This has been a busy semester at the Center. Our Bacardi Family Lecture Series brought to campus a top flight group of experts to speak on crime, violence and policing in the Americas. In addition to their public lectures, our Bacardi visiting scholars also had the opportunity to meet with faculty and students to discuss their research projects. The lecture series was a great way to build momentum and interest leading up to our very successful annual conference, “Crimescapes: Space, Law, and the Making of Illegality in the Americas.”

Over the course of the semester the Center hosted a number of other speakers and our Outreach Program organized a range of exciting activities. The Center was also very well represented at the SECOLAS conference in Cartagena, Colombia in March. In addition to Center faculty, several of our MALAS students presented papers at the conference.

Also, for the first time, we partnered with the Association of Hispanic Alumni, the Gator Club of Miami, and the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce to organize a Miami launch for the Center’s 2016 Latin American Business Environment Report. The event featured a keynote presentation by Professor Brian Gendreau, Director of the Center’s Latin American Business Environment Program.

Finally, I’d like to express my heartfelt gratitude to Professor Richmond Brown, who is stepping down as Associate Director for Academic Programs and returning to the regular faculty after ten years of extraordinary service. Under his leadership, the MA program in Latin American Studies (MALAS) has become a nationally-ranked program in terms of the quality of students, the coherence of the curriculum, and the support services for our students. During his tenure, Richmond oversaw an exhaustive review of the MALAS program and instituted a number of changes, including the consolidation of the degree specializations and the introduction of the new internship option. He also helped to promote and grow significantly our certificate and minor programs at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. I am confident that Professor Susan Paulson, who will take over from Richmond in September, will continue to build on this success and help take our academic programs to new heights.

As part of UF’s strategic planning process, the Center developed a new five year strategic plan to advance the Center’s nationally and internationally recognized preeminence in Latin American Studies. We held a retreat in January, bringing together Center-based and affiliate faculty, as well as student and staff representatives to develop the new plan.

The content of this newsletter was developed under the National Resource Center grant from the U.S. Department of Education. However, those contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

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The Center for Latin American Studies’ 65th Annual Conference “Crimescapes: Space, Law, and the Making of Illegality in the Americas” addressed how legal and criminal acts are variously constituted across distinct geographical and social spaces throughout the Americas. The panels covered a plethora of topics including construction of spaces, territories and territoriality, contested states, anxieties about insecurity, spatial dimensions of law, international regimes of law, and transgressions of said laws, among others. The conference took place from March 24 to March 26, 2016 at Emerson Hall and the Latin American and Caribbean Collection at the University of Florida (UF), as well as The Wooly in Downtown Gainesville, and featured 26 presenters from 11 countries. Panels were facilitated and moderated by UF faculty and graduate students from different disciplines. Highlights included keynote addresses from novelist, journalist, and literature professor at Trinity College Francisco Goldman, Chair of the Department of Urban Planning and Design at Harvard University Diane E. Davis, and senior researcher at the Danish Institute for International Studies Finn Stepputat. A special evening panel featured Stephen Ferry’s photography presentation Violentology: A Manual of the Colombian Conflict and Pennsylvania State University’s Alexander Fattal’s film screening Dreams from the Concrete Mountain. The various panels featured case studies from multiple countries, including Mexico, Guatemala, Peru, Jamaica, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, Brazil, and Venezuela. Particularly interesting were the various ways in which the different concepts of space, identity, territories, law, and crime were defined and applied by each presenter. The conference also served to highlight the Center for Latin American Studies’ program of Crime, Law, and Governance in the Americas, which seeks to train students in the interdisciplinary, comparative study of law and crime in Latin America and the United States. More than 150 guests attended the conference, some of whom were able to strengthen existing ties as well as build new ones.
Title VI Funded Speakers

January 14
*The Jews of Mexico: History, Culture, and Libraries*
Enrique Chmelnik Lubinsky, Centro de Documentación e Investigación Judío de México

January 16
*Earth: Living Organism (on the emergence of the Brazilian Indian movement, its alliance with environmentalist movements, and reflections on models of development)*
Ailton Krenak, Nucleus for Indigenous Culture, Brazil

