PANAMA CONSIDERED

Remembering THE PAST

EMBRACING THE FUTURE

63rd Annual Conference
MARCH 19-21, 2014
UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

UF Center for Latin American Studies
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
The UF Center for Latin American Studies’ 63rd Annual Conference, “Panama Considered: Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future,” marks the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Panama Canal in 1914. The conference features more than 30 expert presentations on Panama from diverse perspectives. Highlights include addresses from Jorge Quijano, CEO of the Panama Canal Authority; Dr. Rubén Berrocal, Secretary General of Panama’s National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation (SENACYT); Angeles Ramos Baquero, director of the Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panamá; and historians Julie Greene, author of the award-winning The Canal Builders (2009) and Michael Conniff, 2014 UF Bacardi Scholar and the author of Panama and the United States (2012). The conference also features a special Thursday evening panel with former Florida Governor and US Senator Bob Graham, and former US ambassadors to Panama, Simon Ferro and Ambler Moss.

The Panama Canal and its current major expansion have important business implications for the state of Florida and the conference aims to highlight and reflect on those opportunities. But Panama, of course, is more than a canal and the conference also seeks to provide a much richer portrait of the country than is commonly perceived. It includes presentations on such topics as paleontology, geology, forest conservation, finance, tourism, politics, Afro-Panamanian heritage, indigenous peoples, and popular culture.

The conference also highlights UF’s contributions and connections with respect to Panama. Several of the presenters are UF alumni and a number of UF scholars have close ties with the renowned Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) in Panama, much of whose work is focused on tropical conservation and development and sustainable development, two hallmarks of UF in general and the Center for Latin American Studies in particular. Scholars of the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH) won a multimillion NSF/PIRE grant to fund research and educational outreach in connection with the canal expansion. And the UF George Smathers Libraries recently acquired the substantial holdings of the Panama Canal Museum, formerly based near St. Petersburg, Florida, a labor of love for a large number of prominent “Zonians” who thought it important to commemorate and preserve the history of the US experience in Panama, particularly in the building, operating, maintenance, and defense of the canal and canal zone until 1999. The UF libraries have been awarded close to half a million dollars in grant funding to curate the collection and to make it publicly accessible.

The UF Center for Latin American Studies was founded in 1930 and has been recognized as a National Resource Center by the US Department of Education since the early 1960s. The mission of the Center for Latin American Studies is to advance knowledge about Latin America and the Caribbean and its peoples throughout the hemisphere. With over 170 faculty members from colleges across UF, the Center is one of the largest institutions anywhere devoted to interdisciplinary research, teaching and outreach on Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies.
UF CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES’
63rd Annual Conference

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UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program

UF History Department

UF Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere

Port Tampa Bay

Floridians for Better Transportation
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Conference Chair: Richmond Brown, Associate Director, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida

Conference Co-Chair: Paul Losch, Associate Librarian, Latin American Collection, George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida

Conference Coordinator: Nathalia Ochoa, Program Coordinator, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida

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Rachel Schipper, UF George A. Smathers Libraries
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Aaron Wood, FLMNH

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Kym Dalton
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Center for Latin American Studies
UNIVERSITY of FLORIDA
# The Conference at a Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Wednesday, March 19</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6:00PM - 7:30PM</td>
<td>Bacardi Lecture</td>
<td>Chandler Auditorium, Harn Museum</td>
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<td>7:30PM - 9:00PM</td>
<td>Bacardi Reception</td>
<td>Powell Hall, FLMNH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, March 20</strong></td>
<td>8:15AM - 9:00AM</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Registration</td>
<td>Emerson Alumni Hall, Warrington A&amp;B</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9:00AM - 10:15AM</td>
<td>Advancing Science In Panama: Ruben Berrocal (SENACYT)</td>
<td>Emerson, President’s B&amp;C</td>
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<td>10:15AM - 10:30AM</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Warrington A&amp;B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10:30AM - 12PM</td>
<td>Early Natural History</td>
<td>President’s C</td>
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<td></td>
<td>12:00PM - 1:30PM</td>
<td>Luncheon with Jorge Quijano, ACP</td>
<td>President’s A&amp;B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:45PM - 3:15PM</td>
<td>Panama’s Forests</td>
<td>President’s C</td>
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<td>3:15PM - 3:30PM</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Warrington A&amp;B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:30PM - 5:00PM</td>
<td>Dilemmas of Development</td>
<td>President’s B&amp;C</td>
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<td>5:00PM - 6:00PM</td>
<td>Reception</td>
<td>Warrington A&amp;B</td>
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<td></td>
<td>6:00PM - 7:30PM</td>
<td>Roundtable Discussion: Panama and the United States</td>
<td>President’s Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Friday, March 21</strong></td>
<td>8:15AM - 9:00AM</td>
<td>Coffee &amp; Registration</td>
<td>Smathers Library East Lobby</td>
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<td>9:00AM - 10:30AM</td>
<td>Building and Living with the Canal</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td>10:30am - 10:45AM</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td>10:45AM - 12:15PM</td>
<td>Race, Culture, and Nationalism</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td>12:15PM - 1:30PM</td>
<td>Luncheon with Angeles Ramos Baquero, Museo del Canal</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1:45PM - 3:15PM</td>
<td>Politics of Panama</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td></td>
<td>3:15PM - 3:30PM</td>
<td>Coffee Break</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td>3:30PM - 5:00PM</td>
<td>Panama Canal Museum Collection at UF</td>
<td>Smathers Library East 100</td>
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<td>5:00PM - 6:30PM</td>
<td>Closing Reception</td>
<td>Latin American Collection, Smathers Library East</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PANAMA CONSIDERED: Remembering the Past, Embracing the Future

WEDNESDAY, March 19, 2014

Registration Pickup
Lobby, Harn Museum of Art

Bacardi Lecture
Chandler Auditorium, Harn Museum of Art

Welcome
Richmond Brown, UF Latin American Studies, Conference Chair

Introduction
Philip Williams, Director, UF Center for Latin American Studies

What happens when the United States gives a small country what it wants?
Michael Conniff, San José State University
UF Bacardi Eminent Visiting Scholar, 2014

Bacardi Reception
Florida Museum of Natural History

THURSDAY, March 20, 2014

Coffee and Registration Pickup
Warrington A&B
Coffee Service sponsored by Floridians for Better Transportation

SESSION 1

Featured Address
President’s B&C

Moderator: Bette Loiselle, Director of the Tropical Conservation and Development Program, UF

Advancing Science in Panama
Rubén Berrocal, Secretary General of Panama’s National Secretariat of Science and Technology (SENACYT)
Coffee Break
Warrington A&B

SESSION 2

Panel 2A: Early Natural History
President’s C

Moderator: Aaron Wood, Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH)

*Discovering Fossils and Ancient Biodiversity along the Panama Canal: A Once-in-a-Century Opportunity*
Bruce MacFadden, FLMNH

*Expansion of the Panama Canal and the Rise of the Isthmus*
Carlos Jaramillo, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)

*Investigating Panama’s Rise from the Sea and its Effects on Marine Life*
Laurel Collins, Florida International University

Panel 2B: Business, Investment Banking and Tourism
Classroom

Moderator: Andy Naranjo, UF Warrington College of Business

*Beyond the Canal: Finance and Tourism as Sources of Panama’s Growth*
Brian Gendreau, UF Warrington College of Business

*Tourism Development and Challenges in Panama*
Brijesh Thapa, UF Eric Friedheim Tourism Institute

Luncheon
President’s A&B

Welcome: Philip Williams, Director, UF LAS
Introduction: Richard Wainio, Global Planning Strategies

*The Panama Canal Expansion Program: A Story of Challenges, Innovation and Commitment*
Jorge Quijano, CEO of the Panama Canal Authority (ACP)

Luncheon sponsored by Port Tampa Bay
Panel 3A: Current and Future Forest Dynamics in Panama
President’s C

Moderator: Glenn Galloway, Director, UF Masters of Sustainable Development Program (MDP)

Establishing National Forest Inventories for REDD+:
The Panama Experience
María Carmen Ruiz-Jaen, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Forest-Cover Change, Population and Land Tenure in Western Panama
Kendra Walker, STRI

Current Tree Cover and Opportunities for Reforestation in the Highly Deforested Azuero Peninsula of Panama
Stephanie Bohlman, UF SFRC

Panel 3B: Business and Legal Environment, Shipping and Infrastructure
Classroom

Moderator: Andy Naranjo, Warrington College of Business, UF

The Business Environment in Panama
Terry McCoy, UF LAS and Political Science, Emeritus

Country Competitiveness
Daniel Sokol, UF Levin College of Law

Shifting Trade Patterns and the Impact of the Panama Canal Expansion
Richard Wainio, Global Planning Strategies

Coffee Break
Warrington A&B
SESSION 4 3:30 - 5:00

Dilemmas of Development
President’s B&C

Moderator: Jonathan Dain, UF LAS

Development, Resources, and Communities in Eastern Panama
Julie Velásquez Runk, University of Georgia and Carlos Espinosa, WWF Panama

Demographic Aspects Related to Social and Economic Development of the Indigenous Population in Panama
Francisco Herrera, University of Panama

