



# BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY

# LATIN

# AMERICAN

# STUDIES

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**Summer 2000**

**Newsletter**

**No. 9**

## LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

It is a pleasure to reflect on the past year of Latin American Studies at Brandeis. Three new faculty members from Latin America, in Anthropology, Politics, and Economics, brought new vitality to the program. Our students continue to impress me with their many accomplishments and dedication to understanding Latin America. For the fourth year in a row we have invited a Brandeis alumnus to speak on campus. This year Quil Lawrence shared his knowledge of Colombia, gained in the three years he spent there as a journalist. As documented in the Alumni Notes, he is one of the many Brandeis graduates making important contributions to Latin American Studies.

Three more students set off for Latin America this summer with Jane's Travel Grants, and graduating senior Vamsi Koneru heads to Ecuador to serve in the Peace Corps. We look forward to hearing about their experiences when they return.

Next year promises to be another active one. We will offer three new Latin American Studies courses on Latinos in the U.S., Mexican Art, and Jewish Writers in Latin America. We will kick off the fall semester with a Columbus Day concert of traditional Latin American music by a Sol y Canto trio, part of the Hispanic Heritage Month coordinated by the AHORA student group. Scheduled speakers will include Ilan Stavans, widely recognized as the "dean of Latino culture," on March 22.

Please join us at our upcoming events and send us your news.

*Silvia Marina Arrom*

## LAS WINS HEWLETT GRANT FOR NEW INTER-DISCIPLINARY COURSE ON LATINOS IN THE U.S.

In spring 2001 LAS will offer a new course, *Latinos in the United States: Perspectives from History, Literature, and Film*, developed with a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation to strengthen interdisciplinary connections at Brandeis. Team-taught by Professors Silvia Arrom (History) and Roxanne Dávila (ROCL), the seminar will examine the experiences of Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Cubans, Dominicans, and Central Americans in the United States. Giving a new twist to the study of U.S.-Latin American relations, it will explore the ways in which the Latino presence is changing the culture and politics of the United States. Since Professors Arrom and Dávila will participate in all class sessions, students will be able to see how scholars with different approaches and assumptions analyze texts produced by writers, film-makers, historians, anthropologists, political scientists, and sociologists.

This course fills a major gap in the Brandeis curriculum by examining the diverse group that by 2004 will constitute the largest minority in the United States, and which is projected to reach 25% of the population by 2025. It will be accompanied by a film and lecture series open to the entire Brandeis community.

**Senator Francisco Rojas Birry of the Colombian Embera-Katio indigenous people and Marjorie Agosín, Chilean writer and Wellesley College professor, were among this year's LAS speakers.**

*(photos courtesy of The Justice)*

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## LAS EVENTS AT BRANDEIS, 1999-2000

The following events were sponsored or co-sponsored by the Latin American Studies program:

### Lectures:

WENDY ADELSON '01: "Education For Memory and the Continuing Struggle for Justice and Human Rights: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo," October 7.

KAREN HOVAV '00: "Grenada's Children: Educational Development on a Caribbean Island," October 28.

MARÍA CASTILLO (Nicaraguan human rights worker): "Women Challenging Violence: A Nicaraguan Woman Speaks Out," November 1.

FRANCISCO ROJAS BIRRY (Colombian senator and human rights leader): "Human Rights and Indigenous People in the International Context: The Case of Colombia," November 4.

SHAREN BIDAISEE '99 (1999 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): "Art and Identity in Trinidad and Tobago," November 8.

GLORIA ROLANDO (Cuban filmmaker): "Searching in My Dreams," November 15.

HORACE BARTILOW (University of Kentucky): "Caribbean Diplomatic Strategies in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Negotiating the Constraints of Globalization and Regional Integration," November 16.

EDWARD PAULINO (Michigan State University): "Forgotten Atrocities: The 1937 Genocidal Haitian Massacre in the Dominican Republic," February 23.

JAVIER URCID (Anthropology): "Cycles of Growth and Decline in Mesoamerica: Societal Development in the Southern Gulf Coast (1200 BCE to 1500 ACE)," February 24.

KATERINA AILOVA (1999 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): "The Precious Blood of Christ: Religious and Festival Imagery in Oaxaca, Mexico," March 22.

SIR COURTNEY BLACKMAN (Ambassador to the United States from Barbados): "U.S.-Caribbean Relations: Whither?" April 11.

