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# CLASícos

## On the Occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Center for Latin American Studies



### Center for Latin American Studies' Directors, Interim Directors, and Longest-Serving Staff Members.

Left to right:

**Carmelo Mesa-Lago** (Director, 1974-1986), **Shirley Kregar** (CLAS staff, 1968-2008),  
**Cole Blasier** (Director, 1964-1974), **Kathleen Musante** (Director, 2001-2013),  
**Scott Morgenstern** (Director, 2014-present), **Mitchell Seligson** (Director, 1986-1992),  
**Robert D. Drennan** (Interim Director, 1992-1993), **Billie R. DeWalt** (Director, 1993-2001),  
**James Craft** (Interim Director, 2000 and 2006), and **John Frechione** (CLAS staff, 1983-present).

Center for Latin American Studies

## Center for Latin American Studies 50th Anniversary Gala (1964 to 2014)

On Friday, September 12, 2014, CLAS hosted an afternoon and evening of reminiscing, socializing, dining, and dancing to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Center.

The afternoon began with welcoming remarks by the new Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh, **Patrick Gallagher**, and Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor **Patricia E. Beeson**. Following introductory remarks from **Shirley Kregar**—who served as a staff member in various positions, from ‘secretary to the director’ to ‘associate director,’ for over 40 years—current CLAS Director **Scott Morgenstern** hosted presentations from the former directors and interim directors (see front cover for names and dates of service). Incoming Senior Director of International Programs and Director of the University Center for International Studies **Ariel Amomy** (a Pitt and CLAS alumnus) provided observations from the perspective of a CLAS alumni, and **Reid R. Reading** (former CLAS staff and director of numerous Seminar/Field Trips), **Dorolyn Smith** (Associate Director of the English Language Institute, University of Pittsburgh, and CLAS Seminar/Field Trip to Guarne, Colombia alumna, 1973), and **Julian Asenjo** (Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, CLAS) reminisced about the Seminar/Field Trip Program—which began in 1972 and has enabled over 500 undergraduate students to travel to 13 countries to conduct research and improve their language skills. The annual CLAS Welcome Reception—for faculty, students, alumni, staff, and friends of the Center—took place from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. Dinner and dancing—attended by over 150—began at 7:30 p.m. and continued late into the night. Thanks to **Luz Amanda Hank** for coordinating the event and the other members of the Center’s staff for their invaluable assistance.



Established in 1964, the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh develops and coordinates resources on Latin America and the Caribbean that contribute to training experts on the region through high quality programs of graduate and undergraduate education. The Center also works with and informs the professional communities and the general public about the region.

### CLAS TODAY

In 2014, fifty years after the founding of the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the University of Pittsburgh, the Center continues to grow and excel. Today, CLAS has: (1) over 120 associated faculty in 17 departments in the School of Arts and Sciences and seven professional schools who teach, on average, 260 Latin American language and area studies courses each year—with enrollments exceeding 6,900; (2) more than 330 undergraduate and graduate students pursuing Latin American certificates and related concentrations; (3) substantial funding of over \$1,300,000 annually to support faculty and student research and student training; (4) a world renowned library collection (the Eduardo Lozano Latin American Collection) with over 500,000 volumes relating to Latin America and Latin American Studies; and (5) an outreach program that, each year, impacts more than 25,000 public and private sector individuals. CLAS is among the most respected programs of its kind in the United States. It now has more than 1,830 alumni throughout the world who occupy positions of leadership in academia, business, and service. CLAS’ achievements are the result of fifty years of commitment by the University of Pittsburgh to Latin American Studies; the dedication of an outstanding faculty to the highest quality of scholarship and training; the creativity and vision of CLAS staff; the support of foundations, corporations, alumni, and other individuals who believe in the goals of the Center; and a history of active and strong leadership within the Center.

Even after fifty years, the story of CLAS remains its day-to-day, year-to-year continual dedication to the highest quality of scholarship, training, and outreach and the way in which CLAS staff and faculty have taken each new phase in the development of the Center as a new opportunity and a new challenge—a challenge to not only maintain a position as a premier program, but also to develop the next set of new ideas. The Center sees itself in its vigorous prime, with much more work and innovation to undertake. Fifty years after its founding, the Center not only looks back at its achievements, but forward toward innovation and new challenges. The foundation has been well laid, and the building continues upwards.



The following photographs are from the Center's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration and were taken by Michael Peeler of Peeler Photography. Some have been edited for this publication. We apologize if we have missed anyone; however, all 367 photographs from the event can be accessed and viewed at: <http://www.ucis.pitt.edu/clas/gala>



Patrick Gallagher, Patricia Beeson, and Scott Morgenstern.



Mirna Kolbowski and Ariel Armony.



Left to right:  
Eva Paus,  
Lynne Prostko Hummel,  
Carmelo Mesa-Lago,  
Elena Mesa-Lago,  
and Dorolyn Smith.



Jules Lobel and Reid Reading.



Soledad Cabezas and Ignacio Arana-Araya.





Molly, Cole, Peter, and Holly Blasier.



Carmelo Mesa-Lago and  
Maria Emperatriz Ruiz-Merroth.



Christine and Julian Asenjo.



Kathleen Musante and Robert Hoover.



Sandy Klinzing, Billie Lozano, and George Klinzing.



Luciana Randall, Scott Morgenstern, and Bobbie Morgenstern.



Mitch and Susan Seligson.



Silvia and Carlos Borzutzky.



Jerome Branche.



Juan Duchesne-Winter and  
Constanza Ussa.



Monika Losagio, Lucy DiStazio, and Pat Fogarty.





John and Gay Beverley.



Mike González and Dan Balderston.



Devon Taliaferro.



Debee Wertz and Roz Santavicca.



June Belkin-Dietrich.



María Auxiliadora Cordero and  
Adriana Maguiña-Ugarte.



Ron Brand, Mary Brand, Austin Lebo, Jackie Jones, and Brian Fraile.



Sarah Wheeler.



Rose Wooten and Jennifer Creamer.



Beatrice DeAngelis.



Kevin Morrison and Marcela González Rivas.



Martha Mantilla and Elizabeth Monasterios.



Alicia Covarrubias and Alberto Guzmán.



Susan and Patrick Manning.



Javier Vasquez-D'Elia.





Ada Mezzich and Patricia Documét.



Wendy O'Donnell, Dawn Seckler, and Gregory Baltus.



Andy and Maja Konitzer.



Nancy Condee and Connor Weber.



Jennifer Josten and Lisa Jackson-Schebetta.



Steve Lund.



Sandra and John Peterson.





Tania Pérez-Cano and Ana Paula Carvalho.



Denise McCloskey and Randy Rice.



Piedad, Elvia, and Gioconda Pérez.



José and Nancy Heraud.



Katherine and Edward Cipriano.



Mary Ann and Glenn Flickinger.



Orlando Pérez, John Markoff, Roman Kyshakevych, Mitch Seligson, Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, Andrew Stein, and Ariel Armony.



Marci and Mike McCarthy.



Maria Amparo Cruz-Saco and Alejandro Melendez-Cooper.



Kaitlyn Livingstone, Alyssa Silver, Kevin Kerr, and Maria Golden.



Trisha and Gustavo López.





Charles Merroth, Maria Emperatriz Ruiz-Merroth, and Elsa Merroth.



Kenia Ashby and Claudio Lima.



Catalina Pineda, Justine Cortez, Elise Moersch, Luz Amanda Hank, Diana Shemenski, and Alice Bravo.



Karen Goldman and Efrem Grail.



Eleni Valliant, Maja Konitzer, and Jorge Delgado.