January 24
*El último aleteo de Andrea/The Last Flutter of Andrea*
Marisol Salinas, Instituto Superior de Bellas Artes, Paraguay

February 24
*Early Twentieth Century Samba in Rio de Janeiro and its Golden Age*
Carlos Sandroni, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil

JANUARY 13, 2016
*Do Police CCTV Systems Prevent Crime? Evidence from Mexico City*
Carlos Vilalta, Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas, Mexico

FEBRUARY 10, 2016
*Criminal Governance in Latin America: The Consequences of ‘New Violence’ for Power and Territoriality*
Kees Koonings, University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands

FEBRUARY 24, 2016
*The Social Accumulation of Violence in Brazil: Some Remarks*
Michel Misse, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

MARCH 9, 2016
*Uncertain Forms: Political Aspiration and Legal Norm in the Peruvian Neoliberal State*
Deborah Poole, Johns Hopkins University, U.S.

MARCH 24, 2016
*Reporting on the Bishop Gerardi, Heavens and Ayozinapa Cases in Guatemala and Mexico, and Some of the Lessons Taken*
Keynote Address, CRIMESCAPES: Space, Law and the Making of Illegality in the Americas 65th Annual Conference
Francisco Goldman, Mexico/U.S.

MARCH 25, 2016
*The Power to Define a Criminal: Police and the Social Construction of Law in Mexico*
Keynote Address, CRIMESCAPES: Space, Law and the Making of Illegality in the Americas 65th Annual Conference
Diane Davis, Harvard University, U.S.

MARCH 26, 2016
*Crimescapes. Shifting Geographies of Law and Sovereignty*
Keynote Address, CRIMESCAPES: Space, Law and the Making of Illegality in the Americas 65th Annual Conference
Finn Stepputat, Danish Institute for International Studies, Denmark

Organized by the Crime, Law, and Governance Working Group
On April 14th the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce 9th Annual International Business Forum featured a presentation on the 2016 Latin American Business Environment (LABE) Report by Dr. Brian Gendreau. At the fulcrum of business in Latin America and home to many UF Alumni, Miami is an important location for the Center to serve as a resource.

Dr. Phillip Williams’ introduction provided the attendees with an overview of the prominence of the Center and the history of the LABE Report. Dr. Gendreau’s presentation featured a regional overview as well as country profiles and the changes taking place in Cuba that make its economy more market focused. His presentation was well received and inspired thoughtful questions, comments and debate. Dr. Gendreau aspires to adapt and reshape the report frequently to meet the needs of the business community. The Center hopes to continue to engage the south Florida alumni and business community through an annual presentation of this report.

The Center coordinated this event in conjunction with the Coral Gables Chamber with the assistance of numerous other sponsors and partners.

**Sponsors:** eMerge Americas, Latin America Connection
**Host Sponsor:** Mitchell Kaplan, Cristina Nosti and Irving Field, Books and Books
**Partners:** The Conroy Martinez Group, University of Florida Association of Hispanic Alumni, Gator Club of Miami, OWIT South Florida, Global Ties

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**For Your Information:** **UF ACRONYMS**

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<td>CWSGR</td>
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<td>Florida-Brazil Linkage Institute</td>
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<td>Florida Museum of Natural History</td>
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<td>Food and Resource Economics</td>
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<td>Latin American Business Environment</td>
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<td>Master of Sustainable Development Practice</td>
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Dr. Tanya L. Saunders holds a PhD in Sociology from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a Master of International Development Policy from the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Most recently she was a faculty member in the Department of African American and African Studies at Ohio State University. Dr. Saunders’ academic interests are in the areas of identity formation, Coloniality Studies/Postcolonial theory, Cultural Studies, Sociology of Knowledge, Afro-Latino Studies, arts-based social movements, race, gender and sexuality. She is interested in the ways in which the African Diaspora, throughout the Americas use the arts as a central tool for social change. She has published in journals such as Latin American Perspectives, The Caribbean Review of Gender and Studies, Black Women, Gender and the Family, Feminist Media Studies, Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society and has published articles both in Cuba and in Brazil.

