



La Brigada Muralista" Puente Piedra, Peru Trip Summer 2015

Letter from the Director



Queridxs colegas, amigxs, mashicuna,

We are at the end of another exciting, and exhausting, fall quarter! I am sure that you are all looking forward to a little time away from grades, classes, and deadlines. There is, of course, much to do before the break. One of those things is to stop and take stock of just how much we have done together as a LACS community. As you will see in this and past newsletters, we are an active community committed to building bridges, and certainly not walls. Those bridges have been connecting students, staff and faculty across campus; they have also connect the university with the broader community in Seattle and across the Americas.

You can see below some of these new connections, but I wanted to make special mention of the terrific collaboration organized by Assistant Director Mónica Rojas between LACS and the Movimiento Afrolatino Seattle (MÁS). As many of you now, this produced a vibrant series of events that reminds us all that we learn with our bodies as much, not just our brains. Working with masterful

teachers, musicians, and artists, and screening an incredible set of films, this series revealed just how much peoples of the African diaspora have shaped our world. The series also underlined important connections between Afro-Latino and Indigenous peoples, who together are often thought of as the roots, las raíces, of the Americas. To quote a Mayan friend, though, it is more accurate to say that they are the roots, branches, and fruit of our continent, central to our histories and futures.

All this brings me to an important announcement for our program. This year marks a new tradition in LACS: we will organize most of our programming around a central theme. With our MAS-LACS collaboration, the 2015-16 theme is on the vitality of Afro-Latin and Indigenous Peoples. For 2016-17, we will organize around the challenges of displacement and the possibilities for re-building community. If you have an idea for an event, speaker or film around that theme, please let us know.

We are always looking for new ways to include your interests and passions. So please drop us a line, follow us on social media, or better yet, come by and say hello. Hope to see you all at our upcoming LACS-African Studies Winter celebration on Dec. 10, 3:30-5:30pm in Smith Room, Suzzallo Library

(Please, RSVP at lasuw@uw.edu)!!!

Abrazos,

José Antonio Lucero

LACS Chair

LACS NEWSLETTER Autumn 2015

¡Feliz Navidad! ASP & LACS HOLIDAY PARTY!

Join us for an opportunity to meet with students, faculty, staff and friends of the African Studies and the Latin American and Caribbean Studies programs

ALL WELCOME
Thursday December 10th
3:30-5:30pm
Smith Room (Suzzallo
Library room 324)

RSVP to lasuw@uw.edu

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Review of 2015 Fall Events

10/05/15: Conference: Access to Information as a Human Right-

The UW Center for Human Rights partnered with organizations and communities struggling for truth and accountability in post-war El Salvador and hosted a conference that explored the right to access information as a frontline of transnational campaigns for justice. After the conference the UW CHR announced a lawsuit against the CIA, seeking information about human rights violations in El Salvador. The conversation ended with a keynote address by renowned Spanish Jurist Baltasar Garzón, addressing access to information as a tool in securing truth, justice and reparations for victims of crimes against humanity. The panels included conversations with international experts in human rights, access to information, and international law: and with Salvadoran human rights defenders and survivors of grave human rights violations committed during the Salvadoran civil war. *Sponsored by: the Puffin Foundation, the Walter Chapin Simpson Center for the Humanities and the UW School of Law. Co-sponsored by: the William H. Gates Public Service Law Program; the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies; UW Libraries; the Law, Societies, & Justice Program; Latin American and Caribbean Studies; and the Information School.*



11/03/15: Maíz y el país: Political Violence in Mexico and Corn's Lessons for Justice- Luz Rivera, Mexican activist, organizer with the Consejo Nacional Urbano y Campesino (CNUC) and the Mexico Solidarity Network (MSN) spoke about State-sponsored political violence in Mexico and how corn is a symbol for autonomy and the dignified struggle for a better world. *Sponsored by the Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Comparative History of Ideas and the Center for Human Right*

Luz Rivera

11/13/15: The Lessons of Nueva Trinidad: Resisting Violence and Mining in El Salvador- Sandra Carolina Navarrete Ayala and Jose Faustino Alas two community members of Nueva Trinidad, a municipality of approximately 2,000 people in the state of Chalatenango in the northeast of El Salvador visited UW and spoke of environmental exploitation and gang violence issues in El Salvador, as well as successes due to their current community organization and civic participation. *Sponsored by The Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, the Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Comparative History of Ideas, the Center for Human Rights, and the Center for Global Studies*



