



# BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

Summer 2005

Newsletter

No. 14

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

As the new Chair of Latin American Studies, I would like to thank my predecessor, Silvia Arrom, Chair for the last fourteen years. She has been instrumental in developing LAS as a thriving program. Thanks also to our donors for their increasing generosity. Their support, together with Silvia's hard work, has given faculty and students an intellectual home in LAS.

This newsletter is testimony to our expanded role in 2004-05. Read about the lectures, concerts, and films we sponsored that attracted diverse audiences. A record number of forty seven students went to Latin America for research, field trips, or study abroad programs, while our faculty continues to produce outstanding research in the field.

The highlight of the coming year is the presence of Madeleine Haas Russell Visiting Professor Marjorie Agosin. She is a renowned and prolific writer, human rights activist, and a specialist on Latin American literature. She will be teaching and giving lectures open to the Brandeis community. It is an honor to welcome her.

We also welcome assistant professors Nadia Kim (Sociology) and Patricia Tovar (Economics) to the LAS faculty. In addition, we are pleased to announce our search for the Florence Levy Kay Postdoctoral Fellow in Latino Studies for 2006-08.

We have an exciting agenda ahead, so look us up on the web and join us at our many events this year.

*Angela Pérez-Mejía*

## PANEL DISCUSSES FAIR WAGES, BENEFITS FOR CUSTODIAL EMPLOYEES

Members of the LAS Program joined in a broad coalition of faculty and students to improve the wages and benefits earned by custodians – most of them Latin American immigrants – who are sub-contracted to work at night cleaning the University. The campaign highlight was a panel entitled “El Salvador to Brandeis: The Search for Wages, Work, and Justice,” organized by the Brandeis Labor Coalition during the Local Action/Global Impact Week sponsored by the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life. Silvia Arrom (History), Kelley Ready (SID), and workers Francisca Escobar, José Jiménez, and Lorena Segovia spoke to a packed audience, with translation by Javier Urcid (Anthropology) and Claudia Martínez '07.

A new contract signed this summer with the S.E.I.U., which represents facilities workers, raises the compensation paid contract custodians to the same level as workers employed by the University. It also re-establishes the in-house night shift so that custodians can work directly for Brandeis and receive enhanced benefits. This successful cooperative effort reflects the University's commitment, rooted in its foundational pillar of social justice, to offer competitive and equitable wages to the men and women who work here.



(Photo courtesy of the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life)

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## LAS EVENTS AT BRANDEIS, 2004-05

SUSAN ECKSTEIN (Boston University), ELIZABETH FERRY (Anthropology), and EVA THORNE (Politics): "Globalization and Latin America" panel, October 13.

JOCELYN KNOWLES '06 and BEKKA SAKS '06 (2004 Jane's Travel Grant recipients): "Drawing in the Darkness: Shedding Light on Pre-Hispanic Aesthetics in Oaxaca," October 14.

"THE HIDDEN WONDERS OF SANTERIA" panel: October 21.

STEPHEN FERRY (photojournalist): "I Am Rich Potosí, The Mountain that Eats Men" and "Covering Armed Conflict in Latin America," October 27.

ALEXANDRA PINEIRO (Heller School): "Exposing the Truth: U.S. Immigration," October 27.

MAGDALENA CAMPOS-PONS (artist): "Crossings: Journeys of an Afro-Cuban Artist," October 28.

AHORA!: "Making History: Ahora, Mañana, y Siempre," October 30.

ALYX KELLINGTON (photojournalist): "Crossroads of Haiti," November 16.

GREG BERGER (filmmaker): "Dispatches from Rebel Mexico," November 30.

SILVIA ARROM (History), KELLEY READY (SID), FRANCISCA ESCOBAR, JOSE JIMENEZ, and LORENA SEGOVIA (Brandeis custodians): "El Salvador to Brandeis: The Search for Work, Wages, and Justice" panel, February 10.

RAY HAMMOND (African Methodist Episcopal Church, Boston), AMERICAN JEWISH WORLD SERVICE representative, and BRANDEIS HILLEL students who participated in the 2004 Alternative Spring Break Program in Latin America: "Faith in Action: From Brandeis to Nicaragua, From Boston to Sudan" panel, February 11.

MARIANA CARAM (SID, 2005 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): "Measuring the Impact of Solar Technologies on Household Welfare in Argentina," February 17.