Dr. Saunders also co-edited an issue of the Black Diaspora Review (2015) on the future of African Diaspora Studies in post-embargo Cuba. As a 2011-2012 Fulbright scholar to Brazil she began work on her current project which analyzes urban arts-based social movements in Brazil, with a focus on their influence in both political mobilization among socially marginalized communities, and grassroots-based urban alternative education movements. Her current book Cuban Underground Hip Hop: Black Thoughts, Black Revolution and Black Modernity (2015), is available from the University of Texas Press. Saunders will join UF for the upcoming fall semester as Associate Professor in the Center for Latin American Studies.

**NEW FACULTY MEMBER**

**TANYA SAUNDERS**

**AFFILIATE FACULTY**

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>S. Luke Flory</td>
<td>Agronomy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coco Fusco</td>
<td>Art &amp; Art History</td>
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<td>Sadie Ryan</td>
<td>Geography/EPI</td>
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<td>Héctor Sandoval</td>
<td>Economics</td>
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**STAFF**

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<td>Maira Gutierrez</td>
<td>Program Coordinator/Event Planner</td>
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**GLOBAL CLASSROOM INITIATIVE**

In an effort to globalize the curriculum of future classrooms, Mary Risner (LAS) and Swapna Kumar (COE) received a grant from the Longview Foundation to work with pre-service teachers at our College of Education to integrate LAS and global content. Key activities were having students connect to teachers in Bolivia and Japan through telecollaboration and presenting their experiences at educational technology conferences.

LEFT-TO-RIGHT: Morgan Wendland- Elementary Ed Undergraduate, Andie Anderson- Elementary Ed Undergraduate, Krista Ruggles- Doctoral Candidate Curriculum, Teaching, & Teacher Education, Owen Roberts-Superintendent of Alachua County Schools, Emma Redd- Elementary Ed Undergraduate, Jennifer Mansie- Executive Director of the Longview Foundation, Mary Risner- Associate Director of Outreach at the Center for Latin American Studies.
In spring 2016, the Center for Latin American Studies co-sponsored a number of events to extend knowledge of Brazilian culture and music to populations within and beyond the University of Florida. In April, Jacaré Brazil & UF Jazz Band performed with César Camargo Mariano (piano) and Renato Martins (percussion) at the University Auditorium. The infused jazz and Brazilian musical performance was a hit and attendance was high. The 15th annual Brazilian Music Institute in May involved an intensive week of Brazilian musical instruction and training. The Center not only supported the artists and clinicians through USDOE TVI funding, but also offered scholarships for up-and-coming musicians, students, and community members to be able to participate in the event. Additionally, throughout the spring LAS affiliate faculty from the College of Music visited three schools in South Florida as part of the Knight Foundation award. Combined, over 200 students participated in workshops and performances where they learned about and experienced traditions from Latin America’s largest country.

These are just a few of the many events that were held in spring 2016 which increased awareness and visibility of Brazilian culture.

The Center Brings Brazilian Music and Culture to Florida
Contributed by Brigitte Pfluger, MALAS student

Outreach Launches New Virtual Guest Visit Program

This semester CLAS’ Outreach team launched a new Virtual Guest Visit program. The program offers teachers the opportunity to incorporate a virtual guest from anywhere into their classroom to provide context and answer student questions on topics surrounding Latin America, its culture, and its people. So far, guests organized by the Virtual Guest Visit program have supplemented high school-level classes on diverse and interdisciplinary topics including: Afro-Latin American religions, business, Latino identity, U.S.-Mexico border issues, and free trade in the coffee market. Guest speakers have included LAS faculty Ieva Jusionyte, Catherine Tucker, and Brian Gendreau; Diana Moreno, a MALAS graduate student; and Gerald Murray, professor emeritus. The program reached over 250 students in this semester alone. Furthermore, this program enhances the existing Traveling Suitcase Program by providing teachers with both expertise and materials for a unique learning experience that engages students with diverse learning styles. Since the launch of the Virtual Guest Visit program, teachers have responded enthusiastically saying that it was a positive experience for their classes and that they would recommend the program to other teachers. One teacher commented, “I hope to find another way to use [this program] in my classroom and I hope we can do this again next school year.”

