

Center for

AMERICAN

CLASÍCOS

STUDIES

University of Pittsburgh

University Center for International Studies

University of Pittsburgh

From March 17 to 19, 2011, the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the University of Pittsburgh hosted the **32nd Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies (MACLAS) Conference** on “Globalization and Well-Being in Latin America.” MACLAS is comprised of Mid-Atlantic region scholars, researchers, teachers, students, and interested professionals in all disciplines and pursuits. This region includes Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. MACLAS has as its objectives promoting and developing interest in Latin American studies and affairs. The organization was founded in Pittsburgh in 1979 and currently has over 200 members.

The theme of the 2011 MACLAS conference—Globalization and Well Being in Latin America—mirrors CLAS’ four-year commitment to work on issues related to globalization and health and health policy in Latin America, with a series of activities funded under the Center’s grant as a National Resource Center for Latin America. The conference featured 32 panels, with 120 presentations from the perspectives of a wide variety of disciplines. Twenty-two University of Pittsburgh students and faculty members presented papers or served as panel chairs. MACLAS also chose **Carmelo Mesa-Lago** (Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh) as the keynote speaker for the conference. Professor Mesa-Lago has been a leader in the areas of social security, health, and well-being for over 40 years. Throughout his long career, he has focused on these issues both as a scholar and as an advocate. He has published over 40 books and monographs and hundreds of articles, chapters, reports, and pamphlets on the subjects. In 2007, he was awarded the International Labor Organization (ILO) International Research Prize on Decent Work for his lifelong work on social protection.



Left to right: Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies Juan Manfredi, Vivian Manfredi, and Carmelo Mesa-Lago at the 32nd MACLAS.

Professor Mesa-Lago has a long association with CLAS and the University of Pittsburgh. He joined the University as Associate Director of CLAS and Assistant Professor of Economics in 1967 and served as director of CLAS from 1974 until 1986. He became a Professor Emeritus in 1999 and then spent three years at Florida International University. He continues to take an active role in the Center for Latin American Studies and the University of Pittsburgh.

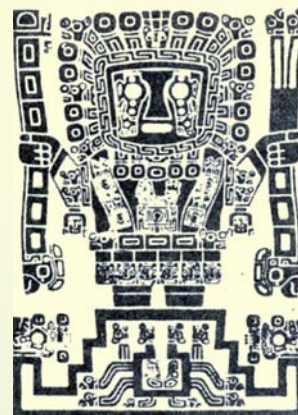
At each annual conference, MACLAS also awards the Arthur P. Whitaker prize for the best book published in the previous two years by a MACLAS member, who has been a member in good standing for the past two years.

Arthur P. Whitaker Prize Winner
G. Reid Andrews
and
MACLAS President Ivani Vassoler
(State University of New York,
Fredonia).

The 32nd ANNUAL MACLAS CONFERENCE

Globalization and Well-Being in Latin America

March 17-19, 2011
University of Pittsburgh



The Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies
Co-sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh

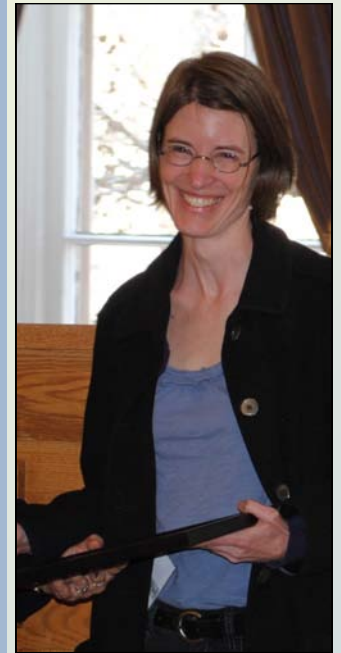


The 2011 prize was awarded to CLAS faculty member and University of Pittsburgh Distinguished Professor of History **G. Reid Andrews** for his book *Blackness in the White Nation: A History of Afro-Uruguay* (University of North Carolina Press, 2010). An Honorable Mention for the Arthur P. Whitaker prize went to CLAS alumna **Betsy Konefal** (PhD 2005 History; Assistant Professor of History, William and Mary) for her book, *For Every Indio Who Falls: A History of Maya Activism in Guatemala, 1960-1990* (University of New Mexico Press, 2010).

CLAS 2010 Undergraduate Seminar/Field Trip (León, Nicaragua) participants presenting papers on their research from Nicaragua on Panel 22—Well-Being from the Bottom Up: Localized Perspectives on Globalized Concerns—at MACLAS.

Seated (left to right): Mikaela Alger (Biology/Anthropology), Anna Bondar (Pre-Pharmacy), and Stacey Jones (History and Philosophy of Science).

Standing: Panel Chair Matt Rhodes (Graduate Student, Administrative and Policy Studies-Education, University of Pittsburgh).



Betsy Konefal.



CLAS Department of History Graduate Students presenting papers on Panel 16—Race, State and Citizenship in Afro-Latin America, 1900-2010—at MACLAS.

Left to right: Francisco Florez Bolivar, Elizabeth Molnar, Orlando Rivero-Valdés, and Panel Chair G. Reid Andrews.

In addition to the annual MACLAS spring meeting, the association publishes a newsletter several times during the year and a refereed journal, *Latin American Essays*, *MACLAS*, once each year. The journal is a selection of papers presented at the annual conference in addition to select papers and book reviews that are in keeping with the theme of that year's conference. For more information, see the MACLAS web site at: <http://www.maclas.org/>

Genetic Criticism and Latin American Texts

On March 28 and 29, 2011, the symposium on “Genetic Criticism and Latin American Texts” was held at the University of Pittsburgh. The symposium focused on the theory of genetic criticism and its applications to the study of Latin American manuscripts. Coordinated by CLAS faculty member **Daniel Balderston** (Mellon Professor of Modern Languages, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures), the symposium was held in association with a graduate seminar on the subject taught by Professor Balderston in spring 2011.

Genetic Criticism and Latin American Texts (continued)

The program for the symposium follows.

Monday, March 28

9:30 a.m.

Welcome and Introductions

10:00 a.m.

John Bryant (Professor of English, Hofstra University): "Revision, Translation and Adaptation: Editing the Fluid Text in the Digital Age"

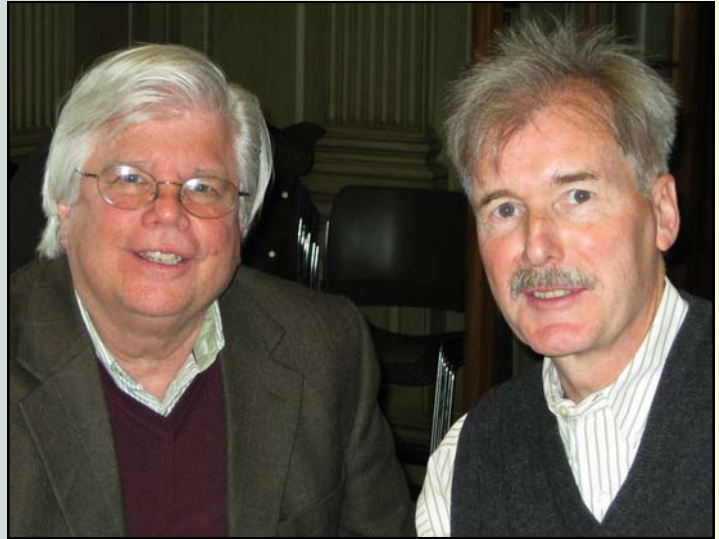
10:30 a.m.

Jacques Neefs (James M. Beall Professor of French, Johns Hopkins University): "The Making of the Work: Genetics and Esthetics"

1:15 p.m.

Élida Lois (Researcher at CONICET and Director, Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas "Jorge M. Furt," Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Argentina): "Autobiografía y autoficción en la génesis de Peregrinación de Luz del Día o Viaje y Aventuras de la Verdad en el Nuevo Mundo de Juan Bautista Alberdi"

2:00 p.m. *Discussion*



John Bryant and Dan Balderston.



Jacques Neefs (center) presenting at the Genetic Criticism and Latin American Texts Conference.

Tuesday, March 29

9:00 a.m. *Workshop on Genetic Criticism*

10:00 a.m.

Sergio Delgado (Professor of Latin American Literature, Université de Bretagne Sud, Lorient, France): "Rostros de jóvenes poetas: Juan L. Ortiz y Juan José Saer"

10:45 a.m.

Julio Premat (Professor of Latin American Literature, Université de Paris-VIII, France): "Bocetos, borradores, esbozos: La otra obra de Saer"

11:30 a.m.

María Laura Bocaz-Leiva (Assistant Professor of Spanish, University of Mary Washington): "José Donoso en el ejercicio de la escritura de El obsceno pájaro de la noche: Una interpretación a partir de los José Donoso Papers"

1:30 p.m.

Daniel Balderston (Mellon Professor of Modern Languages, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh): "Palabras rechazadas: Borges y la tachadura"

3:00 p.m. *Workshop with Students in Genetic Criticism Course*

Sponsors: Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Humanities Center, and Center for Latin American Studies.

