

Edinburgh Latin American Forum V edition - 11/02/2016

The following information was last updated in February 2016.

Committee, 2015 - 2016

President – Gonzalo Botas

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MA Hons. Economics student at the University of Edinburgh.

Born in Netherlands and having lived in Mexico, Egypt, Spain, and the UK he has always had an interest in understanding and creating links between different cultures and regions. With a special interest in analysing the underlying causes of differing economic performances in countries.

Having already worked as the Head of Finance of the Latin American Forum 2015 he decided to continue his involvement with the Latin American Forum helping it consolidate and expand its influence as a top-tier event promoting Latin American interests.

Vice President – Antonio Ferreiro

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MA Hons. International Relations student at the University of Edinburgh.

Born in Chile, and having lived in London and Edinburgh, Antonio is passionate about cultural diversity and increased communication and cooperation between nations. His interests focus on institutional governability and political economy, with a particular emphasis on Russia and Latin America.

His inside knowledge in event planning – provided by his experience at the International Institute for Strategic Studies, where he helped to coordinate the Cartagena Dialogue – and his passion about his native Latin America are the key factors motivating his participation in this Forum 2016.

Chair of Finance – David Johnstone

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MA Hons. Economics student at the University of Edinburgh.

David has always had an interest in global politics and development, and has volunteered with Save the Children society as both Campaigns Manager and Treasurer. He enjoys writing in his spare time and published in The Guardian shortly before he acquired a position in the Forum team.

On attending the 2015 Forum, David decided he wanted to be involved in its organisation. As Chair of Finance he was responsible for sourcing funding, reviewing spending and balancing the budget. As the only Scot on the committee, he aimed to expand the Forum's links with the Scottish professional community.

Chair of Marketing and Communications – Florian Koehne

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MSc International Business and Emerging Markets student at the University of Edinburgh Business School.

Florian was born in Germany and has done his undergraduate degrees in Germany and Australia. Florian also worked and studied in Mexico, Chile and Ecuador where he developed a deep interest in the Latin American business environment and the interconnections between the member states of the region.

As part of the organization committee of the Latin American Forum 2016 he aimed to establish the event as a meaningful institution to strengthen the relationship between Europe and Latin America.

Chair of Marketing and Communications – Daniel Sierra Kieswetter

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MEng Engineering for Sustainable Energy student at the University of Edinburgh.

Daniel was born in Panama, he is half Mexican and lives just one hour away from the border with Costa Rica. He has seen Latin American from different perspectives and decided to focus on engineering services, energy and sustainability.

As part of the Marketing and Communications team, he oversaw the integration of the Forum's media services with the aim to build strong relations with all the participants of the 2016 Forum.

Chair of Operations – Daniela Balseca

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MSc International Business & Emerging Markets (IBEM) student at the University of Edinburgh.

Born in Ecuador, Daniela has a background in Accounting and Audit. She has a fascination for international cooperation and the cross-border business world; with specific interest in the Latin American region for its incredible potential and diversity.

She aimed to promote the Latin American region's business, economics, politics and culture by helping the organisation and thereby give the attendees the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Latin America.

Chair of Operations – Lorena Siliceo

Occupation whilst working for the Forum: MSc student in International Business & Emerging Markets at the University of Edinburgh.

Before working for the Forum Lorena worked for more than four years in Business Management for the NGO sector. She has always been interested in the fields of Finance and management and has volunteered for a charity called Mano Amiga for more than six years as a treasury manager, the aim of the charity is to help children from Latin American countries like Colombia, Mexico and Chile to get a good quality education at a very low cost.

Lorena joined the Forum considering Latin America as a region with a vast cultural and economic diversity that offers business opportunities in a wide range of industries.