

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Sept. 15 to Oct. 15

The National Hispanic Heritage Month observance started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded to a month by President Ronald Reagan in 1988. It was enacted into law on August 17, 1988, on the approval of Public Law 100-402.



2012 THEME: *Diversity United, Building America's Future Today*

HISPANIC PROFILE:

Dr. Frances Colón is the Deputy Science and Technology Adviser to the Secretary of State, U.S. Department of State. She promotes Science, Technology and Innovation (ST&I) dialogues; global scientific engagement for capacity-building, development and public diplomacy; S&T fellowships; women in science; and transformational technologies as tools of science diplomacy. She also



served as the Science and Environment Adviser for Western Hemisphere Affairs at the Dept. of State where she was responsible for providing technical advice on how environmental and scientific issues affected U.S. foreign policy objectives in the Americas. During that time, Dr. Colón coordinated climate change policy for the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas, which President Obama announced in 2009, and was the lead negotiator for scientific cooperation within the region. As an AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow (2006-2008), Dr. Colón led the Secretary of State's program for Muslim world outreach through K-12 science and math education cooperation. Dr. Colón earned her Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2004 from Brandeis University and her B.S. in Biology in 1997 from the University of Puerto Rico.

Dr. Colon will be the keynote speaker at the Federal Triangle Partnership Hispanic Heritage Month program on Tuesday, October 2, 2012, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Dept. of Commerce, Herbert C. Hoover Building, Main Auditorium, 1401 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, DC. For more information, contact Cristina Bartolomei, Office of Civil Rights at (202) 482-8183, cbartolomei@doc.gov.

