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We are in the middle of another extremely productive year at the Center for Latin American Studies. Last year, CLAS generated over $700,000 in non-University funds from grants, gifts, and endowment yields. These funds have gone to support student fellowships and scholarships, student and faculty research and travel to professional meetings, scholarly seminars and conferences, and outreach activities to the local community. Over 7,000 students enrolled in Latin American courses in 2002-03, and the Center has over 300 students enrolled in its certificate and related concentration programs. Forty-six students graduated with certificates or a related concentration in Latin American Studies. CLAS continues to thrive through the guidance and hard work of its outstanding staff.

This issue of CLASicos highlights a number of our recent activities. First of all, there is our highly regarded elite study abroad program, the CLAS Undergraduate Seminar/Field Trip, which sent one of the most talented groups of students ever to Valparaiso, Chile in summer 2003. Several of these students have had the opportunity to present their research from the seminar/field trip to local and regional audiences to much acclaim. In January this year, I was able to travel to Havana as part of the Semester at Sea (SAS) Program. For the first time, President Fidel Castro of Cuba met with SAS faculty in an intimate reception following his four-hour talk to the SAS community. In December 2003, I traveled to Brazil with Pitt Provost Dr. James Maher, University Center for International Studies (UCIS) Director William Brustein, and UCIS Director of Development Eileen Weiner for a week of meetings with alumni, corporate and academic partners, and other friends of the University of Pittsburgh. This was a highly successful trip and illustrates the strong support that CLAS has from the highest levels of the University’s administration. You will also note an impressive list of publications and awards received by CLAS affiliated faculty.

However, this is also the last time you will see CLASicos in this format. For many years, the Center’s newsletter, CLASicos, has served a dual purpose. The first has been to provide a space where the many accomplishments of the Center for Latin American Studies and its faculty, students, and staff are presented. The second, and equally important purpose, has been to maintain a worldwide CLAS community by sharing news about our students, alumni, and friends. (We know that many of our readers turn to Shirley K’s Korner first when they receive their copy of CLASicos.) In this way, we have been trying to address two constituencies, which at times overlap, but at others do not. As the Center has grown, the size of CLASicos also has grown. Over the past few years, the formatting, printing, and mailing charges for the newsletter have risen substantially. At the same time, the technology for making information available to a wide audience has changed. Many of our readers indicate that they would prefer to view CLASicos on line rather than receive a paper copy. We have been thinking carefully about the different types of information and the audiences for CLASicos and have decided to address the two sets of goals separately in different publications—and to make those publications available primarily via the World Wide Web.

As a result, this will be the last issue of CLASicos you will receive in its “CLASic” format. Beginning later this year, we will split the usual content of CLASicos between two publications. The first will be the publication CLAS Year in Review, which will be published once per year and will serve as a summary of the activities and accomplishments of the Center, its faculty, students, and staff. The CLAS Year in Review will be printed and mailed to a limited number of recipients. Most individuals will receive a message via e-mail directing them to the Web site where they can view the CLAS Year in Review. We will be delighted to send hard paper copies to anyone who is not able to view it on line or to anyone who wishes to receive a hard copy.

The second publication will retain the name CLASicos and will contain newsy items and current information on alumni, students, faculty, and staff. CLASicos will be printed twice a year on lighter paper stock than previously and also will be available primarily on line. Again, we will be delighted to mail paper copies to anyone who wishes to receive it in this way.

As you can imagine, it has been difficult for us to arrive at this decision—even if it really represents only a slight modification in this symbol of CLAS (which has been with us since 1980). Nonetheless, we hope that our new publications will appeal to all of our readers. I am sure we will receive plenty of comments and constructive criticism. As always, we welcome comments and suggestions from all of those involved and interested in CLAS.
The CLAS Undergraduate Seminar/Field Trip

CLAS firmly believes that all of its undergraduates should have the opportunity to experience Latin American culture first hand. To facilitate this objective, CLAS offers a unique seminar and field research experience. The CLAS Undergraduate Seminar/Field Trip involves a preparatory seminar on the country to be visited, followed by a six-week field trip to that country. During the seminar component, students design research projects that they carry out on the field trip to Latin America. The students live with non-English speaking families while in the field. The seminar/field trip is offered annually. CLAS heavily subsidizes the cost of the trip to make it within the means of virtually all students.

Another Life-Changing Experience

CLAS Grad Leads 2003 Chile Trip

By Dorolyn Smith (Associate Director, English Language Institute)

[For Reid Reading, who led my field trip to Guarne, Colombia in 1973.]

Who would have thought that I would be leading the CLAS Undergraduate Seminar/Field Trip program 30 years after I myself went as a freshman? Not I, certainly. I had a self-designed major in Latin American Studies at Pitt but have spent my professional life teaching English as a Second Language (ESL), which is study abroad in reverse. Yet, when Shirley Kregar sent out a call several years ago for faculty interested in leading the seminar, I offered my services, prompted by a desire to give back to a program that had given so much to me. In 2000, I spent two weeks in Chile and found myself thinking throughout the trip, “This would be a great place for the field trip.”

And so it was. Despite a faltering start (the bus we had contracted to take us from the Santiago airport to Valparaiso didn’t show up), 15 outstanding students, graduate assistant Andrea Foessel Bunting, and I spent six weeks in Chile during May and June 2003. Some of the students lived in Valparaiso and some in the adjacent city of Viña del Mar. It was a good place for the field trip—big enough, but not too big. Valparaiso was the ‘grittier’ of the two; with its wonderful hills, inclines, and spectacular views, it also had the perros de la calle and areas where we were told to be careful after dark. For all the warnings we received, however, we had no bad experiences ourselves—the worst was when I was bitten by one of those perros callejeros and had to have rabies shots. Viña had a more middle-class and “familiar” feeling—that’s where the big mall was after all. But in both cities we had wonderful, loving families who welcomed all of us into their homes. Their warmth and willingness to help us in any and all ways was beyond everyone’s expectations.

The students had outdone themselves during the Spring Term Seminar part of the program, especially in the writing of their research proposals. Collecting data for their projects was of course an important part of the field experience; in addition to what they learned through the research. However, the interactions that the students had with people they interviewed and surveyed gave much meaning to their experience—not to mention to the improvement of their Spanish.

Other highlights of the trip for me included:

- attendance at Chilean President Ricardo Lagos’ inaugural speech at the opening of this year’s session of Congress;
- a tour of the National Congress building and a visit with Senator Tony Horvath, from the 11th Region (Andrea’s home region);
- a trip to La Serena, which included a visit to La Silla Observatory, the petroglyphs of Valle de la Luna National Park, and a soak in a hot springs; and
- an impromptu party at a mini market, hosted by the owner who was delighted to have the company of some “exotic” gringos during the off-season.
One of my personal highlights (in addition to the rabies shots) was walking into a crowded bar in Valparaiso at 11:30 p.m. one Saturday night and having a man come up to me and say in English, “You’re Dorolyn Smith. You were my English teacher at the English Language Institute at the University of Pittsburgh…in 1988!” He was former LASPAU scholar Norberto Flores, who had gone on to do a PhD in California after ESL studies at the ELI.

Finally, I want to commend the students who took part in this trip. They worked hard and they played hard. They did a great job on their research projects; they integrated well with their families, and each one left behind a family sorry to see them go. They were also super about speaking Spanish—as a foreign language teacher, I was truly impressed. They often spoke Spanish with each other, especially in a mixed Chilean/American group—I know that, except during an emergency, they always spoke Spanish to me on the phone. I was proud of how they made the absolute most of this opportunity and left behind a good image of students from the University of Pittsburgh. I think this might have been part of Shirley’s master plan. Thank you, Shirley, for your support throughout the program and, last but not least, thanks to Harold Sims (History, retired) for advising me through a self-designed major in Latin American Studies.

Some Facts about the CLAS Undergraduate Seminar/Field Trip

- 357 undergraduates have participated in the 33 CLAS Seminar/Field Trips to 12 countries, as follows:
  - Brazil 7 trips
  - Ecuador 5
  - Chile 2
  - Dominican Republic 2
  - Mexico 6
  - Colombia 4
  - Costa Rica 2
  - and once each to Argentina, Bolivia, Guatemala, Uruguay, and Venezuela
- There have been 20 seminar/field trip directors (Reid Reading eight times; Bobby Chamberlain and Harry Sanabria three times each)
- The majority of participants have been female juniors majoring in Spanish
- The topics of research projects have been extremely diverse
- Three students from the 2003 seminar/field trip to Chile led by Dorolyn Smith presented their research projects at the Pennsylvania Council of International Education (PaCIE) 2003 Conference held September 24-26, 2003 in Harrisburg, PA. The conference, “Showcasing International Education in Pennsylvania,” highlighted some of the successful new approaches and innovative practices occurring across the Commonwealth. Field trippers Christina Indovina, Leslie Krafft, and Lindsay Ruprecht made outstanding presentations (Stephanie Smith was originally scheduled to present but had to go to class instead), and Dorolyn provided a brief history of the program.
Cuba Sí

On January 18, 2004, the Universe Explorer docked in Havana, Cuba for the 10th time. Cuba has become a regular port for the Semester at Sea (SAS) Program and is one of the most popular ports with students, faculty, and staff. CLAS Director Kathleen DeWalt was among the faculty to attend a four-hour “encounter” with President Fidel Castro on January 21. This was the seventh time President Castro spoke to the assembled students and faculty of Semester at Sea. His remarks emphasized the evolution of Cuban socialism and its relevance to the contemporary world. He addressed issues of permanence and change. He declined to comment on U.S. policy towards Iraq.

To mark the 10th docking, President Castro invited the faculty and staff to join him for cocktails in the convention center lounge after the encounter. SAS faculty and staff spent an hour talking with President Castro, discussing the current situation in Cuba and the United States, and requesting autographs.

Our Brazilian Partnerships

CLAS Ties Strengthened During Recent Visit

By Kathleen M. DeWalt (Director, CLAS)

In December 2003, I traveled to Brazil with University of Pittsburgh Provost James Maher, University Center for International Studies (UCIS) Director William Brustein, UCIS Director of Development Eileen Weiner, and CLAS Coordinator of International Relations and Fellowships Luis Bravo. We visited corporate and academic partners in São Paulo, Rio de Janiero, and Brasilia, and attended a reception for Pitt alumni in São Paulo.

The Brazilian Company for Mining and Minerals (Companhia Brasileira de Metalurgia e Mineração [CBMM]), which supports research at the University of Pittsburgh through its Pittsburgh subsidiary, Reference Metals, invited the group to visit CBMM’s niobium mines in Araxá, Minas Gerais. Niobium is a metal used in the manufacture of some types of steel. CBMM supplies the greatest portion of the niobium used in the world. We traveled from São Paulo to Araxá for the day via CBMM’s corporate jet. Upon arrival, we were greeted by several CBMM managers and escorted to a section of the entrance drive where we planted a tree dedicated to the University of Pittsburgh. The group toured the mines, processing facilities, and the laboratories that make up CBMM’s campus in Araxá.

In addition to being the world’s largest supplier of niobium, CBMM also supports a number of innovative social programs in Araxá, including a housing program for workers (in which workers purchase homes), innovative schools and day care centers, worker education, and general community development. We were able to visit some of these facilities during our stay in Araxá.

CBMM president, José Camargo, has also been a proponent of innovative social programs at the national level.

Back in São Paulo for two more days, we were able to visit with the president and director of human resources of Alcoa Brazil and the general manager of Mine Safety Appliances (MSA) Company Brazil. Both Alcoa and MSA have been supporters of CLAS programs.
Twenty alumni and friends joined the Pitt group for a reception at the São Paulo home of alumna Beatriz Feitosa. Alumni from several different decades and programs were in attendance, but the greatest number of alumni were from the University of Pittsburgh's Katz School of Business International Executive MBA (IEMBA) program in São Paulo. Around caipirinhas and hors d'ouvres, Provost Maher and Directors Brustein and DeWalt chatted with enthusiastic Pitt alumni and friends of the program, shared stories of Pittsburgh and São Paulo, and discussed the effectiveness of Pitt's programs in Brazil. Several IEMBA graduates will join us in Pittsburgh this summer to present a follow-up to the Brazil Business Briefing held in Pittsburgh in May 2003.

