

Karina Gonzalez Carta, MD, MBA, MS, FACC, FESC, FAHA, FSIAC, FSSC

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EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Senior global cardiovascular leader with a demonstrated record of governance, policy influence, and system-level impact aligned with the World Heart Federation (WHF) mission. Over two decades of experience advancing equitable, prevention-centered cardiovascular health across low-, middle-, and high-resource settings. Proven ability to translate strategy into scalable implementation, mobilize multi-sector partnerships, and drive measurable improvements in access, quality, and outcomes. Recognized for leadership in global collaboration, capacity building, and innovation across academic, nonprofit, and international platforms.

Vision Statement – Vice President, World Heart Federation

My vision for the World Heart Federation is to accelerate a measurable and equitable reduction in the global burden of cardiovascular disease by advancing prevention as a unifying global priority, strengthening health systems, and amplifying the collective voice of cardiovascular leadership worldwide. I am committed to positioning WHF as the leading global platform that not only convenes expertise, but drives coordinated action—translating evidence into scalable, sustainable solutions that reach populations most at risk.

Central to this vision is expanding access to prevention, early detection, and continuous care, particularly in low- and middle-income countries, where the burden of disease is greatest. This requires strengthening cross-sector partnerships with governments, multilateral organizations, professional societies, and communities to align policy, innovation, and implementation. I will advocate for integrated models of care that bridge clinical excellence with public health impact, ensuring that advances in science and technology translate into real-world improvements in outcomes.

Equally, I see WHF playing a critical role in shaping global policy and advocacy efforts—elevating cardiovascular health within broader noncommunicable disease agendas, influencing resource allocation, and supporting legislation that promotes equitable, high-quality care. By leveraging my experience in global collaboration, governance, and policy engagement, I will contribute to strengthening WHF's strategic influence and expanding its reach.

Finally, I am committed to investing in the next generation of cardiovascular leaders by fostering inclusive, diverse, and globally connected leadership pathways. Sustainable impact depends not only on what we build today, but on the leaders we empower for tomorrow.

Through strategic leadership, partnership, and accountability, I will work to ensure that WHF continues to lead the global movement toward a future where cardiovascular health is a reality for all.

LEADERSHIP & GOVERNANCE

Strategic Governance & Board Leadership

- **American College of Cardiology (ACC):** Member, Assembly of International Governors Steering Committee (2024–2026); Governor (2021–2024); Governor-Elect (2019–2021)
- **InterAmerican Heart Foundation (FIC):** Scientific Committee; Member at Large; governance contributions including strategy, policy oversight, and program alignment (2023–present)

Global Partnerships & Multilateral Engagement

- **Sustained collaboration with WHF, PAHO, ACC, AHA, SIAC, ASCARDIO, and regional societies to advance prevention, equity, and health system strengthening**

Clinical & Public Health Leadership

- **Inter-American Society of Cardiology (SIAC):** Chair, Cardiac Rehabilitation & Sports Cardiology (2023–2025); Scientific Secretary, Infectious Diseases Group (2020–present)
- **Venezuelan Society of Cardiology:** Co-Chair, International Chapter

POLICY, ADVOCACY & SYSTEMS INFLUENCE

- **American College of Cardiology HeartPAC:** Active engagement in nonpartisan advocacy to support federal policies that:
 - **Improve outcomes for patients with cardiovascular disease**
 - **Expand access to high-quality, cost-effective care**
 - **Strengthen funding for research and prevention**
- **Experience building relationships with policymakers and contributing to policy dialogue aligned with global cardiovascular priorities**

STRATEGIC IMPACT IN NONPROFIT & HEALTH SYSTEMS

ASCARDIO, Venezuela (2004–present)

- **Clinical Consultant, Professor, and Principal Investigator in a globally recognized nonprofit model for integrated cardiovascular prevention**
- **Leadership in community-based programs delivering prevention, early detection, and equitable access in resource-constrained settings**

Instituto Diagnóstico Barquisimeto (IDB)

- **Director, Cardiovascular Division (2006–2015)**

- Built and scaled a high-performing cardiovascular service integrating clinical excellence, access, and financial sustainability

Mayo Clinic, USA (Nonprofit Academic Health System)

- Assistant Professor (Regenerative Medicine; Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation)
- Senior Program Coordinator and Lab Manager roles advancing research, innovation, and education at scale

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Regenerative Medicine, Mayo Clinic (2024–present)
- Assistant Professor, Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Mayo Clinic (2022–present)
- Senior Program Coordinator, Orthopedic Sports Medicine Research, Mayo Clinic (2022–present)
- Lab Manager, Artificial Intelligence Lab, Mayo Clinic (2024–present)
- Senior Program Coordinator, American Joint Replacement Research Collaborative (2025–present)

EDUCATION, CAPACITY BUILDING & TALENT DEVELOPMENT

- Course Director and Chair, ACC International Governors Steering Committee Awards Program (academic governance, curriculum design, assessment integrity)
- Professor of Cardiology and Tropical Cardiology; long-standing mentorship of fellows, residents, and international trainees
- Recognized for excellence in curriculum design, educational leadership, and workforce development

SELECTED HONORS & DISTINCTIONS

- Excellence in Education Administration and Leadership, Mayo Clinic (2025)
- Excellence in Curriculum Design and Assessment, Mayo Clinic (2025)
- Fellow, American College of Cardiology (FACC)
- Fellow, European Society of Cardiology (FESC)
- Fellow, American Heart Association (FAHA)
- Beta Gamma Sigma – International Business Honor Society (2024)

- **ACC Sandra J. Lewis Mid-Career Women's Leadership Institute (2024–2026)**
- **Best Clinical Case, ESC Heart Failure Congress**
- **Best Abstract (Latin America), Spanish Society of Cardiology**

RESEARCH & GLOBAL HEALTH SCHOLARSHIP

- **Investigator in multicenter clinical trials and cardiovascular registries**
- **Publications in leading journals including Mayo Clinic Proceedings, Journal of the American College of Cardiology, and Current Cardiology Reports**
- **Research focus: cardiovascular prevention, infectious cardiomyopathies, tropical cardiology, and health systems innovation**

EDUCATION

- **MBA, University of Minnesota (2025)**
- **MBA, Economics Foundation, University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, Wisconsin (2023)**
- **MS, Advances in Cardiology, UCAM, Spain (2020)**
- **MD, Universidad Centro-Occidental Lisandro Alvarado**
- **Master in Health Services Administration, Universidad Católica Andrés Bello**
- **Bachelor Science, Oxford, United Kingdom**

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American College of Cardiology | American Heart Association | European Society of Cardiology | Inter-American Society of Cardiology | InterAmerican Heart Foundation

LANGUAGES

Spanish (fluent) | English (fluent) | French (fluent)

FULL CURRICULUM VITAE

Included as supplementary documentation