The inaugural symposium of the Asian and Latin American Women's Studies Working Group—**Postcolonial Feminisms and the Ethic of Care: South-to-South Dialogues**—was held on April 8, 2011. The symposium brought together leading scholars in Asian and Latin American studies to create new understanding and knowledge in the areas of gender, race, and class. The purpose of the working group is to deepen the understanding of the postcolonial human conditions, and produce new knowledges in the overdetermined process of subjectivities by exploring intersections of gender, sexuality, race, and class at various localities in Latin America and Asia. A preparatory workshop was held in spring 2010, where scholars in Latin American, Caribbean, and Asian studies participated in an intensive seminar with University of Pittsburgh faculty and advanced graduate students. The workshop in 2010 served as the platform for the inaugural symposium. The symposium participants convened on April 9 for a post-symposium workshop to plan future collaboration.



Left to right: Young Rae Oum, Prajna Parasher, Kiran Asher, Isis Nusair, Michelle Rowley, Bernardita Llanos Mardones, Sasha Su-Ling Welland, and Tani Barlow.

Symposium

April 8, 2011

9:30 a.m. Opening Remarks

10:00 a.m. Panel I: The Women Question: Gender, Modernity, Nationalism

Keynote Speaker: Tani Barlow (T. T. and W. F. Chao Professor of Asian History and Director of the Chao Center for Asian Studies, Rice University)

Discussant: Michelle Rowley (Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, University of Maryland)

12:40 p.m. Panel II: Beyond Victims and Guardian Angels: Postcolonial Feminisms and Development

Keynote Speaker: Kiran Asher (Associate Professor of International Development and Social Change and Women's Studies, Department of International Development, Community, and Environment, Clark University)

Discussants: Sasha Su-Ling Welland (Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Women's Studies, University of Washington), Isis Nusair (Associate Professor of Women's Studies and International Studies, Denison University)

2:40 p.m. Panel III: Specters and Images: Borders, Identities, and Locations

Keynote Speaker: Prajna Parasher (Associate Professor of Media Arts and Communication, Chatham College)

Discussants: Bernardita Llanos Mardones (Professor of Spanish and Women's Studies, Denison University), Young Rae Oum (Center Associate, University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh)

7:00 p.m. Film Screening and Lecture

Film: "Motherland" (Director/Producer/Writer Dai Sil Kim-Gibson; 2006)

Speaker: Dai Sil Kim-Gibson (Filmmaker, Writer, and Painter, New York)

Sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh's Center for International Studies, Asian Studies Center, Center for Latin American Studies, Confucius Institute, Korea Council, China Council, Global Studies Center, Office of the Provost, Dean of Arts and Sciences, and Humanities Center.

Honoring Student and Faculty Achievements

On April 5, 2011, the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) held its annual reception to celebrate the achievements of students and faculty in Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh. The occasion recognizes fellowships, awards, and grants administered through CLAS as well as those from other units of the University and from organizations outside the University. A welcome and opening remarks were provided by **Larry Feick** (Director of the University Center for International Studies and Senior Director of International Programs), and CLAS alumnus **Alejandro Meter** (Director, Latin American Studies Program, and Associate Professor of Spanish, University of San Diego) delivered the feature address.

CLAS Support to Faculty and Students for Study, Research, and Travel

Each year, CLAS conducts competitions to provide funding for its faculty and students to undertake study, research, and travel that will enhance their expertise on the Latin American/Caribbean region. During 2010-11, CLAS faculty and students were the recipients of 141 awards administered through the Center, and 60 students completed certificates/related concentrations. Funding for the awards came from a variety of sources, including: the Howard Heinz Latin American Archaeology Fund, The Andrew W. Mellon Latin American Archaeology Fund, the Howard Heinz Latin American Social and Public Policy Fund, the U.S. Department of Education, anonymous donors, Violeta F. Rodríguez, the Shirley Kregar Scholarship Fund, the Research and Teaching Fund for Latin American Studies, the Student Endowment Fund for the Latin American Studies Program, the University Center for International Studies, the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, and the University of Pittsburgh.

Numerous faculty members served on committees to select the recipients of these awards. The staff of CLAS extends their appreciation to these faculty for taking time from their busy schedules to accomplish this task: **Jorge Abad** (Engineering), **G. Reid Andrews** (History), **Daniel Balderston** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Marc Bermann** (Anthropology), **Bobby Chamberlain** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Kathleen M. DeWalt** (Anthropology), **Juan Duchesne-Winter** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Joshua Lund** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Scott Morgenstern** (Political Science), **John Myers** (Education), **Chiara Nardone** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Paul Nelson** (Public and International Affairs), **Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Political Science), **Dorolyn Smith** (Linguistics), and **Stewart Sutin** (Education).

¡Felicitaciones/Parabéns to the most recent CLAS graduates!

Graduate Certificate in Latin American Studies

August 2010

Maria Andrea Castagnola—Political Science

Carolina Forero Pedreros—Global Political Economy (GSPIA)

Penelope Morrison—Anthropology/Public Health

Paola Subero Read—Global Political Economy (GSPIA)

Claire Yerke—NGO's and Civil Society (GSPIA)

December 2010

Raquel Alfaro—Hispanic Languages and Literatures

Katie Muller—NGO's and Civil Society (GSPIA)

Rafael Ponce-Cordero—Hispanic Languages and Literatures

April 2011

Carolina Gainza—Hispanic Languages and Literatures

Andrea Kamouyerou—Behavioral and Community Health Sciences

Oriana Muriel—Public and International Affairs (GSPIA)

Anne Marie Toccket—International Development (GSPIA)

Gerardo Gomez-Michel—Hispanic Languages and Literatures

Gina Villamizar—Hispanic Languages and Literatures

Graduate Certificate in Latin American Social and Public Policy

April 2011

Maria Cecilia Beltrão Raposo—Public and International Affairs (GSPIA)

Oscar de la Torre Cueva—History

Jorge Enrique Delgado—Education

Christian Frenopoulo—Anthropology/Public Health

Christine Waller—Public & International Affairs (GSPIA)

Undergraduate Certificate in Latin American Studies

August 2010

Peter Abraldes—Political Science
Kimberly Bennett—Spanish/Political Science
Sarah Kuhn—Spanish/Psychology
Emma McAuley—Environmental Studies
Alexa Swailes—Spanish

December 2010

Kristin Fleming—Urban Studies
Chelsea Mafrika—Anthropology
Nicole Novack—Spanish
Kristen Painter—Spanish/History
Krista Williams—Linguistics

April 2011

Kathryn R. Barker—College of Business Administration
Joseph V. Bilyk—College of Business Administration
Precious Jewel Diamond—Spanish
Samantha M. Evanoff—Environmental Studies
Molly Rebecca Fischman—Linguistics
Jennifer M. Gagnon—Philosophy/Administration of Justice
Gloria Gabriela Hatcher—Urban Studies
Kayla A. Hunter—English Writing
Denis M. Hurley II—Sociology
Alena Veniece Joseph—Spanish
Robert Thomas Koenig—Economics/Mathematics
Timothy L. Kraus—Finance
Leigh Loman—Political Science
Amanda N. Lustig—Spanish
Rachele Louise McFarland—Social Work
Clifton McKee—Biological Sciences/Environmental Studies
Sarah Ann Perlmutter—English Writing/Philosophy
Erin Kathleen Ross—Spanish
Katherine Schuck—Spanish
Jenna Elise Tanenbaum—Finance
Claudia C. Taylor—Economics/Spanish
Laura Elizabeth Watts—Marketing
Julia Rose Wean—Urban Studies
Daniel J. Wolf—Biological Sciences/College of Business Administration

Related Concentration in Latin American Studies

August 2010

Ryan Kish—Political Science/College of Business Administration

April 2011

Maria Baughman—College of Business Administration/Psychology

Amanda E. Gavin—Pre-Pharmacy
Julia Gelman-Sheehan—Sociology
Stephanie Lynne Krowka—Chemistry
Sommer Elizabeth Pirrung—Psychology
Samantha Sanft—Anthropology

Congratulations to all!

Honors (continued)

FACULTY RESEARCH GRANTS (9)

Purpose: To help support small-scale research projects or provide seed money for larger projects by faculty members.

Awardees:

Alvaro A. Bernal (Assistant Professor, Humanities-Johnstown): “Colombian National Identity: Power, Popular Culture and Contemporary Life”
Jerome Branche (Associate Professor, Hispanic Languages and Literatures): “(Rastafarically Speaking) Truth and Power: Lynton Kwesi Johnson’s ‘Street 66’ as Immigrant Epic”
Maria Auxiliadora Cordero (Research Associate, Anthropology): “Understanding Pre-hispanic Sociopolitical Development in the Jubones River Corridor in Southern Ecuador”
Juan Duchesne-Winter (Professor, Hispanic Languages and Literatures): “Goajira Wayuu Literature as a Case for an ‘Eccentric’ Caribbean Perspective”
Steven Hirsch (Associate Professor, History-Greensburg): “Transnational Anarchism in Perú: The Influence of Argentine Anarchism, 1905-1929”
Lisa Jackson-Schebetta (Assistant Professor, Theater Arts): “Archival Research on Caribbean Diaspora and Political Theatre in the United States”
Hugo Nutini (University Professor, Anthropology): “Sociocultural Change in the Tlaxcala-Pueblan Valley (1958-2010): An Inquiry on Modernization, Secularization, and Indian Identity”
Shalini Puri (Associate Professor, English): “The Grenada Revolution: Concluding Fieldwork”
Nuno Themudo da Silva (Assistant Professor, Public and International Affairs): “Focusing on the Mexican Philanthropy Puzzle: An Exploratory Study of the Causes of Mexican Non-profit Sector Weakness”

GRADUATE STUDENT FIELD RESEARCH GRANTS (17)

Purpose: To help support short-term field research projects by graduate students.