Clashing Worldviews in the Crossroads of the World: Competing Visions of Development in XXI Century Panama
Osvaldo Jordán, CATHALAC

Reception
Warrington A&B 5:00 - 6:00

SESSION 5 6:00 - 7:30

Roundtable Discussion
President’s Ballroom, Emerson Alumni Hall

Panama and the US: Security and Diplomacy
Moderator: Terry McCoy, UF LAS

Panel:
Ambler Moss, University of Miami, US Ambassador to Panama (1978-1982)
FRIDAY, March 21, 2014

Coffee and Registration Pickup 8:30 - 9:00

SESSION 6 9:00 - 10:30

Building and Living with the Canal
Moderator: Thomas Leonard, University of North Florida (emeritus)

“The 13th Labor of Hercules”: Myths and Erasures in the History of the Panama Canal’s Construction
Julie Greene, University of Maryland at College Park

Depopulating La Zona: Erasing Urban History at the Panama Canal
Marixa Lasso, Case Western Reserve University

Borderland on the Isthmus: The Panama Canal Zone as Imperial Borderland
Michael Donoghue, Marquette University

Coffee Break 10:30 - 10:45

SESSION 7 10:45 - 12:15

Race, Culture and Nationalism
Moderator: Michael Conniff, SJSU, UF Bacardi Scholar

“Panama for the Panamanians”: Arnulfo Arias and Defensive Nationalism
Frank Robinson, Vanderbilt University

The Forging of Afro-Panamanian Identity: Past, Present, and Future
Sonja Stephenson Watson, University of Texas at Arlington

Blackness and Popular Art in Twentieth-Century Panama
Peter Szok, Texas Christian University

Luncheon 12:15 - 1:30

Smathers Library East 100

Welcome and Introduction: Judith Russell, Dean, UF Smathers Libraries

The Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panamá: 100 Years of the Panama Canal and the Reclaiming of our Historical Memory
Angeles Ramos Baquero, Director, Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panamá
SESSION 8  
1:45 - 3:15

The Politics of Panama
Moderator: Gene Bigler, US Foreign Service (ret.)

Political Culture of Democracy in Panama:  
Evidence from the Americas Barometer
Orlando J. Pérez, Central Michigan University

Senate Debate on the 1978 Panama Canal Treaties: Predicting Short- and Long-Term Effects
Margaret Scranton, University of Arkansas, Little Rock

No CMA! The Battle over US Military Bases in Panama
Peter Sanchez, Loyola University of Chicago

Coffee Break  
3:15 - 3:30

SESSION 9  
3:30 - 5:00

The Panama Canal Museum Collection at UF
Moderator: Rachel Schipper, UF Smathers Libraries

The Panama Canal Museum: History in the Attics, Trunks, and Closets
Paul Morgan, US Army (ret.), University of South Florida

Integrating the Panama Canal Museum Collection into the University of Florida Libraries
Paul Losch, UF Latin American Collection

Oral Histories and Historical Memories of the Panama Canal Zone
Paul Ortiz, UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program

Closing Reception  
5:00 - 6:30
Smathers Library East, Latin American Collection
Rubén Berrocal
Ruben Berrocal, MD, is Panama’s National Secretary for Science, Technology and Innovation. For the last 25 years he has been dedicated to the study and has worked for the advancement of medical and scientific technology. Dr. Berrocal holds medical specialties in pediatrics—previous to which he performed investigative studies in immunology and contagious diseases in the pediatric field, anesthesiology, intensive care (adult and child), and interventional pain medicine. He has also dedicated a great part of his time to scientific investigation and teaching, as well as to projects in high-end medical technology. He studied medicine at the University of Panama, and carried out residencies at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the University of Florida.

Stephanie Bohlman
Stephanie Bohlman is an assistant professor in the School of Forest Resources and Conservation at the University of Florida. She also is a research associate at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI) in Panama. She earned her PhD and MS in Forest Resources from the University of Washington-Seattle and her BA from New College in Sarasota, Florida, and held research positions at STRI and Princeton University. Dr. Bohlman has worked in Panama since 1997 focusing on understanding tropical forest structure and dynamics using field data, modeling and remote sensing images from satellites, aircraft, drones and the two research canopy cranes in Panama.

Laurel Collins
Laurel Collins is Professor of Paleontology and Graduate Program Director for the Geosciences at FIU, Miami. She earned a B.S. in Geology from University of Maryland; an M.S. in Geology from the George Washington University, and a Ph.D. in Geology and Geophysics from Yale University. She began her research on the formation of the Isthmus of Panama as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in 1989–1990, and continued as an Assistant Research Scientist at University of Michigan before moving to FIU. As a Smithsonian Research Associate she travels to Panama and other countries of Central and South America for fieldwork and collaborations, focusing on environmental and evolutionary changes associated with the rise of the Isthmus. She also investigates research closer to home, including effects of the Gulf of Mexico oil spill on deep sea communities, and human- vs. naturally induced changes to Florida Bay. Dr. Collins has authored numerous articles for journals such as Geology, Paleoceanography, Journal of Marine Science, and Special Papers of the Geological Society of America.

Michael Conniff
Michael L. Conniff is the 2014 Bacardi Eminent Scholar in the Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida. He is a professor of history and founding director of the San José State University Global Studies Program. He earned his BA at UC Berkeley and his MA and PhD at Stanford University. He is the author of numerous works on Panama, including Black Labor on a White Canal (Pittsburgh, 1985), “Panama since 1903” in the Cambridge History of Latin America, edited by Leslie Bethell, and, most recently, the third edition of his book Panama and the United States (Georgia, 2012). He is also the author of A History of Modern Latin America (2005, with Lawrence Clayton), Populism in Latin America (2012), and Africans in the Americas (2003, with T. J. Davis), among many other works on Latin American history. He has lived overseas for a dozen years, held several post-docs (including three Fulbright tours), and served in the U.S. Peace Corps. Dr. Conniff lectures often in Portuguese and Spanish. Before joining SJSU, he taught history at the University of New Mexico and later led efforts to create Latin American studies programs at Auburn University and the University of South Florida.

Michael Donoghue
Michael Donoghue is an associate professor of history at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. He received his BA (1993) and MA (1996) at the University of Rhode Island and his PhD (2005) from the University of Connecticut. He has written “Murder and Rape in the Canal Zone” in Jessica Gienow-Hecht (ed.) Decentering America: Culture and International History II; “Race, Labor, and Security in the Panama Canal Zone,” in Philip Muehlenbeck (ed.) Race, Ethnicity, and the Cold War: A Global Perspective; and “Harry S. Truman's Latin America Foreign Policy 1945-1953,” in Daniel S. Margolies (ed.) A Companion for Harry S. Truman. Dr. Donoghue’s book, Borderland on the Isthmus: Race, Culture, and the Struggle for the Canal Zone, will be published by Duke University Press in May 2014.
Carlos Espinosa Peña
Carlos Espinosa Peña works as a forest specialist in the regional offices of World Wildlife Fund for the Northern Amazon and Chocó – Darién, based in Panama. He has worked in the Darién region since 1992, and has participated in diverse initiatives to support conservation of natural resources of the region. He is a forester, graduated from the Universidad Nacional de Costa Rica, and has a Master’s in Ecology and Conservation from the Universidad Católica Santa María La Antigua in Panama. In addition, he is a doctoral student in the Social Sciences Doctoral Program of the Universidad de Panamá. His doctoral research centers on how different ethnicities develop arrangements for forest management that strengthen forest governance at the local level, and how to share those models so it is possible to strengthen territorial governance in Panama’s Darién region. He is author or co-author of numerous reports and presentations about forests and communities in Panama, with a particular emphasis on the Darién region.

Simon Ferro
Simon Ferro is a former U.S. ambassador to Panama (1999-2001). He was born in Cuba and raised in the United States where he has been a professional and civic leader in South Florida for decades. An accomplished and well-known zoning and land-use attorney, Mr. Ferro has been active in numerous professional and charitable organizations. He maintains strong ties in Latin America, where he regularly represents clients seeking business relationships and access to government procurement opportunities. Ambassador Ferro was appointed by President Bill Clinton to lead the U.S. diplomatic mission in Panama during the historic hand over of the Panama Canal and numerous military installations to Panamanian control in 1999. He was also appointed by President Clinton to the Board of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC). Mr. Ferro joined the Gunster Law firm in 2013. He received his law degree from the University of Florida (1978) and a BA in political science from the University of Miami (1975).

Brian Gendreau
Brian Gendreau is a Visiting Professor of Finance at the Warrington College of Business Administration of the University of Florida. He is also the specialization coordinator for the Business and Economics program in Latin American Studies. Prior to coming to UF in 2009 he was an Investment Strategist with ING Investment Management and a member of its asset allocation committee. Dr. Gendreau has a PhD in Business Economics from the Wharton School and has taught classes in the MBA programs at Wharton and New York University. Before going to Wall Street he served as a staff economist with the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia. Later, he was head of emerging markets economic research at JP Morgan, an emerging market strategist at Salomon Smith Barney, and partner at Heckman Global Advisors (now part of the Roosevelt Investment Group). Dr. Gendreau consults as a market strategist for Cetera Financial Group, a Los Angeles-based financial advisory and brokerage firm, and appears frequently on CNBC, Fox Business television, and Bloomberg Radio. His research and teaching interests are Emerging Markets, Asset Allocation, and Financial Crises.