Katz' IEMBA program is now the top-ranked executive MBA program in Brazil. At lunch the next day, Provost Maher was able to meet with members of the IEMBA Board of Advisors (which includes the presidents of several Brazilian subsidiaries of multinational corporations such as Monsanto, Avon, and DuPont) and with Paulo Enrique Amorim, a well-known Brazilian journalist.

In Brasilia, we were received by Ambassador João Almino, director of the Rio Branco Institute (IRB), Brazil's national diplomacy school. Pitt is exploring closer relationships with the IRB in the coming years. We were accompanied by Minister Counselor Carlos Cardim and Professor Lilian Duarte for a visit to CAPES (Fundação Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior) as well.

In Rio de Janeiro, we visited with some long-standing academic partners, including the Catholic University of Rio (PUC/Rio) and the Universidade Federal Fluminense (UFF). Capping off the trip to Rio, Provost Maher met with Cicero Mauro Filho Rodrigues, rector of UFF, and signed a continuation of the long-standing memorandum of understanding between the two universities. Our final day was one of touring and sightseeing in Rio de Janeiro.

The Pitt group is very grateful to Provost Maher and to the Brazilian friends and alumni of the University of Pittsburgh who made this trip an enjoyable and productive one. We want to especially recognize the support of CBMM, MSA Brazil and Alcoa Brazil for this trip, and the help and dedication of alumna Beatriz Feitosa. Provost Maher’s trip to Brazil is a tangible manifestation of the very strong support that CLAS and UCIS receive from the highest levels of administration at the University of Pittsburgh and to the support we receive from our corporate and academic partners and alumni in Brazil.

Machu Picchu

CLAS and CMNH Collaborate on Mystery of the Incas Exhibit

The much-anticipated exhibition, Machu Picchu: Unveiling the Mystery of the Incas, was on display in the Special Exhibits Gallery of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History (CMNH) from October 18, 2003 to January 4, 2004. Considered one of the most mystifying places on earth, Machu Picchu perches high atop the Andes Mountains in Peru. Little is known about the existence of this archaeological marvel, except that it has remained unaltered by time since the Inca deserted the area in the 16th century. Theories and explanations about the true nature of Machu Picchu are vast and varied. Was it a religious haven, a vacation getaway for Inca royalty, or perhaps the cradle of life for the entire Inca Empire? Machu Picchu is the largest Inca exhibition ever seen in the United States. The 8,000-square-foot exhibit is on loan from the Yale Peabody Museum and features replicas of an Inca road and burial chamber, and showcases more than 400 incredible ancient artifacts.

According to Andean archaeological expert and CLAS faculty member James B. Richardson III, “The exhibit is based upon Hiram Bingham’s 1912 excavations at Machu Picchu. The artifacts that he recovered all reflect the daily life of the servant class supporting Emperor Pachucuti, who built his royal estate at this spectacular location. No artifacts were found that can be associated with Inca nobility, for these elite items of gold...
and silver would have returned with the Inca ruler to his imperial capital in Cuzco. No royal burials have ever been found at Machu Picchu, for their tombs were also in Cuzco. The main focus of this exhibit is everyday life at the Inca royal estate of Machu Picchu.

The Center for Latin American Studies worked in conjunction with CMNH to organize a number of activities related to the exhibition. Foremost was a lecture series designed to enhance viewers' knowledge about various aspects of Inca society and culture. The lectures were:

October 18, 2003
Richard Burger (Professor of Anthropology, Yale University, and Curator of Anthropology, Peabody Museum of Natural History): “Machu Picchu”

October 25, 2003
Billie Jean Isbell (Professor Emeritus of Anthropology, Cornell University): “Inca Astronomy”

November 8 and December 4, 2003
James B. Richardson III (Professor of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, and Curator of Anthropology, CMNH): “Unveiling the Mystery of the Incas”

November 15, 2003
Marc P. Bermann (Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh): “The Staff God Rules: The Wari and Tiwanaku Empires of Peru and Bolivia” and
James B. Richardson III (Professor of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, and Curator of Anthropology, CMNH): “Royal Tombs and Great Artisans: The Moche State of Peru”

December 6, 2003
James B. Richardson III (Professor of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, and Curator of Anthropology, CMNH): “The Inca: The Greatest Empire in the New World” and
Silvia Kembel (Visiting Scholar, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh): “Temples and Jaguars: Chavin and the Origin of Peruvian Civilization”

In addition, CLAS sponsored several educational outreach programs to complement the exhibition. A two-session teacher training workshop presented information on the Inca Empire, its connections to life today in the Andean region of Peru, and introduced participants (local K-12 Spanish-language and social studies teachers) to Quechua—one of several indigenous languages of the Andean region. CLAS faculty member Salomé Gutierrez, a native speaker of Quechua, assisted in the workshop. Each teacher developed a lesson based on the content of the workshop. Lessons were shared among the participants and will appear on the CLAS Web page in the near future. In addition, CLAS faculty and staff trained museum docents and conducted four day-long presentations to museum visitors from the Elder Hostel. Over 480 educators and members of the community attended these programs.

Nicaragua in a New Light
A Visit with Artist Alejandro Benito Cabrera

By M. Rosalind Eannarino (Outreach Coordinator)

What a surprise to discover that Gettysburg, Pennsylvania is sister city to León, Nicaragua! I discovered this little secret while admiring the art work of Alejandro Benito Cabrera in Sutiaba, an indigenous neighborhood of León, Nicaragua, in 2002. Cabrera, a Nicaraguan artist of the School of Primitivista Painting, informed me that the sister city program enables Nicaraguan artists to visit and work in the United States.

Upon my return to Pittsburgh, I contacted Larry Knutson, owner of the Americas’ Art Gallery in Gettysburg. Knutson informed me that he promotes the works of Central American primitivista artists and had worked with Cabrera in the
NICARAGUA IN A NEW LIGHT (CONTINUED)

past. We soon formed a partnership and, working with the U.S. Embassy in Nicaragua, were able to invite Alejandro to Western Pennsylvania as a visiting artist.

During his stay in Pittsburgh, Alejandro conducted art demonstrations and exhibited his paintings in several venues. He was the featured visiting artist at the 24th Annual Latin American and Caribbean Festival held at the University of Pittsburgh on October 4, 2003. Throughout the day, he conducted demonstrations while answering questions about his style of painting; introducing the festival attendees to his country through the symbolism in his paintings. By the end of the day, he sold several of his beautiful works. Alejandro also found time to enjoy the art, food, and music of the other Latin American and Caribbean countries represented at the festival.

During the week preceding the festival (September 29 through October 3), Alejandro visited several area educational institutions as part of CLAS’ School Visit Program—a rewarding international experience for Western Pennsylvania students.

The students were thrilled to have a “real” artist visit their classrooms. Through his paintings, Alejandro enabled them to experience the geography, history, and culture of Nicaragua—a country about which most of them knew next to nothing. The students also had the opportunity to practice their Spanish-language skills with a native speaker.

Alejandro began each visit by painting and explaining his technique as he did so, pointing out that the huts, fishermen, lakes, volcanoes, jungle, sun, and sky in his paintings represent the people and geography of his country. In many schools, the students imitated Alejandro’s technique by painting Pittsburgh in a similar style. On Saturday, many of the students attended the festival with their parents—excited to introduce them to “the artist who visited my school.” Two parents purchased paintings.

At the university level, Alejandro conducted lectures and demonstrations in several art classes at both Washington and Jefferson College and Cornell University. He exhibited his work and answered questions about his style of painting and about his country. At this level, many questions dealt with the Sandinista revolution in Nicaragua and the cultural programs that were developed following the revolution and, of course, about the quality of life in Nicaragua today. At both institutions, he was given gifts (tracer projectors, air brushes, and a computer) as a way of thanking him for sharing his knowledge and talents with students and faculty.

Alejandro was escorted to the school visits by former CLAS student Todd Harvey and Outreach Assistant Luz Amanda Villada. They served as translators, but soon became friends with the artist. The three of them spent many evenings together exploring Pittsburgh. I had the pleasure of joining them for dinner several times. We developed a warm friendship that continues via e-mail.

In preparing this article, I was reminded of what led me to Nicaragua in 2002. In 2001, CLAS applied for and was awarded a Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad grant to take Spanish-language and social studies teachers to Nicaragua to conduct research that would enable them to write curriculum. It was during this visit that I met Alejandro. The resulting teaching-learning experience, cultural exchange, and good will that occurred because of the Fulbright-Hays program reinforced what J. William Fulbright intended when he supported international peace-keeping through knowledge and understanding of the nations of the world. The Pittsburgh educational community and general public have benefited both directly and indirectly from this important U.S. Department of Education program.

Alejandro’s paintings radiate happiness. His brushstrokes give value to details, demonstrating the reality of life from a perspective that always transports us to pleasant scenes in which man participates in a discreet but fundamental way with nature. The small huts along river banks that emerge in his paintings reveal the simplicity of people who work the earth. His paintings depict a magical dimension. His trees—shaped like fans—and the orange, bright green, violet, and rose colors characteristic of his work establish a poetic climate that is reinforced by the beautiful moons looking down on the fields, rivers, and woods.

The Nicaraguan Primitivist Painting Movement began in a community of artists in the 1970s on the islands of Solentiname in Lake Nicaragua. The community was based on liberation theology and sponsored workshops in popular poetry, theater, music, and painting. The painting workshops gave birth to the movement; a school influenced by the Haitian painting renaissance of the late ’40s and ’50s. The paintings were typified by idealized scenes of community life, lush natural environments, and pastoral utopias, in bright colors and intricate detail.
Student Conference on Latin American Social and Public Policy


The annual student conferences feature presentations on social and public policy research in Latin America by graduate students from the University of Pittsburgh and other universities, with comments by University of Pittsburgh faculty. For the ninth annual conference, 17 students from seven departments and schools at the University of Pittsburgh and five students from the University of Denver, the University of New Mexico, Oxford University, Rutgers University, and Yale University presented papers, and six University of Pittsburgh faculty members provided discussion.

The ninth conference was organized by Latin American Social and Public Policy Fellows María José Alvarez Rivadulla (Sociology), Luis Jiménez (Political Science), Veronica Lifrieri (Linguistics), Germán Lodola (Political Science), Hanne Müller (Public and International Affairs), María Del Rosario Queirolo (Political Science), Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga (Political Science), and Javier Vázquez (Political Science), with vital support from Luis Bravo (Coordinator of International Relations and Fellowships). The organizers and the Center thank everyone involved in the conference.

The conference was sponsored by the Latin American Social and Public Policy Program of the Center for Latin American Studies, with financial support from a U.S. Department of Education (Title VI) grant to the University of Pittsburgh/Cornell University Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs. A list of the conference panels, presenters, and discussants follows.