Awardees:

Pedro María Argüello García (Anthropology): “Vertical Economy and Chiefdom Emergence in Muisca Area”
Hannah Burdette (Hispanic Languages and Literatures): “Poetry and Politics in La Paz: Exploring the Intersection between Contemporary Indigenous Literature and Social Movements”
Chad Dorn (Education): “What Works for Whom under What Circumstances? Developing Theory from the Analysis of Social Policy Programs for Working Children and Their Families in Quito, Ecuador”
Kimberlee Eberle-Sudre (Education): “Is Bolsa Familia Enough? The Educational Quality of Brazilian Public Schools” [declined grant in order to accept an internship at the White House Initiative for Educational Excellence for Hispanics in Washington, DC]

Honor's Day Featured Speaker



The Center was very happy to welcome back to Pittsburgh

Alejandro Meter (CLAS alumnus; PhD 2003 Hispanic Language and Literatures) as the featured speaker at the 2011 Honors Day. In addition to pursuing diligently his studies while at the University, Alejandro worked for a short time at the Center, helping to fill a gap in staffing. A native of Argentina, he completed his MA in Hispanic Studies at

the University of Nebraska, Lincoln and his PhD at Pitt—based on his dissertation, “Recovered Narratives: Collective Memory in Contemporary Argentine Jewish Fiction.”

Alejandro's current research focuses primarily on Jewish Latin America with an emphasis on Southern Cone cultural production. He edited *Literatura Judía en América Latina* (2001)—a special volume of *Revista Iberoamericana*—and more recently coedited the book *Memoria y Representación: configuraciones culturales y literarias en el imaginario judío latinoamericano* (Beatriz Viterbo, 2006). In addition, he has published essays and book reviews in numerous journals including *Chasqui: revista de literatura latinoamericana*; *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*, *Shofar*, *Cincinnati Romance Review*, and *Latin American Research Review*, among others. His latest research project examines how football (soccer), a “national religion” in Latin America, has functioned as a builder of national identity while, at times, becoming a vehicle for racist, xenophobic, and antisemitic propositions. His specializations include dictatorial and post-dictatorial fiction of the Southern Cone, migration and exile, Latin American Jewish studies, and memory/trauma/reconciliation. He currently directs the intersession Buenos Aires Program.

Alejandro has taught a variety of language and literature courses at the University of San Diego, including Advanced Grammar and Composition, Introduction to Hispanic Literatures, Cultural History of Latin America, Survey of Latin American Literature, Latin American Short-Story, Short-Fiction of the

Southern Cone, River Plate Literature and Culture, as well as courses on the Jewish experience in the Americas. In addition to teaching departmental classes, Professor Meter has participated in team-taught courses, freshman seminars, and cross-listed courses on literature and politics of the Southern Cone, Latino studies, and Jewish cultural studies.

Honors (continued)

John Galante (History): “Moderate Revolutions: Radicals and Italians in the 1910s and 1920s”

Jessica Gogan (History of Art and Architecture): “Art, Education and the Legacy of Paulo Freire in Contemporary Brazil”

Hugo C. Ikehara (Anthropology): “Diversification of Power in Post-Chavin Peru”

Alexandru V. Lefter (Hispanic Languages and Literatures): “Radical Women in the Struggle for Decolonization: Approaching the Autonomous Feminism of Mujeres Creando Comunidad”

Elizabeth Molnar (History): “The Struggle for Land Rights in Caribbean Central America, 1930-2010”

Lizette A. Muñoz (Anthropology): “Prehispanic Rural vs. Urban Foodways in Northwestern Belize”

Daniel Nuñez (Sociology): “Lynchings in Guatemala”

John Polga-Hecimovich (Political Science): “Coalition Formation and Duration in Presidential Democracies”

Orlando Rivero-Valdés (History): “Illicit Associations: Afro-Cuban Religions, Citizenship, and Freedom of Religion in Cuba (1880-1950)”

Jennifer Roland (Anthropology): “Preliminary Investigation into Wankarani Camelid Herd Variability”

Caitlin E. Smith (Anthropology): “Traditions of the Pre-Hipanic Coastal Resource Exploitation”

Luis A. Trelles (Political Science): “Violence, Crime, and Political Participation in Latin America”

Maria D. Venegas (Anthropology): “Grisi Siknis: Toward a Conceptualization of a Folk Illness among the Miskito and Mayangna Peoples of Nicaragua”

US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS (Academic Year 2010-11) (7)
Purpose: To support graduate students in their study of Latin American languages and the area.

Awardees:

Allison Coffman (Public and International Affairs), Quechua

Betty Cruz (Public and International Affairs), Portuguese
Jessica Gogan (History of Art and Architecture), Portuguese

Susie Meister (Religious Studies), Portuguese

John Polga-Hecimovich (Political Science), Portuguese

Cassilde Schwartz (Political Science), Portuguese

Anne Marie Tocckett (Public and International Affairs), Quechua

US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOREIGN LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES FELLOWSHIPS (Summer 2010-11) (4)
Purpose: To support students in their study of Latin American languages.

Awardees:

Nora Colleen Bridges (Anthropology), Quichua
Timothy Capria (Law), Portuguese
Allison Guess (Spanish/Political Science), Portuguese
Joseph D. Myers (Finance), Portuguese

LATIN AMERICAN SOCIAL AND PUBLIC POLICY FELLOWSHIPS (Academic Year 2010-11) (3)

Purpose: To assist Latin Americanist scholars interested in various dimensions of social policy to pursue advanced graduate studies.

Awardees:

Bruno Hoepers (Political Science)
Daniel Munari (Public and International Affairs)
Yu Xiao (Political Science)

GRADUATE FELLOWSHIPS IN LATIN AMERICAN ARCHAEOLOGY—Department of Anthropology (2010-11) (7)

Purpose: To provide support for students (primarily from Latin America) to pursue studies in archaeology leading to the doctoral degree in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Pittsburgh.

Awardees:

Pedro María Argüello García (Colombia)
Roberto Campbell (Chile)
Camila Capriata (Peru)
Alejandro Chu (Peru)
Sebastián Fajardo Bernal (Colombia)
Hugo C. Ikehara (Peru)
Enrique López-Hurtado (Peru)

TUITION REMISSION FELLOWSHIPS (Academic Year 2010-11) (19)

Purpose: To provide support for students (primarily those from Latin America) in the form of full or partial tuition remission fellowships.

Awardees:

Adriana Barrón from the U.S. (Public and International Affairs)
Nestor Castañeda-Angarita from Colombia (Political Science)
Gabriel Chouhy Algorta from Uruguay (Sociology)
Oscar de la Torre Cueva from Spain (History)
Alana DeLoge from the U.S. (Public Health)
Francisco Florez Bolivar from Colombia (Public and International Affairs)
Marissa Germain from the U.S. (Public and International Affairs)
José David Herazo Rivera from Colombia (Instruction and Learning-Education)
Juan Hernandez Aguilera from Colombia (Public and International Affairs)
Yolanda Hernandez-Albujar from Spain (Sociology)
Ivonne Rose Howard from Colombia (Social Work)
Gustavo Makanaky Cordoba from Colombia (Public and International Affairs)
Oriana Muriel from Colombia (Public and International Affairs)

Maria Julia Rossi from Argentina (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Alejandro Sanchez Lopera from Colombia (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Ted Serrant from Dominica (Administrative and Policy Studies-Education)

Fernando Manuel Toledo from Peru (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Maria Luisa Toro Hernandez from Colombia (Health and Rehabilitations Sciences)

Christine Waller from the U.S. (Public and International Affairs)



Left to right: Allison Guess, Laura Watts, Jenna Tanenbaum, and Assistant Director for Academic Affairs Julian Asenjo.

CLAS STUDENT AMBASSADORS (3)

Purpose: For outstanding students to assist the Center in disseminating information (principally to undergraduates) about training programs and other research and study opportunities. Student ambassadors receive support in the form of 50% tuition remission fellowships.

Awardees:

Allison Guess (Political Science)
Jenna Tanenbaum (Finance)
Laura Watts (Marketing)

TRAVEL TO PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS (Academic Year 2010-11) (44)

Purpose: To provide faculty, students, and staff with travel funds to support their participation in conferences/meetings on Latin America.