Bob Graham
One of the most accomplished politicians in Florida’s history, Bob Graham never lost an election for office in more than four decades of public service at the local, state and national level. As first a state legislator, then governor and finally a three-term U.S. Senator, Mr. Graham has had a role in nearly every major public policy issue in modern Florida’s history. After serving two terms as governor (1979-1987), Mr. Graham joined the U.S. Senate in 1987, carving out a career known not only for his grasp of domestic issues like Everglades restoration, immigration and off-shore drilling, but as a leading expert on foreign policy and intelligence. One of Mr. Graham’s most important contributions came during his last term, when he was named chairman on the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. He co-sponsored the bill to create the Director of National Intelligence position and co-chaired the Joint Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks on September 11, 2001. Graham later authored 2004’s “Intelligence Matters,” revealing serious faults in the U.S. national security system. A political science major at UF, where he was inducted into the Hall of Fame, Mr. Graham subsequently graduated from Harvard Law School. After completing his senate career, he created the Bob Graham Center for Public Service at UF to continue his legacy of leadership and train the next generation of Sunshine State leaders.
Julie Greene
Julie Greene specializes in United States labor and working-class history. Her research and teaching interests span across immigration and political history, the history of empire, and transnational approaches to the history of the Americas. She is the author of The Canal Builders: Making America’s Empire at the Panama Canal (Penguin Press, 2009), winner of the Organization of American Historians’ 2009 James A. Rawley Prize for the best book on the history of race relations. Greene’s articles include “Spaniards on the Silver Roll: Liminality and Labor Troubles in the Panama Canal Zone, 1904-1914,” in International Labor and Working-Class History (Fall 2004) and “The Labor of Empire: Recent Scholarship on U.S. History and Imperialism,” in Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas (Summer 2004). She is also author of Pure and Simple Politics: The American Federation of Labor and Political Activism, 1881-1917 (Cambridge, 1998); co-editor, with Eric Arnesen and Bruce Laurie, of Labor Histories: Class, Politics, and the Diversity of the Working-Class Experience (Illinois, 1998); and associate editor, with Eileen Boris, John French, Joan Sangster, and Shelton Stromquist (with Leon Fink as editor) of Workers, the Nation-State, and Beyond: Essays in the Labor History of the Americas (Oxford University Press, 2011). Dr. Greene has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies, among others. She was founding Reviews Editor in 2004 of Labor: Studies in Working-Class History of the Americas, and continues to serve as an editor of the journal. Greene was founding Co-Chair of the Labor and Working-Class History Association in 1997-1999, and she is currently President of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era. For 2013-2014 she is a fellow at the National Humanities Center in North Carolina.

Francisco Herrera
Born in Panama City, Panama, Francisco Herrera received a bachelor’s degree in history and philosophy from the University of Panama and an MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Florida (1989). His research and service have focused on Panama’s indigenous population, studying state-Indian relations and working in projects concerning indigenous and peasant communities, mainly related to development projects. For two decades he has worked as a professor at the University of Panama. He helped develop the plan for the comarca territorial system, the most important achievement concerning indigenous land issues in the last 30 years. He has worked extensively with two NGOs, including more than 35 years with the Centro de Estudios y Acción Social de Pana (CEASPA), and the Alianza para la Conservación y Desarrollo (ACD). He has also volunteered with NATURA, a foundation that gives economic support to environmental projects developed by local organizations.

Carlos Jaramillo
Carlos is a staff scientist with the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. He earned his PhD in geology/botany from the University of Florida at Gainesville, his MA in geology from the Missouri University of Science and Technology at Rolla MO, and his BA in geology from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia at Bogotá. His research investigates the causes, patterns, and processes of tropical biodiversity at diverse scales of time and space. He is also interested in Cretaceous-Cenozoic biostratigraphy of low latitudes, developing methods for high-resolution biostratigraphy and the paleobiogeography of Tethys.

Osvaldo Jordán Ramos
Osvaldo Jordán studied Biology at Universidad de Panamá and California State University, Chico, and obtained a Master of Arts in Latin American Studies (MALAS) at the University of Florida (2000) and a PhD in Political Science at the University of Florida (2010). He has worked as a consultant for the Government of Panama and national and international non-governmental and international organizations on biodiversity conservation, indigenous rights, community organization, and public participation. He has also taught university courses on Ecology and Environmental Issues at Universidad Santa María La Antigua (USMA) and School for International Training (SIT) in Panama, and Latin American Politics and Latin American Studies at the University of Florida, Gainesville. His research has focused on regional autonomy and environmental conflicts in Panama, and he has been active in a number of environmental and human rights organizations. He is a founding member of Alianza para la Conservación y el Desarrollo (ACD), an organization that has been supporting the Naso and Ngobe struggle for protection of their indigenous territories and natural resources in Western Panama.
Marixa Lasso
Marixa Lasso is Associate Professor of Latin American History at Case Western Reserve University. She is the author of the book Myths of Harmony: Race and Republicanism during the Age of Revolution, Colombia 1795-1831. Professor Lasso is a contributor to numerous books and has published in journals like the American Historical Review and Citizenship Studies. She is currently working on a book about the depopulation of the Panamanian towns of the Canal Zone, for which she received grants from the American Council of Learned Societies and the National Humanities Center. She has also held fellowships from the Social Science Research Council, Fulbright, and the Werner Gren Foundation. Her work has been translated to Spanish and Portuguese. A native of Panama, Lasso received her PhD in History from the University of Florida in 2002.

Paul Losch
Paul S. Losch is an Associate Librarian in the Latin American Collection of the George A. Smathers Libraries, University of Florida. He holds a BA from Clark University in Spanish and Political Science, an MA from the University of Florida in Latin American Studies, and an MS in Library and Information Science from Florida State University. He has taught both Spanish and Portuguese, has had three articles published in the field of Latin American history, and is on the Executive Board of the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM). Since 2009, he has been part of the team working to integrate the Panama Canal Museum into the University of Florida Libraries, specifically in the areas of reference, outreach and collection management.

Bruce MacFadden
Bruce J. MacFadden is a Curator and Professor in the Florida Museum of Natural History (FLMNH). He has been on the faculty at UF since 1977. He received his B.S. from Cornell University (1971, Agriculture) and M. Phil (1974, Geological Sciences) and Ph.D. (1976, Geological Sciences) from Columbia University. From 1976 to 1977 Dr. MacFadden was a Gibbs Instructor of Geology and Geophysics at Yale University. He has specialized in the evolution of extinct New World mammals, in particular horses and other herbivores. Dr. MacFadden is the author of 175 articles in peer-reviewed journals and the 1992 book Fossil Horses: Systematics, Paleobiology, and Evolution of the Family Equidae (Cambridge Univ. Press). In 1994 he was a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow in Bolivia. In addition to four decades of fieldwork in Bolivia, Mexico, and Peru, since 2002 Dr. MacFadden has conducted field research in Panama. He is the Principal Investigator of the PCP (Panama Canal Project) PIRE (Partnerships in International Research and Education) funded by the U.S. National Science Foundation (0966884). Along with the research in Panama, Bruce is involved in disseminating the results of the PIRE project for the greater benefit of society, including via K12 education and museums.

Terry McCoy
Terry McCoy is Professor Emeritus of Latin American Studies and Political Science at the University of Florida and Adjunct Lecturer in the College of Business and Affiliate Research Scholar at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Lemann Institute of Brazilian Studies at the University of Illinois/Urbana-Champaign. He has taught, conducted research and consulted professionally throughout the Americas, beginning as a Fulbright Scholar in Chile. He is the author of numerous scholarly publications and a contributor of commentary on Latin America events to various newspapers. At the University of Florida, Dr. McCoy was Director of the UF Center for Latin American Studies, 1985-96, and Associate Director of the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) in the Warrington College of Business Administration, 1999-2010. He founded the Latin American Business Environment Program in 1999 and served as its director until 2013. Since the mid-1990s McCoy’s research, teaching and consulting have focused on business and investment in Latin America. He publishes an annual assessment of the business environment in the region and taught an MBA course on this topic. He also directed the UF Business in Brazil study program at the Catholic University in Rio de Janeiro. At the University of Illinois, he teaches a business honors course that incorporates a business case competition in Brazil in collaboration with the University of São Paulo. In addition to speaking to business and professional groups in the U.S., under sponsorship of the U.S. State Department he has done speaker programs throughout Latin America. He has served as a consultant on Latin America for Boeing and Russell 20-20 and other clients. Terry McCoy received his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and taught at The Ohio State University. In 2006 the University of Florida honored him as its Senior Faculty International Educator of the Year.
Paul Morgan
Dr. Paul Morgan was born and raised in the Panama Canal Zone. Following his graduation from Florida State University with a B.A. degree in Philosophy, he received a Master of Divinity degree from the Divinity School, Vanderbilt University, and was ordained into the ministry of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in 1971. Dr. Morgan served as a chaplain in the U.S. Army from 1971 to 1991 in the continental United States, Korea, and Germany. While on active duty, he attended Azusa-Pacific University and earned a Master of Arts degree in Marriage, Family, and Child Counseling. After retiring from the military, Dr. Morgan earned a Master of Arts degree in International Affairs and a Doctor of Philosophy in History at Florida State University, while teaching courses in both U.S. and Latin American history. His doctoral dissertation was entitled, “The Role of North American Women in U.S. Cultural Chauvinism in the Panama Canal Zone, 1904-1945.” Dr. Morgan joined the faculty of the University of South Florida in 2003 and taught U.S. history until his retirement as Senior Instructor in 2012. From 2000 to 2012, Dr. Morgan also served as a trustee of the Panama Canal Museum in Seminole, Florida. He and his wife, Stacia, a third generation “Zonian” whose grandfather came to Panama during the construction of the Canal, have been married for 45 years.

