

# PRESS RELEASE

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**SALLY O'CONNOR, Program Director Of the National Science Foundation (NSF) is Unanimously Selected As One Of The 2009 Twenty Outstanding Filipinos Abroad (TOFA)**

**ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA June 03, 2009 - (PinoyGlobal)** Sally O' Connor, Program Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF) is unanimously selected as one of the **2009 Twenty Outstanding Filipinos Abroad (TOFA)** by the TOFA Panel Board of Judges headed by **Nonoy & Aida Mendoza** of the **FILIPINO IMAGE MAGAZINE (FILIM)** and the **PINOY GLOBAL ONLINE NEWS (PGON)**, and the **ROXANNE ANDREA MENDOZA (RAM) MEMORIAL FOUNDATION**.

The **TOFA** project was initiated in 1990 and have been commended by the governments of the United States, Canada and the Philippines. The bio-data of the 320 Past TOFA Awardees are found in the **PINOY GLOBAL ON LINE NEWS : [HTTP://WWW.FILAMIMAGE.COM](http://www.filamimage.com)**, a 24/7 global web site.

The **CRITERIA, HISTORY** and other **TOFA** informations are found in the popular website. A complete copy issue of **FILIPINO IMAGE Magazine's** 2006, 2007 & 2008 Souvenir Journals, detailing more one hundred pages of bio-data of the **2009 TOFA** awardees and photographs; VIP Special Messages and including all the Congratulatory Messages and ADs, in full color, are in the website and free for all to read globally. An unprecedented feat in Filipino journalism.

The 3-day 14th annual event starts on **Thursday, Aug. 27, 2009** with an informal get-together for the awardees and their special guests. The following, **Friday, Aug. 28th**, the VIP Luncheon at JW Marriott Hotel, and at night, the fabulous welcome dinner reception at the **Philippine Embassy**. The following day, **Saturday, Aug. 29th**, a sight-seeing tour, and photo opportunity around the Nations' Capital, capped with a memorable VIP Dim Sum Luncheon. At night, **Saturday, Aug. 29, 2009**, is a formal gala Banquet and Ball Award Ceremony. After the gala is the traditional Filipino breakfast which will end the whirlwind social functions.

Dr. Sally O' Connor currently serves as Program Director at the National Science Foundation (NSF), a Federal agency that funds research and education activities in the sciences. Prior to coming to NSF, Dr O' Connor was a full professor at Xavier University in New Orleans, LA, and Director of the Center for Environmental Programs. While at Xavier, she ran programs funded by the US Department of Energy, US Environmental Protection Agency, NASA, Mellon Foundation,



**SALLY O'CONNOR**  
**Program Director of the National Science Foundation (NSF)**

and other public and private agencies. Prior to her 20 years at Xavier, Dr O' Connor was a faculty at Dominican College in New Orleans, an instructor postdoc at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, and a PhD student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she received an Illinois State Scholarship. Sally received her BS Chemistry degree from the University of the Philippines, Diliman, where she graduated cum laude.

Sally is married to Charles O' Connor, a professor of chemistry at the University of New Orleans, and Director of the Advanced Materials Research Institute. They have two daughters – Christine, who is a practicing physician in Baltimore, MD, and Emily, who is a consulting computer engineer in New York, NY.