SILVIA ARROM (History), MARK AUSLANDER (Anthropology), CINDY COHEN (Ethics Center), JUAN MORILLO (manager of Perú Negro), and HEIDI FELDMAN (author): "Globalization, Cultural Identity, and the Music of Black Perú" panel, March 8.

PERU NEGRO (performance): March 9.

ADAM MENDELSON (NEJS, 2005 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): "Between Kingston and Charleston: The Travels of a Mid 19<sup>th</sup>-Century Jamaican Jew," March 10.

PABLO MENENDEZ (Cuban-American musician): "Cuban Music: The Buena Vista Social Club in Context," March 10.

MARIA AGUILAR (Grassroots International): "Up From the Roots: How Popular Social Movements in Brazil, Haiti, and Mexico are Turning the Tide in Water Rights," March 11.

ANDRES TORRES (Mauricio Gaston Institute): "Radical Puerto Rican Movements in the 1960s and 1970s," March 15.

TROY TREJO '06 (2005 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): "Investigating Children's Healthcare in Nicaraguan Refugee Communities: Qué debemos hacer ahora?" March 24.

GERDES FLEURANT (Wellesley College), YAN-VALOU DRUM AND DANCE ENSEMBLE: "African Musical Traditions in the Americas," April 4.

ALEX GOMEZ (filmmaker): "Voices Un Heard: Making Documentaries to Empower Marginalized Communities in Latin America," April 4.

ROBERT CARR (AIDS Support in Kingston, Jamaica): "Public Policy and HIV-AIDS in the Caribbean," April 6.

BRANDEIS HILLEL: "Where in the World is Corralitos?" panel, April 6. Photo exhibit, April 6-11.

YANINA SELTZER BEKERMAN '05 (2005 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): "The Politics of National Identity and Race in Costa Rica," April 6.

MEXICAN SOLIDARITY NETWORK members: "The Mexican Solidarity Network: CAFTA and Free Trade" panel, April 14.

CARLOS MUNOZ (Monteverde Conservation League): "Conservation of Tropical Biodiversity in Monteverde, Costa Rica: Is It Sustainable?," April 14.

"Women Constructing a Fair Global Economy: Fair Trade, Globalization, and Human Rights" panel, April 14.

GISSELL ABREU (Mauricio Gaston Institute): "Latino Grass Roots Organizations in Massachusetts," April 15.

MARY BERG (Women's Studies Research Center): "Cuba on the Edge," April 19.

BRANDEIS EARLY MUSIC ENSEMBLE: "España Vieja y Nueva," April 20.

KEVIN GALLAGHER (Boston University): "The Silicon Valley of Mexico? Hi-tech Investment and Economic Development in Guadalajara, Mexico," April 22.

**Films:**

- "BEFORE NIGHT FALLS": October 25.
- "QUILOMBO": November 3.
- "TODOS SANTOS CUCHUMATAN": November 24.
- "CUBA: IN THE SHADOW OF DOUBT": March 10.
- "CAMPAMENTO": March 24.
- "TODOS SANTOS: THE SURVIVORS": April 7.
- "THE TRANSNATIONAL FIESTA": April 15.

## BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM ON LATIN AMERICA

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

## HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

AHORA! celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month in October for the eighth consecutive year. "Making History: Ahora, Mañana, y Siempre (Now, Tomorrow, and Always)" was this year's theme. Events included traditional and contemporary dances, a procession with students carrying the flags of their home countries, two spoken pieces, and several comedy skits. According to co-president Jasmin Salcedo, the goal was to show the diversity of cultures that make up Latin America and the Latino immigration in the United States. She underscored AHORA!'s need to emphasize Latino awareness and social issues on campus relating to the Hispanic community, which is now the largest minority in this country.

## THE CARIBBEAN CONNEXION

The Caribbean Connexion is an organization dedicated to exploring the social, political, and cultural customs of countries in the Caribbean. This year's Caribbean Week was held in April and featured Professor Gerdes Fleurant (Music, Wellesley College) discussing African music traditions of the Americas followed by a performance by the Yanvalou Drum and Dance Ensemble. Caribbean Connexion also donated profits from their fall dance to charities in Grenada to help the island recover from damage caused by Hurricane Ivan in 2004.

