



# The **LATINAMERICANIST**

University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies | Volume 49, Number 1 | Spring 2018



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# DIRECTOR'S Corner



This past semester the Center was busy hosting two major conferences. The Center's 67th Annual Conference, Buen Vivir and

Other Post-Development Pathways, brought together participants from five continents to think about alternative visions, practices, and pathways that challenge "unsustainable development" models and that are playing out across Latin America in the context of south-south conversations and south-north relations. The conference also provided space for sharing through a Feria de Ideas y Experiencias, and for celebration through music and a festive dance party with Jacaré Brazil.

The Center also hosted the IV International Symposium on Languages for Specific Purposes (ISLSP). Educators, administrators, students, and language policy makers came together to share innovations and knowledge on interdisciplinary curriculum design, LSP program development, and LSP theoretical and applied research.

The spring semester was also dominated by the news of new

awards and recognition for many of our Center-based faculty and staff. Dr. Carmen Diana Deere (LAS/FRE - Emerita) was awarded the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) 2018 Kalman Silvert Award; two faculty members, Catherine Tucker (LAS/Anthropology) and Susan Paulson (LAS), received Fulbright awards for Honduras and Ecuador respectively; Bette Loiselle (LAS/WEC) won the 2018 Brewster Award from the American Ornithological Society; Rosana Resende (LAS) was the winner of the 2018 Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) Junior Faculty Teaching Award; Marianne Schmink (LAS) won the UF Champions for Change award; Mary Risner won a UF Creative Campus grant; Rick Stepp (LAS/Anthropology) received a UF Research Foundation Professorship; Tim Murtha (LAS/DCP) received a summer fellowship at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection; and Wanda Carter, the Center's Graduate Program Assistant, was honored with a Superior Accomplishment Award. What a banner semester for our incredibly talented faculty and staff!



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### Center-Based Faculty

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| <b>Efrain Barradas</b><br><i>(LAS/SPS)</i>   | <b>Mary Risner</b><br><i>Associate Director,<br/>Outreach &amp; LABE<br/>(LAS)</i> |
| <b>Emilio Bruna</b><br><i>(LAS/WEC)</i>  | <b>Tanya Saunders</b><br><i>(LAS/CWSGR)</i>  |
| <b>Jonathan Dain</b><br><i>(LAS/SFRC)</i>  | <b>Marianne Schmink</b><br><i>(LAS)</i>  |
| <b>Glenn Galloway</b><br><i>Director, MDP (LAS)</i>                                | <b>J. Richard Stepp</b><br><i>(LAS/Anthropology)</i>                               |
| <b>Rebecca Hanson</b><br><i>(LAS/Sociology)</i>                                    | <b>Welson Tremura</b><br><i>(LAS/Music)</i>  |
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| <b>Bette Loiselle</b><br><i>Director, TCD<br/>Program (LAS/WEC)</i>                | <b>Pilar Useche</b><br><i>(LAS/FRE)</i>  |
| <b>Timothy Murtha</b><br><i>(LAS/DCP)</i>  | <b>Nicholas Vargas</b><br><i>(LAS/Sociology)</i>                                   |
| <b>Susan Paulson</b><br><i>Associate Director,<br/>Academic Programs<br/>(LAS)</i> | <b>Robert Walker</b><br><i>(LAS/Geography)</i>                                     |

*Editor/Layout Designer: Patricia Alba, LAS*

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# Buen Vivir and Other Post-Development Pathways

## Center for Latin American Studies 67th Annual Conference

Contributed by Kalthoum Elfasi, MALAS Student



At the University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies we promote a strong commitment to human-environment harmonious coexistence, and to creating spaces for marginalized and alternative communities to revive, represent, and honor their cultures, histories, and knowledge. Our 67th Annual Conference on Buen Vivir and Other Post-Development Pathways has, with the valuable contributions of numerous collaborators, proved to be an energetic, unconventional, and convivial manifestation of this commitment. We had the pleasure of bringing together in dialogue the most influential voices in the Buen Vivir realm, as well as engaging and participating with campus and community members from 20 different nations and five continents. We are forever grateful to each and every enthusiastic contributor who made this conference extraordinary by bringing boundary-breaking conversations and diverse perspectives to our conference.

Topics spanned diverse realms, as contributors participated in various opportunities to communicate thoughts, studies, and experiences. We shared constructive conversations about human-environment well-being, activism, Buen Vivir in higher education, south-south and south-north relationships, and much more. The Feria de Ideas y Experiencias provided a space for people of all walks of life, including academics, students, and local community members, to present their Buen Vivir related projects in unique and creative fashions. Participants had the opportunity to enjoy melodies by Jacaré Brazil and Maggie Clifford, a poetry recital, capoeira, chants, and a parade which culminated in a lively dance party at First Magnitude Brewery.

Reflecting on this memorable conference, we cannot thank our key contributors enough for all of their efforts

in realizing this event. Susan Paulson was a key architect in the vision for the conference. Tirelessly, she worked for hours planning, rallying contributors, recruiting volunteers, listening to individual's opinions and advice, and keeping the spirit, energy, and excitement at soaring levels in the face of daunting tasks. The Center for Latin American Studies' Bacardi Family Eminent Scholar Alberto Acosta, an ecological economist from Ecuador, was also an essential and indispensable visionary for the conference. As one of the main theorizers of Buen Vivir, Acosta provided invaluable guidance in regards to the theme, topics, and style of this event. Moreover, it was a great honor and pleasure to host him at the Center and learn from an exciting course he gave titled "Buen Vivir and Other Post-Development Pathways." This inspiring course was open to the public and offered an intellectual space in which social and natural sciences joined strengths to explore paths toward equitable and sustainable futures that are evolving in Latin America. Among many others, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude to Arturo Escobar, Federico Demaria, Dianne Rocheleau, and Ashish Kothari.

Looking forward, we hope to see the energy and activist spirit of the conversations held during the conference transcend the confines of our campus and permeate the studies, projects, and activities taking place in other campuses, communities, cities, and beyond. We hope that this conference experience was as novel, constructive, and inspiring to our contributors as it was to all of us at the Center. With our eyes on the future, we anticipate encounters in which we all come together to guide each other along other pathways closer to Buen Vivir.

# New Faculty Member: JOEL CORREIA

Joel Correia received his Ph.D. in geography from the University of Colorado Boulder in August 2017; he holds an MA in Latin American Studies from the University of Arizona. Joel employs participatory research methods, ethnography, and critical social theory to investigate the lived experience of struggles for justice by indigenous and rural peoples confronting human rights violations.

His current book project, *Disrupting the Patrón: Indigeneity, Dispossession, and the Limits of Recognition in Paraguay's Chaco*, examines the limits of multicultural recognition by investigating efforts to implement Inter-American Court of Human Rights decisions regarding indigenous territorial claims. *Disrupting the Patrón* shows how Enxet-Sur and Sanapaná peoples are using direct action and the Court decisions to break historical patterns of racialized dispossession by closing gaps between de jure and de facto rights to land.



Joel has also investigated agrarian development and resource politics in Paraguay, climate change adaptation in the Mexico-U.S. borderlands, and alternative development strategies in *colonias* of Nogales, Sonora. At the University of Arizona, he is a founding member of the Public Political Ecology Lab, has worked for the Bureau of Applied Research in Anthropology, and recently completed a Postdoctoral position in Latin American Studies. His next project will investigate new frontiers of extractivism and human rights in the Gran Chaco.