Ambler Moss
Ambler H. Moss, Jr. has been Professor of International Studies at the University of Miami since 1984. He was the founding Dean of the Graduate School of International Studies at the University of Miami, and held that position from 1984 to 1994; he was Director of the Dante B. Fascell North-South Center from 1984-2004. From 1977 to 1978 he was involved with the negotiation of the U.S.-Panama Canal Treaties and their ratification, and was Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations. He served as Ambassador to Panama from 1978 until 1982, having been appointed successively by Presidents Jimmy Carter and Ronald Reagan. He also served as a member of the U.S.-Panama Consultative Committee from 1978-1982 and from 1995-2001. Previously, as a member of the career Foreign Service, he served in Spain, in the U.S. Delegation to the Organization of American States, and as Spanish Desk Officer in the Department of State. Mr. Moss received his B.A. from Yale University in 1960 and J.D. in 1970 from the George Washington University. He was an officer in the United States Navy (submarines) and is a life member of the American Legion and Navy League. He is a member of the Bars of Florida and the District of Columbia. From 1972-1976 he was a resident attorney with the law firm of Coudert Brothers in Brussels (Belgium) and practiced in the areas of mergers and acquisitions, European anti-trust law, international sales transactions, and international franchising transactions. He was of counsel to the law firm of Greenberg Traurig in Miami, retiring in 2010. He has written numerous articles and book chapters and has spoken on subjects relating to Inter-American affairs and European Union- U.S. relations; and has taught courses at the University of Miami on Major Issues in U.S.–Latin American Relations, Analysis of U.S. Foreign Policy, the United Nations, and Diplomatic Negotiation. He was awarded a Fulbright Senior Lectureship to teach at the University of Barcelona and the Autonomous University of Barcelona from January to June 2009. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations (New York), Royal Institute of International Affairs (London), the International Institute of Strategic Studies (London), and the Institute of Catalan Studies (Barcelona). He has received decorations from the governments of Catalonia, Spain, Panama, and Argentina. He has also received the Harold Weill Medal from New York University School of Law, and the U.S. Department of the Army Commander’s Award for public service. He was also awarded the “Lawyer of the Americas” citation by the Inter-American Law Review of the University of Miami.

Paul Ortiz
Paul Ortiz serves as Director of the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program and associate professor of history at the University of Florida. He is the vice president of the Oral History Association. Paul has written widely on African American and Latino studies as well as labor history. He is the recipient of the Southern Regional Council’s Lillian Smith Book Prize, The Florida Historical Society’s Harry T. and Harriet V. Moore Book Prize as well as the Multicultural Review’s Carey McWilliams Book Award for outstanding scholarly work on cultural diversity in the United States. Professor Ortiz served in the United States Army from 1982 to 1986. He was a paratrooper and combat radio operator with the 82nd Airborne Division and the 7th Special Forces Group in Central America between 1982 and 1986. He was stationed at Fort Davis, Panama. Ortiz was awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal for service in the wake of the Nevado del Ruiz volcanic disaster in Tolima, Colombia in 1985. He is completing a book titled Our Separate Struggles Are Really One: African American and Latino Histories that will be published by Beacon Press as part of its ReVisioning American History book series. At UF, Dr. Ortiz is the faculty advisor of the Dream Defenders, CHISPAS & the Venezuelan Student Association. He is a member of the United Faculty of Florida and he serves on his union’s membership committee. He is the recipient of the Florida Education Association’s 2013 César E. Chávez Action and Commitment Award. Paul Ortiz holds a BA from the Evergreen State College with an emphasis in history and the sociology of science. He earned his PhD from Duke University.
Orlando Pérez
Orlando J. Pérez is Professor of Political Science and Director, Cultural and Global Studies Programs at Central Michigan University. He received his B.A. in political science from Florida International University and a Masters and Ph.D. in political science from the University of Pittsburgh. He teaches courses in comparative politics, Latin American politics and U.S.-Latin American relations. He has worked with the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) since the early 1990s, and is a member of the project’s Scientific Support Group. Additionally, he coordinates the Americas Barometer survey in Panama and Honduras. He is the author of the Americas Barometer national reports for Panama (2004, 2006, 2008, 2010 and 2012) and Honduras (2010 and 2012). As a consultant, he has worked on public opinion, democratization, civil-military relations, and anti-corruption issues for the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the UN Development Program (UNDP). Dr. Pérez is the author or editor of Political Culture in Panama: Democracy after Invasion (Palgrave-Macmillan 2011); Latin American Democracy: Emerging Reality or Endangered Species? (with Richard Millett and Jennifer Holmes) (Routledge 2009); and Post-Invasion Panama: The Challenges of Democratization in the New World Order (Lexington, 2000). His articles have appeared in the Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs, The Latin Americanist, Political Science Quarterly, Journal of Political and Military Sociology and Revista Latinoamericana de Opinión Pública (Latin American Journal of Public Opinion). Dr. Pérez is currently working on two books: Civil-Military Relations in Post-Conflict Societies: Transforming the Role of the Military in Central America (Routledge Press, forthcoming, 2014) and Political Behavior in Latin America: The Citizen in Transition (Routledge Press, forthcoming, 2015).

Jorge Quijano
Jorge L. Quijano is the CEO of the Panama Canal Authority, the autonomous agency that manages the Panama Canal, the leading interoceanic waterway that serves world maritime commerce. He started his career with the Panama Canal in 1975 and climbed through the professional and managerial promotion ladder to the position of Maritime Operations Director in 1999, the largest department of the Canal organization, directly involved in the operation and maintenance of the principal infrastructure and equipment of the waterway. In September 2006, was designated to manage the Panama Canal’s $5.25 billion Expansion Program; and to that effect, he was appointed Executive Vice President of the Engineering and Programs Management Department. Jorge L. Quijano is the recipient of international awards for his achievements and contributions to the world maritime industry. These are the following: The “Texas Industrial Engineering Lifetime Achievement Award” presented on February 15, 2013 by Dr. Brian Craig, chair of the Department of Industrial Engineering of the College of Engineering at Lamar University and “Honorary Citizen of Texas,” presented on February 15, 2013 by the Texas Senate.

Angeles Ramos Baquero
Angeles Ramos Baquero is the Executive Director and Chief Curator of the Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panamá. She earned a Doctorate of Art History from the University of Sevilla, Spain, and a Masters of Art History from the University of Navarra, Spain. She was the director of the project that led to the first exhibition of the Museo del Canal. From the beginning, she has been in charge of the acquisition and organization of the Museum’s Collection, and the administration of all the exhibition projects. Over the last 16 years, she has been the creator and the curator of more than three hundred exhibitions, including permanent, temporary and itinerant exhibitions in the Museo del Canal. Dr. Ramos Baquero has established important international ties, enhancing the Museo del Canal’s recognition within the International community of Museums. As Director, she has led the Museo del Canal Interocéánico de Panamá to become an active member of the International Council of Museums (ICOM), the American Association of Museums (AAM), and to be affiliated with the Smithsonian Institution --the only non-American museum open to the public to have been accepted for affiliation. Her leadership has made the Museo del Canal the most visited museum in the country. She has encouraged the active participation of Panama’s diplomatic community in the production of exhibitions and cultural activities to promote in Panama a culture of peace and human development.
Frank Robinson
W. Frank Robinson is an Assistant Professor of History and the Associate Director of the Center for Latin American Studies at Vanderbilt University. He specializes in the history of Latin America and the Caribbean, with a focus on twentieth century political and social movements, nationalism and populism, and Caribbean diaspora communities. He completed his undergraduate studies with honors at the Johns Hopkins University and then went on to receive an M.A. in African history from the University of Florida and a Ph.D. in Latin American history from Auburn University. Professor Robinson has lived and researched for extended periods in Europe, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. He is a contributing author to Populism in Latin America (Alabama, 1999; 2nd edition 2012) and is currently completing a manuscript that examines twentieth-century Panamanian political history. Grants and fellowships from the IIE Fulbright Program, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the National Defense Education Act Title VI have helped fund his studies, research, and writing.

