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Gloria G. **Isla** MIP '88

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Gloria G. Isla MIP '88 has worked in intellectual property and licensing for most of her professional life. For the past eight years, she has served as director general of Clarke, Modet & Co. Group – Mexico, a multinational firm. Prior to joining Clark, Modet, Isla worked for the general practice firm of Basham, Ringe y Correa.

"I was the first Mexican to attend Franklin Pierce Law Center," says Isla. "I had applied for the Diploma in Intellectual Property program in 1986 and was unable to attend. So I decided to apply for the Master in Intellectual Property in 1987, the first year of the program," says Isla.

"When I received the news about being awarded a scholarship to attend Franklin Pierce Law Center, I couldn't believe it at first. I honestly believe, looking back now, that my life can be divided between before Pierce Law, and after Pierce Law," says Isla. "It confirmed for me that being a lawyer was what I really enjoyed and wanted to be for the rest of my life."

"Usually I joke when asked about life in New Hampshire, and the 'cosmopolitan way of life' you can enjoy in Concord. Not much has changed since I was there," says Isla.

"But Pierce Law is the place where, besides obtaining part of my education, I made friends for life. I am so very connected with the school and New England as a whole that I have tried to visit at least once a year since graduation."

Isla's decision to attend Pierce Law was a good one; her legal career has flourished. She was recently elected to the position of international vice president of the Mexican Group of the Association Internationale pour la Protection de la Propriété Intellectuelle (AIPPI). She is also active on several boards, including the Interamerican Association of Intellectual Property (ASIPI) and the Licensing Executives Society International (LESI). A former LESI national president, she now serves as an international delegate.

Isla earned her law degree in 1985 from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. After attending the MIP program, she served an externship and practiced briefly as a visiting attorney in Toronto, Canada. She also participated in the Visiting Scholar Program at the United States Patent and Trademark Office, where she earned a certificate in training.

"My current position has been a learning experience as I have had to deal not only with the day-to-day intellectual property practice, but manage the entire operation as well as head a group of 50 professionals under my supervision," says Isla. "I also recently opened offices in other parts of the country, in Nuevo Leon and Jalisco."

In addition to her work for Clarke, Modet, Isla is member of many professional organizations and is invited to offer presentations at forums in Mexico and around the globe. "Pierce Law always encouraged my participation in LESI, and I have always remained active," says Isla. "The international exposure has helped me tremendously."

Isla has published extensively, writing articles on technology transfer, licensing and intellectual property matters, and related and applicable tax aspects. Her articles have appeared in various national and international specialty journals.

As a member of Pierce Law's Latin American alumni, Isla was invited to join Pierce Law's Board of Trustees in 2006. "Now as a trustee, I have the opportunity to seriously give back to the school for what the school gave to my life. I am committed to having a strong international alumni network."

"One of the things I am most proud of when talking with other intellectual property professionals around the world is my Pierce Law experience and my work as a trustee. I can say without any doubt that whenever I mention FPLC and my connection to it, people react in a very positive way."

Isla and her husband, Javier Silbermann, live in Mexico City. They have two dogs, and take weekend trips to the countryside when she is not working. Isla also enjoys painting and cooking.