Julia Stasch
President, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

Julia Stasch is President of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, one of the nation’s largest philanthropies with assets of more than $6.3 billion, and offices in Chicago, Mexico City, New Delhi, and Abuja, Nigeria. With a broad background of leadership in the business, governmental, and philanthropic sectors, she has served as the Foundation’s President since March 2015.

Stasch joined MacArthur in 2001 as Vice President for US Programs, responsible for major work in the United States, including strategies related to justice, housing, education, community and economic development, and social and economic policy.

Prior to joining the Foundation, she worked for the City of Chicago, first as Commissioner of the Department of Housing and as Chief of Staff to then Mayor Richard M. Daley. Stasch also served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Shorebank Chicago Companies, including South Shore Bank, the nation’s first community development bank, and as President and Chief Operating Officer of the Chicago-based real estate development firm, Stein and Company, where she was nationally known for her work to include women and minorities in the construction industry. During the first Clinton Administration, Stasch was Deputy Administrator of the General Services Administration, a 20,000-person agency responsible for management of government-wide building construction, leasing, and management.

Stasch is on the steering committee for World Business Chicago’s Plan for Economic Growth and Jobs and is a member of the Commercial Club of Chicago, the Economic Club, and The Chicago Network. She is a summa cum laude graduate of Loyola University, and holds a master’s degree from the University of Illinois at Chicago.