Contributed by Kerry White, MALAS student
Grenville Barnes (SFRC) presented two conferences papers at the IX Congress on Geomatics in Havana, Cuba between 14-18 March 2016. One was with W. Volkman “Evolution of Land Tenure and Cadastral Surveying Technology in Developing Countries” and the other with B. Wilkinson called “Teaching Unmanned Aerial Systems for Mapping at the University of Florida”. He presented these with the help of a travel grant from the Center.

Robert Buschbacher (SFRC), Wendy-Lin Bartels (ABE) and Camila Rodriguez (SNRE) organized Family Agriculture Week for the Center’s TCD program, with a group of visitors from Brazilian NGOs Instituto Ouro Verde and Instituto Centro da Vida and Brazilian universities UNEMAT, UFSCar and USP/ESALQ. Events included a Conservation and Development Forum on “How Global Economic, Social and Environmental Trends Are Affecting the Role of Family Agriculture in Rural Development” and an all-day workshop on “Integrating Research and Practice to Promote More Resilient Family Agriculture.” The group produced and presented to TCD students and faculty a research framework to guide future collaborations.


Carmen Diana Deere (LAS/FRE - Emerita) published (with Z. Catanzarite) “Measuring the Intra-Household Distribution of Wealth in Ecuador: Qualitative Insights and Quantitative Outcomes,” in F. Lee and B. Conin, eds., Handbook of Research Methods and Applications in Heterodox Economics (Edward Elgar, 2016), pp. 512-534. She was an invited participant at the Latin American Regional Dialogue on Women’s Economic Empowerment held by UN Women in Panama City in December 2015.

Berta Esperanza Hernandez-Truyol (Law) presented “Glocalizing Women’s Health and Safety; Migration, Work, and Labor” at the Global Justice for Women Advancing Equality Conference at the Santa Clara University School of Law in February 2016 and “Flujos Migratorios y Control de Fronteras: Historia de los EEUU at the Migraciones Internacionales y Sostenibilidad Social Conference at the Universidad Internacional de Andalucia (Baeza)” at the Universidad de Jaen (Jaen) in Spain.

Glenn Galloway (MDP) moderated and presented in the international seminar “Forests and Development: From Development Discourses to Providing Data for Decision Making” organized by the IUFRO Special Project World Forests, Society and Environment and FAO-Finland Forestry Program and supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in Helsinki, Finland in March 2016.


Bette Loiselle (LAS/WEC) and John Blake (WEC) published (with Diego Mosquera, Jaime Guerra, David Romod Kelly Swing) “Spatial and temporal activity patterns of ocelots Leopardus pardalis in lowland forest of eastern Ecuador.” Journal of Mammalogy doi: 10.1093/jmammal/gyv190. She also presented “Importance of conserving ecological interactions in tropical forests”, a plenary lecture at the International Congress: Andes Amazon Biodiversity Conservation in Lima, Peru in October 2015.

Susan Milbracht (FLMNH) published La Evidencia de la Agro-astromania entre los Antiguos Mayas. Estudios de Cultura Maya, XVII: 11-29, 2016. She also presented papers at four different symposiums: “Seasonality in Central Mexican Painted Images of Tlaloc: From Classic to Postclassic” which she chaired with Gabrielle Vail (Orlando, April 2016); “Tlaloc and the Tlaloque: Changing Seasonal Aspects of the Rain God in the Borgia Group

Gregory Moreland (SPS) gave a presentation entitled “How Foreign Languages and Study Abroad Changed My Life: A Sycamore’s (Unexpected) Journey” for the Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics at Indiana State University in February 2016.


