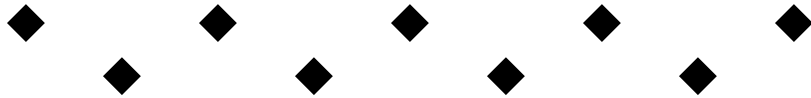


VOLUME 21, NO. 2, AUGUST 2000



## FROM THE DIRECTOR

After spending its first twenty-something years in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, in September 1999, the Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies formally moved under the umbrella of the Office of International Affairs, accompanied by the Center for European Studies and the Center for Contemporary African Studies. While this change will not change dramatically the day-to-day activities of the area studies programs, it nonetheless represents a significant consolidation of international and area resources at UConn.

The most noticeable change will occur with the Master's program in International Studies beginning in the fall of 2000. Heretofore, only students in the Latin American Studies component of the MA program were required to take an interdisciplinary introduction to the field known as Latin American Studies (LAMS) 390. This fall, all incoming students in the three area studies Master's programs and in the general MA program in International Studies will meet together in a new course, International Studies (INTS) 301 – Pro-seminar in International Studies.

Modeled on LAMS 390, the team-taught INTS 301 will introduce new Master's students to the range of disciplines covered by international and area studies and help them improve their research and analytical skills. Faculty for INTS come from the departments of History, Anthropology, Political Science, Art History, Modern & Classical Languages, Economics, and Agricultural and Resource Economics. A particularly important component of the seminar involves in-depth instruction in library research, conducted by the International Studies library liaison, Darlene Waller.

The Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies will continue to offer a program of co-curricular events, as well as outreach services to educators and the public. Coordinating these events with those of the other international and area studies programs at UConn will be **Kristin Jannke DeMuzzio**, who assumes the position of Program Coordinator of the Office of International Affairs in mid-August. Kristin will continue to act as the coordinator of the Latin American Studies Consortium of New England, a role she has played since January 1998.



# CLACS AND LASCNE ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

## UPCOMING CLACS AND CONSORTIUM PROGRAMS

Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at UConn is co-sponsoring two exhibits at the William Benton Museum of Art this fall.

1. Afro - Cuba, 'Woman' and *History in the Works* of **Ana Mendieta**, **María Magdalena Campos-Pons**, and **Marta María Pérez Bravo**. Curated by Robin Greeley and Salvatore Scalora. **September 5 - October 15, 2000.**

This exhibition examines three important contemporary Cuban women artists associated with pioneering work that explores cultural identity specifically within the framework of female and feminist dialogue.

- **Ana Mendieta**, prior to her sudden death, created earth-based physical interactions with the landscape that reinterpreted the masculine rhetoric of earthwork sculptures in light of her own feminist and Cuban experiences. These installations continue to exist as photo-documents.
- **María Magdalena Campos-Pons** creates installations, media works, and photographic images that retell her poetic feeling for Cuba as her familial center. In direct and personal ways she communicates her early history in Cuba and later as a United States resident artist that investigates her identity in a series of works that focus on slavery, discrimination, resistance, and resilience.
- **Marta María Pérez Bravo** employs her body in the creation of theatrical settings that are photographed to express her personal narratives that hover between reality and myth. The Afro-Cuban religions of *Santería* and *Palo Monte* combine in her stunning images with the feminine condition to create a mystical interpretation of the physical body. Co-sponsor: Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies.

2. **Miguel Rio Branco: Brazil Photographs.** A major traveling show of the Brazilian master photographer, Miguel Rio Branco will be on display at the University of Connecticut's William Benton Museum of Art from **October 26 – December 21, 2000**. **Rio Branco** is also a painter, cinematographer, film director, and a multi-media production artist. Originally born in Spain, he has made Rio de Janeiro his home over the years. Known for his lush sensual color, **Rio Branco** strays from the typical travel magazine type of imagery, and instead presents a passionate view of his adopted country through the lives of a host of insiders like boxers, *capoeiristas*, prostitutes, and the poor of the streets. Images seem to be impossibly saturated with livid reds and blues, drenched in the light of early mornings and late sunsets. This wonderful collection of over 80 photographs is certain to prove the art status of this multitalented humanist. The Benton Museum exhibition will be the core of a campus wide celebration of Brazilian culture. Call 486-4520 for schedule of events.

## **R**obert G. Mead, Jr. Lecture.

Josefina Vázquez, an eminent Mexican historian, will deliver the 2000 Robert G. Mead, Jr. Lecture on November 2, at 4 p.m., in the Class of 1947 room in the Homer Babbidge Library. Professor Vázquez, a specialist in the history of U.S.-Mexico relations, will speak on “A Mexican Perspective on the War between the United States and Mexico, 1846-1848.”