## SENIOR WINS JANE'S ESSAY PRIZE

Jonathan Landesman '05 received the 2005 Jane's Essay Prize for his senior thesis "Rebels into Democrats: The Transformation of Nicaraguan Guerrilla Leaders into

Democratic Political Actors." The award is given for the best undergraduate research paper in any area of Latin American, Caribbean, or Latino Studies.

He presented a paper based on his thesis at the Latin American Studies Symposium at Birmingham-Southern University in Birmingham, AL in April.



Jonathan Landesman  
(Photo by Michael Lovett)

## JANE'S FACULTY AWARDS

Six LAS faculty members received 2005 Jane's Faculty Development Awards. They are: **Charles Golden** (Anthropology) for archaeological research in Guatemala; **Angela Pérez-Mejía** (ROCL) to attend a conference in Brazil; **Lucía Reyes** (ROCL) for research on indigenous people in Argentina; **Faith Smith** (AAAS/English) to attend meetings in Colombia; **Eva Thorne** (Politics) to study Maroon communities in Jamaica; and **Javier Urcid** (Anthropology) to analyze ceramic materials near the Ndaxagua cave in Mexico.

## JANE'S TRAVEL GRANTS

Ten Jane's Travel Grants were given during the 2004-05 academic year, the largest number given to date. The recipients who received the awards to fund research in Latin America and the Caribbean during winter break are **Mariana Caram** (SID); "Measuring the Impact of Solar Ovens on Household Welfare in Argentina"; **Eric Michael Kelley** (Anthropology) "Shamanic Music and Language Among the AváGuaraní of Eastern Paraguay"; **Adam Mendelsohn** (NEJS) "To the 'Extreme Side of the Habitable Globe': Investigating the Role of Caribbean Jewry in the Emergence of the English-Language Diaspora"; **Yanina Seltzer Bekerman** '06: "The Politics of National Identity and Race in Costa Rica: Challenges Presented by Early 20<sup>th</sup>-Century Caribbean and Current Nicaraguan, Colombian, and Argentine Immigration"; and **Troy Trejo** '06: "Investigating Children's Health Issues in the Nicaraguan Refugee Communities of La

Carpio and Puente Los Anonos, Costa Rica.” **Brandeis Hillel** received a group grant for its project “Alternative Spring Break in Honduras: Where in the World is Corralitos?”

The recipients for summer research are **Jefferson Arak '07**: “Voice Through Film: A Visual Study of the Chiapas Media Project and Its Influence in Rural Chiapas and Guerrero”; **Julianna Barrera '06**: “Landscape Modification and Site Dynamics at Medicinal Trail, Orange Walk District, Belize”; **Betina Freidin** (Sociology): “Hybridizing Eastern Medical Knowledge in Latin America: The Case of Acupuncture in Argentina”; and **Robert Marx '06**: “Gendered Liminality in Buenos Aires: Transvestites’ Internalization of Gender Roles.”



2005 Jane’s Travel Grant recipients **Troy Trejo**, **Marianna Caram**, **Jefferson Arak**, and **Julianna Barrera**  
(photo by Michael Lovett)

## MARJORIE AGOSIN IS VISITING PROFESSOR

**Marjorie Agosin**, Professor of Spanish at Wellesley College, is the Madeleine Haas Russell Visiting Professor for 2005-06. A noted author and human rights activist, Professor Agosin has published works of poetry, fiction, nonfiction, and memoirs about growing up in Chile. She received the Latino Literary Prize for Poetry, the Letras de Oro Prize for Literature, the 1998 United Nations Leadership Award in Human Rights, and the Gabriela Mistral Medal of Honor for Lifetime Achievement, among other tributes. She will teach Spanish 192a, “Jewish Women Writers in Latin America,” in the fall and LAS 100a, “Chile: A History of Memory and Silence,” in the spring. Professor Agosin will speak at the Brandeis conference “Telling the Story: Power and Responsibility in Documenting Human Rights Violations,” co-sponsored by the International Center for Ethics, Justice and Public Life, on September 15.

## STUDY ABROAD

A record twenty four Brandesians studied in Latin America during the 2004-05 academic year. They attended universities in Argentina, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Jamaica, Mexico, and Nicaragua.