Susan Paulson (LAS) organized and presented a paper in an invited double session on Culture, Power and Degrowth at the 2015 American Anthropology Meetings. Susan’s chapter “Toward a broader scope and more critical frame for intersectional analysis” was published in Palgrave Handbook of Gender and Development: Critical Engagements in Feminist Theory and Practice, edited by Wendy Harcourt. Palgrave Macmillian UK. In March 2016, Susan taught an intensive course on Género y Territorialidad at FLASCO Ecuador, and delivered a public lecture at FLACSO on “Violencias de género a debate (laboral, doméstica, militar, narco, pandillas y otras)”


Jack Putz (Biology) and Ph.D. candidate Anand Roopsind (Biology) worked with a group of Belizean researchers in a logged forest in the Gallon Jug region. The first of two studies that emerged from collaboration were published in Forest Ecology and Management, the second is due out soon in the Journal of Tropical Forest Science. Both papers focus on the biodiversity impacts of selective logging, as practiced by a Forest Stewardship Council certified company. The researchers discovered that in the 7% of the forest directly affected by there were only minor impacts on populations and communities of palms and lianas.

Rosana Resende (LAS) was awarded the inaugural Wise Latina Award for faculty by Hispanic Latino Affairs (UF). She presented “Characterization of Hazardous Working Conditions for Female Farmworkers of Childbearing Age” (with Linda McCulley, Emory University) at the Research to Action Grantee Meeting in Research Triangle Park, NC (January 2016). She also gave two invited lectures: “Undue Burdens: Gender, Migration, and Farmwork”, at the Santa Fe College (Gainesville, FL) Farmworker Awareness Week program (March 2016), and “Heads of Households, Heads of States: Rethinking Latin American Womanhood, at Seminole State College”, Oviedo, FL (April 2016).

Mary Risner (LAS) received the 2016 AOTP Brazilian Press Award as post-secondary faculty promoting the Portuguese language. She was awarded a grant from the Longview Foundation to initiate a project to globalization pre-service teacher curriculum using telecollaboration (in collaboration with College of Education faculty member, Swapan Kumar). Risner was voted president-elect of the Florida Foreign Language Association and will be serving as president from fall 2016-2017. She and Carolina Egúsquiza (Rotterdam University of Applied Sciences) published “Preparing Students for the Global Workplace: The Relevance of Languages for Specific Purposes”. In Dimension, 2016: 22-34.


Rick Stepp (LAS/Anthropology) presented the paper “Why Unimportant Plants are Important: Further Thoughts on Ethnobotanical ‘Canaries in the Coal Mine’” at the Society of Ethnobiology annual meeting in Tucson, AZ in March 2016. He also edited four books that were published this year by Springer Nature in the Ethnobiology book series, including Ethnobotany of Mexico.

Laurie N. Taylor (English) is P.I. on the Andrew W. Mellon/NEH Open Book Program grant for 2016-2017; “Books about Florida and the Caribbean: from The University Press of Florida to the World.”

Catherine Tucker (LAS/Anthropology) presented the paper “Empty Promises or Pathways to Resilience? Environmental Certifications for Sustainable Coffee Production in Latin America” at the American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting in Denver in November 2015. She also presented the paper, “Seeking Resilience in Contexts of Risk: Smallholder coffee producers and adaptation to global change in Central America” at the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting in San Francisco in March.
2016 Summer Research Grant Recipients

Each year, the Center for Latin American Studies and the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) program award funding to UF students to conduct summer research. This year, 21 students from eight different departments across campus received funding to carry out their field research in Latin America and in Latino communities in the U.S. These awards are made possible by the following funding sources:

- Alan Bonderud & Marilyn Bond
- Boonstra Family Research Fellowship
- Carol French Doughty Memorial Fund
- Center for Latin American Studies grant overhead
- TCD Ford Foundation Endowment
- Vivian G. Nolan Graduate Fellowship
- Wagley/Carter Research Fund
- Wilgus Research Fellowship
- Hugh L. Popenoe Mesoamerican Research Endowment

The Center would like to congratulate the following students on their 2016 field research awards. Each student, their degree program, and country where they will conduct their field research is listed below.

