



The **LATINAMERICANIST**

University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies | Volume 45, Number 2 | Fall 2014



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We began the fall semester with good news on our Title VI grant. The Center was again designated as a Title VI National Resource Center (NRC)

by the Department of Education and received Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship funding for 2014-17. The Center expects approximately \$1.9 million in funding during the four-year cycle. The Title VI NRC grant will provide support to: 1) strengthen research collaboration across disciplines; 2) increase the area studies and language competencies of students, especially from underrepresented groups; 3) strengthen K-12 education through Latin American Studies-enhanced teacher education courses and longer term in-service training initiatives; and 4) expand Latin American Studies outreach to Minority-Serving Institutions and community colleges, business, media, and the general public. The FLAS fellowship grant supports graduate and undergraduate students to pursue advanced proficiency in Portuguese and Haitian Creole. The competition was especially tough this round, given that the NRC budget has been cut by one third compared to four years ago. I'd like to thank all of the faculty and staff at the Center who worked so hard to make this happen. These grants are a reflection of the outstanding quality of Center-based and affiliate faculty and students across the University of Florida.

The Center had a very busy and productive fall semester. In September, we were proud to co-sponsor the Gainesville Latino Film Festival, now in its 10th year (p. 10). In recognition of the Center's ongoing support of the festival over the years, we received the "Spreading the Light of Culture" Award from the Latina Women's League. In October, the Center's Program for Immigration, Religion, and Social Change (PIRSC) hosted the 5th Conference on Immigration to the US South (p. 3). The conference attracted over 200 community and religious leaders, activists, and scholars to discuss the theme, "Immigration Reform and Beyond?" In November, the Center helped organize the first "Gainesville Connected" conference together with the non-profit Projects for Haiti (P4H), and UF's other area studies centers. The conference brought together over 130 educators, pre-service teachers, and non-profit groups in an effort to connect them with global education opportunities (p. 10). And finally, also in November, the Center teamed up with the Master of International Business program to host the 7th Latin American Business and Career Symposium. The symposium featured a number of distinguished alumni, who shared their expert insights and insider perspectives on the current business environment and professional opportunities in the Latin American and Caribbean region (p. 9).

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IMMIGRATION REFORM AND BEYOND?



Some 200 activists, advocates, academics, and interested community members convened on UF's campus from October 23-25, 2014 to engage in lively discussions about immigration reform at the 5th Conference on Immigration to the US South (formerly Conference on Immigration to the Southeast).

A multidisciplinary event, the Conference drew from a wide range of perspectives in an effort to understand both short-term and long-term challenges of immigration reform. As the myriad speakers and panelists highlighted, this understanding can then be utilized to outline practical policy alternatives.

Three prominent keynote speakers helped to uncover and address these challenges. Archbishop

Thomas Wenski (top right) of Miami outlined the perspective of the Catholic Church on immigration reform and the possibilities of shifting public opinion by re-moralizing the public discourse on immigration. Dr. Mae Ngai's (bottom right) complex analysis of the history of "illegal" immigration to the U.S. provided important insights into present day immigration policy. Activist attorney Mónica Ramírez embodied the multifaceted nature of the conference as she offered an impassioned call to arms.

Friday night's reception and gran baile energized conference participants with the help of Gilberto de Paz and the Tropix. A closing discussion of the next steps revealed an invigorated audience eager to fortify links between disciplines and actors in order to collectively continue to struggle for immigrant rights and reform. Participants have already begun to organize the 6th Conference, tentatively scheduled for 2016 at the University of South Carolina.

The conference was sponsored by the UF's Center for Latin American Studies and the Program for Immigration,



Religion, and Social Change (PIRSC) and was made possible through a grant from the Ford Foundation. Other co-sponsors included: Kennesaw State University Center for Conflict Management, the Jesuit Social Research Institute (JSRI) of Loyola University, New Orleans, and the Centro de Investigaciones Sobre América del Norte of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

Contributed by Ana Porter, MALAS student



From left to right: Philip Williams (Center director and conference co-chair), Mónica Ramírez, Manuel Vásquez (conference co-chair), and Nathalia Ochoa (conference coordinator)

Come Home

Selections from the
Collection of Hector Puig

From September 2 to November 7, 2014, *Come Home*, a collection of the artwork of Gainesville resident and Puerto Rico native Hector Puig, was exhibited in three UF