Thursday, February 5, 2004
9:00 a.m.
Welcome: John Frechione (Associate Director, Center for Latin American Studies)

9:15 a.m.
Elections and Institutional Design
Moderator: Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga
Stacey Leigh Hunt (Rutgers University): “The Participatory Politics of Quota Laws in Colombia”
João Barroso (Sociology): “Businessmen and the 1988 Constitution: Class Struggle and Alliances in the Years Preceding the Constituent Assembly”
Miguel García (Political Science): “Political Participation and War: The Case of the 2002 Colombian Elections”
Discussant: Barry Ames (Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Comparative Politics and Chair, Political Science)
11:15 a.m.  
**Educational Policies**  
Moderator: Luis Jiménez  
Timothy Locher (Education): “Non-Formal Education as Violence Prevention in Rio de Janeiro”  
Margarita Jara (Hispanic Linguistics): “Statements and Entailments in Peruvian Bilingual Education Policies”  
Gabriela Silvestre (Education): “The Impact of University Reform on Professors’ Work”  
Discussant: Clementina Acedo (Assistant Professor of Administrative and Policy Studies, Education)  

2:00 p.m.  
**Culture and Power**  
Moderator: Veronica Lifrieri  
Billy Ulibarri (University of New Mexico): “Una Fuerza Increíble: Examining the Disconnect Between HIV Prevention and Men’s Sexuality in Mexico”  
Miguel Rojas-Sotelo (History of Art and Architecture): “The Bizarre Constructions of a Parallel World”  
Discussant: John Beverley (Professor of Spanish and Latin American Literature and Cultural Studies, Department Chair, Hispanic Languages and Literatures)  

3:45 p.m.  
**Globalization and Marginalized Groups**  
Moderator: Germán Lodola  
Hirotoshi Yoshioka (Sociology): “Mexico: The Agricultural Counter-Reform and its Effects on Rural Women”  
Patricia Kanashiro (Public and International Affairs): “Brazilian Poverty in the Era of Globalization”  
Lisa Corrado (Public and International Affairs): “The Consequences of ‘Thinking Big’”  
Angela Minnici (Education): “An Examination of Child Advocacy in Mexico: The Impact of Global Norms”  
Discussant: Nita Rudra (Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs)  

Friday, February 6, 2004  
8:30 a.m.  
**Democratization and Representation**  
Moderator: Javier Vázquez  
Luis Jiménez (Political Science): “Here’s Pointing at You: Informal Institutions and Political Outcomes in Mexico”  
Karem Roitman (University of Oxford): “Ethnic Identity: Policies to Affect the Dominant Sector”  
Hanne Müller (Public and International Affairs): “Land and Peace: Reintegration of Ex-Combatants and Internally Displaced Populations in El Salvador and Guatemala”  
Discussant: Aníbal Pérez-Liñán (Assistant Professor, Political Science)  

10:15 a.m.  
**Issues in Political Economy**  
Moderator: Hanne Müller  
Scott Jablonski (Law): “Si, Po: Foreign Investment and Dispute Resolution in the US-Chile FTA”  
Germán Lodola (Political Science): “The Rush to Market Reform in Latin America: Does Federalism Make a Difference?”  
José Luiz Rossi Jr. (Yale University): “The Role of Exchange Rate Regime in Corporate Financial Policies: Evidence from Brazil”  
Discussant: Sebastián Saiegh (Assistant Professor, Political Science)
1:00 p.m.
2004 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture
Introduction: Mitchell A. Seligson (Daniel H. Wallace Professor of Political Science and Professor of Public and International Affairs)
Susan Eckstein (Professor of Sociology, Boston University): “Dollarization and Its Discontents: Cuba in the Post-Soviet Era”

Latin American Current Issues Series

For academic year 2003-04, CLAS’ Latin American Current Issues Series focused on the current work of the Center’s distinguished faculty and students. The goal was to create a bit of time and space for those involved in CLAS to get to know the work of their colleagues. The presentations were designed to provide a forum for exploring common interests among faculty and students, hopefully leading to insightful and productive interchange. The disciplines represented by the speakers included anthropology, Hispanic languages and literatures, history, medicine, political science, and sociology. A wide range of topics and countries/regions were covered in the presentations.

September 16, 2003
SLAVERY AND MORAL REGIMES IN THE BRITISH WEST INDIES—a lecture by Cecilia Green (Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology)

September 29, 2003
THE MULATO AND CUBANIDAD/EL MULATO Y LA CUBANIDAD—a lecture by Shawn Wells (doctoral candidate, Department of Anthropology)

October 14, 2003
AFTER MILITARY COUPS: THE POLITICS OF IMPEACHMENT IN LATIN AMERICA—a lecture by Aníbal S. Pérez-Liñán (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science)

October 29, 2003
INFORMATION DIFFUSION IN COMPLEX ELECTORAL ENVIRONMENTS: VOTING BEHAVIOR IN TWO BRAZILIAN CITIES—a lecture by Lucio Renno (doctoral candidate, Department of Political Science)

November 4, 2003
PROTESTANT AND NATIVE EVANGELISM IN CENTRAL MEXICO—a lecture by Hugo G. Nutini (University Professor, Department of Anthropology)

January 14, 2004

January 27, 2004
BLACK MOVEMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA: TWO LIVES—a lecture by G. Reid Andrews (University Center for International Studies Research Professor, Department of History)

March 25, 2004
LUIS DE LIÓN AND EL TIEMPO PRINCIPIA EN XIBALBA: MAYA DISCOURSES AND POSTCOLONIAL CHALLENGES IN GUATEMALA—a lecture by Emilio del Valle Escalante (doctoral candidate, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

March 30, 2004
SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES AMONG YOUNG WOMEN SEEKING HIV TESTING IN RIO DE JANEIRO: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION OF METHODOLOGICAL ISSUES INVOLVED IN CONDUCTING HUMAN SUBJECTS RESEARCH IN ANOTHER COUNTRY—a lecture by Robert L. Cook (Assistant Professor, School of Medicine and Graduate School of Public Health)
The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Visiting Latin Americanist Scholars Program

For four academic years (1999-2000, 2000-01, 2001-02, and 2002-03), the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation sponsored the Center’s Visiting Latin Americanist Scholars Program. The program supported visits to the University by scholars who are experts in Latin America and the Caribbean. These scholars taught classes, presented lectures, met with faculty and students, participated in workshops/symposia, and met with local business persons, government personnel, and members of the general community. The visiting experts spent from a few days to a number of weeks at the University. The goals of the program were to provide current information on the Latin American/Caribbean region to CLAS’ constituencies, assist faculty and students in building networks and planning collaborative activities, and enable the visitors to become familiar with the Center, the University of Pittsburgh, and Western Pennsylvania. Because of changes in the goals and funding priorities of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, support for the visiting scholars program unfortunately ended this year.

Over the lifetime of the program, 27 scholars visited the University of Pittsburgh. These scholars came from eleven countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, El Salvador, Mexico, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela) and from universities and institutions in England and the U.S., representing a wide range of disciplines.

Visiting Latin Americanist Scholars

- Jesús Martín-Barbero (Coordinador de Grupo de Estudios Culturales, Universidad Nacional de Colombia)
- Luis Benveniste (The World Bank)
- Ricardo Córdova (Executive Director and Founder of FundaUngo, El Salvador)
- Carmen Diana Deere (Professor of Economics and Director of the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst)
- Pablo Dreyfus (Analyst on Transnational Organized Crime, Office of the President, Argentina)
- Oscar Fonseca Zamora (Director, Instituto de Investigaciones Sociales, Universidad de Costa Rica)
- Orlando García Martínez (Director of the Provincial Archive of Cienfuegos, Cuba, and President of the Unión de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba in the province of Cienfuegos)
- Carlos Herran (Inter-American Development Bank)
- Robin Horn (The World Bank)
- Daniel James (Mendel Professor of Latin American History, Indiana University)
- Alan Knight (Professor of the History of Latin America and Director of the Latin American Centre, St. Anthony’s College, University of Oxford)
- Miriam Komblith (Professor of Political Science, Instituto de Estudios Políticos, Universidad Central de Venezuela, and former Vice-President of the Consejo Nacional Electoral)
- John M. Lipski (Chair, Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese Departments, Pennsylvania State University)
- Margarita López-Maya (Professor, Universidad Central de Venezuela)
- Noel F. McGinn (Professor Emeritus of the Harvard University Graduate School of Education and Fellow Emeritus of the Harvard Institute for International Development)
- Gilberto Murillo (Manager for Foreign Investments Control, Petróleos de Venezuela, and Special Advisor to the Venezuelan Ministry of Finance)
- Juan Carlos Navarro (Inter-American Development Bank)
- Eduardo Góes Neves (Research Archaeologist at the Museu de Arqueologia e Etnologia, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil)
- Maria Laura Pardo (President of the Argentine Linguistic Society, Director of the Linguistic Division of the Research Center for Cultural and Philosophical Anthropology of CONICET [Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas], and Vice-President of the Asociación Latinoamericana de Estudios del Discurso)
- Darrell A. Posey (Director of the Programme for Traditional Resource Rights, Oxford Centre for Environment, Ethics and Society, Mansfield College, Oxford University; Associate Fellow, Linacre College; Research Associate, Oxford Forestry Institute; and Professor, Universidade Federal do Maranhão, Brazil)
- David L. Robichaux (Research Professor, Graduate Section in Anthropology, Department of Social Sciences, Universidad Iberoamericana, Mexico City)
- Gordon Rohlehr (Professor of West Indian Literature at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad)
- Daniel G. Schávelzon (Director, Center for Urban Archaeology, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina)
One Last Visitor: Daniel G. Schávelzon

Daniel G. Schávelzon (Director, Center for Urban Archaeology, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina) was the final scholar to visit under the auspices of the program. Details of his visit are documented in the following report to the program by his faculty sponsor, David R. Watters (Adjunct Research Professor of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh, and Chair of the Section of Anthropology, Carnegie Museum of Natural History).

Daniel Schávelzon, director of the Center for Urban Archaeology at the University of Buenos Aires, visited the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Museum of Natural History (CMNH) from October 2 to 21, 2003. Dr. Schávelzon’s visit involved a range of activities at each organization. Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) and the Section of Anthropology at CMNH sponsored his visit. CLAS’ William and Flora Hewlett Foundation Visiting Latin Americanist Scholars Program and Carnegie Museum of Natural History jointly funded the trip.

Schávelzon has played a lead role in developing the discipline of historical archaeology in Latin America. His book on Buenos Aires, recognized as a major contribution to historical archaeology in Argentina, is published in Spanish (Arqueología de Buenos Aires, una ciudad en el fin del mundo, 1580-1880) and English (Archaeology of Buenos Aires, a City at the End of the World). His visit to Pittsburgh reflects another interest, Afro-Argentines, the subject of his most recent book, Buenos Aires negra: Arqueología histórica de una ciudad silenciada (Buenos Aires: Emecé Editores, 2003). His research on the archaeological and historical records of Afro-Argentines, a little studied group that formed a significant percentage (33 percent) of Argentina’s population during part of the historic era, is intriguing since today they constitute a tiny percentage (<0.1 percent). In 1997, this interest led Schávelzon to contact Dave Watters (CMNH Curator and CLAS Core Faculty Member), an archaeologist who has researched Afro-Caribbean peoples. They subsequently met at two professional meetings, realized they also had a common interest in the history of archaeology in the Americas, and those mutual concerns set the stage for the request to CLAS for the Hewlett grant.

Schávelzon met with many of the CLAS staff including Kathleen DeWalt (Director), John Frechione and Shirley Kregar (associate directors), and Luis Bravo (Coordinator of International Relations and Fellowships). His involvement with Pitt extended far beyond CLAS. He based his stay out of an office in the Department of Anthropology, and met with departmental Chair Richard Scaglion and many other anthropology professors and students, especially those involved in the Latin American Archaeology Program and in anthropological work elsewhere in Latin America. He was interested to discover that Hugo Nutini was raised in Chile, next door to Argentina, and that James Richardson split his time between Pitt Anthropology and CMNH Anthropology. Schávelzon gave a lecture, “Excavando lo Desconocido: Arqueología de la Población Afro-Argentina,” on October 10, 2003. He was able to arrange an exchange of publications between the University of Buenos Aires and Pitt’s Latin American Archaeology Publications Program, through the kindness of Professor Dick Drennan and Managing Editor María-Auxiliadora Cordero.

Schávelzon also was pleased to meet with History Professor Reid Andrews whose 1980 book, The Afro-Argentines of Buenos Aires, 1800-1900, had proven very useful for his own research. Schávelzon’s graduate degrees are in architecture, focusing on historic preservation and monument restoration, so he also met with Fil Hearn (Department of the History of Art and Architecture), head of the Architectural Studies Program, who has similar interests. He was especially pleased to meet Eduardo Lozano, in charge of Hillman Library’s Latin American collection, who was born in Argentina, and whose acquisition of publications is nothing short of astounding. It was pleasing to hear him say on a number of occasions that he was ecstatic to find long-sought publications at Pitt, after being unsuccessful in locating them in Argentina and other countries he has visited. He kept the photocopy machines at Hillman very busy during his visit.
At the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Schávelzon met with Director Billie DeWalt (former director of CLAS), visited the anthropological exhibits, and examined Afro-Caribbean artifacts excavated by Watters. He also extensively used the Section of Anthropology’s library and Watters’ personal library to review publications about the African Diaspora. He and Watters talked at length about the history of archaeological research in Latin America, in light of Watters’ research on CMNH Curator Carl V. Hartman (1903-08), who excavated in Costa Rica a century ago. Hartman, born in Sweden, was but one of many Swedish Americanists conducting archaeological and anthropological studies in Latin American countries, including Argentina. He also met with Conservator Barbara Hamann regarding conservation issues concerning archaeological materials that have been excavated in Argentina.