- Anmari Álvarez Alemán (PhD SNRE) Cuba
- Andrea Baudoin (PhD SNRE) Bolivia
- Christina Callicott (PhD Anthropology) Peru
- Karen Cardona (MALAS) Colombia
- Carissa Cullum (MALAS) U.S.A.
- Maja Jeranko (MALAS) Ecuador
- Juanita Duque (MALAS) Colombia
- Michael Esbach (PhD SNRE) Ecuador
- Cacey Farnsworth (PhD History) Portugal
- Ana Carolina Fiorini (PhD SNRE) Brazil
- Jazmín Gonzales Tovar (PhD SNRE) Brazil
- Jandy Gu (PhD Anthropology) Brazil
- Gissella Guerra (PhD Civil & Coastal Engineering) Panama
- Akemi Inamoto (MALAS) Colombia
- Christopher Lomelin (MALAS) Mexico
- Felipe Pinheiro (PhD SNRE) Brazil
- Percy Peralta (PhD SNRE) Peru
- Mary Puckett (PhD Religion) Mexico
- Camila Rodrigues (MS SNRE) Brazil
- Alexandra Sabo (PhD Geography) Brazil
- Kerry White (MALAS) Cuba

2016 Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship Recipients

The Center for Latin American Studies awarded the following UF students a U.S. Department of Education Summer Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship to study Portuguese with UF’s Language & Culture Program in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

- Olga Chamberlain (BA, Nutritional Science)
- Trey Crouch (PhD, Environmental Engineering)
- Carissa Cullum (MALAS)*
- Jacy Hyde (PhD, Forest Resources & Conservation)
- May Lehmensiek (PhD, Interdisciplinary Ecology)
- Mirelis Martinez (MALAS)
- Ana McIntosh (BA, Architecture)
- Tyeshia Redden (PhD, Urban & Regional Planning)
- Vanessa Reigosa (BA, International Studies)
- Jessica Valdes (BA, Political Science)

*Funded by FIU
Field Research Clinic & Poster Session 2016

The Center for Latin American Studies and the Tropical Conservation and Development (TCD) Program awarded 23 field research grants for UF graduate students to carry out master’s thesis and pre-dissertation fieldwork in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2015. Held at the Latin American and Caribbean Collection (LACC) on February 26, the 14th annual Field Research Clinic (FRC) gave students the chance to learn about the various research projects sponsored last summer by the Center and TCD, and to stimulate debate with students from a broad range of disciplines. The clinic also provided an opportunity for grant recipients to showcase their work and to disseminate the results of their research to a wide audience of students and faculty members.

The second half of the clinic was devoted to the research poster competition. Posters were evaluated by Peter Fredericks (WEC), Andy Noss (MDP), and Nick Vargas (LAS/Sociology).

The FRC is one of several graduate student support activities sponsored by the Center over the course of the academic year. These events serve to enhance the learning and professional preparation of LAS students.

2016 POSTER COMPETITION WINNERS

GRAND PRIZE
The Albertine Rift of Central Africa; Anthropogenic Threats and Chimpanzees
Jennifer Moore, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

1ST PRIZE PRE-DISSERTATION LEVEL
Do Private Protected Areas Aid in Biodiversity Conservation?
Maria Juliana Bedoya-Durán, School of Natural Resources & Environment

1ST PRIZE MASTER’S LEVEL
The Response of Pumas to the Migration of Guanacos
Maria Lauren Gelin Spessot, School of Natural Resources & Environment

1ST PRIZE MDP
Monitoring Progress on CCAFS and GFCS Trainings of Extension Workers in Longido, Tanzania
Whitney Turientine, MDP

2ND PRIZE PRE-DISSERTATION LEVEL
The Effects of Monoculture Tree Plantations on Small Farmer Livelihoods
Felipe Infante, Anthropology

2ND PRIZE MASTER’S LEVEL
Wildlife Friendly Certification: A Case Study of Patagonian Cashmere Producers and Buyers
Cristina Godoy, School of Natural Resources & Environment
Undergraduate LAS
Minors & Certificates
Giselle Bermudez (Sociology)
Roudy Boursiquot (Political Science)
Sarai Chavarria (History)
Grace Figueroa (Political Science)
Caryn Garcia (Marketing)
William Haines (International Studies)
Kimberly Jasmin (Criminology/International Studies)
Claudia Lievano (Telecommunications)
Michelle Marquez (International Studies)
Stephanie McComber (International Studies)
Brittney Mejia (History)
Andrea Mendez (International Studies)
Paloma Mendez (Spanish)
Yareliz Mendez-Zamora (English/History)
Nicholas Regueiro (Advertising)
Barbara Reis (Accounting)
Sofia Rogner (English/Political Science)
Michael Tamayo (Political Science)