11/16/15: Indigenous Environmental Activism in Central America: A conversation with Award-Winning Activists Miriam Miranda and Berta Caceres- Berta Caceres (left), winner of the 2015 Goldman Prize and general coordinator of the Consejo Civil de Organizaciones Populares e Indígenas de Honduras shared how she had rallied the indigenous Lenca people and waged a grassroots campaign that successfully pressured the world's largest dam builder to pull out of the Agua Zarca Dam. Miriam Miranda (right), Executive director of Organización Fraternal Negra Hondureña and winner of the 2015 Food Sovereignty Prize discussed a landmark legal case that brought Afro-Indigenous Garifuna communities to defend their natural resources and land rights against corporate-led development projects. *Sponsored by the Latin American and Caribbean Studies, the Center for Human Rights, the Channel Foundation and the Fund for Global Human Rights.*

October 11th – November 21st: MAS-LACS Collaboration -

In accordance to the United Nations' initiative to declare 2015 – 2024 "The International Decade for People of African Descent," MÁS (Movimiento Afrolatino Seattle) launched a month-long Afro Latino Arts Education Season this fall (October 11th – November 21st). Mónica Rojas-Stewart, Assistant Director of both the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program (LACS) and the African Studies Program (ASP), as well as founder and director of MÁS worked closely with Dr. Ileana Rodriguez-Silva (Assoc. Professor of History and LACS affiliated faculty) to bring this initiative to UW Campus to facilitate multiple events for the UW academic community and beyond. The on-campus events comprised of a lecture on Bachata by guest scholar Adam Taub, a film series which included the premier of "From Bottom Up" a film by Prof. Jonathan Warren and Ph.C in WGSS Angelica Macklin; a roundtable discussion/performance demonstration about "Diaspora, Memory, and Movement" by a group of choreographers, dancers, and musicians from Peru, Brazil, Cuba, and Benin; and a final artistic performance at the Ethnic Cultural Theater. The overall event brought together 13 teaching artists from 12 different Latin American and Caribbean countries, hundreds of community members and various UW students from various programs who attended the lectures, the film series and participated in or served as volunteers at the various music and dance community workshops at Casa Latina (Central District).



Sponsored by: The City of Seattle Department of Neighborhoods, 4Culture, and various programs and divisions from the University of Washington such as the Latin American & Caribbean Studies, the African Studies, Comparative History of Ideas, the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Studies, Office of the Provost, Department of History, The Diversity Minor Program, Department of Communications, Office of Minority Affairs, The Simpson Center, American Ethnic Studies, and The Center for Experiential Learning and Diversity.

LACS' DANGEROUS SUBJECTS

Dangerous Subjects is a LACS sponsored friendly and encouraging gatherings in which to discuss works-in-progress written by LACS affiliate faculty and graduate students. Papers are pre-circulated and each session consists of a very brief introduction by the author, commentary by one or two discussants, then a lively discussion about the work. And have we mentioned the catered pupusas?

Featured past Dangerous Subjects events:

- 11/21/14** - Vanessa Freije, "Corrupt Cops and Victimized Criminals: The Politics of Denuncia Journalism in Mexico City, 1980-1985."
- 01/9/2015** - Megan Ybarra, "Drug Wars and Narco Narratives in Guatemala's Maya Forest"
- 04/3/15** - Rebecca Herman, "Labor, Crime, Sex and Nation at US Military Bases in L.A."
- 04/29/15** - Dennis Rodgers, "De-Socialization from Violence in Contemporary Nicaragua"
- 10/16/15** - Maya Smith, "Constructing Identity through Multilingual Practices: NYC and the Senegalese Cultural Imaginary"
- 11/06/15** - Stephen Sadlier, "Movements on the Streets and in Schools: Pedagogy, Conflict and Criticality in Oaxaca, Mexico"

LACS Vibrant Graduate Student Group!



There is a group of graduate students from programs all over campus but with one common interest: Latin America and the Caribbean. They meet regularly to share work in progress, readings, research interests, lively conversations or simply... a great time.