Luciana Brussi and Jason Hank.



Kathy Frechione and Roz Santavicca.



Billie DeWalt, Luis Bravo, and Sarela Manchengo.



Linda Stevenson and Esteban Romero.







Natália Padilha de Oliveira.



Dom Sciuilli and Ana Maria Mieles.



Brent and Viviane Rondon.



Catalina Pineda and  
Juan Fernando Velasquez.



Karen Goldman and Enrique Mu.



Danielle Lobo and Alice Bravo.





Martin Staniland and Luciana Brussi.



John Frechione.





SEMINAR/FIELD TRIP TRIBUTE by Susan Wiedel (*Panoramas* Project Assistant)

2014 Seminar/Field Trip Participants in Bolivia. Susan Wiedel is second from left.

During the afternoon of May 2, 2014, a group of eleven undergraduate students and their instructor met at Pittsburgh International Airport, luggage in tow and passports in hand. While no longer strangers, we had spent the majority of our time together in class, not in the “real world”—and what we were headed for was not just an academic experience. We said goodbye to our families, checked our sizeable suitcases, found our way to the correct terminal, and seated ourselves in the uncomfortable utilitarian chairs, anticipating our departure.

Four months earlier, the students met for the first time in room 300 of the Old Engineering Building. It was the first Tuesday of the Spring 2014 semester (although the temperature was anything but spring-like). Slowly, a group of eight girls and three boys meandered into the classroom. Some students knew each; others didn’t. None of us knew much about the instructor, Alana, a woman so petite that she could have been mistaken for an undergraduate.

We all peered at each other, both excitedly and apprehensively, thinking, “These are the people I will be traveling with to Bolivia.” Hopefully we’d get along.

After a semester of learning about Bolivia, its history, culture and politics; after researching and writing proposals for our on-site projects; after completing all of the paperwork and obtaining our travel itineraries, we were ready for our six weeks in Cochabamba, Bolivia.

Eventually it was time to board the plane. I sat in my assigned seat in between Alana and the window. Even though it was one of the more dangerous aspects of flying, takeoff always thrilled me. Without electronic devices to divert the passengers’ attention, we had no choice

but to focus on the plane gathering speed, the wheels lifting off the ground, the wings angling for a turn. As the plane rose in altitude, Pittsburgh began to diminish; the Cathedral of Learning, the goliath of a building that is the epicenter of the University of Pittsburgh, looked like a miniature replica.

The plane rose above the clouds. Finally, I thought. It feels real now. Alana, my classmates, and I had been anticipating this day for months, the beginning of our trip to Cochabamba, Bolivia. If you had asked me a year before, I would not have known Cochabamba existed (I could place Bolivia and its capital La Paz on a map just because I was friends with a Bolivian exchange student in high school).

It was my first trip to Latin America, and my classmates and I got to live with host families for six weeks and do research of our own design—all on someone else’s dollar.

Just whose dollar, I did not know—and neither did the other 500 Pitt students who had participated in this same program since 1972.

“The program kept me here, because suddenly this huge urban university shrank for me and the world became a subset of people who are interested in area studies, international things, and Latin America.”

Dorolyn Smith, a linguist who received both her undergraduate and Master’s degrees from the University of Pittsburgh, sat in her office at the English Language Institute while she recounted her undergraduate experience with the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS).

## Tribute (continued)

"I left Pitt with a really broad, good overview of Latin America as a region, with an appreciation with all those cultural characteristics that it had in common, but a recognition that there were still individual differences within countries, kind of like looking at a salad, and you see the whole salad but you can still see the individual elements in it, but together those elements contribute to a really good salad," Smith explained. "That's helped me a lot in teaching English to students from different countries of the same region."

In 1973, Smith participated in the second Seminar/Field Trip offered by CLAS. After taking a class on the host country and the research process in the spring, Smith traveled to Guarne, Colombia where she spent six weeks living with a Colombian host family. The family



Dorolyn (on left) in Guarne, Colombia: 1973.

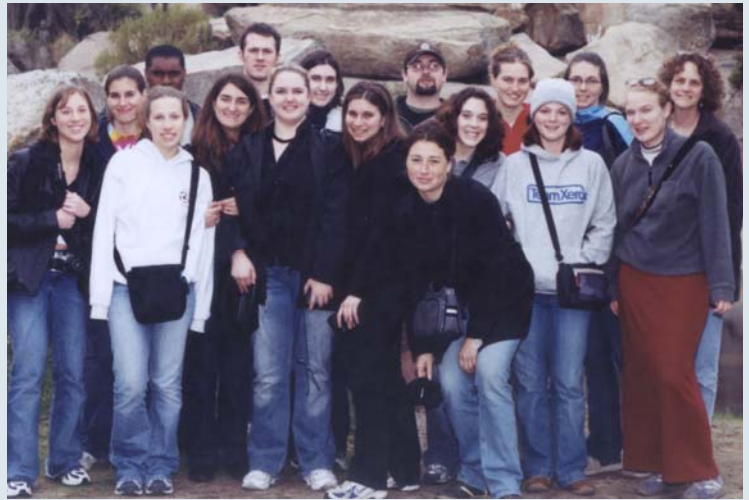
lived on a farm twenty minutes outside of the town; when Smith walked down the road she would always pass the house of one man who did not approve of her presence there. He would yell at her, "Yankee spy, go home. Cuerpo de paz, Yankee spy, go home." She always responded, "No soy cuerpo de paz ni soy Yankee spy." He'd reply, "Yeah, yeah you are cuerpo de paz so you are Yankee spy."

To Smith, people-to-people interactions opened her eyes to the power of preconceived stereotypes. "When you've got that kind of belief running around, and the belief is fairly common in Latin America, I think knowing individuals can only be good," she said.

For her research project, Smith used a questionnaire to measure the differences between how participants thought about a country's government versus the people of that country. She went around, picked a house on a block to interview, and did one round of interviews with people concerning the typical Colombian, the typical American, the typical Russian (because Russia was the U.S.'s big rival back then), and the typical Brazilian. She asked general questions, like "What do you think about

them?" Two weeks later, Smith did another round of interviews and asked their opinions concerning the typical government of those same places.

Thirty years later, Smith (now the Associate Director of Pitt's English Language Institute) led a Seminar/Field Trip group to Valparaíso, Chile, and helped the group gain a new perspective of the world and create fixed bonds with a place and its people just as she had in Colombia twenty years earlier. "Sending people from any country to any other country is a good thing, especially when they can get into culture a little bit deeper than just that superficial touring and looking around and seeing what you see; rather living with a family, and meeting neighbors and seeing interactions that you don't see from the outside, make this program more meaningful."



Dorolyn (far right) with 2003 Seminar/Field Trip Participants: Valparaíso, Chile.

Although Smith had been involved in the program as both an undergraduate student and an instructor, she did not know how the program came to be. As a student and instructor, she was told, "some scholarship money was available," but not that the money was a gift from one couple for the entirety of the program's existence. "It didn't occur to me to come from an anonymous donor, I thought that it was institutional money like from some grant that somebody had," Smith explained. "And it was only really with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary that I really focused on it."

The donors were not able to attend the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of CLAS, but it was then that their support was made public. And while the donors had not been able to talk with the students face-to-face, word gets around to them about the achievements and milestones of many of the students involved. That desire to communicate goes both ways, says Smith. "I want to meet them and shake their hands and say thank you for all that they have given because I think they have just done 40 years of service to Latin America, to the University...it's been



40 years of groups going to Latin America and of young Americans creating a connection with people in countries that have big issues with American government policy. When we establish a personal connection on that individual level, it transcends what we think about whatever issues exist between governments.”