Schávelzon’s time in Pittsburgh was not solely devoted to scholarly work. He was pleasantly surprised to find that his stay overlapped with CLAS’ Latin American and Caribbean Festival, and he had a grand time meeting colleagues, sampling food, and listening to music from throughout Latin America. He heard Franklin Toker (History of Art and Architecture) lecture about Fallingwater, and later was pleased to have the chance to visit that famous Frank Lloyd Wright masterpiece with Dave and Cathy Watters. He also visited Fort Ligonier to learn a little about British colonial history. Schávelzon was very happy to have the opportunity to see the *Machu Picchu: Unveiling the Mystery of the Incas* traveling exhibit which opened at CMNH during his stay in Pittsburgh, and to be introduced by Jim Richardson to Peruvian archaeologists Lucy Salazar and Richard Burger, co-curators of the exhibit from Yale University’s Peabody Museum of Natural History. After he left Pittsburgh, Schávelzon went on to lecture at Syracuse University in New York and at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, D.C.

**A New Series from the University of Pittsburgh Press**

*Illuminations: Cultural Formations of the Americas*

John Beverley and Sara Castro-Klarén, editors

Illuminations: Cultural Formations of the Americas features cutting-edge books on Latin American and inter-American societies, histories, and cultures that offer new perspectives from postcolonial, subaltern, feminist, and cultural studies. The series takes its inspiration from the idea of the illumination, which the critic Walter Benjamin famously defined as “that image of the past which unexpectedly appears to someone singled out by history at a moment of danger.” By emphasizing this recovery of the past in the context of a perilous present, the series concerns itself, above all, with the historical sedimentation and genealogies of Latin American cultural practices and institutions. In highlighting cultural formations of the Americas, it aims to represent work that not only is national in focus, but also crosses regions and continents, encompassing the spatial relations of Atlantic studies, of precolonial or prenational territoriality, and of U.S. Latino and other diasporic cultures. Books in the Illuminations series are chosen for their appeal to readers across a broad range of subjects. The focus is on inter- and transdisciplinary studies that are informed by cultural theory but are not limited to connoisseurs of theory, that emerge from within disciplines but cast new light on them. Slated for publication in the series for 2004 are:


*Mestizaje Upside-Down: Aesthetic Politics in Modern Bolivia*, Javier Sanjinés C.

*The Corpus Delicti: A Manual of Argentine Fictions*, Josefina Ludmer (Translated by Glen S. Close)
Faculty Publications

G. Reid Andrews (History)

John Beverley (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)
2003. Editor. From Cuba (a special issue of boundary 2 [29(3)]).

Cole Blasier (Political Science)

Jerome Branche (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Robert L. Cook (Medicine)

John Frechione (Anthropology)

Alejandro de la Fuente (History)

Joshua Lund (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

John Markoff (Sociology)

Gerald Martin (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Carol L. McAllister (Public Health)

Carmelo Mesa-Lago (Economics and Latin American Studies)
2003. Panorama de las pensiones de seguridad social en Iberoamérica (Madrid, II Conferencia Iberoamericana de Ministros de Responsables de la Seguridad Social previa a la Cumbre de Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno de Iberoamérica Alicante 2-3 (octubre).


Elizabeth Monasterios (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Paul Nelson (Public and International Affairs)

Hugo G. Nutini (Anthropology)


Lara E. Putnam (History)


Michael F. Rosenmeier (Geology and Planetary Science)


Richard Scaglion (Anthropology)


Mitchell A. Seligson (Political Science)


David R. Watters (Anthropology)


**Faculty Noteworthy**

Mark Abbott (Geology and Planetary Science) and Alexander Wolfe (University of Alberta) recently reported that a study of sediment from a Bolivian lake in the Andes Mountains suggests that people living nearby were mining and smelting silver 400 years before the Incas were credited with discovering the metal. Findings of the study were discussed in several publications, including *National Geographic* (9/25/03), *Science* (9/26/03), *Scientific American* (9/26/03), *The Washington Post* (9/26/03), *Los Angeles Times*, and *Newsday*. “It’s not completely unexpected that there was some smelting going on at that time [1,000 to 1,200 A.D.]. What is unexpected, I think, is the magnitude; there was a lot going on, and the metal is not accounted for in the archaeological record;” Abbott was quoted as saying in the *National Geographic* story. (*Pitt in the News*, September 26, 2003)

Seymour Drescher (History) is the 2003 first-prize winner of the Frederick Douglass Book Prize—considered the most respected and coveted award for the study of the Black experience—for his book, *The Mighty Experiment: Free Labor Versus Slavery in British Emancipation* (Oxford, 2002). For the last 30 years, Drescher has been studying various nations’ experiences with slavery and abolition, seeking a broad, Atlantic-wide perspective. He called the Douglass prize “a very nice recognition of my work” and said *The Mighty Experiment* was a continuation rather than a culmination of his research. “Culmination means a kind of end point,” Drescher said, with a laugh, “and I don’t think I’m finished.” (*University Times*, Volume 36, Number 6, November 6, 2003, page 1)

Melanie Dreyer-Lude (Theatre Arts) presented a workshop at the International Theatre Festival “Experimenta 6” hosted by El Rayo Misterioso in Rosario, Argentina. The workshop was entitled “Translation or Transference: The Effect of Translation and Language on Storytelling” and involved presenting a scene in three different languages (German, English, and Spanish) and analyzing the variants in understanding depending on language context.

Monica Frölander-Ulf (Anthropology, Johnstown campus) and Cecilia Green (Sociology) co-produced a service-learning course in Jamaica entitled “Globalization: A Jamaican Case Study” in summer 2003. The course included a week at the University of West Indies (UWI), Mona Campus, with four excellent lectures by four UWI professors and several field trips, 17 days of community-based learning and service in the sugar industry-dominated parish of Westmoreland, and a week in Negril studying tourism and its effects on Jamaican society.

Alejandro de la Fuente (History) received the 2003 Annual Book Prize of the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association for *A Nation for All: Race, Inequality, and Politics in Twentieth-Century Cuba* (University of North Carolina Press, 2001). He also was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation, Program of Law and Social Science, for the project “Slavery, Law, and Claims-Making in Cuba” (2002-03) and a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for University Teachers for the project “Slavery in Colonial Cuba” (2002).

Estela S. Llinás (Natural Sciences and Engineering, Greensburg campus) was a visiting professor at FIMEE (Facultad de Ingeniería Mecánica, Eléctrica y Electrónica, Universidad de Guanajuato, Guanajuato, México, from June 1 to 22, 2003.)
Carmelo Mesa-Lago (Economics and Latin American Studies) served as a consultant on the UN-ECLAC/GTZ project “Reform of Social Security Pensions in Chile,” in collaboration with the Ministries of the Presidency, Labor, and Finance (Santiago, Chile, March 2003); prepared a paper for The World Bank on “Poverty and Access to Social Services in Cuba” for an international seminar on Poverty and Social Services (Shanghai, March 2004); and worked with ECLAC to prepare a document on pension reform in Latin America (September-December 2003). He also made two visits to Central America in January–March 2003, sponsored by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. During his visits there he delivered a number of papers and met with trade union leaders, scholars, and members of political parties on social security reform, and he also met with a candidate for the presidency of Panama on pension reform. Dr. Mesa-Lago met with the undersecretary of social security and several staff members at the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs in Madrid to discuss the key document he had prepared for the Summit of Ministries in Charge of Social Security from all over Latin America, Spain, and Portugal (May 2003).

Daniel Mossé (Computer Science) headed a team from the Department of Computer Science that received a five-year National Science Foundation grant of $2.7 million. The team will use the grant to create an automated emergency alert system that will warn officials of urgent situations before the incidents are reported to 911. The emergency alert system will be the first to integrate, in real time, data from an area’s utilities and traffic sensors with data from the National Weather Service. The team will first build a system prototype on the Oakland campus with direct links to the Pitt Police. Within five years, the team hopes to implement a system to monitor all of Allegheny County. (Pitt in the News, December 12, 2003)

Hugo G. Nutini (Anthropology) assisted the Bishop of Tlaxcala in implementing some minor liturgical changes and worked with the Department of Anthropology of the Autonomous University of Xalapa, Vera Cruz in modifying its curriculum in 2002-2003.

James B. Richardson III (Anthropology) was recognized and honored for his service to the Martha’s Vineyard Historical Society at its annual fundraiser when the funding of the James B. Richardson III Educational Program in Archaeology at the Oak Bluffs School was announced. The program will be administered by the Martha’s Vineyard Museum.

Sebastian Saiegh (Political Science) is co-principal investigator for the project “Political Institutions, Policy Making Processes, and Policy Outcomes in Paraguay” (Inter-American Development Bank, 2003) and consultant for the project “Political Institutions, Policy Making Processes, and Policy Outcomes in Ecuador” (Inter-American Development Bank, 2003).

Mitchell A. Seligson (Political Science) received a $641,000 grant for research on democracy in Ecuador from the United States Agency for International Development. The multi-year project will support two surveys of public opinion, to be based on national probability samples, with interviews to be conducted in both Spanish and Quichua. The project also will support a series of lectures in Ecuador on the results of the surveys, which will be carried out in conjunction with academic partners in Ecuador. In addition, the grant provides for six person-years of graduate student support (stipend and tuition), along with funding for their specialized training at the University of Michigan’s annual summer program in survey research. The grant will help support the University of Pittsburgh Latin American Public Opinion Project, which Professor Seligson founded and directs. (University Times, Vol. 36, Number 5, October 23, 2003, page 14)

Professor Seligson also recently received the following grants:

- United States Agency for International Development, “Democratic Values (three surveys) and Capacity Building in Bolivia,” 2002-2006, $631,000
- United States Agency for International Development and ARD, “The Impact of Municipal Development on Democratic Values in Ecuador,” July 2002-May 2004 ($259,000)
- National Science Foundation, Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant for the dissertation of Siddhartha Baviskar, July 2002-August 2003 ($12,000)
2004 Research Abroad Program (RAP) Awards

RAP, jointly sponsored by the University Honors College (UHC) and the University Center for International Studies (UCIS), aims to foster undergraduate participation in faculty field research abroad. The program, now in its fourth year, made three awards for 2004—all to faculty associated with the Center for Latin American Studies.

G. Reid Andrews (History) and three students will work on the project “Negros y lubolos: Construction of Race in Montevideo’s Carnaval, 1880-1930.” The group will conduct library research for one month in Montevideo, Uruguay during summer 2004.

Michael F. Rosenmeier (Geology and Planetary Science) will extract lake core sediments in northwestern Greece and Greek Macedonia with a group of four students for a project entitled “Holocene Environmental Change in Northern Greece and Greek Macedonia.”

Walt Carson (Biological Sciences), collaborating with one student, will continue a study on the “Long-Term Implications of Over-Abundance” at La Selva field station in Costa Rica.

2004 Global Academic Partnership (GAP) Award

GAP is an initiative of the Global Studies Program at the University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh. It is designed to strengthen interdisciplinary research on and curriculum development in global themes at the University of Pittsburgh, while enhancing the international scholarly ties and raising the international profile of the institution. Specifically, the program supports interdisciplinary international research conferences or workshops at the University of Pittsburgh that result in publications and curricular enhancements.

CLAS faculty members Shalini Puri (English) and Marcus Rediker (History), along with Joseph Alter (Anthropology), received a 2004 GAP award for the project “Comparative Postcolonialities: Aesthetics, History, Locality.” The award is sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Global Studies Program.