Currently a Research Professor at El Colegio de México, Professor Vázquez earned an MA at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, a Ph.D. from the Universidad Central de Madrid, and a second doctorate from UNAM. In addition to teaching at UNAM and El Colegio de México, Professor Vázquez has been a visiting professor at the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Puerto Rico, the Johann Wolfgang Goethe Universität in Frankfurt, Duke University, the University of Florence, and the University of California, Berkeley. A member of the Academia Mexicana de la Historia, she has received several awards for her scholarship, including the Andrés Bello Prize of the Organization of American States and the (Mexican) National Award for Sciences and Arts. Professor Vázquez has authored or co-authored some seventeen books on Mexican history, in addition to publishing numerous articles and book chapters. Her most recent books are *Juárez* (Secretaría de Hacienda y Crédito Público-Espejo de Obsidian, 1998) and *La intervención norteamericana, 1846-1848* (Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, 1997).

## **Brazil Conference at Brown**

To commemorate the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European discovery of Brazil, the Center for Latin American Studies at Brown, will host a three-day conference on “The Discovery and Rediscovery of Brazil” on October 26-29. Topics to be covered are discovery and settlement, Brazilian encounters with North America and Europe, race and gender issues, and reflections on Brazil’s first post-colonial century. The conference is co-sponsored by the Casa Oswaldo Cruz and features scholars from the United States, Brazil and Portugal. For more information, contact Ronald Rathier, Center for Latin American Studies at Brown: <RonaldRathier@ brown.edu> (401) 863-2106.



# NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

## LIBRARY SERVICES AND RESEARCH RESOURCES HOMER BABBIDGE LIBRARY

The core collection of Latin American materials in the Homer Babbidge Library supports undergraduate and graduate teaching and research at the university. Collecting has been continuous since the late 1940s and became an official part of the Library's acquisitions program with the establishment of Latin American Studies on campus. The collection contains over 100,000 volumes covering all countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, and grows by an estimated 2500 volumes per year. Materials are collected primarily in history, literature and the social sciences, with particular emphasis on the Hispanic Caribbean, Mexico, Argentina, Chile, and the Andean Region. Specialized collections for Puerto Rico, Chile, and Mexico as well as a Latin American Newspapers Collection (strongest for Bolivia) are housed in the Archives and Special Collections Department of the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. For a full description of the specialized collections see [www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/latin/hispbroc.htm](http://www.lib.uconn.edu/DoddCenter/ASC/latin/hispbroc.htm).

A separate Map Library actively collects flat maps for many countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The Latin American materials are integrated into the Library's general circulating collection. Access to information on virtually all the Library's holdings for Latin American Studies (including specialized collections, microform sets, maps, government documents, etc.) is available through the Library's online Web catalog, HOMER at [www.lib.uconn.edu](http://www.lib.uconn.edu). Audio and videotapes are housed in the Culpeper Library in the Homer Babbidge Library. A separate annotated list of videotapes is available from the Library or through the Library's Web page for Latin American Studies [www.lib.uconn.edu/subjectareas/lams.htm](http://www.lib.uconn.edu/subjectareas/lams.htm). The University of Connecticut is a depository library for U.S. federal government documents. Call numbers and locations for U.S. government documents are accessible through the online catalog.

The Library provides access to an extensive suite of electronic indexing, abstracting, and full-text databases. Virtually all of these databases are distributed through the Web. Contact the Library's Reference Desk at (860) 486-2513 or check the Library Web page at [www.lib.uconn.edu](http://www.lib.uconn.edu) for up-to-date information on current electronic resources.

UConn students engaged in Latin American and Caribbean Studies also have on-site access and borrowing privileges at other Latin American Studies Consortium of New England libraries: Brown, UMass, and Yale. For more information see: [www.lib.uconn.edu/subjectareas/consort.htm](http://www.lib.uconn.edu/subjectareas/consort.htm), or call the Center for Latin American Studies at (860) 486-4964.

For more information about UConn's library holdings for Latin America Studies, contact the Latin American Librarian, Darlene Waller at (860) 486-1148 or [dwaller@lib.uconn.edu](mailto:dwaller@lib.uconn.edu).

### *New Historic Acquisitions*

The Library continues to augment its collection of historic Puerto Rican newspapers on microfilm. The most recent purchase is the San Juan daily, *El Imparcial*, for dates 1 mayo 1919 – 31 dic. 1955.

Early 20th century *Mexican General Censuses of Population* on microfilm has been added to the collection filling gaps in retrospective holdings. The Library now holds the General Population Census for Mexico for 1900-1940 in microfilm and for 1950-1990 in paper. This purchase was made possible with funds from the Whetten endowment for library acquisitions.