Awardees:

FACULTY (13)

G. Reid Andrews (History), **Robert Barker** (Law), **Maria Auxiliadora Cordero** (Anthropology), **Steven Hirsch** (History, Greensburg campus), **Gonzalo Lamana** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Joshua Lund** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Martha Mantilla** (Library), **John Markoff** (Sociology), **Scott Morgenstern** (Political Science), **Anibal Pérez-Liñán** (Political Science), **James B. Richardson III** (Anthropology), **Richard Scaglion** (Anthropology), **Nuno Themudo da Silva** (Public and International Affairs)

STUDENTS (31)

Nestor Castañeda-Angarita (Political Science), **Ignacio Arana Araya** (Political Science), **Pedro Argüello** (Anthropology), **Hannah Burdette** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Miguel Carreras** (Political Science), **Alessandra Chiriboga Holzheu** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **María del Carmen Saldarriaga** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Jorge Delgado** (Education), **Betina González** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Carolina Gainza** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **José David Herazo Rivera** (Education), **Julie Hoggarth** (Anthropology), **Hugo Ikehara** (Anthropology), **María Laura Lenardon** (Linguistics), **Maricarmen León** (Hispanic Languages

and Literatures), **Enrique López-Hurtado** (Anthropology), **Lizette Muñoz Rojas** (Anthropology), **Gabriela Nuñez** (Communication), **Roberto Ponce-Cordero** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Reynaldo Rojo Mendoza** (Political Science), **María Julia Rossi** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Alejandro Sanchez Lopera** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Cassilde Schwartz** (Political Science), **Amy Erica Smith** (Political Science), **Yen-Pin Su** (Political Science), **Kimberlee Eberle-Sudre** (Education), **Anne Marie Toccket** (Public and International Affairs), **Luis Trelles** (Political Science), **María Venegas** (Anthropology), **Gina Villamizar** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures), **Jorge Zavaleta** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)



2011 Field Trip Participants in Rosario, Argentina.

From left to right (back): Laina Lockett, Julian Asenjo (CLAS Assistant Director for Academic Affairs), Ray Mazzocco, Seth Folkenroth, Moriah Mock, Matt Rhodes, Laryssa Richards, Lacie Buckwalter, and Tara Saluja.

From left to right (front): Jeff Nelson, Sarah Sleasman, Evelyn McCoy, Lauren Hogsett, Annie Gula, Emma Fitzgibbon, Meghan Williams, and Andrea Kamouyerou.

UNDERGRADUATE SEMINAR/FIELD TRIP, ROSARIO, ARGENTINA (2011)

Purpose: Each year CLAS subsidizes most of the cost of sending a group of undergraduates, selected on a competitive basis, to a Latin American country where each student conducts an individually designed research project.

Project Director: **Matthew Rhodes** (Administrative and Policy Studies-Education)

Project Assistant: **Andrea Kamouyerou** (Public Health)

Undergraduate Participants in the 2011 Seminar and Field Trip (14):

Lacie Buckwalter (Spanish)

Emma Fitzgibbon (Biology)

Seth Folkenroth (History/Political Science)

Annie Gula (Biology)

Lauren Hogsett (Undecided)

Laina Lockett (Microbiology)

Raymond Mazzocco (Political Science/Spanish)

Evelyn McCoy (Spanish)

Moriah Mock (Spanish)

Jeff Nelson (Economics/International Studies)

Laryssa Richards (Spanish/Psychology)

Tara Saluja (Neuroscience)

Sarah Sleasman (Linguistics/Spanish)

Meghan Williams (Spanish)



GRADUATE RESEARCH ASSISTANT FOR EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH (1)

Purpose: To provide support for graduate students in Latin American Studies.

Awardee:

Kimberlee Eberle-Sudre (Administrative and Policy Studies-Education)

EDUARDO LOZANO MEMORIAL DISSERTATION PRIZE

The Eduardo Lozano Memorial Dissertation Prize was created to honor the life and work of Eduardo Lozano, who directed the Latin American collection at Hillman Library from 1967 until his death in August 2006 and developed it into one of the most outstanding collections of its kind in the world. The prize is awarded annually for the best doctoral dissertation at the University of Pittsburgh on a topic related to Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latin American communities in other countries. The prize is funded by annual contributions from the Center for Latin American Studies, the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, and generous donations to the Eduardo Lozano Memorial Dissertation Prize Fund.

For 2009-10, the prize was awarded to **Salomé Aguilera Skvirsky** (English) for her dissertation "The Ethnic Turn: Studies in Political Cinema from Brazil and the U.S., 1960-2005." In addition to the great prestige accorded to this award, **Salomé** received a cash prize of \$1,250. Quoting briefly from the award letter sent to Dr. Aguilera Skvirsky by the selection committee:

"The prize committee felt that this year's submissions for the Lozano Prize were the strongest since the prize's creation in 2006. Yet even in such a strong field, your thesis stood out. The committee was impressed by your careful tracing of the emergence of the quilombo as a symbol both of black racial identity and of resistance to colonialism and capitalism, and by your examination of the different visions of quilombos presented in documentary and feature films from the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. Shifting focus to the United States, you then explore ideological and artistic connections between the Los Angeles school of African-American filmmakers and political filmmakers in Brazil and Cuba. The thesis is closely argued, sharply and incisively written, and in constant dialogue with theoretical literature on race, cultural studies, and film studies. The result is a work that makes significant contributions to all three fields, as well as to the comparative history of political cinema in Brazil and the United States."

Dr. Aguilera Skvirsky currently serves as an assistant professor of film and media studies in the English Department at the University of Massachusetts Boston. The PDF version of the dissertation can be viewed at: <http://etd.library.pitt.edu/ETD/available/etd-09302009-173153/>.



This year, for the first time, the committee awarded an Honorable Mention to **María Andrea Castagnola** (Political Science) for her dissertation, titled, "Rethinking Judicial Instability in Developing Democracies: A National and Subnational Analysis of Supreme Courts in Argentina." Dr. Castagnola currently serves as Profesora Investigadora at Flacso-México. The PDF version of the dissertation can be viewed at: <http://etd.library.pitt.edu/ETD/available/etd-04192010-092223/>.



In their letter to Dr. Castagnola, the committee members noted that "The prize committee was intrigued by the question your thesis addresses: why do Supreme Court justices in Argentina, who are guaranteed life-time tenure in office, serve on average less than five years before leaving the court? Amassing an extraordinary database on justices' service in national and provincial supreme courts, you convincingly demonstrate that presidents and governors employ a combination of pressures and incentives to remove justices from office and replace them with nominees more closely aligned with the preferences of executive office-holders. These findings are a significant contribution to our understanding of conditions of jurisprudence and governance in Argentina and in Latin America more generally, and on power relations between the executive and judicial branches of government. Your dissertation also offers methods and approaches that have great potential for the study of judicial systems in other developing countries, which your nominators inform us you are already undertaking."

2009-10 EDUARDO LOZANO MEMORIAL DISSERTATION PRIZE

Purpose: The prize is awarded annually for the best doctoral dissertation at the University of Pittsburgh on a topic related to Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latin American communities in other countries.

Awardee: **Salomé Skvirsky-Aguilera** (PhD 2009 English) for "*The Ethnic Turn: Studies in Political Cinema from Brazil and the US, 1960-2005*"

Honorable Mention: **María Andrea Castagnola** (PhD 2010 Political Science) for "*Rethinking Judicial Instability in Developing Democracies: A National and Subnational Analysis of Supreme Courts in Argentina*"

THE COLE AND MARTY BLASIER AWARDS (2)

Purpose: For meritorious work as a volunteer in support of the programs of Latin American Studies.

Awardees:

Mildred López (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Cecilia Raposo (Public and International Affairs)



Mildred López
and
Rachael
Greenwalt.



Cecilia Raposo.



Sierra Starks.

THE VIOLETA F. RODRÍGUEZ AWARDS (2)

Purpose: To provide an incentive for undergraduates to study abroad.

Awardees:

Rachael Greenwalt (Anthropology)

Sierra Starks (English Writing)



Moriah Mock.



Evelyn McCoy.

SHIRLEY KREGAR SCHOLARSHIPS (2)

Purpose: To support study by undergraduate students in Latin America.

Awardees:

Moriah Mock (Spanish)

Evelyn McCoy (Spanish/Music)

DAVID B. HOUSTON SCHOLARSHIP (1)

Purpose: To recognize a student whose academic work and career objectives are dedicated to issues of human rights and social justice in Latin America.

Awardee: **Ignacio Arana Araya**
(Political Science)



Ignacio Arana Araya.

UNDERGRADUATE TEACHING FELLOWSHIP (Fall 2010) (2)

Purpose: To provide undergraduates with the opportunity to enrich their educational experience by helping a faculty member to teach or develop a course.

