



The **LATINAMERICANIST**

University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies | Volume 51, Number 2 | Fall 2020



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The Center is turning 90 in February 2021. We will celebrate with a panel of former directors discussing the history and future of Latin

American Studies and other events. The Summer and Fall 2020 were challenging yet productive. I want to congratulate our MA students for their resilience and creativity working on their research projects during difficult and uncertain times. Differently from Ph.D. students or faculty that have more time to complete their projects, Master students do not have the luxury of extra time. Instead of going to sites in Latin America or the Caribbean they adapted their research plans and are advancing towards finishing their academic programs on time. If you want to get inspired with their ingenious responses doing research under COVID-19 please follow this link <https://bit.ly/3h9x3Py>.

Our faculty went out of their way to support and mentor students. The Center organized a workshop on how to do research during the pandemic. Professor Rebecca Hanson concluded her presentation with these positive suggestions to students: "don't ignore COVID in your project, incorporate it, and make an argument of why doing research at this moment is a plus."

The Latin American Research Review, the most important journal of Latin American Studies, will be housed at the Center beginning January 2021. Professor Carmen Martínez Novo will be the new editor in chief; Daniel Fernández, a Ph.D. history student and MALAS certificate student, will be the editorial assistant; alumni Juan Carlos Callirgos from Peru and Heather Vrana, Associate Professor of History, will be associate editors.

Using Zoom and our YouTube channel the Center reached wide audiences worldwide hosting lectures and conversatorios. We had a panel of alumni on the challenges of COVID, several events on racism in the Americas, Afro-Cuir/Quare/Kuir Studies across the diaspora in the Americas, race and identity in Caribbean Literature, the Chilean plebiscite, and a dialogue with Colombian indigenous and Afro-descendant social movements, among others. On December 7, we launched the book *The Case for Degrowth* of co-authored by Professor Susan Paulson.

The work of our faculty continues to gain recognition. Tim Murtha was awarded a major NASA fellowship for a project on "The Ancient Maya Landscape: Households, Settlement, and Ecology of the Lowlands"; Welson Tremura's group "Saudades do Brasil" was selected for the 2019 award of best show/concert by the FUNDAÇÃO FOCUS BRASIL; and Joel Correia was nominated for the International Educator of the Year award.

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Bob Buschbacher <i>(LAS/TCD)</i>	Mary Risner <i>Assoc. Director, Outreach & LABE (LAS)</i>
Andrea Chavez <i>(LAS/TCD)</i>	Tanya Saunders <i>(LAS)</i>
Joel Correia <i>(LAS)</i>	J. Richard Stepp <i>(LAS/Anthropology)</i>
Jonathan Dain <i>(LAS/SFRC)</i>	Carlos Suárez Carrasquillo <i>MALAS Director (LAS/Pol.Sci.)</i>
Glenn Galloway <i>Director, MDP (LAS)</i>	Welson Tremura <i>(LAS/Music)</i>
Rebecca Hanson <i>(LAS/Sociology)</i>	Catherine Tucker <i>Assoc. Director of Academic Affairs (LAS/Anthropology)</i>
Karen Kainer <i>(LAS/SFRC)</i>	Pilar Useche <i>(LAS/FRE)</i>
Bette Loiselle <i>Director, TCD (LAS/WEC)</i>	Nicholas Vargas <i>(LAS/Sociology)</i>
Carmen Martínez Novo <i>(LAS)</i>	Robert Walker <i>(LAS/Geography)</i>
Timothy Murtha <i>(LAS/DCP)</i>	

Editor/Layout Designer: Patricia Alba, LAS

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Ms. Wanda Carter Retires After 19 Years at the Center for Latin American Studies

Contributed by Patricia Alba (LAS)

Over the summer, the Center for Latin American Studies bade farewell to Ms. Wanda Carter as she retired from the University of Florida. Ms. Wanda began her journey at the Center in 2001 when she joined the Tropical Conservation and Development Program as the secretary. She was promoted to the Program Assistant position in 2003. In her role, she worked under the direction of three MALAS Program Coordinators, Dr. Richmond Brown, Dr. Susan Paulson, and Dr. Carlos Suarez.

As part of her work, Ms. Wanda helped Center students from the moment they were admitted to the program until they graduated. New students met Ms. Wanda during the MALAS Orientation, where she welcomed them to the Center and provided them with much-needed information and student resources. Ms. Wanda's dedication to the students was shown in the way they trusted and cared for her.

when Dr. Brown passed; with how she spoke with me in our random one-on-ones; and with how she greeted me when I returned to visit the Center years after graduating. It will be difficult envisioning the Center without Ms. Wanda Carter. I wish her all the best in her retirement!"



Dr. Richmond Brown (left) and Ms. Wanda Carter (right) at a MALAS orientation.

"To me, Ms. Wanda Carter was an integral part of the Center for Latin American Studies," said Moisés Moreno-Rivera (MALAS, 2017). "She made me feel like family. I know this with how she greeted me; with how she assisted me with bureaucratic paperwork; with how she raised concerns when I fell ill and looked out for me; with how she helped us grieve

Beyond the student work, Ms. Wanda also worked with faculty and staff across the Center and the University of Florida. She was the point of contact for faculty that needed assistance with curriculum or course schedules, she worked with staff and awards committees, and she was always present and willing to lend a helping hand to anyone that stopped by her office.

"Wanda was not only an excellent colleague but with her warm personality and her smile, she was able to create an ideal workplace," said Efrain Barradas (LAS emeritus faculty).

Ms. Wanda's dedication to the students and her exceptional work ethic was recognized in 2018 when she received a Superior Accomplishment Award from the University of Florida. After 19-years of hard work and dedication to the Center for Latin American Studies, the faculty, staff, and students at the Center wish Ms. Wanda a happy and restful retirement. Thank you for everything, Ms. Wanda!

Post-COVID- 19: A Green and Inclusive Recovery for Latin America

Contributed by Dalena Nguyen (Public Relations Major/GIA Communication Intern)
and Juliana Santiago (MDP Student/GIA Student Affiliate)

On May 20, the UF/TCD Governance and Infrastructure in the Amazon (GIA) hosted the webinar, “Post-COVID- 19: A Green and Inclusive Recovery for Latin America.” The goal of the webinar was to exchange ideas on how responses to the immediate public health and economic challenges could also incorporate considerations and actions on structural economic changes that re-evaluate current development models towards more just and sustainable development alternatives. As the COVID-19 pandemic posed a threat on every society around the globe, the actions taken by each country in Latin America to curb the spread of the virus needed to incorporate sustainable solutions.

Around 130 participants heard engaging ideas from Gabriel Quijandría Acosta, Minister of the Environment in Peru; Monica de Bolle, Senior Fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics; Gustavo Fonseca, Program Director of the Global Environment Facility; and Esteban Perez, Development Finance Coordinator, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC-UN). The webinar was moderated by Susan

Paulson, a professor in the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida.

The webinar highlighted the interrelationship between economic, social, and environmental aspects of recovery and development, the important role of public development banks, and the need to provide incentives and policy levers to promote a green economy and social infrastructure.

More fundamentally, Latin America needs a more integrated development model less dependent on global markets and financial flows. Several participants highlighted the important role of civil society, both in terms of elaborating proposals for alternative development pathways and to create the political support and will to implement them.



For Your Information: UF ACRONYMS

CWSGR Center for Women’s Studies & Gender Research
DCP College of Design, Construction & Planning
FBLI Florida-Brazil Linkage Institute
FLMNH Florida Museum of Natural History
FRE Food and Resource Economics
Poli Sci Political Science
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
UFIC UF International Center
URP Urban & Regional Planning
WEC Wildlife Ecology and Conservation

Conversations in the Neighborhood: Let's Talk about Food

Contributed by Alexandra Cenatus (Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere)

Conversations in the Neighborhood is a public humanities series developed by the UF Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere and led by Alexandra Cenatus. The series responds to current social issues in Gainesville, Florida, through nuanced approaches to knowledge production. Food is the theme of *Conversations in the Neighborhood's* first-year series because it serves as an important vehicle through which people create social ties. In this context, the series aims to bring community members, local farmers, government officials, and humanities scholars together to discuss food issues.