2006 Seminar/Field Trip Participants: Ibarra, Ecuador.

If anyone understands what this program means to the donors and participants, it is Shirley Kregar. The former Associate Director of Academic Affairs and CLAS staff member for 40 years, Kregar has watched as hundreds of students traveled to Latin American countries with the program. “From the beginning we had many students who were very vocal about what this program did for them as far as, not only a career, but personal abilities,” said Kregar. “Before participating in the program, most students, or very few, were capable of going into the field, doing a field research project, going out, interviewing people who they’ve never met in a language that some are very good with and some are struggling. They’re good in the classroom, but to take it to the field is a whole different story.”



Shirley (on left) with Seminar/Field Trip Participant Nichole Parker (Ecuador 1993) at the 25th Anniversary Celebration of the Seminar/Field Trip Program, held on May 3, 1997.

As a former member of the Peace Corps in Peru, Kregar knows a thing or two about the difficulties of working or studying abroad, especially when a language or cultural barrier

exists. “You can’t translate the United States to another country,” she said. But with struggle comes more reward: a better understanding of one’s self and an appreciation of other cultures.

Kregar has remained in contact with many of the participants, some since the 1970s, and many of them have also remained in touch with their host families. “At the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, I was absolutely delighted that there were people there from field trips that took place in the 70s and 80s,” remembered Kregar. “These people are now professors, deans, they’ve just gone everywhere, they are in the state department, and they are advocating what this program is for: an exchange of ideas and a conversation, a two-way conversation.”

Ever since the program was born in 1972, Kregar has remained close with the anonymous donor couple, and they with her. “They feel as I do that these students have a very strong connection to them because of the program and I feel the same,” said Kregar. “The program would not be possible without them.”

What made this couple so uncommonly special was just what it was they were giving: the couple gave the Center a large portion of their modest income so that students of Latin America and Latin Americans themselves would benefit, and as Kregar points out, “That’s even more meaningful than if you have this multimillion-dollar corporation or even multimillion-dollar couple giving donations to make the program possible.”

But for the past 40 years, participants in the program were not able to thank the people who gave them this opportunity because they didn’t know they existed. Why? “They are humble people and they don’t want the glory, the acclamation; that’s unusual in this world right now, I think.”

In the 1960s, Bob and Ursula—the future anonymous benefactors of over 500 Pitt students—met at a Spanish-language school in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Bob, a Catholic priest, and Ursula, a Catholic sister, were both twentysomethings who wanted to work in Latin America, but first needed a firm grasp of the language. Unfortunately, that did not come easily for Bob. “Yeah, I had trouble with my language learning,” chortled Bob, “and besides that, I was convinced by a man who at that time was quite famous, Ivan Illich—he was kind of a revolutionary guy—who was doing some teacher training at the language school. And he was very much opposed for Americans, United States padres going to Latin America. Of...what’s the word, Ursy?”

Ursula responded, “Exporting United States culture into Latin America.”

“Yes,” he said. “So I decided I wouldn’t go to Panama and I went back to my place where I was a priest in Fort Wayne, Indiana.”

**Tribute (continued)**

Ursula, a trained nurse, was determined to go on to Venezuela where she lived with a Venezuelan family. As a medical mission sister with recently acquired Spanish-speaking skills, Ursula was sent to the University of Zulia in Maracaibo, a city in northwestern Venezuela. Nursing courses never had been taught there before, so Ursula had to create them herself.

Her first task was teaching maternity nursing. “I could do the book part,” she explained, “but I had very little experience in maternity nursing. I had a friend in the community who was a midwife who helped me and was there for the deliveries.”

The hospital was a large state-run institution with an inadequate number of staff. “It was just crazy that it was so understaffed that one day I was finishing up with the students at lunchtime and I heard a woman grunting in the corner—the delivery rooms were 6-8 women to a room—and so I ran over to the corner and I caught her baby as it was born,” Ursula said with a chuckle. “It would have landed on the floor otherwise.”

At only 25 years old, she taught the first class to graduate from a baccalaureate program in nursing at a Venezuelan university.



**2010 Seminar/Field Trip Participants: León, Nicaragua.**

Ursula returned to the States, Bob wrote to her saying that he was leaving the priesthood. “He wrote, would I think about spending my life with him? And I called him up and said, “Yes,” and woke everybody up in my house.” They both giggled.

Bob got a job at a mental hospital in the Pittsburgh area, and Ursula said she would go with him to Pittsburgh and work with its Latin American community. “Well there wasn’t one!” exclaimed Ursula as Bob chuckled in the background. Instead, they found Pitt’s Center for Latin American Studies and its first director, Cole Blaiser.

“We just said that we were interested in education and that we could maybe contribute to a program there and he introduced us to the idea of starting the summer research program,” said Bob.

This summer (2015), 14 undergraduate students will travel to San José, Costa Rica through the Seminar/Field Trip program.

“We’re blessed that we can do things like this,” said Bob. “It is just a little bit of us that we have invested in the development of countries in Latin America.”

Ursula couldn’t agree more. “I just think it is terribly important for Americans to know how other people live, and what the culture is like, especially since they’re our neighbors.”

“It’s just amazing,” exclaimed Bob, “for the little bit that we have contributed really to this kind of program, we just feel so joyful that so little has done so much in influencing of the students to do the kind of work that we so much believe in.”

Why Latin America specifically?

“I just love the people,” said Ursula. “Oh gosh, they were just so friendly and warm and...well, didn’t you find that?”



**2012 Seminar/Field Trip Participants: São Luis, Maranhão, Brazil.**

While Ursula taught in Maracaibo and Bob worked in Fort Wayne, they kept in touch through letters. After



## CONFERENCES / SYMPOSIA

### Reforming Communism: Cuba in Comparative Perspective

Cuba has been reforming, or been at the brink of a reform period, perhaps since the Revolution. With an aging leadership and now decades-long economic struggles, the pace of change, however, has finally accelerated. Today, Cubans can open small businesses, travel abroad, access the Internet, and purchase cell phones, microwaves, and (very expensive) new cars.

In spite of its size, the Cuban model has been an inspiration—from both a positive and negative perspective—for social movements, political leaders, and cultural expressionists around the world. On November 6-8, 2014, a conference was convened at the University of Pittsburgh to examine Cuba's internal reforms and their external influences within an explicit **comparative framework**. The conference included a diverse group of scholars from several world regions who explored the reform away from communism and was also **interdisciplinary**—covering themes spanning the humanities to the social sciences. The conference was conceived and organized by **Scott Morgenstern** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies, and Associate Professor, Department of Political Science) and **Jerome Branche** (Associate Professor of Latin American and Cultural Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures).

**Thursday, November 6, 2014**

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

**Pre-Conference Lectures: A View from Cuba** (in Spanish with English translation)

**Lenier González Mederos** (editor, *Cuba Posible*): "Sociedad civil en Cuba: apuntes para el presente"

**Roberto Veiga González** (editor, *Cuba Posible*): "La Constitución de nuestra República ante una sociedad que renueva sus imaginarios socio-políticos"



Lenier González Mederos and Roberto Veiga González.



Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor Patty Beeson addressing the audience.



7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

#### Conference: Opening Remarks and Keynote Address

Welcome: **Scott Morgenstern** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies) and **Jerome Branche** (Associate Professor of Latin American and Cultural Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Introduction: **Jorge Pérez-López** (International Economist)

Welcome: **Patty Beeson** (Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor)

Keynote Address: **Carmelo Mesa-Lago** (Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies)

Carmelo Mesa-Lago.



Scott Morgenstern.

**Friday, November 7, 2014**

8:30 - 9:00 a.m.