## FACULTY NEWS



**E**lizabeth Mahan (Latin American Studies) conducted external reviews of the Latin American Studies programs at Montclair State University and Wheaton College, the latter with Darlene Waller. She continues to serve on the Executive Board of AAPLAC, the Association of Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean, and was Program Co-Chair for its 11<sup>th</sup> annual conference in Oaxaca, Mexico, February 23-26, 2000. She completed her term as president of CLASP (Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs) on December 31, 1999. In March, she participated in a panel on “Peer, Professional and Faculty Advisor Collaboration for Interdisciplinary Studies,” at the meeting of the Northeast Region, NACADA, in Portland, ME.

**R**obert K. Colwell (Ecology and Evolutionary Biology) College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, is the recipient of the Faculty Excellence in Research Award.

**P**aul Goodwin (History) is returning to the ranks of the faculty after 10 ½ years as Associate Dean of CLAS, effective July 1, 2000. Publications: Text, Global Studies: Latin America, 9th Edition (2000, McGraw-Hill/Dushkin).

**R**obin Adèle Greeley (Art History) has won a Rockefeller Fellowship, 2000-2001, at the Institute for Research on Women, Rutgers University, for her book project: *The Gendering of Mexican Cultural Nationalism, 1920-1946-1970*. Publications: “Identity,” *New Observations n°124* (Winter 2000), “Painting Mexican Identities: Nationalism and Gender in the work of María Izquierdo”. *Oxford Art Journal* (Spring 2000): 51-72.

**P**eter Kingstone, (Political Science) spoke on “Why Free Trade ‘Losers’ Support Free Trade: The Puzzling Case of Neoliberalism in Brazil,” at Harvard University’s Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, March 8, 2000. His book *Crafting Coalitions for Reform: Business Preferences, Political Institutions, and Neoliberal Reform in Brazil* (Penn State Press, 1999) has been published in a paperback edition.

**R**igoberto A. López (Agricultural & Resource Economics) gave a presentation on: “*The impacts of industrial concentration in U.S. food processing.*” Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, D.C., April 14, 2000. Publications: “*The structure of government intervention in African agriculture*” *Journal of Development studies* (with I. Hathie). “*Land tenure, investment, and agricultural production in Nicaragua*” Harvard Institute for International Development, Discussion Paper 738, February 2000 (with J. Foltz and B. Larson).

**S**amuel Martínez (Anthropology) presented a workshop: “*Creolization and the Racial Crisis*,” 8th Annual Northeast Regional Caribbean Students Conference, University of Connecticut, April 15, 2000. He also presented a paper on “*Identities at Puerto Rico’s International Migrant Crossroads*” at the 22nd International Congress, Latin American Studies Association, Miami, FL on March 17, 2000.

**M**aría-Luz Samper (Labor Education Center) Presented a paper to the State Legislature in Hartford, CT on February 23, 2000 “Connecticut: “*Are The New Jobs Bringing Equality*”? She also presented a paper at the 2000 AFL-CIO/UCLEA Education Conference in Milwaukee, WI on April 14, 2000, “*The Student Labor Coalition: A New Voice Facing the Global Economy*.” She chaired a session on “*Economic and Social Policy Issues in the Global Economy: A Labor Perspective*” at the 2000 AFL-CIO/UCLEA Education Conference in Milwaukee, WI on April 14, 2000.

**R**obert M. Thorson will present a paper at the IX Chilean Geologic Congress in Puerto Varas Chile, July 31 – August 4, 2000. His paper is titled: “*Neotectonic setting of the Central Chilean Coast and coastal movements during the earthquake of March 3, 1985*”.

**D**arlene Waller (Latin American & Caribbean Specialist) was a member of a delegation of 16 US librarians who traveled to Cuba for a two-week professional exchange program in March, 2000. The group met with officers of the Cuban National Library Association and with staff at major libraries, research institutes, and publishing houses in Havana, Santiago de Cuba, Varadero, and Matanzas; they also visited a library technician’s training school. Major institutions on their itinerary included Biblioteca Nacional José Martí, Instituto de Historia de Cuba, Archivo Nacional de Cuba, Universidad de Havana, Academia de Ciencias de Cuba, Casa de las Américas, Biblioteca Elvira Cape, Ediciones Vigía. The purpose of the Librarian’s Program to Cuba was to strengthen existing communication, relationships, and agreements; and to create new working relationships and material exchange agreements.

As part of an all day program at the Biblioteca Nacional José Martí on March 21, Darlene presented a paper entitled: “*Acceso y Propiedad: los Retos de la Información en la Economía Global*” (Access & Ownership: The Challenges of Scholarly Information in the Global Marketplace). She has prepared a slide presentation featuring highlights of the visit for presentation at area schools and at the Latin American Librarian’s Association Annual Conference in May.

**P**atrick Hogan Ph.D. (English) published “*Crisis of Tradition in the Anglophone Literatures of India, Africa, and the Caribbean*”. (Suny Press).





## STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS

### LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES AWARDS

The Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies awards two \$1000 fellowship prizes to outstanding graduate students. The awards for 1999-2000 were omitted from previous issues of the newsletter. The **Robert G. Mead, Jr. Fellowship** is given to the best first year Master's student, based on grades, faculty recommendations, and progress toward the degree. For 1999-2000, the Mead Fellowship was awarded to **Mónica Sánchez** (Anthropology), while for 2000-2001 the review committee determined that two students were equally deserving: **Marisela Ramos**, MA candidate in History and **Nikki Clemente**, a candidate for the dual MA/MPA program in Latin American Studies. For 2000-2001, Ms. Ramos was also awarded the **Hugh Hamill Fellowship** in Latin American History.

The **Nathan Whetten Fellowship** is awarded annually to the outstanding doctoral student who has completed the general exams and begun work on the dissertation. For 1999-2000 this fellowship was awarded to **Michael Donoghue**, Ph.D. candidate in History, while for 2000-2001 it was awarded to **Jonathan Carlyon**, Ph.D. candidate in Modern and Classical Languages. We offer our hearty congratulations to these deserving students.

### **U.S. Department of Education Title VI Summer Language Study Fellowships**

The following students were awarded fellowships for intensive language study this summer: **Michael Donoghue** (Ph.D. Candidate in History) for a Spanish program: Summer Spanish Program in the Andes organized by Augustana College in Ecuador; **Paul Nichols** (MA candidate in Latin American Studies) for a Portuguese language program at Yale; **Maria Saccoccia** (MA candidate in Latin American Studies) for a Spanish program at the Institute of Modern Spanish in Mérida, Yucatán, Mexico. In addition, **Nikki Clemente** (MA/MPA candidate in Latin American Studies) was awarded a similar fellowship by the University of Florida to study Portuguese on their program at the Instituto Brasil-Estados Unidos in Rio de Janeiro.

### **Nathan Whetten Travel Awards**

These were offered during 1999-2000 to the following: **Alejandro Corbacho** (Ph.D. candidate in Political Science) for presentation of a paper at the 41st Annual Convention of the International Studies Association in Los Angeles. **Michael Donoghue** (Ph.D. Candidate in History) and **Sarah White** (MA candidate in Latin American Studies) for presentations at the Institute of Latin American Studies Student Conference at the University of Texas, Austin. **Stephen Jewett** (MA candidate in Political Science) for travel to Cuba to study at the University of Havana.



## GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to the following who completed degree programs in the past year:

BA in Latin American Studies:

**Kara Medalis, Valerie Nittoli**

MA in Latin American Studies:

**Jill Sokness, Sarah White**

MA in Latin American Studies and MBA:

**Kathy Nino**

MA in Education:

**Michael Croft** (Latin American Studies Education Outreach Intern 1999-2000)

MBA in Finance:

**Esra Koseatac** (Latin American Studies Business Outreach Intern 1999-2000)

### Ph.D.:

**Jacques–Raphaël Georges** in French:

*Cacoïsme littéraire: fonction du personnage américain dans le roman Haïtien à partir de 1915*

**LeeAnna Keith** in History:

*The Imperial Mind and U.S. Intervention in the Dominican Republic, 1961-1966*

**Carl Murdock** in History:

*Strategic Mercies: Physicians, the State and Public Health in Chile, 1875-1910*

**Courtney Murren** in Ecology:

*Ecological and Genetic Examinations of Reproduction in a Tropical Epiphytic Orchid across a Fragmented Forest Habitat*

**Gareth Price** in Comparative Literary and Cultural Studies:

*Form without Borders: the Micro-Relato in Latin America*

**Luis Villaronga** in Latin American History:

*Building Consent: the Popular Democratic Party and Colonial Politics in Puerto Rico, 1932-1948*

**F**abiano Maisonave (MA, History 2000, Fulbright, Brazil) wrote a series of eight articles for a special edition on Brazilianism published by Brazil's largest newspaper, *Folha de S. Paulo*, on June 6, 1999. The articles focused on recent books written by a new generation of Brazilianists who conduct comparative studies on issues such as race, sexual orientation, and ethnicity.

**J**ack Wallace (BA, LAMS 1995) has completed law school at the University of Miami. He has been awarded a National Association of Public Interest Lawyers (NAPIL) fellowship to help detained and released political asylum applicants. He will start work on his project (described below) in September.

**ARANA**, Asylum Action Relief Network Association, will be based at the Florida Immigrant Advocacy Center. The project will assist political asylum seekers in detention or recently released from Krome Detention Center or local Florida County jails. Due to lack of space in Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) facilities, the INS has contracted with local jails to detain asylum seekers. **ARANA** will seek to provide legal assistance to this lost and often difficult to track down population and provide either self-help packages or in court legal assistance. **ARANA** will also work to involve and train local attorneys in bringing pro-bono political asylum cases and work with the local community as the project will require help translating or testifying about current country conditions in various corners of the world. **ARANA** will also assist with appeals to the Board of Immigration Appeals and to the federal courts.