Maricarmen Ruiz-Jaen
Maricarmen Ruiz-Jaen is coordinating the Forest National and Carbon Inventory for Panama with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and strong collaboration with the National Environmental Authority (ANAM) of Panama. She began her studies in the University of Panama earning a BA in Biology with specialization in Botany. For her Masters at the University of Puerto Rico, she measured restoration success in different forests of Puerto Rico. She then earned a PhD in Biology from McGill University studying the spatial variation of carbon in forests along the Panama Canal Watershed and relating it to tree diversity and environmental heterogeneity. After finishing her graduate studies, Dr. Ruiz-Jaen did postdoctoral work with Oxford University and the Center Euro-Mediterranean for Climate Change establishing a network of permanent plots to measure carbon cycle along a precipitation gradient in Ghana and Gabon. She is currently involved in preparing Panama to enter the mechanism on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD+) mechanism by estimating carbon content in five reservoirs along the different forests types.

Peter Sanchez
Peter M. Sanchez is professor of political science and Graduate Program Director at Loyola University Chicago. He earned his PhD and MA in government from the University of Texas at Austin, and his BA in political science from the University of Florida in Gainesville. Dr. Sanchez is the author of Panama Lost? U.S. Hegemony, Democracy, and the Canal (University Press of Florida, 2007). He is also author of articles published in numerous journals such as Journal of Latin American Studies, International Politics, The Latin Americanist, Annals of Tourism Research, and Journal of Developing Areas. Dr. Sanchez was a Senior Fulbright Scholar in Panama in 1997-1998. He has also conducted research in Cuba, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Peru. Prior to teaching at Loyola, he taught at the US Air Force Academy in Colorado. Dr. Sanchez is currently working on a new book, Priest under Fire: Padre David Rodriguez, the Catholic Church, and El Salvador’s Revolutionary Movement, about a Salvadoran priest who joined the armed insurgency in the 1980s and after the war was elected to the Salvadoran congress.

Rachel Schipper
Dr. Rachel Schipper, University of Florida Associate Dean, has worked for over 28 years in academic libraries and is currently co-PI of the Institute of Museum and Library Services Collaborative Leadership Grant for the Panama Canal Museum Collection (PCMC). She is chair of the UF Panama Canal Centennial Celebration. Dr. Schipper was previously the Dean of the Library and Instructional Technology at Georgia College & State University where she oversaw the library, Senator Paul D. Coverdell Library, computer labs, online instruction, University TV/AV, and the campus museum. Serving as the Dean of Libraries and Information Sciences at Shepherd University, she coordinated the construction of the Senator Robert C. Byrd Library and the renovation of the Ruth Scarborough Library and Galleries. She taught art at Curundu Junior High in Panama, and is a member of the Executive Council, Friends of the PCMC, and a Governor’s Club member of the Panama Canal Society. Rachel Schipper holds an Ed. S. and Ph.D. from Florida Tech in Computer Science, an M.Ed. in Museum Studies from Pennsylvania State University, and a Masters in Library Science from the University of Maryland.
Margaret (Peggy) Scranton
Margaret E. Scranton is professor of political science at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. She earned her PhD and MA in Political Science from the University of Pittsburgh, and her BA, with honors in politics, from the Randolph-Macon Woman’s College. Her dissertation, “Changing US Foreign Policy: Negotiating New Panama Canal Treaties, 1955-1978,” won the American Political Science Association’s 1981 Helen Dwight Reid award for the best dissertation in International Relations, Law and Politics. Dr. Scranton is the author of The Noriega Years: US-Panamanian Relations 1981-1990, and co-author with William L. Furlong of Making United States Foreign Policy: The President, the Congress and the Panama Canal Treaties. She is also author of chapters on Panama in Peter Schraeder’s Intervention into the 1990s, John Booth and Mitchell Seligson’s Elections in Central America Revisited, an entry on the National Civic Crusade in Power, Protest and Change: An Encyclopedia of Non-Violent Action, a chapter on external election observers in Kevin Middlebrook’s Electoral Observation and Democratic Transitions in Latin America, and a chapter on Panama’s Electoral Tribunal in Orlando Perez’s Electoral Observation and Democratic Transitions in Latin America, and of articles on democratization in Panama published in the Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs and the Midsouth Journal of Political Science. Dr. Scranton held a Foreign Policy Fellowship for dissertation research at The Brookings Institution during 1997-1978, was a Fulbright Scholar in Panama in 1991 and 1998, and held a US Institute of Peace Fellowship (1991-92) and an Einstein Institution Fellowship (1992-93) for research on Panama’s National Civic Crusade. She is presently conducting research on threats to democratization in post-invasion Panama.

Daniel Sokol
D. Daniel Sokol is an Associate Professor of Law at the University of Florida Levin College of Law. He is co-editor of the Global Competition Law and Economics book series (Stanford University Press), the Oxford Handbook of International Antitrust Economics (Oxford University Press, 2014) and the Global Antitrust Compliance Handbook (Oxford University Press, 2014). His book Competition Law and Development (Stanford University Press 2013) has just been published. Professor Sokol has provided technical assistance and capacity building to antitrust agencies and utilities regulators from around the world. He was the author of the OECD/Inter-American Development Bank country peer review of Panama’s Competition Policy.

Peter Szok
Peter Szok teaches Latin American history at Texas Christian University. He received a PhD from Tulane University and has specialized in art, intellectual history, and popular culture. He is the author of Wolf Tracks: Popular Art and Re-Africanization in Twentieth-Century Panama (2012) and ‘La última gaviota’: Liberalism and Nostalgia in Early Twentieth-Century Panama (2001). His current projects include on a book on indigenous intelligentsia in contemporary Panama and a manuscript on Murphy Antoine and New Orleans folk art.

Brijesh Thapa
Brijesh Thapa, Ph.D., is a Professor in the Department of Tourism, Recreation and Sport Management at the University of Florida. He is also the Director of the Eric Friedheim Tourism Institute and an Affiliate Faculty in multiple academic units. Overall, his research theme is within the nexus of tourism, conservation and sustainability. He has been involved in numerous projects in various capacities in over 30 countries. Additionally, Dr. Thapa has been involved in a range of projects at UNESCO World Heritage Sites with respect to tourism, cultural heritage, and natural resources management issues. Recently, Dr. Thapa has been focused on numerous capacity building and institutional development projects through curriculum development, research, and training in tourism, nature and cultural heritage conservation, and natural resources management. As a PI and CO-PI, he has been involved in several long-term federally funded projects in Armenia, Turkey, Russia, Nepal, and the Southern Africa region. He has received funding from U.S. Federal Agencies such as: Department of State, Department of Education, Department of Agriculture, Agency for International Development, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Millennium Challenge Corporation.
Julie Velásquez Runk
Julie Velásquez Runk is an assistant professor of anthropology at the University of Georgia, and a research associate of the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. She earned her joint Ph.D. in forestry and environmental studies and anthropology from Yale University and the New York Botanical Garden, her M.E.M in ecology and Latin American studies from Duke University, and her B.A. in biology and Latin American studies from Grinnell College. She is author of a dozen articles in journals such as American Anthropologist, Conservation Letters, Journal of Latin American Geography, Conservation and Society, and Economic Botany, and is lead author of Pueblos Indígenas en Panamá: Una Bibliografía. Dr. Velásquez Runk has lived in eastern Panama for five years, and is finalizing a book on Wounaan indigenous peoples in the region. In addition to her Panamá research, she also has worked in Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil, Honduras, and Costa Rica. She began her career as a conservation and development practitioner.

Richard Wainio
Richard Wainio has held executive positions in the global transportation industry for over 35 years working in countries throughout the world. He was employed for 23 years at the Panama Canal as senior economist, director of corporate marketing and director of executive planning. His responsibilities included strategic and treaty planning, trade forecasting and economic research, and global marketing. He was the primary advisor to the canal’s bi-national Board of Directors during the transition of the canal to Panama. Subsequently, Mr. Wainio held executive positions with several international ports and shipping companies including eight years as CEO of the Port of Tampa. Presently, he is a trade and transportation consultant. Mr. Wainio has an M.A. degree from the Thunderbird School of Global Management and a B.A. degree from Davidson College. Additionally he did graduate work in Latin American studies at the University of Florida and in economics at the University of Oklahoma. He has served as an advisor to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta, Chairman of the Florida Seaport Transportation and Economic Development Council, and was President and Executive Director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Panama. He taught for 25 years as an adjunct professor of sociology and marketing for Florida State University (Panama) and serves on several boards including SunTrust Bank and Tampa Tank/Florida Structural Steel.

Kendra Walker
Kendra Walker is a Postdoctoral fellow at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Panama. She earned her PhD in natural resource management from the University of Michigan and BS in ecology from the University of California in San Diego. Her research interests focus on socio-political processes underlying conservation success via a combination of modeling approaches including GIS, economic modeling and game theory. Prior to her work in Panama, Dr. Walker lived in Gabon where she was a Fulbright scholar, conducted dissertation research on farmer-elephant conflict, and worked with an interdisciplinary team studying the influence of institutions on forest-cover change in central Africa.

