

16th Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference

The Sixteenth Latin American Social and Public Policy Conference was held on February 18 and 19, 2011. **Carlos Pereira** delivered the Twelfth Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture on “The Political Economy of Public Policy in Multiparty Presidential Regimes.”

The annual Latin American Social and Public Policy conference features presentations on social and public policy research in Latin America by students from the University of Pittsburgh, with comments by University of Pittsburgh faculty and local expert. For the sixteenth conference, twenty-one students from eleven departments and schools at the University of Pittsburgh presented papers and eight experts provided discussion.

The 2011 conference was organized by Latin American Social and Public Policy Fellows **Nora Bridges** (Anthropology), **Alejandra Boza** (History), **Jorge Enrique Delgado** (Education), **Chad Dorn** (Education), **Bruno Hoepers** (Political Science), **Daniel Munari** (Public and International Affairs), **Gabriela Nuñez** (Communication), **Orlando Rivero Valdes** (History), **Christine Waller** (Public and International Affairs), and **Yu Xiao** (Political Science) 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, with supplementary support from a U.S. Department of Education (Title VI) grant to the University of Pittsburgh. A list of the conference panels, presenters, and discussants follows.

Friday, February 18, 2011

9:00 a.m.

Welcome: **Kathleen M. DeWalt** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies)

9:15 a.m. *CLAS Field Trip—Nicaragua*

Moderator: **Christine Waller** (Public and International Affairs)

Mikaela Alger (Biology/Anthropology): “Invisible Barriers: Unseen Causes of Healthcare Inequality”

Anna Bondar (Pre-Pharmacy): “Self-Medication: Healthcare Choices in a Decentralized System”

Rachele McFarland (Social Work): “Food Insecurity: The Experiences and Perceptions of Mothers in Leon, Nicaragua”

Peter Cahill (Linguistics): “Signing Like the Latins: Constraints on Language Attitude in Deaf Latin America”

Discussant: **Matthew Rhodes** (Education)



Left to right: Mikaela Alger, Christine Waller, Anna Bondar, Peter Cahill, Matthew Rhodes, and Rachele McFarland.



10:55 a.m. *Public Policy and Disabilities*

Moderator: **Jorge Delgado** (Education)

Yasmin Garcia (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences): “The Right to Work for People with Disabilities in Mexico”

Maria Luisa Toro-Hernández (Health and Rehabilitation Sciences): “Policies and Practice in Public Transportation Accessibility for People with Disabilities: Comparison between Colombia and the USA”

Discussant: **Diego Chaves-Gnecco** (Medicine)

Left to right: Jorge Delgado, Maria Luisa Toro-Hernández, Yasmin Garcia, and Diego Chaves-Gnecco.

1:15 p.m. *Health, Gender, and Poverty*

Moderator: **Bruno Hoepers** (Political Science)

Natalie Kimball (History): “Cultures of Illegality: Induced Abortion and Unexplained Miscarriage in Highland Bolivia, 1952-2010”

Charity Sperringer (Public and International Affairs): “The Effects of Structural Adjustment Programs on Gender, Poverty, and Health in Latin America”

Anne Marie Toccket (Public and International Affairs): “The Awamaki Weaving Project: A Social Return on Investment Analysis”

Discussant: **Penelope Morrison** (RAND Corporation)



Left to right: Bruno Hoepers, Penelope Morrison, Charity Sperringer, Natalie Kimball, and Anne Marie Toccket.



Left to right: Daniel Munari, Marla Ripoll, Marissa Ann Germain, and Alek Suni.

2:40 p.m. *Industrialization and Investment*

Moderator: **Daniel Munari** (Public and International Affairs)

Marissa Ann Germain (Public and International Affairs): “Taking Microfinance to the Next Level”

Alek Suni (Economics): “Industrialization in Brazil”

Discussant: **Marla Ripoll** (Economics)

4:30 p.m.

2011 Keynote Address

Twelfth Carmelo Mesa-Lago Distinguished Latin American Social and Public Policy Lecture: “The Political Economy of Public Policy in Multiparty Presidential Regimes” by **Carlos Pereira** (Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics, Department of Political Science, Michigan State University; Professor, São Paulo School of Economics, Getulio Vargas Foundation, Brazil)

Carlos Pereira began his career as a physician, receiving the MD in Medicine from the State University of Pernambuco, Brazil in 1990. Finding that he was less than enthralled with the practice of medicine, he decided to switch gears and delve into the social sciences. He obtained an MA in Sociology from the Federal University of Pernambuco in 1994, an MA in Political Science from the New School University in 1996, and a PhD in Political Science from the New School University in 2000. In September 2000, he received a two-year post-doctoral fellowship to serve as a Research Fellow in Politics in the Centre for Brazilian Studies at the University of Oxford. Dr. Pereira is currently an Assistant Professor of Comparative Politics in the



Department of Political Science, Michigan State University, a Professor of Political Economy in the São Paulo School of Economics and School of Business, Getulio Vargas Foundation in Brazil, and a Visiting Fellow in the Foreign Policy and Global Economy and Development programs in the Latin American Initiative at Brookings Institution. His main research interests focus on political institutions and political economy in comparative perspective—especially in Latin America. Dr. Pereira is the coauthor of *Regulatory Governance in Infrastructure Industries* (Trends and Public Policy Options No. 3 - The World Bank, 2006) and the author or coauthor of numerous articles in refereed journals. His coauthored manuscript, *Power, Beliefs, and Institutions: Understanding Modern Development with an Application to Brazil*, has been submitted for review.