**K**ristine Byron, a Ph.D. candidate in comparative literary and cultural studies, is one of 3 students to receive the prestigious Edward V. Gant Scholarship. This award is based on academic excellence, professional potential, dedicated service, and exemplary personal integrity. Byron, a native of Wisconsin, expects to complete her Ph.D. next May. She holds a bachelor's degree from Washington University in St. Louis, MO., and a master's in comparative literary and cultural studies from UConn. She is now working on a dissertation, "Gender Revolution and Representation: Women's Lifewriting," about autobiographical writings by women revolutionaries, such as Dolores Ibarruri, a leader in the Spanish Republic prior to Spain's Civil War.



## UNION OF INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS DOCTORAL PRIZE

The Union of International Associations, to stress the importance of the associative phenomenon in what is rapidly becoming a worldwide society, will award a prize of 6,000 Euro for a doctoral dissertation on a subject concerning the life, operations or work of international non-governmental organizations. The competition is open to students of all nationalities.

Whatever his or her specialty, the candidate must meet the conditions laid down by his or her own University for acceptance as a doctoral candidate. Subjects suggested by candidates must be approved by the major dissertation advisor and accompanied by a short statement setting out the broad lines of the intended research. The thesis has to have been defended and approved in 1999 or, at the latest, before November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000. Manuscripts must be written in English or French and sent to the UIA secretariat in triplicate before January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001. Electronic submissions are also welcome via email (please use RTF or Word 6.0 format). The UIA Council will set up a jury of qualified persons who will have full discretion in awarding, or if necessary, dividing the prize (or withholding any award).

Applications for the UIA Doctoral Prize must be received by UIA before October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2000. The UIA Council will inform the candidate of its decision in due time. The official award of the prize will take place during the UIA General Assembly 2001. Additional information may be obtained from:

- Secretariat, Union of International Associations
- 40 rue Washington
- B-1050 Brussels
- Belgium
- Tel (32 2) 640 18 08 – Fax (32 2) 643 61 99
- E-mail: [theses@uia.be](mailto:theses@uia.be) – Website <http://www.uia.org/>



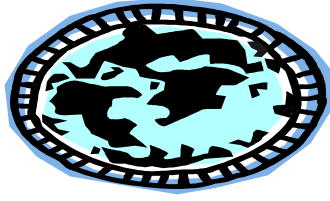
## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

### A BRAZILIAN CARNIVAL

A Brazilian Carnival with food, costumes, and dancing to the music of *Minas* is scheduled for **November 3, 2000 7 p.m.** in Storrs at the Benton Museum. Admission: \$10.00 for tickets, call 486-4520.

Co-sponsored by the Puerto Rican / Latin American Cultural Center, Benton Museum, WHUS and School of Fine Arts Sound Excursions, a world music series presented with the support of the Connecticut Commission of the Arts.





## GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS AND PRIZES

### FULBRIGHT GRANTS

The Institute of International Education has announced the opening of the 2001-2002 competition for Fulbright Grants for Graduate Study Abroad. Approximately 900 awards to 125 countries will be available for the 2001-2002 academic year.

**Grants are available to do research or an internship, to do advanced degree work at a university abroad and to teach conversational English in public schools and universities.**

Applicants must be U.S. citizens at the time of application, who will generally hold a bachelor's degree before the beginning date of the grant and, in most cases, will be proficient in the language of the host country. Graduating seniors – i.e., undergraduates who will be awarded bachelor's degrees during 2000-2001 – are encouraged to apply. Except for certain specific awards, candidates may not hold the Ph.D. at the time of application.

Creative and performing artists are not required to have a bachelor's degree, but they must have four years of professional study or equivalent experience. Social Work applicants must have at least two years of professional experience after the Master of Social Work degree. Candidates in Medicine must have an M.D. at the time of application.

The deadline for submitting completed applications to the Fulbright Scholarship Committee of the University of Connecticut is **SEPTEMBER 18, 2000**.

For further information and applications, contact the Fulbright Program Adviser, Mal Bochner, U-1182, Office of International Affairs, Human Development Building, Room 15. A complete program brochure is also available at [www.iie.org/fulbright/us](http://www.iie.org/fulbright/us).