Sonja Stephenson Watson
Sonja Stephenson Watson is an Assistant Professor of Spanish at the University of Texas at Arlington. She has published numerous articles on Afro-Panamanian identity in journals such as the Afro-Hispanic Review, the College Language Association Journal, the Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies Journal, PALARA, Callaloo, and alternativas: Latin American Cultural Studies Journal. Her forthcoming manuscript, The Politics of Race in Panama: Afro-Hispanic and West Indian Literary Discourses of Contention (University Press of Florida, April 2014), deals with the forging of Afro-Panamanian identity from the nineteenth century to the present.
Ruben Berrocal, SENACYT
Advancing Science in Panama

Science in Panama has come a long way since the first attempt at building a Canal through the Isthmus was decimated due to malaria, yellow fever and other health related issues in the late 1800’s. This lecture will give a brief recap on the history of making science in Panama and will go through the work done by the National Secretariat of Science, Technology and Innovation in recent years by providing funds for research; investing in scientific infrastructure such as the construction of the “Panama Research Institute for Science and Medicine”; and plans to ensure continuous top level capacity building within the country through a University Hub. These and other initiatives are constant efforts to make Panama not only a Logistics Hub, but also a Science and Research Hub.

Stephanie Bohlman, UF
Current tree cover and opportunities for reforestation in the highly deforested Azuero Peninsula of Panama

The Pacific slope of Panama, and Central America in general, has been extensively deforested and converted to agriculture. In forest cover maps, which generally distinguish just “forest” and “non-forest”, the Pacific slope has low forest cover and thus low standing stocks of carbon, a focus of global conservation and carbon mitigation efforts. Here we quantify the degree that tree cover in areas of “non-forest”, or agriculture and pasture, have important contributions to carbon and other ecosystem services on the Azuero peninsula of Panama. We also lay out a framework for identifying opportunities for augmenting tree cover, and their associated ecosystems services, via reforestation, agroforestry and silvopastoral projects. The simple dichotomy between forest and non-forest in forest cover maps is partly due to the limited ability of satellite images, used to map forests, to distinguish dispersed tree cover that occurs in agriculture. We used high spatial (2m) resolution images (lidar and hyperspectra) from aircraft to map the species and structure of individual trees and tree clusters, to estimate species diversity and carbon of trees in “non-forest” areas. Besides determining current landscape patterns of ecosystem services, the distribution of forest and agricultural tree cover also has an impact on possibilities for future tree cover through reforestation efforts. We used conservation planning analysis tools to use both biophysical features, such as forest cover, and socioeconomic factors, such as household income and education level, to identify areas most likely to have increases in tree cover. In particular, we also included organizational support from government and non-governmental organizations in considering where reforestation is most likely to occur and identify other areas where additional organizational support may be needed.

Laurel Collins, FIU
Investigating Panama’s Rise from the Sea and its Effects on Marine Life

The Isthmus of Panama has long fascinated biologists and geologists because of the enormous changes in land, oceans and life caused by its rise from the sea. For over 50 years, evidence has been collected from rocks of the ancient Caribbean-Pacific seaway to investigate when and how these changes happened. To investigate where the seaway flowed, how deep it was, when it closed, and how its closure changed marine life, tiny shells made by single-cells called foraminifera were studied. The shells were found mostly in rocks of Bocas del Toro, the Panama Canal, and Darién, Panama; Limón, Costa Rica; and NW Ecuador. Results were combined with studies from NW Colombia to construct “snapshots” of the isthmus through time. Deep oceanic straits became shallow by 13 million years ago (mya), deepened a bit around 6 mya, and then all straits were shallow around 5 mya before closing completely about 4 mya. The fossil foraminifera show that Caribbean and tropical Pacific faunas were similar before their deep-water connection was cut off, but after this circulation change they were mostly different from each other. Differences were due to both isolation and environmental change. The isthmian faunal divergence began at least 4 million years before the Isthmus of Panama was complete.
Michael Conniff, SJSU, UF Bacardi Scholar

What happens when the United States gives a small country what it wants?

This was the subtitle of Mark Falcoff’s 1998 book on U.S.-Panama relations. He and others doubted that Panama would be able to operate the canal efficiently and speculated on the cascade of negative outcomes the canal turnover would have. Those who had opposed giving Panama the canal warned that the new owners would break it or fail to maintain it adequately. In fact, however, the republic has done very well in the decade and a half since gaining ownership of the canal, and indications point to continued good news from the Isthmus.

Michael Donoghue, Marquette University

Borderland on the Isthmus: The Panama Canal Zone as Imperial Borderland

The Panama Canal Zone formed a non-contiguous imperial borderland that bisected Panama for a century and shaped social, economic, cultural, and demographic development in the region. The internal boundaries, conflicts, and accommodations among the various peoples who strove for ascendance within the vortex of this borderland, forms the subject of this paper. Besides the issues of race and identity, always at odds in borderlands, additional points of contention arose over smuggling, crime, culture, employment, sex and drug trafficking, and jurisdictional disputes that both strengthened and damaged U.S.-Panamanian relations to the point where Washington agreed in the late 1970s to vacate the isthmus at the end of 1999. While not emphasized as much in earlier works on the subject, these conflicts over culture along the borders of the Zone proved a central battleground in the larger struggle over the enclave.

Brian Gendreau, UF

Beyond the Canal: Finance and Tourism as Sources of Panama’s Growth

The Canal is and will continue to be the mainstay of Panama’s economy. But Panama has benefited as the home of the largest financial sector in Latin America and from a thriving tourism industry. Panama also has had the advantage of being a fully dollarized economy, which has spared it from the currency crises that have wrought damage on so many Latin American countries in the post-war period. The outlook for the financial sector and tourism in Panama remain good, but some challenges remain. One is whether Panama will be able to grow as an international financial center without increasing its vulnerability to external shocks such as those that rocked global markets in 2008-09.

Julie Greene, University of Maryland at College Park

“The 13th Labor of Hercules”: Myths and Erasures in the History of the Panama Canal’s Construction

This talk will examine the history of the Panama Canal’s construction, exploring the origins of the triumphalist imagery associated with it, as well as the erasure of certain key aspects of the project. Key elements in the construction project that have been strategically erased over time include the role of laborers from around the world, the complex use of racial and ethnic segregation as a tool of labor management, and the very critical support provided by the Republic of Panama.

Francisco Herrera, University of Panama

Demographic Aspects Related to Social and Economic Development of the Indigenous Population in Panama

I present some of the main demographic factors affecting the evolution of the indigenous population in Panama in the last hundred years (1911-2010). These factors include population increase, displacement, and migration associated with social and economic development. Demographic indicators such as decreased mortality rates and rising fecundity rates (higher than the national average) are the main contributors to a population increase of over 43 per cent in the last twenty years. These processes are also related to an increase in economic and educational participation at the national level. Formal schooling, wage labor, and new social and cultural demands have stimulated migration and political impacts locally and nationally, affecting traditional modes of development and creating a structural crisis. During the colonial times, Indian populations were located in marginal territories, in the northwest and north and east of the country. Mestizo populations were growing in the southwest and central part of the isthmus, becoming the base of the national culture and society. This parallel development sometimes led to conflicts, and sometimes to cooperation, but the indigenous maintained control of their territory. Low population growth of the mestizo society and an economy based on the transisthmian transportation of goods and people, reduced the value of rural development, and reinforced the cultural development of the indigenous groups until the 1970s. Thereafter other demographic and economic forces, such as peasants, began to occupy territory neighboring that of the indigenous
groups, affecting their stability. Meanwhile, political and social demands promoted internal political organization related to territorial demarcation, which began early in the 1930s and have continued in the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, under the category of indigenous reservations, comarca system and collective lands. Paradoxically, these gains have not stopped migration to the cities, cultural changes, political dislocation, poverty, and other social and economic processes, all of which casts doubt on their future based on the arguments that maintain the possibility of economic development and maintaining cultural tradition.

Carlos Jaramillo, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (STRI)

Expansion of the Panama Canal and the Rise of the Isthmus

Even though the uplift of the Panamanian isthmus was a small-scale geological event, it separated two oceans and joined two continents producing large-scale biological, climatic, and paleoceanographic changes. It has been traditionally accepted that the rise of the isthmus happened ~3.5 ma ago. Over the past four years, given the Panama Canal expansion, we have had access to a vast amount of fresh rocks, otherwise covered by tropical rainforest, and the opportunity to collect more evidence about the timing and consequences of Panamanian isthmus uplift. Paleontology, thermochronology, provenance, geochemistry, petrography, magnetostratigraphy, global circulation/ Neodymium modeling and structural analyses indicate three major exhumation events that occurred during the late Eocene (~38 Ma), the earliest Miocene (~20 Ma), and the late Miocene (~10 Ma) intervals. There is no record of strong exhumation at ~3.5 Ma. Furthermore, the Central American Seaway (CAS, that we defined as the ocean corridor along the tectonic boundary between the South American plate and the Panama microplate) shut down by the late Miocene (12-10 Ma ago) and an active exchange of sediments between both blocks was initiated. Neodymium modeling suggests also that this 10 Ma CAS shut-down interrupted the flow of Pacific deep-water into the Caribbean and only shallow waters (<200 m deep) could mix across the isthmus. This 12-10 Ma event could be associated with the onset of AMOC circulation. Fossil evidence and genetic analyses of a number of clades including monkeys, bats, snakes, crocodiles, bees, frogs, salamanders, hummingbirds, some fresh-water fishes, and plants indicate that frequent migration of terrestrial elements across the isthmus started by 10 Ma ago. Shallow water communication between Pacific and Caribbean, albeit intermittent, continued until 3.5 Ma as evidenced by a variety of records including fossil marine molluskan faunas. Mammalian migration is very limited, only increasing until around 2.7 Ma, suggesting that a barrier, other than a physical connection, did not allow a large mammalian exchange both continents. Migration also varied along latitude, with North American taxa reaching temperate areas of South America earlier than tropical areas. Perhaps the onset of the Northern Hemisphere Glaciation at 2.7 Ma and the vast climatic changes that it produced had more influence on mammalian and other migrations (e.g. fresh-water fishes) across the isthmus, rather than the establishment of a continuous land bridge.

