

GEOFORCE MONTHLY

Changing lives since 2005



Linda Quintero graduating from Texas A&M University.

WELCOME GEOFORCE COORDINATOR LINDA QUINTERO

Last month, the GeoFORCE team welcomed a new coordinator. Linda Quintero is a GeoFORCE alumna and graduate of Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Studies and a minor in Geography.

Quintero brings experiential knowledge to the team from her time as a GeoFORCE student and counselor. Quintero stayed engaged with the GeoFORCE program throughout college and her early career. In Summer 2020, Quintero was a GeoVISION research trainee under Sarah Fakhreddine studying the impact that stream flow has on water quality. This led to her most recent position as a research engineering/science assistant for the Bureau of Economic Geology (BEG) where she delivered a sediment inventory to serve as a resource for expanding aquifer storage and recovery. She also worked on analyzing and compiling data from sources such as RStudio, ArcGIS, and QGIS and provided a report of methodology and results for the Texas Commission of Environmental Quality.

Prior to her work at the BEG, Quintero was a communications director for the Texas House of Representatives where she ran her representative's social media accounts, coordinated with other house reps and their staffs, and provided legislative support regarding environmental, energy, and scientific policy.

"I look forward to my continuous contribution to the GeoFORCE legacy," Quintero said. "I'm thrilled to be working on our new pilot program, GeoFORCE Family, along with teacher professional development workshops, student recruitment and engagement, and leading our social media pages."

Above all, Quintero is excited to serve as a mentor for current GeoFORCE students and lead summer academy trips.

"My goal is to widen the reach of the GeoFORCE program, and to bring forward new ideas and partnerships for the future of GeoFORCE," Quintero added.

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GeoFORCE Texas is an outreach program through The University of Texas at Austin's Jackson School of Geosciences that introduces high school students from underserved communities to STEM and geoscience careers through summer field experiences, corporate mentoring, and college guidance. In 2015, our program was honored with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring—the highest such honor from the United States government. More information can be found on our website at <https://www.jsg.utexas.edu/geoforce/>.



Linda Quintero at the Texas State Capitol building.

APPLY TO EDGE

The Jackson School Enhancing Diversity in Geoscience Graduate Education (EDGE) event is back! Meet faculty and research scientists interested in training diverse graduate students to conduct interdisciplinary geoscience research.

JSG invites students to attend this virtual graduate school preview on Nov 11 & 12!

Applications to this event are due by October 25. [Apply now!](#)

INTERNSHIP & SCHOLARSHIP RESOURCES

- [Geoscience Research Programs & Internship Opportunities for Undergrads & Recent Grads](#)
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Questions or comments? Email us at geoforce@jsg.utexas.edu

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: LINDA QUINTERO

Linda Quintero joined the GeoFORCE program from Eagle Pass, Texas. By her third summer with GeoFORCE, as she experienced the wonders of the Pacific Northwest, Quintero was hooked.

"I found my love for Earth sciences through GeoFORCE," Quintero said. "The introduction to geosciences at such an early age has had a significant impact on my academic and professional career."

Quintero began her college career at The University of Texas at San Antonio as a biology major. After her first semester, she fell back on her love for the geosciences and changed her major to environmental science. She transferred to Texas A&M University during her sophomore year because of their environmental studies major, which is a multidisciplinary degree plan that combines life science, geography, and policy.

While at A&M, Quintero worked for their Office of Sustainability as an outreach specialist. She also got the opportunity to live in Washington DC for a semester as a government affairs intern for the National Council of Farmer Cooperatives.

"My degree was quite interdisciplinary, thus allowing me to apply geological concepts across sectors," Quintero said. "It's been such a pleasure to make a positive impact on the Earth's sustainability through different lines of work."

Quintero is thrilled to bring all this experience to her new position as a GeoFORCE coordinator.

"I have found a special passion for geoscience outreach and policy because of the potential to influence and enable change for a wide audience of people."

GEOFORCE IS HIRING

Interested in joining Linda Quintero as a new GeoFORCE coordinator? We're hiring! This is a full-time position with benefits & expected overtime. Coordinators do logistical planning year-round to engage our students and alumni, and lead summer trips to Central TX, the Texas Gulf coast, Oregon/Washington, and Utah/Arizona.

This position is open until filled. Check out the [job posting and apply here.](#)