



Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies
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CLACS: 50 years...and counting!

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. This puts us in a relatively small and prestigious group of institutions—including UC-Berkeley, UCLA, University of Florida, Indiana University, University of Kansas, University of Pittsburgh, University of Texas-Austin, and Tulane University—that have maintained Latin American Studies centers since the 1960s.

We are very proud of our half century of commitment to promoting understanding of and engagement with Latin America and the Caribbean. At the same time, we recognize that such milestones are only reached with the contributions of and support of many people. We therefore would like to encourage you to join us as we highlight the Center's accomplishments, its contributions to the University of Illinois and to the field, and our plans for the future.

We would like to thank all of our co-sponsors:

Dorothea S. and Norman E. Whitten Fund

John Means

Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies

Department of Anthropology

Department of History

Department of Spanish, Italian & Portuguese

Mauricio Tenorio is Professor of History and director for the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Chicago. His research focuses on modern cultural history, urban history and international history. His geographical areas of interest are Latin America, Spain, the United States, and Mexico. His latest publications are *Culturas y memoria*, Mexico City, Tusquets, 2012 and "I Speak of the City": *Mexico City, 1880-1930*, Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 2012.

Alberto Vargas is the Associate Director of the Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies (LACIS) program at the University of Wisconsin - Madison since 2005. Alberto holds a Bachelor's degree in general agriculture from the Monterrey Technological Institute in Mexico and an M.S. from Texas A&M University. His Ph.D. is in both Forestry and Land Resources from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Alberto has conducted research and implemented projects in agriculture, forestry, energy and coastal resource management in Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States. In the past 20 years, Alberto's consulting has engaged him in work in Central America, the Caribbean, and Mexico working for the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Federal Environmental Attorney's Office of the Mexican Government, the International Institute for Environment and Development, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Wildlife Fund -U.S., the Overseas Development Authority, the National Wildlife Federation, the Integral Institute, and the UW-Madison Land Tenure Center.

Norman E. Whitten, Jr. joined the faculty at the University of Illinois in 1970 after stints at Tulane University, Washington University-St. Louis and UCLA. Here he is the past head of the Department of Anthropology, the past director of CLACS (2000-2003), past chair of the Fellowship Board and Past Chair of the LAS Executive Committee. A prolific ethnographer of especially Ecuadorian peoples, he is the author of three recent books: *Millennial Ecuador* (edited, 2003), *Puyo Runa*, and *Histories of the Present* (2008 and 2011), both joint with his late wife, Dorothea Scott Whitten). The Spurlock Museum's South American Gallery was rededicated in 2011 to reflect the multiple contributions of the Whittens.

Joseph Love is professor emeritus of History at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He formerly directed the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies and he served for many years as Interim Director and Director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (1976-77; 1984-85; 1988-89; 1993-94; 1995-99). His research interests include Brazilian history and the history of economic ideas in Latin America. He has published extensively and his latest book is *The Revolt of the Whip*. Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2012.

Enrique Mayer is Professor Emeritus of Anthropology from Yale University. In 1982 he joined the faculty of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a joint appointment in the Department of Anthropology and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies where he served as director of CLACS between 1985-88. Mayer specializes in Andean agricultural systems and Latin American peasantries. He is the author of *He is the author of The Articulated Peasant: Household Economies in the Andes*, *Land Use in the Andes: Ecology and Agriculture in the Mantaro Valley of Peru*, *Ugly Stories of the Peruvian Agrarian Reform* and a coeditor of *Andean Kinship and Marriage*.

Andrew Orta is the head of the Department of Anthropology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and was director of CLACS between 2009-2011. His research focuses in Aymara communities in Bolivia. His most recent research analyzes the impact of processes of neoliberal political decentralization on the reproduction of local community institutions and identities. Another recent project examines the internationalization of business curricula in the United States through ethnographic research with MBA students and faculty. His latest publication is *Catechizing Culture: Missionaries, Aymara and the "New Evangelization"*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2004.