MARJORIE AGOSÍN (Wellesley College): "Celebration of Memory: Jewish Women Writers in Latin America," April 14.

DAVID AQUILA LAWRENCE '94: (1994 Jane's Essay Prize recipient); "Colombia: Our Next Vietnam?" May 1.

### Concert:

GRUPO FANTASÍA, April 3.

### Latin American Film Series:

LUCÍA, October 12.

I, THE WORST OF ALL, October 19, November 30.

THE DOUBLE DAY, October 27.

QUILOMBO, November 3.

KISS OF THE SPIDERWOMAN, November 8.

TODOS SANTOS CUCHUMATAN, November 24.

THE HOUSE OF SPIRITS, December 1.

CAMILA, February 14.

EVA PERÓN, February 17.

LOS SIETE LOCOS, March 6.

CUBA: IN THE SHADOW OF DOUBT, March 9.

ANDEAN WOMEN, March 13.

CAMPAMENTO, March 30.

DANZÓN, April 4.

ROJO AMANECER, April 6.

TODOS SANTOS: THE SURVIVORS, April 13.

MECÁNICA CELESTE, April 13.

EL CALLEJÓN DE LOS MILAGROS, April 18.

## BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM ON LATIN AMERICA SPONSORS PRESENTATIONS

The Boston Area Consortium on Latin America was headquartered at Brandeis for the eighth consecutive year. It consists of nine colleges and universities in metropolitan Boston and serves as a means for faculty and students with interests in this area to communicate with each other, to find out about events at other institutions, and to supplement their own resources with those available at other locations.

During 1999-2000 BACLA sponsored the following faculty seminars, which were free and open to the public:

"LATINO/LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES: WHERE SHOULD LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES GO IN THE NEXT CENTURY?" **Efraín Barradas** (Latin American Literature, U.Mass.-Boston), **Alicia Borinsky** (Foreign Languages, Boston University), **Félix Matos Rodríguez** (History, Northeastern University), November 8.

"THE COLOMBIAN CRISIS," **María Cristina Caballero** (research fellow, Harvard University), **Liliana Obregón** (Universidad de los Andes, Colombia), **Francisco Ortega** (visiting scholar, Harvard University), December 7.

"THE RETURN OF THE LEFT? THE ELECTIONS IN CHILE AND URUGUAY," **Peter Winn** (History, Tufts University), April 18.

"LA IZQUIERDA CENTROAMERICANA EN LA ENCRUCIJADA," **Edelberto Torres Rivas** (visiting scholar, Harvard University), May 15.

## THREE AWARDED JANE'S GRANTS

One undergraduate and two graduate students received this year's Jane's Travel Grants to fund research in Latin America. **Greg Foley '00** is investigating "Intercolony

Behavioral Differences in *Paraponera Clavata* (*Giant Tropical Hunting Ants or Bullet Ants*) in Costa Rica.” **Silvia Grigolini** (Anthropology) is studying “Remittances and International Migration in Oaxaca, Mexico: Preliminary Research.” **Rebecca Pearl** (SID) is examining “The Economic and Social Rights of Women in the Andean Region” in Ecuador. The recipients will return to Brandeis during the fall semester to present their research to the community.

## SETH PASSO WINS 2000 JANE’S PRIZE

**Seth Passo** ’01 was awarded this year’s Jane’s Essay Prize for the best research paper in Latin American Studies. His essay was on “The Importance of Jews and Conversos in the History of Colonial Brazil through the Dutch Conquest.”

**Jane’s Prize winners Gregory Foley, Silvia Grigolini, Rebecca Pearl, and Seth Passo at the LAS luncheon.**

(Photo by Julian Brown, Brandeis Public Affairs Office)

## PÉREZ-MEJÍA RECEIVES GRANT, PRIZE

Professor **Angela Pérez-Mejía** (ROCL) was awarded the 2000 Jane’s Faculty Grant to have *La geografía de los tiempos difíciles* translated into English. The book won honorable mention for this year’s prestigious Casa de las Americas Prize for the best book by a Latin American author on any subject. “I think the international recognition of this fine book will help put Latin American Studies at Brandeis on the map,” said LAS director Silvia Arrom. The book has been accepted for publication in Spanish by the Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia.