Santos: folk carvings of religious images

locations: The University Gallery, Focus Gallery, and Grinter Gallery, as well as at three other Gainesville sites. A series of events accompanied the exhibit, including guest artists (*santeros*, or *santo* carvers) from Puerto Rico. In celebration of the University Gallery's 50th anniversary in 2015, *Come Home* served as a collaborative effort between UF, state and local government, and many others. Efrain Barradas (LAS/SPS) wrote two pieces for the exhibit and explained that, since two-thirds of the collection featured Latin American art, it seemed appropriate for the Center for Latin American Studies to co-sponsor the effort. The Center is involved in a diverse array of work, and this is an example of collaborating with the art community here in Gainesville. Puerto Rico has a strong *santos* tradition and *Come Home* exhibited 250 *santos* that chronicle 250 years of a 500-year-old tradition. Today, most of these *santos* remain in privately held collections. Most new *santos* are made as crafts, not as devotional objects. The Puig exhibit serves to show the richness of artistic expression in Latin America and the relevance of the *santo* tradition today.

Contributed by Caitlin Schroering
MALAS student

SAVE *the* DATE!

We are planning a Center for Latin American Studies
alumni reception in Miami

Thursday, February 26, 2015

More details to come

Email outreach@latam.ufl for more information

Envisioning a Sustainable Tropics March 25 - 27, 2015

64th Center for Latin American Studies Annual Conference
Organized by the Tropical Conservation and Development Program

This conference is designed to stimulate a dynamic interchange about alternatives and solutions to deal with the complexity of finding sustainable solutions that meet the needs of future generations, while conserving the natural resources and ecosystem services on which they depend. Featured speakers include Avecita Chicchon, Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation; Miguel Piñedo, Columbia University; Luis Suarez, Conservation International, and Claudio and Suzana Padua, Institute for Ecological Research.



For information and to register visit
the conference website
<http://www.tcd.ufl.edu/2015-tcd-las-conference>

Welcome New Center Affiliates, Staff & Visitors!



The Center Establishes the Hugh L. Popenoe Mesoamerican Research Fund

The Center is pleased to announce the establishment of the Hugh L. Popenoe Mesoamerican Research Endowment. The endowment is named after the late Hugh Popenoe, Professor Emeritus of Soils and Water Science at the University of Florida, and was made possible by a gift from Hugh's estate. The new endowment will support graduate student and faculty research on Mesoamerica - with a preference for topics related to indigenous peoples and cultures of the region.

Born in 1929 in Tela, Honduras, Hugh devoted his life to the tropical world, its people, and its agriculture. Hugh's education in Guatemala prepared him for a B.Sc. in Irrigation and his first employment in Thailand. He entered the University of Florida where he studied for his Ph.D. on the effects of shifting cultivation on basic soil properties near Lake Isabal in Guatemala. He spent the rest of his professional life teaching for the University as a professor in Soils and Water Science, Botany, Agronomy, and Geography and being involved in various international activities. After

directing the Caribbean Research Program, he was appointed Director of the Center for Tropical Agriculture in 1965 and Director of International Programs in Agriculture in 1966. He initiated and was Director of the Florida Sea Grant College from 1971 to 1978. Internationally, Hugh was a past President and Emeritus Board member of La Escuela Agrícola Panamericana (Zamorano) in Honduras. He was a trustee of the International Foundation for Science and a founding board member of the Organization for Tropical Studies.



Of all his activities and accomplishments, Hugh was most proud of his more than 300 graduate students and of his honor in 2009 as the first recipient of the Charles B. Heiser, Jr. Mentor Award which he received from the Society for Economic Botany in recognition of substantially impacting the training and professional development of students.



(From left to right) Patricia Sampaio with Angel Kwolek-Folland, Associate Provost for Academic and Faculty Affairs and Bette Loiselle, TCD Director

UF International Educator of the Year

Patricia Sampaio, TCD Program Coordinator, was selected as UF's 2014 Staff International Educator of the Year

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Universidade Federal

do Pará, Brazil

Visiting Scholar

Marcelo Bentes Diniz

Universidade Federal

do Pará, Brazil

Visiting Scholar

Visits from Ecuadorean and Polish Ambassadors



Polish Ambassador Ryszard Schnepf with Center Associate Director of Outreach Mary Risner.

