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MEDIA ADVISORY

**Venezuelan Young Political Leaders to Visit Denver and Colorado Springs;
Delegates to Engage in Dialogue with Local Leaders, Study American Political System**

DENVER – From June 10-14, 2007, seven young political leaders from Venezuela will visit Denver and Colorado Springs, Colorado as part of a two week political exchange program organized by the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL). Composed of delegates from across the Venezuelan political spectrum, the delegation is the third Venezuelan ACYPL delegation to visit the United States and the second to visit since ACYPL reinitiated the exchange in 2005. The delegation kicked off its program with meetings and briefings in Washington, D.C. and will arrive in Colorado on the heels of stops in Jackson and Vicksburg, Mississippi. While in Colorado, they will be hosted by Fellows from El Pomar Foundation's highly competitive El Pomar Fellowship post-undergraduate leadership training program.

With this exchange program, ACYPL furthers its forty plus year mission of increasing cross-cultural understanding and opening lines of communication between young U.S. political leaders and their counterparts in countries around the world.

Who: Young political leaders from across the Venezuelan political spectrum, including:

- **Dr. Omar Arenas** (Un Nuevo Tiempo) - Head, Legal Unit, Chacao Municipality Parochial Board; Founder, "Acostados por la Vida"
- **Dr. Emilio Grateron** (Un Nuevo Tiempo) - Councilman, Chacao Municipality Council, Miranda State
- **Mr. Villapol de Jesus Morales** (COPEI) - President, San Francisco Municipality Council, Zulia State
- **Dr. D'lsa Solorzano** (Un Nuevo Tiempo) - Member, Un Nuevo Tiempo National Board; National Director, Professionals and Technicians; National Coordinator for Human Rights, Un Nuevo Tiempo
- **Ms. Dayaneth Scorza** (Partido Socialista Unico de Venezuela - PSUV) - Staff Member, Permanent Committee for Science, Technology and the Media, National Assembly of Venezuela; Member and Promoter, MVR Youth and MBR-200
- **Mr. Eduardo Enrique Vale** (COPEI) - Secretary General, COPEI, Maracaibo
- **Dr. Victor Manuel Velasco** (Acción Democrática) - Legal Advisor, Zulia Federation of Workers; President, Raul Leoni Foundation, AD

What: Program highlights include:

- Meetings with Lt. Governor Barbara O'Brien, D-Colo., Attorney General John Suthers, R-Colo., Colorado Springs Mayor Lionel Rivera, former speaker of the Colorado State House of Representatives Chuck Berry and Richard W. Soudriette, President and CEO of International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), as well as officials from the Daniels Fund.
- Touring the Colorado State Capitol, Colorado College and the Young Americans Bank

When: June 10-12, 2007 (Denver)
June 12-14, 2007 (Colorado Springs)

Why: The purpose of this program is to:

- Expose the delegates to the American political system at the national, state and local levels.
- Give the delegates a new perspective on American culture.
- Allow the delegates to engage in dialogue on international issues and forge professional relationships with their American counterparts.

About The American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL)

Recognized by the U.S. Congress as a pre-eminent catalyst for introducing rising political leaders and policy makers to international affairs and to each other, the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) is a bi-partisan, not-for-profit international exchange organization based in Washington, DC. Since its founding in 1966, ACYPL has conducted programs and exchanges with more than 90 nations, producing a global network of several thousand alumni. Former ACYPL participants include 38 sitting members of the U.S. Congress, 6 sitting U.S. governors and ambassadors, cabinet ministers and parliamentarians around the globe. For more information on ACYPL, please visit <http://www.acypl.org>.

About El Pomar Foundation

El Pomar Foundation, based in Colorado Springs, is one of the largest and oldest private foundations in the Rocky Mountain West, with assets totaling \$560 million. El Pomar contributes approximately \$25 million annually through grants and community stewardship programs to support Colorado nonprofit organizations involved in health, human services, education, arts and humanities, and civic and community initiatives. Spencer and Julie Penrose founded El Pomar in 1937. For more information, please visit <http://www.elpomar.org/>.

PLEASE NOTE – TO SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW WITH DELEGATES OR FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT ACYPL OR THIS DELGATION, MEMBERS OF THE MEDIA SHOULD CONTACT MIKE GARRETSON AT 202-857-0999 or mgarretson@acypl.org.

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