The National Science Foundation, Fulbright Hays, and Foreign Language and Area Studies programs have supported his research; which is published in *The Journal of Peasant Studies*, forthcoming in *Erasmus Law Review*, under review in *Geoforum* and the *Journal of Latin American Geography*, and in the Open Society Justice Initiative study *Strategic Litigation Impacts: Indigenous Peoples' Land Rights*.

## For Your Information: UF ACRONYMS

**CWSGR** Center for Women's Studies & Gender Research  
**DCP** College of Design, Construction & Planning  
**dLOC** The Digital Library of the Caribbean  
**FLMNH** Florida Museum of Natural History  
**FRE** Food and Resource Economics  
**IFAS** Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences  
**LABE** Latin American Business Environment  
**LAC** Latin American Collection (UF Libraries)

**LAS** Latin American Studies  
**MALAS** MA in Latin American Studies  
**MDP** Master of Sustainable Development Practice  
**SAAH** School of Art and Art History  
**SFRC** School of Forest Resources and Conservation  
**SPS** Spanish & Portuguese Studies  
**TCD** Tropical Conservation and Development  
**WEC** Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

# Puerto Rico Re\_Start International Project + Research Workshop

Contributed by Martha Kohen, DCP



The Puerto Rico Re\_Start International Project and Research Workshop was held at the University of Puerto Rico - Recinto Río Piedras in San Juan, from March 16 to March 24, 2018 under the sponsorship of the UNESCO Chair in Sustainable Urban Quality and Urban Culture, with the presence of the Chairholder Dr. Lucio Barbera. It gathered the support of UF through the Center for Latin American Studies, the Office of Research, the International Center, the Conference Department, Shimberg Center BCN-DCP, the School of Architecture DCP, and the Dean's Office DCP. The directors of the Workshop were Professor Martha Kohen CHU-UF and Dr. Anna Georas SOA-UPR.

In the wake of the catastrophic impact of Hurricanes Irma and Maria and over the depleted socio-economic conditions, the Island became a necessary field for advancing proposals addressing the preservation of the natural resources while elevating the human settlement conditions to procure a viable future. The PR\_RS Workshop, through interdisciplinary inter-institutional collaborations, addressed challenges of urban planning, architecture, economics, environmental engineering, historic preservation, and landscape.

Scholars and professors gathered from the University of La Sapienza in Rome and the Politécnico di Torino from Italy, the University of Seville from Spain, the UNESCO partners, the New York Institute of Technology, the Center for Puerto Rican Studies - Hunter College (CUNY), Andrew University, Columbia University, UF CityLab Orlando, Universidad del Turabo PR, Universidad

Politécnica PR, and multiple PR NGO's such as Retoño, Casas de la Selva, Puerto Rico Hardwood and TECHO. The University of Florida delegation was composed of five professors, two Ph.D. scholars, twelve juniors, nine seniors and eight graduate students. The University of Puerto Rico engaged with eight professors and forty students with a total attendance of 127 participants. Students worked in mixed teams with invited and local professors to develop integrative and interdisciplinary proposals, with the input of local stakeholders, communities, private developers and the municipalities of Loíza, Canóvanas, and San Juan. The visioning proposals were publicly discussed and presented to a distinguished jury on March 24, 2018. Design Labs were directed by Dr. Anna Irene del Monaco from La Sapienza University, Dr. Mar Loren from the University of Seville, CHU Director Nancy Clark, and UF CityLab Orlando Lecturers Stephen Bender and Albertus Wang. A parallel Lecture Series engaged the visitors and the wider public. As a result, multilateral collaborations and research proposals were established. Follow up conference participation will occur in New York May 11-12, 2018, and in Puerto Rico, June 15, 2018, and coordinated curricular courses will develop proposals for Fall 2018. A first public presentation of the results was held at the DCP-UF Research Seminar Series on April 4, 2018.

Interested groups and individuals are welcome to reach us for this ongoing initiative at [puertoricorestart@gmail.com](mailto:puertoricorestart@gmail.com) or visit us at [www.puertoricorestart.org](http://www.puertoricorestart.org) for the second edition of the PR\_RS International Workshop.

# Daring or Collusion? The Responsibility of Literature in the Late Anthropocene

Contributed by Alejandra Sánchez, Business Administration / Spanish concentration

On February 23, the University of Florida invited Jorge Volpi, Pedro Ángel Palou and Eloy Urroz to a debate held in the Reading Room of the Latin American and Caribbean Collection at Smathers library. The three Mexican writers from the Crack literary movement were asked to consider statements made by Amitav Ghosh in his book *The Great Derangement*, which questions the failure of imagination on the part of artists and writers who, by ignoring the climate crisis in their work, perpetuate the problem.

The term Anthropocene, the current geological age proposed as the period during which human activity exercises a dominant influence on climate and the environment, served as a natural gateway to the discussion of post-colonialism. In contemplating the environment from a post-colonial lens, the authors and audience members discussed the disproportionate effects of environmental change on the developing world, despite much of the damage being caused by developed nations. The writers expressed disappointment with the way many in the United States, the president included, deny the existence of climate change.

This same argument can be applied to the ever-present issue of violence in Mexico. The authors deliberated over the prevalence of narco-trafficking in Mexico's literature, and whether such themes should be seen as boldly challenging stereotypes about violence, merely reporting the atrocities of the drug

trade, or immorally exploiting a serious issue in the hopes of turning a profit. The consensus: it depends. Sometimes there is no clear answer. What many in the room could agree on, however, was the importance of awareness. Writer and audience alike agreed that people have a responsibility to overcome ignorance and discover the truths about difficult issues, despite how uncomfortable that truth may be. A question from the audience asked after the responsibility of the U.S. public in understanding the drug-related violence in Mexico. The writers explained that much of

the problem is fueled by demand for drugs in the United States. Perhaps the U.S. public should evaluate itself before being so hasty to assign fault.

The end of the debate took a more optimistic turn. Returning to the

topic of the future, Palou – a self-described optimist – admired the courage of young people in addressing today's important issues. In the wake of the tragic Parkland shooting, he described the activism of the young people as giving him newfound hope that the powerless of today will be the powerful of tomorrow, enacting change where it is most necessary. Urroz was quick to cite the activism of the 70's and the complacency with which the activists of yesterday seem to act today, but Palou responded by citing change as achievable in small steps. The discussion closed by reintegrating the role of fiction to create awareness and discomfort in a way that provokes thought because the great issues of the world must first be known to be understood and understood to be solved.



Left to right: Jorge Volpi, Pedro Ángel Palou, and Eloy Urroz

## WELCOME

NEW AFFILIATE FACULTY!

**Crystal Marull**  
Spanish & Portuguese Studies

# Speaker Series: Jews in the Americas

Contributed by Katalin Rac & Rebecca Jefferson, Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica

The speaker series “Jews in the Americas” runs from January 2018 to August 2018 and features the recipients of the research fellowship of the same title. Co-sponsored by the Alexander Grass Chair in Jewish Studies and the Isser and Rae Price Library of Judaica, the “Jews in the Americas” fellowship was offered to seven researchers from the U.S. and abroad who examine various aspects of Jewish life in the Americas from the 16th century until today across the continent. The topics represented in their work, and presented in their talks, range from piracy among Sephardic Jews and Portuguese Jewish community building in colonial America; through Yiddish travel writing in early twentieth century Argentina and the Jewish Community Center movement in the U.S.; to literary and cinematographic representation of Latin American Jews in the second half of the twentieth century.