Center faculty, students, and staff were honored to have two ambassadors to the U.S. visit during the fall 14 semester. Ryszard Schnepf, Ambassador of Poland to the U.S. and a Latinamericanist, honored us with a visit to the Center during Polish Week in Gainesville. Ecuadorean Ambassador to the U.S., Nathalie Cely, met with several faculty in the Center and in IFAS to explore future research collaborations, and with a group Ecuadorean students pursuing degrees at UF.



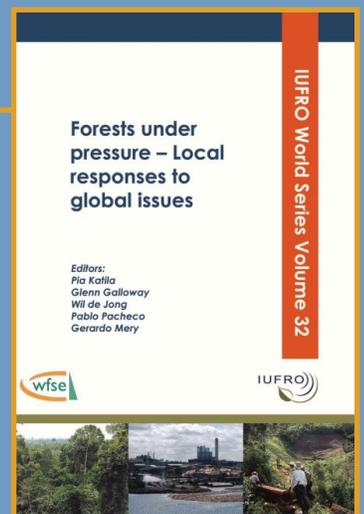
UF Ecuadorean students meet with Ambassador Nathalie Cely (center)



From left to right: Norman Portillo, Carmen Diana Deere, Ecuadorean Ambassador Nathalie Cely, Philip Williams, Susan Paulson, Consul General Eduardo Rivaneneira, Pilar Useche, Bette Loiselle, and Glenn Galloway

FACULTY NEWS

Glenn Galloway (MDP) edited and co-authored the new book *Forests under Pressure – Local Responses to Global Issues* (with P. Katila, W. de Jong, P. Pacheco, and G. Mery) produced by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) Special Project World Forests, Society and Environment (WFSE). The book involved the collaboration of 144 scientists and experts who acted as authors and over 60 peer reviewers. Three case studies were developed with the leadership and participation of the following UF faculty: M. Schmink, K. Kainer, C. Romero and F.E. Putz. Building on 27 case studies from different parts of the world, the book focuses on conditions that foster or hinder progress towards sustainable forest management (SFM) and forest-based local development. <http://www.iufro.org/science/special/wfse/>



FACULTY NEWS & PUBLICATIONS

Andrés Avellaneda (SPS, Emeritus) was appointed by Argentina's Ministry of Foreign Affairs to teach Latin American literature in its National Foreign Service Institute. He published a second edition of *El habla de la ideología. Modos de réplica literaria en la Argentina contemporánea*. Press of The Universidad de Buenos Aires (EUDEBA), 2014 and wrote a prologue to the second edition of *Ficción y política. La narrativa argentina durante el proceso militar*. Daniel Balderston et al. EUDEBA, 2014. He presented, "La literatura no nació para dar respuestas: Cortázar escribe lo político" at the Jornadas Cortázar (National Library, Buenos Aires) in August 2014.

Amy Jo Coffey (TEL) published *The Power of Cultural Factors in Spanish-Language Advertising*. *Journal of Advertising Research*, 54(3) 2014: 346-355. She was one of 15 professors selected nationally to participate in the Advertising Educational Foundation's Visiting Professor Program this summer. In July, she was the guest of two media agencies within the Starcom MediaVest Group - MediaVest in New York City and Tapestry in Chicago.

Jonathan Dain (LAS) was named a 2014 Faculty Fellow of the Florida Climate Institute. The award was for "outstanding education, extension, and service activities that contribute significantly to UF's interdisciplinary communities of science in climate". The award is for three academic years.

Carmen Diana Deere (LAS/FRE) gave the keynote at the 20th anniversary of the Rural Women's program at the Colegio de Postgraduados, Campus Montecillo, Mexico, and was a featured speaker at the XV Encuentro Internacional de Estadísticas de Género, Aguascalientes, Mexico, in fall 2014. She published *Género, estado civil y la acumulación de activos en el Ecuador: una mirada a la violencia patrimonial* (with J. Contreras and J. Twyman). *EUTOPIA. Revista de Desarrollo Económico Territorial* (Quito), No. 5, 2014: 93-119 and *¿Quién toma las decisiones agrícolas? Un estudio de las mujeres propietarias en Ecuador* (with J. Twyman). *Agricultura, Sociedad y Desarrollo*, No. 11, 2014: 425-440.

David Geggus (History) published the book, *The Haitian Revolution: A Documentary History*. Cambridge: Hackett, 2014. He gave a keynote address "Fear and Greed In The Haitian Revolution" at a conference in Boston on Fear in the Age of Revolutions in October 2014, and presented "Slavery And The Haitian Revolution" at the Cambridge World History of Slavery conference at Emory University in September 2014.

