


Winter 2015

La Voz January 2015

El Instituto: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies

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El Instituto

Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies

UConn



LA VOZ

January 2015

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Estimada/os colegas,

We're starting the spring semester with a dynamic and ambitious schedule of events and initiatives. The early visit from the renowned Latina/o Studies political theorist, Cristina Beltrán, is a touchstone for a year filled with politically relevant events, award winning research projects, and alumni success stories. With scholars in attendance from across the East Coast this past fall, the Marshall T. Meyer symposium brought together colleagues from Judaic Studies and Human Rights.

Other 2014-15 highlights include student job and internship placements in community organizations with direct connections to their major and minors in Latino and Latin American Studies. Luis Chavez-Brumel's position in Jump Start is an excellent example of how our graduates translate skills gained at UConn to engage in productive and meaningful work in communities.

In a similar vein, come view our new "Tierra de los libres" mural, designed and painted by El Instituto students to reflect the geographic and juridical limitations imposed by nation-states on Connecticut's global migrant populations.

Saludos cordiales y ¡Feliz año nuevo!

Mark Overmyer-Velázquez
Director

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LIBRARY NOTES



The inauguration of El Instituto in 2012 marked the beginning of a formal collaborative relationship with the UConn library and its dedicated librarian and curator for the significant holdings of Latin American and Caribbean materials, Marisol Ramos.

Ramos oversees the library resources as the formal Library Liaison to Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Latino Studies, Spanish and Anthropology, as well as the Curator of the Latina/o, Latin American and Caribbean Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center. Ramos is an active member of El Instituto who provides graduate students with research assistance and teaches library information courses for El Instituto's students.

In upcoming issues of La Voz readers will find a reoccurring column dedicated to the library, its resources, collections and new acquisitions. Ramos will be a regular contributor, providing important and pertinent information on Latino and Latin American Studies issues relating to UConn's library holdings.

In our Spring 2015 issue of La Voz, Ramos will provide a brief account of her latest library book buying trip which took her to Guadalajara, Mexico for the Feria Internacional de Libros (FIL) (*International Book Fair*).

To contact Marisol for research assistance on Latin American and Latino issues, send an email to marisol.ramos@uconn.edu

More about our library and resources:

The University of Connecticut Libraries hold the largest public research collection in the state with 2.9 million volumes. The Homer Babbidge Library has acquired not only materials written in English but also Spanish and Portuguese language materials from Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean and South America. In total, the library holds 74,913 titles to support studies of Latin America and the Caribbean. In addition, the library subscribes to a large number of serials in this subject area, including 7,934 titles on or from Latin America, among them 6,473 titles in Spanish. The UConn library boasts an endowed fund (the Whetten Fund) which combines with library support to provide close to \$20,000 for annual support and additional acquisitions. The Archives and Special Collections at the Thomas J. Dodd Research Center houses internationally-significant collections of rare books, personal papers and periodicals from Latin America, the Caribbean and Spain. Of special note are the Medina and Puerto Rican Collections, the Hammill Mexican Pamphlet and Broadside Collection, and approximately 2700 volumes of the Chile Collection which reflects the history and politics of Chile from the 16th century through 1940 with particular focus in the period from 1810 to 1940. The Thomas J. Dodd Research center provides access these rich and varied collections. In addition the UConn library is member of The Latin Americanist Research Resources Project (LARRP), a consortium of research libraries that seeks to increase free and open access to information in support of learning and scholarship in Latin American Studies and LAMP (formerly the Latin American Microform Project) which acquires, preserves, and maintains microform collections of unique, rare, and bulky or voluminous Latin American research materials for its subscribers.

2014 ROBERT G. MEAD JR. ENDOWED LECTURE

The 18th annual Robert G. Mead Lecture was held on November 6, 2014, featuring Jossianna Arroyo-Martínez, Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Literatures and Cultures at the University of Texas at Austin. Previously, she taught at the University of Michigan. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California-Berkeley. As a scholar with appointments in the Spanish and Portuguese Department and African and African Diaspora Studies, much of her research focuses on “the relationships between literature, ethnographic and sociological discourses” in Latin America. The subject of her Mead Lecture, titled “Cities of the Dead: Performing Life in the Caribbean,” explored the relationship between “racialized bodies, media technologies, and globalization in contemporary Caribbean societies.”



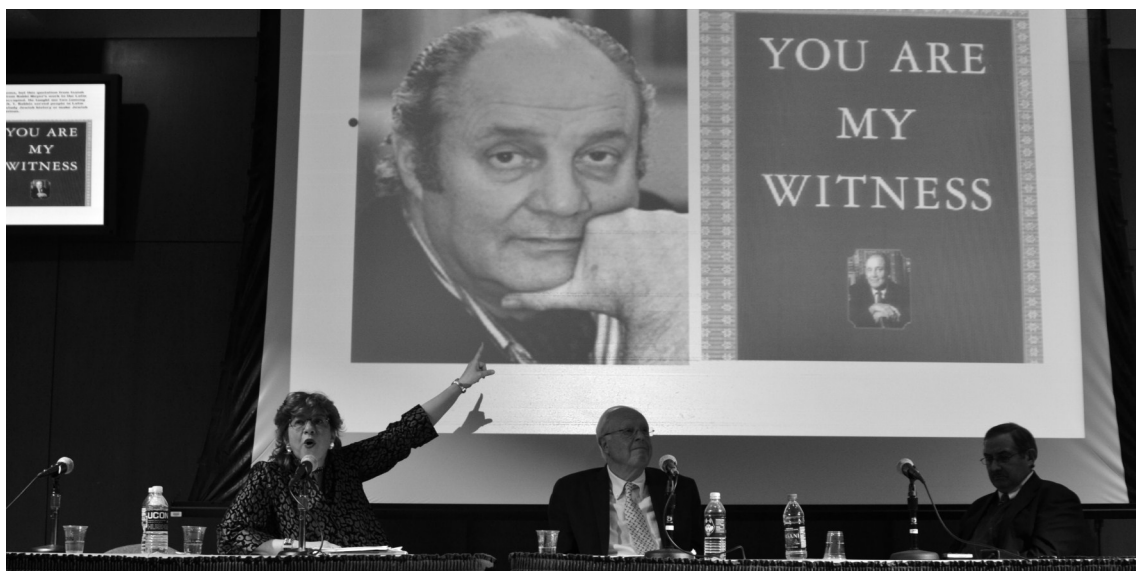
Focusing on funeral practices in particular, Dr. Arroyo-Martínez illuminated the ties and tensions between life and death, and memory and memorial. One of the more striking examples around which Dr. Arroyo-Martínez delivered her talk was of a young man killed while riding his beloved motorcycle, *El Muerto en Motora* (“dead man on a motorcycle”). Even in death, as Dr. Arroyo-Martínez demonstrated, the young man was posed on his bike, refurbished since the accident, in his family’s home so that friends and relatives could pay their respects. The scene, perhaps understandably, struck many in the audience as unusual. Yet Dr. Arroyo-Martínez managed to demonstrate how normative such practices have become in places like the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

Dr. Arroyo-Martínez discussed immigrants who have brought these practices with them to the United States. Even in places like Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, for example, the dead are honored as if they were alive: One man was posed in his favorite boxing gear in a makeshift boxing ring in his family’s living room. Uniting all of these postmortem portrayals, Dr. Arroyo-Martínez explained, was their publication through social media outlets like Facebook and Twitter. Not only were the bereaved mourning their losses, but they were doing so digitally and publicly. Honoring the dead in “alternative” ways indeed results in a myriad of interpretations.



The lecture was well attended by students, faculty, and friends. Dr. Guillermo Irizarry of the Department of Literatures, Cultures and Languages (LCL) introduced Dr. Arroyo-Martínez after opening remarks by Dr. Mark Overmyer-Velázquez, director of El Instituto. Also offering a welcome to the audience was Dr. Melina Pappademos of the History Department, who highlighted the lecture’s connection to the new Caribbean Studies Initiative at UConn.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND WORK OF RABBI MARSHALL T. MEYER



Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer dedicated much of his life to serving his congregations, both in the United States and, later, in Argentina. It was in Argentina, during the years of the last military dictatorship (1976-1983), that Meyer created a unique legacy of human rights advocacy and activism.

To honor this legacy, El Instituto teamed up with UConn's Human Rights Institute (HRI), The Center for Jewish and Judaic Studies at UConn, and The Center for Jewish Studies at Duke University to bring an exhibit and panel presentation to UConn. In anticipation of the guest lecture panel, The Dodd Center hosted an exhibit entitled, "I Have No Right To Be Silent: The Human Rights Legacy of Rabbi Marshall T. Meyer," which featured posters, testimonials, and photos that bear witness to Rabbi Meyer's work. The panel presentation itself featured several guests prominent in the fields of Jewish studies and Latin American history. On the panel were Dr. Eric M. Meyers, Rabbi Meyer's nephew, from Duke University; Dr. Susannah Heschel, a close friend of Meyer, from Dartmouth; and Dr. Richard Freund, Meyer's eventual replacement in Argentina, now at The University of Hartford. UConn's own Dr. Claudio Benzecry (Sociology) joined in saying a few words about his own family's personal experience as a member of Rabbi Meyer's congregation; it was Meyer, in fact, who married Dr. Benzecry's parents in Buenos Aires.

More than any one personal connection to or story about Meyer, however, there was a palpable deep respect, even reverence, for Meyer and the work he did. As a rabbi, he used his influence to help Argentines flee the country in the face of military dictatorship and government-sponsored "disappearances." The event showcased how the intersections of ethnicity, religion, nationality, and politics can lead men and women to carry out righteous acts in times of crisis.



PUTTING LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES INTO PRACTICE

Promoting and nurturing the professional development of graduate and undergraduate students is one of many goals at El Instituto. Through course work and internship placement, El Instituto prepares its students for real world job opportunities in which skills and knowledge attained in the classroom can be put to practice.

What does this look like?

Below is a note from Luis Chavez-Brumel '08:

"Majoring in Latin American Studies gave me a holistic perspective on how policies impact people's lives and that individuals can create substantive change. This perspective has brought me back to campus as the Associate Site Manager for the Jumpstart AmeriCorps program. I am proud to say that I use my UConn education to help the Latino immigrant

community surrounding the Storrs area (Windham/Vernon) by recruiting UConn students to serve as literacy volunteers in local low income pre-schools. I have been able to share the knowledge I received at the institute with my UConn students who 'work to ensure that every child in America enters kindergarten prepared to succeed.' Thanks to my experience as a Latin American Studies major I know how various policies play a significant role on the educational outcomes of the immigrant communities that I serve but more importantly I understand how dedicated individuals can make a difference in those communities."

For more information on JumpStart and their volunteer opportunities, please visit:
www.jstart.org and www.communityoutreach.uconn.edu



Photo credit: <http://communityoutreach.uconn.edu/jumpstart/>

EL INSTITUTO INTERNSHIP PLACEMENT

Eduardo Vergara came to El Instituto to inquire about the Latino Studies Minor requirements and left with what would become a connection to his first job out of college. A native of New Haven, CT, Vergara majored in both Allied Health Science and Spanish, minoring in Latino Studies in December of 2014.

"I came in asking for the requirements for a Latino Studies minor and all it took was one more class my last semester at UConn" explains Vergara, "she [El Instituto's Associate Director Prof. Anne Gebelein] suggested taking a regular class, a graduate level class, or having an internship/field study experience." When Vergara inquired about possible connections to his field of research Prof. Gebelein suggested the Hispanic Health Council in Hartford and connected him with their outreach/service coordinator. The rest was left up to Vergara, but that initial conversation was crucial in creating the opportunity for his eventual internship.

Vergara says that the most important lesson learned during his internship was that "an internship is not only meant to get acquainted with the agency, but also with the professional networks of the agency." While he established connections to other community agencies in Hartford through his internship,

after 2 months interning Vergara was offered his current full time position of Nutrition Educator with the Hispanic Health Council in Hartford.

When asked if he would recommend reaching out to El Instituto for internship placement opportunities to other students Vergara exclaimed "Definitely!" Adding, "Who knows, you may end up with a job that you never expected to have."

El Instituto faculty have developed a wealth of connections throughout the state, nation and internationally, which can be used to assist all students in their job/internship searches.

For more information on internship opportunities please visit:
<http://elin.uconn.edu/academics/internships.php>

Or contact Prof. Anne Gebelein to set up a meeting to discuss internship opportunities: anne.gebelein@uconn.edu

BLOOD RISING: ART AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

On October 7th a film screening and panel discussion on “Blood Rising: Stories of the Quest for Justice For 438 Young Women Murdered in Juarez” took place at UConn’s Konover Auditorium in the Dodd Center.

The documentary film “Blood Rising” centers around Irish artist Brian McGuire, and his work painting portraits of women who fell victim to the murders and disappearances that make up what has come to be known as the “Femicide in Juarez.” The film follows McGuire as he presents the portraits to family members of the murdered and disappeared women, while putting emphasis on the roles played by both the United States and Mexican governments in creating the economic, legal and social situation that has nearly normalized violence against women in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

Following the film screening, a panel discussion took place featuring El Instituto’s Associate Director, Prof. Anne Gebelein; Senior Council at Lawyers Without Borders, Dan Forester; Human Rights Advocate/Teacher and Founder of the Juarez based NGO “May Our Daughters Return Home, Civil Association,” Maricela Ortiz Rivera; and the director of the film, Mark McLoughlin.

The discussion, which was moderated by Prof. Gebelein, opened with a brief statement from each panelist highlighting the different aspects of the femicide in Juarez. While the historical background provided by Prof. Gebelein, the legal interpretation provided by Forester and the interpretation of the artistic components of the film by McLoughlin were all important and insightful in providing an understanding of the situation, it was Ortiz Rivera’s words that truly brought to life the struggle in the quest for justice; “Since 2001

we’ve taken large steps in order to put an end to the bloodshed of women,” said Ortiz Rivera through a translator. “Unfortunately, although the echo of our voices are heard throughout the world, at home those who should be listening close, have deaf ears.” While activists continue to gain support abroad, Mexican officials refuse to acknowledge the situation and, according to Ortiz Rivera, “mothers who have protested, have been met with violence, while the president of Mexico refuses to meet with them.”

Ortiz Rivera thanked McLoughlin and McGuire for continuing to draw attention to the situation in Juarez, while emphasizing the importance of continuing to educate and create networks of solidarity through events such as this, and the use of social media and hashtags like #womenofjuarez.

Ortiz Rivera closed her remarks by stating that “[The women of Juarez] did not die in vain, and we will continue this fight.”



Photo Credit: <http://www.dinglefilmfestival.com/programme/archives/programme-2013/friday-15th/blood-rising/>

THE QUIET CORNER...

The Quiet Corner Interdisciplinary Journal is an open-access, bi-annual research forum edited by graduate students of humanities, arts, and social sciences at UConn ([LCL](#), [ELIN](#)). The journal facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration towards cultural and social awareness, providing a locus for scholarly engagement across disciplines to promote critical thinking, research and creativity. The journal's flexible focus is centered on texts in a variety of languages, including but not limited to points of (dis)connection among worldwide literary, cultural and performance studies; digital, analogue and environmental humanities; translation and foreign language instruction.

The journal is organized by William Stark, Charles Lebel, and Carlos Gardeazabal Bravo, all of whom are Ph.D candidates in Literatures, Cultures and Languages.

For more information on the journal, upcoming issues and submitting formal entries please visit:

www.thequietcornerjournal.com

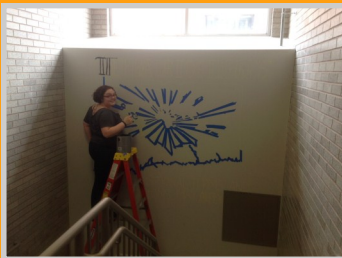
THE PASSING OF A DEAR COLLEAGUE

El Instituto is sad to announce the passing of scholar, colleague, and friend Dr. Tricia Gabany-Guerrero. During her storied and well-respected career, she was at UConn from 2002-2008, first as Visiting Scholar at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, then as Interim Director, Assistant Professor-in-Residence, and affiliated faculty of the Center. She also served as Director of the MA Concentration in Latin American Studies; undergraduate Academic Advisor; and undergraduate Honors Advisor.

After UConn, Dr. Gabany-Guerrero moved to California State-Fullerton, where she held an appointment in the Anthropology Department. She worked tirelessly to engage students, and to help them think critically about their world through art, culture, history, language, and visual arts. She had also recently been elected to the Human Rights Committee of the American Anthropological Association in Washington, D.C.

She was a dedicated, engaged, interested, and interesting scholar. But more important, she was a generous colleague and friend. She will be missed.

Tierra de los Libres*



“Dear Viewer,

This mural, *Tierra de los Libres**, was created by the Fall 2014 Migrant Workers Honors seminar. Many of the course’s themes resonated with us and are reflected in this work of art. Through explorations of our heritage, we all discovered personal connections to immigration. As portrayed by the local, national and international borders we painted, immigrants are profoundly impacted on all levels and across various borders.

Although the United States is a country built by immigration, we have yet to achieve equality for all immigrants. The “American Dream” creates unrealistic expectations for immigrants. It has been tainted by policies and systems of oppression, resulting in an intense struggle upon arrival.

We hope this mural takes you on a transnational journey and allows you to reflect upon your own migration history.

A special thanks to guest artist Alyssa Krinsky and Professor Mark Overmyer-Velázquez.

Saludos,

Cheyenne Haslett, Shaina Forte, Eric Cruz, Nicholas Illenberger, Connor Ligeikis, Nicole Gay, Emily Roller, Varun Khattar, Andreea Dinicu, Molly Miller, Georgina Talbot, Isabel Nip and Casey Healey”

ACCESS TO EDUCATION FOR ALL?

On Thursday, October 9th, “Undocumented Students’ Postsecondary Education Access: The Role of Policies, Institutional Agents, and Structures in High Schools and Higher Education Institutions” was presented by Prof. H. Kenny Nienhusser, from the University of Hartford, and organized by El Instituto and The NEAG School of Education.

According to figures presented by Prof. Nienhusser, there are 2 million undocumented students enrolled in K-12 in the United States. While the Supreme Court ruling of Plyer v. Doe (1982) grants the right to a free, unrestricted, public school education to all individuals regardless of legal status, the U.S. has not come up with a formal ruling or federal policy on postsecondary education. This has left it up to each state to formulate policies addressing access to postsecondary education for undocumented students. Prof. Nienhusser scored that although there may be “Policies” in place (as in “formal public policies”), the “policies” (as in “institutional protocol”) implemented by individual higher education institutions have a more impactful role on the access to postsecondary education.



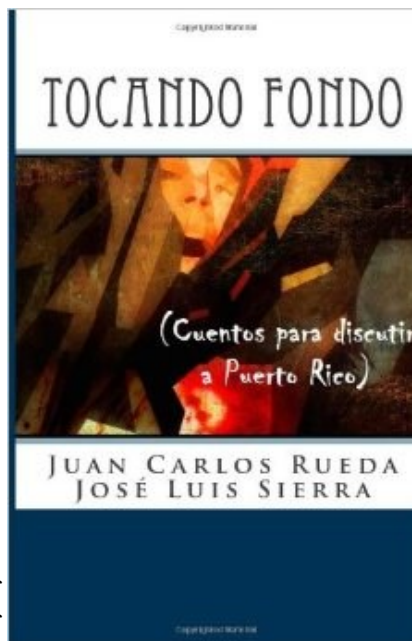
These “policies,” which include admissions practices, financial aid awards, communication with principles, deans and guidance counselors, were central within Prof. Nienhusser’s research and proved to be crucial in the enrollment of undocumented students into higher education institutions. Throughout his presentation and during the Q&A session, Prof. Nienhusser stressed the need for postsecondary institutional agents (e.g. admissions and financial aid officers) to develop essential working relationships with secondary school officials to pass on the knowledge that is necessary to better assist and meet the needs of undocumented students.

The reality for undocumented students is that while access to postsecondary education has many barriers, it does exist. According to Prof. Nienhusser there are 19 states which formally grant in-state tuition and 5 which allow for in state financial aid at public institutions, but if postsecondary institutional agents and secondary school officials are not knowledgeable of the facts and actively work towards understanding the complexities, both legal and non, of undocumented students’ legal status, the opportunities for postsecondary education remains limited and near impossible.

LITERATURE IN PRACTICE

On Thursday, September 25, students and faculty welcomed social workers Juan Carlos Rueda and José Luis Sierra, authors of *Tocando Fondo (Cuentos para Discutir a Puerto Rico)* to PRLACC. The authors presented their book and provided a guide to reading the text through a group reading exercise.

“Un libro muy incómodo,” “a very uncomfortable book” is how Rueda describes *Tocando Fondo*. “Uncomfortable” because through its 15 short stories the book recreates many of the social issues that currently affect Puerto Ricans on the island. Through the stories, Rueda and Sierra provide a window to the interconnectivity of the issues that make up the existing reality of Puerto Rican society as they see it. As an example, the authors related a story of the impact of the current economic recession, which lead to the effects of migration by young Puerto Rican professionals, which highlights the draining of human capital, further perpetuating a lack of resources in the mental health system and other social services, which may be a cause for higher rates of domestic violence.



Based on real experiences, anecdotes and news articles, these fictional stories deal with a diverse set of issues that recreate existing social problems affecting everyday life of the Puerto Rican people. These and other topics such as unemployment, domestic violence, political and governmental corruption, old age and neglect are just some of the many issues that are present in their stories and contribute to the issues Rueda and Sierra encounter as social workers in Puerto Rico.

What began as a short story designed to serve as an example of domestic violence for a Social Work course, has blossomed into a full on critique of Puerto Rico’s current state.

Although the book is fictional, Rueda and Sierra see it as a beneficial tool to courses outside of those within the literature disciplines and “aims to contribute to the analysis of social problems,” in order to work towards a solution.

“PHOTOGRAPHING LATIN@ URBAN SPACES”

Pablo Delano arrived in Hartford in 1996 and immediately found a connection to the city, its people and its spaces. The son of photographer Jack Delano, Pablo grew up as a first generation Puerto Rican on the island. At the age of 18, Delano traveled to the United States, where he eventually earned a Masters of Fine Arts from Yale University. He began photographing Latin@ urban spaces in the historic New York City Latin@ neighborhood of “Loisaida” (the Lower East Side of Manhattan), later being commissioned for re-beautification projects in another Manhattan Latin@ space, Washington Heights. It was his work within these Latin@ spaces and the city of Hartford which was the topic at hand on October 21st as Delano presented “Photographing Latin@ Urban Spaces” to a full audience at the Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC).



Upon his arrival in Hartford, Delano began his tenure at Trinity College, where he is currently Professor of Fine Arts. While Delano's early work focused on the Caribbean and Latin@ communities of New York City, his latest exhibition, *Hartford Seen*, focuses on the Latin@ and Urban spaces of Connecticut's Capital city. In the images presented, Delano focused on iconographic images (e.g., palm trees, flags and beaches) seen throughout the city businesses and murals, as well as linguistic codes and colors which differentiate cultures.

It took 10 years to develop this latest project which captures the many contradictions, some historical, some economic, and some cultural, of Hartford. Delano began the project with a clear awareness of traditional urban photography, but did not want to be tied down to it. Instead, he found himself juggling the art, formality and visual integrity of photography versus the historical and documentary importance of the images captured.

While the images in the *Hartford Seen* exhibition have post card like qualities, Delano admits to purposefully staying away from iconic Hartford images (e.g., State Capitol or Bushnell Park). Instead he chose to recreate a Hartford that is real to the Latin@ and urban communities, capturing images that may never be seen on a visitor's guide to this city.

Hartford Seen will be exhibited at the Connecticut Historical Society in Hartford, CT through March 14, 2015.

GUEST LECTURER: CRISTINA BELTRÁN

Dr. Cristina Beltrán works at the cross-roads of Latino politics and political theory. She is an associate professor in the Department of Social and Cultural Analysis at New York University. Beltrán is the author of the critically acclaimed book *Trouble With Unity: Latino Politics and the Creation of Identity*, which explores the U.S. Latino population within a Political Studies framework.

On Tuesday, February 10th, Beltrán will join us at UConn to present; "Making Sense of Latino Conservatives: Individual Agency and Stories of the Self." On the heels of the shocking news that Univision, the largest Spanish-language network in the US, has been shut out of 2016 Republican presidential debates, Beltrán's talk will be a timely exploration of how Latino conservative thought is shaped and understood.

Beltrán has been a regular contributor on MSNBC's *Melissa Harris Perry*, where she has appeared as an expert analyst on race relations in the U.S. Her work has appeared in *Political Theory*, the *Du Bois Review*, *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*, *Political Research Quarterly*, and various edited volumes.



Photo Credit: <http://www.thetroublewithunity.com/>

"Making Sense of Latino Conservatives: Individual Agency and Stories of the Self"

Tuesday, February 10th

3:30pm to 5:30pm

Babbidge Library, Class of 1947 Room

RECOGNITION

Several faculty members received SHARE Awards for the Spring of 2015. The awards support undergraduate research apprenticeships in the social sciences, humanities, and arts.

El Instituto core/affiliate faculty make up 4 of the 24 student-faculty teams selected to receive awards for Spring 2015. Thanks go to the UConn Humanities Institute for its generous support of two of these student awards.

Project Title: *Too Much of a Good Thing? Excess Legitimacy and Democratic Principles in Argentina*

Student Apprentice and Major: Katie Cavanaugh, Political Science & Management Information Systems

Faculty Mentor: Matthew Singer, Political Science

Project Title: *The Politics of Environmental Action: Cities, Water Pollution, and Environmental Inequality in Latin America*

Student Apprentice and Major: Renato Muguera, Latin American Studies & Economics

Faculty Mentor: Veronica Herrera, Political Science

Project Title: *Ensuring Economic Growth Promotes Economic and Social Rights: The Role of Gender Equality in Education*

Student Apprentice and Major: Gwendolyn Peyton, Economics

Faculty Mentor: Susan Randolph, Economics

Project Title: *Coverage of Haiti in the Dominican Republic's Daily Newspapers: A Pilot Content Analysis Study*

Student Apprentice and Major: Isamar Tavarez, Political Science

Faculty Mentors: Thomas Craemer, Public Policy & Samuel Martinez, Anthropology & El Instituto

SHARE AWARD RECIPIENT

The Social Science, Humanities, and Arts Research Experience (SHARE) is designed especially for undergraduate students in the earlier stages of their college careers as a means of introducing students to research in their chosen field, and of developing skills they will need for further research projects.

El Instituto would like to congratulate the student-faculty team of Isamar Tavarez, Samuel Martinez, and Thomas Craemer on their Spring 2015 SHARE Award.

Tavarez will spend ten hours a week in-residence collecting data for an ongoing pilot content analysis study on the coverage of Haiti in the Dominican Republic's daily newspapers and is eager to join an interdisciplinary research team.

"My contribution to the project will allow us to increase the sample size and reduce the margin of error. The data I collect will be added to the data collected by a graduate coder to make conclusions about the representation of Haiti and Haitians in the Dominican media," says Tavarez about her work.

Through this project, she is looking forward to the opportunity to connect with her heritage and learn more about contemporary bilateral relations on the island of Hispaniola, which are largely shaped by the shadow of the controversial ruling of the Dominican Constitutional Court, TC-168-13. Citizenship rights of those born in the country to undocumented parents were retroactively revoked, something Tavarez finds difficult to imagine as the child of Dominican immigrants living in the United States.

"There are a lot of stereotypes about Haitians. Because I am Dominican-American and familiar with the stereotypes surrounding Latino immigrants in the United States, my perspective on Haitian immigration to the Dominican Republic is different," she notes. Through her close engagement with Dominican daily newspapers, Tavarez hopes to gain a deeper understanding of how the media influences public discourse on immigration and human rights.

RETURNING THIS SPRING... BY POPULAR DEMAND

ALTURAS DUO

During the Fall of 2013 the musical group Alturas Duo presented their mix of Latin American folk songs and classical music, honoring the lives lost in Chile's 1973 military coup to a packed audience at El Instituto's October HACHA. By popular demand, the duo comprised of Carlos Boltes and Scott Hill, will once again make an appearance at El Instituto.

Join us during our March HACHA* (Hospitable Community for Border-Crossing Academics) on Wednesday, March 4th from 5-7pm, for what is guaranteed to be a great performance and good company.

*(HACHA is held on the first Wednesday of every month during the academic year at El Instituto in the second floor of the Jay Ryan Building.)



El Instituto

Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin American Studies

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS - Spring 2015

Jan. 22, 2:00pm – 3:15pm

El Instituto, Ryan Bldg., 2nd floor

Tertulia: “Climate Change Vulnerability and Human Migration: A Maya Case Study from Guatemala” with Rachael Shenyó, Independent Climate Change Consulting Economist, USAID Local Governance Project, and Ronald Fernando Vasquez Siguenza, Architect and Regulatory Compliance Specialist, Guatemala Ministry of the Environment.

Jan. 29, 12:45pm – 1:45pm

Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center

Teach-in Cuba. Brown bag lunch. Special Guest: Ariana Hernández-Reguant, anthropologist, U of Miami

Feb. 4, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

El Instituto, Ryan Bldg., 2nd floor

HACHA: Alternative Hour for a Hospitable Community of Border-Crossing Academics. Informal graduate and faculty gathering to share research and experiences across disciplines.

Feb. 23-27

Afro Latin@ Week

March 3, 4:30pm – 6:00pm

Dodd Center, Konover Auditorium

Public Lecture: Heidi Tinsman, Gender and History visiting Scholar. Reception 6:00-7:00pm.

March 4, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

El Instituto, Ryan Bldg., 2nd floor

HACHA: Alternative Hour for a Hospitable Community of Border-Crossing Academics. Informal graduate and faculty gathering to share research and experiences across disciplines. **Special Guest: Alturas Duo.**

March 10, 11:00am – 12:30pm

Oak Hall, Room 438

Cristina Beltrán, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Social and Cultural Analysis, NYU. Graduate Student Chat.

March 10, 3:30pm – 5:00pm

Babbidge Library – Class of 1947

Room "Making Sense of Latino Conservatives: Individual Agency and Stories of the Self." Cristina Beltrán, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Social and Cultural Analysis, NYU.

March 12, 12:00pm-1:30pm

Oak Hall, Room 438

Talk: “What Kind of Justice Do Colombians Want from the Colombian Peace Process,” Ryan Carlin, Assoc. Prof., Political Science, Georgia State University.

March 24, 5:00-7:30pm

Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center

Cristina Ibarra, filmmaker. Film Screening/Public Presentation.

March 25, 3:25pm-6:00pm

Cristina Ibarra: discussion with Cinematic Story Telling Class

March 26, 12:00-2:00pm

Puerto Rican and Latin American Cultural Center

Cristina Ibarra, filmmaker: Cara-a-Cara with students.

March 26

“Mañach’s Martí” with Esther Allen, Assoc. Prof., Baruch College

April 1, 5:00pm – 7:00pm

El Instituto, Ryan Bldg., 2nd floor

HACHA: Alternative Hour for a Hospitable Community of Border-Crossing Academics. Informal graduate and faculty gathering to share research and experiences across disciplines.

April 14, 4:00pm-6:00pm

Dodd Center, Konover Auditorium

Human Rights Film Series. Screening of “The Undocumented” with filmmaker Marco Williams.

April 14, 7:00pm

UConn Co-op Storrs Center

Aetna Celebration of Creative Nonfiction: Rigoberto González

April 21, 12:30pm

Dodd Center, Konover Auditorium

Eyzaguirre Lecture: Martín Rejtman

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