Osvaldo Jordan, CATHALAC

Clashing Worldviews in the Crossroads of the World: Competing Visions of Development in XXI Century Panama.

Although different social forces have struggled to construct different visions of the Panama of the future during the last two hundred years, a hegemonic view prevailed in the XX century in which the country was destined to become a capital of world commerce and crossroads of the world. This vision has engulfed previous competing national projects that vied for power in the XIX century, yet it has clashed violently with ancient belief systems and concepts of good life in the early XXI century. This controversy is usually portrayed as simple confrontations between development and tradition, yet these social conflicts that have been centered around the construction of large development projects actually raise fundamental questions about inclusiveness, quality of life and social identity. This paper will highlight the different phases of this permanent conflict situation that has developed rapidly and intensified after the neoliberal reform of the 1990s and the Panama Canal transfer in 1999.

Marixa Lasso, Case Western Reserve University

Depopulating La Zona: Erasing Urban History at the Panama Canal

Utterly transforming a complex human space, the creation of the Panama Canal Zone erased an old commercial route dotted with towns and traversed by roads that had connected the Atlantic and Pacific oceans since the sixteenth century. Between 1911 and 1914, canal authorities dismantled entire Panamanian towns located in the ten miles of American territory, forcing 40,000 people to abandon their houses, shops, and lands. In lieu of the existing pattern of settlement, the U.S. federal government created an idyllic tropical space, in which the jungle served as background to manicured suburban towns miraculously cleaned of poverty, unemployment, and even most forms of private property. These new towns of the Zone created an entirely new space, which was physically, ideologically, and culturally disconnected from Panama’s rich urban past.
Paul Losch, UF Latin American Collection

Integrating the Panama Canal Museum Collection into the University of Florida Libraries

The Panama Canal Museum Collection was developed by a dedicated community of volunteers and donors over a number of years, and we are seeking to integrate the materials and that community into our work at UF. There is a great variety in the types of materials received, from books to manuscripts, photographs to artifacts. The collection adds to the existing strengths of our collections on the history of Latin America and on the history of the United States in that region of the world. The work has brought together many units of the libraries, from the Latin American Collection to Government Documents to the Digital Library Center, to name just a few. It has also created opportunities for cooperation within the university, and with outside agencies, including the Institute for Museum and Library Services. In coming years, those interested in the history of the Panama Canal can expect increased access thanks to work being done here to organize, preserve, digitize and display the collection.

Bruce MacFadden, FLMNH

Discovering Fossils and Ancient Biodiversity along the Panama Canal: A Once-in-a-Century Opportunity

The Republic of Panama is currently expanding the Canal on a scale not seen since the original excavations a century ago. During these excavations and related fieldwork, sedimentary outcrops are being exposed that have yielded new fossil discoveries of extinct vertebrates and invertebrates. These animals lived on land and in marine habitats during the Miocene, about 5 to 20 million years ago, prior to the formation of the Isthmus of Panama. From these discoveries we are elucidating the kinds of ancient biodiversity that was the precursor of what we see today in the New World tropics. This talk will highlight many of the extraordinary new fossil discoveries and scientific interpretations about the ancient ecology and biodiversity of this region. It also will discuss ongoing education and outreach programs developed as part of the NSF-funded Panama Canal Project, as well as explain how we are training the next generation of globally competent scientists and educators in Latin America.

Terry McCoy, UF

The Business Environment in Panama

Drawing on 15 years of research conducted for producing the annual Latin American Business Environment Report, the paper traces the evolution of the environment for business and investment in Panama from one of the most problematic in the late 1990s to one of the most dynamic in recent years. With foreign investment pouring into Panama, it notes the opportunities and risks going forward, as a new administration takes office in 2014 and the expansion of the Canal concludes in 2015.

Paul Morgan, US Army (Ret.) and University of South Florida

The Panama Canal Museum: History in the Attics, Trunks, and Closets

In 1998, a group of former residents of the Panama Canal Zone organized the Panama Canal Museum in order to preserve the story of the American era of the Panama Canal (1904-1999). Telling this story, though, meant going beyond what is in official government documents and national archives. Much of the social and cultural history of the Panama Canal Zone was and is found in memories, diaries, artifacts, personal mementos, and newspaper columns—the “stuff” of people’s daily lives. Museum volunteers soon realized how much the story of the American involvement in the history of Panama lay in the attics, closets, and trunks of those who had lived through the era. Having a more central depository of these materials now makes any research easier. It assists both historians in their scholarship and genealogists in researching their family’s contribution. As volunteers receive and catalogue items, keepsakes, and archives from “family closets,” they realize how invaluable such items are in telling and preserving this story.

Paul Ortiz, UF Samuel Proctor Oral History Program

Oral Histories and Historical Memories of the Panama Canal Zone

Working in cooperation with the Panama Canal Museum, George A. Smathers Libraries, and UF’s Center for Latin American Studies, the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program has conducted fifty oral history interviews with former residents of the Panama Canal Zone. These oral history interviews will serve for generations to come as a vital source of knowledge for students of history, technology, international studies, and many other fields. This presentation will discuss the process of conducting, preserving, and promoting this invaluable collection. We will also discuss themes and potential research questions that the interviews help to illuminate.
Orlando J. Pérez, Central Michigan University

Political Culture of Democracy in Panama: Evidence from the Americas Barometer

Using the 2004-2012 Americas Barometer surveys this paper examines the evolution of democratic values in Panama. The paper will focus on the demographic, social and attitudinal factors that explain support or opposition to democracy. Mass support for the basic principles of democratic governance is critical to the consolidation of stable democracy. The key questions this paper seeks to answer are: To what extent do Panamanians adhere to basic democratic principles? And how have those opinions changed over time? Values that will be explored include: political tolerance, system support, institutional legitimacy, and support for authoritarian values. The results of the analysis suggests that support for democracy as the preferred system is widespread in post-invasion Panama, but that weak institutional legitimacy and declining political tolerance diminish the quality of and satisfaction with democratic governance.

Jorge Quijano, CEO Panama Canal Authority (ACP)

The Panama Canal Expansion Program: A Story of Challenges, Innovation and Commitment

The Panama Canal is the result of human ingenuity. From its inception, back in the 15th Century, when the Spaniards began their quest to open a passage to join the Pacific and Atlantic oceans through the narrow strip of land dividing the Americas, the opportunities this exploit would bring forth could scarcely be imagined. Hundreds of years later, under the leadership of the United States, the Panama Canal opened its gates to world shipping, forever changing the ways of global trade. Today, as the centennial structure approaches its maximum capacity, history repeats itself with the construction of a new third set of locks through the Panama Canal. The effort, now led by Panamanians, will lead to once again setting shipping standards and improving cargo movement worldwide.

Angeles Ramos Baquero, Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panama

Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panama, 100 Years of the Panama Canal and the Reclaiming of our Historical Memory

The history of the Panama Canal has been traditionally narrated through a foreign perspective: This foreign point of view stresses the perception that Panamanians do not own that part of their history and that they were only exceptional witnesses to their destiny. This misconception also nurtured in many Panamanians a profound need to search and vindicate its national identity and, in others, a sense of inadequacy before the imminent reversion of the Canal to Panamanians in the year 2000. Considering the national importance of this matter, the Museo del Canal Interoceánico de Panama was opened to the public in 1997 with a broad mission. The core of it was to create a museum that acknowledged Panamanians’ leading role in this history, and prepare the nation for the total administration over the canal strengthening its cultural identity. During the past 16 years the museum had served this mission through permanent exhibits, the building of its collection, temporary and traveling exhibits, educational and cultural activities. The community has joined the museum in the development in this mission creating strong boundaries through the years.

