

## 10th Annual Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference

The Tenth Annual Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference was held on 17 and 18 February 2005. **Mitchell A. Seligson**, the 2005 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and



Public Policy Lecturer, delivered the keynote address on “Challenges to Democracy in Latin America.” Dr. Seligson is Centennial Professor of Political Science and Fellow, Center for the Americas, at Vanderbilt University. He served as Director of the Center for Latin American Studies at Pitt from 1986 to 1992—to date, the third of only five directors to lead CLAS. He was a professor of political science at the University of Pittsburgh from 1986 to 2004 (from 1994 to 2004 as Daniel H. Wallace Professor of Political Science). Professor Seligson received his Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies in 1971 and the PhD in Political Science in 1974—both from Pitt. He is the author, coauthor, editor, or coeditor of over 10 books and author or coauthor of more than 100 articles, 25 monographs and occasional papers, and 50 research reports. Dr.

Seligson also is the founder and director of the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP), which carries out research surveys on various aspects of democracy. LAPOP has produced 41 surveys analyzing topics such as citizen views on system support, political tolerance, citizen participation, local government, corruption, and views on authoritarianism for Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, The Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, and Peru as well as for Madagascar.

The annual Latin American Social and Public Policy 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 tenth conference, 16 students from six departments and schools at the University of Pittsburgh and seven non-Pitt students (from Arizona State University, Florida International University, the Korean Development Institute School, the University of Florida, the University of Michigan, the University of California at San Diego, and West Virginia University) presented papers and six Pittsburgh faculty members provided discussion.



Left to right: Javier Vázquez, Stuart Easterling, Marilia Mochel, and Luis Jiménez.

The tenth conference was organized by Latin American Social and Public Policy Fellows **María José Alvarez Rivadulla** (Sociology), **Stuart Easterling** (History), **Luis Jiménez** (Political Science), **Veronica Lifrieri** (Linguistics), **German Lodola** (Political Science), **Laura Macia Vergara** (Anthropology), **Marilia Mochel** (Political Science), and **Javier Vázquez** (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.



Luis Bravo



Left to right: María José Alvarez, Laura Macia Vergara, and German Lodola.

The conference was sponsored by the Latin American Social and Public Policy Program of the Center for Latin American Studies, with supplementary 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 17, 2005

9:00 a.m.

Welcome: **John Frechione** (Associate Director, Center for Latin American Studies)

9:30 a.m.

*In and Out: Exclusion in Latin America*

Moderator: **Laura Macia Vergara**

**María José Alvarez** (Sociology): “Golden Ghettos: Gated Communities in Uruguay”

**Amy Ritterbusch** (West Virginia University): “Effect of Gender Differences on Street Children in Bogotá, Colombia”

**Penelope Robertson** (Anthropology): “Surviving the Streets: NGOs, Brazilian Street Children and Gendered Stereotypes”

Discussant: **Cecilia Green** (Assistant Professor, Sociology)



Left to right: Laura Macia Vergara, María José Alvarez, Amy Ritterbusch, Penelope Robertson, and Cecilia Green.



Left to right: Stuart Easterling, Leah Hutton Blumenfeld, German Lodola, Andrea Castagnola, Hirokazu Kikuchi, and Barry Ames.

11:10 a.m.

*Experiencing Democracy: The Institutional Impact*

Moderator: **Stuart Easterling**

**Leah Hutton Blumenfeld** (Florida International University): “Political Decentralization in Bolivia and Colombia”

**Hirokazu Kikuchi** (Political Science): “Malapportionment and Legislative Politics under Federalism”

**Andrea Castagnola** (Political Science): “Political Scandals and the Dynamics of Politics in Eight Latin American Countries”

**German Lodola** (Political Science): “Executives, Legislatures and the Political Economy of Market Reforms in Latin America”

Discussant: **Barry Ames** (Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Comparative Politics, Political Science)

1:30 p.m.