**Welcome and Logistics: Scott Morgenstern and Jerome Branche**

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

**Comparative Models of Reform**

Chair: **Barry Ames** (Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Comparative Politics, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh)

**Martin K. Dimitrov** (Associate Professor of Political

Science and Director of the Asian Studies Program, Tulane University): "Regime Survival in Cuba in Comparative Perspective"

**Edmund Malesky** (Associate Professor of Political Economy, Duke University):

"Authoritarian Participation and Regulatory Compliance: A Field Experiment"

**Yu Xiao** (PhD student, University of Pittsburgh): "Fiscal Policy Reform in Cuba and China"



Barry Ames.



Martin K. Dimitrov.



Yu Xiao.



Edmund Malesky.

10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Reform Reconsidered: Arts, Literature, Politics**

Chair: **Jerome Branche** (Associate Professor of Latin American and Cultural Studies, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh)



Left to right: John Beverley, Odette Casamayor-Cisneros, Arturo Matute Castro, and Jerome Branche.

**John Beverley** (Distinguished Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh): "Caliban after Communism"

**Odette Casamayor-Cisneros** (Associate Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Cultures, University of Connecticut-Storrs): "Between Void and Flesh: Counter-Hegemonic Poetics of Post-Soviet Cuba"

**Arturo Matute Castro** (Visiting Assistant Professor, Modern Languages, Denison University): "Ex-Insula Citizenship: Cuban American Writers and the Negotiation of Cuban-ness"



1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

**Economic Reforms and International Investment**

Chair: **Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh)

**Carlos Alzugaray Treto** (Miembro, Asociación de Escritores, Unión de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba): “The ‘Updating of the Economic Model’ in Cuba: An initial Comparative Perspective of Its Domestic and Foreign Political Contexts and Implications”

**Jorge Pérez-López**

(International Economist):

“Foreign Investment in Cuba’s ‘Updating’ of Its Economic Model”

**Kevin Morrison** (Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh): “The Washington Consensus and the New Political Economy of Economic Reform”



Left to right: Carlos Alzugaray Treto, Jorge Pérez-López, Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, and Kevin Morrison.



Left to right: Michele Reid-Vazquez, Ana Belén Martin-Sevillano, and Alan West Duran.

3:15 - 4:45 p.m.

**Revisiting the Social(ist) Contract**

Chair: **Michele Reid-Vazquez** (Assistant Professor, Department of Africana Studies, University of Pittsburgh)

**Ana Belén Martin-Sevillano** (Associate Professor of Hispanic Studies, Université de Montréal): “Gender-Based Violence: Debate and Representation in the Cuban Cultural Field”

**Alan West Duran** (Associate Professor, Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, Northeastern University): “Lost and Found in Translation: Race in Cuba and the U.S.”

**Saturday, November 8, 2014**

9:00 - 10:30 a.m.

**Cuba and Models of Leftist Politics around the World**

Chair: **Kevin Morrison** (Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Pittsburgh)

**Juan Andrés Moraes** (Professor of Political Science, Universidad de la República-Uruguay): “The Uruguayan Blend: Building a Singular Pro-Market, Pro-Welfare, and Pro-Libertarian Oriented Left”

**Luke March** (Senior Lecturer in Soviet and Post-Soviet Politics, University of Edinburgh): “Between Reform and Radicalism: The Parties of the European ‘Radical’ Left Today”

**Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): “Political Parties and Regime Legacies: Lessons for the Future of Cuba”



Luke March, Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, and Kevin Morrison.

## Conferences/Symposia (continued)

10:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.

**Reforms in Social Welfare: Cuba, Latin America, and Asia**Chair: **Sofia Vera** (PhD Student, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh)**Carmelo Mesa-Lago** (Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus of Economics and Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh): "Cuba's Social Welfare Reforms under Raul Castro, 2006- 2014"**Javier Vázquez-D'Elía** (Lecturer in Political Science, Penn State Erie, The Behrend College): "The Future of Cuban Social Protection System and the Latin American Mirror"**James McGuire** (Professor, Department of Government, Wesleyan University): "Initial Conditions and Economic Development: The East Asian Tigers and Cuba"

Left to right: James McGuire, Javier Vázquez-D'Elía, Carmelo Mesa-Lago, and Sofia Vera.

2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

**The Communist Legacy**Chair: **Scott Morgenstern** (Associate Professor of Political Science and Director, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh)**Lucan Way** (Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Toronto): "The Durability of Revolutionary Regimes"**Ronald Linden** (Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh): "The Communist Legacy in Context: Evidence from East Europe"**Alejandro de la Fuente** (Robert Woods Bliss Professor of Latin American History and Economics and Professor of African and African American Studies and of History, Harvard University): "The Cuban Revolution: A Revisionist Turn?"

Alejandro de la Fuente.

3:30 - 4:30 p.m. *Wrap-up Session*

Ronald Linden.

*Sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, Global Studies Center (Global Academic Partnership), Graduate School Public and International Affairs, Department Hispanic Languages and Literature, Department of Political Science, and Center for International Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, in collaboration with the Cuba Study Group, Inc.*

## Symposium on the Latin American "Pink Tide": Its Achievements, Its Failures, Its Legacy and the Ensuing Critiques

The Pink Tide is the label used for the wave of Latin American elected governments that rose to power in the early millennium with a popular majority mandate to democratize the economy and increase social participation. These include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Uruguay and Venezuela. This symposium addresses critical issues at a significant moment. The Chavista project in Venezuela appears to be challenged by acute economic and political problems, while Kirchnerism in Argentina has difficulties articulating its own continuity. Bolivia and Ecuador have taken the path set by the IMF, while Bachelet's closer-to-center approach has rebounded in Chile with an agenda that is



relatively less focused on social issues, but stronger on education reform and women's rights. The "Pink Tide" seems to be past its peak, but it may have transformed politics in Latin America irreversibly, in ways that still need to be assessed.

Six academics and independent researchers from Argentina, Bolivia, Venezuela, Chile, the U.K., and the U.S. participated in the two-day event, held on November 14 and 15, 2014, in order to evaluate and discuss the recent experiences of left and left-of-center governments in Latin America.



Juan Duchesne Winter.

#### Program

#### Friday, November 14

9:30 a.m. Welcome and Introduction—**Juan Duchesne Winter** (University of Pittsburgh. Director of *Revista Iberoamericana*. Author of *La guerrilla narrada: acción, acontecimiento, sujeto* [2010])

#### Panel I

10:00 a.m. – noon

Argentina: **Ricardo Forster** (Universidad de Buenos Aires. Head of the Office of Strategic Planning for National and Latin American Thought. Author of *La anomalía argentina* [2010])

Venezuela: **Margarita López Maya** (Center for Development Studies (CENDES), Universidad Central de Venezuela. Wilson Center Fellow [2013])

Moderator: **Juan Duchesne Winter**



Ricardo Forster.

#### Panel II View from the North

2:00 – 3:45 p.m.

(This session is in English Only)

**John Beverley** (University of Pittsburgh. Co-founder of the Latin American Subaltern Studies Group. Author of *Latinamericanism After 9/11*)

**Mike González** (University of Glasgow. British historian and literary critic. Columnist to *The Guardian*. Author of *Hugo Chavez: Socialist for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century* [2014])

**Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (University of Pittsburgh. Author of *Presidential Impeachment and the New Political Instability in Latin America* [2007])

Moderator: **Scott Morgenstern** (University of Pittsburgh. Director of the Center for Latin American Studies. Author of *Pathways to Power* [2008])



Left to right:  
Mike González,  
Margarita López Maya,  
John Beverley,  
and  
Aníbal Pérez-Liñán .