Faculty Presentations

Salomé C. Gutierrez (Linguistics)

Joshua Lund (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)
“Writing Race and Violence in Revolutionary Mexico,” 119th Modern Language Association Annual Convention, San Diego, CA (December 2003).

“Race, Nation and State Formation in Modern Mexico,” Seminarium på Socialantropologiska Instituteten (co-hosted by Stockholm’s Latinamerikainstitutet), Stockholm University, Sweden (2003).

John Markoff (Sociology)
“Economists in the Americas: Convergence, Divergence, and Connection” (with Verónica Montecinos), Meetings of Pennsylvania Sociological Society, California, PA (October 2003).

“Economists in the Americas: Convergence, Divergence, and Connection” (with Verónica Montecinos), Annual Conference of the Society for the Advancement of Socioeconomics, Aix-en-Provence, France (June 2003).

“This Experiment on a Small Scale: Transnational Origins of Women’s Suffrage,” Carlow College, Pittsburgh, PA (April 2003).


Carmelo Mesa-Lago (Economics and Latin American Studies)

The following were presented in Madrid, Spain (May-June 2003)
“Comparative Economic Systems in Latin America” (graduate course), Instituto Universitario Ortega y Gasset.
“La economía cubana al comienzo del siglo XXI: Evaluación del desempeño y perspectivas,” Real Instituto Elcano de Asuntos Internacionales.
“Cuba: La liberalización de la economía socialista,” Instituto de Empresa, Universidad de San Pablo.

Paul Nelson (Public and International Affairs)

Michael F. Rosenmeier (Geology and Planetary Science)

Sebastian Saiegh (Political Science)
“Governments’ Legislative Defeats under Dictatorship,” Annual Meeting of the Midwest Political Science Association, Chicago, IL (April 2003).
“A Model of Government Legislative Success with Application to Argentina,” Annual Meeting of the Latin American Studies Association, Dallas, TX (March 2003).
“Governments’ Legislative Success: Data, Sources, and Preliminary Findings,” Conference on Institutions, Behavior, and Outcomes, CEBRAP, Brazil (March 2003).
Mitchell A. Seligson (Political Science)
“Guatemala Beyond the Peace Accords: The Multiple Challenges of Regime Transformation,” Conference on Sustaining the Peace: Post War Reconstruction and Democratization, University of North Texas, Denton, TX (November 2003).
“Democratization Research and Theories of Public Opinion: What Have We Learned?” Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL (April 2003).
Chair and Discussant, Panel on “Public Opinion and Democratic Process in Developing Democracies,” American Political Science Association Annual Meeting, Boston, MA (August 2002).
Chair, “Proposals for Improving the Quality of Survey Data from Developing Democracies,” Wilson Center, Washington, D.C. (June 2003).
Chair, “Proposals for Improving the Quality of Survey Data from Developing Democracies” (Special Panel), Midwest Political Science Association Meeting, Chicago, IL (April 2003).

David R. Watters (Anthropology)
“Deterioration of Historic Structures on Barbuda,” 20th Congress of the International Association for Caribbean Archaeology, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic (July 2003).
¡Felicitaciones/Parabéns to the most recent CLAS graduates!

UNDERGRADUATE RELATED CONCENTRATION IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

December 2003
Elliot N. Fontela
Daniel J. Malik
Melanie L. Wolfe

Politics & Philosophy
Political Science
Interdisciplinary Studies/Economics

UNDERGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

August 2003
Andrea C. DeChellis
Eliza F. Gettinger

Social Work
Spanish/Political Science

December 2003
Martin Lee Gehrlein
Leslie Rachel Krafft
Meaghan Laura Reele

Economics
Psychology
Spanish

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

August 2003
Kimberly Marie Jones

Anthropology (PhD)

December 2003
Susan R. Hallstead
Mónica Edith Pagano
Claudia Susana Rivera-Casanovas
Ashley Renee Tupper

Hispanic Languages & Literatures
Education (PhD)
Anthropology (PhD)
Anthropology

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN SOCIAL AND PUBLIC POLICY

August 2003
Maria Victoria Whittingham

Public & International Affairs

THANK YOU to recent graduates who responded to the Center's request for information on post-Pitt jobs/graduate school. This is very important information that is requested by the U.S. Department of Education as part of an annual report. We appreciate your help and cooperation!

Andrea J. Ashcraft (BA Spanish/Business 2003) is a contract specialist with the General Services Administration in the Washington, DC area.

Laura K. Campbell (BA Spanish/Business 2003) is a Spanish scheduling reporter for the TV Guide in Radnor, PA. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Pitt.

Heather Depp (BA Spanish 2003) is studying at Chatham College in the Master's of Arts in Teaching program; her specialization is Spanish and elementary education. Prior to attending Chatham, Heather worked part-time as an intern at General Nutrition Corporation's corporate headquarters in Pittsburgh. There she assisted with the translation of product information for Spanish-speaking customers and retrieved and translated voice mail from Spanish to English for the customer service center.

Casey O'Hara (BA Spanish/Political Science 2003) is a volunteer with AmeriCorps.

CLAS ALUMNI SHINE

CLAS grads joined forces to wow the audience in Philadelphia in November 2003 at the Northeastern Political Science Association meetings. Brooke Harlowe, Linda Stevenson, Julio Carrion, and Sarah Wheeler formed a panel on “The People’s Voice and Latin American Public Policy.” Unfortunately, Jamie E. Jacobs of West Virginia University (PhD Political Science 1997) was unable to chair the panel and present her paper as planned. The papers presented were:

E. Brooke Harlowe (College of St. Catherine, PhD Political Science 1993): “Popular Participation, Gender Equity, and Health Care in the Bolivian Yungas”


Sarah Wheeler (Indiana University of Pennsylvania, PhD Public and International Affairs 2001): “Brazil’s Family Planning Policies: A Comparison with other LDCs”

Discussant: Julio F. Carrion (University of Delaware, PhD Political Science 1993)
DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES
STUDENT AND ALUMNI PUBLICATIONS

The most recent issue of OSAMAYOR, a journal published by the graduate students of the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, was formally presented at a ceremony on February 6, 2004. Ignacio López-Vicuña (Literature) and Margarita Jara-Yupanqui (Linguistics) are the editors. Other Hispanic/CLAS students who contributed to production of the volume include: Antonio Gómez, Cecilia Carrizo, Germán Negrón, Alejandro Bruzual, and Aurelia Gómez. This most recent edition (Año XV, Numero 15) includes an article by Professor John Beverley (Chair of Hispanic Languages and Literatures), “‘Los últimos serán los primeros’: Notas sobre el cine de Víctor Gaviria.” The next issue will focus on Latin American film. If you are interested in contributing (deadline May 31, 2004) or if you would like to subscribe to OSAMAYOR, write to: OSAMAYOR, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, 1309 Cathedral of Learning, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 or send an e-mail to: osamayor@pitt.edu

The most recent edition of the Hispanic Newsletter (Number 6, Fall 2003) from the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures featured the books of students and alumni. Hispanic/CLAS alumni include:

- Anadeli Bencomo (PhD 1999), Voces y voceros de la megalópolis. La crónica periodístico-literaria en México (2002). Anadeli is an assistant professor of modern and classical languages at the University of Houston.
- Carlos Jauregui (PhD 2001), Querella de los indios en las Cortes de la Muerte (1557) de Michael de Carvajal (2002). Carlos is an assistant professor of Spanish at Vanderbilt University.
- Ana Merino (PhD 2001), Fantagraphics creadores del canon (2003) and El cómico hispánico (2003). Ana is in the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at Appalachian State University.

The publications of current doctoral students include:

- Lucia Herrera, La ciudad del migrante. La representación de Quito en relatos de migrantes indígenas (2002).

Alicia Ortega, La ciudad y sus bibliotecas. El grafití quítano y la crítica costera (1999).
- Sergio Ramírez Franco, A favor de la esfinge. La novelística de J. E. Elielson (2000).
- Ignacio Sánchez-Prado, El canon y sus formas. La reinivención de Harold Bloom y sus lecturas hispanoamericanas (2002).

JALLA—JORNADAS ANDINAS DE LITERATURA LATINOAMERICANA

“...entre los días 9 y 13 de agosto de 2004 se reunirán en Lima, Perú, en los locales de la Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, las Jornadas Andinas de Literatura Latinoamericana (JALLA)...Las Jornadas Andinas de Literatura Latinoamericana se han constituido en la última década en un foro académico de gran relieve. Es un espacio de debate intelectual sobre las literaturas de América Latina, con un énfasis prioritario sobre las de la región andina....” JALLA’s conferences were begun in 1993 in large part by Pitt alumni and have been held every two years: La Paz, Bolivia (1993), Tucumán, Argentina (1995), Quito, Ecuador (1997), Cuzco, Perú (1999), Santiago de Chile (2001).

This year’s themes include: Literaturas y discursos en la región andina; Literaturas populares, marginales y regionales; Oralidad e imaginarios locales en el mundo andino; Cultura y literatura en América Latina; Problemas teóricos y metodológicos en el estudio de la literatura y la cultura en América Latina; Saberes locales y saberes globales; Enfoques comparativos; Migraciones y discursos migrantes.

The Advisory Council for JALLA includes: U. Juan Zevallos Aguilar, Ohio State University (PhD Hispanic Languages and Literatures 1996). The Secretarios of the organization include other Pitt alumni: from Argentina, Ricardo J. Kaliman, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán (PhD Hispanic Languages and Literatures 1990); from Bolivia, Guillermno Mariaca Iturri (PhD Hispanic Languages and Literatures 1991), and Rosario Rodríguez, Universidad Mayor de San Andrés (MA Hispanic Languages and Literatures 1991).

For more information about the conference or JALLA, contact: jalla2004@unmsm.edu.pe or see: http://www.nmsm.edu.pe http://www.unmsm.edu.pe
Carlos Ardaya (Master’s GSPIA 1995) was featured in The Falcon, the newspaper of Miami-Dade Community College (MDCC). The article gave an in-depth personal history of Carlos’ path from being born of Bolivian parents in Los Angeles, to his childhood years in Bolivia, Peru, Chile, and Argentina. (His father worked for an international company that reassigned him regularly.) Carlos’ undergraduate education at Los Angeles Valley College (LAVC) resulted from an early end to his aspirations with the Marine Corps due to an injury. Carlos completed an associate’s degree from LAVC and then went on to the University of Southern California where he earned a bachelor’s degree in international relations and sociology. After earning the master’s at Pitt, Carlos returned to Bolivia where he worked for a year at the Catholic University. In 1996 he relocated to Miami and began work in the North Campus’ social science department. He is currently an adjunct professor in the Departments of Social Science and Education at MDCC. He is also pursuing a doctorate in education at Florida International University.

Carlos spends much of his remaining time as a volunteer and writing for local newspapers. In April 2003, he and a group of students from MDCC worked at a children’s home to clean and rejuvenate the residence as a community service project. His newspaper articles are informative think pieces—a recent one dealt with Latin American cultural differences and the economic change and challenges Latinos face, another was about Barry University and its opportunities for immigrants.

Carlos also works with “Team U.S. Miami,” 11 soccer players under 23 years of age. The team traveled to Seoul, South Korea to play in the “Inter-Religious Sports Festival for Peace.” Sixteen teams from South Korea, the United States, Malaysia, France, England, Jordan, Japan, Nepal, Palestine, and Thailand participated. The goal of the festival was to increase cross-cultural understanding and to promote hope and peace in the world. Team U.S. Miami was sponsored by Tiempos del Mundo and The Washington Post.

Kristen Barden (Master’s GSPIA 1994) is now the associate director of development of the Alliance for Justice in Washington, D.C. (www.afj.org).

João Carlos G. Barreto (Master’s GSPIA 2000) is the analista de planejamento e orçamento, secretaria de planejamento e investimentos estratégicos/ SPI, Ministério do Planejamento, Orçamento e Gestão, Brazil.