Diego Quiroga received his Ph.D. in Anthropology at UIUC in 1994 and immediately began teaching full-time at the Universidad San Francisco de Quito. His research focuses on human ecology, political ecology, medical anthropology in the Amazon, Galapagos Islands and the Andean region. After completing his studies he became the Dean of Humanities and Social Science from 1994-1996; Dean of Academic Affairs in 1996 and Dean of the Graduate School in 1999. Since 2002 he is the Co-Director of the Galapagos Academic Institute for the Arts and Sciences and since 2004 he serves as the Vice President Student and External Affairs and Dean of the General College of the University. Quiroga's latest publication is *Crafting nature: The Galapagos and the making and unmaking of a "natural laboratory"* *Journal of Political Ecology: Case Studies in History and Society*, Volume 16 (2009)

8:30-9 Breakfast and Registration

9-10:45 PANEL—CLACS, *Our First Half-Century: Reflections from Former Directors of the Center*

Chair, **Dara E. Goldman**, CLACS

Joseph Love, History, UIUC

Enrique Mayer, Anthropology, Yale University

Norman Whitten, Anthropology/Spurlock Museum, UIUC

Nils Jacobson, History, UIUC

Andrew Orta, Anthropology, UIUC

Mary Arends-Kuening, Lemann Institute/Agriculture and Consumer Economics, UIUC

11-12 PLENARY SESSION

Introduction by **Norman Whitten**, Anthropology/Spurlock Museum, UIUC

"From Latin America to Latin American Studies & Back Again"

Diego Quiroga, Vice President for Research, Universidad San Francisco de Quito

12-1:30 LUNCH

"Our Not-so-Humble Beginnings"

Tribute to John Thompson, founding member of CLACS, Department of Geography

Remarks by **Carl Deal**

1:45-3:15 PANEL

“*How CLACS Changed my Professional Life*”: Graduate Student Perspectives on the Role and Impact of the Center

Chair: **Angelina Cotler**, CLACS

Antonio Sotomayor, Assistant Professor & Latin American Studies Librarian, International and Area Studies Library, UIUC

Pilar Eiguez, Post-Doc, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, UIUC

Carolina Sternberg, Assistant Prof Latino/Latin American Studies, De Paul University

Isabel Scarborough, Assistant Professor, Anthropology, Parkland College

3:30-5 PM ROUNDTABLE

The Future of Latin American Studies: Reflections from Current Center Directors

Dara Goldman, Spanish, Italian, & Portuguese/Latin American and Caribbean Studies, UIUC

Shane Green, Anthropology/Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Indiana University

Mauricio Tenorio, History/Latin American Studies, University of Chicago

Alberto Vargas, Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Participants:

Mary Arends-Kuenning is the Director of the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies and Associate Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics at the University of Illinois. She is an economic demographer who focuses on household decisions. Her research areas include children's schooling and child labor, household consumption, and international migration. She began doing research on Brazil in 1992 as part of her dissertation at the University of Michigan. Her work on Brazil has been published in *World Development*, *Journal of Family and Economic Issues*, and as book chapters.

Dara Goldman is Associate Professor in the department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She served as Interim Director of CLACS in 2006-2007 and since 2011 is the current director of the Center. Goldman specializes in contemporary Caribbean and Latin American literatures and cultures, gender studies and cultural studies. She is the author of *Out of Bounds: Islands and the Demarcation of Identity in the Hispanic Caribbean* Bucknell Univ. Press, 2008 and is currently completing a manuscript on Latina lesbian narratives. She has also published numerous articles on how Caribbean identities are represented in contemporary literature and film.

Shane Greene is Director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and Associate Professor of Anthropology at Indiana University, Bloomington. His work is at the intersection of social movements, urban subcultures, race and the politics of culture broadly speaking. Stanford published his first book, *Customizing Indigeneity*, in 2009. He is now working on a second about the history of punk and political violence in Lima titled *Punk or Dead in Peru: Seven Interpretive Essays on Underground Reality*.

Nils Jacobsen is Associate Professor of History at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He was director of CLACS between 2003-2006 and 2007-2009. His area of research is Peru, 1770-1930 and political culture in the Andes. His last publication is *Political Cultures in the Andes, 1750-1950*. Duke University Press, 2005 and recently his book *Ilusiones de la Transición: El Altiplano Peruano, 1780-1930* was translated in Spanish by the Instituto de Estudios Peruanos and the Banco central de Reserva, Lima.