Awardees:

Cassandra Baiano (Italian/Sociology) with **Matthew Rhodes** (Graduate Student, Administrative and Policy Studies-Education)

Valerie Steinbacher (Sociology) with **Ana Paula Carvalho** (Portuguese Language Coordinator, Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

2010-11 University of Pittsburgh and External Fellowships and Awards

FACULTY

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

2011 Chancellor's Distinguished Public Service Award, for outstanding contributions to the community at large by members of the faculty, using their academic expertise, as determined by colleagues and community leaders, to: **Laurence Glasco** (History)

Ronald H. Brown Civic Leadership Award, Urban League of Greater Pittsburgh, to: **Laurence Glasco** (History)

Distinguished Professor of Atlantic History, to: **Marcus Rediker** (History)

National Endowment for the Humanities Award, to: **Gayle Rogers** (English)

University of Pittsburgh Provost's Award for Excellence in Mentoring, to: **Richard Scaglione** (Anthropology)

Emeritus Appointment, to: **Joseph K. Adjaye** (Africana Studies)

Emeritus Appointment, to: **Thomas H. Anderson** (Geology and Planetary Science)

JOHN A. SWANSON SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

American Society for Engineering Education North Central Section Best Paper Award, to: **Daniel D. Budny** (Engineering)

2010 University of Pittsburgh Innovator Award, to recognize faculty for licensed technology, to: **Eric J. Beckman** (Engineering)

SCHOOL OF LAW

Bessie McKee Walthour Endowed Chair, to: **Jules Lobel** (Law)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Higher Education Special Interest Group of the Comparative and International Education Society, for contributions for years of service in the field, to: **Seth Spaulding** (Education)

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Outstanding Article in *Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly (NVSQ)* Award, Association of Researchers on Nonprofit Organization and Voluntary Action (ARNOVA), to: **Nuno Themudo** (Public and International Affairs)

UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT GREENSBURG

Distinguished Service Award, for excellence in service, to: **Nancy B. Florez-Estrada** (Spanish)

Teaching Excellence Award, to: **Nancy B. Florez-Estrada** (Spanish)

GRADUATE STUDENTS

ELIZABETH U. BARANGER EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD, for outstanding teaching by a graduate student, to: **Suset Laboy Perez** (History)

CENTRAL STATES ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY BETH WILDER DILLINGHAM AWARD, for demonstrated potential as a successful anthropologist, to: **Laura Macia-Vergara** (Anthropology)

DUMBARTON OAKS FELLOWSHIP, to: **Giancarlo Marcone** (Anthropology)

FULBRIGHT GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP, for advanced study and/or research at the graduate level, to:

Gabriel Chouhy Algorta (Sociology)

Francisco Florez Bolivar (History)

Francisco Garrido Escobar (Anthropology)

Juan Hernandez Aguilera (Public and International Affairs)

Jose David Herazo Rivera (Education)

Ivonne Rose Howard (Social Work)

Gustavo Mekanaky Cordoba (Public and International Affairs)

Ted Serrant (Education)

Maria Lusía Toro Hernandez (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)

LUZ AND ALFREDO

GUTIERREZ FELLOWSHIP, to: **Luis A. Trelles** (Political Science)

INTER-AMERICAN FOUNDATION GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP, to:

Maria Amalia Pesantes Villa (Anthropology)

ANDREW MELLON PRE-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS, for superior performance in the academic disciplines of arts and sciences at the graduate level, to:

Alejandra Boza (History)

Hernando Javier Giraldo (Anthropology)

Nashieli Marcano (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Lizette A. Muñoz Rojas (Anthropology)

María Carolina Rueda (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

DAVID R. BOOKSTAVAR AWARD, to the student who demonstrates excellence in the field of the transfer of property by devise, bequest, or gift, to: **Melissa L. Dougherty** (Law)

SCHOOL OF LAW COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD, to the graduating students who have demonstrated exceptional character and commitment by providing significant voluntary service to the community while in law school, to: **Melissa L. Dougherty** (Law)



Maria Amalia Pesantes Villa.

Honors (continued)



Jorge Enrique Delgado.

K. LEROY IRVIS DIVERSITY DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP, to: **Jorge Enrique Delgado** (Education)

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD, to: **Jorge Enrique Delgado** (Education)

DEZAFRA LEADERSHIP FELLOW, to support the development of leadership skills in women in public and international affairs, to:

Lauren K. Ackerman (Public and International Affairs)

Christine L. Waller (Public and International Affairs)



Christine Waller and Lauren Ackerman.

REHABILITATION ENGINEERING SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA (RESNA), Student Design Competition finalists during the annual conference, to: **Maria Luisa Toro Hernandez** (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)

2010 RESNA-WHITAKER FOUNDATION STUDENT SCIENTIFIC PAPER AWARD, to: **Maria L. Toro Hernandez** (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences)

2010 NATIONALITY ROOM SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY ABROAD, STANLEY PROSTREDNIK AWARD to participate with the U.S. Steelworkers Union in Pittsburgh and in Colombia, researching issues vital to the membership in several cities in Colombia, to: **Matthew F. Paterra** (Public and International Affairs)

2010 NATIONALITY ROOM SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY ABROAD, IVAN SANTA-CRUZ MEMORIAL AWARD to research the publication of Latin American scientific journals, especially in a university-based model, in Santiago, Chile, to: **Jorge Enrique Delgado** (Education)



Maria L. Toro Hernandez.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

UNIVERSITY SCHOLARS, for attaining the top two percent in cumulative undergraduate academic standing by school.

School of Arts and Sciences

Seniors

Nicole M. Novack (Spanish)

Juniors

Moriah L. Mock (Spanish)

School of Social Work

Seniors

Rachele McFarland (Social Work)

School of Information Sciences

Seniors

Joseph Kashurba (Information Science)

College of Business Administration

Seniors

Jenna E. Tanenbaum (Finance)

LEADING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH 2011 HONORS CONVOCATION, by: **Leigh Anne Miguelez** (English Writing/Spanish)

LEADING OF THE ALMA MATER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH 2011 HONORS CONVOCATION, by: **Leigh Anne Miguelez** (English Writing/Spanish)

PHI BETA KAPPA MEMBERS, for superior scholastic achievement in undergraduate programs in the arts and sciences.

Initiates for 2010:

Amanda L. Dippold (Biology)

Emma C. McAuley (Environmental Studies)

ARTS AND SCIENCES UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES SCHOLARSHIP, for outstanding academic achievement, to:

Youssef A. Abdelwahab (Environmental Studies)

Nicole M. Novack (Spanish)

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS OUTSTANDING SENIOR AWARD, to: **Lewis Lehe** (Mathematics/Economics)

HONORS RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP, to support student involvement in research under the direction of a faculty member, to: **John Herse** (Spanish)

CHANCELLOR'S UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP, for proposing and implementing an innovative research project in collaboration with a sponsoring faculty member, to: **Joanna Sterling** (Psychology) with Professor Aníbal Pérez-Liñan (Political Science)

2010 NATIONALITY ROOM SCHOLARSHIP HELEN POOL RUSH AWARD, to participate in the Center for Latin American Studies' field trip and research indigenous and local medical practices in León, Nicaragua, to: **Anna Bondar** (Pharmacy)

2010 NATIONALITY ROOMS SCHOLARSHIP FOR STUDY ABROAD, WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL CLUB AWARD, to participate in the Center for Latin American Studies' field trip and to research how fluency in Spanish affects patient care in León, Nicaragua, to: **Stacy C. Jones** (History and Philosophy of Science)

EMMA W. LOCKE AWARD NOMINEES FOR 2011, to a graduating senior in recognition of high scholarship, character, and devotion to the ideals of the University of Pittsburgh:
Joseph N. Kashurba (Information Science)
Rachele L. McFarland (Social Work)

MORTAR BOARD, for students who have demonstrated exemplary scholarship, leadership, and service. Initiate for 2010-11: **Rachele McFarland** (Social Work)

FULBRIGHT U.S. STUDENT PROGRAM, a research, study, or English teaching opportunity that promotes cross-cultural exchange and mutual understanding between nations, to:
Kaley Walsh (Spanish/Linguistics)

Honoring Students and Faculty

Latin American Lecture and Symposium Series

CLAS' Latin American Lecture and Symposium Series features 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 of the Latin American and Caribbean region. Because of the scheduling of CLASícos, lectures and symposia that occur after February in any year do not appear in the series' listings in the Winter issue of the newsletter. The following important presentations occurred in March and April 2011 and we are pleased to note them here.

March 15, 2011

LIVING BILINGUAL: A REFLECTION ON CULTURAL ENCOUNTERS—by **Silvia Molloy** (Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, New York University)

March 16, 2011

BILINGUALISM AND TRANSLATION—by **Silvia Molloy** (Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, New York University)

March 16, 2011

The American Experience Distinguished Lecture Series:
MIDNIGHT IN MEXICO: DESCENT INTO DARKNESS—by **Alfredo Corchado** (Mexico Bureau Chief, Dallas Morning News); with discussion by **Dick Thornburgh** (former Governor of Pennsylvania, Attorney General of the U.S., and U.N. Under-Secretary-General), **Phil Williams** (Director, Matthew B. Ridgway Center for International Security Studies, University of Pittsburgh), **Cindy Skrzycki** (Columnist and Senior Lecturer, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh), and **David Shirkman** (Executive Editor, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette)



Alfredo Corchado.