#### Panel III

4:00 – 6:00 p.m.

Chile: **Sergio Villalobos** (University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Author of *Soberanías en suspenso. Imaginación y violencia en América Latina* [2013])

Brazil: **Idelber Avelar** (Tulane University. Cultural theorist currently working on biopolitics and ecology. Author of *Brazilian Popular Music and Citizenship* [2011])



Bolivia: **Pablo Stefanoni** (Argentina. Independent economist, political analyst, and journalist; editor of *Nueva Sociedad*. Co-author, with Hervé do Alto, of *La revolución de Evo Morales* [2006])

Moderator: **Gabriel Chouhy** (University of Pittsburgh. Graduate Student in Sociology: Trajectory of Leftist Parties in the Southern Cone)

### Saturday, November 15

#### Panel Discussion

10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ricardo Forster, John Beverley, Mike González, Aníbal Pérez-Liñán, Pablo Stefanoni, Sergio Villalobos, Idelber Avelar, and Gabriel Chouhy

Moderator: Juan Duchesne Winter

Pablo Stefanoni.

*Sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Center for Latin American Studies, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, Office of Graduate Studies, Office of the Provost, and John Beverley Research Fund at the University of Pittsburgh.*

## Symposium: 'Mere' Comparisons: Theory and Methodology from a Global Perspective

Symposium Organizers: **Magali Armillas-Tiseyra** (2014-2015 Early Career Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh) and **Gayle Rogers** (Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh)



Magali Armillas-Tiseyra.

The “global turn” of recent years has brought to the fore theoretical and methodological questions about the implications of working across regions in both the humanities and social sciences. A broadening of scope necessitates comparison, and comparison—as has been amply argued—is never ideologically neutral. These questions are germane not just to fields centered on comparison, as in Comparative Literature, but also to the wide range of disciplines that have sought to respond to critical models that foreground the “global” (particularly in response to globalization), “world” (whether world systems or World Literature), or “transnational” (as in Paul Gilroy’s model of the Black Atlantic, Indian Ocean Studies, and transoceanic frameworks).

In literary studies, scholars generally take one of two approaches: the interrogation of comparison itself, or, the ex-

amination of the comparability of two or more regions or bodies of literature. In this symposium, held of February 5, 2015, these two strategies were juxtaposed in order to interrogate the philosophical underpinnings of comparison as well as explore its utility when working across the often-marginalized areas of the globe.

Presentations by **Joseph Slaughter** (Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature, Columbia University), with response by **Molly Warsh** (Assistant Professor of History, University of Pittsburgh) and **Natalie Melas** (Associate Professor of Comparative Literatures, Cornell University), with response by **Diego Holstein** (Assistant Professor of History, University of Pittsburgh).



Molly Warsh.



Gayle Rogers.



Joseph Slaughter.





Natalie Melas.

*Sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, boundary 2, World History Center, Global Studies Center, Graduate Program for Cultural Studies, and the departments of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, French and Italian Languages and Literatures, History of Art and Architecture, History, and English at the University of Pittsburgh.*



Diego Holstein.

## Managing Risks in the Shale Industry: A Comparison of Policies Worldwide

On March 18-19, 2015, a two-day conference on Managing Risks in the Shale Industry: A Comparison of Policies Worldwide was held at the University of Pittsburgh. Led by **Shanti Gamper-Rabindran** (Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs), the conference explored the risks and benefits of the shale gas industry. Attendees heard from experts from different parts of the world, including Europe, China, Argentina, South Africa, and the United States.



Left to right: Patrice Geoffron, John T.S. Keeler, Shanti Gamper-Rabindran, Alvin Lin, Hannah Wiseman, Barry Morkel, Florencia Saulino, Bernard Goldstein, Michael LaBelle, James Skea, Miranda Schreurs, Radisav Vidic, and Robert Jackson.

### Agenda

March 18, 2015

9:15 a.m. **Ariel Armony** (Senior Director of International Programs and Director of the University Center for International Studies [UCIS]): “UCIS International Environment-Energy Collaborations “

9:25 a.m. **Minking Chyu** (Dean, Sichuan University Pittsburgh Institute): “Pitt International Environment- Energy Collaborations”

9:35 a.m. **Shanti Gamper-Rabindran**: “Conference Goals: Evidence-Based Policies to Address Risks in the Shale Industry”

9:40 a.m. **Shanti Gamper-Rabindran**: “Pricing, Regulation and Disclosure to Internalize Environmental Costs and to Incentivize Innovations in Risk Management”

10:30 a.m. **James Skea** (Professor of Sustainable Energy, Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London): “Shale Development in the United Kingdom”

11:30 a.m. **Alvin Lin** (China Climate and Energy Policy Director for Natural Resource Defense Council): “Shale Development in China”

2:00 p.m. **Robert Jackson** (Douglas Provostial Professor, School of Earth Sciences, Precourt Institute for Energy, and Woods Institute for the Environment, Stanford University): “Prioritizing the Management of Risks in the Shale Industry”

2:45 p.m. **Florencia Saulino** (Director of the Center for Studies on Environmental Law and Policy (CEDEPA) and Professor of Law, Palermo University): “Shale Development in Argentina”

## Conferences/Symposia (continued)

3:45 p.m. **Barry Morkel** (Program Coordinator, 'Karoo Shale Gas Research Programme' with the Africa Earth Observatory Network-Earth Stewardship Research Institute, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University): "Shale Development in South Africa"

4:15 p.m. **Discussion: Drawing Lessons**

March 19, 2015

9:15 a.m. **Bernard Goldstein** (Former Dean, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh): "Understanding Health Risks in Shale Development"

10:00 a.m. **Michael LaBelle** (Assistant Professor, Central European University Business School and Department of Environmental Sciences and Policy): "Shale Development in Poland"

11:00 a.m. **Radisav Vidic** (Professor of Environmental Engineering/Professor of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering, University of Pittsburgh): "Wastewater Management in the Shale Industry"

1:30 p.m. **Miranda Schreurs** (Director of the Environmental Policy Research Centre and Professor of Comparative Politics, Freie Universität Berlin): "Germany's Moratorium on Shale Development: Benefits and Opportunity Costs"

2:15 p.m. **Patrice Geoffron** (Director of The Centre of Geopolitics of Energy and Raw Materials and Professor of Economics, University Paris Dauphine): "France's Ban on Shale Development: Benefits and Opportunity Costs"

3:15 p.m. **Discussion Drawing Lessons and Moving Forward**

*Sponsored by the Provost Funds for Sustainability, Center for Industry Studies, University Center for Social and Urban Research, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University Center for International Studies, Center for Russian and East European Studies, European Union Center of Excellence/ European Studies Center, Center for Latin American Studies, Global Studies Center, and Asian Studies Center of the University of Pittsburgh.*

## First Symposium of Bolivianists—De-Decolonization, Indigeneity and De-Patriarchalization: A Bolivian Debate



Julieta Paredes and Elizabeth Monterios.

This two-day symposium (held March 26-27, 2015) addressed the social, political and cultural changes that have been, and continue to be, implemented in Bolivia since 2001 (state reconfiguration, land reform, neo-extractivism, indigenous rights, gender rights, education reforms, film, and literature post-1990). The outcome of the symposium will be the publication of a book and the establishment of a Bolivia Study Group based in Pittsburgh.