Blayne Beal (BA Economics 2001) is teaching seventh grade language arts on Maui (yes, MAUI, Hawaiian Islands). Blayne is also working towards a master’s degree in education and is thinking of going into educational administration. Blayne was a participant in the 1998 CLAS field trip to Fortaleza, Brazil. Her video on the fishermen of Northeastern Brazil continues to be used as an example of a wonderfully creative academic research project.

Thomas Behe (BA Spanish 1996) participated in the CLAS seminar/field trip to Córdoba, Argentina in 1995. After graduating from Pitt, Thomas attended Tulane Law School, which had an incipient exchange program that provided him with the opportunity to return to Argentina. He studied at the Universidad de Buenos Aires,
Facultad de Derecho y Ciencias Sociales, for a semester in 1998. “A friend and I were the first to participate in this Tulane/UBA exchange program...we had an amazing time. I completed a full load of classes...I met an entirely new crop of friends, and was able to reunite with those I had met three years prior. To the best of my knowledge, the program is still viable and UBA has sent students to Tulane....After graduating from law school, I moved to Florida and spent three years as an attorney for the...Department of Children and Families....” Tom had a case load that was nearly overwhelming but that was tremendously worthwhile because it gave him much experience in front of a judge. “I am now employed with the Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection in Houston.”

Susan Bellak (Doctor of Pharmacy 2003) is a pharmacist with the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC), South Side center. David Bergad (BA Self-Designed 1978) writes: “I’ve been very involved in the post production of Alfonso Arau’s latest film: Zapata, starring Mexican singer Alejandro Fernandez. Mr. Arau is best known for his film: Like Water for Chocolate. I was in Mexico City twice in Dec., once to meet the director/producers and then again for eight days to work with the actors in the dubbing studio. I’m happy to say that my Portanhol came in handy, I had a great time and also accomplished work as well. I was able to visit several museums and I’ve come to the conclusion that the Mexicans are very similar to Brasilieros in their zest for living life to its fullest! I’m in the midst of finishing the project and will await the film’s debut sometime this year. I will also be reunited with Hector Babenco, director of At Play in the Fields of the Lord.” David was part of a team who interviewed H. Babenco, for the added commentary track of the DVD version of the film. (David worked with the production crew in Belem and on post-production of the film, At Play...If you haven’t seen it, DO!) “I recently previewed his latest film, Cara de Maria, which is a drama based on the Sao Paulo prison riot of 1992. This film is not to be missed when it hits theaters in the U.S., hopefully sometime soon.”

Laird Bergad (PhD History 1980) recently organized a conference at the City University of New York (CUNY) where NY Senator Charles Schumer was the guest speaker. In addition to his courses as a professor of history at CUNY, Laird continues his research projects and writing. His Escravidão e a História Econômica e Demográfica de Minas Gerais, Brasil, 1720-1888 (Rio de Janeiro: Editora Aguilar/Lacerda Editores) published in 2001 is a translation of Slavery and the Economic and Demographic History of Minas Gerais, Brazil, 1720-1888 (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1999). In February 2004, Laird was interviewed for an article in el diario/La Prensa (New York) and in The New York Sun about the report “Census 2000: The Latino Population and the Transformation of Metropolitan New York” produced by the Latino Database Project of the CUNY Center for Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies. For more info on the project, see the Web site: http://web.gc.cuny.edu/lastudies/rightframe.htm
Deborah Billings participated in the CLAS Seminar/Field Trip to Costa Rica and received the BA in anthropology along with the Undergraduate Certificate in Latin American Studies in 1987. She then worked in Mexico as a research assistant and later served as a consultant for the Family Health Council of Western Pennsylvania. In 1991, Debbie completed the master’s and in 1995 the doctorate in sociology at the University of Michigan. Her dissertation was on “Identities, Consciousness, and Organizing in Exile: Guatemalan Refugee Women in the Camps of Southern Mexico.” Since 1998, she has worked with Ipas, an organization dedicated to increasing “women’s ability to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights and to reduce deaths and injuries of women from unsafe abortion. Ipas’s global and country programs include training, research, advocacy, distribution of equipment and supplies for reproductive-health care, and information dissemination.” (For more information on the organization, see the Web site: http://www.ipas.org/english.) At first based in North Carolina, Debbie moved to Mexico City in 2000 and is the senior research associate as well as coordinator of research and evaluation for Ipas Mexico. She has served as an advisor, reviewer of programs and publications, and regularly presents at professional conferences. Her most recent publications include: Uribe Elías, R., D.L. Billings (eds.), Violencia sobre la salud de las Mujeres ¿Por qué hay? Memoria de Reunion Internacional de la Federación Mexicana de Ginecología y Obstetricia (México: Fernmeg/Ipas, 2003); Hord, C., J. Benson, J. Potts, and D. L. Billings, “Unsafe Abortion in Africa: An Overview and Recommendations for Action,” Proceedings, Meeting on Priorities and Needs in the Area of Unsafe Abortion, World Health Organization, 2003; Quiróz Mendoza, Gustavo, Deborah L. Billings, Nadine Gasman Zylbermann, “Aspiración Manual Endouterina (AMEU): Tecnología adecuada para la atención de calidad a mujeres en situación de aborto,” Gaceta Médica de México, 139:565-S73; Billings, D. L., J. Fuentes Velíquez, R. Pérez-Cuevas, “Comparing the Quality of Three Postabortion Care Models in IMSS Hospitals in Mexico City,” forthcoming in International Planning Perspectives: Castaneda X., D.L. Billings, J. Blanco, “Abortion Beliefs and Practices among Midwives (Parteras) in a Rural Mexican Township,” Women & Health 37(2):73-87. Debbie returned to Pittsburgh in January, meeting with friends and discussing possible collaborative efforts with staff and faculty of CLAS as well as the Graduate School of Public Health.

Jack Bishop (BA Music 1997) worked for three years on an anthology of Latin American music which resulted in Vol. XI of the Selected Reports in Ethnomusicology published in 2003 by UCLA: Musical Cultures of Latin America: Global Effects, Past and Present (ed. Steven Loza). In addition to being the associate editor of the volume, Jack contributed a chapter on Forró Culture in Pernambuco, Brazil. The volume is the outcome of an international conference held at UCLA in 1999 and contains the results of panels on Mexico, North-South Indigenous Movements, Globalization, Transethnic/Multinational Movements, Brazilian and Cuban Music, Intercultural Musical Styles, Musical Cultures, and Global Interplay. It provides a wealth of information by leaders in the field of Latin American music and is a valuable contribution.

Ivan Brenes (Master’s GSPIA 1991) and wife, Sayumi, are the proud parents of Nina. Their daughter was born in September 2002 and has become the darling of Sayumi’s parents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Ivan continues to teach in the economics faculty of the University of Kobe (Japan). His students have reportedly said that Ivan looks sleepy. The reason? Ivan writes: “...taking care of a baby is a lot of work, and I try to help Sayumi out as much as I can, feeding, changing diapers, bathing, taking her out in the stroller, all the things they don’t teach you in graduate school.”


Ernesto Cabrera (PhD Political Science 1998) spent 1998 and 1999 in New Haven where he worked for two Connecticut firms in marketing research. At that time, María Victoria Murillo, Ernesto’s wife and a former CLAS Associate, was an assistant professor at Yale. She took a sabbatical and they moved to Buenos Aires. From 2000 to 2001, Ernesto was director of operations and research for Latin America for Ipsos-ASI, the advertising research company in Buenos Aires. He and Vicky returned to New Haven in 2001. He became the director of analytics at the PM Group, a marketing research firm in Manhattan (New York) while...
Vicky was still in New Haven (a long commute). PM Group specializes in marketing mix modeling (econometrics applied to marketing and sales for consumer packaged goods). In 2001, Vicky’s book, Labor Unions, Partisan Coalitions, and Market Reforms in Latin America, was published by Cambridge University Press. In 2002, she was promoted to associate professor. In 2003, Vicky took a position with Columbia University as an associate professor of political science, and Ernesto’s commute ended. Among many other books, projects, and articles, Vicky is finishing an edited volume on Argentine politics.

Julio F. Carrion (PhD Political Science 1993) is assistant professor of political science and international relations at the University of Delaware. Julio was the publicity director for UD’s Latin American Studies project entitled “Buenos Aires: A Tale of Two Cities. Mapping the New Reality through Poetry and Photography.” The project is comprised of a series of events that examine the political and economic situation of Argentina through photojournalism and poetry as well as lectures and discussions. Julio moderated the panel “An Interdisciplinary Look at Contemporary Argentine Culture and Politics.” The project was sponsored by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Delaware Division of the Arts, and the Delaware Humanities Forum.

Monica Faust (BA Spanish 2003) worked as an import coordinator/logistics coordinator with BDP International (a shipping and logistics company, “like a travel agent but for chemicals”) in Philadelphia. She coordinated a group of 25 people who prepared detailed documentation for DuPont products required by U.S. Customs upon entry. BDP deals a lot with Mexico, Canada and Brazil. Her mentor/trainer was from Sao Paulo!

Manuel Figallo-Monge (BA Political Science 1992) spent several months in Africa where he worked with various organizations on their Internet systems. Manuel also acquired a new hobby—photography. Some of his photos can be found at “Rwanda Photogallery” at http://www.wnpr.org/about/nextgen/roadshow/betz_dispatches.html. The first seven photos are by Manuel! In fall 2003, Manuel accepted a position with Freddie Mac in Virginia.

Germán Garrido-Pinto (MA Political Science 1975) has three children: son Germán, 27 years old, finished his studies in business administration four years ago, worked until 2003 in the marketing department of a large consumer products company, and is now preparing his application for the graduate studies in business. María José, 23, is an interior architect; last year she attended a specialized training course in Milan. Jimena, 18, finished her first year at the Universidad del Pacifico where she is studying business. Karen, Germán’s wife, is well, as is Germán who works for a New York cellular manufacturer and in the construction business.

Raylean Garvey (BA Economics/Spanish 2001) works at BDP International (as did Monica Faust) in Philadelphia.

Todd Harvey (BA Sociology and Spanish 2002) spent August 2002 to May 2003 in Guadalajara, Mexico, teaching all levels of English at the Vancouver Language Center. He returned to Pittsburgh in summer 2003 (which was truly fortuitous for CLAS). Todd was extraordinarily helpful to the Center and its outreach programs by serving as the translator for Alejandro Cabrera, a visiting Nicaraguan artist featured at the CLAS Latin American and Caribbean Festival held in October 2003. Todd also accompanied Alejandro to schools in the Pittsburgh area and to West Virginia University where he gave presentations of his art and explanations of his paintings. In February 2004, Todd left for Brazil. He took a position teaching English at the S&K English (yes, really!) located in a small city, Santa Cruz do Sul in Rio Grande do Sul. Todd’s contract extends until December of 2004 when he may return to enter graduate school.

Sarah D. Heard (BA International Business/Spanish 2003) spent five months in Mexico during 2002, funded by the University of Pittsburgh’s International Business Center (IBC). As reported in Update (summer 2003), a publication of the University of Pittsburgh’s IBC: “I was the only native English speaker in these two classes [international marketing and international business environment]...It was very challenging—there was a lot of group work to manage and the readings, assignments and presentations were extremely involved and intensive.” Sarah earned an International Business Certificate from the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterey (familiarly, Monterey Tec), known for its academically challenging and engaging courses.

Jorge Gorostiaga (PhD Administrative and Policy Studies in Education 2003) and family continue to readjust to life in Buenos Aires. He writes that the process of adjusting to one’s home country/city after years of living abroad is more difficult than adapting to a completely new environment. “We miss all of our friends and the
university, but we are doing fine. I am busy doing research (with a grant from the government) and teaching. I was appointed as a part-time assistant professor at Universidad Nacional de General San Martín, and I got a reentry grant from Fundación Antorchas.” Jorge is the coeditor of: M.B. Ginsburg and J. Gorostiaga (eds.), Limitations and Possibilities of Dialogue among Researchers, Policy Makers and Practitioners: International Perspectives on the Field of Education (New York: Routledge-Falmer, 2003) and another is forthcoming: J.M. Gorostiaga and R.G. Paulston, “Mapping Diverse Perspectives on School Decentralization: The Global Debate and the Case of Argentina” in S. Mehta and P. Ninnes (eds.), Re-Imagining Comparative Education (New York: Routledge-Falmer).