Conversations in the Neighborhood use three concepts – the past, the present, and the future – to take participants into a culinary journey, allowing them to revive their food experiences and explore how past circumstances continue to impact their lives, and reflect on lessons from the present. However, the pandemic made it clear from the onset that the series had to re-adjust its programming. With brainstorming, flexibility, and patience to learn new online tools, *Conversations in the Neighborhood* redesigned its content to better engage with its audience on Zoom.

On September 19, *Conversations in the Neighborhood* launched its "past" installment with a workshop entitled *Fruits of the Past, Present, and Future* led by Anna Tjé, a community organizer and artist based

in Paris, France. In this meeting, more than forty participants embarked on a journey to examine their relationships with fruits. In *Food Memories of Latin America*, the series' second event, panelists from different parts of Latin America shared deeply personal memories of their homeland. However, their recipes are the ultimate highlight of this discussion, which we highly recommend if you want to experience new flavors.

In *Suppressed Narratives: Oral, History, and Cookbooks*, invited speakers explored the role museums can play in collecting cookbooks and changing Southern cuisine narratives. In *Food Access: Race, Class, and the Environment*, the last event of the "past" installment, panelists explored the state of food security and challenges in Gainesville, Florida.

Overall, *Conversations in the Neighborhood* received positive feedback. For instance, one participant said that "they felt so energized by the conversation and perspectives." On January 19, 2021, the series will begin its present installment, which will focus on connections between food availability in the Gainesville community and the larger production and distribution dynamics worldwide. And you can register for this event through this link: https://ufl.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9lVdQR3fSS2pfoJoiEk8Lg.

2020 Charles Wood Thesis Award

The 2020 Charles Wood Thesis Award committee received an exceptionally large number of high-quality nominations. Among these, a panel of judges composed of Welson Tremura (Chair-LAS), Juan Andrade (IFAS) and Andrea Chávez (LAS) recognized the following work.

Winner: Stephanie Cadaval - *Ten Years of Growing Together: Partnerships, Gender, and Decision-Making in Community Mangrove Restoration*. Advisor: Karen Kainer (LAS).

Runner Up:

- Marcelo Santos Rocha da Silva - *The Political Ecology of a Subnational Jurisdictional REDD+ in the Brazilian Amazon*. Advisor: Joel Correia (LAS).
- Natasha Joseph - *Lè Fanm Andeyò Travay: Challenges faced by Rural Women to Sustain their Agricultural Traditions in Northern Haiti*. Advisor: Rosana Resende (LAS).

Race and Racism in the Americas & Caribbean

Contributed by Anthony Baxter Jr. (MALAS Student)

We have reached a critical moment in history where we find ourselves amid a global pandemic which has yet to show signs of easing up or ceasing to wreak havoc on people around the world. However, regardless of how devastating and deadly the coronavirus continues to be, the issues regarding race, anti-Black racism, and police brutality have still managed to be at the forefront of all this pandemonium. Even in the pandemic, a multitude of protests and demonstrations have occurred throughout the diaspora after the police killing of George Floyd in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The way governments have responded (or not) to the coronavirus crisis has also served as an impetus for worldwide protests since Black and Indigenous peoples have continued to suffer the worse from the effects of the virus. This is not a coincidence or the fault of Black and Indigenous peoples, this reality points to a much larger issue that rests at the root of all the problems in the Americas and the Caribbean—anti-Black racism, racial capitalism, and coloniality.

During the summer, the UF Center for Latin American Studies kickstarted a Racism in the Americas series which consisted of four events. The center invited a myriad of professors and scholars whose work spans across multiple disciplines and examines the consequences of race and racism in different sectors of society.

The first event moderated by Dr. Carlos de la Torre held on June 16th featured two MALAS faculty members, Dr. Tanya Saunders, and Dr. Paul Ortiz. It was centered on police brutality in the Americas uncovering not only the emergence of protests throughout the diaspora after the death of George Floyd but understanding the history of the police which was founded on racist, anti-Black, and torturous principles that were designed to police and destroy Black and Indigenous lives. Ella Baker, who was an African American organizer and activist for human and civil rights once stated that if poor and oppressed people wanted to become part of a society that is meaningful, then we would have to radically change the system (Ransby, 2003).

Radical refers to digging at the root to understand the cause of a particular issue or circumstance. This event took a radical approach by examining the origins and evolution of the police, the systems that created and shaped them to be purveyors of violence, and how they maintain dominant power structures throughout the Americas. Some of the key points and highlights of the event was the emphasis of racial capitalism, chattel slavery, colonialism, and anti-Black racism being the main catalysts for the creation of the police.



The speakers also provided information about the emergence of the police during the periods of enslavement who were created to catch enslaved Africans, war with native communities over their land and protect settler colonialism. By discussing the history of the police and violence of the state, the speakers were able to help the audience understand how police violence has continued to exist throughout the centuries and how the police functions to maintain racial capitalism, imperialism, and a variety of other oppressive 'isms' and systems. Another crucial moment in the event was the discussion of the coloniality of gender and sexuality, which were created by and maintained through state violence and must be examined when discussing police violence.

To further examine the behavior of systemic anti-Black racism in the context of law enforcement and the police's use of violence, the Center for Latin American Studies and the Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales IAEN held an event on October 1st entitled, *La Brutalidad Policial y los*

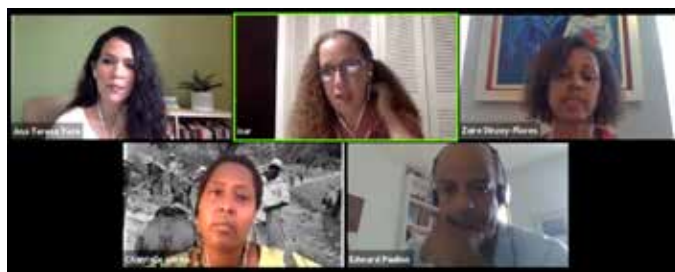


Afrodescendientes en America Latina. The center invited speakers from across Latin America - Dr. John Anton from Ecuador, Sheila de Carvalho from Brazil, Altigracia Jean Joseph from the Dominican Republic and Haiti, and Luis Ernesto Olave Valencia from Colombia. The speakers discussed various proposals to reinvent the role of the police and other law enforcement institutions in democratic and multiracial societies. They also touched on the democratic deficits and the weakness of the State regarding the protection of human rights for African descendants and other racialized peoples.

The next event in the series held on July 1st moderated by Dr. Carlos de la Torre featured UF faculty members Dr. Christopher Busey, Dr. Carmen Martínez Novo, and Dr. Lillian Guerra. It was a discussion about Racism in the Americas which began with examining how anti-Black racism was used to create the Americas and how it explains the occurrence of various protests throughout the western hemisphere. As the panel discussed the strong presence of racism in contemporary times throughout the diaspora, their words quickly shattered the myths of racial equality/democracy and recentered the focus of various movements to uncover the presence of anti-Black racism which has been intentionally swept under the rug by those that seek to commodify moments of activism and struggle without seeking to spark radical change.



In the Caribbean and the Americas there is a tendency to declare that racism no longer exists or that it only occurs in certain areas. However, this event acted as a mirror to the issues regarding anti-Black racism that many governments and countries seek to keep hidden or cast as “things of the past”. The tendency to hide racism in the Caribbean poses many challenges and struggles, especially in the realm of activism. It is common in places such as Cuba and the Dominican Republic to deny Blackness due to the preference of identities rooted in Nationalism. However, that does not exclude the presence of racism. The event held on July 30th was focused on examining race and racism in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean to understand how race has continued to dictate the structures of society and day to day life for Black and non-Black Caribbeans. Zaire Z. Dinzey-Flores, Edwards Paulino, Ana Teresa Toro, and Dr. Chantalle Verna were the speakers at this event, which highlighted society’s harsh treatment of Black people in the Caribbean and Puerto Rico and how they deal with these issues.



