ALEJANDRA IBARRA

1991-1993 (served 1 term)

Through Nonie Briones' mentorship and proficient support, Jela stood up to take the helm of PAMET Northern California from 1991 through 1993 in the midst of the chapter's formative years. All the skills Jela absorbed at the many leadership training classes and countless executive board meetings helped Jela navigate the multitude of activities involved in leading the organization. Jela started her term with the Hawaiian-themed induction in Daly City with Bill Argonza, the Chief of the Laboratory Field Services at the time, inducting the new officers. In conjunction with the organization's community service, a Zarzuela musical sponsored by the chapter was held at the Cubberley Auditorium, Stanford University, with Fides Cuyugan-Asencio and friends as the special performers.

During Jela's term the effort to keep up with legislative responsibilities impelled the organization to keep a close look at any Assembly bills that could impact its constituents. Some of the officers represented the organization by attending hearings during key assembly bill discussions.

The organization recognized early on the importance of continuing education seminars to the members so it started asking speakers to impart their knowledge to the clinical laboratory scientists. The review classes which started in 1989 continued on which had been moved to Meiklejohn Auditorium in the California State University, Hayward. The highly appreciated Wet Workshop was also offered at the California State University, Hayward to avail of the academic setting. This workshop was offered to the newly licensed CLS to perform simple laboratory testing.

It was also during her term that the chapter hosted the first PAMET USA convention in the West Coast when the 1992 Third PAMET National Convention was held in the Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA. During this convention PAMET Northern and Southern California developed a strong affinity with each other because both chapters became PAMET USA chapters one after the other. There was quite a substantial participation from the different biotech companies and other companies which support the needs of our clinical and reference laboratories. We were very honored by the presence of key officers from PAMET Philippines who traveled from our home country just to attend the convention. The special guests from PAMET Philippines and other chapters were given a tour to visit Regional Laboratories in Berkeley and the Stanford University Laboratory in Palo Alto.

To maintain a good balance in the organization's yearly agenda, the organization held an annual Christmas ball to celebrate the year's accomplishments and to congratulate the successful CLS licensure examinees after the grueling review classes. The officers also went Christmas caroling to foster camaraderie and good cheer during the holidays.