

# JAMES PADILLA DEBORST

SANTO DOMINGO, HEREDIA, COSTA RICA

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## ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

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CENTER FOR INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES, CETI STA. ROSA, HEREDIA, COSTA RICA

*Rector*

2012-2018

*Board of Directors*

2019-present

*President of the Board of Directors*

2021-present

- Directed Interdisciplinary Graduate School based in and for Latin America.
- Developed new online master's program in Interdisciplinary Theology.
- Teach courses in Leadership and Mission Practice.

EASTERN UNIVERSITY

CAPETOWN, SOUTH AFRICA

*Adjunct Instructor*

2007-2010

- Developed and taught courses in Community Development, Human Rights, and Program Evaluation.

DORDT COLLEGE

MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

*Adjunct Professor*

2010-2015

- Developed and taught course in Worldviews and Societal Transformation.

INSTITUTE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES

TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA

*Adjunct Instructor*

2014

- Developed and taught courses in Poverty, Diversity, and Social Justice; Discovery, Participation, and Action.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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ASOCIACIÓN CASA ADOBE

STA. ROSA, HEREDIA, COSTA RICA

*Founder*

2013-present

- Founded local community development non-profit.
- Established a volunteer program and a variety of service projects.

INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP FOR MISSION AS TRANSFORMATION, INFEMIT

DECENTRALIZED

*Board of Directors*

2017-present

- Previously board treasurer.
- Currently board secretary.

AGROS FOUNDATION

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON, USA

*Director for El Salvador*

2003-2004

- Supervised staff and office, developed budgets and plans.
- Established a new agricultural village through land redistribution program.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE

SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

*Program Director*

1992-2000

- Consultant to several agencies on issues such as management, board development, accounting, strategic planning, grant writing, microcredit and civil society, resulting in demonstrable improvements in organizational capacity, community development results and funding levels.
- Developed and taught courses and dozens of workshops on a wide variety of development and management topics, in both Spanish and English.

*J. Padilla*

- Implemented USAID grant for the study and measurement of capacity building, hosted regional conference, selected as regional representative to world conference presenting results to PVO community and USAID.
- Formed an association of 40 international agencies and led lobbying efforts within the Salvadoran congress, with the assistance of foreign embassies, USAID and CIDA, leading to the significant revisal of a proposed law regulating nongovernmental agencies and the eventual registration of all 40 agencies despite significant resistance on behalf of the Salvadoran government.
- Developed, obtained and implemented CIDA and Canadian Food Grains Bank disaster relief grant in response to Hurricane Mitch.
- Served as election observer in several elections, organized and led training of fellow election observers in 1996.
- Mentored, supervised and evaluated four intern staff and CRWRC staff in Ecuador.
- Conducted program evaluations in Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, The Dominican Republic, Haiti, Ecuador and Mali.

***Finance Coordinator for Latin America*** *1997-2000*

- Developed and oversaw \$1.6M budget, maintained audit schedule for 7 different country offices, forecasted future costs, analyzed cost efficiency. Assisted local country offices in the successful development of government and foundation support for new initiatives.

***Technology Coordinator for Latin America*** *1997-2000*

- Tested new software solutions, trained team in Internet and computer use, made software and hardware purchases, maintained local area network.

***Central American Regional Council Coordinator*** *1994-1997*

- Led council coordinating the work of 20 staff of 2 agencies in 5 countries, assisted in design and implementation of new team structure.

SALA DE TÉ CASA DE LOS ESPIRITUS SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR  
***Owner*** *1998-2000*

- Established small restaurant/meeting hall business in order to employ three teenage foster daughters.

CHRISTIAN REFORMED WORLD RELIEF COMMITTEE FLORES, GUATEMALA  
***Service and Training Project Director*** *1990-1992*

- Established new community service program in remote rainforest province. Assisted local NGO in securing new funding sources.
- Organized and/or taught workshops on community development, primary health care, organic farming, and adult literacy methods.
- Organized local village community development council and served as a liaison to that committee.
- Traveled regularly back and forth between government- and guerilla-held territory.

CHRISTIAN HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF LIBERIA MONROVIA, LIBERIA  
***Deputy Executive Director*** *1989-1990*

- Managed reporting and representation on \$1.1M USAID health care grant, liaison to Peace Corps responsible for placement and supervision of volunteers placed in projects.
- Supervised relations with member hospitals, clinics and primary health care projects.
- Founded human rights group in response to rising levels of violence.
- Evacuated to Senegal, served as advisor to UN on security situation in Liberia.