March 17, 2011

PROPERTY RIGHTS: AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND THE OWNERSHIP OF LIFE—a colloquium with **Silvia Molloy** (Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures, New York University); responses by **Daniel Balderston** (Mellon Professor of Modern Languages, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh) and **Aurea María Sotomayor** (Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh)



March 24, 2011

SOY AFROARGENTINO: RACE AND THE NATIONAL CENSUS OF 2010—by **Miriam V. Gomes** (Coordinator of the National Campaign for Awareness of the Afro-Descendant Variable for the 2010 National Census in Argentina and President of the Organization of the African Diaspora of Argentina)



Lectures (continued)

April 4, 2011

MEXICO to MADISON: UNIONS UNDER ATTACK AND FIGHTING BACK!—by **Pipino Cuevas Velázquez** (National Leader, Sindicato Mexicano de Electricistas [SME])

Patricia Galetto (*La Jornanda Latina*, Pittsburgh, PA) and Pipino Cuevas Velázquez.

Student and Alumni News by Julian Asenjo

We are off to the start of a new action-packed year, with a full series of lectures and cultural events as well as the second Pitt-CMU sponsored “Brazil Today” weekend course. This follows an equally productive 2010-2011 academic year, with the Center graduating more than 70 students who now join a community of over 1,600 CLAS alumni! Among these graduates were our three undergraduate ambassadors—**Allison Guess** (Political Science/Spanish), **Jenna Tanenbaum** (Business, Finance), and **Laura Watts** (Business, Marketing) [pictured on page 9 of this issue]. These three stars visited more than 75 classes promoting CLAS programs and represented the Center at countless events throughout the year. The ambassadors are instrumental in attracting students from across all disciplines to CLAS. They are succeeded this year by three new ambitious representatives—**Lindsay Kramer** (Anthropology/Spanish), **Moriah Mock** (Spanish), and **Drew Myers** (Business/Spanish). The three have extensive combined study/residence experience in Cuba, Brazil, and Argentina.



2011 Seminar and Field Trip participants at an estancia near Rosario, Argentina.

Summer 2011 marked the 40th anniversary of CLAS’ Seminar and Field Trip, with 14 undergraduate scholars traveling to Rosario, Argentina [see picture on page 10]. The students resided with families in the community along the Paraná River and undertook field projects ranging from linguistic styles of Argentine Spanish, topics in Jewish community issues, to same sex marriages. **Matt Rhodes** (Graduate Student in Administrative and Policy Studies, Education) served as project director and **Andrea Kamouyerou** (Graduate Student in Public Health) was the project assistant. The 2012 program will return to Brazil for Portuguese-speaking undergraduates to explore São Luis, Maranhão—the Brazilian state that is expected to join Pennsylvania and Bahia as a new *Partner of the Americas* this year.



2011 Pitt-in-Cuba Participants. Left to right: Eric James, Professor Anita Sanz, Lindsay Kramer, John Herse, Rachel Scholten, Rose McKinley, and Lara Sozansky.

The Center's Pitt in Cuba program experienced another successful year and in 2012, for the first time, will be enrolling students from neighboring institutions to take part in this semester-long immersion experience through the University of Havana. This year also marks the official addition of the Pitt in Ecuador program to begin in summer 2012, where students will study indigenous issues and Kichwa language in the Napo Valley. This area in Ecuador is a frequent destination for recipients of our Department of Education summer language fellowships. In fact, of our eight summer 2011 fellowship recipients, five studied Kichwa in Ecuador. Of the three other awardees—who studied Portuguese—two were undergraduates.

Our students' tradition of scholarly recognition was evident this year as 33 our graduates and 13 of our undergraduates received awards of distinction.

Student and Alumni News

Roland Armando Alum (MA 1976 Anthropology) was named by New Jersey governor Chris Christie as his commissioner representative to the Housing Authority of West New York—Roland's hometown. He completed his terms as the gubernatorial appointed public member of the New Jersey Board of Family Therapists as well as Vice Chair (for 20 years) of the State Advisory Committee to the US Civil Rights Commission. He served as National Chair of the Hispanic Advisory Committee to the US Census and as a trustee of Ramapo College; he is now a trustee of DeVry University-NJ campuses. Roland notes that these activities are part of his applied/practicing anthropology experiences. Previously, he was executive assistant to the President of Passaic County College and Distinguished Visiting Professor at William Paterson University among other academic posts. He also is active in a number of anthropological professional organizations and serves on the editorial boards of various international scholarly journals. His latest writings (in English and Spanish) have been published in *Anthropology News*, *Cuban Affairs* (University of Miami), *Libertad Digital* (Spain), and *El Caribe* (Santo Domingo), among other outlets.

Justine Cortez (BSW 2010 Social Work) writes: "Hey guys! How is everything? Wanted you to be amongst the first to know....I got a job! I am in D.C. and officially a full-time employee at a place called CentroNia! And I love it! I'm working as a social worker at a family center affiliated



Justine (back, left) in Caluco, El Salvador where she has been leading humanitarian delegations for several years. Chris (back, center) and Julian Asenjo (back, right) joined her during summer 2011.

with a charter school, mostly... with parents. Lots of room to grow and really good to get back in the swing of things...Hope to see you guys soon!"

Carolina Forero (MA 2010 GSPIA) escribe: "Les estoy enviando mi tarjeta de invitación/participación/compartición, etc. de mi matrimonio el 27 de Junio en la India (dado que mi futuro esposo es de la India aunque vive en USA). Teniendo en cuenta que la primera boda es un poco lejos, sé que es difícil para ustedes asistir. Esperamos que en 2012 podamos realizar la boda en Colombia y alguna pequeña reunión en USA. En



Pratyush and Carolina.

todo caso no quiero dejar de compartirles este importante momento en mi vida ya que ustedes son personas que aprecio y con las que he compartido mucho en a nivel personal, académico y/o laboral.... y si alguien se anima a acompañarnos... bienvenido/a! Un saludo especial, Carolina”

Prisca Gayles (BA2010 Spanish) began her studies for a Master's Degree in Caribbean and Latin American Studies at the University of South Florida this fall. She also “...wanted to thank you [CLAS] again for all your help...I am beyond excited to delve once more into the wonderful world of Latin American Studies. It was a hard choice to pick a school but I am more than confident that I made the best choice. Thank you so much again, Pris”

Aarti Madan (PhD 2009 Hispanic Languages and Literatures) is an Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of Humanities and Arts, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, in Massachusetts. She writes that: “Life's going pretty hunky dory here in Massachusetts—year one was both challenging and satisfying. Highlights: I taught everything from peninsular literature and film to comparative business environments in Latin America; I organized a Spanish Film Series; I designed and led a one-month study abroad to Buenos Aires. All fun and exhausting, but I don't suppose I'd have it any other way!

And then my favorite--why I write, in fact: I published an article in MLN [“Sarmiento the Geographer: Unearthing the Literary in Facundo,” *MLN* 126:259–288, 2011] based on the research I did in Buenos Aires during the summer of 2009, courtesy of a CLAS summer grant. Thanks for all your support during my time at Pitt. Not until I left did I realize how lucky us Latin Americanists are to have a resource like CLAS.”

Luciano Martínez (PhD 2006 Hispanic Languages and Literatures) is an Assistant Professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures,

Swarthmore College, and the new Coordinator of Swarthmore's Latin American Studies Program. Luciano tells us that: “The LAS program is very vibrant. We are the largest interdisciplinary program campus wide. We have a large number of minors and a growing number of special majors. Within the parameters of the college, I think that we have a rigorous minor (5 courses, 1 full semester of study abroad in Spanish/Portuguese, and the fourth semester of Spanish is a prerequisite). Students end up taking more courses than required, and many take Portuguese at Penn. Students are showing a growing interest in the Caribbean and Latino studies. At the same time, Buenos Aires is now the number one destination for study abroad.”



Elsa-Sofia Morote (EdD 2001 Education) is chair of the Department of Educational Administration, Leadership, and Technology in the School of Education at Dowling College (Brookhaven Campus, Shirley, NY on Long Island) and editor of the departmental newsletter. Among other recent publications, she is the author or coauthor of: “The Connections Between Students' Self Motivation,

Their Classification (*typical learners, academic intervention services learners, and gifted*), and Gender in a Standardized Social Studies Test,” *US-China Education Review* Vol. 8, No. 3, 2011; “The Impact of Human Development on the Gross Domestic Product in Latin American Emerging Markets” (Organización de los Estados Americanos, La Educ@cion, Revista Digital [143]. El Portal Educativo de las Américas – Departamento de Desarrollo Humano © OEA-OAS ISSN 0013-1059); “A Reliable Survey to Measure Teachers' Multi-cultural Awareness to their School Environment,” *Journal of Multiculturalism in Education*, 5(1), 2010; and “Using Podcasts with Narrative Pedagogy: Are Learning Objectives Met?,” *Nursing Education Perspectives* Vol. 31, No. 3, 2010.



