

Allison L. DeGazon - Biography

Ms. Allison Lisa DeGazon is an entrepreneur and public servant at heart who wears many hats and functions as a leader in many capacities. Her most important role is being a committed and doting but austere parent to her four children, which includes a set of twins. She makes no decision unless she considers how it impacts the well being of her children.

Ms. DeGazon is currently pursuing her doctorate as a member of the first cohort in UVI's Creative Leadership and Change PhD program. The Virgin Island's Academic and Cultural Awards Endowment Program recently selected her as a recipient of a financial scholarship to fully fund the pursuit of her PhD studies. Ms. DeGazon is a certified Lean Six Sigma Black Belt Professional in Process Improvement and she is adept in process improvement and change management. She is a certified Emergency Medical First Responder and proudly holds an MBA from UVI and completed coursework toward a Master of Science in Technical Communication from Mercer University where she holds two graduate level certificates.

Ms. DeGazon is the 2014 13D first place \$30,000 Entrepreneur Winner from UVI and she is the owner of Cruzan Organix Farm, Inc. and Business Strategies, Inc. As a proud farmer and diligent businessperson, she hopes to transform agriculture into an economic cornerstone and improve government efficiency in the Virgin Islands, respectively.

Ms. DeGazon's professional expertise is in the areas of organizational change, process improvement and small business development. On the mainland, she worked as a change consultant to companies such as HUD and Home Depot Supply to improve specific operational problems. Locally, she used her academic and professional skills to completely revamp the Unemployment Insurance Program as the Director of Unemployment Insurance at the Virgin Islands Department of Labor. She especially loved this position because she was afforded the opportunity to serve many Virgin Islanders at a very stressful point in their personal and professional lives. It was this position that opened her eyes to one day becoming a political leader.

Allison also served as the Assistant Director of the Virgin Islands Territorial Emergency Management Agency where she oversaw the Administration and Finance Division and supported local agencies in their emergency management planning and preparedness. She is not new to the legislative environment. She has represented agency leadership at the Legislature for various budget and general hearings. She worked closely with former government leadership to draft and submit for review several policies to be adopted as bills.

Ms. DeGazon is consistently sought out in the public and private sector to teach classes, improve processes, make presentations and motivate leaders and entrepreneurs. She credits her personal and professional success to her father, Leo DeGazon and his high work ethics and to her mother, Jennifer DeGazon who executes everything in excellence and raised her with a strong spiritual conviction. Her current goal is earn a seat in the 33rd Legislature so that she can advance economic and infrastructure development and address the myriad of social issues that has become stumbling blocks for the United States Virgin Islands.