COMMUNITY EMERGENCY SERVICES MINNEAPOLIS, MN, USA  
***Director*** *1988-1989*

- Established new Meals on Wheels program.



- Supervised 100 volunteers, did budgeting, grant writing, and bookkeeping.
- Established corporate sponsor program.

## EDUCATION

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UNIVERSITATEA AUREL VLAICU DIN ARAD <i>PhD candidate, Theology</i>	ARAD, ROMANIA <i>expected 2024</i>
HARVARD UNIVERSITY, JOHN F. KENNEDY SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT <i>Master of Public Administration, Concentration in Political and Economic Development</i>	CAMBRIDGE, MA, USA <i>2008</i>
REGIS UNIVERSITY, SCHOOL OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES <i>Master of Non-Profit Management</i>	DENVER, CO, USA <i>2005</i>
CALVIN COLLEGE <i>Bachelor of Arts, Political Science Major, Spanish Minor</i>	GRAND RAPIDS, MI, USA <i>1987</i>

## PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS:

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- “Ground Up Citizenship: Rooted Children”, *Journal for Freedom of Conscience* 12, no. 2 (2024).
- “Transformed Imaginaries: Networked Integral Mission”, *Journal for Freedom of Conscience* 12, no. 3 (2024).
- “Navigate Together: Against the Current, Towards New Horizons”, *Conference Proceedings*, (2024).
- “Anul de îndurare – un model biblic de echitate economică”, în Maximilian Caraman-Bratu, Beneamin Mocan și Andrei-Daniel Pop (ed.), *Scriptura și Spațiul Public. Domeniul Educațional*, Cluj-Napoca, Risoprint, 2021.
- “Implicarea socială între *shalom* și solidaritate”, în Corneliu Constantineanu, Marcel Măcelaru, Teofil Stanciu și Laurențiu Petrița (ed.), *Teologie și spațiul public. Studii și cercetări teologice contemporane*, Arad, Editura Universității „Aurel Vlaicu”, 2020.
- Panel, “Iglesia, comunidad del Reino de Dios.” Cátedra Caty y René Padilla CETI. Rionegro, Colombia, July 2023.
- “Wealth Inequality: Redistribution within the Nation: Market or State; Jubilee by Kingdom Ekklesia throughout the Empire.” INFEMIT’s 2022 Stott-Bediako Forum, Arad, Romania. Conference. October 2022. Available on [Youtube](#).
- “An Open Letter from One Banana Republican to Another Banana Republican,” *Journal of Latin American Theology* 16, no. 1 (2021): 165–76.
- “Decolonial Integral Mission? Development and Contextualization at New Scales,” *Journal of Latin American Theology* 13, no. 1 (2018): 65–75.
- “Hacia una misión integral decolonial: el desarrollo y la contextualización a nuevas escalas.” IAPCHE Conference, Lima, Peru. June 2017.
- “Pedagogy, Purpose and Praxis.” Baekseok University, Seoul, South Korea. March 6, 2016.
- “Economía y desarrollo, fundamentación y fines: hacia una economía justa.” IAPCHE Conference, San José, Costa Rica. 2014.
- “Blurring Borders, Constructing Citizens: Securing Safe Haven.” Calvin College-ASJ Summer Seminar Conference Proceedings, Tegucigalpa, Honduras. 2012.
- “Finding Wisdom in San José: Las Flores and Power in Community Development.” Official Aid and Solidarity Networks, STS Fellowship Seminar, John F. Kennedy School, Harvard. 2008.
- “Bowling North: Latin American Religious Civil Society Organisations Venture North.” NCVO VSSN Conference Proceedings, Researching the Voluntary Sector Conference, Warwick, UK. 2007.

*J Padilla*

- Research assistant for the Calvin Center for Christian Scholarship's *Let My People Live: Faith and Struggle in Central America*, ed. Guillermo Cook, et. al. (Grand Rapids: Eerdmans, 1988)

## HONORS AND PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

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### HONORS

*Public Service Fellowship, John F. Kennedy School, Harvard* 2006-7&7-8

### FELLOWSHIPS

*Visiting Research Fellow, Program on Science, Technology and Society,  
John F. Kennedy School, Harvard* 2008

### MEMBERSHIPS

*American Society of Missiology* 2018-present

*Adaptive Leadership Network* 2019-present

*Leading Change Network* 2016-present

## REFERENCES

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PERSONAL, ACADEMIC, AND PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.

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