Graduate LAS Certificates
Catalina Angeli (International Business/MA)
Todd Bertwell (Forest Resources & Conservation/MS)
Irving Chan-Gomez (MDP/MA)
Kevin Funk (Political Science/PhD)
Cristina Nunez Godoy (SNRE/MS)
Tonyaa Weathersbee (Journalism/Mass Communications/MA)

MALAS Degrees
Crisne Lebron
Specialization: Development Studies
Advisor: Marianne Schmink
Thesis: Conditional Cash Transfer Programs and Women's Empowerment in Brazil

Gage Ziehm
Specialization: Development Studies
Advisor: Susan Paulson
Thesis: Street Dogs and Cats in Dominican Urban Life

Brigitte Pfugler
Specialization: Development Studies
Advisor: Pilar Useche

Macarena Moraga
Specialization: Anthropology
Advisor: Ieva Jusionyte
Thesis: Memory Ether: An Analysis of the Brazilian and Chilean Dictatorships Represented in Años Rebeldes and Los 80

Chloe Anderson
Specialization: TCD
Advisor: Susan Jacobson
Thesis: Influences on teacher perceptions of barriers to environmental education in Ecuador

Diana Moreno
Specialization: Political Science
Advisor: Nicholas Vargas
Final Report: “Se Ve, Se Siente: How the Organizational Structure of Make the Road New York Promotes the Political Integration of Undocumented Latino Immigrants in New York City”

MDP Degrees
Kristen Marks
Specialization: TCD, Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits
Advisor: Muthusami Kumaran (Family, Youth & Community Sciences)
Capstone Field Practicum: Fostering Change through Youth Leadership: Leadership Development Training for Young Women in Goa, India

Jessica Horwood
Specialization: TCD, Entrepreneurship, Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits
Advisor: Michael Morris (Business – Entrepreneurship & Innovation Center)
Capstone Field Practicum: Through the Eyes of the Client: An Analysis of a Student Consulting Program in South Africa

Whitney Turientine
Specialization: TCD, African Studies, Gender & Development
Advisor: Sandra Russo (UF International Center)
Capstone Field Practicum: Monitoring the Global Framework for Climate Services Trainings of Extension Workers in Longido, Tanzania

Gabriela Polo
Specialization: TCD, Development Law
Advisor: Susan Paulson (Latin American Studies)
Capstone Field Practicum: A Situational Analysis of Community-Based Oyster Farming in Isla Chira, Costa Rica

Irving Chan Gómez
Specialization: TCD, Latin American Studies, Entrepreneurship, Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits
Advisor: Jane Yellowlees Douglas (Business)
Capstone Field Practicum: BEER: Brewing Employees Engaged in ‘Corporate’ Responsibility

Graduate Sustainable Development Practice Certificate
Margaret Clifford, MS (Forest Resources & Conservation)
ALUMNI News

Korey Force (MALAS 2013) returned to Costa Rica after graduating with her MALAS degree to present the findings of her thesis to the Esparza community. She then taught high school Spanish for 2 years in both Florida and Illinois. In March of 2015, Korey began working as the Outreach Coordinator in the Study Abroad Office at Western Michigan University. In addition to handling the marketing and recruitment for the office, she also works with students as they re-enter the country and struggle with reverse culture shock and communicating their experience to a variety of audiences.

Rachel Mourão (MALAS 2012) completed her PhD at UT Austin and will begin a faculty position in the School of Journalism at Michigan State University in fall 2016.

Adam Reid (MALAS 2014) accepted a fellowship position in Smith College’s Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program and will begin this summer.

José Sariego (LAS undergraduate certificate 1977) is currently a partner in the Corporate Department at the law firm Bilzin Sumberg in Miami. He specializes in Media & Entertainment law + M&A and general corporate matters. José also teaches Media Law at the University of Miami School of Law.