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Website: [www.ia.uconn.edu](http://www.ia.uconn.edu)



## CONFERENCES, SYMPOSIA, SEMINARS

### **“Las relaciones Europa-América latina”**

The Centre de Recherche sur l'Amérique latine et les Caraïbes of the Institut d'Etudes Politiques Aix-en-Provence, France, announces an international conference to be held 29-30 September, 2000 on “Las Relaciones Europa – América Latina”

There will be workshops on political systems, geopolitics (bilateral and biregional institutional relations). For further information contact: CREALC, Institut d'Etudes Politiques, 25, rue Gaston de Saporta, 13625 Aix-en-Provence Cedex 1 or e-mail [crealc@iep-aix.u-3mrs.fr](mailto:crealc@iep-aix.u-3mrs.fr)

### **“Romance Languages and Linguistic Communities in the United States”**

Globalization is now a key feature of international relations; moreover, global dynamics constitute the basis of significant domestic transformations and have an economic, demographic, linguistic and cultural impact. This, in addition to the fact that the United States is a key player, has motivated the Latin American Studies Center and Unión Latina to propose an international conference, to be held on October 26-28, 2000, at the University of Maryland, College Park, with the following three main objectives:

- To improve the understanding of the role of Romance languages and their effect on U.S. society;
- To study economic, political, sociological, demographic, educational, linguistic and pedagogical issues from a developmental perspective;
- To design strategies that promotes and provides incentives for the instruction of romance languages in the United States.

For additional information, please contact:

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Unión Latina  
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75007 Paris – FRANCE  
Tel: (33 1) 45 49 60 60  
Fax: (33 1) 45 44 46 97  
E-mail: [ul\\_lprog@calva.net](mailto:ul_lprog@calva.net)

or

Saul Sosnowski  
Director, Latin American Studies Center  
University of Maryland  
College Park, MD 29742  
U.S.A.  
Tel: 1 (301) 405-6459  
Fax: 1 (301) 405-3665  
E-mail: [al68@uemail.umd.edu](mailto:al68@uemail.umd.edu)

### **NCCLA**

The North Central Council of Latin Americanists will hold its annual conference at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee on October 20-21. This year's conference, “Reconciling the Past, Envisioning the Future: Latin America in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” will include a special panel on Judgment on Violence, Pursuit of Peace. For more information, contact the NCCLA Secretariat, Center for Latin America, University of Wisconsin, PO Box 413, Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201; (phone) 414-229-4401; <http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/CLA>

### **NECLAS 2000**

The New England Council of Latin American Studies will hold its annual meeting on October 14, 2000 at Amherst College in Amherst, MA. For more information, contact Kathy Gauger at Smith College 413-585-3535.

### **Fourth Biennial Inter-American Relations Conference**

Proposals for individual papers, complete panels, session chairs and commentators in all fields

should be sent to Tom Leonard, Conference Coordinator, International Studies Program, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL 32224; [tleonard@unf.edu](mailto:tleonard@unf.edu). The conference will take place in Jacksonville on March 28-30, 2001.

## **AAPLAC 2001**

The 12<sup>th</sup> conference of the Association of Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean (AAPLAC) will be held at Tulane University from March 7-10, 2001. For further information contact Elizabeth Mahan, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, 843 Bolton Road, U-1161, Storrs, CT 06269-1161 Telephone (860) 486-4964; E-mail: <[lamsadm@uconnvm.uconn.edu](mailto:lamsadm@uconnvm.uconn.edu)> or MacGregor O'Brien Chair, Dept. of Foreign Languages & Literature, Frostburg, Maryland 21532-1099; Telephone (301) 687-4287 E-Mail: [E2FLMCG@FRE.FSU.UMD.EDU](mailto:E2FLMCG@FRE.FSU.UMD.EDU)

## **Expressions of Modernity in Latin American Architecture.**

*The Journal of Architectural Education* calls for articles for an issue on the topic of modernity and its impact on Latin America to be edited by Luis E. Carranza of Roger Williams University and to be published in 2001. The struggles with and against modernity - understood in the broadest of senses, time frames, and degrees of hybridity - have always impacted the way that architecture is conceptualized, designed, manufactured, and theorized in Latin America since the arrival of European colonizers. The journal seeks contributions that indicate how the production of architecture, its history, and/or its theory in Latin American countries becomes a manifestation of any of the following: struggles with modernity, the importance of external influences and/or pressures, the process of transculturation and/or of engaging hybridity, and the impact of the emigration of individuals, ideas, forms, and materials. Contributors should frame their object of study within a succinctly defined notion of modernity and sociopolitical climate.

Address inquiries to Luis E. Carranza, email at <[l\\_carranza@usa.net](mailto:l_carranza@usa.net)>. Send submissions to: Howard Smith Managing Editor, JAE PO Box 29276 Los Angeles, CA 90029-0276 email: [hsmith@usc.edu](mailto:hsmith@usc.edu). Submission Deadline: October 1, 2000. Submissions must conform to the most recent on-line "Guidelines for JAE Authors" found at <<http://www.flashgun.com/JAE>>. Also on-line is the Submission Checklist used to double-check your materials. A printed version is available in the May 2000 issue of the Journal. Your package should be clearly marked with "JAE: Latin American Architecture."