All lectures and panels can be viewed on the LAS Center’s YouTube Channel:

- Police Brutality in the Americas: <https://youtu.be/GeUeYoY4MRw>
- Racism in the Americas: <https://youtu.be/hDroUhnK9c>
- Race and Racism in Puerto Rico & the Caribbean: <https://youtu.be/zSdudpgejDc>
- La brutalidad policial y los afrodescendientes en América Latina: <https://youtu.be/-3vARJgYU6Q>

The Case for Degrowth with Latin American and Indigenous Perspectives

Contributed by Erika Cintrón (MALAS Student)

In the discussion of their new book *The Case for Degrowth*, Giacomo D'Alisa, Susan Paulson, Giorgio Kallis and Federico Demaria examined the process of reorienting our societies from the mindset of extractivism and accumulation to an emphasis on community building and the protection of life. Their book addresses the specific ways on how to achieve degrowth in our societies. Joined by Arturo Escobar, anthropologist from UNC Chapel Hill, and Native American lawyer and activist Frank Bibeau, the talk focused on the concepts of terracide and decolonization, as well as how to apply the idea of degrowth to current indigenous resistance efforts in the United States and Latin America. The discussion began with a brief introduction from the panel members where they outlined their work related to degrowth, an overview of the book's themes by Escobar and followed by a Q&A with members of the audience, facilitated by Demaria.

One of the questions posed was how this book differed from other works. Kallis explained how their book analyzes the problems related to economic growth from a different perspective, highlighting their focus on how Western countries sacrifice their societies and environments for minimal amounts of economic growth. Kallis also emphasized how growth under the economic model of resource extraction becomes more difficult as these resources become depleted, which in turn creates debt and austerity policies that only benefit a select, elite few. Comparing degrowth to the popular model of green growth, Kallis explained how degrowth centers around reorienting societies to slow down growth and integrates other pluriversal theories, such as feminist and critical economy and Marxist political economy.

A major theme that came up in some of the questions was the idea of how to link the idea of degrowth to

Global South indigenous and feminist perspectives. Drawing from the ideology of Latin American feminists, Escobar emphasized the importance of depatriarchalization and deracialization in the process of degrowth. Additionally, Paulson offered a critique of Western feminism efforts to integrate People of Color to the capitalist system and brought up the idea of communitarian feminism, which is prominent in many indigenous communities in Latin America. She explained how at the center of communitarian feminism is the idea of the creation of life and the *buen vivir* lifestyle, not only for women but for all gender identities within the community. D'Alisa also addressed the importance of creating alliances with existing social movements in order to promote the idea of communitarian economies. He emphasized the need for degrowth to be a societal change of mindset

and a project that starts from the bottom and later translates into public policy.

Towards the end of the discussion, Bibeau and Escobar discussed how degrowth can be applied to their respective contexts.

Bibeau discussed the importance of creating work environments for people that allow for people to slow down, in order to work less and connect with nature. Escobar also offered an important critique of the idea of the middle class in Latin America, arguing that this model promotes individual, extractivist mentalities. He also recommended two other works to read alongside this book, *Take Back the Economy* by J.K Gibson Graham, Jenny Cameron and Stephen Healy and *The End of Capitalism (As We Know It)* by J.K Gibson Graham.

The full panel discussion can be watched on the Center's YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/ZpxqIDK6ILM>.



Constitutional Change: Undoing Pinochet's Legacy and Democratizing Chile

Contributed by Anthony Baxter Jr. (MALAS Student)

Although the dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet ended in 1990, Chile has remained clenched within the acrimonious and unmerciful talons of the effects of his time in power and influence over the elites that still control the country's politics and economy. The Chilean government under the Pinochet dictatorship is an exemplification of a right-leaning sabotaged government, influenced by foreign and elite interests rather than the interests of the masses. This is evident in the government's inability to make substantial changes to the constitution to democratize Chile in recent years.

Thirty-one years have passed since the constitution was drafted under the dictatorship of Pinochet. However, the promises of reforms of that constitution have not been completely satisfied and that has translated to elite domination of the electoral process and the exacerbation of inequalities, police violence, hardship and the privatization of land and resources. The UF Center for Latin American Studies held an event on October 30, 2020 to discuss why there was a need for a constitutional referendum, how to change the constitution to better suit the potential for democratizing Chile, and the steps that could be taken to foment healing systemically, politically, and socially. Dr. Carlos de la Torre moderated the discussion while guest speakers Claudia Heiss Bendersky and Cristobal Rovira Kaltwasser offered their wisdom and knowledge about this subject.

For years, members of social movements have protested the circumstances in Chile, demanding radical changes to the constitution, inclusion in the government, and the reallocation of resources to

other sectors and institutions. Their efforts led to the 2020 constitutional referendum, which concluded with most voters determining that the constitution will be abolished and redrafted. As part of the event, the panel discussed how the dictatorship affected the electoral system long after Pinochet, which remained protected by the military and a handful of elites who held seats in congress and the constitutional convention to prevent substantial changes from occurring. The non-inclusive congress and lack of support for women and indigenous communities in Chile has fueled the myriad of social movements and calls for reform.



A key highlight of the discussion while determining how Chile moves forward, is the imperativeness of including those that have been excluded by society. There is a strong need for the restructuring of power, as the speakers stated that if this doesn't

happen then the right leaning elites could continue to sway the pendulum of politics in their favor, which would fail the goals of various social movements and protests. There also needs to be a clear consensus on what type of government Chileans want moving forward, since political parties that are connected to reality and the experiences of the masses have been taboo in recent years. There is much potential in this process of democratizing Chile, with the abolishment of the old constitution being the first step. Moving forward, it will be interesting to witness how this entire process unfolds and what measures will be taken to ensure that the government is more inclusive and works for the masses, rather than against them.

The full panel discussion can be watched on the Center's YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/5gSqDYpSldw>.

The U.S. Elections: What can we Learn from Other Populist Governments?

Contributed by Treethep Srisa-nga (MALAS Student)

On November 2, three scholars came together for a 'conversatorio' to discuss the United States presidential election in the context of populist experiences and governments from around Latin America. The speakers included Dr. Margarita López Maya, Bacardi Family Eminent Scholar UF Center for Latin American Studies, 2019-2020; Dr. Kurt Weyland, Mike Hogg Professor in Liberal Arts, The University of Texas, Austin; and Dr. Nadia Urbinati, Kyriakos Tsakopoulos Professor of Political Theory and Hellenic Studies at Columbia University. Center Director, Dr. Carlos de la Torre, moderated the event.



Dr. Weyland discussed President Donald Trump's political strategy and style and how it compares to Latin American populists. He touched on the similarities between Trump and Brazil's President Jair Bolsonaro, as well as Venezuela's former president Hugo Chávez. "Essentially what you see with populism and in all

these political leaders," said Weyland, "you see a very personalistic leader [...] you have a very powerful charismatic personality that is their core and axis in everything."

Dr. Nadia Urbinati highlighted Trump's tendency to delegitimize various institutions in the United States, such as the press or the legitimacy of our elections. Urbinati called it an erosion of moral legitimacy rather than institutional. She stated that Trump is not a fascist, but instead he represents a factional majority in the United States. "It is a majority that occupies the place of legitimacy entirely and thus declares the other to be illegitimate."

Dr. Margarita López Maya discussed the rise of populism in Venezuela. She stated that the strength of our democracy can often be relative. Venezuela was thought to have a strong democracy, but it was quickly eroded after Chávez came into power. "Populism became so severe in Venezuela," said López Maya, "because the institutions were very weak. The values of democracy hadn't been sufficiently embedded in Venezuelan institutions and in Venezuelan people."