Nicole Sarrine (LAS undergraduate certificate 2010) graduated from UF in May 2010 with a degree in Political Science and minors in Public Leadership, Geography, and Latin American Studies. Upon completing her undergraduate studies, Nicole worked in Washington, D.C. at BGR Group, for the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill and Offshore Drilling, and in the United States Senate. Nicole enrolled at the University of Virginia School of Law in August 2013, and she will be graduating with her law degree in May 2016. Nicole returned to the Senate after her first year at law school to clerk for the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, and she spent the following summer working in the D.C. office of the international law firm Hughes, Hubbard & Reed. After taking the Bar exam this summer, Nicole will be returning to Hughes Hubbard in D.C. to begin her legal career.

Andrew Tarter (LAS graduate certificate 2015) works as a Research Associate for the Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences (IFAS) at UF.

Brigitte Pfluger (MALAS 2016) works as Monitoring and Evaluation and Impact Specialist for the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems at UF.

Tropical Conservation and Development Program

- Hernan Alvarez, MS (Wildlife Ecology and Conservation)
- Ronit Amit, PhD (Wildlife Ecology and Conservation)
- Deborah Andrews, PhD (Anthropology)
- Todd Bertwell, MS (Forest Resources and Conservation)
- Dario Damian Brittez, MS (Forest Resources and Conservation)
- Kristina Burja, MS (School of Natural Resources and Environment)
- Irving Xohel Chan Gomez, MDP (LAS/African Studies)
- Jessica Horwood, MDP (LAS/African Studies)
- Jose Antonio Sierra Huelsz, PhD (Forest Resources and Conservation)
- Kristen Marks, MDP (LAS/African Studies)
- Cristina Nunez Godoy, MS (School of Natural Resources and Environment)
- Gabriela Polo, MDP (LAS/African Studies)
- Yasmin Odette Quintana Morales, MS (School of Natural Resources and Environment)
- Viviana Beatriz Rojas Bonzi, MS (Wildlife Ecology and Conservation)
- Whitney Turientine, MDP (LAS/African Studies)
Can you tell us about your current position and how it relates to Latin America?
Currently I work at the U.S. Office of Government Ethics as the International Assistance and Outreach Team Lead and a Senior Ethics Desk Officer. As the International Team Lead I regularly meet with representatives from other countries, including Latin American countries, to share lessons learned in managing public sector conflicts of interest. I also lead my agency’s participation in international anti-corruption peer review mechanisms such as the inter-American anti-corruption peer review mechanism operated out of the Organization of American States (OAS).

What aspect of your career have you enjoyed the most?
The most durable, satisfying parts of my job have been the development of expertise in my field (an ongoing process, to be sure) and working with really smart and motivated people who energize and inspire me.

How did your MALAS degree and the Center help you prepare for your career?
My MALAS degree and related internships gave me the foothold into my current career. While in the MALAS program I interned at the State Department. I didn’t know it at the time, but that internship introduced me to two of my future bosses.

When I graduated from the MALAS program, I immediately moved to Washington, D.C. to start the Hispanic Division Huntington Fellowship Program at the Library of Congress. I certainly would not have secured that fellowship except for my degree and thesis research experience.

Being in D.C. for that Fellowship made me a more competitive candidate for my first “real” post-MALAS job, which was at the OAS in the same division with which I had interacted while doing the internship at the State Department. After two years at the OAS, I took a job at the U.S. Office of Government Ethics, one of the U.S. executive branch agencies with which I had also interacted during the State Department internship.

What would you most encourage MALAS students to take away from their experience at the Center for Latin American Studies?
Do as many internships and fellowships as you possibly can. First, an internship allows you to test-drive different careers. In addition to the internship at the State Department, I did an internship with Save the Children in Nicaragua. While it was a tremendous experience, I learned that that type of development work was not my passion. Second, internships are pathways to jobs, particularly in Washington, D.C. As I said, my internship at the State Department introduced me to two of my future bosses.
The Center for Latin American Studies would like to express its gratitude for the generosity of those who have contributed to the Center’s funds and endowments.

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