The invited scholars conduct research in the Price Library and, thanks to the generous help of the librarians in the Latin American and Caribbean Collection and other units within the department of the Special and Area Studies Collections, have access to sources across University of Florida collections at the Smathers Library. The fellows’ research projects confirm that the Judaica library, awardee of a prestigious NEH Challenge Grant, has been successfully collecting and preserving records of the Jewish experience in Latin America, the Caribbean, and Florida. In so doing, a closer cooperation with the Latin American and Caribbean Collection and the P.K. Yonge Library of Florida History could also be developed. As part



of their presentations, the fellows offer their own reading and interpretation of the sources available at UF’s Special Collections, emphasizing that these sources are not merely indispensable to reconstruct the different spheres of the lives Jews built for themselves in the Americas, but they also offer unique vantage points on the past and present experience of Jews in the Americas.

In continuation to this fellowship program, the organizers are partnering with the Center for Latin American Studies to host “Jews and the Americas,” the 68th Annual Conference of the UF Center for Latin American Studies taking place spring 2019. The change between the title of the fellowship program and the conference points beyond the semantic: even more than the assistance of the other collection units, the partnership with the Center for Latin American Studies signals a strong intellectual orientation.

The organizers wish to generate intellectual conversation between scholars, students, and the broader public based on scholarship that corresponds with Latin American, American, and Jewish studies alike. In addition to re-inviting the fellows, a call for papers will be released in the summer to invite applications. The organizers aim to invite senior and junior researchers and advanced graduate students who present innovative scholarship and readily engage with interdisciplinary exchange, hoping that both participants and the audience will find the conference an intellectually and socially meaningful event.

## Venezuela: Using Democracy to Crush Democracy

The Center for Latin American Studies and the College of Journalism and Communications hosted NPR correspondent John Otis at the University of Florida. Otis, based in Bogota, Colombia, has covered the unfolding crisis in Venezuela for over 20 years. As part of his visit, Otis gave a talk to an audience of more than 45 people titled *Venezuela: Using Democracy to Crush Democracy*. He also met with students and faculty members from the Center as well as the College of Journalism.

During his presentation, Otis described how the Chavez government twisted democratic practices and thus

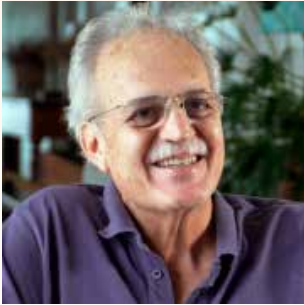
destroyed the true intent of democracy. Using various examples dating back to 1998, when Chavez was first elected president, Otis showed how Venezuelan democratic channels were eroded via rigged elections, changes made to the country’s constitution, the suppression of a free press, and heavy-handed measures used against its own people.

Dr. Rosana Resende (LAS), took lead in organizing the event. By hosting Otis, Resende sought to give students the opportunity to hear about current events in Venezuela from someone in the field covering the news in real time.

# The Amazon Third Way Initiative

Contributed by Bette Loiselle, TCD Director (LAS/WEC)

Is there a tipping point for the Amazon forest? Dr. Carlos Nobre addressed this critical question along with proposing a new sustainable development pathway for the Amazon during his week-long visit to the University of Florida in late March 2018. Dr. Nobre is a world-renowned climate change scientist and international scientific and education leader who has held many significant posts during his distinguished career.



At the National level, he has served as National Secretary for Research & Development Policies at the Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation of Brazil and President of Brazil's Agency for Post-Graduate Education (CAPES).

Internationally, he has served as a member of the UN Secretary-General Scientific Advisory Board for Global Sustainability and a member of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). Dr. Nobre currently is Science Director of the Research Project "National Institute of S&T for Climate Change," Senior Fellow of WRI Brazil and chair of the Brazilian Panel on Climate Change. Further, Dr. Nobre is a foreign member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, and member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences and World Academy of Sciences.

While at UF, Dr. Nobre presented "The Amazon Third Way Initiative" to a packed crowd at TCD's Tropilunch. He

argued that this new sustainable development pathway could harness the biological and biomimetic assets of Amazon's biodiversity, with the potential to support a socially inclusive "standing forest-flowing river bio-economy." This intriguing new development paradigm stands in contrast to existing views for the Amazon of conservation ("First Way") and resource-intensive development ("Second Way").

Dr. Nobre also visited a Geography Master Class taught by Dr. Cynthia Simmons, where he addressed the risks facing the Amazon from deforestation and climate change. Building on his own research and others, he suggested that total deforestation of 20-25% could be sufficient to result in an irreversible tipping point where Amazon forests are replaced by savannas. Previously, the tipping point was estimated to occur at 40% deforestation, but Dr. Nobre argued that the synergistic impacts of deforestation, climate change, and forest fires might flip the current climate conditions that support forest to a new set of climate conditions that would be dominated by degraded savannas over much of the Amazon basin.

During his visit, Dr. Nobre also met with students and faculty from the Amazon Dams Network and Water Institute Graduate Fellows, as well as students and faculty from across campus. His visit was sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, the Tropical Conservation and Development Program, Department of Geography, Florida-Brazil Linkage Institute, and the UF Biodiversity Institute.

## I Am Enough: Afro-Latinx Panel

Comprised of five students and two faculty members, the I Am Enough: Afro-Latinx Panel was a first of its kind held at the University of Florida. The dialogue created by the participants encompassed themes such as Afro-Latinx identity, lack of representation in the media, and racism within the Latinx community. The panel lasted for nearly three hours and drew in a crowd of over 100 students and faculty.

Among the participants was Center faculty member Dr. Tanya Saunders, who brought into the panel the perspective of a researcher who has worked with African-Latino communities within Cuba and Brazil. Dr. Paul Ortiz, Center affiliate and History Department faculty member, helped launch the panel. Referencing various historical instances, Ortiz discussed the gaps that our

current education system has as it ignores the historical influences on the United States from Latin American, African and Caribbean communities. Ortiz hopes that the panel affords audience members with a new sense of purpose where they can take the momentum that's been generated and build on it to create some concrete actions.

Held in Pugh Hall Ocora on March 20th, the panel was hosted by the Latino-Hispanic Organization for Graduate Students and co-sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, the Multicultural and Diversity Affairs, Hispanic-Latino Affairs, Black Affairs, HSA, She's The First UF, the Center for African American Studies, and the Samuel Proctor Oral History Program.



# UF Collaborates with the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador



University of Florida (UF) faculty members traveled to Ecuador late February, in an effort to develop new collaborative opportunities between UF and the Universidad San Francisco de Quito (USFQ). The trip was funded by the UF International Center and the UF Center for Latin American Studies. Trip organizers were Dr. Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo, UF Anthropology, and Dr. Philip Williams, director of the Center for Latin American Studies.

UF Faculty met with Dr. Diego Quiroga, vice president of research at USFQ and co-director of the Galapagos Academic Institute for the Arts and Sciences (GAIAS) located in the island of San Cristobal, Galapagos. Dr. Quiroga visited UF last fall semester, where he met with faculty who expressed interest in increasing

collaborative research with USFQ.

