

**THE SEATTLE  
BRIDGES TO  
CITIZENSHIP  
FALL INSTITUTE**



**Connecting Libraries and Adult  
Education Programs to Enhance  
Immigrant Education Services**

**September 9–10, 2015**



**U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services**

# THE SEATTLE BRIDGES TO CITIZENSHIP

## Connecting Libraries and Adult Education Programs to Enhance Immigrant Education Services

### **Welcome to the 2015 Bridges to Citizenship**

**Fall Institute!** I am very excited that you are participating in the first conference of this kind in beautiful Seattle, Washington.

I invite you to take this opportunity to meet and speak with as many of the presenters, USCIS staff, educators, and librarians as possible. If you are a librarian, this is a wonderful chance to learn about the field of adult education, and if you are an adult educator, this is an equally wonderful chance to learn about how libraries are organized and the many services they offer immigrants. Most of all, I encourage you to use this forum as a place to think about and discuss the many ways that the three professional fields—library science, adult education, and immigration—can work

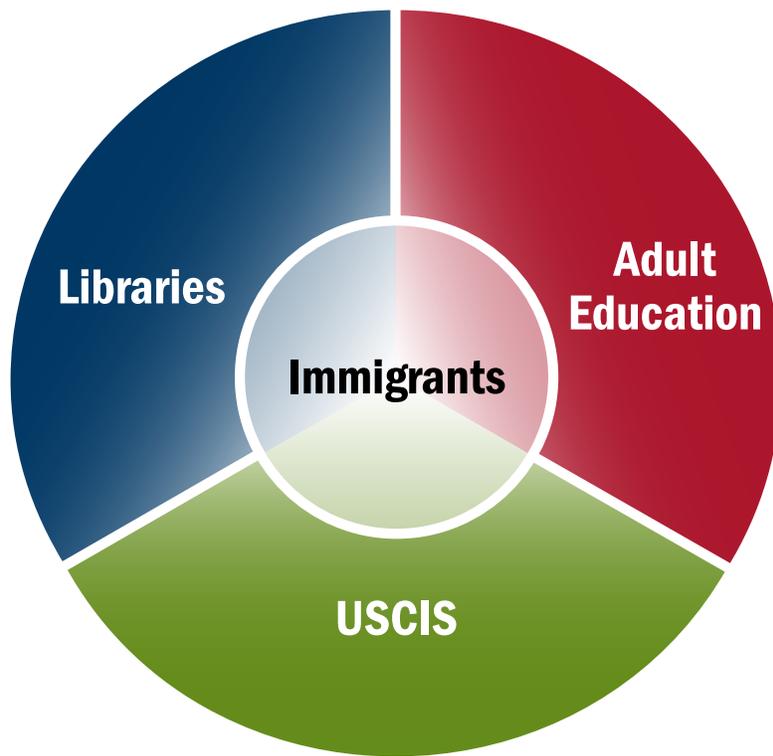
together to expand and enhance the services we provide to the immigrants within our communities across the United States.

This Institute is designed to allow you to work with professionals from your own discipline as well as collaborate with individuals from both fields.

At the end of the second day, as you leave the Institute to return to your communities and your very important work, I hope you maintain the momentum generated during the Institute and take the next steps to create or grow your network of partners. If you need assistance or have questions, your community relations officer or Office of Citizenship staff will be happy to help.

Enjoy the Institute!

**Laura Patching, Chief**  
**USCIS Office of Citizenship**



## Sessions at a Glance—Wednesday, September 9, 2015

8:00–9:00 AM	Registration	Lobby
9:00–9:45 AM	Welcoming Remarks and Opening Address	North Auditorium
9:45–10:30 AM	Roles, Perspectives, Expectations, and Possibilities	North Auditorium
10:30–10:45 AM	Break	
10:45–12:00 NOON	Naturalization 101 and Overview of the Naturalization Test	North Auditorium
12:00–1:15 PM	Lunch on your own	
1:15–1:45 PM	Making It Stick	North Auditorium
1:45–2:45 PM	Approaching the Bridge	North Auditorium
2:45–3:00 PM	Break	
3:00–3:30 PM	Whole Group De-Brief	North Auditorium
3:30–4:00 PM	Preparing for Day Two	North Auditorium