The event was sponsored by the UF Center for Latin American Studies, the journal Perspectives on Politics, the UF Department of Political Science, and the Center for European Studies. The full panel can be watched on the Center's YouTube channel: <https://youtu.be/zeLyXKWyr7U>.

WELCOME NEW AFFILIATE FACULTY!

Roberto Abreu, Department of Psychology
Juan E. Andrade Laborde, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
Jeanette Mary Andrade, Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition
Mysha Clarke, Forest Resources and Conservation
Laura Gonzales, Department of English

Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
Samuel J. Martins, Plant Pathology
Gülcan Önel, Food and Resource Economics
Cristian Pérez Muñoz, Political Science
Colleen Rua, College of the Arts
Wagner A. Vendrame, Environmental Horticulture,

WELCOME NEW STAFF!

Po Echeguren, Academic Assistant III

Carmen Martínez Novo Named the First Woman Editor in Chief of the Latin American Research Review

Contributed by Patricia Alba (LAS)

Dr. Carmen Martínez Novo, professor at the Center for Latin American Studies, was named the new editor in chief of the *Latin American Research Review* (LARR). This nomination marks the first time a woman has served in the position of editor in chief for the LARR since its founding in 1965. Martínez Novo's tenure as editor in chief will start in January 2021 and end in December 2025.

The LARR is published by the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), the largest international professional association with over 13 thousand members that engage in the study of Latin America. The LARR publishes articles in the humanities and social sciences that advance research in Latin American, Caribbean, and Latina/Latino studies. Publications include articles in the fields of anthropology, politics and international relations, and more. The LARR is published four times a year in March, June, September, and December and provides immediate open access to support a broader exchange of knowledge.

Dr. Carmen Martínez Novo's research focuses on indigenous identities, politics and rights. She is the author of *Who Defines Indigenous?* (Rutgers 2006) and *Undoing Multiculturalism* (University of Pittsburgh Press 2021), in addition to numerous articles and book chapters in national and international publications. She served as the associate editor of the *Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies* journal and the social sciences magazine *América Latina Hoy* (Universidad

de Salamanca, Spain). She was also a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Latin American Anthropology*. Throughout her career, Martínez Novo held leadership positions in the Latin American Studies Association, serving on the Executive Council from 2014 to 2016, on the Commission for Academic Freedom, and as the chair of the Ethnicity, Race and Indigenous Peoples Section.



The new editorial team for the LARR includes scholars like Dr. Lena Lavinias, senior gender and labor economist who worked for the Ministry of Planning of Brazil and was a policy analyst for the International Labor Organization; Dr. Abby Cordoba, the University of Notre Dame, who works on gender inequality, crime and violence in Central America and serves as the director of the Women in Political Science group; Dr. Hector Amaya, professor at the Annenberg School

for Communication and Journalism at the University of Southern California; and Dr. Pavel Shlossberg, associate professor of communication and leadership studies at Gonzaga University.

The Center for Latin American Studies is honored to host the *Latin American Research Review*. The collaboration between the Center and the Latin American Studies Association includes three Center faculty that also served as LASA presidents. The Center looks forward to continuing a long-standing tradition of advancing the field of Latin American studies.

The Florida Latin American and Caribbean Diaspora Initiative at UF's Latin American and Caribbean Collection

Contributed by Dr. Margarita Vargas-Betancourt (LACC)

In order to decolonize the archival collections at UF's Latin American and Caribbean Collection (LACC), a team of library specialists and UF students began curating physical and online exhibits on the Latin American and Caribbean Diaspora in Florida. In 2016, they organized *The Cuban American Dream* exhibit to be featured during UF's Center for Latin American Studies 66th Annual Conference "Cuba and the U.S. in the 21st Century." The physical exhibit then became an online timeline that explores the universal aspects of immigration as well as the specificity of the migration of Cubans to Florida. It is now included in classes taught in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese Studies and the Center for Latin American Studies.

The current federal administration's intent to end the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian nationals mobilized LACC library specialists to organize the next timeline: *The Haitian American Dream* Timeline (launched in November 2020). The project was made possible through funding from UF's Intersections on Global Blackness and Latinx Identity, and we hope that it will be featured in the cluster of courses connected to this Intersections group. It was curated by Alexandra Cenatus (UF's Center for the Humanities and the Public Sphere), Ivanna Moreno (former ARL Fellow for Digital and Inclusive Excellence), and Dr. Margarita Vargas-Betancourt (LACC).

The Haitian American Dream Timeline explores questions such as what is the Haitian American Dream? How do Haitians, the Haitian government, and the U.S. conceive it? Has the dream been fulfilled? It also challenges existing

narratives of Haitian migration. Both the Cuban and the Haitian timelines are Open Access and feature UF's libraries resources. However, some of the e-books included in the latter can only be accessed by UF patrons.

The third project of the initiative is the *Documenting History: Farmworkers in Florida during COVID-19* funded by UF's Center for Arts, Migration and Entrepreneurship in 2020. The project seeks to create an archive of snapshots of relevant digital content that capture the impact that COVID-19 is having on Florida farmworkers, many of whom are of Mexican, Central American, and Haitian descent. The archive will document the challenges that COVID-19 has presented them, as well as the innovative ways in which they adapt and survive.

The Cuban and Haitian timelines began with existing documents at the George A. Smathers Libraries, whereas the *Documenting History* project marks LACC's moving in the direction of community-driven collections.

Each online exhibit can be found via the following links:

The Cuban American Dream Timeline:
<http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/cubanamericandream/>

The Haitian American Dream Timeline:
<http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/HaitianAmericanDream/>

Grant Proposal for Documenting History: Farmworkers in Florida during COVID-19:
<https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR00011204/00001>

Virtual Exchange with the College of Education

Contributed by Anna Rodell (MALAS Alumna)

This fall 2020 semester, the LAS Outreach unit initiated a Virtual Exchange (VE) pilot project with a course in the College of Education (COE). The project was supervised by Dr. Taryn Brown and taught by MALAS alumna and COE doctoral student Anna Rodell. The course examines education in the U.S. through lenses of social structures, institutions, and values and centers materials from Black and Latinx perspectives. The project included one synchronous session with María Laura Mecias, a language instructor in Buenos Aires, and one asynchronous session with Darwing Pérez, professor at Universidad Campeche. Dr. Mecias presented her perspectives on the purposes and decision-makers in education in Argentina, as well as key problems, and students responded with questions and dialogue. Dr. Pérez video-recorded his perspectives on key questions of power and knowledge in education, and students watched his lecture then responded with written questions and comments in a discussion board. This partnership supports the growing connections between MALAS and the COE for both Outreach and the Education in the Americas specialization. For more information about VE initiative, visit www.latam.ufl.edu/outreach/virtual-exchange.

Exploring Career Opportunities Using Language Skills During International Education Week

Contributed by Helena Lopes (MALAS Student)

As part of International Education Week and in collaboration with the Career Connections Center, the UF Center for Latin American Studies' Outreach unit helped organize two global career events. The events' objectives were to promote the importance of linking language and culture skills with business and the language service industry with the goal of preparing UF graduates for global careers and to share information about the Association of Language Companies (ALC) Bridge initiative.

Kathleen Diamond, a UF Alumna, led the first event titled "Leveraging Language Skills in the Job Search," in which she shared the status of the Language Services Industry and introduced ALC Bridge's free job-search platform. She interacted with students in attendance and explained what the language service industry is, how it can provide students with diverse career opportunities, and how to use the ALC platform to connect with employers.

The second event featured industry professionals in the session "ALC Bridge: Careers in Language Services - A Panel of Employers". Three executives representing

companies that seek global talent to perform jobs that entail a wide range of language skills and proficiencies offered details of what they are looking for from prospective hires.