Currently, the University of Florida and the Universidad San Francisco de Quito collaborate in various programs. During this trip, UF faculty delivered guest lectures, toured the USFQ campus and San Cristobal Island, and met with faculty and administrators to discuss study abroad and research opportunities. UF in Galapagos, a study abroad program led by Dr. Eric Hellgren, Wildlife Ecology and Conservation, is set to start this fall semester. Both universities are also working to develop a field school that will focus on areas such as anthropology, the social sciences, and the impact of tourism on the environment.

## Fieldwork Festival 2018 Poster Competition Winners

### GRAND PRIZE & 1ST PRIZE MASTERS

*Analyzing Fisher Adaptations to Change on Lake Tanganyika*  
**Benjamin Lowe**

### 2ND PRIZE MASTERS

*The Spring at Las Peñas*  
**Megan LeBlanc**

### 1ST PRIZE MDP

*Urbanization and Equitable Service Delivery: An Analysis of Water Supply in Korail Slum, Dhaka, Bangladesh*  
**Nazmi Ahmed**

### 2ND PRIZE MDP

*Setting Priorities and Tracking Effectiveness of Conservation and Sustainable Development Projects: A Case Study in Madre de Dios, Peru*  
**Tania Romero Bautista**

### 1ST PRIZE PRE-DISSERTATION

*Logging Protected Areas: An Analysis of Decision-Making, Perceptions, Community Empowerment and Strategies for Timber Management in the Amazon*  
**Ana Luiza Violato Espada**

### 2ND PRIZE PRE-DISSERTATION

*Ecology and Conservation of an Endemic Bird Community of the Dry Forest of Northwestern Peru*  
**Diego Garcia**

# Endangered Amazon: An Indigenous Tribe Fights Back Against Hydropower Development in the Tapajós Valley

Faced with the continuous encroachment and deforestation of their lands by *pariwat* (outsiders), the Munduruku have taken inspiration from a warlike past to build the movement called *Ipereğ'ayũ*, which translates as “We are strong. We know how to protect ourselves and all we believe in.” *Ipereğ'ayũ* seeks to assert the territorial rights of the Munduruku, and uses direct action to pursue its goal – to stop all infrastructure projects that threaten their lands, such as the *Initiative for the Integration of the Regional Infrastructure of South America* (IIRSA), an infrastructure plan proposed by the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR), in coordination with complementary projects on the part of its 12 member states.



Through multiple field campaigns dating back to 2008, Dr. Robert Walker (University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies and Department of Geography) and Dr. Cynthia Simmons (University of Florida Department of Geography) have conducted research analyzing the imminent threat infrastructure projects such as IIRSA pose to the conservation of Amazonia’s forest biome. Funding for the research was provided by the National Science Foundation, the UF Center for Latin American Studies, the UF Department of Geography, and the Water Institute.

Field observations suggest that deforestation of the Amazonian forest could reach 40% due in large to the agricultural occupation of the central Amazon Basin. Such occupation would be driven by the Tapajós Hydroelectric Complex (THC) – a key element of UNASUR’s initiative – which consists of five dams projected to generate more than 12,000 megawatts, making it one of the largest hydropower facilities in the world. Deforestation of this magnitude, coupled with global climate change, could push the Amazonian forest past the point of no return.

The Tapajós Valley, where the THC project is geared to take place, is the homeland of the Munduruku, a tribe regarded as one of the most politically organized

tribal groups in the Amazon. Even though the Brazilian Constitution gives the Munduruku rights to territories they have historically occupied, and to control the use of associated water bodies, the Brazilian State has nevertheless proceeded to advance the THC, which, if fully implemented, would undermine cultural and ecological

conservation in the Tapajós Valley, with significant implications for the entire Amazon Basin.

“The THC would open the door to occupation of the central Amazon Basin. To date, nearly 20% of the Amazonian forest has been cleared in the arc of deforestation, much of which lies in the lower basin,” notes Dr. Walker.

“If agricultural occupation of the central basin replicates what has already happened, deforestation across Amazonia will soon reach 40%. This is sufficient to produce a tipping-point transgression, with a breakdown in rainfall recycling and desiccation of Amazonia’s moist forest systems.”

Through the *Ipereğ'ayũ* movement, the Munduruku are confronting infrastructure development with direct action, with a repertoire including non-negotiation, the occupation of construction sites and public buildings, and acts of vandalism. This resistance has enabled the Munduruku to put a stop to territorial encroachments by the Brazilian government, at least for the moment. The current weakening of environmental policy in Brazil invites the speculation that indigenous resistance, such as demonstrated by *Ipereğ'ayũ*, could hold an important key to conserving Amazonia’s ecological and cultural riches.

*Endangered Amazon: An Indigenous Tribe Fights Back Against Hydropower Development in the Tapajós Valley*, is published in *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development* magazine. The article may be accessed via their website [www.environmentmagazine.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2018/March-April%202018/endangered-full.html](http://www.environmentmagazine.org/Archives/Back%20Issues/2018/March-April%202018/endangered-full.html). Photo credits: UF Geography Graduate Student Maira Irigaray Castro in collaboration with Amazon Watch, and to Dr. Robert Walker.

## Working with Future Teachers to Integrate Global Content

Contributed by Erika Davis, MALAS Student

This semester, in partnership with the UF College of Education, the Outreach office has been working with education students on integrating global content into their lessons in their future classrooms. The Center purchased a class set of Hood's book *Ada's Violin* for students enrolled in Dr. Suzanne Chapman's graduate children's literature course. The book, which tells the story of a young girl who participates in the Recycled Orchestra of Paraguay, has been awarded the 2017 Américas Book Award for its authentic and engaging portrayal of Latin America. Students in Dr. Chapman's class read the book, researched the topic, prepared lesson plans, and developed questions for the author. Through a virtual visit coordinated by Dr. Mary Risner (LAS), students were able to ask their questions and interact directly with the author.



## Florida Connected Conference: Raising Global Awareness in Florida Classrooms

Contributed by Erika Davis, MALAS Student

On Saturday, March 10, approximately 40 Florida educators participated in the third Florida Connected conference at the University of Florida. The conference, coordinated by the Outreach office, was held at the Florida Museum of Natural History in collaboration with the Center for African Studies and Projects for Haiti (P4H). Educators from as far as Palm Beach State College and Florida A&M, represented all levels of K-16 education and a variety of subject areas.



Elementary and Fort Clarke Middle Schools in Florida the day before the conference. For more information on Florida Connected's mission and the conference, visit the site: <https://floridaconnected.wordpress.com/>

## IV International Symposium on Languages for Specific Purposes

Contributed by Erika Davis, MALAS Student

The IV International Symposium on Languages for Specific Purposes, hosted this past February, was a successful collaboration between the UF Center for Latin American Studies and the U.S. Department of Education Centers for International Business Education and Research (CIBERs). The conference, which focused on "LSP Vectors: Strengthening Interdisciplinary Connections," united 140 educators, administrators, students, and language policymakers worldwide. For archived information on the conference and the call for papers to publish a conference volume, please visit: <https://nble.org/islsp-ciber-events/iv-islsp-2018/>



# Spring 2018: Center Faculty Awards

This semester was filled with much celebration, as various Center faculty were recognized for their scholarly accomplishments and community engagement. Join us in congratulating the below faculty members!