Program

**Thursday, March 26**

10:00 a.m. *Des-descolonización y despatriarcalización: ¿una ecuación imposible?*

Moderadora: **Elizabeth Monterios** (Associate Professor of Latin American Literature, University of Pittsburgh)

**Maria Ximena Postigo G.** (Visiting Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies, Vassar College): "Descolonización epistemológica: la teoría como puesta en práctica"

**Julieta Paredes** (Comunidad Mujeres Creando Comunidad, Bolivia): "Despatriarcalización, una propuesta categórica del feminismo comunitario (descolonizando la vida)"

2:00 p.m. *Keynote Lecture*

Moderadora: **Brooke Larson** (Professor of History, SUNY-Stony Brook)

**Xavier Albó** (Centro de Investigación y Promoción del Campesinado, Bolivia): "Tendencias clave para el tercer gobierno del MAS, Bolivia 2015-19"



Maria Ximena Postigo G.



Xavier Albó.





Roberta Rice.

4:00 p.m. *What We Mean When We Say "Descolonización"? Límites, im/posibilidades y desafíos*  
Moderator: **Linda Farthing** (Independent Scholar)

**Alba Hesselroth** (PhD in Political Science): "The Decolonization of Bolivia's Anti-Narcotics Policy?"

**Roberta Rice** (Political Science and Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Guelph): "How to Decolonize Democracy: Indigenous Governance Innovation in Bolivia and Nunavut"

**Pablo Mamani Ramírez** (Universidad Pública de El Alto, Bolivia): "¿Descolonización real o falsa descolonización en Bolivia? Corrientes de pensamiento"



Julian Asenjo and Linda Farthing.

6:00 p.m. *Reception and Art Exhibit: Paintings by Ricardo Rocha (In memory of Benjamin Kohl)*

Presenters: **Linda Farthing** (Independent Scholar and Coauthor of *Evo's Bolivia: Continuity and Change*) and **Julian Asenjo** (Assistant Director for Academic Affairs, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh)



Alba Hesselroth and Magda von der Heydt-Coca.

#### Friday, March 27

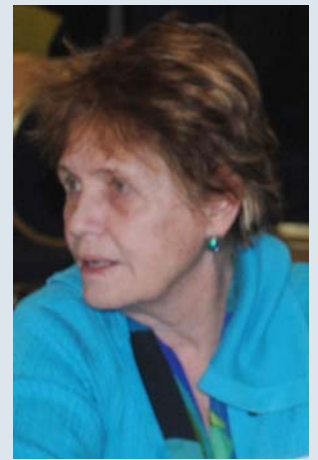
9:30 a.m. *Inclusion/ Exclusion Intricacies*

Moderator: **Chris Krueger** (Red Bolivia Mundo)

**Stephanie McNulty** (Assistant Professor of Government, Franklin & Marshall College): "Social Control/Control Social: Old Wine, New Bottle?"

**Magda von der Heydt-Coca** (Program in Latin American Studies, Johns Hopkins University): "Evo Morales's Neopopulism under South-South Relationship"

**Rico Kleinstein Chenyek** (Graduate Student, Institute of Communications Research, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign): "Precarious Mothers and Emergent Infant Mortality: Debating Bolivia's Traditional Medicine Policy as a Technology of Inclusion"



Chris Krueger.



11:30 a.m. *Politics of Space and Place*

Moderator: **Elizabeth N. Arkush** (Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Pittsburgh)

**R. Matthew Gildner** (Assistant Professor of History, Washington and Lee University): "This Prehistoric Metropolis of South American Whites: Fantastic Geographies of Race in Fin-de-Siècle La Paz"

**Waskar Tupai Ari Chachaki** (Associate Professor of History and Ethnic Studies, University of Nebraska-Lincoln): "Finding 'Earth Politics' in Indigenous Archives: Toribio Miranda and Manuela Quevedo's Framing and Dissemination of the Indian Law"

Elizabeth N. Arkush and R. Matthew Gildner.

2:30 p.m. *Proyectos que descolonizan: ¿posibilidades políticas o habitus de lo político?*

Moderador: **Aníbal Pérez-Liñán** (Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh)

**Fernando Iturralde** (Graduate Student, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh):

“Decolonization y colonialismo interno: Lugar y función de lo colonial”

**Raquel Alfaro** (Assistant Professor of Spanish, University of North Carolina, Pembroke): “Revisión de la guerra del Chaco por la intelectualidad indígena andina”

4:00 p.m. *Roundtable Discussion*

Participants: **Waskar Tupai Ari Chachaki**, **John Beverley**

(Distinguished Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh), **Pablo Mamani Ramírez**, and **Julieta Paredes**



Fernando Iturralde.



Raquel Alfaro.



Left to right: Waskar Tupai Ari Chachaki, John Beverley, Pablo Mamani Ramírez, and Julieta Paredes.

*Sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, Humanities Center, Dietrich School of Arts and Sciences, University Center for International Studies, John Beverley Research Fund, Bolivian Studies Journal, and Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures of the University of Pittsburgh.*

## LECTURES/ROUNDTABLES/WORKSHOPS

September 4, 2014

“The New Economic Model in Bolivia” by **Luis Alberto Arce Catacora** (Minister of Economy and Finance, Bolivia)



September 16, 2014

“Fathers of the Fatherland: On Writing the Dictator” by **Magali Armillas-Tiseyra** (2014-2015 Early Career Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh)

September 16, 2014

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: “Current Immigration Issues”

Speakers: **Kimberly Bennett** (JD Candidate), **Alfonso Barquera** (Community Justice Project), **Megan Walker** (Esq. Community Justice Project), **Joanna Bernstein** (Casa San Jose)

Magali Armillas-Tiseyra.





Left to right:  
Megan Walker,  
Kimberly Bennett,  
Alfonso Barquera ,  
and  
Joanna Bernstein .



September 22, 2014

“Why is Mexico Important to the U.S. Economic?” by **Antonio Ortiz Mena López-Negrete**  
(Head of Section for Economic Affairs, Embassy of Mexico in the United States)

Antonio Ortiz Mena López-Negrete.

September 24, 2014

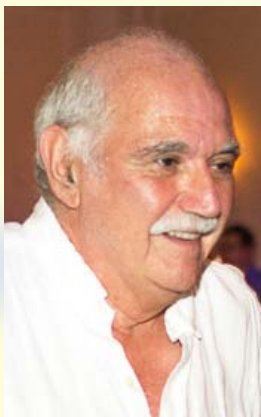
PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: “Bolivia Seminar and Field Trip  
Presentation for Undergraduate Students”



Left to right: Page McDonough, Ana Martin, Chase Noye, Susan Wiedel, Kevin Rieth, and Kaitlyn Livingstone.

September 26, 2014

“Cuerpos que no salen en la foto: Ciudadanías blaqueadas e la pardocracia venezolana (Siglo XIX)” by **Beatriz González Stephan** (Lee Hage Jamail Professor of Latin American Studies, Rice University)



September 30, 2014

“From All Walks of Life: Revisiting the German-Speaking Presence in Yucatán (1865-1914)”  
by **Alma Durán-Merk** (Research Associate, Institute for European Ethnology and Folklore,  
Universität Augsburg in Germany)

October 1, 2014

“Tango: Sex and the Rhythm of the City” by **Mike Gonzalez** (Professor Emeritus, University of  
Glasgow) and **Marianella Yanes** (Venezuelan writer, journalist and playwright)

Mike Gonzalez.

## Lectures etc. (continued)

October 1, 2014

“The Increasing Significance of Minority Serving Institution (MSIs)” by **Gina Garcia** (Assistant Professor, School of Education, University of Pittsburgh)



Ana Lúcia Gomes and Barry Ames.

Bruno Hoepers.



Gina Garcia.