María Amalia Pesantes

(Graduate Student, Anthropology) returned to Pittsburgh after a year of field research in Peru—a great but exhausting trip. However, she was only here for two days before heading to India for two weeks to participate in a religious festival called “Durga Pujo” in which people celebrate the mythical visit of Durga to the earth. Some notes from the field: “I was dressed as a Shipiba woman while in a community along the Ucayali river in February, in June I travelled to the lower Amazon through the worst highway I’ve ever seen. We travelled for 24 hours getting on and off the truck because otherwise it will not move. When we finally got to Oventeni (also known as the Gran Pajonal), I realized it had been worth it. It is a beautiful place.” She also traveled to Puerto Maldonado (Departamento de Madre de Dios, in the frontier with Brazil) for a conference on Indigenous Health.



to increase access to our line of generic anti-retroviral medications for HIV/AIDS patients in Sub-Saharan Africa. I’m thrilled about this opportunity and have already learned a lot in my first few days on the job. CLAS played an incredibly important role in helping me to achieve this new milestone in my professional development. The Center provided an incredibly gener-

ous scholarship to help fund my Master’s degree studies along with some international research travel—both of which were crucial factors in helping me to get this job. I will not soon forget this support...

Since I will be in Pittsburgh for the foreseeable future, I look forward to continuing to participate with some of CLAS’ projects and events if appropriate. I will monitor the e-mail updates that come through for any such opportunity. I am anxious to continue looking for ways to somehow return even just a small part of the support and encouragement that you all have shown me in the past couple of years.”



Claudia Taylor (BA 2011 Economics/Spanish) to Julian: “I’m writing to let you know that I recently learned that I got the Fulbright I applied for! Thank you so much for your recommendation letter—I couldn’t have done it without you! I’ll be moving to Mexico DF in late August to work for Fondo SAM/the MAR Fund, a non-profit that works to

preserve the Mesoamerican Reef. I’ll be helping them develop long-term, sustainable funding partnerships. I think it’s going to be great and I’m going to learn a lot!”

Christine Waller (MA 2011 Global Political Economy) writes “...to share some great news about my post-graduation employment status. This summer, I started a new position as the Global Public Affairs Manager at Mylan, based out of their corporate headquarters in Canonsburg, PA. Mylan is a Fortune 500 company in the generic and specialty pharmaceutical industry, and I’ll be working specifically on their corporate social responsibility program as well as a public awareness campaign

Laura Watts (BS 2011 CBA, Marketing) writes: “I wanted to share with you that Eaton called me yesterday and told me I will be located in Philadelphia, PA for my year’s training in their leadership development Program in technical sales. I’m really excited about it and I’m anxious to find an apartment, get settled in, and start the next chapter of my life. If I can be any assistance, I would be happy to serve as a professional contact for CLAS/Pitt in the Philadelphia area. Thanks for a great year with CLAS and I look forward to keeping in touch.”



María Victoria Whittingham Munevar (PhD 2006 GSPIA) is Coordinadora de Institutos de Investigación, Vicerectoría de Investigación y Transferencia, at the Universidad de La Salle, Bogotá (Carrera 5 N. 59ª-44; Tel: 3488000 Ext. 1234).

7th Undergraduate Research Symposium

On March 29, 2011, the 7th Undergraduate Research Symposium on Latin America and the Caribbean was held at the Slippery Rock University—sponsored by the Department of Modern Languages and Culture, Slippery Rock University and the University of Pittsburgh's Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures and Center for Latin American Studies. The goal of the annual symposium is to showcase the high quality of the research on Latin America and the Caribbean undertaken by undergraduate students from Pitt and neighboring colleges/universities.

11:00 a.m.

Palabras de Bienvenida/Welcoming Remarks

Deb Cohen (Chair, Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, Slippery Rock University)

Eva Tsuquishi-Daddesio (Dean, College of Humanities, Fine and Performing Arts, Slippery Rock University)

Julian Asenjo (Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh)



Lacie Buckwalter.

12:30 p.m.

Session 1a *Sociedad y modernidad en el cine*

Moderator: **Ana Paula**

Carvalho (Lecturer and Portuguese Language Coordinator, University of Pittsburgh)

Lacie Buckwalter (University of Pittsburgh): "El trabajo de las mujeres: Death and Domesticity in Almodóvar's *Volver*"

Stephanie Klocke (Allegheny College): "La representación del tango en el cine"

Claudia Taylor (University of Pittsburgh): "A Representação dos Policiais Cariocas na Mídia e no Imaginário Popular"

Jennifer Geiser (University of Pittsburgh): "Racismo, Religião e Violência: A Representação da Cultura Brasileira Através do Filme, 'Ó, Paí, Ó'"

Session 1b *Economía y sostenibilidad en Nicaragua y Perú*

Moderator: **Donald Kerchis** (Assistant Professor, Political Sciences, Slippery Rock University)

Youssef Abdelwahab (University of Pittsburgh): "Understanding Sustainable Agricultural Systems through the Experience of Nicaraguan Farmers"

Courtney Columbus (Allegheny College): "¿Turismo familiar y agricultura sostenible pueden ser una alternativa sostenible a la extracción del petróleo en la comunidad Wayra Churi?"

Precious J. Diamond (University of Pittsburgh): "Las personas, la religión, las consecuencias"

Miranda Velikoff: "The Double-Edged Sword of Family Planning Policies in Peru"

1:30 p.m.

Session 2a *Ficción y poesía: imágenes latinoamericanas*
Moderator: **Gonzalo Lamana** (Associate Professor, University of Pittsburgh)

Erica McLaughlin (University of Pittsburgh): "Mimesis y resistencia en el *Evangelio según Marcos*"

Scott Levy (University of Pittsburgh): "Redefinición del discurso revolucionario en la obra de Simón Rodríguez"

Lisa McKinney (University of Pittsburgh): "Nicolás Guillén: Negrista and Revolutionary Poetry"

Katherine Schuck (University of Pittsburgh): "Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, la condenada"

Session 2b *Lenguaje y voces latinas: América Central y Estados Unidos*

Moderator: **Adelaida Cortijo** (Assistant Professor of Spanish, Slippery Rock University)

Natalie Truty (University of Pittsburgh): "Aspectos sociolingüísticos del español estadounidense"

Alexandrea N. Worthy (University of Pittsburgh): "Observando el nacimiento de una lengua: el caso de Nicaragua"

Michael Thornhill (Slippery Rock University): "Where are the Latin Contributions?"



Jennifer Geiser.

2:30 p.m.

Session 3a *Voces de escritoras decimonónicas en defensa de los derechos humanos*

Moderator: **Gisela González-Dieter** (Instructor of Spanish, Slippery Rock University)

Angela Navarro (Slippery Rock University): "*Aves sin nido*: Una mirada a la opresión del indígena y la mujer peruana"

Bonney Cárdenas (Slippery Rock University): "Sab: obra precursora del movimiento feminista"

Kayla Mulligan (Slippery Rock University): "Lydia Maria Child y su obra antiesclavista"

Taralee Williams (Slippery Rock University): "*La cabaña del tío Tom*: denuncia y protesta antiesclavista"

Session 3b *Problemas actuales en América Central: trabajo, inmigración y epidemias*

Moderator: **Deb Cohen** (Chair and Professor of Spanish, Slippery Rock University)

Rachel Gately (University of Pittsburgh): "Eugenics as Law: Popular Reaction to Immigration Restriction Acts in the Panama Canal Zone"

Jamie Havens (Allegheny College): "Incorporación del trabajo"



Youssef Abdelwahab.

Emily Rodgers (University of Pittsburgh):
“Las epidemias de América Central: causas, consecuencias, soluciones”

Christy Wilson (Slippery Rock University):
“Guatemala: a country divided into two worlds”

3:45 p.m.
Session 4a *Identidad e imaginación en la literatura infantil latinoamericana y el arte*

Moderator: **Ana María**

Caula (Associate Professor of Spanish, Slippery Rock University)

Megan Carben (Slippery Rock University): “Rafael López y su celebración de la cultura latinoamericana”

Sarah Bickel (Allegheny College): “Educando a la nueva generación: la literatura maya infantil de Guatemala (1995-2005)”

Heather Rabold (Slippery Rock University): “El divino Dalí: psicoanálisis de la paranoia-crítica”

Session 4b *Identidades y orgullos caribeños*

Moderator: **Anthony Puglisi** (Instructor of Spanish, Slippery Rock University)

Erin Ross (University of Pittsburgh): “Relaciones dominico-haitianas y la paradoja de la identidad dominicana”

Hanna Bonville (University of Pittsburgh): “Las raíces del orgullo cubano”

Janeen Bost (University of Pittsburgh): “Race and mestizaje in the Works of Nicolás Guillén”

4:45 p.m.