Dr. Carmen Diana Deere, Distinguished Professor Emerita of Latin American Studies and Food & Resource Economics, was awarded the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) 2018 Kalman Silvert Award. The award was created in 1982 and “recognizes senior members of the profession who have made distinguished lifetime

contributions to the study of Latin America, and is LASA’s highest honor.” This is the second time that a former UF Latin American Studies Center Director has received this award; Dr. Helen Safa (deceased) was the 2007 Kalman Silvert Award recipient.

Dr. Deere was director of the Center for Latin American Studies from 2004 to 2009. During her tenure as director, she spearheaded the development of various programs, such as the Crime, Law & Governance program, the Latino Studies program, and the Masters in Sustainable Development program. While continuing to carry out research in Ecuador, Dr. Deere also conducts research in Cuba as part of the UF-University of Havana collaborative project on The Agricultural Sector and the International Economy: Challenges and Opportunities for Cuba and the United States.

“In my two years on the KS committee, I have been thoroughly impressed by the combination of Carmen’s path-breaking scholarship on rural households and agrarian economies, particularly their gendered dimensions; her leadership in LASA over decades; and the work she has done as a teacher, mentor, program builder, and progressive policy advocate in both the North and the South,” said Gilbert Joseph, Past President of the Latin American Studies Association and Kalman Silvert Award committee member. “Few have been as prolific as scholars and as consequential in training younger scholars and building scholarly networks in Latin America and within LASA.”

Philip Williams, current Director of the Center for Latin American Studies, stated that “Through her scholarship, teaching, institution-building, and scholar-activism, Professor Deere has made extraordinary contributions to the field of Latin American studies both in the United

States and in Latin America. The Kalman Silvert Award is a fitting tribute to her life work.”

TCD Director and Center faculty, Dr. Bette A. Loiselle, was awarded the 2018 AOS William Brewster Memorial Award. The award is given annually by the American Ornithological Society (AOS) to “the author or co-authors of the most meritorious body of work (book, monograph, or series of related papers) on birds of the Western Hemisphere published during the past ten years. The award consists of a medal and an honorarium provided through the endowed William Brewster Memorial Fund. It is given in honor of William Brewster, one of the founding members of the AOU.”



Dr. Loiselle’s research includes over 110 peer-reviewed scientific papers and focuses on understanding the importance of biodiversity in tropical systems, especially the ecological role of animals as seed dispersers, and the potential consequences of global change on the distribution of plants and animals. In recent years, much of her field research has been conducted in the Ecuadorian Amazon, although other research sites include Atlantic forests of Brazil, Andes of Colombia, and tropical wet forests of Australia. Dr. Loiselle also has an extensive record of successful mentorship for graduate students and postdocs from Latin America, including many women scientists.



Early in April, Dr. Marianne Schmink, Department of Anthropology and LAS Professor Emerita, was awarded a 2018 Champions for Change Award by the University of Florida’s Office of Sustainability and the Healthy Gators Coalition. “These awards are presented annually to those in the university community who have made significant contributions in the areas of sustainability and

health during their time at UF.”

Dr. Schmink is the co-founder of the Community Weatherization Coalition, an organization that provides free energy audits to low-income residents in an effort to conserve natural resources and help people save money on their utility bills. The CWC has trained dozens of

volunteer “Energy Coaches” and has performed over 800 audits throughout Alachua County. These audits include educating residents on energy and water conservation as well as performing retrofits of energy-saving lightbulbs, water-saving showerheads, and more. Through her work with the CWC and her church, Dr. Schmink has also become actively involved in supporting the Greater Duval Neighborhood Association, a newly-formed organization operating in an under-resourced pocket of our community. Dr. Schmink has helped to provide facilitation and partnerships with the academic community as well as seeking out internships, resources, and community service opportunities for Duval residents.



Dr. Rosana Resende was awarded the 2018 Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) Junior Faculty Teaching Award. Created in 2013, the award seeks to “recognize excellence in teaching Latin American Studies designated courses.” This is the second time that

a LAS faculty member has received this award; Dr. Ieva Jusionyte was the 2015 award recipient.

Dr. Resende is a cultural anthropologist and Latinamericanist. She is a lecturer at the Center for Latin American Studies and an affiliate of the Department of Anthropology and the Center for Gender, Sexualities, and Women’s Research. As a teacher, Dr. Resende aims to “inspire, engage, and empower students to consider their education as a critical component of their formation as adult citizens, no matter where their professional steps may take them. Education can and should be transformative but for that, learning must be rooted in the human experience.”

Regarding Dr. Resende’s accomplishments, the CLASP committee stated that “Dr. Resende’s focus on critical pedagogies and social justice are exemplified in her work to partner with NGOs to support a study abroad program and to co-sponsor a social justice summit. Her research work strengthens her teaching and facilitates her connections with students while helping them to dissect difficult issues relative to race and power relations in Latin America.”

We cap off a notable semester by congratulating Susan Paulson and Catherine Tucker for being selected for the 2018-2019 Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program. The program offers nearly 500 awards annually to teach and conduct research in over 125 countries. These awards bring great prestige to the Center and the University of Florida.

Paulson, LAS Graduate Coordinator and Associate Director, will conduct research in Ecuador on the project titled *Changing Expectations and Challenges of Masculinity Among Ecuadorian Workers*. Paulson’s project is a continuation of research



conducted over the past 30 years on gender and ethnicity in the Andes that has yielded multiple publications, including *Masculinity and Femininities in Latin America’s Uneven Development* (Routledge, 2015) and *Masculinidades en movimiento. Transformación territorial y sistemas de género* (TESEO, 2013). In the coming months, Paulson seeks to complement her previous work with intense on-the-ground fieldwork. Regarding her research, Paulson hopes to show that “men” is a diverse category, and to advance understanding of ways in which variously positioned men struggle with gender expectations and norms, and ways in which men’s adaptations and innovations can help to forge healthier gender systems.



Catherine Tucker, LAS and Department of Anthropology faculty, will travel to Honduras to conduct research on the project titled *Building Collaborations to Strengthen Honduran Coffee Enterprises Amidst Economic and Environmental Challenges*. This project

will expand her previous work on environmental and socioeconomic transformations linked to coffee production. Over the past 17 years, Tucker has looked at how coffee producers have adapted to ongoing changes within the coffee market and to climate change. The findings have been published in *Changing Forests: Common Property, Collective Action and Coffee in Honduras* (Springer, 2007), *Coffee Culture: Local Experiences, Global Connections* (Routledge, 2017) and a number of articles. This project will explore the current profusion of different certificates that promise coffee producers better prices for socially just or environmentally friendly coffee, such as Fair Trade or Rainforest Alliance. As part of her project, Tucker plans to work collaboratively with various cooperatives to help them assess the outcomes of certifications.

# Center Spotlight: Ms. Wanda Carter

As another semester comes to an end, we would like to shine a special spotlight on our very own Ms. Wanda Carter. Ms. Wanda has been with the Center for the past 16 years and was recently recognized by the University of Florida with a much deserved Superior Accomplishment Award.

As of this year, Ms. Wanda has worked for the state for 27 years. Prior to joining the University of Florida, Ms. Wanda worked as a secretary for the Adoptions and Related Services and Foster Care Unit. In her position, she was in charge of moving abused children to different foster homes. "I just couldn't understand how anyone could abuse a child in such a way," Ms. Wanda says as she recalls the different cases she worked. Eventually, it was the emotional turmoil associated with the job that led Ms. Wanda to her first position at the University of Florida.