October 2, 2014

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: “Brazilian Election—Before” (Participants from Pittsburgh and firsthand accounts from participants in Brazil). Speakers: **Barry Ames** (Andrew Mellon Professor of Comparative Politics, University of Pittsburgh), **Ana Lúcia Gomes** (PhD Candidate, Universidade de Brasilia), and **Bruno Hoepers** (Graduate Student in Political Science, University of Pittsburgh)



Agnes Lugo-Ortiz.

October 3, 2014

“Portraiture and Enslavement: Reflections on a Transatlantic Archive” by **Agnes Lugo-Ortiz** (Associate Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Literatures and Cultures, University of Chicago)

October 6, 2014

“Itinerarios de un archivista en rebelión: la crónica de la literatura y el taller de la prensa de Jesús Sanoja Hernández (Venezuela, 1930-2007)” by **Camila Pulgar Machado** (Escuela de Letras de la Universidad Central de Venezuela)



Camila Pulgar Machado.

October 9, 2014

Colloquium: “Adulterated Realisms: Narrative Deformations in the Dictator-Novel of the South Atlantic” by **Magali Armillas-Tiseyra** (2014-2015 Early Career Fellow, Humanities Center, University of Pittsburgh); responses by **Daniel Balderston**

(Mellon Professor of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh) and **John Walsh** (Assistant Professor of French, Department of French and Italian Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh)



Dan Balderston and Magali Armillas-Tiseyra.



John Walsh.





Ernesto Domínguez López.

October 10, 2014

“Borges, Poeta Intelectual” by **Mireya Camurati** (Professor Emerita, University at Buffalo/The State University of New York)

October 15, 2014

“The Relevance of Revolution in Cuba in the 21st Century” by **Ernesto Domínguez López** (History and Political Science Professor, University of Havana)

October 15, 2014

“Guernica: The Making of a Painting” by **Mike Gonzalez** (Professor Emeritus, University of Glasgow)



Mireya Camurati.

October 20, 2014

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: “Brazilian Election— 2nd Round Presidential Runoff” (Participants from Pittsburgh and firsthand accounts from participants in Brazil)

October 27, 2014

“Tag Text” by **Debra A. Castillo** (Emerson Hinchliff Chair of Hispanic Studies and Professor of Comparative Literature, Cornell University; President, Latin American Studies Association)

October 28, 2014

“Paraguay y la Integración Asimétrica Latinoamericana” by **Luis A. Fretes** (Past Ambassador of Paraguay to Portugal [2009-2014])



Debra A. Castillo.



Aurea María Sotomayor.

October 29, 2014

“Poemas dichos en octubre” by **Juan Carlos Rodríguez** (poeta, crítico literario, especialista en Film Studies, Profesor en Georgia Tech) and **Aurea María Sotomayor** (poeta, crítica y ensayista, Profesor en Universidad de Pittsburgh)

November 12, 2014

“Multiforme y comprometido: Neruda después de 1956” by **Greg Dawes** (Distinguished Professor, North Carolina State University)

November 19, 2014

“Defense of the Living Land: A Comparison of Native Religious Discourse in Amazonia and North America” by **Tod Swanson** (Associate Professor of Religious Studies and Senior Sustainability Scholar, Global Institute of Sustainability, Arizona State University)



Tod Swanson.



Ernesto Vasquez del Aguila.

November 19, 2014

“Being a Man in a Transnational World: The Masculinity and Sexuality of Migration” by **Ernesto Vasquez del Aguila** (Scholar in Residence, Department of Philosophy and Religion, American University)

November 19, 2014

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: “The Challenges and Hopes of Rebuilding Haiti’s Healthcare System” by **Marisol Wandiga** (Program Officer for the Caribbean Region for Global Links, a medical relief and development organization)



Marisol Wandiga.

## Lectures etc. (continued)

January 9, 2015

"Inequality and Democratization: An Elite-Competition Approach" by **David Samuels** (Distinguished McKnight University Professor of Political Science at the University of Minnesota)



David Samuels.

February 18, 2014

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: "An Open Discussion on Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latino issues" led by **Scott Morgenstern** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies, and Associate Professor of Political Science, University of Pittsburgh)

February 20, 2015

"¿Quiénes son? Voces femininas en el tango y la literature" by **Alicia Borinsky** (Professor of Spanish, Boston University)



Gayle Rogers.



Jerome Branche.

February 26, 2015

Colloquium: "Negro and \*negro\*: Translating American Blackness in the Shadows of Spanish Empire" by **Gayle Rogers** (Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh), with responses by **Jerome Branche** (Associate Professor, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh), and **Imani Owens** (Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of Pittsburgh)



Imani Owens.

March 3, 2015

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: "Sports in Latin America and the Caribbean" by **Rob Ruck** (Professor of Sport History, University of Pittsburgh) and **Gonzalo A. Bravo** (Professor of Sport Management, West Virginia University) (via teleconference from West Virginia)



Rob Ruck and Gonzalo A. Bravo.



March 19, 2015

PANORAMAS LATIN AMERICAN ROUNDTABLE: Presentation by **Asha Williams** (Social Protection Specialist, World Bank; CLAS and Pitt alumna and 2015 Recipient of the Sheth International Young Alumni Achievement Award)

March 30, 2015

"Why Gender Matters to Sustainability: Engaging the Public in a Meaningful Conversation" by **Maria L. Cruz-Torres** (Associate Professor, Department of Transborder Chicana(o)/Latina(o) Studies, Women and Gender Studies, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University)



Asha Williams.



## FILM AND DISCUSSION SERIES

October 9, 2014

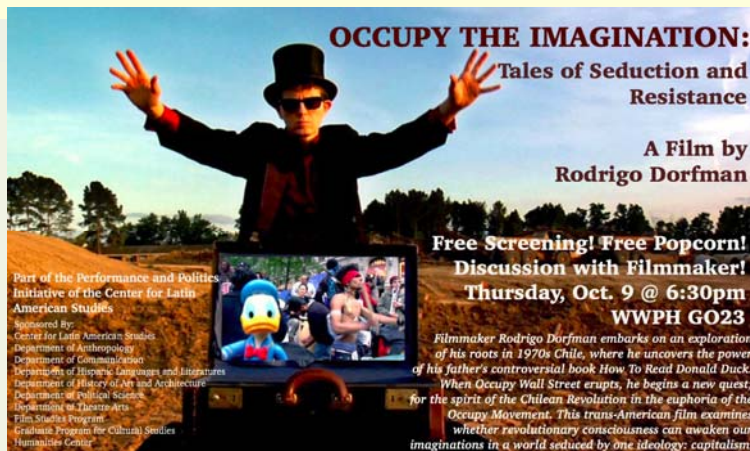
“Occupy the Imagination: Tales of Seduction and Resistance,” a film by **Rodrigo Dorfman** (Chilean filmmaker); screening followed by a discussion with the filmmaker

*Sponsored by the Center for Latin America Studies, departments of Anthropology, Communication, Hispanic Languages and Literatures, History of Art and Architecture, Political Science, and Theatre Arts, Film Studies Program, Graduate Program for Cultural Studies, and Humanities Center at the University of Pittsburgh.*

October 30, 2014

“Urban Projections, Cinematic Bricks: Cities as Construction Zones in Latin American—Documentary Films”: “En el hoyo/In the Pit” (Juan Carlos Rulfo, 2006), “Aquí se construye” (Ignacio Agüero, 2001), and “Elena” (Marcelo Martín, 2012); with a responses from **Nancy Condee** (Director of Global Studies Center, University of Pittsburgh) and **Mike González** (Professor Emeritus, University of Glasgow)

*Sponsored by the Films Studies Program, Professor John Beverley, and Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh.*



February 6, 2015

“Mala Mala,” a film by Co-Directors **Dan Sickles** and **Antonio Santini**; screening followed by a discussion with the co-directors

*Sponsored by the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, Professor John Beverley, Professor Dan Balderston, Center for Latin American Studies, Humanities Center, Film Studies Program, and Center for Global Studies at the University of Pittsburgh.*

Left to right: Kahlil Chaar-Pérez (Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, University of Pittsburgh), Antonio Santini, and Dan Sickles.