*Transformation of Social Policies*

Moderator: **María José Alvarez**

**Emma Sacks** (University of Michigan): “Birth Attendants in Northern Rural Honduras: Challenges during Times of Transition”

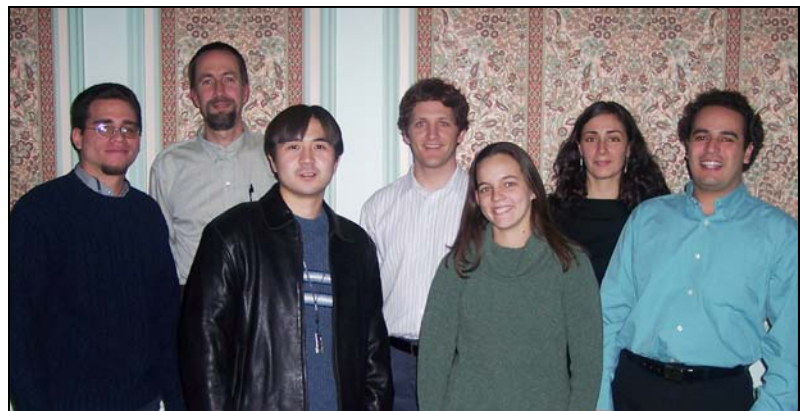
**Edgardo Ruiz** (Anthropology): “Testing Intercultural Health Care: The Management and Debate of a Mental Health Epidemic among the Miskitu of Nicaragua”

**Hernan Maldonado** (Korean Development Institute School): “Scholarships Allocation in the Colombian Graduate Education System”

**Hirotooshi Yoshioka** (Sociology): “Social Structural Change and Educational Attainment in Chiapas, Mexico: Q-Analysis of Census Data”

**Bryant Troy Jensen** (Arizona State University): “A Descriptive Analysis of a Mexican Primary School with a High US Emigration Rate”

Discussant: **Paul Nelson** (Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs)



Left to right: Edgardo Ruiz, Paul Nelson, Hirotooshi Yoshioka, Bryant Troy Jensen, Emma Sacks, María José Alvarez, and Hernan Maldonado.

**10<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference (continued)**

4:00 p.m.

**2005 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture***Introduction:* **Kathleen Musante DeWalt** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies)*Lecture: "Challenges to Democracy in Latin America"*by **Mitchell A. Seligson** (Centennial Professor of Political Science and Fellow, Center for the Americas, Vanderbilt University)

Kathleen Musante DeWalt and Mitchell Seligson



Left to right: (front) Luis Jiménez and José Argueta; (back) Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, Javier Vázquez, and Ana Carolina Garriga.

Friday February 18, 2005

8:30 a.m.

*Parties and Voters: Electoral Outcomes in New Democracies*Moderator: **Javier Vázquez****José R. Argueta** (Political Science): "The Pervasiveness of Partisanship in Latin America"**Ana Carolina Garriga** (Political Science): "Social Spending and Electoral Results"**Luis F. Jimenez** (Political Science): "Voting for Democracy: Explaining Electoral Turnout in the 2000 Mexican Election"Discussant: **Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Assistant Professor, Political Science)

10:00 a.m.

*Transnational Political-Military Relationships*Moderator: **Luis Jiménez****Billy Shields** (University of Florida): "Brazil's Mission to Haiti"**Jennifer Hollinger** (Public and International Affairs): "Displacement in Colombia and the War on Terror"**Stuart Easterling** (History): "The War on Drugs, Plan Colombia, and the Uribe Administration: A Path to Peace?"**Annalise Romoser** (University of California, San Diego): "US Drug Policy and Internal Displacement in Colombia: The Human Impact of Aerial Fumigations in Southern Colombia"**Danielle Nicole Ducre** (Law): "Kennan's 'Position of Disparity': Refugee and Human Rights Law and Policy in Haiti and the Dominican Republic"Discussant: **Lara Putnam** (Assistant Professor, History)

Left to right: (seated) Jennifer Hollinger and Annalise Romoser; (standing) Luis Jiménez, Billy Shields, Danielle Nicole Ducre, Lara Putnam, and Stuart Easterling.

1:00 p.m.

*Economic Policies and Globalization*Moderator: **Marilia Mochel****Alexandra Barahona Posada** (Public and International Affairs): "Exchange Rate Policies—The Effects of Depreciation of Currency"**Luis Martin Fierro del Campo** (Public and International Affairs) and **Willys Santos** (Public and International Affairs): "Public Policies in Brazil and Mexico and the Debt Crisis of 1982"Discussant: **Sebastian Saiegh** (Assistant Professor, Political Science)

Left to right: Luis Martin Fierro del Campo, Alexandra Barahona Posada, Sebastian Saiegh, Marilia Mochel, and Willys Santos.