Her journey as a UF employee started back in 1998 when she began working with newly admitted students at the Vet School before transferring to UF Animal Care Services. "My children adopted many rabbits and dogs while I worked there," she says with a smile. But the work had many challenges, which led Ms. Wanda to apply for a position at the Center for Latin American Studies.

It was in 2001 when she joined the Center as the secretary for the Tropical Conservation and Development program, which at that time was under the leadership of Dr. Marianne Schmink. Within two years she was promoted to her current position as the Center's Program Assistant. In her position, she works with students from the moment they are admitted to the program until they graduate.

When asked about any notable moment she's had while working with students, she recalls the time a student

attended the wrong course for the entire semester. "I couldn't believe it," she says laughing. "He sat there week after week, knowing he was in the wrong class and didn't say anything until the very end!"



In the 16 years she has been with the Center, Ms. Wanda remembers the thousands of students that have stepped into her office; many of them looking for help with their assistantships, course schedules, certificates and more. "When I first meet them, I try to put a name to every face and always try to greet them in the hallways." In particular, she holds a special place for international students. "I think it's awesome that they come to UF to study, and then take back the skills they learned to help their communities." She fondly remembers pictures she received from former students, showing the work they are doing within schools, helping with infrastructure projects in their communities, or working with conservation initiatives.

While the majority of the people Ms. Wanda worked with back in 2001 have retired, she has no plans to leave just yet. "I've enjoyed my time at the Center, and I've enjoyed the students and the people that I've worked with. It's really been wonderful."

From all of us at the Center for Latin American Studies, thank you for all your hard work, Ms. Wanda!

## STUDENT News

### SPRING 18 GRADUATIONS

#### Undergraduate LAS Minors & Certificates

**Caitlin A. Barreto** (Anthropology)  
**Sara Brenner** (Biology)  
**Stephanie Gato** (Health Ed. & Behavior)  
**Rebekah Dain** (Public Relations)  
**Alexa Ferrer** (Finance)  
**Angela M. Locarno** (Women's Studies)  
**Ana A. McIntosh** (Architecture)  
**Hali McKinley Lester** (Int Studies)

**Pia C. Molina** (Anthropology)  
**Tomi Pasetto Vuorio** (Int Studies)  
**Christina Prinvil** (Poli Sci / Economics)  
**Michael E. Reyes** (History / Int Studies)  
**Juan Rojas** (Poli Sci)  
**Lucero Ruballos** (Criminology)  
**Miguel D Torrellas** (Journalism)  
**Jessica Valdés Guarcía** (Poli Sci / Portuguese)

#### Graduate LAS Certificates

**Maria Fontecha** (MDP)  
**Florencia Lathrop** (MDP)  
**Anna Martinson** (MDP)  
**Miguel Olivas Perez** (MDP)  
**Grace Palacios Chavez** (MDP)  
**Rosa Pillcurima** (LA Literature)  
**Tania Romero Bautista** (MDP)  
**Derek Sindler** (MDP)

## **MALAS Degrees**

### **Priscila Barravecchia**

Specialization: Latino/Immigration Studies  
Advisor: Nicholas Vargas  
Thesis: Te Mastican Pero No Te Tragan:  
Perspectives and Discourse About Latino  
Immigrants

### **Alexandra Cenatus**

Specialization: Gender Studies  
Advisor: Tanya Saunders  
Thesis: Putting a Spotlight on Haitian  
Vodou's Social Changes

### **Katie Coldiron**

Specialization: International  
Communication Development  
Advisor: Lillian Guerra  
Thesis: Teatro Turístico: Transnational  
Connections Made Within the Cuban  
Non-State Tourism Sector

### **Lisa Krause**

Specialization: Crime, Law & Governance  
Advisor: Susan Paulson  
Thesis: The Metamorphosis of Las  
Mariposas: A Memory of the Mirabal  
Sisters in the Dominican Republic and its  
Diaspora in the United States.

### **Matthew Levin**

Specialization: International  
Communication Development  
Advisor: Nicholas Vargas  
Thesis: The Cellphone as a Transnational  
Source of Agency for Venezuela and  
Guatemalan Migrants in South Florida

### **David Rinhart**

Specialization: Crime, Law & Governance  
Advisor: Richard Kernaghan  
Thesis: Walking the Fine Line: Legal  
Precarity Along the U.S. - Mexico Border

### **Chelsey Simmons**

Specialization: Caribbean Studies  
Advisor: David P. Geggus  
Thesis: The Invisible Woman: Fertility  
and Motherhood under Slavery in Saint  
Domingue, 1775-1791

### **Julio Cesar Palomino Villa**

Specialization: Gender Studies  
Advisor: Richard Kernaghan  
Thesis: Framing care as work: Narratives  
of Male Caregivers of Relatives Diagnosed  
With Schizophrenia in Lima, Peru

## **MDP Degrees**

### **Jacqueline Allegra Curnick**

Specializations: Environmental  
Communication, African Studies, TCD  
Advisor: Tara Sabo-Attwood  
(Environmental & Global Health)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Environmental  
Health and Justice in Alaska and  
Documentary: Pulling Teeth From a Polar  
Bear

### **Margarita Fontecha Tirado**

Specializations: TCD, Latin American  
Studies  
Advisor: Philip Williams (Latin American  
Studies)  
Capstone Field Practicum: A New  
Hope: Social Capital and Community  
Capacity-Building for Forest Conservation  
in Caquetá (Colombia), Under a Post-  
Conflict Scenario

### **Max Gelber**

Specializations: TCD, African Studies  
Advisor: Paul Monaghan (IFAS / AEC)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Plenty of Fish  
in the Sea? Shark Fishing and The fin Trade  
in Ghana: A Biting Review

### **Corey Jones**

Specializations: Food and Nutrition,  
Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits,  
African Studies, TCD  
Advisor: Sarah McKune (African Studies /  
Environmental & Global Health)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Gendered  
Post-Conflict Reconstruction in the  
Democratic Republic of Congo

### **Florencia Lathrop Rossi**

Specializations: Design, Creativity and  
Post-Development Pathways; Latin  
American Studies; TCD  
Advisor: Maria Rogal (Art & Art History)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Mujeres de  
Corcovado: Experiences Using Design and  
Visual Communication as Tools for Agency

### **Anna Martinson**

Specializations: Organizational Leadership  
for Nonprofits, Latin American Studies,  
TCD  
Advisor: Muthusami Kumaran (IFAS /  
AEC)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Nonprofit  
Financial Sustainability in Seoul, South  
Korea: Teach North Korean Refugees

## **Miguel Olivas-Pérez**

Specializations: TCD, Latin American  
Studies  
Advisor: Glenn Galloway (MDP / Latin  
American Studies)  
Capstone Field Practicum: The Impact of  
the Public Policies in the Forestry Sector  
in Mexico

### **Grace Palacios Chávez**

Specializations: TCD, Latin American  
Studies  
Advisor: Rick Stepp (Anthropology)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Kichwa Lamas'  
Gender Roles in the Conservation of Their  
Community Forests

### **Estefania Rodriguez**

Specializations: TCD, African Studies,  
Organizational Leadership for Nonprofits  
Advisor: Sandra Russo (UFIC / Women's  
Studies)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Gender-  
Sensitive Evaluation of the Goat Value  
Chain in the Lowveld of Swaziland