## VISITING FACULTY

Five visiting professors taught LAS courses in 2004-05. They are **Jorge Capetillo-Ponce** (Sociology): “The Negotiation of Latino/a Identity and the Formation of Latino Communities in the U.S.”; **Fabiola López Durán** (FA): “20<sup>th</sup>-Century and Contemporary Latin American Art”; **Susana Nudelsman** (Economics): “Latin America’s Economy”; **Lucía Reyes** (ROCL): “Latin American Boom and Beyond” and “Latinos in the U.S.: Perspectives from History, Literature and Film;” and **Avinash Singh** (AAAS): “Literature of the Caribbean.” **Professor Reyes** returns to our faculty this year and is joined by **Lisette Balabarca**, who will be teaching Latin American literature.

## UNDERGRADUATE DEPARTMENTAL REPRESENTATIVES

**Jefferson Arak '07**, **Lauren Goldstein '06**, and **Jocelyn Knowles '06** will be the Undergraduate Departmental Representatives for the LAS Program for this academic year. The students’ goals are getting involved with event planning, visiting classes to inform students about the Program, and asking students who are majors or minors in LAS what additional courses they would like to have offered. The Program was represented in 2004-05 by **Jocelyn Knowles** and **Sarah Light '05**.

## ESSAYS, THESES, DISSERTATIONS

The following undergraduates wrote senior essays or theses on Latin American-related topics: **Michael Kim** (ROCL): “La creación Maya al desnudo: el mito de Popol Vuh”; **Jonathan Landesman** (Politics): “Rebels into Democrats: The Transformation of Guerrilla Leaders into Democratic Political Actors”; and **Yanina Seltzer Bekerman** (Politics): “The Myth of Costa Rican Racial and Ethnic Homogeneity: Immigration and the Politics of National Identity, Race, Inclusion, and Exclusion.”

The following graduate students wrote dissertations in Latin-American related fields: **Martin Benoit** (Sociology): “Causes of Social Change and Conflict, and the Emergence of a National Consciousness in Grenada”; **Mandy Smith** (Psychology): “Couples and Condoms: A Dyadic Approach to Condom Decision-Making in Latino and Anglo Dating Couples”; **Lisa Cacari Stone** (Heller School): “Analysis of the Funding and Provision of Health Care of Immigrants after Welfare Reform: Local Consequences and Variation in New Mexico,” and **Humberto Reynoso Vallejo** (Heller School): “The Rela-

tionship Between Social Capital and Substance Abuse Treatment Utilization Among Drug Using Puerto Rican Women.”

## LAS FACULTY NOTES

**Silvia Arrom** (History) published “Liberalismo y derecho de familia en México: los Códigos Civiles de 1870 y 1884” in *Ruptura de la Inequidad* (2005) and “Mexico City’s Poor House” in the *Encyclopedia of Social Welfare History in North America* (2005). She presented papers on Mexican history at the American Historical Association meeting in Seattle, the Berkshire Conference on Women’s History in Claremont, CA, and the V Simposio de Historia de la Ciudad de México in Mexico City.

**Jorge Capetillo-Ponce** (Sociology) wrote “Decyphering the Labyrinth: The Influence of Georg Simmel on the Sociology of Octavio Paz” in (forthcoming) *Culture, Theory & Society*.

**Elizabeth Ferry** (Anthropology) published *Not Ours Alone: Patrimony, Value and Collectivity in Contemporary Mexico* (2005) and “Geologies of Power: Value Transformations of Mineral Specimens from Guanajuato, Mexico” in *American Ethnologist* (2005). She received the Brandeis University Marva and Sheva Bernstein Faculty Fellowship for the fall of 2005. She spoke at the University of Sussex, England, on “Of Tejocotes and Tizna: Performing Mestizaje in a Bajío Town” in June 2004.

**Charles Golden** (Anthropology) presented papers on “Looking Near and Far: Finding the Borders Between Maya Politics” at the Society for American Archaeology in Salt Lake City in April, “Reconocimiento y Patrones de Asentamiento en la Sierra de Lacandón” at the Simposio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala in Guatemala in July 2004, and “Not Too Weak, Not Too Strong: Reformulating Classic Maya States” at the Society for American Archaeology in Montreal in April 2004. He co-edited *Piedras Negras Archaeology, 1931-1939* (2004) and co-authored “Noticias de la Frontera: Nuevas Investigaciones en el Parque Nacional Sierra de Lacandón” in *XVII Simpósio de Investigaciones Arqueológicas en Guatemala, 2003*.