Kathleen Diamond is the Founding Chair of the Association of Language Companies (ALC) Bridge and Mary Risner, a Center Associate Director is also a founding member who has been helping to build global career pathways with language at UF. The ALC bridge is a platform where you can share your resume and profile and get information on new job opportunities, internships, events, and career resources. The goal of ALC Bridge is to serve as a link between employers and job seekers with skilled language talent and for educators looking to develop student language skills for the job market.

For more information on ALC Bridge, visit www.alcbridge.org and register for free to search for job opportunities and connect with individuals in the Language Services Industry. Recordings of both sessions are available on the ALC Bridge website under events.

Virtual Exchange and Arts Practice in Antigua

Contributed by Anna Rodell (MALAS Alumna)

In March 2019, Center affiliate Dr. Heidi Powell (COTA) led a Virtual Exchange (VE) pilot project in Antigua, Guatemala, incorporating elements of "piggybacking" (Powell, 2020) to allow students to remotely join onsite projects. The project offered frameworks for instructional use and focused on everyday tech use with cell phones. Students engaged in cultural continuity through arts practice by making alfombras, or carpets of sawdust that relate to the history of Antigua and colonial occupation. Students both on site and remotely participated real-time in the making of alfombras and learning about creative cultural practices through observation and conversation.

Dr. Powell has since adapted these methods into a learning tool embedded in a VE framework, merging people, places, times, and project-based learning. Key strengths of piggybacking include using everyday tech, bridging remote and on-site participants in teaching and learning, fostering

collaboration in creative and cultural learning as a form of inquiry, and making engagement decisions that are both faculty-led and student-driven. For more information about VE initiatives, visit www.latam.ufl.edu/outreach/virtual-exchange.



SUMMER & FALL 20 GRADUATIONS

MALAS Degrees

Marcos Ramos Valdés

Thesis: The Role of Home Gardens in Creating Community Ties in La Habana, Cuba
Specialization: TCD
Advisor: Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo

Jennifer Hiddink

Thesis: The Terror of Counterterrorism: the History of the Chilean Military and Human Rights from 1925 to 1988
Specialization: in Crime, Law, and Governance
Advisor: Carmen Martínez Novo

Carmem Henrique

Thesis: Social Inclusion and Democratization in the Museum Casa Das Rosas, Sao Paulo, Brazil
Specializations: Art, Culture, and Literature; Race, Diaspora, Gender, and Sexuality

Advisor: Catherine Tucker

Graduate LAS Certificates

Aline Carrara (GPY/TCD)

Roberto Muñoz (APY)

MDP Degrees

Pierre William Blanc

Specializations: Entrepreneurship, African Studies, TCD
Advisor: Renata Serra (African Studies)
Capstone Field Practicum: Newcastle Disease Vaccines Value Chain: A situation Analysis of Gender Roles and Participation in the Kaffrine Region, Sénégal

Stephanie Muench

Specializations: Monitoring & Evaluation, African Studies, TCD

Advisor: Sebastian Galindo (Agricultural Education & Communication)
Capstone Field Practicum: Evaluation in the Dissemination of Livestock Innovations in Rwanda

Haaris Saqib

Specializations: Planning & Evaluation, TCD
Advisor: Sebastian Galindo (Agricultural Education & Communication)
Capstone Field Practicum: Surfacing for Strategy: Organizational Learning for the Strategic Direction of an Agricultural, Forestry, and Fishery Occupational Health and Safety Research Center

Sustainable Development Practice Certificate

Crystal Slanzi, PhD (Psychology)

FACULTY NEWS & PUBLICATIONS

Angelica Almeyda Zambrano (LAS)

Publications: Brancalion, P. H. S., Broadbent, E. N., De-Miguel, S., Cardil, A., Rosa, M. R., Almeida, C. T., Almeyda Zambrano, A. M. (2020). "Emerging threats linking tropical deforestation and the COVID-19 pandemic." *Perspectives in Ecology and Conservation*. Schroder, W., Murtha, T., Golden, C., Anaya Hernández, A., Scherer, A., Morell-Hart, S., Almeyda Zambrano, A. M., Brown, M. (2020). "The lowland Maya settlement landscape: Environmental LiDAR and ecology." *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 33. Dobbins, M., Sollmann, R., Menke, S., Almeyda Zambrano, A. M. & Broadbent, E. (2020). "An integrated approach to measure hunting intensity and assess its impacts on mammal populations." *Journal of Applied Ecology*.

Stephanie Bohlman (SFRC)

Bohlman, S., M. Arteaga Gomez-Garcia, S. Athayde, L. Bair, C. Doria, J. Dutka-Gianelli, P. Fearnside, D. Kaplan, B. Loisel, E. Marques, and T. Melis. Lessons from the Amazon Dams Network: Adaptive management approach within dammed complex social-ecological systems, Annual Meeting, Ecological Society of America, August 2020, virtual.

Eben Broadbent (LAS/SFRC) Publications:

Brancalion, P. H. S., Broadbent, E. N., et al. (2020). "Emerging threats linking tropical deforestation and the COVID-19 pandemic." *Perspectives in Ecology and Conservation*. Cardil, A., De-Miguel, S., Silva, C. A., Reich, P. B., Calkin, D. E., Brancalion, P. H. S., Vibrans, A. C., G P Gamarra, J., Zhou, M., Pijanowski, B. C., Hui, C., Crowther, T. W., Hérault, B., Piotto, D., Salas-Eljatib, C., Broadbent, E., et al. (2020). "Recent deforestation drove the spike in Amazonian fires." *Environmental Research*

Letters, 15(12), 121003. Schroder, W., Murtha, T., Golden, C., Anaya Hernández, A., Scherer, A., Morell-Hart, S., Almeyda Zambrano, A., Broadbent, E., & Brown, M. (2020). "The lowland Maya settlement landscape: Environmental LiDAR and ecology." *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports*, 33.

Kaira Cabañas (SAAH) delivered the inaugural live stream lecture for the second Seminário de cultura e saúde (Culture and health conference) as part of the festival Soy Loco Por Ti Juquery (Crazy for Juquery), which was organized by the Museu de Arte Osório César and the Goethe Institute, São Paulo. Cabañas's lecture, "Modernismo psiquiátrico: Uma história da arte do Juquery" (Psychiatric modernism: A History of Art in the Juquery Asylum), argued for the constitutive role of psychiatric patients' creative production within the theory and exhibition of modern art in Brazil. More info here: <https://www.soylocoportijuquery.com/> seminário.

Andrea Chavez (LAS/TCD)

Publication: Chavez Michaelsen, A., Huamani Briceño, L., Vilchez Baldeon, H., Perz, S.G., Quaedvlieg, J., Rojas, R.O., Brown, I.F. and Pinedo Mora, R. "The effects of climate change variability on rural livelihoods in Madre de Dios, Peru." *Regional Environmental Change* (2020) 20(2):70.

Joel Correia (LAS)

Publications: Correia, Joel E. 2020. "Descolonizar el territorio: Movimientos sociales indígenas, el giro territorial y los límites de los derechos a la tierra en la zona fronteriza entre Paraguay y Brasil." *Etnografías Contemporáneas* 6(11): 160-188.

Correia, Joel E. 2020. "Infraestructura, geografías de poder y agronegocios en el Chaco. Con la Soja al Cuello, Sexta Edición." *Asunción: BASE-Investigaciones Sociales*. pp. 94-99.

Awards: The UF International Center recognized Joel Correia with the following awards: 1) International Educator of the Year and 2) the 2021 Global Learning Institute. Correia also received the UF Center for Humanities and the Public Sphere Book Manuscript Review Award in support of his book project "Disrupting the patrón: Unsettling racial geographies in pursuit of Indigenous environmental justice."

