The Eighteenth Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference was held on February 14 and 15, 2013. Kurt Weyland (Lozano Long Professor of Latin American Politics, Department of Government, University of Texas at Austin) delivered the Fourteenth Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture on “The Study of Latin American Politics: From ‘Leninism’ to ‘Maoism’.”

The annual Latin American Social and Public Policy conference features presentations on social and public policy research in Latin America by university students, with comments by University of Pittsburgh faculty and local experts. For the 18th conference, twenty-three students from the University of Pittsburgh and one student from the University of Texas at El Paso presented papers and six experts led discussions.

The 2013 conference was organized by Latin American Social and Public Policy Fellows Nestor Castañeda-Angarita (Political Science), Maria Escorcia (Public and International Affairs), Diana Hoyos (Anthropology), Edgar Largaespada (Public and International Affairs), and Katie Watt (Public and International Affairs) with direction and support from Luis Bravo (Coordinator of International Relations and Fellowships). The organizers and the Center would like to thank everyone involved in the conference.

The conference was sponsored by the Latin American Social and Public Policy Program of the Center for Latin American Studies (a US Department of Education-designated Title VI National Resource Center). A list of the conference panels, presenters, and discussants follows.

Thursday, February 14
8:40 a.m.
Welcome: Kathleen M. DeWalt (Director, Center for Latin American Studies)

8:45 a.m. Social and Public Policy in Latin America
Moderator: Nestor Castañeda-Angarita (Political Science)
Edgar Largaespada (Public and International Affairs): “Prisons: Vectors of HIV in Brazil”
Caleb Pittman (Law): “Chilean Environmental Law: Balancing Development with Ecological Concerns”
Rachel Gately (History and Spanish): “Affirmative Action and Education in Contemporary Brazil”
Maria Luisa Toro Hernandez (School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences): “United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities: From Ratification to Implementation in Colombia”
Morgan Brown (Public and International Affairs): “An Examination of Participatory Budgeting in Brazil”
Discussant: Jorge Delgado (Associate Director, Institute for International Studies in Education, and Instructor, School of Education)

11:00 a.m. 2013 Keynote Address
Fourteenth Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture: “The Study of Latin American Politics: From ‘Leninism’ to ‘Maoism’,” by Kurt Weyland (Lozano Long Professor of Latin American Politics, Department of Government, University of Texas at Austin)
Kurt Weyland is the Lozano Long Professor of Latin American Politics in the Department of Government at the University of Texas at Austin. His research interests focus on democratization, market reform, social policy and policy diffusion, and populism in Latin America. His studies have drawn on a range of theoretical and methodological approaches—including insights from cognitive psychology—and he has done extensive field research in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Peru, and Venezuela. After receiving a Staatsexamen from Johannes-Gutenberg Universitat Mainz in 1984, an MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin in 1986, and a PhD in Political Science from Stanford University in 1991, he taught for ten years at Vanderbilt University. He has received research support from the SSRC and NEH and was a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington, DC, in 1999-2000 and at the Kellogg Institute, University of Notre Dame, in 2004-05. From 2001 to 2004, he served as Associate Editor of the Latin American Research Review. He is the author of Democracy without Equity: Failures of Reform in Brazil (University of Pittsburgh Press, 1996), The Politics of Market Reform in Fragile Democracies: Argentina, Brazil, Peru, and Venezuela (Princeton University Press, 2002), several book chapters, and many articles in journals such as World Politics, Comparative Politics, Comparative Political Studies, Latin American Research Review, International Studies Quarterly, Journal of Democracy, Foreign Affairs, and Political Research Quarterly. He has also edited a volume, Learning from Foreign Models in Latin American Policy Reform (Woodrow Wilson Center Press, 2004). His most recent book, Bounded Rationality and Policy Diffusion: Social Sector Reform in Latin America, was published by Princeton University Press in July 2007. Currently, he is working on an edited volume (with Raúl Madrid and Wendy Hunter), titled Leftist Governments in Latin America: Successes and Shortcomings, which is under contract with Cambridge University Press.