**Jeremy Mumford** (History) received his doctorate from Yale University. His dissertation, “Vertical Empire: The Struggle for Andean Space in the Sixteenth Century,” won Yale’s Arthur and Mary Wright Prize. He presented papers on “Atlantic Legalities” at the International Seminar on the History of the Atlantic World at Harvard University in April and “Inca Jurisprudence and ‘Indios pleitistas’ in Sixteenth-Century Peru” at the LASA conference in Las Vegas in October. He wrote “The Inca Priest on the Mormon Stage” in *Common-Place* (2005). He studied Quechua in Bolivia this summer.

**Susana Nudelsman** (Economics) presented a paper on “Latin America After a Decade of Reforms” at LASA and “Latin America in the XXI Century: In Search of a New Agenda” at the University of Washington in April.

**Angela Pérez-Mejía** (ROCL) presented papers on “Cultural Agency Outside the Classroom” in Brazil in March, “‘Era Gostoso O Meu Frances’: el montaje cinematográfico como estrategia de lectura postcolonial” at LASA, and “Viajeras Latinoamericanas y del Caribe: escritura de viajes y género en Seacole y Mansilla” in Madrid in May 2004. The English edition of her monograph, *A Geography of Hard Times: Narratives About Travel to South America During the Independence Movements 1789-1845*, was published in 2004. Her op-ed piece on bilingual literacy appeared in *The Justice* in October.

**Faith Smith** (AAAS/English) is an associate editor for the revised edition of the *Encyclopedia of African-American Culture and History: The Black Experience in the Americas*. She presented a paper on “Vision of Freedom for the Americas: Eugenio María de Hostos and José Martí in 19<sup>th</sup>-Century New York” at the National Endowment for the Humanities meeting in New York in July.

**Ibrahim Sundiata** (AAAS/History) is the 2005 recipient of the Brandeis University Jeanette Lerman-Neubauer ’60 and Joseph Neubauer Prize for Excellence in Teaching and Mentoring.

**Eva Thorne** (Politics) published “Land Rights and Garífuna Identity” in the *NACLA Report on the Americas* (2004) and “Ethnic and Race-Based Political Organization and Mobilization in Latin America: Lessons for Public Policy” in *Social Exclusion and Economic Development in Latin America* (2004). She presented a paper on “The Politics of Afro-Latin Land Rights” at LASA.

**Javier Urcid** (Anthropology) presented papers on “Nuiñe Writing of the Mixteca Baja: New Data, Old Problems” at Harvard University in October, “Nuiñe: an Undeciphered Script from Southern Mesoamerica” at the University of South Carolina in November, and “Session on Writing and Language: Mesa Redonda sobre los Olmecas” at the Museo Nacional de Antropología e Historia in Mexico in March. He wrote “El Simbolismo del Jaguar en el Suroeste de Mesoamérica” and “Inscripciones del Epiclásico en la Cuenca de Cioxtlahuaca, Oaxaca” in *Arqueología Mexicana* (2005).

## PROFESSOR RETIRES

**Ricardo Morant**, the Minnie and Harold L. Fierman Professor of Psychology, retired from Brandeis after fifty three years. He chaired the Latin American Studies Program during 1986-87 and 1989-91 and was a member of the Program’s faculty for many years afterwards. We thank him for his dedication to the Program and wish him an enjoyable retirement.

## ALUMNI NOTES

**Sabrina Assayag** '03 attends the Cardozo School of Law in New York. She coordinates free legal assistance to the elderly and poor for the School's Battered Women and Legal Services Programs.

**Jocelyn Auerbach** '98 is a Staff Attorney at the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society and the Council Migration Service of Philadelphia, where she assists low-income clientele in Immigration Court and before Citizenship and Immigration Services, a division of Homeland Security.

**Maura Collins** '02 completed her M.A. in Latin American Studies at the University of Chicago. She is a Project Assistant in the Public Education and Advocacy Division of the Catholic Legal Immigration Network.

**Clara Estow** (M.A. '74, Ph.D. '75) is Professor and Chair of the Hispanic Studies Department at the University of Massachusetts, Boston.