Susan D Gillespie (Anthropology) presented "The Commoditization of Jade at La Venta, Mexico" at the 79th Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, Austin, Texas in April 2014. She published (with M. Volk) *A 3d Model of Complex A, La Venta, Mexico. Digital Applications in Archaeology and Cultural Heritage*. DOI: 10.1016/j.daach.2014.06.00.

Benjamin Hebblethwaite (LLC) published *The Scapegoating of Haitian Vodou Religion: David Brooks' (2010) Claim That 'Voodoo' Is A 'Progress-Resistant' Cultural Influence*. *Journal of Black Studies* (in press). He presented the paper, "Historical Linguistic Approaches To Haitian Creole Vodou Rites, Spirit Names And Songs: The Founders' Contributions To Asogwe Vodou," at the Workshop on Linguistics in Haiti and the Dominican Republic held at UF April 2014 and he presented his project, "Cycles Of Salutation In The Rada Rite: Fundamentals and Particulars in the Greetings Of The Haitian Vodou Rada Spirits" at Duke University in October 2014.

Ieva Jusionyte (LAS/Anthropology) organized and chaired (with D.M. Goldstein) the panel "In/Visible: In/Secure" and presented "Hide-and-Seek" at the American Ethnological Society conference in Boston in April 2014. She presented "'To Live On The Edge Is Not The Same As To Live On The Margins': How Local Media Negotiate Global Security" in May 2014 at the Center for Advanced Security Theory conference in Copenhagen and also presented "Suspicious Bodies: Camouflaged Legality and Tactics of Security on the Argentina-Paraguay Border" in August 2014 at the 13th European Association of Social Anthropologists Biennial Conference in Tallinn, Estonia.

Karen Kainer (LAS/SFRC) published *Heterogeneity Inside the Polygon: NTFP Quality, Access and Management Variation Shape Benefit Distribution in an Amazonian Extractive Reserve* (with V. Zeidemann and C. Staudhammer). *Environmental Conservation*, 41(3) 2014: 242-252. *Testing a Silvicultural Recommendation: Brazil Nut Responses 10 Years After Liana Cutting* (with L. Wadt, C. Staudhammer). *Journal of Applied Ecology*, 51 2014:655-663. *Community-Based Forest Management in Quintana Roo, Mexico* (with E. Ellis, J.A. Sierra Huelsz and P. Negreros-Castillo). In Katila, P., G. Galloway, W. de Jong, P. Pacheco, and G. Mery, eds., *Forests Under Pressure: Local Responses to Global Issues*. IUFRO World Series Vol. 32, IUFRO, Vienna, 2014.

Richard Kernaghan (Anthropology) presented “Oblivious Land, Or The Ties That Hide In Camouflage Title” at the International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association in Chicago in May 2014 and “Retratos en terreno: los cruces de ríos como paisajes de posguerra en el Perú” at the III Congreso Mexicano de Antropología Social y Etnología in Mexico City in September 2014. He also published *Time as Weather. Corpse-work in the Prehistory of Political Boundaries*. In Finn Stepputat, ed. *Governing the Dead: Sovereignty and the Politics of Dead Bodies*, Manchester, UK: Manchester University Press, 2014.

Bette Loiselle (LAS/WEC) published *Reciprocal Specialization in Multi-host Malaria Parasite Communities of Birds: A Temperate – Tropical Comparison* (with M. Svensson-Coelho, V.A. Ellis, J.B. Blake and R.E. Ricklefs). *American Naturalist*, 184 2014: 145–171.

Susan Milbrath (FMNH) published *Astronomy, Landscape, and Ideological Transmissions at the Coastal Maya site of Cerros, Belize* (with J. Vadala). *Journal of Caribbean Archaeology*, 14 2014:1-21. Milbrath presented, “The Legacy of Preclassic Calendars and Solar Observations in Mesoamerica” as an invited lecturer at the Institute of Maya Studies in September 2014 and “Seasonal Cycles in the Codex Borgia Narrative and Possible Links with Maya Codices” at the UNESCO-sponsored symposium *Role of Archaeoastronomy in the Maya World in Cozumel, Mexico*, August 2014.