Frank Robinson, Vanderbilt University

“Panama for the Panamanians:” Arnulfo Arias and Defensive Nationalism

Using the slogan “Panama for Panamanians,” Arnulfo Arias, one of Panama’s most prominent twentieth-century statesmen, insisted that his nation needed a homegrown doctrine that addressed the particular needs of the Panamanian people. The ideals of what became known as Panameñismo reflected the complex and contradictory nature of Arnulfo Arias himself. Lacking specifics and clear-cut measures, Panameñismo represented an approach to government intimately intertwined with the dynamic and charismatic personality of its leader. His confident, energetic, and ambitious approach to politics captured the imagination of voters, and by stressing themes deeply rooted in Panamanian history, Arnulfo forged a broad-based following that has persisted in the political landscape. Panameñismo succeeded because it appealed to emotion. Arnulfo Arias raised uncomfortable issues that directly addressed Panama’s national inferiority complex. He sought to stir people’s consciousness and at the same time compel them to action. At its core Panameñismo represented defensive nationalism and an authoritarian style of government. This paper, based on research undertaken in Panama and at the United States National Archives, seeks to examine the dynamics of Panameñismo within the context of changing Panamanian conceptions of race and nationality.
Maria del Carmen Ruiz-Jaen, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

*Establishing National Forest Inventories for REDD+: The Panama Experience*

The mechanism for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (REDD+) main goals are the conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of carbon stocks in tropical forests, as they have high species richness and store more than 40% of terrestrial carbon. REDD+ mechanism is a voluntary forest-based mitigation, where the participating countries should establish a National Forest Monitoring System (SNMF) with reference baseline carbon content. One part of the SNMF is to have a national forest inventory. Panama is carrying out this inventory with the help of international organizations and led by the national government. Panama does not have current information on their forest resources -- the last forest inventory was conducted in the late 60s. Similarly, there is no national study on the carbon content for different vegetation cover and land use. This inventory will generate information on the content and carbon fluxes in different forest types and forest goods conducive to improving forest management and land use. The objectives of this paper are to share lessons learned about sampling design to reach the objectives of the REDD+ mechanism, cost estimates and incorporation of different data sources. We believe that the lessons learned in Panama can serve the countries of the region, as the country has high landscape heterogeneity, different indigenous groups and has similar development incentive as its neighboring countries.

Peter Sanchez, Loyola University Chicago

*No CMA! The Battle over US Military Bases in Panama*

One of the longstanding controversies between Panama and the United States, since the 1903 Hay-Bunau Varilla Treaty, was the right of the US government to maintain military bases on Panamanian soil. The 1977 Canal Treaties finally seemed to have resolved this bone of contention, since treaty provisions stipulated the departure of all US military personnel by 31 December 1999. However, the US Senate had added a condition to the Treaties allowing Washington and Panama to negotiate the permanence of US bases into the new millennium. This paper will focus on this controversy and the US-Panama negotiations beginning in 1997 to enable US military bases to remain on the isthmus. After months of diplomacy, the US effort to establish a Multilateral Anti-Drug Center foundered, preventing the US military from keeping a military presence on the isthmus. While skeptics had long argued that Panama would suffer economically, and in terms of security, if the US bases were closed down, the loss of a large US military presence did little to undermine Panama’s progress and role in the world.

Margaret Scranton, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

*Senate Debate on the 1978 Panama Canal Treaties: Predicting Short- and Long-Term Effects*

My research question asks, some 35 years after the US Senate debated ratification of the 1978 Panama Canal treaties, how well treaty advocates and opponents forecast likely events and outcomes of implementing the changes the treaties mandated. The treaties provided for a transition period during which Panama would assume more and more responsibility for the Canal, culminating with transfer of control on December 31, 1999. Thereafter, the Neutrality treaty would provide for protection and defense of the Canal. Forecasts focused on Panama’s capacities in both the shorter and the longer term. This debate is significant as an extraordinarily long and salient policy debate; it was preceded by months of hearings at which administration spokespersons and interest group representatives presented mountains of evidence, technical briefs, and statements on the costs and benefits of the treaties and about Panama’s capacity for stewardship over the Canal. In addition, the Canal Treaty debate attracted widespread public interest at home and in Panama: both audiences could hear the real-time radio broadcasts of the debate and find highlights of speeches featured in the news. US Senators received unprecedented levels of communications from constituents and groups. Many senators visited Panama, inspecting both the Zone and the Canal itself, and met with Canal authorities, General Torrijos, and other officials. Given this unusual degree of preparation for a significant and salient foreign policy debate, what, in hindsight was the result? How well did senators forecast what would happen in Panama and the region? From the vantage point of 2014, were their hopes and fears realized? Did senators, and the numerous expert analysts they cited, accurately forecast US national security and commercial interests along with possible threats to the Canal? And finally, what, more basically, was the Panama Canal treaties debate about?

Daniel Sokol, UF

*Panama’s Legal Environment: Country Competitiveness*

Panama’s legal and regulatory infrastructure shape the opportunities for Panama’s growth. This presentation will focus on how to create a more competitive environment for Panama’s future.
Peter Szok, TCU
Blackness and Popular Art in Twentieth-Century Panama

Popular art is a masculine and working-class genre, associated with Panama’s black population. Its practitioners are self-taught, commercial painters, whose high-toned designs, vibrant portraits, and landscapes appear in cantinas, barbershops, and restaurants. The diablo rojo buses are popular art’s most visible manifestation. This paper analyzes the origins of the paintings, connecting them to rebellious, Afro-American festival traditions and to the rumba craze of the mid-twentieth century. During World War II, thousands of U.S. soldiers were stationed in Panama, and elaborately decorated cabarets opened to cater to their presence. These venues often featured touring Afro-Cuban musicians. Painters such as Luis “The Wolf” Evans exploited such moments of modernization to challenge the elite and its older conception of Panama as a country with little connection to Africa. While Panama’s intellectual class fled from modernization and asserted a romantic and mestizo (European-indigenous) vision of the republic, popular artists enthusiastically embraced the new influences to project a powerful sense of blackness.

Brijesh Thapa, UF Eric Friedheim Tourism Institute
Tourism Development and Challenges in Panama

Tourism has consistently been employed as a tool for economic development in developing countries. Combined with the goals of infrastructure development, increase tourist arrivals and product development/diversification, there is potential to expand this sector in Panama given the destination attributes (e.g., nature and culture) and trends in consumer demand. However, given the importance of tourism to the local and national economy as it encompasses multiple interrelated and interdependent businesses (e.g., lodging, natural and built attractions, restaurants, tour operators, etc.), it is critical for Panama to build, enhance, and strengthen the human and institutional capacity in the tourism and hospitality sector to maintain and further enhance tourism with a sustained strategy for long-term growth. A major effort will need to be instituted in the advancement of a qualified, trained and skilled labor force for the vitality and sustainability of the industry.

Julie Velásquez Runk, University of Georgia and Carlos Espinosa Peña, WWF Panama
Development, Resources, and Communities in Eastern Panama

The recent emphasis on global environmental governance, particularly of climate change, has altered how communities, governments, and the international community relate to landscapes. This is particularly true in eastern Panama, long considered the country’s mythically resource rich region. In this talk we use literature review, interviews, and participant observation to demonstrate the history of development in eastern Panama over the last sixty years, how that history relates to the region’s diverse ethnic groups and its terrestrial and marine resources, and how the new emphasis on environmental governance confronts short-term policies with longer-term potentials. We conclude that local participation and existing policy remain challenges to successful environmental governance.

Richard Wainio
Shifting Trade Patterns and the Impact of the Panama Canal Expansion

Global trade and logistics patterns are the result of a complex set of factors. This presentation will briefly describe the development of the Panama Canal as an international passageway and changes in Canal traffic patterns over time. Key factors influencing current and future trade and transportation developments and the possible impact of the Panama Canal expansion will be discussed.

Kendra Walker, STRI
Forest-cover change, population and land tenure in western Panama

While it is often hypothesized that more secure land tenure results in more sustainable land use, few empirical studies test this hypothesis. Likewise, the hypothesis that demographic trends such as rural exodus benefit forest conservation demands deeper study. I explore trends in population growth and movement, forest cover, and land tenure in a GIS analysis based on detailed census data, land-title maps, and forest-cover estimates from 1990, 2000, and 2010 for the area west of the Panama Canal. In the process, I address challenges in mapping forest-cover change in Panama including the issue of defining deforestation/reforestation in a shifting agricultural landscapes as well as technical difficulties due to prevalent clouds, a long wet season and rapid regrowth. Despite such challenges, much insight can be garnered from this study of demographic trends and forest cover in the extremely diverse country of Panama.
Sonja Stephenson Watson, University of Texas at Arlington

The Forging of Afro-Panamanian Identity: Past, Present, and Future

Black identity in Panama is one of the most complex issues in Latin America because of cultural, linguistic, and racial differences between Afro-Hispanics and West Indians. While Afro-Hispanics are products of colonial slavery in Panama, West Indians emigrated from the English-speaking countries of Jamaica and Barbados to build the Panama Railroad and Canal during the mid-19th and early 20th centuries. Earlier nation-building rhetoric (1880-1920) excluded black identity from the Panamanian national paradigm, which explains why Afro-Hispanics assimilated after centuries of mestizaje and overwhelmingly identify with their Panamanian heritage. By contrast, West Indians clung to their British Caribbean roots and identify as Anglicized subjects in a hispanicized white world. This dynamic unique to Panama has impeded racial consolidation between Afro-Hispanics and West Indians and is manifest in black Panamanian writings.