

12th Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference

The Twelfth Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference was held on February 22 and 23, 2007. **José C. Moya**, the 2007 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecturer, delivered the keynote address on “Immigration and the Development of Regional Inequalities in the Western Hemisphere.”

The annual Latin American Social and Public Policy conference features 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 twelfth conference, 15 students from seven departments and schools at the University of Pittsburgh, two Pitt alumni (who traveled from Mexico and Washington, DC), and three non-Pitt students (from Columbia University, the State University of New York, and the University of Texas at Austin) presented papers, and seven faculty members provided discussion.

The 2007 conference was organized by Latin American Social and Public Policy Fellows **Alejandra Boza** (History), **Jorge Delgado** (Education), **Yolanda Hernández-Albújar** (Sociology), **Verónica Lifrieri** (Linguistics), **Gabriela Núñez** (Communication), **Oscar de la Torre** (History), and **Javier Vázquez** (Political Science), with direction and support from **Luis Bravo** (Coordinator of International Relations and Fellowships, CLAS). The organizers and the Center would like to 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 supplementary support from a U.S. Department of Education (Title VI) grant to the University of Pittsburgh. A list of the conference panels, presenters, and discussants follows.

Thursday, February 22, 2007

8:30 a.m.

Welcome: **Eileen Weiner** (Acting Assistant Director, University Center for International Studies)

9:00 a.m. *Education in National Contexts*

Moderator: **Alejandra Boza**

Matt Rhodes (University of Pittsburgh): “Models of Community School Interaction in Venezuela”

Yadira García (University of Pittsburgh): “Escuelas Bolivarianas”

Jorge Delgado (University of Pittsburgh): “Inequalities in Colombian Higher Education”

Discussant: **John Myers** (Assistant Professor, School of Education)



Left to right: Yadira García, Matt Rhodes, John Myers, and Jorge Delgado.



José C. Moya is Professor of History, University of California, Los Angeles; Professor of Latin American History, Barnard College; and Senior Fellow, Columbia University, Institute for Latin American Studies. He is the author of *Cousins and Strangers: Spanish Immigrants in Buenos Aires, 1850-1930* (Berkeley: University of California Press, 1998), which won five prestigious awards and was the

subject of a forum in the journal *Historical Methods* (Winter 2001), where its theoretical and methodological contributions to the field of migration studies were discussed. Professor Moya was raised in socialist Cuba, sent to Franco’s Spain at the age of fourteen, and came to the United States a year later. He spent a decade working in sundry jobs that ranged from truck driver to janitor. These experiences engendered in him, first, a fancy for ideological rhetoric and debates and, later, a desire to understand how people respond and adapt to large historical forces

and shifts that seem beyond their control. His research and teaching reflect this interest and a general curiosity about the veiled realities that seem to exist under official discourses and structures everywhere.

He is currently working on a social, cultural, and intellectual history of anarchism in belle époque Buenos Aires. This movement represented the most vital working-class and bohemian ideology during the period, and Buenos Aires was its most important center in the world after Barcelona and, perhaps, Paris. This project has been supported by grants from the Fulbright Commission, the Fundación Antorchas, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the University of California’s President Research Fellowship in the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies’s Burkhardt Fellowship. He also is working on a sociocultural history of May Day (the international labor day, not the maypole spring festivity) in New York, Buenos Aires, London, Paris, and Barcelona. On those infrequent occasions when he is not pursuing research on these projects, he enjoys classical European music, modern art, artsy films, chess, and fine wines (if he is in elitist-mode), and salsa dancing, baseball, and beer otherwise.

Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference (continued)

Giancarlo Marcone and Angela Foster.

1:00 p.m. *Reshaping the Urban Space*

Moderator: **Gabriela Núñez**

Giancarlo Marcone (University of Pittsburgh): “Modern Social Forces at Ancient Sites”

Discussant: **Angela Foster** (Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs)



Left to right: Gabriela Núñez, Katia Silva, Erik Ness, and Alison Tweedie.

3:00 p.m. *Social Inequality and Education*

Moderator: **Javier Vázquez**

Alison Tweedie (University of Pittsburgh): “Latino Population Growth and Educational Attainment”

Gabriela Núñez (University of Pittsburgh) “Importance of Intercultural and Oral Communication in Andean Peruvian Rural Education”

Alison Tweedie and **Katia Silva** (University of Pittsburgh): “Projeto Aprendiz: Youth on the Go, ‘Rumo Certo’”

Discussant: **Erik Ness** (Assistant Professor, School of Education)



5:00 p.m. *Institutional Performance in New Democracies*

Moderator: **Javier Vázquez**

Ana Carolina Garriga (University of Pittsburgh): “Regime Type and Foreign Policy: Evidence from Latin America (1950-1979)”

Juan Negri (University of Pittsburgh): “Coalitions and Presidentialism: An Institutional Explanation”

Andrea Castagnola (University of Pittsburgh) “Instability of Argentine Justices in Office: A Critical Appraisal”

Lisl Brunner (University of Pittsburgh): “The Arancibia Clavel Decision of the Argentine Supreme Court”

Discussant: **William Keech** (Emeritus Professor of Political Economy, Carnegie Mellon University)

Left to right: Andrea Castagnola, Juan Negri, Ana Carolina Garriga, William Keech, and Lisl Brunner.