Jeffrey Needell (History) edited *Emergent Brazil: Key Perspectives on a New Global Power* (in press). He published *O chamado às armas: o abolicionismo radical de Nabuco em 1885-1886*. *Revista Brasileira de História*, 33:65 291-312 and a book review of Joaquim Nabuco. *My Formative Years*: Edited with an Introduction by Leslie Bethell. *Luso-Brazilian Review*, 51(1) 2014: 224-26. He presented “Brazil’s Abolitionist Movement: The Narrative, Sources, and Historiography,” in September 2014 at the Inaugural Brazilian Seminar, Department of History, Johns Hopkins University and “Brazil’s Abolitionist Movement and Its Historiography,” in February 2014 at The Brazilian History Research Workshop, University of California Los Angeles.

Charles A. Perrone (SPS) co-edited the third edition of *Crônicas Brasileiras: A Reader*. University Press of Florida, 2014 and published *O Professor Borges, eu, e estreia(s) vinculada(s)*. In *A primeira aula*. São Paulo: Itau Cultural, 2014. He presented a paper on Oswald de Andrade and ecopoetics at BRASA XII in London, a keynote address on the reception of US American poetry in Brazil at UNESP Araraquara, an invited presentation on Bossa Nova versions at the *Construing Brazil Colloquium* at the University of Iowa, and “ACT Up: Intersecting Imperatives and the Reach

of Brazilian Modernism” at UCLA in the fall of 2014. Jack Putz (Biology) published *Futures of Tropical Forests (sensu lato)* (with C. Romero). *Biotropica*, 46(4) 2014: 495-505, and *Beyond Equitable Data Sharing to Improve Tropical Forest Management* (with R. Ruslandi, P. Sist, M. Peña-Claros, and R. Thomas). *International Forestry Review*, 16 2014: 497-503.

Mary Risner (LAS) organized and chaired the panel “Meeting Industry Needs through LSP Innovation in U.S. Schools” at the Second Languages for Specific Purposes (LSP) Symposium in Boulder, CO. She was also elected as Portuguese Representative for the American Association of Spanish & Portuguese (AATSP) and will serve on the executive board for two years.

Marianne Schmink (LAS, Emerita) presented “Forest Citizenship in Acre, Brazil,” at the XXIV World Congress of the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) in Salt Lake City in October 2014. She published “Forest Citizenship in Acre, Brazil” (with A. Duchelle, J. Hoelle, F. Leite, M.V. d’Oliveira, J. Vadjunec, J. Valentim and R. Wallace) in *Forests Under Pressure - Local Responses to Global Issues*. Vienna: IUFRO World Series Volume 32, 2014: 31-47, and *Value Chain Dynamics of an Emerging Palm Fiber Handicraft Market in Maranhão, Brazil* (with A. Virapongse and S. Larson). *Forests, Trees, and Livelihoods*, DOI: 10.1080/14728028.2013.868707.

Nigel Smith (Geography, Emeritus) published *Palms and People in the Amazon*. Cham, Switzerland: Springer, 2014.

Jane Southworth (Geography) published *Fractally deforested landscape: Pattern and process in a Tri-national Amazon Frontier* (with J. Sun, Z. Huang, Q. Zhen, and S. Perz). *Applied Geography*, 52 2014: 204-211, and *Mapping Multiscale Impacts of Deforestation in the Amazonian Rainforest from 1986 to 2010* (with J. Sun and Y. Qiu). *Journal of Land Use Science*. DOI: 10.1080/1747423X.2013.858785.

Denis Valle (SFRC) published *Decomposing Biodiversity Data Using the Latent Dirichlet Allocation Model, a Probabilistic Multivariate Statistical Method* (with B. Baiser, C. Woodall and R. Chazdon). *Ecology Letters* (in press).

Margarita Vargas-Betancourt (Department of Special & Area Studies Collections, Smathers Library) presented “Finding the Silver Voice: West Indians in the Panama Canal Museum Collection of the University of Florida” at the International Conference on Caribbean Literature in Panama City, Panama and co-curated (with P. Losch) the exhibit “Voices from the Panama Canal” at George A. Smathers Library, Smathers Library Gallery. August 11-October 24, 2014.



