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Curating intentional online communities to support students in building meaningful alumni connections

Monday 24th May, 2:15pm

Andrea Alhadari Patton, Associate Director, Development and Alumni Relations, Penn University Life



Andrea is the Associate Director, Development and Alumni Relations for Penn University Life. In her role, she supports over 18 departments with development operations, volunteer management, and alumni engagement. Prior to this role, she worked at Delta Phi Epsilon's International Headquarters where she worked with over 100 colleges and universities, managing student and alumni leadership development programs and the organization's strategic growth. Andrea is currently pursuing a Masters in Organizational Dynamics at Penn, where she's focusing her capstone research on the upward mobility of Latina, first-generation college graduates in the workplace. On her free time, Andrea loves exploring the Philly food scene with her husband Alex and her goldendoodle Lacey (University Life's unofficial mascot).

Toyce Holmes, FGLI Program Coordinator. Greenfield Intercultural Center



Toyce is the FGLI Program Coordinator at the Greenfield Intercultural Center. Toyce enjoys utilizing her background in social work and counseling to create spaces, opportunities, and support for FGLI students. She also serves as staff advisor to Natives at Penn where she supports Native and Indigenous students in expanding cultural awareness and experiences. The heart of her is community building with students and student organizations. When she's not a work, Toyce enjoys exploring the Northeast, supporting Native artists and watching sci-fi movies/shows.

Valerie de Cruz, Director, Greenfield Intercultural Center



As a student affair professional for over 30 years, Valerie De Cruz has worked at Penn, Princeton University and Oberlin College. As Director of the Greenfield Intercultural Center (GIC), she has vastly extended the center's reach among diverse student populations, forged connections with colleagues across campus, and directed the growth of innovative courses, programs and services. Through cross-campus partnerships, Valerie De Cruz has helped design robust practices to support changing demographics and emerging student needs at Penn. Through these experiences and her counseling training, she helps colleges and universities create inclusive environments through intercultural dialogue and education. Valerie loves cooking and since the pandemic, has learned to bake bread which has been so rejuvenating for her soul.