## **V-Congreso Internacional del CLAD**

“La Reforma del Estado y de la Administración Pública”

Le recordamos que el 1ro. de junio vence el plazo para recibir las propuestas de panel para participar en el V Congreso Internacional del CLAD sobre la Reforma del Estado y de la Administración Pública a celebrarse en Santo Domingo, República Dominicana, del 24-27 de octubre de 2000. Le invitamos a integrarse a este encuentro internacional cuya calidad y pertinencia ha quedado demostrada en los cuatro eventos anteriores.

Toda la información relacionada con el Congreso está disponible en <http://www.clad.org.ve/congres5.html>, en particular, el Formulario de Panel Propuesto (<http://www.clad.org.ve/formu5.html>), que debe ser remitido al CLAD con todos los datos solicitados, incluyendo un resumen –de 450 palabras- de cada una de las ponencias a ser presentadas.



## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED

### **Ph.D. Program in Political Science at FLACSO Mexico: Working Paper Series**

- # 1 *Deliberative Democracy (Documentos De Trabajo)* Doctorado en Ciencia Política by Mark E. Warren (Sede Académica de México) September 1999.
- #2 *Las instituciones del federalismo* (Documentos De Trabajo) Doctorado En Ciencia Política by Josep M. Colomer (Sede Académica de México) September 1999.
- # 3 *The Path-Dependent Logic of Delegation The Orgins of Non-Partisan Election Management in Mexico* (Documentos De Trabajo) Doctorado En Ciencia Política by Andreas Schedler (Sede Académica de México) September 1999.

### **The University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee Center for Latin America–Discussion Paper Series**

- # 90. “*Pentecostalism and the Production of Community in the Haitian Diaspora*” by Paul Brodwin University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee, January 2000

### **Center for Latin American Studies, San Diego State University Latin American Studies Student Organization Working Paper Series:**

- # 1 Tools of Protest: Spontaneous Settlements and Social Mobilization on the U.S.-Mexico Border by Margath A. Walker



# NOTES FROM THE FIELD

## THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

**K**atrina Bercaw (MA Candidate in Latin American Studies)

I went with nine others, a mix of students and Episcopalian parishioners, to help build a chapel in the Dominican Republic. For me as for most of us, it wasn't a vacation but a chance to taste another lifestyle, to speak Spanish, to think about life's priorities. We worked in a village with no running water an hour west of the capital and roomed nearby in the industrial sugar port of Haina. Jocelyn and I shared accommodations. She's an anthropology professor at UConn with a long braid, teenage kids, and a keen interest in other cultures and in things spiritual, who had organized the trip for us.

### FROM THE FEET UP: MY DOMINICAN FAMILY

We stayed at the home of Mina, Aldo, and Lissette. They were hospitality personified. Mina's the mom. Her husband lives and works in New York (many families here have members there or in Miami). Her four kids are in their twenties; the two unmarried ones still live at home as is the custom. Aldo works as a secretary for San Marcos Episcopal School, but does more there--he emanates quiet strength and is clearly a rock for many to lean on. Lissette, cheery, chatty, slim, and fond of miniskirts, just finished her degree in accounting and is busy looking for a job. She gave us her room: three beds, a dresser, a high bookshelf, and a cathedral ceiling roofed with corrugated steel that amplified a tremendous thunderstorm one night. The walls are concrete block, stuccoed and painted pale blue. A modicum of light comes through the window of cinder blocks patterned with an open "X." We let in more by opening a door to the tiny back yard, which sports a mango tree, table, pila and laundry sink. The bathroom we all shared has running water for the toilet, but the shower is a bucket bath with dippers full of cool water--not fancy, yet delightful to rinse off the day's sweat. The climate is hot and humid, but the house stayed comfortable when the electricity was on for our fans. Luckily the mosquitoes are low key--the windows have wooden louvers with no glass or screens.

When Mina called us to eat the dining room table was set for two. Local women eat after rather than with men or honored guests. Our first lunch was cabbage salad and arroz con pollo, topped off with Mina's exquisite plátanos maduros, fried ripe plantains. But though they didn't dine with us, Mina and Lissette joined us on the porch, answering our questions and asking theirs as we watched chickens and guinea hens peck at weeds and garbage then scamper on by. Lissette speaks a few words of English, but mostly we carried on in Spanish.