Friday, February 23, 2007

10:00 a.m. *Contemporary Debates*

Moderator: **Yolanda Hernández-Albújar**

Luís Martín del Campo Fierro

(Universidad Iberoamericana, México):

“México: Crisis, Stabilization, and Crisis Again”

René Alberto Ramos (Columbia University): “The Centennial Social Adjustment in Mexico”

Catherine Pees Scott (University of Texas at Austin): “Did Social Policy Success win a Presidential Reelection? Bolsa Familia and Lula”

April Karen Baptiste (State University of New York): “Evaluating Environmental Awareness: A Case Study of Nariva Swamp, Trinidad, W.I.”

Discussant: **Lara Putnam** (Associate Professor, Department of History)



Left to right: Catherine Pees Scott, April Karen Baptiste, Luís Martín del Campo Fierro, Yolanda Hernández-Albújar, Lara Putnam, and René Alberto Ramos.



Left to right: Luis Vivaldi, Laura Wills-Otero, Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, and Oscar de la Torre.

1:10 p.m. *Political Regimes and Democratic Governability*

Moderator: **Oscar de la Torre**

Laura Wills-Otero (University of Pittsburgh): “Presidential Public Support in Colombia: Economic, Contextual, and Symbolic Determinants”

Luis Vivaldi (University of Pittsburgh): “Crisis and Political Learning: Shantytown Movements and Political Parties in Chile, 1973-1988”

Discussant: **Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science)

3:00 p.m. *States and Social Movements*

Moderator: **Verónica Lifrieri**

Felipe A. Zuluaga (alumnus, University of Pittsburgh): “The Historical Evolution of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC): From Guerrillas to Terrorists”

Oscar de la Torre (University of Pittsburgh): “A Middle Class Project: Afro-Brazilian Political Activism in 1927- 1937”

Alejandra Boza (University of Pittsburgh): “Costa Rican Indians and the State: Indian Reservations and Indigenist Policies, 1930-1970”

Christian Frenopoulo (University of Pittsburgh): “Resource Mobilization and Indigenous Groups: The Struggle for Management of Biomedical Health Services in the Brazilian Amazon”

Discussant: **Joshua Lund** (Assistant Professor, Department of Hispanic Language and Literatures)



Left to right: Felipe A. Zuluaga, Joshua Lund, Verónica Lifrieri, Alejandra Boza, Oscar de la Torre, and Christian Frenopoulo.

5:00 p.m.

2007 Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture

Introduction: **Alejandro de la Fuente** (Associate Professor, Department of History)

Lecture: “Immigration and the Development of Regional Inequalities in the Western Hemisphere” by **José C. Moya** (Professor of History, University of California, Los Angeles, and Professor of Latin American History, Barnard College)

Latin American Lecture and Symposium Series

CLAS’ Latin American Lecture and Symposium Series primarily supports visits by scholars invited to the University of Pittsburgh by CLAS faculty members as well as public lectures by faculty members themselves. As the list below indicates, this results in presentations on a broad range of topics from a variety of disciplines and professions. One goal of the series is to provide the opportunity for CLAS faculty, students, and the general public to be exposed to the great breadth of research approaches that contribute to knowledge about the Latin American and Caribbean region.

September 16, 2006

U.S. TRAVEL POLICY ON CUBA: IMPACT ON CUBAN-AMERICAN FAMILIES AND OTHERS; WHAT ACTION CAN THE COMMUNITY TAKE TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE?—by **Geoff Thale** (Program Director and Senior Associate for Cuba and Central America, Washington Office on Latin America)

September 18, 2006

THE BRAZILIAN HEALTH REFORM AND THE CHALLENGE OF DECENTRALIZATION—by **André Medici** (Senior Social Development Specialist – Health, Sustainable Development Department; Inter American Development Bank)

September 20, 2006

THE FLOATING DUNGEON: A HISTORY OF THE SLAVE SHIP—by **Marcus Rediker** (Professor, Department of History, University of Pittsburgh)



September 22, 2006

CROSSING LA LÍNEA: A REPORT FROM THE OTHER SIDE—by **Randall H. McGuire** (Professor, Department of Anthropology, State University of New York at Binghamton)