**Nancy Foner** '66 is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at Hunter College and the Graduate Center, City University of New York. She co-edited *Not Just Black and White: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives on Immigration, Race and Ethnicity in the United States* (2004) and *New Immigrants in New York* (revised, 2001).

**Susanna Glusker** '62 helped organize an exhibit in July in Mexico City honoring her mother, journalist and author Anita Brenner, on the centennial of Ms. Brenner's birth and wrote a piece for the exhibit's catalog. She was a consultant for the PBS documentary "The Life and Times of Frida Kahlo" and is currently a consultant on a documentary on José Clemente Orozco. She teaches Women's Studies and Mexican Art at the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City.

**Donna Guy** '67 chaired panels on "Networks, Entrepreneurs, and Development in Mexico and Argentina" and "Women, Family, and Society in Cuba and Argentina" at the LASA meeting in Las Vegas in October. She is a Distinguished Professor of History at Ohio State University.

**Frances Hagopian** '75 was the discussant on the panel "Rethinking Democratic Legitimacy in Latin America" and chaired the panel on "Contemporary Challenges to Catholicism in Latin America" at LASA. She is a Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame.

**Daniel Handel** '02 works at the Family Health Centers of San Diego, a non-profit organization that specializes in assisting the area's low-income Latino population.

**Elsa Hinojosa** '68 directs the Department of Test Development at the Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico which developed an admissions test used in Latin American

countries. She wrote *Evaluación del Aprendizaje* (2001).

**Nell Hodo** '96 works in a Salt Lake City community health center providing primary care to an indigent, predominantly Spanish-speaking community.

**Lauren Kanter** '04 conducts clinical research at the Boston Puerto Rican Center on Population Health and Health Disparities, interviewing people with limited English proficiency as a key contributing factor for health problems in the elderly Boston Puerto Rican community.

**Peter Kornbluth** '79 chaired the panel "Truth, Justice, and Accountability: Declassified Documents as Legal and Historical Evidence in Latin America" and organized the lecture "The Pursuit of Justice for Human Rights Crimes in Chile, A Special Presentation by Judge Juan Guzman Tapia" at LASA. He is the Director of the Chile and Cuba Documentation Projects at the National Security Archive.

**Deborah Meyers** '93 is a Policy Analyst at the Migration Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. and directs its internship program. She wrote "Keeping the Promise: Immigration Proposals from the Heartland," a report for the Immigration Task Force of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations, and co-authored "Immigration: Mapping the New North American Reality" for the MPI.

**Sarah Reynolds** '01 works for the Southern Poverty Law Center's Immigrant Justice Project in Montgomery, AL, assisting workers from Latin America who do day and farm labor in the south.

**Yaser Robles** '03 is enrolled in a Master's Program in Caribbean Cultural Studies at the State University of New York, Buffalo and the Universidad de La Habana, Cuba. He did graduate work in Brazil.

**Jonathan Saxe-Fernandez** '64 directs The World in the XXI Century Research Program of the Center for Interdisciplinary Research in Science and Humanities and is a Professor on the Faculty of Social and Political Science at the National Autonomous University of Mexico. He wrote *La Compre-Venta de México* (2002) and co-authored *Globalización, Imperialismo, y Clase Social* (2nd edition, 2004).

**Lynn Stephen** (Ph.D. '87) was the discussant at the panel on "La Lucha Sigue: New Trends in Women's Activism in Latin America" at LASA. She is a Distinguished Professor of Anthropology at the University of Oregon.

**Barbara Tenenbaum** '68 was the organizer and chair of the panel on "Elite Patriotism 1850-1920, a Contradiction?" at LASA. She is a specialist in Mexican Culture in the Hispanic Division of the Library of Congress.

**Eliana Winer** '03 is living in Lima, Peru, working for an import-export company.

## LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES FACULTY

The following faculty members helped guide the LAS Program during the past year and served as advisers for students interested in their fields of expertise: Silvia Arrom (History), Roxanne Dávila (ROCL), Elizabeth Ferry (Anthropology), Ricardo Godoy (SID), Charles Golden (Anthropology), Donald Hindley (Politics), James Mandrell (ROCL), Lucía Reyes (ROCL), Wellington Nyangoni (AAAS), Angela Pérez-Mejía (ROCL), Laurence Simon (SID), Faith Smith (AAAS/English), Ibrahim Sundiata (AAAS/History), Eva Thorne (Politics), Javier Urcid (Anthropology), Dessima Williams (Sociology).