From left to right and around the table: Samantha Zwicker (School of Environmental and Forest Sciences), Isabel Carrera Zamanillo (School of Environmental and Forest Sciences), Isaac Fones (Jackson School of International Studies), Emily Willard (Jackson School of International Studies and the Center for Human Rights), Monica Farias (Department of Geography), Jorge Bayona (Department of History), Edgar Sandoval (Department of Geography), Yolanda Valencia (Department of Geography), Dustin Welch (Jackson School of International Studies), Fernando Turin (Jackson School of International Studies)

LACS Graphic Design Intern: Leo Carmona



Leo Carmona is a senior at the University of Washington studying Psychology and Latin American & Caribbean Studies. He was born and raised in Rancho Viejo, Oaxaca, Mexico. His passion is to learn about indigenous communities in hopes to continue his education and apply social psychology research to find solutions to social, economic, and health issues in indigenous communities. Through his studies and involvement in MEChA as an activist, he hopes to become a better advocate for his community by addressing lack of access and disparities to civic, social and human rights. He is also a self taught ARTivist using photography, design and painting as an outlet to showcase activism, diversity and culture in the Seattle Area and beyond. Leo shared his talents with The Latin American and Caribbean Studies program last year through the creation of new marketing and outreach materials for the program. ¡Gracias Leo!

Featured Graduate Student: María Isabel Carrera Zamanillo



"I am a Mexican student with a professional background in biology; however, my experience in Chiapas, working with indigenous communities in threat of eviction due to conservation purposes helped me develop a broader interest in the factors that affect the science-general society interactions and their effects on natural resources management. This new understanding made me adopt a more interdisciplinary approach. In 2014 I started a doctoral program in Environmental Studies at the School of Environmental and Forest Sciences at UW under the advisory of Dr. Kristiina Vogt. I intent to develop a project under the umbrella of community-based natural resource management, using community gardens to explore cultural assets in Latino communities in the state of Washington."

A BRIEF LOOK AT 2014-2015

Visual Ecologies and Solidarities

05/18-22/15 Linked to two CHID Study Abroad programs, VES was a week-long set of linked lectures, conversations, and panels on the power of art in the Americas and brought artists and activists from Guatemala, Martinique and Peru to the University of Washington in an effort to emphasize the principles of reciprocity, critical engagement, and collaborative scholarship that guide CHID International.

The Chico Mendes Project

02/10/15 - Jorge Armando Lopez Pocol a Guatemalan community activist and founder of the Chico Mendes Reforestation Project visited UW to speak about the environmental crisis in Central America created by civil war, international free trade agreements and continued social repression.

Borders and Migration Featured Events



*10/22/14
Karla Lara,
"Human
Rights in
Central America: Conversations & Music

from Honduran Artist + Feminist in Resistance Karla Lara"

10/23/14 Dana Frank, "Why are the Borders kids Fleeing? Human Rights and U.S. Policy in Honduras and Central America"

4/14/15 Todd Miller, "Borderland Patrol Nation: Dispatches from the Front Lines of Homeland Security

* We regret to inform that Dany Morales, the guitarist who joined Karla Lara on her "Singing the Happy Rebellion US Tour" passed away in a tragic accident only a month after their UW concert. Rest in Peace.

The Peru Trip



LACS Chair Tony Lucero and CHID Director Maria Elena Garcia led a Peru trip with UW students in summer 2015. While in Peru they collaborated with visual artists Jorge Miyagui and Mauricio Delgado in a project called "La Brigada Muralista" in Puente Piedra (in the outskirts of Lima) with kids and youth from the region.

UW, Al Norte: Migration from and through Oaxaca



A group of UW students had the opportunity to visit Oaxaca Mexico through the program "Al Norte: Migration from and through Oaxaca" directed by Professor Maria Gillman, from the Spanish and Portuguese department, accompanied by Ph.D. student Josue Estrada and the UW librarian for the Romance Languages & Literatures Deb Raftus. This experience gave the opportunity for many students to reunite with family members that they hadn't seen for some time. It was a chance for growth and understanding of the Mexican and indigenous cultures that still remain in the lands and for many others, it was the first time they got to see the Mexico that their family always told stories about before they had immigrated into the United States.