### **Tania Romero Bautista**

Specializations: TCD, Latin American  
Studies  
Advisor: Angélica Almeyda Zambrano  
(Tourism, Recreation & Sport  
Management)  
Capstone Field Practicum: An Evidence-  
Based Approach to Improving the  
Effectiveness of Conservation and  
Sustainable Development (CSD) Projects  
in Madre de Dios, Peru

### **Derek Sindler**

Specializations: Sustainable Food Systems,  
Latin American Studies, TCD  
Advisor: Pilar Useche (IFAS / FRE)  
Capstone Field Practicum: Conservation  
Agriculture in Practice: Rice in Northwest  
Dominican Republic

## **Graduate Sustainable Development Practice Certificate**

**Juliana Muriel Osorio, MA (LAS)**

## **Graduate Conservation and Development Certificates**

**Ada Cecilia Bersosa Hernández, MS**  
(Environmental Engineering)

**Johanna Paulina Espin Moscoso, PhD**  
(Sociology)

# FACULTY NEWS & PUBLICATIONS

**Mark Brenner** (Geology) published "The Lake Petén Itzá Watershed: Modern and Historical Ecology." *Historical and Archaeological Perspectives on the Itzas of Petén, Guatemala*, 40-57. University Press of Colorado, 2018. JSTOR, [www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt2111gkxk](http://www.jstor.org/stable/j.ctt2111gkxk). He also presented a one-week short course titled "Paleolimnology." Universidad Quindío, 4-8 December, 2017, Armenia, Colombia. Additionally, he presented talks titled "Environmental History of the Yucatan Peninsula" and "Publishing Tips for Young Investigators." Workshop on Paleochronology, 8-12 January, 2018, Campeche, Mexico.

**Emilio Bruna** (LAS/WEC), et al. "A persistent lack of geographic diversity on editorial boards in Biology." *Plos Biology*. 15(12): e200276. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pbio.200276>.

**Robert Buschbacher** (SFRC) presented a Webinar, titled "Redes Colaborativas para Paisagens Resilientes: Uma Teoria de Mudança Baseado em Estudos de Caso," to the RECAM Network's café virtual series.

**Kaira M. Cabañas** (SAAH) gave the lecture "'Aprendiendo de la locura' (Learning from Madness)." Universidad de los Andes, 1 February, 2018, Bogotá, Colombia. She also published "O Monolinguismo do Global: *Monolingualism of the Global*." *O que nos faz pensar*, Rio de Janeiro, vol. 26, no. 40, 2017, pp. 119-134. <http://oquenofazpensar.fil.puc-rio.br/index.php/oqfnf/article/view/552/522>.

**Amy Jo Coffey** (TEL) was hosted by the University of Navarra (Spain) as an invited lecturer and researcher in media management for a month in January-February. While there, she gave three research presentations, including "Diverse Audiences in the United States: Advertiser Perceptions and Challenges" to faculty in the School of Communication, and "Interdisciplinary Research: Joys,

Challenges and the Way Forward" at the university's Institute for Culture and Society. She also collaborated with faculty in the School's Center for Internet Studies and Digital Life and taught media innovation and entrepreneurship to undergraduate students in media management.

**Kathleen Colverson** (IFAS Global/AEC) delivered two training workshops entitled "Integrating Family Dynamics into Agricultural Activities" for the closing Symposia of the USAID INGENAES project in Honduras on February 15-16 in Santa Rosa de Copan and February 19-29 in Siguatepeque, Honduras.

**Glenn Galloway** (MDP/LAS) presented "Shifting Global Development Discourses: Implications for Forest-Related Development?" IUFRO 125th Anniversary Congress in Freiburg, September 2017, Germany. He represented IUFRO in the PROFOR Forestry-Poverty Reference Group in the World Bank in November 2017.

**David Geggus** (History) presented a paper on Jean-Baptiste Belley at *Always in the Minority*, a conference on minority parliamentarians, held in the Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona. He also published "Race, Property, and Atrocity in the Early Haitian Revolution: the Fond d'Icaque Rising." William Beezley, ed., *The Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History* (online).

**Brian Gendreau** (Finance) made a presentation based on the 2018 *Latin American Business Environment* report, co-authored with Timothy McLendon (Law), at the 11th Annual International Business Forum on February 22 in Coral Gables, sponsored by the UF Alumni Association and Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce.

**Tace Hedrick** (English) published "'The Spirits Talk to Us': Regionalism, Poverty, and Romance in Mexican-American

Gothic Fiction." *Studies in the Novel*, vol. 49, no. 3, 2017, pp. 322-340.

**Gaby Hernandez** (SAAH) offered a workshop, titled "Partnering with Local Schools and Organizations," to attendees at the National Diversity and Inclusion Meet-Up, organized by AIGA, the Professional Association for Design, on March 24th in Bentoville, Arkansas.

**Emily Hind** (SPS) presented the paper "Fair Trade? Mario Bellatin's Las dos Fridas and Other Kahlos for Kids" at the XXIV Annual Juan Bruce Novoa Mexican Studies Conference, April 2018, Irvine. And presented the paper "Chick Flicks mexicanos: Adonde las viejas van para morir y las estrellas nunca envejecen" at the Latin American Studies Conference, May 2018, Barcelona, Spain.

**Karen Kainer** (LAS/SFRC) et al. "Primary and secondary dispersal of *Bertholletia excelsa*: Implications for sustainable harvests." *Forest Ecology and Management*, vol. 415-416, 2018, pp. 98-105. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.foreco.2018.02.014>. She also co-authored "Are Brazil nut populations threatened by fruit harvest?" *Biotropica*, vol. 50, no. 1, 2018, pp. 50-59. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/btp.12505/epdf>.

**Susan Milbrath** (FLMNH) et al. "Maya Astronomical Observations and the Agricultural Cycle in the Postclassic Madrid Codex." *Ancient Mesoamerica*, vol. 28, no. 2, 2017, pp. 489-505. doi:10.1017/S0956536117000189. "The legacy of Preclassic Calendars and Solar Observations in Mesoamerica's Magic Latitude." *Maya E Groups: Calendars, Astronomy and Urbanism in the Early Lowlands*, University Press of Florida, 2017, pp. 95-134. doi:10.5744/florida/9780813054353.001.0001. "Imagery of the Yearbearers in Maya Culture and Beyond." Invited Lecture, University of Texas, January 2018, Austin, Texas. "A New Interpretation of the Aztec Sun Stone." Invited Lecture,



Alachua County Astronomy Club at the Florida Museum of Natural History, January 2018, Gainesville, Florida.

**Paul Ortiz** (History/Oral History) published *An African American and Latinx History of the United States*. Boston: Beacon Press, 2018. He also gave a lecture titled: "The Making of An African American and Latinx History of the United States." 10th Anniversary of Latino/a Studies Symposium, Duke University, 22 March 2018, Durham, North Carolina. Paul was the keynote speaker for the Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies Program 1st annual Research and Creativity Symposium, Texas Christian University, February 16, 2018.

**Susan Paulson** (LAS) obtained a grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research to host a theory-building workshop on "Degrowth, buen vivir and other paths toward human-environment well-being" at UF in April 2018. With Giorgos Kallis et al., Paulson published "Degrowth Research" in *Annual Reviews Environment and Resources*. During December 2017, Paulson served as invited scholar at the University of Hamburg, where she presented the public lecture "Conviviality and identity in Latin American struggles for wellbeing," and organized the international workshop "Connections among conviviality, critical hedonisms, and communal and alternative economies and lifestyles."

