

Graduate Student Conference on Latin American Social and Public Policy

The Eighth Annual Graduate Student Conference on Latin American Social and Public Policy was held on February 20 and 21, 2003. A major highlight of the event was the **2003 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture** delivered by **Frances Hagopian**. Dr. Hagopian is the Michael Grace III Associate Professor of Latin American Studies in the Department of Political Science and, in September 2002, assumed the role of director of The Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies at the University of Notre Dame. She is the author of the award-winning *Traditional Politics and Regime Change in Brazil* (Cambridge, 1996) and spoke on "Governmental Performance, Public Perception, and Contemporary Democracy in Latin America."

The 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 eighth annual conference, 19 students from five departments and schools at the University of Pittsburgh, one Pitt alumnus, five students from Cornell University, and one student from Chapman University in California presented papers, and seven Pittsburgh faculty members served as discussants.

The eighth 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), **Mary Malone** (Political Science), **Hanne Müller** (Public and International Affairs), **Francisco Olivares-Polanco** (Public and International Affairs), and **Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga** (Political Science), with vital support from **Luis Bravo** (Coordinator of International Relations and Fellowships). The organizers and the Center would like to thank everyone involved in the conference.



∴ Frances Hagopian and Kathleen DeWalt

The conference was sponsored by the Latin American Social and Public Policy Program of the Center for Latin American Studies, with financial support from The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation and 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.

Agenda

Thursday, February 20

9:30 a.m.

Welcome: **Kathleen DeWalt** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies)

9:45 a.m.

Anti-Poverty Programs and NGOs

Moderator: **María José Alvarez Rivadulla**

Francisco Javier Olivares-Polanco (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "Microfinance, NGOs, and the Poorest of the Poor"

Danielle Romanetti (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "An NGO Invasion: Welfare State Policy in Bolivia"

Daniel Fireside (City and Regional Planning, Cornell University): "The Coffee Crisis and the Transformation of Guatemalan Agriculture"

Discussant: **Paul Nelson** (Public and International Affairs)



11:00 a.m. ∴ Paul Nelson and Daniel Fireside

Public Opinion

Moderator: **Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga**

Mary Fran Malone (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh), **Siddhartha Baviskar** (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh), and **David Manel** (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "As Good As It Gets? Citizens' Expectations and Support for Democracy"

Maria Del Rosario Queirolo (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "Who Votes for Whom? Analyzing Changes in the Uruguayan Party System from the Voters' Perspective (1994-1999)"

Siddhartha Baviskar (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "Support for the President in Contemporary Chile"

Discussant: **Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Political Science)

1:00 p.m.

Education Policy

Moderator: **Francisco Javier Olivares-Polanco**

Gabriela Silvestre (Education, University of Pittsburgh): "Higher Education in Argentina"

Timothy Locher (Education, University of Pittsburgh): "Minority Education in Ecuador"

Monique Puig-Antich (Education, University of Pittsburgh): "Indigenous Education in Brazil"

Discussant: **Mark Ginsburg** (Education)

2:15 p.m.

Public Policy

Moderator: **Hanne Müller**

Grace Jaramillo (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "Institutional Capacity Building: A Pandora's Box in Development Projects?"

Marcia Towers (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "Dollarization in El Salvador—Effects on Poverty"

Robert Volkert (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "La Formula do Brazil—Does It Work?"

Maria Victoria Whittingham (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "Towards a Customized Public Management System"

Discussant: **Laura Hastings** (College of General Studies)



∴ Left to right: Maria Del Rosario Queirolo, Siddhartha Baviskar, and Mary Malone

Graduate Student Conference on Latin American Social and Public Policy (Continued)

Friday, February 21

9:30 a.m.

Globalization and Governance

Moderator: **Veronica Lifrieri**

Bill Bihlman (Institute for Public Affairs, Cornell University): "A Review of the Free Trade Area of the Americas' Potential Impact on the Resources of Latin America"



:: Left to right: Maria Victoria Whittingham, Brandon Tracy, Maria Ripoll, Bill Bihlman, and Scott Jablonski

Scott Jablonski (Law, University of Pittsburgh): "When International Law, Economics, and Politics Intersect"

Maria Victoria Whittingham (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "The Fall of Fujimori in Peru: A Case of Global Governance?"

Brandon Tracy (Alumnus, Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh) and **Nathan Smith** (Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): "An Input-Output Matrix Approach to Analyzing Increased Sugar Cane Alcohol Consumption in Brazil"

Discussant: **Marla Ripoll** (Economics)

10:45 a.m.

Politics

Moderator: **Luis Jiménez**

Katherine Gordy (Government, Cornell University): "Between Blinding Dogma and Guiding Light: Navigating the Principles of Cuban Socialism"

Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "The Regional Diversity of Electoral Competition in Colombia"

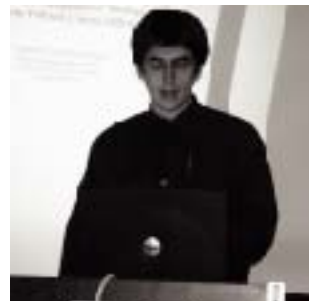


:: Left to right: Jonathan Manders, Juan Carlos Rodríguez-Raga, Oscar Teran, Katherine Gordy, and Mitchell Seligson

Oscar Teran (Political Science, Chapman University): "The Odd Couple: Understanding the Relationship between Support for Democracy and Support for Authoritarianism in Argentina"

Jonathan Manders (Law, Cornell University): "Sequencing Property Rights in the Context of Development: A Critique of the Writings of Hernando de Soto"

Discussant: **Mitchell Seligson** (Political Science)



:: Alexandre Emboabo Da Costa

1:00 p.m.

Poverty and Popular Responses

Moderator: **Mary Fran Malone**

María José Alvarez Rivadulla (Sociology, University of Pittsburgh): "Squatter Settlements in Montevideo: Resisting Exclusion"

Alexandre Emboaba Da Costa (Rural Sociology, Cornell University): "From Combative to Participatory Engagement: The Central Única dos Trabalhadores'

Strategy in the Changing Political Climate of Brazil"

Germán Lodola (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "Popular Protest and Policy Outcomes: The Case of Argentine Unemployed Workers' Organizations"

Luis Jiménez (Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "Zapatismo Unleashed: Assessing the Impact of the EZLN"

Discussant: **John Markoff** (Sociology)



:: John Markoff



:: Luis Jiménez

3:00 p.m.

2003 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture

Introduction: **Laura Hastings**

Frances Hagopian (Michael Grace III Associate Professor of Latin American Studies, Department of Political Science, and director of The Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame): "Governmental Performance, Public Perception, and Contemporary Democracy in Latin America"