First CLGA Symposium: UF Alum Delivers a Talk on Unlawful Governance



On September 30, 2014 the Crime, Law, and Governance in the Americas (CLGA) Working Group welcomed Dr. Guillermina Seri (Union College, NY) as the first speaker of its 2014-2015 colloquium series. Dr. Seri, who holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Florida, is the author of the book *Seguridad: Crime, Police Power, and Democracy in Argentina* (2012). Entitled “Unlawful Governance in the Democracies: Lessons from Latin America” her talk examined state lawlessness—from political policing to torture to extra-judicial killings—and addressed its broad implications beyond the region. Founded in 2013 by an interdisciplinary group of faculty and graduate students, CLGA Working Group at the Center for Latin American Studies brings together scholars from the social sciences and the humanities, providing a venue for sharing findings, discussing ideas, mentoring graduate research and promoting collaborative investigation in the study of violence, crime, law, order and justice.

Latin American Business Environment (LABE) Symposium



Networking and coffee during the symposium

In partnership with the Master of International Business program, the Center held its 7th Latin American Business & Career Symposium on November 7th. We would like to thank all of our alumni who shared their expertise and career advice with students.

Business in Brazil Summer Program



Summer 2014 Business in Brazil students and faculty from Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Paraná (PUCPR) meet with the project client in Curitiba, Brazil

Gainesville Connected - Creating Global Citizens Locally

On November 1st, 2014 over 130 educators gathered together at the Alachua County Library Headquarters to participate in the First Annual Gainesville Connected. Nine speakers took the stage to share how they are raising global awareness in their classrooms. Speakers' interests spanned the globe and their experiences are transforming their students' lives. The Alachua County Public Schools Superintendent, Dr. Owen Roberts, was

the opening keynote speaker and shared his own story of global involvement while rallying educators to help develop students' intercultural competency. Educators in attendance were thrilled to be gaining new strategies to implement in their classrooms. This conference was sponsored by Projects for Haiti, Inc. (P4H) and the Center for Latin American Studies and was co-sponsored by the Center for African Studies, the Center

for European Studies, and the UF International Center, among others. Planning has already begun for next year's conference, which will be open to educators from all over Florida.

Contributed by Priscilla Zelaya, Chief Operations Officer for Projects for Haiti

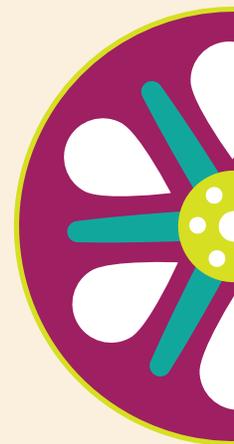


From left to right: Bertrhude Albert (P4H Co-Founder), April Griffin (School Board Member), Dr. Owen Roberts (Superintendent), Priscilla Zelaya (P4H Co-Founder), and Mary Risner (Center for Latin American Studies Associate Director of Outreach)



From left to right: "Hugo, Paco, Luis y Tres Chicas de Rosa" director Edmundo H. Rodríguez, Philip Williams, Victoria Condor-Williams, actress Sandra Teres, and screenwriter Gilberto A. Rodríguez

10th gainesville
LATINO
film festival



The 10th Gainesville Latino Film Festival wrapped up the month-long event on October 14th, 2014 reaching an audience of over 3,600 attendees.

The festival's opening film, "Hugo, Paco, Luis, & Las Tres Chicas de Rosa," was introduced by director Edmundo H. Rodríguez to an audience of over 400 people. The festival also showed the Bolivian film "El Regalo de Pachamama/ The Gift of Pachamama" and the Mexican

film "My Mexican Shivah" to over 100 attendees each. The Ecuadorian documentary, "La Churona," brought in an audience of over 130 people. The annual "Night in El Barrio" event brought more than 1,000 people to Downtown Gainesville for a night of salsa and art.

The inaugural 2014 Latina Women's League "Spreading the Light of Culture" award was given to 10 individuals and/or organizations in recognition of their

contributions to enriching Latino culture. The inaugural recipients included: the UF Center for Latin American Studies, Emiliano's Café LLC, City of Gainesville, Visit Gainesville, Carmen Cuenca Accounting Co, Neutral7 Design Group, UF Institute of Hispanic-Latino Cultures, Harn Museum of Art, Hippodrome Theater, and Alachua County Library District.

Rainforests of Latin America – Belize is Your Classroom

Teacher Summer Institute 2014



In July, the Center for Latin American Studies Outreach Program teamed up with Gainesville’s Belize Foundation for Research and Environmental Education (BFREE) to offer an eight-day Teacher Summer Institute for K-12 educators. The program, “Rainforests of Latin America – Belize is Your Classroom,” focused on integrating natural sciences and Latin American studies in order to enrich classroom curricula.

