

# THE HYAMS FOUNDATION, INC.

50 Federal Street, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02110  
617-426-5600  
[www.hyamsfoundation.org](http://www.hyamsfoundation.org)

May, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

We are writing to share with you several important changes on the Hyams Foundation's board and its staff. The first is Jack Clymer's decision to resign from the Hyams board after 29 years as a trustee and 19 years as its Chair. It is difficult to even begin to describe what Jack has meant to the Foundation and to its work in the community over the years. He has led the board with great distinction, compassion and wisdom, and he will be missed in so many different ways. We are fortunate that Jack has agreed to serve as a non-trustee member of the board's Investment/Finance Committee for 2010-2011. In addition to Jack, we regret that Long Nguyen recently decided to resign from the board in order to serve as the Interim Executive Director of Vietnamese American Initiative for Development, Inc. (VietAID), an organization he founded in 1994. Long has been a wonderful contributor to Hyams and the board's Program Committee, bringing important on-the-ground nonprofit and community experience and a wonderful entrepreneurial spirit. We will miss him very much as well.

Given these openings on the board, we are very pleased to announce the appointment of two new trustees, M. Elena Letona and Penn S. Loh, and we are very excited that they will be joining the Foundation. Building the Foundation's board for the future has been an important organizational goal. We sincerely appreciate everyone who participated in the search process and also want to thank Rebecca Swartz from Isaacson Miller for her excellent assistance with it.


We also are very pleased to announce two staff promotions at the Foundation. Angela Brown has been promoted to Director of Programs, the new senior program management position at the Foundation, and will be responsible for leading the Foundation's program strategy and development work and its grantmaking process. Mark Paley has been promoted to Director of Administration and Finance from Director of Finance in order to better reflect the scope of his responsibilities at Hyams. As a result of Angela's promotion, the Foundation will be hiring a new program officer in the affordable housing area. We will be sharing the job announcement and position description with the community in the near future.

We hope you will join us in welcoming Penn and Elena to the local foundation community, and Mark and Angela to their new roles at Hyams. We have attached background information on each of them and believe that their experiences, skills and commitment to the Foundation's mission and goals will help to strengthen the Foundation's work in the future.

Best regards,



Barbara E. Casey  
Chair



Elizabeth B. Smith  
Executive Director

**M. Elena Letona** has been deeply involved in grassroots community organizing in the Latino immigrant community in Greater Boston. Currently she is Associate Director of the National Alliance of Latin American and Caribbean Communities. Prior to this, Elena was Executive Director of Centro Presente in Cambridge. Earlier in her career, Elena worked for the Mauricio Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts/Boston; Management Consulting Services; Office of Environmental Affairs, Department of Health and Hospitals in Boston; and the Latin American Department at Pathfinder International. She received a Ph.D. and an M.S. in public policy from the University of Massachusetts/Boston and has a B.A. from Oberlin College. Elena has served on a number of boards and was selected as a Barr Fellow in 2005. She was born in El Salvador and came to the U.S. as a child. Elena lives in Brighton and will serve on the Foundation's Program Committee.

**Penn S. Loh** has been committed to social and environmental justice work in Boston for a number of years and currently is a Professor of the Practice in the Department of Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning at Tufts University. Prior to joining Tufts, Penn was the Executive Director at Alternatives for Community & Environment (ACE) in Roxbury. He also has held positions at the Pacific Institute for Studies in Development, Environment and Security in Oakland, CA, and the Tellus Institute for Resource and Environmental Strategies in Boston. Penn received his M.S. in Energy and Resources Group from the University of California, Berkeley and a B.S. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He serves on the board of the New World Foundation, the Massachusetts Energy Facilities Siting Board, Massachusetts Energy Efficiency Advisory Council and Massachusetts Climate Protection and Green Economy Advisory Committee. He was chosen as a Barr Fellow in 2007. Penn's parents immigrated to the United States from Taiwan in the early 1960s. Penn lives in Cambridge and will serve on the Foundation's Governance Committee.

**Angela Brown** has been a Program Officer and Senior Program Officer at Hyams for the past six years, responsible for the Foundation's work in the affordable housing area. She has provided leadership for several local funder collaboratives in the housing and workforce development areas and recently served on the Commonwealth's Asset Development Commission. Prior to coming to Hyams, Angela worked for the Women's Institute for Housing and Economic Development, YouthBuild USA, Local Initiatives Support Corporation and the City of New York. She has a B.A. in Economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and a Masters of Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government.

**Mark Paley** has been with Hyams for nine years and has overall responsibility for the finance, investment administration/ oversight, human resources and technology areas. Mark also has played a key administrative role in the Home Funders Collaborative and oversees the financial aspects of the Foundation's mission-related investing. Mark came to the Foundation after serving for nine years as Chief Fiscal Officer at YouthBuild USA. Prior to that, Mark held positions at Boston Neighborhood Housing Services, Davis Community Housing in California and Save the Children in South Carolina. Mark has a B.A. in American Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz, and a Masters of Management from the University of California, Davis.