Brooke Harlowe (PhD Political Science 1993) sent an e-mail from Aguas Calientes in Peru. For those of you who visited that pueblito twenty or more years ago, the previous simple statement is mind-boggling! For those of you who have not, know that this town had a maximum of 10 very, very modest buildings with a total population of perhaps 50 people living there in the 1970s. “Stan and I spent the morning at Machu Picchu...the research project in Bolivia went amazingly well. We had 22 Bolivian and five American students working for us (Bolivians doing interviews, Americans doing data entry and teaching Bolivians to run the database themselves). I could not have asked for a better group. Very responsible, very committed....We finished 800 interviews in 15 communities over three weeks. It was great fun. Now the St. Kate’s students...are doing the historical/archaeological part of the trip. We’ve been to Tiwanaku, Copacabana, Puno, Cusco, Valle Sagrado, and Machu Picchu. It’s been wonderful to see things I saw ...er...24 years ago...I’m amazed at how much I remember and am able to compare how things are today from the Morales Bermudez period.”

Benjamin Howe (Master’s GSPIA 1998) and his wife, Debbie, recently moved to Manchester, NH. Ben is working as an analyst with the GAO in Boston. He reports: “New England is great!! We have really come to love the area and the recreational opportunities we can take advantage of, including the beach in the summer and the ski areas in the winter. And we are now close to family, which is also very nice.”

Grace Jaramillo (Master’s GSPIA 2003) returned to Quito, Ecuador, last year after completing the master’s degree in economic and social development. She is now an adjunct professor at the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar. Also, she continues to write columns for El Comercio newspaper. Tomás, the newest member of the family, was born on July 31, 2003.

Carlos Jáuregui (PhD Hispanic Languages and Literatures 2001) and his wife Tatiana are the proud parents of Lucas and Andrés.

Kimberly M. Jones (PhD Anthropology 2003) is an adjunct assistant professor in anthropology and senior researcher for MARC (Minority Access to Research Careers) at York College, City University of New York.

Melissa Kelly (BA Spanish 2002) is a teacher of Spanish and ESL at Weatherly High School in Eastern Pennsylvania.


Vincent McElhinny (doctoral candidate, Political Science) is a contributor to the volume, Landscapes of Struggle: Politics, Society, and Community in El Salvador edited by Aldo Lauria Santiago and Leigh Binford. Published by the University of Pittsburgh Press (February 2004) as part of the Pitt Latin American Series, it is described in the Press’ catalog: “During the 1980s, El Salvador’s violent civil war captured the world’s attention. In the years since, the country has undergone dramatic changes. Landscapes of Struggle offers a broad, interdisciplinary assessment of El Salvador from the late nineteenth century to the present, focusing on the ways local politics have shaped the development of the nation.

Proceeding chronologically, these essays—by historians, political scientists, sociologists, and anthropologists—explore the political, social and cultural dynamics governing the Salvadoran
experience, including the crucial roles of land, the military and ethnicity; the effects of the civil war; and recent transformations, such as the growth of a large Salvadoran diaspora in the United States. Taken together, they provide a fully realized portrait of El Salvador’s troublesome past, transformative present, and uncertain future.”

Phillip McKissick (BA History 2002), a Peace Corps volunteer (PCV) in Bolivia, is stationed in a small town about eight hours west of Cochabamba, on the altiplano, just south of Lake Poopó. For those who don’t know, the altiplano is a sparsely populated, treeless, desolate, flat landscape. From the site, Pampa Aullagas, Phil reports that one can see over a hundred miles because there’s no humidity. Area residents are Aymara speakers, a language which Phil continues to study. With only five other PCVs in the entire area, it is good to have a dog!

October 2003: “It’s an overcast spring day here in Oruro, been here since yesterday, ‘consolidated’ by the Peace Corps to the nearest city. As you may know, there have been a lot of road blockades and strikes and protesting in Bolivia for several weeks. Now there’s a new president and 75 dead… The altiplano is a center of this activity, as the capital of the country is here to the north and there’s a large concentration of Aymará indigenous communities, and angry miners. So the Peace Corps…thought it would be a good idea for me to leave my little tranquiló village and come to the city… So I packed up all my stuff, took my passport and American cash and hauled it across the barren salt flats of the southern altiplano by bike, 3.5 hours to the nearest neighboring volunteer. As soon as I arrived in his town, the President [of Bolivia] renounced his position and everything ended, more or less. When we came to Oruro yesterday, the huge boulders of the roadblocks had been pushed to one side… It seems like everything will be getting back to normal here soon. Vegetables are arriving to the markets in the city for the first time in a few weeks. Otherwise, everything is going well concerning my work and life in Pampa Aullagas… I’ll be learning a cheap method of well drilling… getting this started in the altiplano should be challenging, but funding and people are available. The demand (necessity) for water near me is overwhelming. Hopefully I can get this started before the rainy season makes almost everything impossible.”

Erin Mease (BS Psychology/Spanish 2003) works as a research assistant at Georgetown University and lives in Virginia. She is currently in the process of applying to graduate school.

Alejandro Meter (PhD Hispanic Languages and Literatures 2003) presented the paper, “Holocaust Representation in Latin American Literature” at the Northeast Modern Languages Association’s conference held in Pittsburgh in early March. Traveling to Pittsburgh also afforded Alejandro with the opportunity to visit friends in CLAS and his home department. Alejandro is enjoying his work teaching Spanish and Latin American literature at the University of San Diego where he is an assistant professor. While at Pitt, Alejandro took a group of students to Argentina in the study abroad program, “Pitt in Argentina.” He has transferred this knowledge and experience to San Diego, teaching in its Guadalajara Summer Program at ITESO (Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente). In the summer of 2004 Alejandro will take a group of about 20 students to Viña del Mar (Chile). The program features intensive Spanish-language training with a focus on “Short Narrative of the Southern Cone.” The group also will travel to Buenos Aires (Argentina) for a long weekend excursion.

Raul (Tomy) Musso (MA Economics 1979) was sitting in his home in Lima, Peru, thinking about his years in Pittsburgh and there appeared before him in the mail CLASicos Summer 2003, Number 54. (Tia Shirley—more recently known as the Oracle—was omniscient.) Tomy reports that the Peruvian economy is improving. He is the general manager of a zinc manufacturing company that exports around the world. During the three years since Tomy returned to IEQSA (www.IEQSA.com.pe), the company has had a capital increase from UMICORE (www.Umicore.com), the leader of the world in zinc transformation, that now owns 40 percent of the company. Its production plants have been moved from Belgium to Peru. Patricia, Tomy’s wife, is well and greatly enjoys her Garden and Design Company. She has returned to the Universidad del Pacifico to study in their Program for Women with Small Businesses. Their children include: Gabriel (23) who is in law school, Mateo (18) who is studying to be an industrial engineer, and Cristina (10) who attends the American School in Lima.
John Niggle (BSE Mechanical Engineering 1998) is living in Irwin, PA about 30 miles east of Pittsburgh where he works for the Elliott Turbomachinery Company, which designs and manufactures steam turbines, gas and air compressors, and other industrial equipment. John is in the service department, helping troubleshoot and resolve customers’ problems; he also provides customer training. “I use my Spanish here at work on a daily basis, and one of the main factors in Elliott hiring me was my experience in Mexico and the fact that I speak Spanish. They were looking for someone to be able to get more involved with our Spanish-speaking customers. I have traveled to Chile and Venezuela several times, Argentina and Brazil, and I’ve been to Mexico 14 times, I think, including the first and second trips I took through Pitt....I have become the ‘unofficial’ translator here at work, things come to me from everywhere, every department, and people say ‘I heard you speak Spanish, can you translate this for me?’.” In fact, my wife and I have started a translation company, mostly to handle translations for Elliott, but we accept all types of translations.” John and his wife, Gaby, met seven years ago in Acapulco while she was on spring break and John was taking a break from classes in the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (familiarly, Monterey Tec or ITESM). They lost touch for a few years but then reestablished their friendship and were married October 12, 2002. “The immigration process [for Gaby] was a nightmare. I would like to put together a...handbook and sell it, because there are so many bureaucratic hoops that you have to jump through it’s amazing, and there’s nowhere to go for help. [There] have been four marriages now due to that exchange program, so I am sure my handbook would come in handy for future exchange program students...I must say that the experience I had through the exchange program changed my life....”

Kathia Monard (PhD Education 2002) is working in a non-profit organization in the Philadelphia area called the Institute for Global Education and Service-Learning (IGESL). Kathia is program manager for the Atlantic Regional Center of the Institute and consultant for the service-learning programs, her area of expertise. Kathia’s other good news is that she was married in 2002 to Alexander Weissman, who also completed his doctorate at Pitt in December 2002. For more information about IGESL, see their Web site: http://www.igesl.org

María Concepción (Conchita) Obregón (doctoral student, Anthropology; CLAS Certificate 1996) wants to wish her CLAS friends the best for 2004 and to let them know that Rodrigo Liendo and their youngest child are doing well after some very difficult years. However, 2003, was a much better year for the entire family! Rodrigo and Conchita taught Mexican archeology at La Sapienza (University of Rome) in 2003. Their courses were for undergraduates majoring in archeology or anthropology who, both maestros report, were “very enthusiastic.” The family spent three months in Italy and “enjoyed every single moment of that experience.” The entire family loved Italian life, especially the food. “Our kids (Lucia 6 and Santiago 4 years old) had a wonderful time too. We were astonished by the easy way in which kids learn (they talk about Bernini and Michelangelo)....”

Back in Mexico, Rodrigo finished a three-year fieldwork project at Palenque and is now analyzing the data. Conchita also has been teaching and doing research.

Francisco Olivares (Master’s GSPIA 2003) is working for a Florida-based consulting firm. Although it is small, the firm has important clients in Caracas where Francisco is based. “We congratulate him on finding a job despite the political and economic problems in Venezuela. Francisco writes that he and his family sometimes miss Pittsburgh; they send their warmest regards to friends in the city.

David Ott (BA Interdisciplinary Studies 1996) is working on a film called Fallout. David met the filmmakers at the Belleport Film Society. He is the unit production manager on this low-budget independent film that is being shot at the Pine Wood West Studios in East Hampton.

Monica Pagano completed the Doctorate in Education in 2003. Her dissertation focused on service learning in Brazil and was entitled “University Students’ Learning During an International Service Learning Program.” She is now assistant dean of international programs at Elon College in North Carolina. Parabén, doutora!

Jorge Papadopulos (PhD Political Science 2001) was notified in October that he had been selected for a position with the Instituto de Desarrollo Social (INDES/BID) in São Paulo. “El trabajo se enmarca en un préstamo que el BID ha dado a la prefectura para la recuperación del centro de la ciudad. Tiene un componente de fortalecimiento institucional por lo cual hay que formar 1300 ‘gerentes’ sociales.” There were only four foreign professors chosen from the international com-
STUDENT AND ALUMNI NEWS (CONTINUED)

petition. Although the contract is for eight months, it opens a host of opportunities. Felicidades, Jorge!

Charlotte Marie Petilla (BA Spanish/Political Science 2003) received the Undergraduate Teaching Fellowship from CLAS in 2003, was a University Scholar in 2003, and was inducted as a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society in 2002. Kathryn Petruccelli (BA Liberal Studies 1992) works and resides in Monterey, CA where she has recently been “dabbling in radio.” Kitty interviews authors for the local NPR (National Public Radio) affiliate, KUSP, in Santa Cruz. “I even got to interview Isabel Allende!!! No kidding. It’s archived at http://www.kusp.org/shows/print.html” In February she did an article and radio piece on The Henry Miller Library in Big Sur and the director, Magnus Toren (see www.coastweekly.com). Currently Kitty is teaching a writing class for Monterey Parks and Recreation, is doing workshops in poetry, night classes for the city, and working with high school age kids. She is taking a break from teaching freshman composition at CSU Monterey Bay where she has worked for a number of years. Last semester, she worked with California Poets in the Schools teaching a class of young mothers and teenage boys. She writes that she misses ESL and speaking Spanish but is sure that she will get back to it.