Most importantly the students were able to learn extensively about migration from Central American countries and Mexico

Extraction, Contention, Development: A Symposium on Scholarship and Politics

April 30 2015



Bolivian Activists Waldo Mina Quiroga, Carlos Cuasace, and Bienvenido Zacu with LACS Chair Tony Lucero at Extraction, Contention, Development: A Symposium on Scholarship and Politics

Ben Gardner (African Studies), Sunila Kale (South Asia Studies) & Tony Lucero (Latin American and Caribbean Studies) brought together scholars and activists working on the topics of natural resource extraction, contentious politics, and development in Africa, Latin America, and South Asia. Visiting scholars included Derrick Hindery (University of Oregon), Michael Levien (Johns Hopkins University), Banikanta Mishra (Xavier Institute of Management, India) joined by three Bolivian activists who together shared recently published work or work-in-progress. Bolivian Activists Waldo Mina Quiroga, Carlos Cuasace, and Bienvenido Zacu with LACS Chair Tony Lucero at Extraction, Contention, Development: A Symposium on Scholarship and Politics.

Donor Recognition

The Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program wants to recognize a dear friend and long-time supporter, Dr. Vincent Phillips, MD and Internal Medicine doctor in Tacoma, WA at Mso Washington. Dr. Phillips' generous support to LACS helped establish this year the "Dr. Clyde Snow Fund for Latin American and Caribbean Studies". ¡Gracias Doctor Phillips!



Our logo - Recently, LACS faculty and staff discussed adopting a new logo to represent our program. After much discussion and friendly, debate LACS chose the turtle. Like the peoples of the Americas, the amphibious turtle lives in and navigates water and land. The turtle is also a creature on the move, representing migration, trans-nationality, transculturation and adaptation. The LACS turtle features the colors of Andean Tawantinsuyo and is inspired by Native iconography of the Shipibo, Nahua, Rapa Nui peoples.

Designer: Caridad Iraola



Congratulations to Cameron Brandy,

Recipient of the 2015 Student Paper Award for his essay:

"The Epidemiological Construction of Obesity among Mexican Populations in Mexico and the United States: A Transnational Literature Review"

Faculty Highlights



Megan Ybarra is one of our new faculty members that joined our department this past Fall. Megan completed her PhD in Environmental science, Policy & Management at UC Berkeley. To date, her research has focus on the articulation of conversation, race, and remilitarization in Guatemala's

Maya Forest. She is also interested in migration, borders and citizenship in the Américas.



Eduardo Viana da Silva received his Ph.D. in Luso-

Brazilian Literature with an emphasis in Applied Linguistics from University of California, Santa Barbara. He holds an interdisciplinary degree in teaching "Certificate in College and University Teaching" from UCSB, a TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) graduate certificate from Brigham Young University and a M.A. in Luso-Brazilian literature, also from BYU.

Before coming to University of Washington, Eduardo has taught language courses, Luso-Brazilian literature, and topics on Brazilian culture at UCSB, BYU, University of Utah, and the Salt Lake Community College. He also taught English as a Second Language in a private school in Vancouver, Canada, between 2007 and 2010. His main areas of interest are Luso-Brazilian literature and culture, applied linguistics and curriculum development with a focus on culture and task-based language teaching (TBLT).



Vanessa Freije is a PhD candidate in the Department of History at Duke University. She received her BA in History from UC San Diego, where she graduated Phi Beta Kappa. Her dissertation focuses on the political and intellectual history of the rise of muckraking journalism in Mexico City. Her work analyzes both the ways in which

new journalistic styles shaped debates about Mexican political change and the role that leaks and scandals played in fomenting dissent within the ruling Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI).

Faculty and Staff Publications and Awards:

Maria Elena Garcia

2015. "Love, Death, Food, and Other Ghost Stories: Hauntings of Intimacy and Violence in Contemporary Peru." In *Economies of Death: Economic Logics of Killable Life and Grievable Death*, edited by Kathryn Gillespie and Patricia Lopez. New York: Routledge.