## CULTURAL EVENTS

October 27-31, 2014

**Caribbean and Latin American Student Association Culture Week:** including film screenings of Maria Costa’s play “Macho Men and the Women Who Love Them”; “Selena”; a Salsa Night; and a Celebration of Día de Los Muertos (Day of the Dead)

December 20, 2014

**Coro Latinoamericano—Festival de Luces:** A celebration of the stars, lights, and sounds of the December holidays through songs from the Spanish-speaking world with CORO Latinoamericano, CORITO (Coro’s children’s choir), and new music director Adrea Araoz-Yero.

*Sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, University of Pittsburgh, The Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, Vibrant Pittsburgh, and the Jewish Foundation.*

February 6, 2015

**A Night of Tango with Puerto Sur Trio**

Puerto Sur Trio is a unique chamber ensemble from Argentina, expert in Argentinean Tango, Folk and New Music.



Puerto Sur Trio—left to right: Julieta Ugartemendia (Clarinets), Matías Valentino (Piano/arrangements), and Elizabeth Cueli (Clarinets).



March 21, 2015

**35<sup>th</sup> Annual Latin American & Caribbean Festival**—Featuring music, food, dance, arts, crafts, and children's activities from Latin America and the Caribbean.

March 22, 2014

**Brazil Nuts Festival**—Featuring music, food, and dance from Brazil.

## 35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN FESTIVAL





## IN MEMORIAM: NANCY BECK FLÓREZ-ESTRADA by Shirley Kregar

*JOY.* If asked to describe Nancy Flórez-Estrada with one word, that word would be “joy” as in joyful, joyous. Nancy lived her life with joy and shared that joy with her students, colleagues, and friends. Her enthusiasm was contagious. Her vibrant smile infectious.

In her 32 year career at the University of Pittsburgh-Greensburg campus, Nancy’s excellence in teaching Spanish and dedication to international studies were recognized with promotions, special appointments, and awards. But, of utmost importance to Nancy were the students. Nancy cared—and that care and concern were reflected in the respect, admiration, and love of her students. At the memorial service held on the Greensburg campus on January 31, 2015, two of the speakers were students, one currently an undergraduate and the other an alumna. Both shared amusing stories (there was joy) of Nancy’s enthusiasm, her willingness to help/advise/commiserate. Nancy’s colleagues spoke of her dedication, the seemingly endless energy and immeasurable time she spent in organizing and hosting international events that broadened students’ knowledge and experiences.

Nancy Beck’s love of languages (Spanish and French) began as an undergraduate at Grove City College. She added peninsular literature to her language training at Michigan State University where she completed the master’s. With a Fulbright Travel Grant, she went to Madrid, Spain where she studied and taught for five years and became the wife of José Luis Flórez-Estrada, a marriage of 43 joyful years. Nancy completed the doctorate in Applied Hispanic Linguistics at Pitt in the 1980s. It was during her work at Greensburg that she became an *aficionada* of Latin American culture, playing an instrumental role in the Guanajuato academic faculty exchange and taking groups of students to Mexico. CLAS invited Nancy to direct the 1999 Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) intensive seminar and field trip. The interdisciplinary study and research methods of the seminar are a challenge to the academically gifted student participants, but the program may be even more challenging for the director. The one-term course and six-week field trip require a year’s effort for the director—from the selection of its student participants, to developing the syllabus, working with guest lecturers, combining site-specific content with cross-cultural training and research methodology. Nancy took the group to Oaxaca, Mexico where the students got a first-hand view of a cross-cultural specialist in action. Nancy’s dedication and effort resulted in one of CLAS’ most outstanding programs—in the students’ classroom experience, during the field trip to Mexico, and in the resulting research papers. Six hours a week in the classroom for one term, then six weeks in the field—a limited time frame for a four/five year undergraduate student. Yet, many of the participants were still in touch with Nancy in 2014.

Although her first love was Spain and its language, Nancy was “the” contact person at Pitt-Greensburg for all things international. She served as advisor to the campus’ Spanish Club for all 32 years of her career at Pitt. For 10



Nancy Flórez-Estrada (second row on left) with the 1999 Seminar/Field Trip participants in Oaxaca, Mexico

years, she concurrently was director of the International Academic Village (IAV). These two organizations provided the academic community with: guest speakers from the U.S. and abroad, international workshops, films, musical and dance performances, artists in residence, cultural celebrations, and dinners with an international flavor. Behind each and every one of these events was Nancy. In her “spare” time, she hosted the University Center for International Studies (UCIS)’ retreat in 2001 and 2002, served on advisory boards at local colleges as well as Pitt-Oakland, and made presentations in regional and national conferences on teaching Spanish and computer-assisted learning.

Nancy’s dedication and extraordinary effort in developing the International Academic Village (of which she was director from 1999 to 2009), in bringing the Certificate in Latin American Studies to Greensburg, and in establishing a major in Spanish are just a few examples of her contribution to Pitt-Greensburg. She received numerous awards for her teaching, student advising, and development of international studies and curriculum, including the Chancellor’s Distinguished Teaching Award in 1989, the Pitt-Greensburg Professional Development Award in 2001, the 2010 Pitt-Greensburg Alumni Association Outstanding Faculty Award, the 2010 Pitt-Greensburg Service Award, and Advisor of the Year Award in 2002, 2009, and 2014.

Nancy Beck Flórez-Estrada passed away on January 19, 2015 from ovarian cancer. During the many years that she was undergoing treatment, friends visiting Nancy or driving her to/from chemotherapy remarked on how they had wanted to help Nancy, but found that Nancy was the one who had raised their spirits. There was the JOY that Nancy had in life and which she spread to those surrounding her.

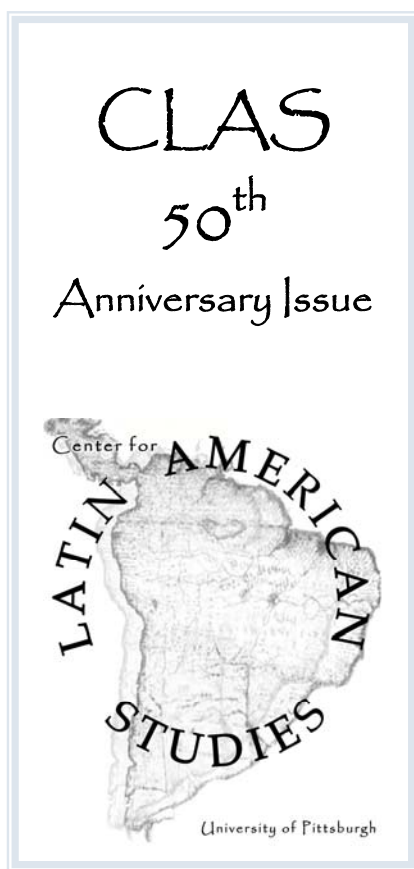
*(For those wishing to remember Nancy and help others, José Luis, and their children ask that donations be made to the Ovarian Cancer Research Fund [www.ocrf.org].)*



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## CLASicos

Winter 2015

Number 77

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

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*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.*

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The photographs on page 34 from the 35<sup>th</sup> Latin American and Caribbean Festival were taken by Michael Peeler of Peeler Photography. Some have been edited for this publication.