

Patricia de la Sota

Patricia de la Sota was born in Argentina, and at a young age moved to the US. Following a family tradition (her sister and brother graduated from Boston University), she too is an alumna. At BU, she was a Scarlet Key recipient as well as an elected member of several student government bodies. She got a great education there and formed friendships that have gotten only stronger over the years.

Her parents instilled in Patricia a deep respect for the freedoms enjoyed in the US, which led to her 30-year plus career at the CIA, where the work she performed protected the US, its people, and its values. What did she do for the CIA? She stole foreign secrets -- and if you catch her alone, she will tell you a bit about the work she did. She treasures her work experiences and the people with whom she worked.

Patricia now spends most of her time doing volunteer work and some part-time consulting. She loves her volunteer scuba diving gig at the Fort Fisher Aquarium. She started diving more than 30 years ago and has had the chance to marvel at underwater flora and fauna, natural creations and shipwrecks around the world. One particularly interesting dive was in Iceland, the only place in the world where you can dive between two tectonic plates, where the water was 35 degrees and crystal clear!

She volunteers at the Vintage Values consignment store in Monkey Junction, sales from which benefit Domestic Violence Shelter and Services, Inc, which works toward

supporting survivors of domestic violence and eliminating domestic violence. She is the event coordinator for the Bipartisan Commission on Biodefense, an organization that recommends and promotes changes to US policy and law to strengthen national biodefense and she also serves as a learning facilitation consultant to several US government agencies. Both these positions allow Patricia to stay involved with the business world AND have the added benefit of requiring frequent visits back to our nation's capitol (and one of her favorite stomping grounds), Washington DC.

Patricia was introduced to WIN in 2018 by member Sadie Campbell. She says, "The concept of collective giving, coupled with the opportunity to meet and work with strong, confident, smart women, is awe-inspiring." She has served on the Grants Committee and looks forward to continuing her association and work with this very worthwhile organization.

Patricia is a lover of all kinds of animals and a responsible steward of the earth. She loves diversity in people, ideas, and food and she loves to travel. She is a firm proponent of Mark Twain's "Travel is fatal to prejudice, bigotry, and narrow-mindedness." She has traveled to all seven continents, some many times over. She struggles to say which was her favorite trip: Antarctica, Argentina, Yellowstone, Egypt, and the list goes on!

Patricia and her husband Jerry live in coastal North Carolina with their rescue lab, Riley.