## Sessions at a Glance—Thursday, September 10, 2015

8:30–9:00 AM	Check-In	Lobby
9:00–10:00 AM	Exploring USCIS Resources (Librarians)	Room 440
	Citizenship Products for the Classroom (Educators)	South Auditorium
10:00–10:15 AM	Break	
10:15–11:15 AM	Connecting Patrons (Librarians)	Room 414
	Overview of Brain-Based Instruction (Educators)	South Auditorium
11:15–12:00 NOON	Meeting in the Middle of the Bridge	North Auditorium
12:00–1:15 PM	Lunch on your own	
1:15–2:45 PM	Crossing the Bridge Together	North Auditorium
2:45–3:00 PM	Next Steps and Wrap-Up	North Auditorium





## Session 9 Notes

Thursday, September 10, 2015 | 11:15–12:00 NOON

North Auditorium

**Title: Meeting in the Middle of the Bridge: Understanding and Using the USCIS Content Standards to Create a Comprehensive Citizenship Curriculum**

Presenter(s): \_\_\_\_\_

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Notes:

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# Agenda

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

- 8:00–9:00 AM Registration
- 9:00–9:15 AM **Welcoming Remarks**  
Anne Corsano, USCIS District Director: North Auditorium
- 9:15–9:45 AM **Opening Address**  
Dr. Michael Jones and Donna Vanderhoff: North Auditorium
- 9:45–10:30 AM **Roles, Perspectives, Expectations, and Possibilities**  
Donna Vanderhoff: North Auditorium  
This session gives librarians and educators a chance to meet one another and discuss their respective fields. The conversation will focus on the services and programs their organizations offer, especially as they relate to serving immigrants.  
Breakout Discussion Assignments:  
**Green Group:** South Auditorium: Christine Pool  
**Red Group:** Room 440: Dr. Michael Jones  
**Blue Group:** Room 414: Dr. Kelton Williams
- 10:30–10:45 AM Break
- 10:45–12:00 NOON **Naturalization 101 and Overview of the Naturalization Test**  
Christine Pool and Donna Vanderhoff: North Auditorium  
This session provides an overview of the naturalization process as well as the structure, content, and administration of the naturalization test.
- 12:00–1:15 PM Lunch on your own
- 1:15–1:45 PM **Making it Stick: A Content Review Activity**  
Donna Vanderhoff and Christine Pool: North Auditorium  
This session demonstrates a scaffolding method to help adults reinforce what they have learned by playing a game that covers the naturalization process and test.
- 1:45–2:45 PM **Approaching the Bridge: Discussing Services and Programs to Serve the Immigrant Community**  
Dr. Michael Jones: North Auditorium  
Room 440 (Librarians): Donna Vanderhoff and Christine Pool  
South Auditorium (Educators): Dr. Michael Jones and Dr. Kelton Williams  
This session explores the range of needs in the immigrant community, identifies the services that already exist, and considers what other services could be created to address these needs.
- 2:45–3:00 PM Break
- 3:00–3:30 PM **Whole Group De-Brief**  
Dr. Kelton Williams: North Auditorium
- 3:30–4:00 PM **Preparing for Day Two**  
Dr. Kelton Williams and Dr. Michael Jones: North Auditorium
- 4:00 PM Adjourn for the Day

## Thursday, September 10, 2015

- 8:30–9:00 AM Day Two Check-in
- 9:00–10:00 AM **Breakout Sessions A:**  
**Exploring the USCIS Citizenship Resource Center and Products (Librarians)**  
Donna Vanderhoff and Christine Pool: Room 440  
This session reviews the many resources available through the USCIS Citizenship Resource Center and how they can be used within a library setting, including citizenship corners.  
**Exploring Hands-On Citizenship Products for the Classroom (Educators)**  
Dr. Michael Jones and Dr. Kelton Williams: South Auditorium  
This session provides hands-on demonstrations of innovative adaptations of USCIS products for the citizenship classroom.
- 10:00–10:15 AM Break
- 10:15–11:15 AM **Breakout Sessions B:**  
**Connecting Patrons with Citizenship Resources (Librarians)**  
Donna Vanderhoff: Room 414  
This session explores innovative approaches to creating citizenship corners and discusses effective communication strategies for interacting with the immigrant community.  
**An Overview of Brain-Based Instruction (Educators)**  
Dr. Michael Jones and Dr. Kelton Williams: South Auditorium  
This session explores brain-based theory and provides practical applications that teachers can use in the citizenship classroom.
- 11:15–12:00 NOON **Meeting in the Middle of the Bridge: Understanding and Using the USCIS Content Standards to Create a Comprehensive Citizenship Curriculum**  
Dr. Kelton Williams: North Auditorium  
This session provides an overview of the USCIS Citizenship Content Standards and offers insight into how both libraries and adult education programs can independently and collaboratively use these standards.
- 12:00–1:15 PM Lunch on your own
- 1:15–2:45 PM **Crossing the Bridge Together: Creating an Enduring Partnership**  
Dr. Michael Jones, Dr. Kelton Williams, Christine Pool, and Donna Vanderhoff: North Auditorium  
This session explores partnerships and discusses various ways that adult education and library programs can develop a comprehensive network. Within this session, the group will brainstorm ideas to develop a solid library-adult education working plan for serving immigrants.
- 2:45–3:00 PM **Next Steps and Wrap-Up**

## Presenters' Biographies

### Anne Corsano

Ms. Anne Arries Corsano entered on duty as the District Director for USCIS' District 20, in Seattle, in 2007. District 20 encompasses five field offices in the states of Washington, Oregon and Alaska.

Ms. Corsano began her Federal government career as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Philippines and after completing law school, worked as an attorney for the legacy Immigration & Naturalization Service's (INS) Office of the General Counsel and for Department of Justice's Civil Division, Office of Immigration Litigation, as a federal litigator. Ms. Corsano's operational positions include: the Field Office Director positions at the U.S. Embassies in London and Moscow; a Chief Inspector position for legacy INS responsible for air and land border inspection operations; the Assistant Regional Director for Detention and Removal Operation in Burlington, Vermont; and Deputy District Director of the Rome District Office at the U.S. Embassy in Rome.

### Dr. Michael Jones

Dr. Michael Jones has worked at USCIS for the past twelve years and is currently the division chief of the citizenship education and training division within the Office of Citizenship. Before coming to USCIS, he was the branch chief of Innovation and Improvement in the U.S. Department of Education's Division of Adult Education and Literacy. Dr. Jones holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Modern Languages, and Master of Arts in Human Behavior, post-graduate work in Linguistics/ TESOL, and a doctoral degree in International Relations specializing in immigrant education and integration.

### Christine Pool

Ms. Christine Pool became a community relationship officer for USCIS' Seattle District in 2011. Pool began her immigration career with the former Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) in 1987. She worked for INS in Texas, Alaska, and Oregon, holding positions including: immigration inspector, adjudications officer, ASC manager, supervisory inspector, supervisory adjudications officer, and assistant regional inspector. Before joining the Seattle District, Pool was the regional community relations officer in Dallas, a regional adjudications officer, and the field office director in Des Moines, Iowa.

### Donna Vanderhoff

Ms. Donna Vanderhoff is an education program specialist with the USCIS Office of Citizenship, Division of Citizenship Education and Training. For the past 6 years, Ms. Vanderhoff has created lesson plans and teaching materials, and conducted teacher training for citizenship educators. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Linguistics from Georgetown University. She has worked in ESL/EFL teaching and supervising in the United States and overseas in the Philippines and Japan. She also coordinated a jail GED program where she taught bilingual English-Spanish GED classes. Vanderhoff's other work includes serving as a bilingual probation officer with juveniles and adults in Washington, D.C., and Falls Church, VA.

## **Dr. Kelton Williams**

Dr. Kelton Williams is an education program specialist with the USCIS Office of Citizenship, Division of Citizenship Education and Training. Before joining USCIS, Dr. Williams was an assistant professor of educational studies at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois. His work experience includes teaching middle school and high school social studies in Texas public schools. Dr. Williams received a Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction from Texas A&M University, where he completed a dissertation on the history of civic education in American public schools. He also has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Emory & Henry College.