



**Valerie Whiting Diaz**  
**Conference Oversight Director**  
**2023-2025**

Valerie brings years of conference, meeting and event coordination and organization (in-person, virtual and hybrid) to the role of Conference Oversight Director for SIETAR USA. She is thoroughly familiar with the process of information management, logistics, budgeting, vendor recruitment and coordination, leadership of committees, and website and registration administration. In 2008, she coordinated an event in Panama for Peace Corps Panama Friends. This entailed all logistics, website and registration, agenda development, and constant customer service during the event. Throughout her work with the Canadian Red Cross and IFRC (2010 – 2014), she coordinated and facilitated dozens of trainings and events, including management of all aspects. Most recently, she has worked with the IFRC and UNAIDS in coordinating virtual events (2021 – 2022), including high-level stakeholder management, working with steering committees to define scope, and strong diplomacy and tact to keep agendas progressing.



Valerie attended the SIETAR USA Conference in 2015 (Orlando, FL), by invitation from a member, and was overwhelmed by the sense of how much she “belonged” with the conference participants. She felt she was able to have conversations she’d been longing to have, hear perspectives that changed her world view, and make connections that would support her both professionally and personally. The opportunity to attend a workshop hosted by John (Jack) Condon and Tatyana Fertelmeyster only deepened that sense of belonging.

Valerie holds an M.A. in International Training and Education, and is currently studying for an M.A. in Clinical Mental Health Counseling.