Closing remarks/palabras de clausura

William Williams (Provost, Academic Affairs, Slippery Rock University)

Gonzalo Lamana (Associate Professor, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature, University of Pittsburgh)

Presentation of certificates/ entrega de certificados

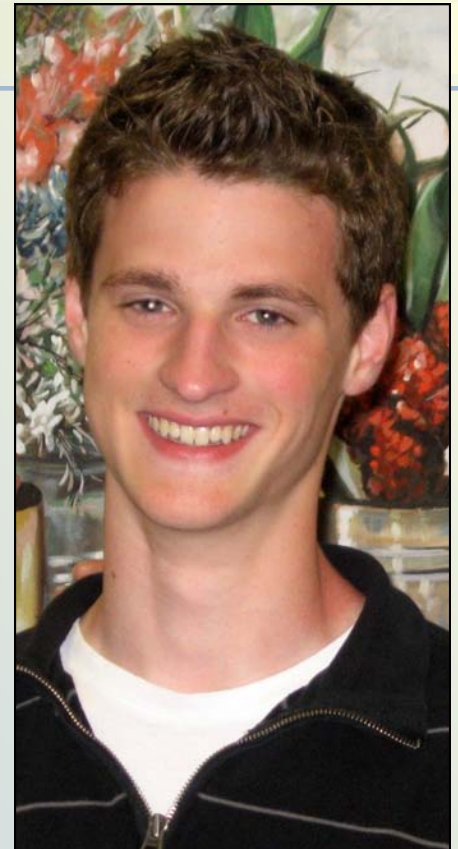
Ana María Caula (Associate Professor, Department of Modern Languages and Cultures, Slippery Rock University)



Academic Affairs and Outreach Assistant **Luz Amanda Hank** helped to represent CLAS at the 7th Undergraduate Research Symposium.

Summer Interns

During summer 2011, the Center was fortunate to be chosen as the working/learning site by two outstanding high school interns. **Nicholas Durkin** was the first to arrive on the scene. A City Charter High School student, Nick completed a 13-week internship. He came highly recommended by Spanish teacher and CLAS alumni **Miguel Hernández** (BA 2001 Spanish/BS 2001 Psychology) and Keiha Peck, City High's internship coordinator and a former UCIS staff member. He was supervised by Assistant Director for Outreach **Karen Goldman** and Academic Affairs and Outreach Assistant **Luz Amanda Hank**. On his work at the Center, Nick offered the following reflection: “My internship experience with CLAS was productive, fun, and educational. I have learned much about Latin American history, geography, and culture. When I was first introduced to the CLAS Center, I wasn't really sure that I would adapt well to an office environment. But the projects that I did were interesting enough that the setting didn't bother me. I worked in the CLAS library, organizing children's books, and in the film collection, updating the catalogue. My favorite project was creating brochures on various Brazilian sites for teachers studying Portuguese and possibly going to Brazil this summer. Also, I created a tri-fold on Muslim communities in Latin America for a teacher's workshop on Global Islam. When I was not doing projects in the office I was out on errands around the campus. It was a lot of fun getting to go out and explore the campus and the places around it.”



Nicholas Durkin.



Arriving a bit later in the summer was **Elsa Merroth-Ruiz**, who came all the way from California. Elsa is the daughter of **María Emperatriz Ruiz**—a long-time fixture in the Latin American community in Pittsburgh and a volunteer for many years at the Center before leaving the variable and unpredictable Pittsburgh climate for southern California. Elsa is eighteen years old and entered the 12th grade this fall. Her reasons for wanting to intern at CLAS have much to do with her upbringing as well as her desire to learn about the ‘internal’ workings of a university. Elsa was raised in a home that valued different traditions and languages. María, a Venezuelan, always surrounded her with Venezuelan customs and taught her Spanish, so she could be part of both worlds. As Elsa notes: “Living in different countries presented me with the opportunity to learn about different ethnicities outside my own. My six-month experience in Jakarta, Indonesia was incredible. There I learned about the beauty of diversity and how each culture and religion should be respected. The following year, I moved to Puerto Ordaz, Venezuela for one year. During the time there, I experienced the Latin American roots and fully adapted to it. The experiences I obtained in two very distinct societies allowed me to become more knowledgeable about the colorful world at a young age.” As for her time at the Center, she says: “I don’t think I have ever laughed so much in one day as I did with all of you at the office. Those wonderful memories will last forever in my heart and I hope that they will never stop. I miss you all very much and I hope to see you soon in the near future.” Aside from the fun, Elsa worked very hard on a variety of projects—from creating some financial spreadsheets to copying volumes of material to deliveries around campus—and executed them all in an outstanding manner; while all the time maintaining an extremely pleasant disposition.

Now that the grind of the semester is well underway, we miss Nick and Elsa all the more. The staff of the Center greatly appreciated all their hard work and wish them the very best for the future.

CLAS Bulletin Board



The University of Pittsburgh contingent arrives at Slippery Rock University for the 7th Undergraduate Research Symposium on Latin America and the Caribbean [see page 20].

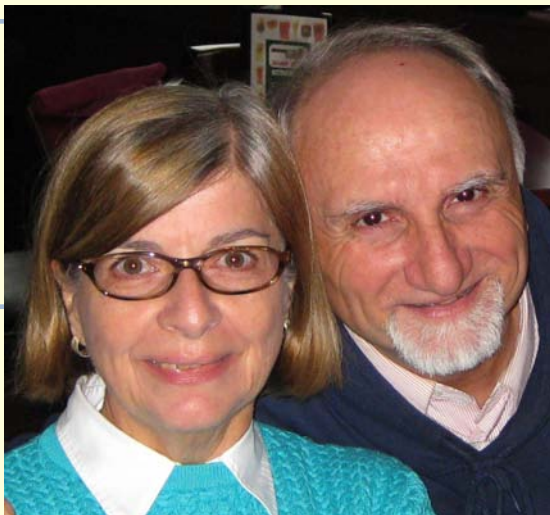
Editor's note: For those who remember the “good old days,” we wanted to bring you up-to-date on one of the Center’s staff who still manages to keep in touch (primarily through retired Associate Director for Academic Affairs **Shirley Kregar**), even though she lives in India.

Esther Premkumar began working as CLAS’ secretary/receptionist in March 1988, but left the position in January 1989.

Happily, she returned to the Center as our part-time secretary in August 1997. However, she had to leave again in late February 1998 in order to prepare for the birth of her son (Sidhartha, who was born in March of that year). The Premkumars are still living in India, and we are pleased to have this picture to share with our readers.



Left to right: Prem, Sidhartha, and Esther.



Shirley and Giovanni.

Speaking of Shirley, she appears in the picture to the left with CLAS alumnus **Giovanni Saffirio** (PhD 1985 Anthropology). Giovanni was in Pittsburgh in April 2011 on one of his more or less annual visits to see friends from the Center and the Carnegie Museum of Natural History—where he helped to build one the best collections of Yanomami Indian artifacts in the U.S.

Another CLAS alumnus, **Jorge Daniel Papadopoulos** (PhD 2001 Political Science), visited CLAS in February 2011. Jorge is currently Investigador Senior at El Centro de Informaciones y Estudios del Uruguay (CIESU) in Montevideo. In the photograph to the right, he appears with current CLAS and Political Science graduate student **Javier Vázquez D’Elía**, also from Uruguay.



Jorge and Javier.



University of Pittsburgh

Center for Latin American Studies
4200 W.W. Posvar Hall
University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA 15260
USA

Non-Profit Org.
U.S POSTAGE
PAID
Pittsburgh, PA
Permit No. 511



The University of Pittsburgh, as an educational institution and as an employer, values equality of opportunity, human dignity, and racial/ethnic and cultural diversity. Accordingly, the University prohibits and will not engage in discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion national origin, ancestry, sex, age, marital status, familial status, sexual orientation, disability, or status as a disabled veteran or a veteran of the Vietnam era. Further, the University will continue to take affirmative steps to support and advance these values consistent with the University's mission. This policy applies to admissions, employment, access to and treatment in University programs and activities. This is a commitment made by the University and is in accordance with federal, state, and/or local laws and regulations.

For information on University equal opportunity and affirmative action programs and complaint/grievance procedures, please contact: Office of Affirmative Action, 412 Bellefield Hall, 315 South Bellefield Avenue, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260; (412) 648-7860.

CLASicos

Summer 2011

Number 70

**Newsletter of the Center for Latin American Studies
University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh**

John Frechione, Editor and Designer

Julian Asenjo, Contributor

Editorial Assistants: Julian Asenjo and Adriana Maguiña-Ugarte
Original Photography by: The CLAS Staff

CLAS Staff

Kathleen M. DeWalt, Director

Martha Mantilla, Librarian

John Frechione, Associate Director

Julian Asenjo, Assistant Director for Academic Affairs

Karen Goldman, Assistant Director for Outreach

Adriana Maguiña-Ugarte, Center Administrator

**Luis G. Van Fossen Bravo, International Relations &
Fellowships Coordinator**

Luz Amanda Hank, Academic Affairs & Outreach Assistant

Devon L. Taliaferro, Secretary/Receptionist

Deborah A. Werntz, Financial Administrator

Kimberlee R. Eberle-Sudre, Graduate Student Assistant for Outreach

CLASicos is partially funded by a grant to the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Latin American Studies from the U.S. Department of Education. CLAS is a program within the University Center for International Studies, University of Pittsburgh.

4200 W.W. Posvar Hall • University of Pittsburgh • Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Telephone: 412-648-7392 • Fax: 412-648-2199 • E-mail: clas@pitt.edu
Web: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas>