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La Voz

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

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Winter 2022

## La Voz Winter 2022

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

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# La Voz

Winter 2022

A photograph of a classroom setting. In the foreground, several students are seated at desks, looking towards the left. The student on the far right is a young woman with long brown hair, wearing a grey sweater, resting her chin on her hand. Behind her are other students, including a woman with long dark hair. The background features a wall with several flags of Latin American countries, including Chile, Panama, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. The overall atmosphere is academic and focused.

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INSTITUTE OF LATINA/O,  
CARIBBEAN, AND LATIN  
AMERICAN STUDIES



## Welcome from the Director

The news about growing Latinx enrollment at UConn is exciting. With a Latinx enrollment exceeding 25%, UConn Stamford is a federally eligible Minority/Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI). Our Hartford and Waterbury campuses are not far behind it, and **UConn's overall Latinx undergraduate enrollment** stands at 21%.

With that good news comes a sobering responsibility of making UConn not just a Latinx-enrolling institution, but also a truly Latinx-serving community. El Instituto, PRLACC, and the Comunidad Intelectual learning community stand together in our dedication to making an impact on the lives of Latinx students, and to helping non-Latinx Huskies understand and appreciate the cultural wealth brought by our University's increasingly complex Latinx presence.

Yet so much important work remains to be done. We look forward to hearing from all Huskies, alumni, parents, faculty, and community members: What more can UConn do to prepare to become an HSI, and live up to the spirit of service in that name?

We invite you to sign up for our [events distribution list](#), keep in touch via [Facebook](#), and check out [WFSB's profile of El Instituto](#).

**Samuel Martínez**

Director of El Instituto and Professor of Anthropology

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## Recent News

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### Visiting Scholar Sophie Maríñez

This fall, El Instituto co-hosted Professor Maríñez, a 2021 Mellon/ACLS Fellow and a recipient of the Distinguished Teaching Award at Borough of Manhattan Community College, where she is a professor of modern languages and literatures.



### UConn Gives 2022 to Feature Graduate Support Fund

The **Elizabeth Mahan Fund for Graduate Studies in Latin American and Latino Studies** provides support for master's students to conduct research across the humanities and social sciences.



### Latinos Working for Inclusive Engineering

As the inaugural executive associate director of the Vergnano Institute for Inclusion, **Stephany Santos '12 (ENG), '20 Ph.D.** and colleagues advocate for greater inclusion of



students of color in the UConn School of Engineering.



## Alumna at UNESCO Luanda Biennale

Latina/o and Latin American studies alumna and School of Education doctoral student **Pauline Batista '16 MA** participated in the Biennale of Luanda as a UNESCO Youth Representative.



## El Instituto Partners with DCF

First-year master's student **Diana Velasco '21 (CLAS)** is leading a new partnership between the Department of Children and Families and UConn El Instituto.



## Collective Action for Social and Migrant Justice in the Borderlands

## Collective Action for Social and Migrant Justice

In May 2022, Professor **Anne Gebelein** will pilot a new Global Experiential Learning program in Tucson, Arizona.



## Recent Faculty Book: Writing the Caribbean in Magazine Time

In fall 2021, a new book by **Katerina Gonzalez Seligmann** was published in the Critical Caribbean Studies Series at Rutgers University Press.



## **PRLACC 50th Anniversary**

The **Puerto Rican / Latin American Cultural Center (PRLACC)** kicked off its 50th-anniversary celebration in December by unveiling a mural with photos and artifacts on a wall leading to PRLACC's location on the fourth floor of the Student Union.

### **More Institute News**

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