Mina had a pedicure one afternoon. It seemed so special, for life in the Tropics is hard on feet, and luxuries in Haina are few. Her friend Ana came to the house around five p.m. to begin, finishing by 7:30 despite numerous interruptions. She lugged a tub of water onto the front porch, washed and scrubbed Mina's feet, then put them in turn on a green towel on her lap. She oiled them, then cleaned and trimmed the nails. Such caressing gestures for feet accustomed to tramping miles in flip-flops brought rags to riches stories to my head--not for Mina, who is not rich, but for her feet. While her feet enjoyed the attention, life went on. Ana's four-year-old son argued over a half-deflated ball with our neighbor Paula's eighteen-month-old José Miguel until José's big sister and I joined them, which like a switch turned whines to chatter. People came in and out with a cheerful ebb and flow--friends just passing to say hello. The pedicure on the porch attracted extra interest, so everyone lingered. As Jocelyn observed, privacy and quiet are rare here, and every occasion is shared socially. The open, street-level porches, the electricity gaps which drive a neighborhood outdoors to their porches, and the closeness of the houses all serve to connect the community. Those who are rich enough for gardens, walled compounds, and their own generators indulge in what here seems an odd concept of solitude that goes with such comforts.

## FROM THE FOOTINGS UP: OUR PROJECT

The diocese van gathered us *trabajadores* and brought us to the work site where we found a cracked concrete slab rife with weeds and litter. All that Hurricane George left standing vertical was the altar. Cesar, our foreman, sprinkled chalk to mark the location of new footings about a foot out from the old slab and we began to dig. The tropical sun shone fiercely from its blue blue sky so that we scurried for turns chugging water in the shade of a lime tree to avoid heat stroke. Two pick axes and two coal shovels (designed for lifting, not digging!) kept four of us busy. Others attacked the slab with hammers. It broke up surprisingly easily into the small chunks we would later use for filler in the footings.

We spent some of our materials money on more tools, but most of it on cement, sand, stone, cinder blocks, and yards of rebar which we shaped into a reinforcing matrix for the footings. Roberto, known as Calabasa because his mother called him "Pumpkin" and it stuck, slipped a pipe over each piece of rebar and bent it into shape. He used a "forming tool" made of two pieces of wood (one termite-eaten) and three nails. For hours Calabasa smiled and bent, laughed and tugged, joked and curved another, powering hundreds of bends with his rippling strength. Locals helped too. Wiry Don Rafael, dressed in what he considered suitable attire for working with distinguished visitors (ironed shirt, slacks, Panama hat, loafers), took frequent turns with the pick to align and level the trench. Finally we were ready to pour *la zapata*, the footing.

To make concrete we needed plenty of water, a luxury in this village. Cesar arranged it. One truck dropped off four 55-gallon drums, then a man and a boy came by in another to scoop out bucketfuls of water till at last our drums were full. Kelly, daughter of a mason, was our star as we labored with the heavy sand and stone, churned and turned and dumped in the cement. Papito worked with us. He had the most engaging and beautiful smile in the world, despite missing teeth. His face lit up when he saw us. He made us feel important despite our inexperience with local ways of doing things. We bounced fifty or sixty wheelbarrows of concrete over our rickety bridge across the now-deep trench, traversing the broken stones of the old pad to finally cascade it down into the trench. The neighbors couldn't get over the novelty of watching the six women in our team sweat as we wielded *pica y palo*, pick and shovel, in work boots and baseball caps. It seemed odd to them that we wanted to do manual labor, and extraordinary that we were doing it to build them a chapel.

Doña Morena from next door brought out sweet black coffee in demitasse cups, then she and her sisters made us rice and beans for lunch. Her granddaughter Mayra, a two-year-old champion hugger, climbed on the laps of those taking breaks to tug our blonde hair and pat our white skin curiously. Other kids gathered, especially when generous Becky brought out two gloves and a baseball. Although they were all eager for a turn, the kids wanted us to play too and yelled with delight when we did.

Thursday was our last day of work. Timing was perfect to take part in a 4 p.m. church service on benches set out under Doña Morena and Don Rafael's huge mango tree. Father Rob from our group co-celebrated, so the service mixed Spanish and English. We all sang lustily, led by Padre Almonte's rich, strong, happiness-filled voice. A rooster crowed during each quiet moment. Padre gave eloquent thanks for the hard work of strangers. The kiss of peace was a chance for extra hugs from people who had quickly become dear. It was hard to say goodbye.

That night the parish youth group held a *baile*, with *merengue* and *bachata*. We sipped Presidente beer and munched spicy tuna salad on crackers in the courtyard by Eduard's house. But mostly we danced. Jocelyn, who had nearly collapsed with indigestion the night before, was like Lazarus risen from the dead. When the music started, her love of dance carried her to the floor and kept her in perpetual motion. It's not an aerobic dance, no jumping, but I had to get in touch with my body to find those critical hip muscles! The ubiquitous roar of motor scooters made casual conversations challenging, so mostly we danced or sat and smiled. Finally, we said our goodbyes. The next morning I wrote a thank you note to Mina, Lissette and Aldo. Our group left for home except Becky and I, who had arranged another week. That's a story too, how we converted the sad feeling of being left behind to a building sense of satisfaction for new projects, explorations, and increased self-reliance.



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