## PROFESSOR JOINS LAS FACULTY

**Miguel Villanueva**, assistant professor of economics, joined the Latin American Studies faculty and committee this year. He is from Peru and received his Ph.D. in economics at Ohio State University. His areas of research are international financial markets, financial institutions, and international macroeconomics. He teaches a course on Latin American economic development.

## MELLON POST-DOCTORAL SCHOLAR

Mexican scholar **Yael Halevi-Wise**, Mellon Post-doctoral Fellow in English and NEJS, has a strong interest

in Latin American literature, which she incorporated in the course on Diaspora she taught at Brandeis this year. She has a Ph.D. in the History of the Novel from Princeton University, and is working on a book about Sephardism in contemporary Latin American literature.

## STUDENTS SPONSOR EVENTS, DANCE FOR HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

AHORA, the Brandeis Latino student group, celebrated the third Hispanic Heritage Month in October. This year’s theme was “Embracing Our Identities.”

**Ralph DeLeón** ’81 was the keynote speaker. Mr. DeLeón, acting associate general counsel for the Environmental Protection Agency, was president of the Hispanic-American student organization and the Brandeis Black Student Organization during his Brandeis years. He urged students to choose an important issue for them personally and to work for change.

**Fioridaliza Batista** ’00 and **Denise Robles** ’00 coordinated the month’s events. Fior explained that the idea of a special month devoted to Hispanic culture was born in 1997 with “the desire to make a name for AHORA. We wanted members to become more active within the Brandeis community, and we decided to sponsor a nationally-recognized project like Hispanic Heritage Month.” Added Denise, “The way people perceive us needs to be changed. People at Brandeis and in the world need to open their minds to things that are unfamiliar to them and, in addition, the Hispanic community must become more active and unified. Students and the administration need to support the efforts that already exist, like Hispanic Heritage Month and other events AHORA sponsors.”

## JANE’S 1999 TRAVEL GRANT WINNERS GIVE INTERVIEWS, PRESENTATIONS

**Katerina Ailova** (Anthropology) and **Sharen Bidaisee** ’99 were 1999 Jane’s Travel Grant recipients.

Katerina spent seven weeks in Oaxaca. “I carried out an ethnography about the symbolism of a major fiesta in a small village and interviewed people about the symbolism of images in the local church. I discovered there is a ‘shadow’ to the Catholic imagery in which indigenous religious meanings and concepts survive. The church is built on the ruins of an ancient Zapotec shrine, and even after several centuries of Spanish clerical presence, people still come to the church because it stands on a place that was sacred long before the Spanish came. It is fascinating to see how people are able to preserve their culture, language, and world views in the face of imposing ideology.”

Sharen’s project was to paint for four months in Trinidad and Tobago in order to provide a contrast with “my work and experience as a Caribbean artist in the U.S.” She “explored the effect of direct stimulation from the environment on my subject matter and style, in contrast to the results of working from secondary sources

such as memory and photographs” while at Brandeis. “I also was interested in understanding the role that being a member of a minority has played in my development as an artist at the university, in terms of the themes and stylistic approaches that have consistently emerged in my work.” Upon completion of her summer research she presented a show of her paintings at Brandeis.

## STUDENT, ALUMNI IN LATIN AMERICA

**Wendi Adelson** '01, **Benjamin Singerman** '99, and **Rebecca Smith** '99 spent time recently in Latin America and shared some of their experiences with us.

Wendi said that her interest began with the book *Revolutionizing Motherhood: The Mothers of the Plaza de Mayo*, written by Marguerite Bouvard, a fellow of the Brandeis Women's Studies program. Wendi received a fellowship from the International Center for Ethics, Justice, and Public Life to intern with the Madres in Buenos Aires for three months. “I translated documents from women's organizations and international groups, including documents about the international criminal court. I want to go into human rights law. And I'm going to write a senior thesis on the international criminal court. I want to write on why the U.S. should approve such a court and the implications that would have for Argentina. This internship was the best experience of my life. The opportunity to study in Latin America is what you make of it. What you're passionate about, you can really explore and make an impact on.”

Ben spent the year in Ecuador on a Fulbright Student Award. He lived in Quito and was “examining the current economic, social and political crisis which is destroying the Ecuadorian state. In addition to working with a member of the Ecuadorian congress, I spent a lot of time in one of the southside slums of Quito. I joined a traditional Sierran dance troupe. I was the first foreigner ever made a full-fledged member of the group in a traditional Indian ceremony, and since then I have presented original works of dance and theater with them every weekend in Quito and the surrounding towns. In the face of political chaos and a devastating economic situation, they have continued to explore and promote their cultural heritage through their dancing. In doing so they have managed to maintain their self-respect, and in many cases their sanity.”

Becky has been in the Peace Corps in El Salvador since her graduation. After three months training for development projects in agro-forestry, she went to Jocoro, where she has been working with one of the farmers. “I never would've dreamed that this elderly man is such a progressive, creative farmer. He constructed rock barriers against soil erosion, he planted banana trees with individual rock terraces, he experiments with new seed varieties, and he plants teak trees. He donated one-fifth of his land to the community so they could build a road, and his daughters work along with his sons in the field.” This summer she traveled to Belize and Guatemala with Brandeis alumna Courtney Kurlanska and continued to work on community development projects.

## DISSERTATIONS AND SENIOR THESES

The following students received doctorates with dissertations in Latin American-related fields: **Janina Fenigsen** (Anthropology, and a 1994 recipient of a Jane's Travel Grant), “Regimes of Inequality: Linguistic Ideologies and Practices in Barbados”; **Holly Greenwell Hogan** (Interdisciplinary Program in Literary Studies) “Divesting the Chiapanec Landscape: Rosario Castellanos' *Oficio de Tinieblas*”; **Sarah Elizabeth Klein** (Interdisciplinary Program in Literary Studies), “Running Away, Coming Home: Women, *creolité* and *la case creole* in Four Contemporary Novels from Martinique and Guadeloupe”; **Mary D. Wasserman** (Politics), “Foreign Military Intervention and Democratization: The Evidence from Panama, 1960-1994”; **Alba Cruz** (Heller School), “Birthweight Outcomes Among Latinas in Boston: An Analysis of Their Heterogeneity.”

The following students wrote senior essays in the Spanish Department: **Samantha Eisenstein**, “Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz and the Power of Religion”; **Sharon Rosenberg**, “*Fresa y Chocolate*: Teaching a Lesson in Tolerance”; **Samara Enright**, “Losing the Battle: Marriage as a Power Struggle in Ángeles Mastretta's *Arráncame la vida*”; **Acadia Blossom Watson**, “The Search for ‘Yo’: An Exploration of the Female ‘Bildungsroman’ and Fragmentation in Julia Alvarez's *Yo!*”; **Jennifer Horne**, “‘In Other Accents’: Language, Geography, and Class as Barriers to Opportunity in Julia Alvarez's *Yo!*”

## LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY

**Silvia Arrom** (History) spoke on the Pinochet case in the History Department's panel on “History Behind the Headlines: Repressive Regimes and Their Legacies.” She gave a paper on “Survival Strategies of the Mexico City Poor, 1774-1871” at the LASA meetings in Miami. She served as commentator on Latin American history panels at the III Seminario Internacional de la Historia de la Ciudad de México in Mexico City, the American Historical Association meetings in Chicago, and the Boston Area Workshop on Latin American History.

**Roxanne Dávila** (ROCL) received a Mazer Grant for Faculty Research for her project “Travelers, Explorers and Scholars: Mapping Space and Place in Central America.” She published “Mexico City as Urban Palimpsest in Salvador Novo's ‘Nueva Grandeza Mexicana’” in *The Literary Imagination* (forthcoming), and “Mito, nación e identidad: El imaginario urbano en la obra de José Emilio Pacheco” in *Alba de América* (forthcoming). Dr. Dávila presented a paper on “Bewitching the City: Carmen Boullosa's *La milagrosa*” at the LASA meetings in Miami.

**Angela María Pérez-Mejía** (ROCL) received honorable mention by the Casa de las Americas Prize committee for the best book by a Latin American author on any subject, *Geography of Hard Times: Travel Writing to South*

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*America During the Independence Period*. She presented papers at the Modern Language Association and in Guatemala City. She taught *Latin American Women Represent Themselves* at the Graduate Consortium in Women's Studies at Radcliffe College during spring 2000. She was awarded a research grant at the John Carter Brown Library for this coming academic year.

**Faith Smith** (AAAS) presented "The Labour of Intellectuals: C.L.R. James and J.J. Thomas" at the C.L.R. James conference at Brown University, and participated in a panel on "Teaching Caribbean Literature in North American Institutions" at the Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars Association in Puerto Rico.

**Mireya Solís** (Politics) has been awarded an advanced research fellowship by Harvard University and will be on leave from Brandeis in 2000-01. She will be researching Japanese industrial policy and multinational corporations.

**Javier Urcid** (Anthropology) published "La lápida grabada de Noriega: tres rituales en la vida de un noble Zapoteca," *Indiana* 16, (April 2000). He presented "Silent Voices on Tumbled Megaliths: Architectural Narratives at Monte Alban" at the University of Texas, and "Pre-columbian Skull Trephination in North and Meso-america" (co-authored with James L. Stones) at the International Colloquium on Trephination in Human History, University of Birmingham, England.

**Dessima Williams** (Sociology) received a stipend from the Brandeis Initiative for a project engaging Grenadian citizens in exploring structures and processes for reconciliation in the aftermath of the U.S. intervention in 1979. Professor Williams was a recipient of the YWCA's Boston's Academy of Women Achievers Class of 2000 award which recognizes women who have demonstrated leadership and reached exemplary levels of achievement in their professions and communities.

**Robert Zeitlin** (Anthropology) published "A Peripheral Perspective on the Applicability of World System Theory to the Analysis of Precolonial Political Economy" in *Foundations of Power in Prehispanic Oaxaca* (1999), a chapter in the Mesoamerica volume of *The Cambridge History of the Native Peoples of the Americas* (forthcoming), and several pieces in the *Oxford Encyclopedia of Mesoamerican Cultures* (forthcoming).

## ALUMNI NOTES

**Erna Alfred** '97 is a benchmarking analyst with The Performance Measurement Group in Waltham.

**Christine Aragon** '99 is a doctoral student in American Studies at Purdue University. Her interest is in issues facing Guatemalan-Americans and Salvadoran-Americans in the United States. She is a volunteer at a women's shelter.

**James Backer** '71 received his Ph.D. in June from the School of Computers and Information Sciences at Nova Southern University in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. He is currently a computer counselor in the Ministry of Education and an English teacher in Israel.

**Amy Barlow** '89 received her Master of Science in nursing in 1999. She is a nurse practitioner providing primary care in an inner-city clinic in Baltimore.

**Carlos Baía** '94 completed his graduate studies at the University of Florida and is currently the Business Alliance Coordinator for the city of Deerfield Beach, FL.

**Larissa Ruiz Baía** '94 is a doctoral student in Political Science at the University of Florida. She is conducting dissertation fieldwork in New Jersey on the topic of religion, Latinos, and the search for identity. She is the recipient of a dissertation fellowship from the Social Science Research Council.

**Sharen Bidaisee** '99 completed an internship in architecture in Trinidad. During 2000-01 she will research the visual arts in the Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, and Dominica with a Mortimer Hays-Brandeis Traveling Fellowship.

**Rachel Blankstein** '96 completed her Peace Corps service in Niger last October, acting as a liaison on health, cultural, agricultural, and technical matters. She also worked for the Catholic Relief Services in Angola on a Child Survival health project. She co-authored *A Pocket Guide to Managing Contraception* (Pilot Edition, 1999).

**Alejandro Caminos** '95 is an associate at Kelling, Northcross and Nobriga, a financial advice firm for public agencies. In 1998 he took a nine-month journey through thirteen countries in South America, Europe, and Asia.

**Mellissia Capano** '97 is product manager of a company that provides temperature information via the internet.

**Kim Coughlin** '85 is a second grade teacher in a charter elementary school in Northridge, CA. She is doing a school counseling internship and working toward her license in Marriage and Family Therapy.

**Carol Diamondstein** '63 is a clinical psychologist in private practice in Buenos Aires, Argentina. She is in the process of creating an agency to assist people in settling into a new cultural environment and is a consultant on multicultural integration to international schools.

**Gabrielle Dickerman** '99, recipient of a 1998 Jane's Travel Grant, is a second year student at Northeastern University School of Law.

**Vanya Green** '99 is teaching in a bilingual elementary school in the San Francisco Bay area, under the Teach for America program.

**Adam Greenwald** '98 has been named Brandeis' assistant director of alumni relations and the annual fund. He is at the Brandeis House in New York City.

**Donna Guy** '67 published *White Slavery and Mothers Alive and Dead: The Troubled Meeting of Sex, Gender, Public Health and Progress in Latin America*, U. of Nebraska Press (2000), and presented "La verdadera historia de la Sociedad de Beneficencia" at the American Historical Association in Chicago. She is a Professor of history at the University of Arizona.

**Frances Hagopian** '75 participated on two panels discussing the Latin American political system at the LASA meetings in Miami. She is an Associate Professor of government at the University of Notre Dame.

**Laura-Nell Hodo** '96 received her Master of Science degree in the history of medicine at Oxford University. She is in her second year at Harvard University Medical School.

**Peter Kornbluh** '79 is a senior analyst at the National Security Archive in Washington, D.C. Following up on an interest that began with his Brandeis senior thesis, he has been reviewing newly declassified U.S. government documents on Chile. His recent publications on the Pinochet case include two articles in *The Nation* (Dec. 21, 1998 and Aug. 9, 1999). He presented a paper on "The U.S. and Pinochet" at the LASA meetings in Miami.

**Courtney Kulanska** '99 is serving in the Peace Corps in Nicaragua.

**David "Quil" Lawrence** '94 returned from Colombia, where he worked as a journalist for the past three years, and spent the spring as a Pew Fellow in International Journalism at Johns Hopkins. He conducted research trips to Iraq and Iraqi Kurdistan. He is recently back from Cuba and continues to work as a free-lance reporter.

**David Lewis** '83 is senior associate with Manchester Trade Ltd., International Business Advisers, Washington, D.C. He is responsible for clients and business in the Caribbean and Latin America, focusing specifically on trade and investment initiatives. The association's web page is [www.claa.org](http://www.claa.org).

**Lisa Moctezuma-Bender** '88 owns Moctezuma Books and Gallery in Chula Vista, CA. It specializes in Spanish language books and Latin American and Spanish art.

**Sheila Rabb Weidenfeld** '65 is a television producer and author in Washington, D.C. She is the honorary Consul General of the Republic of San Marino and has done election monitoring for IFES.

**Luis Rubio** (Ph.D. '83) published *Estado y economía en América Latina: Por un gobierno efectivo en la 'Epoca actual,'* (with Rolf Luders), Mexico (1999), and *Tres*

*ensayos, Fobaproa, privatización y TLC*, Mexico (1999). He is the general director of CIDAC, a not-for-profit institution devoted to the study and interpretation of Mexico's reality. CIDAC'S web page is [www.cidac.org](http://www.cidac.org).

**Eduardo Saenz-Rovner** (Ph.D. '89) is an Associate Professor at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia. He recently presented "The Industrialists and Politics in Colombia, 1950-1957" at the American Historical Association in Chicago and published "Usos y abusos de la historia: un ensayo bibliográfico" in *Historia Crítica*, U. de los Andes, v. 19 (2000).

**Rafael Sánchez** '86 is an Associate Professor of mathematics at Universidad Central de Venezuela and is the president of the organizing committee for the XV Iberoamerican Mathematical Olympiads. He recently co-authored, with Imtiaz Manji, "A Note on the Homology of the Schur Complex" in the *Journal of Algebra*, v. 211 (1999).

**John Saxe-Fernández** '64 is the author of *Globalización: Crítica a un paradigma*, Plaza & Janes, Mexico (1999), and "Industrializing and Deindustrializing Cycles in Latin America: A Reading from Hamilton," *International Journal of Politics, Culture and Society* (Spring 2000).

**Jason Schweitzer** '99 is working for Casa Iris, a non-profit organization in Roxbury, MA that gives peer support services to Latinos infected with or affected by HIV or AIDS.

**Lynn Stephen** (Ph.D. '87), Professor of anthropology at the University of Oregon, presented a paper on "Contradictory Nation Views: NAFTAist and Neo-Zapatista Visions of Mexico" at the LASA meetings in Miami.

**Mark Szuchman** '69, Professor of history at Florida International University, chaired a panel on "The Transformation of Latin American Cities, 1880-1940" at the LASA meetings in Miami.

**Barbara Tenenbaum** '68 chaired a panel on "New Perspectives on Porfirian Mexico" at the LASA meetings in Miami. She is a Specialist in Mexican Culture at the Hispanic Division, Library of Congress.

**Steven Volk** '68, Professor of Latin American history at Oberlin College, presented a paper on "The Development of the Chilean Right from the Fall of Allende to the Return of Pinochet" at the LASA meetings in Miami.

