



AREA FOCUS LECTURE SERIES

“The Situation of Healthcare in Latin America and Ecuador”

Dr. Alfredo Palacio González

Vice President and former Minister of Health of the Republic of Ecuador



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In addition to his national duties, Alfredo Palacio is director of the Instituto Nacional de Cardiología in Guayaquil, Ecuador; principal professor of Cardiology at the University of Guayaquil. Palacio was previously president and vice president of the “Ecuadorean Scientific Committee”; regional director of the Instituto Ecuatoriano de Seguridad Social; and Ecuador’s Minister of Health in the government of former President Sixto Durán-Ballén (1992-96). It was during the time as Minister of Health that Palacio became acquainted with Lucio Gutiérrez.

In 2002, the two men joined forces on an anti-corruption campaign platform, which resulted in their election in 2003. Following graduation in medicine and surgery from the University of Guayaquil School of Medicine in 1969, Palacio determined to specialize at several U.S. hospitals in internal medicine and cardiology. He completed medical residencies at Mt. Sinai and Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio, followed by a two-year cardiology fellowship at



Barnes-Jewish Hospital and Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, Missouri. By 1980, Palacio had become the director of the National Institute of Cardiology. His books and articles in professional journals include *Las Enfermedades Cardiovasculares en los Hospitales* and *Hacia Un Humanismo Científico*. In 1996, he was recognized for his contributions to medicine with a “Recognition Award” medal and “Merit Recognition Award” medal. And in 1995, he was decorated with the “Al Mérito Atahualpa” medal, the “Medical and Scientific Recognition Award,” and the “Patriotic Recognition Award.” He is a fellow of the American College of Cardiology, Physicians, and Chest Physicians; a founding member of the Sociedad Colombiana de Cardiología; and a member of the New York Academy of Science. Palacio’s father sculpted the monument in Guayaquil to Eloy Alfaro—former revolutionary and twice president of Ecuador.

This lecture is sponsored by the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. For more information, please contact Professor David Laraway, 422-3807.