Social and Public Policy Conference (continued)

Saturday, February 19, 2011

9:30 a.m. *Human Rights*Moderator: **Gabriela Nuñez** (Communication)**Elizabeth Molnar** (History): “Afro-Honduran Communal Land Rights: Implications for Scholarship, International Law, and Local Activism”**Chad Dorn** (Education): “Mapping the Social Constructions of Child Labor in a Quito, Ecuador”**Juan Nicolas Hernandez-Aguilera** (Public and International Affairs): “Strategies against Illegal Drugs Traffic”Discussant: **John Beverley** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

Left to right:
Juan Hernandez-
Aguilera,
Gabriela Nuñez,
Chad Dorn,
John Beverley,
and
Elizabeth Molnar.



Left to right: Alessandra Chiriboga Holzheu, Martha Mantilla, Jorge Delgado, and Yu Xiao.

11:00 a.m. *Art and Science in Education*Moderator: **Yu Xiao** (Political Science)**Alessandra Chiriboga Holzheu** (Hispanic Languages and Literatures): “The Nicaraguan Avant-Garde and Its Artistic Program”**Jorge Enrique Delgado** (Education): “Refereed Journal Publication in Chile — Analysis of Universities and Publications”Discussant: **Martha Mantilla** (Eduardo Lozano Latin American Library Collection)1:15 p.m. *Legitimacy and Security in Latin America*Moderator: **Nora Bridges** (Anthropology)**Margaret O’Brien** (Public and International Affairs): “Finding Legitimacy in Juárez”

Left to right: Rebecca C. Englert, Nora Bridges, Paul Nelson, Margaret O'Brien, and Lance Lindauer.

Rebecca C. Englert (Anthropology): “Mexico’s Piso Firme Program and the Production of Hygiene, Morality, and Ethnicity in Chiapas, Mexico”

Lance Lindauer (Public and International Affairs): “Terrorism in Latin America: Diffusing Danger through Leadership Engagement”

Discussant: **Paul Nelson** (Public and International Affairs)



Left to right:
Chad Dorn,
Maureen Porter,
Alejandra Boza,
and
Ralitsa Konstantinova.

2:40 p.m. *Emerging from Poverty*

Moderator: **Chad Dorn** (Education)

Ralitsa Konstantinova (Anthropology): “Emergency Workers and the Reshaping of the Foreign Community of Post-earthquake Haiti”

Alejandra Boza (History): “Indigenous Authorities and the Nation-State: Nasa Political Structure in Tierradentro (Colombia), 1820-1950”

Discussant: **Maureen Porter** (Education)

***Bolivian Studies Journal* Conference**

On February 25, 2011, **Bolivia Hoy**—an inaugural conference to recognize and celebrate the arrival of the *Bolivian Studies Journal/Revista de Estudios Bolivianos* to the University of Pittsburgh—was held in the Latin American Library Lecture Room. Founded in 1990, the *Bolivian Studies Journal* was published by the University of Akron until 2000 and by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign until 2008. Beginning in 2009, the Library System of the University of Pittsburgh assumed the publication of this important annual journal. Under the University of Pittsburgh's editorship—with the support of the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS), the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures, the University of Pittsburgh Press, and the Center for the Study of Latin American Literatures—the journal was physically re-designed and intellectually re-conceptualized to meet the challenges that Bolivia is facing in the new millennium. The *Bolivian Studies Journal* is a peer-reviewed publication that responds to the growing interest in understanding the past and present of historical and cultural processes in Bolivia. The journal is published once a year and accepts research papers, articles, documents, reviews, interviews, and discussion materials written in Spanish, English, or indigenous languages. Information about the journal and access to the digital publication can be found at: <http://bsj.pitt.edu/ojs/index.php/bsj/index>

Program:

1:00 p.m. Welcome: **Kathleen DeWalt** (Director, Center for Latin American Studies)

Bolivian Studies Journal Publishing Team

Elizabeth Monasterios (Editor; Associate Professor of Andean Literatures, Department of Hispanic Languages and Literatures. University of Pittsburgh)

Martha Mantilla (Editor; Librarian, Eduardo Lozano Latin American Collection, University of Pittsburgh)

Timothy S. Deliyannides (University Library System)

Beth Steidle (University of Pittsburgh Book Center)

1:30 p.m. Plenary Speaker **Pablo Stefanoni** (Director, Le Monde Diplomatique Bolivia): “Bolivia hoy: rupturas, inercias y desafíos”

2:30 p.m. **Chris Krueger** (Coordinator, Red Bolivia Mundo and LASA-Bolivia Section): “Aportes hacia el diálogo entre Norte y Sur en tiempos de cambio”