former Judith Dominguez, he and his wife reside in New York City and Fire Island. They are the proud parents of three children and the doting grandparents of two grandchildren.

NATIONAL URBAN FELLOWS INC

Edwin D. Acevedo
Director of Programs

Mr. Edwin D. Acevedo is a native New Yorker, born and raised in the South Bronx, where he attended parochial schools. After attending the State University of New York at Albany and completing both his BA in Psychology and MA in Criminal Justice, Mr. Acevedo worked with the NYS Division for Youth in Albany, NY specializing in planning, research and evaluation. In 1980, he joined the Washington office of SER-Jobs for Progress, Inc., a national Hispanic not-for-profit organization, where he served as a program development officer and lead analyst on employment and training legislation.

His focus on urban policy led to a National Urban Fellowship in 1982, resulting in a nine-month assignment with the Maricopa County Manager in Phoenix, Arizona. Upon completing the MPA program at Baruch College, Mr. Acevedo returned to SER as its Regional Manager for East Coast Corporate Relations in New York City. In the Fall of 1984, he joined the original staff of the City Volunteer Corps (CVC), an innovative Mayoral program in community service which was the model for the Presidential National Service Program. He served as the program's Deputy Director and Director of Operations.

Mr. Acevedo left CVC in 1988 to serve as the Special Assistant to a Member of the NYC Board of Education where he advised on all programmatic and fiduciary matters coming before the Board. He continued his work with the Board as the Senior Operations Assistant for Special Education, overseeing the division's MIS, operations and budget functions, which entailed over $1.5 billion in expenditures.

In 1992, Mr. Acevedo was offered the opportunity to design and implement an alternative high school for the Wildcat Service Corporation in New York City. After successfully launching the high school, he directed the agency's Adult Training Division where he focused on modernizing its program offerings in computer skills development. Mr. Acevedo joined the National Urban/Rural Fellows as Director of Programs in 1994.