Carlos de la Torre (LAS)

Publications: "¿Qué hacen los populistas y cómo estudiarlos?" *Revista Euro latinoamericana de Análisis Social y Político* 1 (1) 2020, 67-79. "Charisma in Latin American Politics" in *The Routledge International Handbook of Charisma*, edited by Pedro José Zúquete, New York: Routledge, 115-127. De la Torre, C., Burbano de Lara, F. Populism, Constitution Making, and the Rule of Law in Latin America. *Partecipazione e conflitto*, 13(3) 2020: 1453-1468, DOI: 10.1285/i20356609v13i3p1453. **Conferences:** "The populist politicization of inequalities" Keynote address, XXI AISSEC Conference on Economic Development and Inequalities, The Italian Association for the Study of Comparative Economic Systems, University of Urbino, October 9, 2020. "Populismo nacional y transnacional" Keynote address, V Congreso de la Red de Ciencia Política y Relaciones Internacionales, Quito Ecuador, October 22, 2020. "What is Populism?" Workshop on Theory and Methods of Populism Research, Kiel University

September 24-26, 2020. "The Paradoxes of Post-Populist Institutionalization in Ecuador" with Felipe Burbano de Lara, delivered at the panel Latin American Populism between Democracy and Authoritarianism, American Political Science Association, September 11, 2020. "Populism, Charisma, and the Politics of the Extraordinary" delivered at the panel Populism in the Global North and South, 155th American Sociological Association Meeting, August 9, 2020.

Lectures: "Who is afraid of populism?" Constellations an International Journal of Critical and Democratic Theory Lecture, November 14, 2020. "Trump y la polarización populista" University of Rosario, Argentina, November 12, 2020.

Max Deardorff (History)

Publications: "Calumniadores." Max Planck Institute for European Legal History Research Paper Series No. 2020-25 (2020): 1-15.

Invited Talks: Max Deardorff was invited to give a talk titled, "Tinjacá, Turmequé y Chiquinquirá: Orígenes de una devoción indígena," on October 28 at the Museo Colonial Santa Clara in Bogotá (Colombia). Invited Roundtable Participation & Public Scholarship Max Deardorff participated in the roundtable titled "Historical Fact Formation and the Colonial Archives of Indigenous and Afro Descendants," at the Colonial Studies Committee Meeting of the Conference on Latin American History in New York, on January 4th.

Carmen Diana Deere (LAS/FRE emerita)

Publications: "Distribución de la tierra en América Latina: que nos falta conocer para un análisis de clase y de género," *Revista Latinoamericana de Estudios Rurales*, 4 (7), 2019: 285-301; the co-authored "Women, Assets and Formal Savings: A Comparative Analysis of Ecuador, Ghana and India," *Development Policy Review*, 38 (2), 2019: 180-205; and "Women's Property Rights, Asset Ownership and Wealth in Latin America." *Oxford Bibliographies in Latin American Studies* (New York: Oxford University Press, 2020).

Andréa Cabral Ferreira (SPS)

Guest Lecture Dirceu Marroquim (History PhD candidate at USP, Brazil) gave a lecture, titled "Territorialidade, Cultura e Desigualdade Social: O caso de Recife", in our POW 4930 (Norte/Nordeste) cultural studies class on October 30th via Zoom.

Glenn Galloway (MDP)

Publication: de Jong, Galloway, G. 2020. "Narratives on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and tropical forests." *Achieving Sustainable Management of Tropical Forests*, eds. Jurgen Blaser, Burleigh Dodds Science Publishing. 22 p. Other: Contributed to the planning and realization of an abbreviated

MDP Global Summit via Zoom (November 20) for faculty, students and alumni from around the world.

M. Elizabeth Ginway (SPS)

Publication: In *Cyborgs, Sexuality, and the Undead: The Body in Mexican and Brazilian Speculative Fiction* (Vanderbilt UP, Nov. 2020), M. Elizabeth Ginway examines all these issues from a number of theoretical perspectives, most importantly through the lens of Bolívar Echeverría's "baroque ethos," which emphasizes the strategies that subaltern populations may adopt in order to survive and prosper in the face of massive historical and structural disadvantages. Foucault's concept of biopolitics is developed in discussion with Roberto Esposito's concept of immunity and Giorgio Agamben's distinction between "political life" and "bare life." This book will be of interest to scholars of speculative fiction, as well as Mexicanists and Brazilianists in history, literary studies, and critical theory.

Rebecca Hanson (LAS)

Publications: Zubillaga, Veronica and Rebecca Hanson. 2020. "Shoutings, Scoldings, and Whispers: Mother's Responses to Armed Actors and Militarization in Two Caracas Barrios" *Kellogg Working Paper Series*; Zubillaga, Verónica and Rebecca Hanson. 2020. "Del punitivismo carcelario a la matanza sistemática". In *Dicen que están matando gente: Violencia armada y políticas de seguridad ciudadana en Venezuela*. Madrid: Editorial Dahbar.

Presentations: "The Covid-19 Crisis: Effects on Criminal Violence and Public Security in Latin America," Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Michigan. November 20, 2020; "Harassed: Gender, Bodies, and Ethnographic Research," Women's & Ethnic Studies Program at University of Colorado, Colorado Springs. November 10, 2020.

Gaby Hernández (SAAH)

Publications: Hernández, Gabriela. "Towards a Decentered Design Education: DRS 2018 Conversations on Decolonial Design." *Iterations Design Research & Practice Review*. 8 (2020) Web. Hernández, Gaby, and Jessica Arana. "Latinx Cultural Agency and Design Education." *Design Observer Essays* (2020) Web.

Emily Hind (SPS) published the book *Literatura infantil y juvenil: Entrevistas* with the publishing house Peter Lang. It is the first book of interviews in any language with the creators of Mexican children's and young adult literature. Emily Hind published the essay "La petrocultura y Frida Kahlo: De la biopolítica al energopoder, in Las dos Fridas y Demerol sin fecha de caducidad de Mario Bellatin," in *Mario Bellatin y las formas de la*

escritura, edited by Héctor Jaimes. Editorial A Contracorriente, distributed by the University of North Carolina Press, 2020. pp. 257-282. Emily Hind published the essay "¿Carácter o personalidad? El pensamiento transicional de Asunción Izquierdo Albiñana." In *Luz rebelde: Mujeres y producción cultural en el México posrevolucionario*. Coord. Elissa Rashkin and Esther Hernández Palacios. Universidad Veracruzana, 2020. pp. 157-196.

Carmen Martinez Novo (LAS) Selected as the incoming Editor in Chief of Latin American Research Review. Invited lecture, "Paternalismo, ventriloquía y otras formas de privilegio blanco-mestizo en las Américas," delivered at the seminar "Hacer una puerta donde no la hay: sesiones sobre blanquitud en México," Universidad de Guadalajara, Guadalajara, México, November 2020 Invited lecture, "Turn to the Left, Extractivism and Indigenous Rights in Latin America." Political Science Department Colloquium, University of Florida, October 2020. "Paternalism, Ventriloquism and Other Forms of Ritual Humiliation." In *Racism in the Americas* Event with Lilian Guerra and Christopher Busey, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, July 2020.

Bette Loiselle (TCD/LAS)

Publications: Elith, J., et al. "Presence-only and presence-absence data for comparing species distribution modeling methods." *Journal of Biodiversity Informatics* (2020) 15: 69-80. Feng, S. et al. 2020. "Densely sampling genomes across the diversity of birds increases power of comparative analyses." *Nature* (2020) 587: 252-257. Presentation: Bette Loiselle presented the plenary lecture "Thirty years of studying Neotropical birds: lessons learned along the way" at the North American Ornithological Conference (virtual) in August 2020. Award: In August 2020, Bette Loiselle received the Margaret Morse Nice medal from the Wilson Ornithological Society for her lifetime of contributions to ornithology.

Susan Milbrath (FLMNH)

Publication: "The Moon in Meso-America." *Oxford Research Encyclopedia for Planetary Science*, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780190647926.013.200>. Peer-reviewed article: Susan Milbrath. "Thresholds of Time and Space: Yearbearer Imagery in Postclassic Codices." *Latin American and Latinx Visual Culture* vol. 2(3): 8-28.

Gulcan Onel (FRE)

Publication: Onel, Gulcan, Skyler Simnitt, Jeanne-Marie Stacciarini, and Antonio Tovar-Aguilar. 2020. "COVID-19 Risk Factors Vary by Legal Status among Florida Crop Workers." *Choices* 35, Quarter 3. <https://www.choicesmagazine.org/choices-magazine/theme-articles/covid-19-and-the-agriculture->

industry-labor-supply-chains-and-consumer-behavior/covid-19-risk-factors-vary-by-legal-status-among-florida-crop-workers.

Susan Paulson (LAS)

Publications: "Multiple masculinities shed new light on forest management" in C. Colfer, *Masculinities in Forests: Representations of Diversity*, Earthscan and Degrowth and feminisms ally to forge care-full paths beyond pandemic, *Interface, A Journal for and about Social Movements*. Paulson co-authored *The Case for Degrowth*, Polity Press and *The case for degrowth in a time of pandemic, Open Democracy* (re-published/translated in *The Ecologist*, *Brave New Europe*, *El Diario*, *Mediapart*).

Other: Paulson gave invited talks hosted by: Northwestern University, Columbia University, University of Manchester, University of Pennsylvania, University of Coimbra, University of Cambridge, University of Padua, UC Santa Barbara, Political Studies Conference, Degrowth World Conference in Vienna, Feria Internacional del Libro in Guadalajara, and Redesign for Resilience and Regeneration in Berlin.

Charles Perrone (SPS) "Pages, Pageants, Portraits, Prospects: an Austin-atiuous Remembrance of Haroldo de Campos." In Marília Librandi-Rocha et al., ed. *Transpoetic Exchanges: Octavio Paz, Haroldo de Campos, and Other Multiversal Dialogues*. Lewisburg, PA: Bucknell U P, 2019. 87-93. "Literature: Brazil: Poetry" in *Handbook of Latin American Studies*. Austin: University of Texas Press, Library of Congress Hispanic Division, vol. 74 (2019), 603-19. Translation: "Farewell to the Seven Falls" by Carlos Drummond de Andrade. In *The Latin American Ecocultural Reader*. Jennifer French and Gisela Heffes, ed. Evanston, Ill.: Northwestern U P, 2020. 250-53. Dual Review of *Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas/The Posthumous Memoirs of Brás Cubas* by Machado de Assis. wordswithoutborders.org. July 9, 2020 Judge: LASA Humanities Book Prize Brazil Section 2020.

Sadie Ryan (Geography) Sippy, R., Lippi, C.A., Stewart-Ibarra, A.M., Ryan, S.J. 2020. "Arbovirosis endemias y epidemias en Ecuador/Endemic and Emerging Arboviruses

of Mosquitoes in Ecuador." *Práctica Familiar Rural* 5:2. Lippi, C.A., Stewart-Ibarra, A.M., Romero, M., Lowe, R., Mahon, R., Van Meerbeeck, C.J., Rollock, L., Gittens-St. Hilaire, M., Trotman, A.R., Holligan, D., Kirton, S., Borbor-Cordova, M.J., Ryan, S.J. 2020. "Spatiotemporal tools for emerging and endemic disease hotspots in small areas: an analysis of dengue and chikungunya in Barbados, 2013-2016." *Am J. Trop Med* 103(1): 149-156 Lowe, R., Ryan, S.J., Mahon, R., Van MeerBeeck, C.J., Trotman, A.R., Boodram, L.G., Borbor-Cordova, M.J., Stewart-Ibarra, A.M. in press. "Building resilience to mosquito-borne diseases in the Caribbean." *PLoS Bio*.

Maya Stanfield-Mazzi (SAAH) Stanfield-Mazzi, Maya. 2020. *Los paños de la Pasión de Chachapoyas*. Chachapoyas, Peru: Instituto de Investigación de Arqueología y Antropología Kuelap; Universidad Nacional Toribio Rodríguez de Mendoza de Amazonas.

Paola Uparela (SPS)

Awards: 2020 Eli J. and Helen Shaheen Graduate School Award in Humanities, University of Notre Dame. Conferences: "El 'origen americano' de la sífilis: mirada, violencia sexual y contagio en la conquista." IV Congreso Internacional de Etnohistoria de América 2020, INAH (November 13, 2020). "Invaginaciones coloniales: Verificaciones gineco-escópicas en la historia de Catalina de Erauso." GEMELA (October 4, 2020). "Miradas desnudas/vergüenzas sin vergüenza: genitales y otras "naturas" en el 'descubrimiento' de América". Jornadas Americanas de Literatura Latinoamericana, Jalla (August 10, 2020).

Margarita Vargas-Betancourt (LACC)

Exhibitions "The Haitian American Dream Timeline," Online, University of Florida, George A. Smathers Libraries. <http://exhibits.uflib.ufl.edu/HaitianAmericanDream/>.

Publications: Vargas-Betancourt, Margarita, "Pochtecas, productoras y vendedoras: mujeres tlatelolcas en la Ciudad de México durante el siglo XVI." In *Los oficios en las sociedades indianas*. Edited by Felipe Castro and Isabel Povea. Mexico City: Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas, 2020. http://www.historicas.unam.mx/publicaciones/publicadigital/libros/714/714_AD_04_02_PochtecasProductoras.pdf.

www.historicas.unam.mx/publicaciones/publicadigital/libros/714/714_AD_04_02_PochtecasProductoras.pdf. Vargas-Betancourt, Margarita, Jessica L. English, Melissa Jerome, Angelibel Soto. "Contesting Colonial Library Practices of Accessibility and Representation." In *Archives and Special Collections as Sites of Contestation*. Edited by Mary Kandiuk. Sacramento: Library Juice Press, 2020. <https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR0001168/00001>. Contesting Colonial Library Practices of Accessibility and Representation: <https://ufdc.ufl.edu/IR0001168/00001>.

Wagner Vendrame (Envi. Horticulture)

gave a Zoom invited lecture, titled "Micropropagation of Plants" for graduate students enrolled in Plant Propagation at the Universidade Federal de São Carlos, Araras, São Paulo, Brazil on October 15th. Gave a Zoom presentation titled "COVID-19: Difficulties or Opportunities for Ornamental Horticulture?" as an invited speaker at the First Southeast Regional Meeting of Floriculture and Ornamental Plants, held at the Universidade Federal de Lavras, Minas Gerais, Brazil, on September 22nd, 2020.

Heather Vrana (History) Co-edited the book *2020 Out of the Shadow: Revisiting the Revolution from Post-Peace Guatemala*, co-edited with Julie Gibbins. Austin: University of Texas Press. Book chapter 2020 "Nos debe dar aliento para continuar la lucha por la justicia": los pasados y futuros de genocidio y justicia en Guatemala," en Guatemala, La Cuestión del Genocidio. Elizabeth A. Oglesby and Diane M. Nelson, eds. Online publication 2020 "Unidad, Servicio y Recuperación: Twelve-Step Recovery in Civil War Guatemala," Part I and II. Points: The Blog of the Alcohol & Drugs History Society. August 4 and 6.

Robert Walker (LAS)

Publications: "NAFTA's Cartel Economy." *Annals of the American Association of Geographers*, pp.1-14. Walker, R.T., 2021. "Collision Course: Development Pushes Amazonia Toward Its Tipping Point." *Environment: Science and Policy for Sustainable Development*. January/February, In press.

ALUMNI Updates

Kristen Conway-Gomez (MALAS 1997) I received a Fulbright Fellowship to research and teach in Chile during fall 2019 semester. I conducted research on small landholders' perceptions of climate change in southern Chile, in between protests for constitutional reform. I am now back in California chairing the Department of Geography and Anthropology at Cal Poly Pomona.

Tyeshia Redden (LAS 2017) I am an assistant professor of Africana Studies at Gettysburg College. My work considers how race, class, gender, and sexuality influence the lived urban experiences of residents. In particular, I examine the role of scholar-activists in combating social inequalities and the experiences of marginalized residents in vulnerable or informal communities. I have conducted research on behalf

of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies at Georgia State University and the Office of the Deputy Chief Operating Officer for Development in DeKalb County, Georgia. I am a frequent presenter at the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning Annual Conference and the Urban Affairs Conference. My courses at Gettysburg College explore the policing of Black bodies in U.S., Caribbean, and Latin American society. Currently, my research explores development-forced displacement in developing countries as a result of mega-sporting events.

David Rinehart (MALAS 2018) I moved to Ireland in August of 2018 when my partner received a position as assistant professor at Maynooth University. When I was a student in the Center for Latin American Studies, I was appointed as the Graduate Assistant to work in the LACC. This opportunity led me towards a career in librarianship. I am currently employed as a full time and permanent library assistant at Maynooth University and am undergoing a master's in library and Information Science at Robert Gordon University online. This program will help me

further my career as a librarian. Since starting this position I have been involved as an editorial assistant for the book "I am a Man of Peace: writings inspired by the Maynooth University Ken Saro-Wiwa Collection," where I also had the opportunity to write an essay that is published in the book. I was able to contribute my knowledge from my courses in MALAS and my thesis work directly to this essay to draw out the parallels between the impact foreign corporations had on the Ogoni people of Nigeria in a similar fashion that we see throughout Latin America.

Herrick (H.A.) Smith (MALAS 1997) I recently retired after over 30 years teaching kids in public schools. Most recently I had the privilege of teaching an IB History course that focused on 20th Century Latin America, as well as a preparatory Microeconomics course. Also, since 2007 I've become more and more involved with Young Life Latin America, focusing on the amazing young men and women in Nicaragua as they in turn work with other young Nicaraguans. This has been a blessing to my family and me.

Alumni Spotlight: Mary Waters (MALAS 2008)

Can you tell us about your current position?

I am the Deputy Commissioner for International Trade for the state of Georgia's Department of Economic Development. We are a state agency and report directly to the governor's office. Collectively, our mission is job creation and creating economic opportunities across the state of Georgia. Eight different divisions make up economic development, so my role is creating opportunities through export development. I lead a team of ten people in Georgia, including myself, and a team of approximately 20 people that work as contractors in foreign markets around the world. Our sole responsibility is working with existing businesses in Georgia that are looking to open up their international sales market. To build the export ecosystem in our state, we do this with local, state, and federal partners across Georgia.

What motivated you to pursue a MALAS degree?

From the time I was in middle school, I started taking Spanish classes. I had some really great teachers in middle school and high school that kept me interested in the Latin American region. I was born and raised in Oregon, so there was more of a focus on Mexico and to a slightly lesser extent, Spanish-speaking Southern America and it was just something that I wanted to build capacity in. I stuck with it through undergraduate school and studied abroad my whole junior year. When it came to graduate school, Latin America is such a robust region and not monolithic, and contains a lot of opportunities and challenges to work through. The reason I was

interested in the University of Florida was because they had a really strong Brazilian studies program, which was something I wasn't able to get in the west coast. The graduate degree was a natural extension of my K-12 studies and what I did in undergrad, and just where my personal interests lay. There were also a lot of professional opportunities related to Latin America.

What aspect of your career have you enjoyed the most?

Definitely working with and interacting with companies. We are a state agency, so we are taxpayer-funded and that allows any company that pays taxes to the state of Georgia to access our services. It opens up the possibilities of working with both small and large companies. My first week on the job in 2008 as a trade manager, I went to a technology show in Atlanta where I was trying to make contact with Georgia companies. I wanted to see if they were open to international opportunities and learn, in that narrow focus, which companies were exploring global sale opportunities. I shadowed one of my colleagues who had a client meeting with a company that had developed an enzyme to clean out grease traps in commercial restaurants. This company had five employees, all this IP, and patents for these enzymes. It turns out they had this really efficient cleaning



technology for commercial kitchens, and they were interested in licensing technologies around the world.

That's when it really came home to me, when you are in graduate school, you don't have an idea what companies are actually working on and what has international potential. So for me, the best part of my job is getting to learn about all the cool and sometimes random stuff that is going on in the state of Georgia and interacting with those companies, and being able to provide some services that truly help them grow. On a day-to-day basis, it is gratifying to help them gain those corporate skills and assist them in growing. I also appreciate that there is a constant churn of companies coming in, so there are always new companies.

How did your MALAS degree impact your career prospects?

I thought coming out of my degree that I was specifically going to focus on Latin America. I remember defending my thesis in December 2007 and starting my job search in 2008, which in Florida the economic situation was already complicated with the recession. I thought I wanted to focus exclusively on Latin American business opportunities, but I knew I didn't want to live in Miami. I looked at research jobs, market intelligence jobs related to Latin America, and teaching assistant positions at other Latin American Studies programs across mostly the east coast. At that time, Atlanta, Georgia was making a play at being the northern hub of Latin American business. There was something called The Summit of the Americas, and Atlanta was going to be the headquarters of the US. States that I never thought of working or living in were leveraging their connections and working to become hubs for Latin American businesses. As I started to get more heavily involved in the interview process, my background wasn't as important. The knowledge content wasn't as important and employers were looking for specific skill sets: critical thinking, research, independent work, things that you learn in a graduate program.

In terms of content, almost all the interviews I had said they could train and teach in the specifics needed for the role. When I interviewed with the Department of Economic Development, they didn't want me to be a region specialist. They wanted me to be global because we work with companies to see where they would like to go globally. When I started, they asked me to be broadly focused but once I got into the job and everyone recognized that I did have this significant skill set in that region, then the opportunities started to come to me concerning Latin America. The focus of the MALAS degree wasn't as important as the skills learned as a graduate student to get in the door but once in the

job, you become this magnet that everyone recognizes because you do have this niche knowledge that could help in different pursuits.

What advice would you give students as they pursue their MALAS degree?

For me, my heart was with business, but also the sociological underpinnings and that human and cultural connection that drives business culture and business opportunities. I really tried to reach out in my coursework. I took a great class about the drug trade in Colombia, the history of Latin American politics, environmental studies, broadening my coursework to get a more comprehensive view of what is actually going on in Latin America. From a business perspective, all of those seemingly outlying issues do come into play. Maybe not all day every day but they contribute to a business environment and culture that makes a difference if you are trying to successfully do business in a region. Take advantage of all the content. I took a global legal class where when we began, we started by not speaking the same language at all but over the course of the semester we began to communicate more. You could go deep in your own personal and professional interests or you can use graduate school to round out your education. For me, it was great to go abroad so I wasn't always in class with like-minded people. I enjoyed the diversity.

Is there anything else you would like to share about your experience in the MALAS program?

I alluded to it earlier, but I believe there was more I could've done to leverage my degree early on in the job search. Economic development is relationship-based as well as building out and maintaining a strong network, and I really didn't lean heavily on the Florida Alumni network in my initial job search. If I could do it over again, I would do that differently. I tried to do it on my own, and now that I am a professional I am more connected to the University of Florida infrastructure. In terms of leveraging the degree when you get into the interview process, spend time thinking about how diverse a skill set you have. Spend some time thinking about what your graduate degree outside of the classroom is doing for you. How does it widen your viewpoint, seek out new opportunities, and get out of your comfort zone. As an employer, that worldly experience, that diversity, those other interests and pursuits, that independent working, research knowledge, knowledge in teamwork, knowledge with dealing with difficult people, all those skills that you amass in your MALAS degree are what employers are looking for. They are looking for soft interpersonal skills just as much as technical qualifications.

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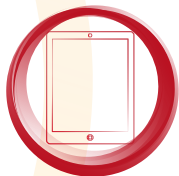
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