A total of five teachers participated in the action-packed

trek through Belizean jungle reserves, Mayan villages, and barrier islands. Teachers came from Illinois, Tennessee, and Florida, with backgrounds in special education, science, and speech therapy. Their ingenuity and creativity elicited roundtable discussion at the BFREE facility where conservation projects with Hickatee turtles and Harpy eagles are in their infancies. A luncheon with local Belizean teachers afforded the opportunity for teachers of both nationalities to articulate their unique challenges and possible solutions.

Upon return to the United States, participants of the institute implemented various communication and teaching tools. Their creative ideas for experience-sharing include a digital photoshare, a trip blog, and a school bulletin board. Participant Kelly Mahan-Etcheverry reflected a general sentiment amongst the teachers that they “will make sure to incorporate the cultural and economic impacts to environmental preservation” in their lessons. Follow-up meetings in Gainesville and through virtual meeting spaces facilitate continued collaboration amongst teachers and their classrooms, as well as with agencies in Belize.

The Center has hosted similar summer institutes for teachers in years past, thanks due in large part to Title VI NRC funding from the U.S. Department of Education. The 2014 institute was the first in partnership with BFREE and the first in Central America.

Contributed by Mandy Monroe, MALAS student



Summer '14 and Fall '14 Graduations

Undergraduate LAS Minors & Certificates

Brenda Brito (Telecommunications)
Tyler Egan (Botany)
Ava Funk (Spanish)
Madison Hayes (Anthropology)
Caitlin Anne Logrono (History)
Perla Pimentel (History & International Studies)
Michael Tarr (International Studies)
Maria Uribe (Public Relations)
Tatiana Yate (Political Science)

Graduate LAS Certificates

Carmen Laguer-Díaz, PhD (Anthropology)
Eleanor Laughlin, PhD (Art History)

Joint JD/MDP Degree

Gentry Mander
Specialization: TCD & Environmental and Land Use Law
Advisor: Marianne Schmink (LAS)
Capstone Field Practicum: Cacao Value Chain Analysis in Belize

FLAS Fellowships

Spring 2015 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Recipients

The following students received U.S. Department of Education Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships from the Center for Latin American Studies:

Portuguese

Mirna Amaya (PhD) Health
Heather Bergseth (PhD) Music

James Christ (MDP)
Natalie Cooper (PhD) FRC
Maury Ivey (MALAS)
Crisne Lebron (MALAS)
Macarena Moraga (MALAS)
David Rinehart (BA) Spanish
Lilien Socorro (BA) Biochemistry
Leslie Todd (PhD) Art History
Michael Waylen (MALAS)
Brain Weaver (BA) Physics

Haitian Creole

Amanda DiLorenzo (MA) Counselor Education
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2014 Marianne Schmink Outstanding Dissertation Award

Vanessa Mintzer (PhD) SNRE

Co-Advisors: Tom Frazer (SNRE) and Kai Lorenzen (Fisheries & Aquatic Sciences)
Dissertation Title: An Evaluation of the Conservation of Amazon River Dolphins (*Inia geoffrensis*) in a Brazilian Protected Area

2014 Chuck Wood Outstanding MALAS Thesis Award

Adam Reid

Advisor: Lillian Guerra (History)
Thesis Title: Borders and Bridges: Negotiating Ethnic and National Identities in the Argentine Anarchist Movement, 1890-1930

New MALAS Students

Front, from left: Macarena Moraga, Diana Moreno, Brigitte Pfluger, Michael Waylen

Back, from left: Jonathan Mateer, Gage Ziehm, Crisne Lebron, Chloe Anderson, Richard Denis



ALUMNI Updates

Lindsay (Barnes) Arrieta (MALAS 2012) lives in Alexandria, VA. After completing her MALAS degree, she completed her first year of law school at the Florida State University College of Law. She has since transferred to The George Washington University Law School and expects to complete her J.D. in May 2015. Since graduating with her MALAS degree, she has completed internships with both the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Northern District of Florida and the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission in Washington, D.C.

Roan Balas McNab (MALAS 1999) serves as the Guatemala Country Director for the Wildlife Conservation Society.

Andrea Cabral Leal Ferreira (MALAS 2009) is a Ph.D. candidate in History at the University of Florida working with Dr. Jeffrey Needell. She resides in Gainesville, FL.

Laura Fonesca (MALAS 2009) works at Indiana University as the Associate Director in Career Services, School of Global and International Studies.