## BENSON SALER RETIRES

Professor Benson Saler has retired from teaching after thirty two years at Brandeis. He was a member of the Anthropology Department and served on the Latin American Studies committee. We extend our best wishes and sincere thanks for the time he gave to the program.

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## LAS PROGRAM GRADUATES

The Latin American Studies Program extends its congratulations to the following students and wishes them well in all their future endeavors. The majors (concentrators) are:

**Fiordaliza Batista** – additional major in Politics, cum laude; Bruce R. Mayper Memorial Award for Promoting Racial Amity;

**Nadine Ja'Net DeFoe** – additional major in Politics;

**Vamsi K. Koneru**- additional major in Psychology, minors in American Literature and Spanish; Jacob and Bella Thurman Award for Social Citizenship;

**Maritza Santana Pomales** – additional major in Sociology;

**Sonia Satija** – additional majors in Politics and Spanish, minor in International Studies;

The minors (programs) are:

**Marcella K. Mujana**, major in Politics;

**Denise Robles**, major in Psychology.

## LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COMMITTEE

The following faculty members helped guide the Latin American Studies program this year. They also served as advisers for students interested in their fields of expertise: Silvia Arrom (History), Roxanne Dávila (ROCL), Donald Hindley (Politics), Robert Hunt (Anthropology), James Mandrell (ROCL), Ricardo Morant (Psychology), Wellington Nyangoni (AAAS), Dora Older (ROCL), Angela Pérez-Mejía (ROCL), Benson Saler (Anthropology), Laurence Simon (SID), Faith Smith (English/AAAS), Mireya Solís (Politics), Javier Urcid (Anthropology), O. Miguel Villanueva (Economics), Dessima Williams (Sociology), Luis Yglesias (ROCL), Robert Zeitlin (Anthropology).

## ITEMS FOR THE 2001 NEWSLETTER

Do you have professional information you want to share, a new e-mail or web page address? Please send your information to Marilyn Brooks, administrator of LAS: **e-mail:** [Mbrooks@brandeis.edu](mailto:Mbrooks@brandeis.edu); **fax:** 781-736-2293; **snail mail:** LAS/MS 036, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA 02454. View our web page at:

<http://www.brandeis.edu/departments/latinam/>

**Faculty, students and friends at the Latin American Studies luncheon on May 3.**

(Photo by Julian Brown, Brandeis Public Affairs Office)

## LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES OFFERED DURING 1999-2000

### Fall

ANTH 55a	Development and the Third World	Hunt
ANTH 147A	Rise of Mesoamerican Civilization	Zeitlin
HIST 71a	Latin American History, Pre-Conquest to 1870	Arrom
HIST 173B	Latin American Women: Historical Perspectives	Arrom
LAS 98a	Independent Study	Staff
LAS 99d	Senior Research	Staff
POL 144a	Latin American Politics I	Hindley
SOC 107a	Global Apartheid and Global Social Movements	Williams
SOC 171a	Women Leaders and Transformation in Developing Countries	Williams
SPAN 111b	Introduction to Latin American Literature	Pérez-Mejía
SPAN 135a	Modern Latin American Literature	Dávila
SPAN 164b	Studies in Latin American Literature: Autobiography in Latin America	Pérez-Mejía
SPAN 190b	Latin American Fiction in Translation	Dávila

### Spring

AAAS 134b	Novel and Film	Smith
COML 193a	Topics in New World Studies: Rumba, Samba, Reggae	Yglesias
ECON 26a	Latin America's Economy	Villanueva
ECON 175a	Introduction to the Economics of Development	Erbil
ENG 127b	Migrating Bodies, Migrating Texts	Smith
HIST 71b	Latin American History, 1870 to the Present	Arrom
LAS 98a	Independent Study	Staff
LAS 99d	Senior Research	Staff
POL 144b	Latin American Politics II	Hindley
POL 146b	Revolutions in the Third World	Hindley
POL 179a	Seminar: Politics and Hunger	Morgenthau
SOC 125b	U.S.-Caribbean Relations	Williams
SPAN 111b	Introduction to Latin American Literature	Pérez-Mejía
SPAN 164b	Studies in Latin American Literature	Dávila
SPAN 166b	Writing the Latin American City	Dávila
SPAN 168b	Latin America Through the Eyes of Women	Pérez-Mejía

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