



A Christ-Center Community: Committed to Academic Excellence for 60 years

MARIA GRACIELA RIVAS ENRIQUEZ

2015-2016 ALUMNI SEED AWARD

Maria Graciela Rivas Enriquez was born in El Paso, Texas, but was raised in the border city of Ciudad Juarez. In 1998, she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Honors Degree with the highest honors in French and a minor in Russian and Communications from UTEP, and a Master of Science in Foreign Service Degree from Georgetown University in 2001.

While living in the D.C. area, she began her career with the Department of State in 2000 in the Office of the Chief of Protocol where she was responsible for organizing ceremonial and official functions hosted by the President, the Secretary of State, and other high-ranking officials. She also partook in organizing the Diplomatic Corps official events, credentialing ceremonies of new foreign ambassadors, and swearing-in ceremonies of U.S. Ambassadors. In 2009, she served a challenging, hard-to-fill excursion at the U.S. Consulate General in Matamoros, Mexico in the positions American Citizen Services and Nonimmigrant Unit Chief.

In 2011, the Department of State opened the El Paso Passport Agency, she was fortunate to join its first management team and return to her hometown of El Paso. Last year, she celebrated her 15th year of service with the U.S. Department of State. Although Graciela's career is demanding, she truly finds time to help, support, and volunteer in various aspects of our school's purpose; a spiritual, learning journey for all our students.

As Alum, Graciela credits her strong spiritual and academic instruction at St. Pius X School for assisting and preparing her with career opportunities and accomplishments. She has one daughter, Maria, currently a 2nd grader at St. Pius X. Graciela is currently serving on our St. Pius X School Board and as well as on our Strategic Project Planning Committee. As assistant room parent, she actively participates in all our school activities, programs and events.

Graciela was enrolled as a kindergartener at St. Pius X School in 1981 and graduated in 1990. St. Pius X Catholic School is so blessed she has chosen to serve as a true role model, as a professional, and a woman of great faith!