**Charles A. Perrone** (SPS-Emeritus) published a paperback edition of *Brazil, Lyric, and the Americas* (University Press of Florida), and two book segments: "Carlos Drummond de Andrade." In *Cambridge Companion to Latin American Poetry*. Ed. Stephen Hart. New York: Cambridge University Press, 2018. 152-62; and "Shared Passages: Spanish-American-Brazilian Links in Contemporary Poetry." In *Beyond Tordesillas: Critical Essays in Comparative Luso-Hispanic Studies*. Robert Patrick Newcomb and Richard A. Gordon, eds. Columbus: OSU Press, 2017. 172-82.

**Heidi Powell** (SAAH) in collaboration with Milady Casco and Catalino Benada gave an artist talk on "Enseñanzas: La Procesa." Casa Herrera, University of Texas Campus, 17 March 2018, La Antigua, Guatemala. She also gave a conference presentation on "Alfombras: The magic carpets of Antigua Guatemala during Semana Santa." National Art Education Association, 25 March 2018, Seattle, Washington. In collaboration with Milady Casco and Catalino Benada, she also had an exhibition on "Lecciones: La Procesa." Casa Herrera, University of Texas Campus, 17 March 2018, La Antigua, Guatemala.

**Jack Putz** (Biology) et al. "Trade-offs between carbon stocks and timber recovery in tropical forests are mediated by logging intensity." *Global Change Biology*, 2018. doi:10.1111/gcb.14155.

**Mary Risner** (LAS) gave a keynote talk at the Annual Conference of the Alabaman World Language Association. The title was *Classroom and Community: Building Linkages*. She published a rejoinder in the centenary issue of *Hispania* entitled *Proficiency and Languages for Specific Purposes in the K-12 Classroom* in response to the article *Language Proficiency: Envisioning the Win in the High School Spanish Classroom*. She also organized the IV International Symposium on Languages for Specific Purposes/CIBER Business Language Conference, in addition to the III Florida Connected- Global Education conference.

**Sadie Ryan** (Geography) et al. "The burden of dengue fever and chikungunya in southern coastal Ecuador: Epidemiology, clinical presentation, and phylogenetics from the first two years of a prospective study." *Am J. Trop Med Hyg*, vol. 98, no. 5, 2018, pp. 1444-1459. doi:10.4269/ajtmh.17-076. She also co-authored "Spatiotemporal Variation in Environmental *Vibrio cholerae* in an Estuary in Southern Coastal Ecuador." *Int. J. Env. Res in Public Health*, vol. 15,

no. 3, 486. doi:10.3390/ijerph15030486. She also co-presented the poster "Socio-ecological Factors Impacting Dengue risk in Huaquillas, Ecuador: A Binational Bridge of Health." EPI Research Day, 15 February 2018, Gainesville, FL.

**Hector H. Sandoval** (Economics) presented the report "Understanding Racial Inequity in Alachua County" to Government and Community Agencies at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, 12 January 2018, Gainesville, Florida. The report is available at <https://www.bebr.ufl.edu/economics/racial-inequity>.

**Silvio dos Santos** (School of Music) presented the paper "Listen to Him!": Villa-Lobos's Indigenism in his Symphony No. 10 'Amerindia.'" Southern Chapter of the American Musicological Society, Louisiana State University, February 2018, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He also translated "Gabino Palomares: A History of *Canto Nuevo* in Mexico" by Claudio Palomares Salas. *Music and Politics* vol. 12, no. 1, winter 2018, pp. 1-25. <http://dx.doi.org/10.3998/mp.9460447.0012.104>.

**Marianne Schmink** (LAS-Emerita) was a recipient of the 2018 Champions of Change award, from the UF Office of Sustainability and the Healthy Gators Coalition, which recognizes individuals and groups that have made significant contributions to the UF community in the areas of sustainability and/or health.

**Maya Stanfield-Mazzi** (Art History) published "Of Cloth and Colonization: Peruvian Tapestries over the Centuries," in *Unmasking Ideology: The Vocabulary, Symbols, And Legacy Of Imperial And Colonial Archaeology*, edited by Bonnie Effros and Guolong Lai. Los Angeles: Cotsen Institute of Archaeology, Univ. of California Press, 2018; and "Illustration in Latin America, Pre-Columbian Era-1950," in *The History of Illustration*, edited by Susan Doyle. New York: Fairchild Books, 2018.

## ALUMNI UPDATES

**Amanda Quiros Hines** (LAS 2012) worked for McKinsey and Company as a Business Analyst in their San Jose, Costa Rica office. She focused on strategy engagements in the Americas with an emphasis on renewable energy. In 2017, she joined the TJX Companies in their finance department.

**Allison Hopkins** (LAS 2009) carried out a NIH-NCCIH Funded Postdoc in Complementary and Alternative Medicine in the College of Medicine at the University of Arizona. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Texas A&M University, carrying out research on the relationship between sustainable use of natural resources and health.

**Luis Sergio Konski** (LAS 1973) is a shareholder in a major Florida law firm, Fowler, White Burnett, P.A. He has conducted as a party advocate international arbitrations in Latin America and Europe.

## Alumni Spotlight: Sydney Nilan (MDP 2013)

Can you tell us about your current position and how it relates to Latin America?

Currently, I am the regional programs director with the Runa Foundation. We work with indigenous communities and producer associations in Peru and Ecuador creating new value for forest products that benefit local people and the forest ecosystem. We live and work here in Latin America, mostly in the Amazon region but we are expanding our geographical focus.

What motivated you to pursue a degree in Sustainable Development Practice?

After undergrad, where I had majored in political science and international development with a focus on Latin America, I wanted to see if everything I had learned was true. So I bought a one-way ticket and traveled around Latin America for about a year. It was very interesting; I volunteered a lot, worked where I could and just talked to people. One of the things that I realized was that I really did not know very much. I needed to learn more skills in order to be able to work in development within Latin America. MDP seemed like the perfect program to teach me the skills I was lacking.

What aspect of your career have you enjoyed the most?

What I have enjoyed the most is that I get to do something new and exciting almost every day. It is always a challenge but it is also an adventure. It has been really rewarding in that I get the opportunity to learn something

new all of the time and also get the chance to work for causes that I think are valuable.

How did your degree and the Center help you prepare for your career?

I would say my degree helped me a lot; I learned so much! What I really enjoyed was the MDP program's multidisciplinary approach. It teaches students so many things such as project management, monitoring evaluation, public health, forestry, and sustainable agriculture. It enabled me to work in a mid-sized NGO such Runa Foundation. It also helped me rise up to a management position much quicker than I would have, had I not been exposed to so many different areas.



What would you most encourage students to take away from their experience at the Center for Latin American Studies?

What is great about the Center, the faculty, and its affiliated programs, such as Tropical Conservation and Development, is that students are able to take advantage of and learn from these resources. The main thing I appreciate about the Center is that they not only focus on what we do but how we do it. I learned from different professors in the Center concrete skills for working with communities, organizations, and people that have made me much more effective as a professional.

# Thanks to Our Donors

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.

## **A. Hower Memorial Endowment**

Neale J. Pearson

## **Boonstra Family Research Fellowship**

Tara E. Boonstra

## **Carmen Diana Deere Director's Fund**

Jay S. Brickman

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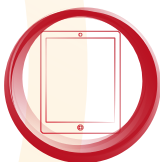
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