Brent Rondon (Master’s GSPIA 1995) has been elected president of the Latin American Cultural Union, an extremely active organization of those interested in sharing knowledge of the cultures of Latin America. “The Latin American Cultural Union (LACU) is a non-profit organization whose primary goal is to cultivate and disseminate the diverse cultural and artistic manifestations of Latin American traditions and life such as dance, music, literature, culinary arts, film, painting, and regional customs.” For more information about LACU, see their Web site: http://www.lacunet.org. LACU recently opened an office in the Oakland section of Pittsburgh; visit them at 235 Atwood Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4052; e-mail to: lacus_1999@yahoo.com. In addition to being extremely active in community events, Brent is manager of international programs for the Duquesne University Chrysler Corporation Small Business Development Center (SBDC). SBDC helps manufacturing and high-technology companies export products overseas. In February, Brent participated in the “Export Basics Seminar: How to Increase Sales” held at Duquesne University. The conference included presentations on recognizing and identifying export opportunities, legal and regulatory aspects of exporting, international payment and shipping procedures. Brent, along with Desi Jordanoff (International Trade Specialist of SPC and former colleague in the University Center for International Studies), presented “Sources of Information and EX-TRADE Resources.”

Janette Rawlings (Master’s GSPIA 1985) and Anthony D’Costa (PhD GSPIA) live in Washington where Anthony is an associate professor of comparative international development at the University of Washington (Tacoma). Laura Ripo (undergraduate student, Finance and Spanish) was featured in Update (summer 2003), a publication of the University of Pittsburgh’s International Business Center (IBC). “I’ve traveled abroad with the IBC for two summers in a row...It’s a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that every undergraduate absolutely should take advantage of.” Laura participated in the 2002 summer MCE + 2 program...trip to the Czech Republic, then spent six weeks in Mexico in an intensive Spanish program. In the spring of 2003 she was funded by the IBC to assist the MCE + 2 students in Valparaiso, Chile. The Pitt students were paired with students from the University of Santa María to research Chilean businesses and industries.” After completing her work with the IBC program, Laura undertook her own research project on women in business in Chile. This was the field component of the CLAS seminar/field trip that has been offered annually since 1972. “Laura urges fellow undergraduates to take advantage of the programs and scholarships offered by the University. ‘If it is at all possible for you, do it!’ You’ll never have the opportunity to travel and live abroad so easily again. Stick it out through the inevitable rough spots and it will be the most incredible experience of your life!’”

Claudia Susana Rivera-Casanovas completed the doctorate in anthropology in 2003. Her dissertation was on “Regional Settlement Patterns and Political Complexity in the Sinti Valley, Bolivia.” Claudia is now in La Paz where she is teaching at the Universidad Mayor de San Andrés. Congratulations, doctora!!!

Stephanie Roth (BA Political Science/Spanish 1992) began a year-long executive training program at work which started in September 2003. “It’s government wide, and I was one of six people from FHWA, my agency, selected for next year’s class. The Executive Leadership Program is geared to groom mid-level
employees to become higher-level managers. We do reading assignments, a team project, shadowing assignments, group residential training, executive interviews, and two 60-day detail assignments elsewhere in the government or the private sector over the course of the year.” Her first assignment is with the Smithsonian’s American History Museum. In April, she will work with Maryland Public TV in Baltimore. Stephanie also was invited to participate in a People to People Ambassador Delegation on urban planning this fall in Australia and New Zealand. “People to People...was started by President Eisenhower in 1956 to promote international understanding at the citizen level.” (For information on the program, see: http://www.embassadorprograms.org ). Stephanie will spend a week each in Auckland, New Zealand and Sydney, Australia. “The delegation, which is about 20-30 planners at various levels of government and the private sector representing various disciplines in planning from around the United States, will meet with planning officials from Australia and New Zealand, and learn about how [they] are meeting their planning challenges, which are very similar to those in the United States (urban sprawl, growth challenges, encouraging alternate modes of transportation to balance investment, moving projects through the pipeline, waterfront development, public outreach and involvement...). We’ll also get to participate in cultural activities...” In 2003, Stephanie traveled to Lake Titicaca in Peru and Bolivia. Stephanie visited Puno, Peru, Tiahuanaco, Bolivia, and crossed the border at Desaguadero. “My favorite days on the trip were the ones we spent on the water at Lake Titicaca. We hiked the Island of Taquile which was great. We also did some site seeing [sic] at the Uros Islands, which are made of reed, and did a group meditation on a reed boat on the lake.”

It does not seem possible that Ignacio Sánchez-Prado is a full-time doctoral student in Hispanic Languages and Literatures. Why? How can a full-time student participate in so many conferences and have so many publications? Ignacio’s latest include: “Pre-Columbian Past as a Project: Miguel León Portilla and Hispanism” in Ideologías de Hispanismo (Vanderbilt University Press, 2004); “De ironía, desubicación, cultura popular y sentido nacional: Carlos Monsiváis en el cambio de siglo,” Revista de Literatura Mexicana Contemporánea 20 (2004); and “La novela a la muerte de los proyectos: La virgen de los sicarios frente de sobremesa,” Kipus 74 (2004). Ignacio also presented papers in various conferences: “Indígenismo antes de Orientalism: Los grandes momentos del indigenismo en México de Luis Villoro desde/hacia/contra los estudios poscoloniales latinoamericanos” at the XXIV International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association. 3/27-29/03; “Alfonso Reyes más allá de lo ancliar: El deslinde y la experiencia literaria en el debate estudios literarios/estudios culturales” at the Vanderbilt Colloquium on Latin American and Iberian Literature and Culture, Vanderbilt University. 4/3-4/03; “La nación estética: Jorge Cuesta y la defensa de la literatura” at the Mid-America Conference of Hispanic Literatures held at the University of Colorado-Boulder. 10/2-5/03. Also, Ignacio was the keynote speaker at the International Parliament of Writers’ Refugee House in Puebla (Mexico) where he presented “Metáforas y retos: la función actual de la literatura.” Currently, he is editing the books: Alfonso Reyes y los estudios latinoamericanos with Adela Pineda Franco (Pittsburgh: IILI, 2004) and América Latina: nuevas visiones desde los estudios literarios y culturales (Puebla: Secretaria de Cultura Puebla, 2004). Michelle Seyman Gerdano (BA Political Science/Spanish 1978) has three beautiful children: Marisa, 15, is in high school, Sammy is 12 and Natalie is 9. Michelle sends her warmest regards to Pitt friends Gertrude (Trudy) Singzong (BA Political Science 1991) is spending the year studying public health before finishing her final year of medical school.

Kevin Skillin (Master’s GSPIA 1998) is a foreign service officer in Oman. Summer temperatures range from 100-110 in the day and mid-90s at night; winter finds temps in the high 80s during the day and 70s at night. Becky, Kevin’s wife, provides us with an insider’s description: “Oman is a diverse country of about 2.5 million people total. 25% of whom are foreigners. Among the Omani population is a mix of tradition and modernity that gives the country a distinct flavor from its neighbors. The state religion is Ibadi Islam, which is a distinct offshoot of the Shiite branch. Omansmen usually wear traditional white or pastel disdashes (a long robe) and the
Omani women are free to dress as fits their interpretation of Islam. Most women follow the tradition of their particular tribe, and some tribes are more conservative than other tribes. Choosing an abaya (the black robe) and black head covering or a black robe with a colorful head covering, or just loose, ‘shape-hiding’ western clothing is basically personal choice. Covering oneself is a form of respect towards one’s self and one’s family.”

Becky is teaching English as a second language at Omantel, the state-owned (but slowly privatizing) telephone company. Kevin travels. “The role of an economic/commercial officer entails getting to know the region and how to promote American business and interests here. His first trips were to Salalah and Sohar as a part of a small business development workshop. Next he went to Jebel Ali (in the UAE) for a regional commercial workshop. Then he went to Cairo for the Junior Officer’s Conference. Traveling with U.S. scientists to research sea turtles nesting beaches, he went to Ras al-Hadd and Masira Island by 4WD and helicopter. The second trip to the major port city of Salalah was to discuss port security issues. Next is a speech to the business community about investing in Iraq and then the next day an assistant secretary of commerce will visit to discuss trade issues.”

Lynn Swartley (PhD Anthropology 2000) is the very happy owner of a beach house in New Jersey. Lynn sends best regards to her friends and wants them to know she is doing well. Her dissertation, Inventing Indigenous Knowledge, was published by Routledge in 2002. After her year as a post-doctoral fellow at Rutgers, Lynn left academe. She is now working in marketing and new product development with GeoLytics, a private company that develops U.S. data software for academic researchers and the business community.

Deborah L. Truhan (MEd Foundations of Education 1970) is co-author with Jesús Paniagua Pérez of the tome, Oficios y Actividad Paragremial en la Real Audiencia de Quito (1557-1730) El Corregimiento de Cuenca (Universidad de León, 2003). This incredibly detailed volume has been donated by Debbie to the Eduardo Lozano Latin American Collection in Hillman Library. Debbie recently established residence in Pittsburgh but also retains her casita in Cuenca, Ecuador.

Barbara Wein (Master’s GSPIA 2000) is co-founder of Building New Hope, a Pittsburgh-based nonprofit. A very lengthy front page article in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette (1/25/04) focused on fair trade and the efforts of small-scale coffee growers in Latin America. “Wein founded Building New Hope in 1992 with her husband, Jorge Portillo, a native of El Salvador. They initially set out to help civil war refugees repatriate in El Salvador, in a village the returnees named Nueva Esperanza—New Hope. Since then...Building New Hope has helped construct and support schools, small businesses, a women’s clinic and water systems in Nicaragua and El Salvador.” For the complete article, see: http://www.postgazette.com/pg/04025/265046.stm.

Patrick Wilson (PhD Anthropology 2002) and Andrea Cuellar (doctoral candidate, Anthropology) live in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada which they describe as “flat, quiet, and sunny.” They both have been very well received by people in the department and at the University of Lethbridge as a whole. “There is also a new anthropology professor from Nicaragua, so we are three Latinoamericanistas, not bad at all for a small department. The university [has] about 8,000 students...and [is] actually very diverse....” Andrea had 90 students in her first intro to cultural anthropology course. Pat is an assistant professor of anthropology and teaches two courses per term as well as having a number of departmental responsibilities. The University of Lethbridge, according to its Web site, is focused “on the liberal arts, selected professional programs, smaller classes, co-op placements and involvement of students in faculty research.” Programs in the arts, science, education, and management are offered at the graduate level. After some Web site investigation, this reporter discovered that Patrick has a number of recent publications! They include book reviews: Allen Gerlach’s Indians, Oil and Politics: A Recent History of Ecuador (Wilmington, DE: Scholarly Resources, 2003) and Melina Selverston-Scher’s, Ethnopolitics in Ecuador: Indigenous Rights and the Strengthening of Democracy (Miami: North-South Center Press, 2001) both of which were published in the Canadian Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Studies. His other publications include: an article under review—“South America-Highlands” in Frank A. Salamone, ed., Encyclopedia of Religious Rituals (Great Barrington, MA: Berkshire Publishing Group); McAllister, Carol L., Patrick C. Wilson, and Jeffrey Burton, “From Sports Fans to Nurturers: An Early Head Start Program’s Evolution Toward Father Involvement,” Fathering: A Journal of Theory, Research, and Practice About Men as Fathers 2(1);

Andrea Woessner (BSBA Finance and Marketing 2002) is publication manager of the *International Student Guide to the United States of America*. The guide has two editions—a global English edition and a Latin American Spanish edition. Published by Spindle in Pittsburgh, the guides are resource publications for international students who are considering the United States for higher education. “It is designed to help international students make their academic plans and learn about the culture of the United States.” For more information, see their Web site at: www.spindlepub.com.
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