1:45 p.m. International Development in Latin America
Moderator: Katie Watt (Public and International Affairs)
Rebecca Jeudin (Public and International Affairs): “Coup D’etat and Economic Implications”
Jeffrey Nelson (Economics): “Unintended Consequences of Conditional Cash Transfers in Brazil”
Samantha Seltzer (Political Science): “Are Conditional Cash Transfer Programs Clientelism in Disguise? A Look at the Mexican CCT Program Progresa-Oportunidades and the Evolution of Brazilian CCT Programs Fome Zero and Bolsa Familia”
Andrew Reed (Public and International Affairs): “Those Dam Protesters: How the Nature of Claims May Shape Non-Traditional Participation in Resource Management in Latin America”
Discussant: Paul Nelson (Associate Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs)

4:00 p.m. Society and Policy
Moderator: Nestor Castañeda-Angarita (Political Science)
Alejandra Boza (History): “Catholicism and Indigenous Autonomy in Tierradentro, Colombia, 1904-1950”
Monica Jacobo Suarez (Public and International Affairs): “Education Policy for Equality of Educational Opportunity: Teaching Hispanic Newcomers in the U.S.”

Edgar Largaespada (Public and International Affairs): “Central American and Caribbean Disaster Management Open-Source Network”

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

Friday, February 15
9:00 a.m. Political Science Panel
Moderator: Maria Escorcia (Public and International Affairs)
Ignacio Arana (Political Science): “Former Latin American Presidents: Between Courts and Ballots”
Miguel Carreras (Political Science): “Outsiders and Executive-Legislative Conflict in Latin America”
Nestor Castañeda-Angarita (Political Science): “Special Interest Politics and Revenue-Raising Tax Reforms: The Latin America Case”
Sofia Vera (Political Science): “Low Legislative Reelection Rates in Latin America: The Peruvian Case”

Discussant: Kurt Weyland (Professor of Latin American Politics, University of Texas at Austin)

11:00 a.m.
University of Pittsburgh Latin American Social and Public Policy Faculty Lecture: “Addressing Population Dispersion and Marginalization in Mexico” by Marcela Gonzalez-Rivas (Assistant Professor, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs); with Public and International Affairs student participants Cassandra Chaire and Curtis Thomas
1:00 p.m.  
**Governance and Violence in Latin America**  
**Moderator:** Diana Hoyos (Anthropology)  
**Evelyn McCoy** (Music and Spanish): “Ya ves, soy Asháninka: Terrorism in Peru”  
**Susan Achury** (Political Science, University of Texas at El Paso): “Political Corruption: Accountability and Party System Institutionalization in Latin America”  
**Discussant:** Javier Vazquez D’Elia (Doctoral Candidate, Political Science)  

2:30 p.m.  
**Field Trip Panel**  
**Moderator:** Edgar Largaespada (Public and International Affairs)  
**Matt Auger** (Business/Spanish): “The Effects of Globalization and Their Perception by the Population of São Luís, Brazil”  
**Alyssa Weisensee** (Spanish/Anthropology): “Public Opinion Survey: Current Viewpoints and Future Ambitions for Bolsa Familia in São Luís”  
**Courtney Sladic** (Economics/Spanish): “A Microempresa de São Luís do Maranhão e as Percepções dos seus Microempreendedores em Relação aos Serviços de Microfinança”  
**Discussant:** Ana Paula Carvalho (Lecturer, Hispanic Languages and Literatures)  

4:00 p.m.  
This year, the Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference hosted a Book Symposia Series in collaboration with the Department of History for the book *Radical Moves: Caribbean Migrants and the Politics of Race in the Jazz Age* (The University of North Carolina Press, January 2013) by CLAS faculty member Lara Putnam (Associate Professor, Department of History). Dr. Putnam’s book focuses on the generations after emancipation, when hundreds of thousands of African-descended working-class men and women left their homes in the British Caribbean to seek opportunity abroad. However, in the 1920s and 1930s, racist nativism and a brutal cascade of antiblack immigration laws swept the hemisphere. Facing borders and barriers as never before, Afro-Caribbean migrants rethought allegiances of race, class, and empire. In *Radical Moves*, Dr. Putnam takes readers from tin-roof tropical dancehalls to the elegant black-owned ballrooms of Jazz Age Harlem to trace the roots of the black internationalist and anticolonial movements that would remake the twentieth century. The symposium featured commentary on the book by renowned scholars: Cindy Hahamovitch (Professor of History, College of William and Mary), Patrick Manning (Andrew W. Mellon Professor of World History, University of Pittsburgh), and Carole Boyce Davies (Professor of Africana Studies, English, and Comparative Literature, Cornell University).