Jessica Franey (MALAS 2013) starts the Physician Assistant Studies Program at the University of Kentucky in January 2015. She will work towards a Master of Science degree with a Global Health Certificate.

Victoria Gómez de la Torre (MALAS 2004) works with Alachua Multi-County Migrant Education Program as the Academic Program Coordinator/Teacher Specialist in Alachua, FL.

Aimee Greene (MALAS 2004) is the Operations Manager and coach for CrossFit Gainesville in Gainesville, FL.

Enrique Matta III (LAS Certificate 1970) spent two years in Panama while in the military following his UF years. He has since traveled extensively in Central and South America and is currently President of Total Convenience Marketing. Matta resides in Longwood, Florida.

Adam Reid (MALAS 2014) currently works as a Behavioral Instructor at SD Associates in Erving, MA. He is also involved with a labor rights organization helping immigrant workers.

Gary Schweitzer (MALAS 1974) is a partner at Ernst & Young in Tampa, Florida.

Mariana Varese (MALAS 1999) serves as Wildlife Conservation Society's Director for Amazonia and lives in Lima, Peru.

For Your Information: UF ACRONYMS

CAS Center for African Studies
CIBER Center for International Business Education & Research
CWSGR Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research
FBLI Florida-Brazil Linkage Institute
FMNH Florida Museum of Natural History
FRE Food and Resource Economics
LABE Latin American Business Environment
LAC Latin American Collection (UF Libraries)
LAS Latin American Studies
LLC Languages, Literatures, and Cultures

MIB MA of International Business
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
SNRE School of Natural Resources and Environment
SPS Spanish & Portuguese Studies
TCD Tropical Conservation and Development
WEC Wildlife Ecology and Conservation



ALUMNI CAREER PROFILE:

Claudio (MALAS 1987) & Suzana Padua (MALAS 1991)

Coming from Minas Gerais and Rio de Janeiro, Claudio and Suzana Padua gave up their lives in business and design, respectively, for a life of adventure as conservationists. In the late 1980s, they moved with their three children to the Pontal do Paranapanema in western São Paulo State. What began as a project to study the black lion tamarin developed into the NGO Instituto de Pesquisas Ecológicas (IPE), which today comprises more than 70 professionals working in 45 projects throughout Brazil. Claudio focuses on the environmental and technical part of the projects, while Suzana dedicates her time to environmental education and the socioeconomic integration of communities where IPE works. Claudio has a MALAS degree and a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Florida. Suzana holds a Ph.D. in Sustainable Development from the University of Brasilia and a Master's Degree in Environmental Education from the University of Florida.

How did your MALAS degree prepare you for the work that you are doing now?

Suzana: I think the whole experience of UF, MALAS, and TCD, is important because they address the complexity of our world today, and introduced us to interdisciplinary perspectives. That is important with our work now - mixing broad social and environmental views in our changing world today.

Claudio: The networks of students I met while I was there has made a difference as well as the fantastic interdisciplinary combination that I haven't seen in many places.

As co-founders of the non-profit IPE, what has been your biggest accomplishment?

S: The empowerment of young people - seeing young professionals changing their lives and the world they live in is gratifying. The challenges are immense and discouraging, which is why we need to train professionals who can make the changes that may lead to a better world.

C: We are creating knowledge and research results that are changing policies. It is a way to scale up—give answers to decision makers to implement solutions.

What would you like to share about your time either at UF or your current work and research?

S: We thought that moving into the “real world” was going to be easier,

and helping people understand about conservation and the importance of nature is not always an easy task. But, MALAS prepared us for many of the challenges we faced. We feel that the UF programs are like a sun and we a ray of its light in Brazil!

C: MALAS was a turning point in my life and the life of many people. We all left and went to other places but the base MALAS gave us was fantastic, preparing us to face challenges. Besides, we built a network of amazing resources that have been valuable overtime.

You are both coming to Gainesville in March for the spring conference. Can you speak briefly about what you will be doing?

S: I think it is a renewal, touching base with people and sharing our experiences after many years of working in the field and teaching in Brazil.

C: Our program has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TCD and we want to strengthen and make it happen. We have to start organizing broader, global graduate programs and I believe our institutions are in tune.

S: The MOU was signed years ago with the idea that students could come to Brazil and our students come to UF. We want to strengthen this.

C: And we are just excited to be in Gainesville.

S: Gainesville is our second home!

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