## 2005 LAS GRADUATES

The LAS Program extends its congratulations to its graduating seniors.

The LAS majors are:

**Lindsey Farnsworth** – additional major in Sociology, minors in Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies and Spanish Language and Literature; Phi Beta Kappa; Rachel Carson Award for Environmental Citizenship; magna cum laude;

**Sarah Light** – minors in Spanish Language and Literature and Peace, Conflict, and Coexistence Studies; cum laude;

**Kranthi Palreddy** – additional major in Politics, minors in Economics and African and Afro-American Studies; Richard Kaufman '58 Memorial Prize for Leadership and Academic Excellence; cum laude;

**Yanina Seltzer Bekerman** – additional majors in Politics and Economics; with honors in Politics and Latin American Studies; Wien Scholar; Student Life Award; cum laude.

The LAS minors are:

**Victoria Broadus** – majors in Politics and International Studies; magna cum laude;

**Danielle Davidson** – major in Sociology, additional minor in Art History; cum laude;

**Jonathan Landesman** – major in Politics, additional minor in Economics; honors in Politics; Phi Beta Kappa; summa cum laude;

**Carla Schuster Mekler** – major in Economics, additional minor in International Business; magna cum laude;

**Rose Sobel** – major in Biology; additional minor in Environmental Studies;

**Joseph Udell** – major in Politics; additional minor in Journalism;

**Kathryn Zelenka** – major in Economics.

## ITEMS FOR THE 2006 NEWSLETTER

Do you have professional information to share about your work related to Latin America or Latinos in the United States? Send your information to: Marilyn Brooks, LAS administrator and editor of the newsletter: Brandeis University, LAS/MS 036, Waltham, MA 02454-9110; fax: 781-736-2273; e-mail: [Mbrooks@brandeis.edu](mailto:Mbrooks@brandeis.edu); web: [www.brandeis.edu/departments/latinam](http://www.brandeis.edu/departments/latinam).



Faculty, students, and friends at the LAS luncheon May 2.  
(Photo by Michael Lovett)

## LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES COURSES OFFERED DURING 2004-2005

### Fall

AAAS 126b	Political Economy of the Third World	Nyangoni
AAAS 133b	Literature of the Caribbean	Singh
ANTH 131b	Latin America in Ethnographic Perspective	Ferry
ANTH 153a	Writing Systems and Scribal Tradition	Urcid
FREN 165b	Haiti, Then and Now	Hale
HIST 71a	Latin American History: Preconquest to 1870	Arrom
HIST 171a	New World Revolutions: U.S., Haiti, Peru: 1768-1824	Mumford
POL 144a	Latin American Politics I	Hindley
SOC 171a	Women Leaders and Transformation in Developing Countries	Williams
SPAN 163a	Latin America Boom and Beyond	Reyes
SPAN 195a	Latinos in the U.S.: Perspectives from Literature and Film	Reyes

### Spring

AAAS 125b	Caribbean Women and Globalization	Smith
ANTH 147a	The Rise of Mesoamerican Civilization	Urcid
ANTH 156a	Power and Violence: The Anthropology of Political Systems	Ferry
ECON 26b	Latin America's Economy	Nudelsman
FA 24b	20 <sup>th</sup> -Century and Contemporary Latin American Art	López Durán
HIST 71b	Latin American History: 1870 to the Present	Arrom
HIST 115a	Comparative Race and Ethnic Relations: Brazil, South Africa, and the United States	Sundiata
HIST 172a	Native Peoples of the Americas	Mumford
POL 128a	Politics of Revolution: State Violence and Popular Insurgency in the Third World	Thaxton
SOC 125b	The Negotiation of Latino/a Identity and the Formation of Latino Communities in the U.S.	Capetillo-Ponce
SPAN 108a	Spanish for Bilingual Students	Reyes
SPAN 111b	Introduction to Latin American Literature	Reyes

### Summer

ENG 107a	Caribbean Women Writers	Smith
POL 128a	Politics of Revolution: State Violence and Popular Insurgency in the Third World	Thaxton

**Newsletter Editor: Marilyn Brooks**

**Latin American Studies**

**Olin-Sang 218/MS 036**

**Brandeis University**

**Waltham, MA 02454-9110**