2014. "Culinary Fusion and Colonialism: A Critical Look at the Peruvian Food Boom." *ReVista: Harvard Review of Latin America*, Fall 2014. (A version of this article also appears in Spanish as "Fusión Culinaria y Colonialismo: Una Mirada Crítica al Boom de la Cocina Peruana": <http://revista.drclas.harvard.edu/book/fusión-culinaria-y-colonialismo>)

Anthony Geist

2015. Translator and editor: Luis Hernández: *The School of Solitude*: Collected Poems Evanston, IL: Swan Isle Press.

Vanessa de Veritch

2015. "Convergent Realities: Magical Visions of Social Truths and Humanity's Flaws in Miguel Méndez's *The Dream of Santa María de las Piedras*." *Transmodernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World* 5.2: 93-105.

2015. "La amenaza de la manipulación de la memoria: Identidad, memoria y resistencia en *Dreaming in Cuban* y *The Agüero Sisters* de Cristina García." *Label Me Latina/o*. 5.1: 1-12.

Megan Carney

2015. *The Unending Hunger: Tracing Women and Food Insecurity Across Borders*. Berkeley & Los Angeles: University of California Press.

2015. With E. Yates-Doerr, "De-medicalizing Health: Reflections on the Kitchen as a Site of Care." *Medical Anthropology*.

2015 With L.A. Minkoff-Zern. "Latino Im/migrants, Dietary Health, and Social Exclusion: A Critical Examination of Nutrition Interventions in California." *Food, Culture, and Society* 18(3):463-480.

2015 "Eating and Feeding at the Margins of the State: Barriers to Healthcare for Undocumented Migrant Women and the 'Clinical' Aspects of Food Assistance." *Medical Anthropology Quarterly* 29(2):196-215.

Monica Rojas-Sewart

2015 Rojas, Monica "Resignified Devils: Imagining Peruvian Blackness" in *Festive Devils of the Americas* edited by Milla Cozart Riggio, Angela Marino, Paolo Vignolo. Seagull Books.

Ricardo Gomez

2015. Gomez, Ricardo & Vannini, Sara: *Fotohistorias: Participatory Photography and the Experience of Migration*. CreateSpace.

José Antonio Lucero

2015. "Alterity and Security: Cultural and Survival Beyond the 'Indian Problem,'" David R. Mares and Arie M. Kacowicz, *Routledge Handbook of Latin American Security Studies*, Routledge. 2015.

Maya Smith

2015. "Multilingual Practices of Senegalese Immigrants in Rome: Construction of Identities and Negotiation of Boundaries" (*Italian Culture*, 33:2, 126-146)

2015. "Who is a legitimate French speaker? The Senegalese in Paris and the crossing of linguistic and social borders" (*French Cultural Studies*, 26:3, 317-329)

Cynthia Steele

2015. "A la escucha voy: Tradición oral y transculturalismo en la novela *El regreso* (2013) de Jesús Morales Bermúdez." *Revista Mexicana de Literatura Contemporánea*. 65 (octubre-diciembre).

2016. English Translation of "Victorio Ferri Tells a Story" by Sergio Pitol Demeneghi. *Gulf Coast: A Journal of Literature and Fine Arts* 28.1 (Winter/Spring): 127-39.

Awards:

Maria Elena Garcia

Collaboration Studio Grant (with Louisa Mackenzie), "Intersectional Animal Studies: Thinking Humans and Animals Together," Simpson Center for the Humanities, University of Washington

Co-PI on Jackson School Grant in Area and International Studies, Unmapping Global Studies: Oceania, Global Indigeneities, and the Transformation of Area Studies

Jose Antonio Lucero

Society of Scholars Fellowship, Simpson Center Co-Principal Investigator, UW Area Studies and Simpson Center Grants for project "Unmapping Global Studies: Oceania, Global Indigeneity, and the Transformation of Area Studies"

Portuguese Department:

2015-16 UW COIL (Collaborative Online International Learning) Fellowship Award to design and implement an international collaboration course, "Mapping Luso-Brazilian Cultures".

Get Involved!

- There are many ways that you can get involved with LACS. Become a LACS Superhero today and give by visiting <http://giving.uw.edu/lacs>. You can also contribute using checks. Please make checks payable to "University of Washington." Send donations or inquiries to the address below.
- Occasionally, there are volunteer and internship opportunities available to UW students and recent graduates. Visit our website for more details.

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