LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

I am delighted to report that interest in Latin America is growing at Brandeis. During the past year the number of students in the LAS major and minor increased, as did the number of students traveling to Latin America for independent research, field trips, or study abroad programs. Enthusiastic audiences attended a record number of campus events related to Latin America or the Latin American diaspora in the United States. And the Program’s course offerings attracted large enrollments.

Maintaining what has become an annual tradition, we invited an alumnus to speak. This year Peter Kornbluh shared the highlights of his recent award-winning book on U.S. involvement in the Pinochet dictatorship. Students were fascinated to learn that it grew out of the senior essay he wrote at Brandeis twenty-five years ago. One of the benefits of having alumni return is to show students the many fields open to them as LAS majors or minors. In the past we have hosted alumni who were journalists, worked in international business, and conducted research on a Fulbright Scholarship.

The coming year promises to be an exciting one. We welcome three new faculty members: Charles Golden in Anthropology, Jeremy Mumford in History, and Lucia Reyes in ROCL. We continue to incorporate the new field of Latino Studies in the curriculum by offering four courses on the subject. We have a full program of lectures, films, and concerts to increase the awareness of Latino and Latin American Studies at Brandeis. We hope you will join us at some of these events.

Silvia Marina Arrom

RECORD NUMBER OF JANE’S TRAVEL GRANTS

The Latin American Studies Program awarded a record number of Jane’s Travel Grants in 2003-04, including its first intersession grants. Evan Paster ’04 went to Costa Rica to study how the international coffee crisis affects coffee farmers. Whitney Stern ’04 interviewed members of a rural women’s group in Chile. Jeffrey Tornheim ’04 studied traditional medical practices in a Mapuche clinic in Chile. They returned to Brandeis in January with information to complete their senior essays or projects. All three rated their research trips a great success.

Jane’s Travel Grants contributed to two spring break trips. Twenty-four students in the Sustainable International Development Program’s Cuba Study Course observed alternative development approaches in Cuba. Fifteen Brandeis Hillel students performed community service in Mulukuku, Nicaragua. Summer grants funded Jocelyn Knowles ’06 and Bekka Saks ’06 to join an archaeological field trip led by Professor Javier Urcid to the Ndaxagua Cave in Tepelmeme de Morelos, Mexico. Jocelyn’s project focused on the conservation of the cave’s inscriptions and Bekka’s on its aesthetic traditions. The LAS Program is delighted to offer Brandeis students opportunities to travel to Latin America.

Jeffrey Tornheim, Jocelyn Knowles, Bekka Saks, Whitney Stern, and Peter Agnew
(Photo by Michael Lovett)
LAS EVENTS AT BRANDEIS, 2003-04

DOROTHY GRANADA (Director, Women’s Health Group, Nicaragua): “Women’s Rights in Nicaragua,” September 29.

ELIZABETH GARCIA (Black and Puerto Rican Studies Department, Hunter College): “Latino Feminism,” October 2.


LARRY SIMON (SID Program, Heller School) and José “Chencho” Alas (Executive Director, Foundation for Self-Sufficiency in Central America): “The Role of Religion in Sustainable Development,” October 23.


WHITNEY STERN ’04 and EYAL WALLENBURG ’04 with other Brandeis students: “Found in Translation: Life-Changing Experiences Abroad,” October 29.

FELIX PADILLA (Founder and Owner, Libros—Encouraging Cultural Literacy): “The Struggle of Latino Students at the University,” October 30.


VILMA LAINEZ and OSCAR BELTRAN (Youth Leaders of Radio Victoria) and WENDY WALLAS (Station Coordinator): “Radio Victoria: Celebrating Ten Years of Broadcasting in Rural El Salvador,” February 3.

EDWARD SWENSON (Anthropology Department, University of Michigan): “Ritual Power and Competitive Feasting in Late Moche Jequetepeque,” February 5.


CHRISTINA CONLEE (Anthropology Department, University of California/Santa Barbara): “The Post-Collapse Transformation of Power Relations and Social Identities in Late Prehispanic Peru,” February 12.


VINCENT BROWN (History Department, Harvard University): “Obeah and Authority in Jamaican Slave Society,” February 24.


MALICK GHACHEM (History Department, Stanford University): “The Old Regime and the Haitian Revolution, 1685-1804,” March 8.


JEREMY MUMFORD (History Department, Yale University): “A Viceroy’s Decision to Move All the People of the Andes to New Towns: The Problem of State Ambition in Early Atlantic Empires,” March 10.

AHORA!: “Victory Against Repression: Cuban Political Prisoners,” March 18.

JEFFREY TORNEHEM '04 (2004 Jane's Travel Grant recipient): “Inter-cultural Medicine” in Chilean Public Health: Biomedicine and Mapuche Traditions at Hospital Maquehue,” March 22.


WHITNEY STERN '04 (2004 Jane’s Travel Grant recipient): “The Women’s Rural and Indigenous Social Movement in Chile: Gender, Race, and Class,” March 31.


FLORO TUNUBALA (Former Governor of Cauca, Colombia) and LUDVIA GIRALDO DIAZ (Community Organizer and Psychologist, Cali, Colombia): “Indigenous Civil Communities Respond to Armed Conflict in Colombia,” April 2.


BOSTON AREA CONSORTIUM ON LATIN AMERICA

The Boston Area Consortium on Latin America was headquartered at Brandeis for the eleventh 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 2003

AHORA! celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month for the seventh consecutive year in October. This year’s theme was Celebrating Nuestra Mezcla, Café con Leche y Chocolate – Celebrating our Diversity, Coffee with Milk and Chocolate, emphasizing the variety of cultures and races in the Hispanic world. Elizabeth Garcia (Hunter College) gave the keynote talk on Latino feminism. The Main Cultural Event included dances, poetry performances, and a fashion show.

SENIOR WINS JANE’S ESSAY PRIZE

Paul Adler '04 received the 2004 Jane’s Essay Prize for his senior essay “Fighting the Revolution Through Other Means: Guatemalan Leftist Political Parties in the Post-War Period.” The award is given for the best undergraduate research paper in any area of Latin American, Caribbean, or Latino Studies.

Paul Adler
(Photo by Michael Lovett)

CUNNINGHAM PRIZE

Caitlin Steitzer '05 was a recipient of this year’s J. V. Cunningham Prize for Excellence in Writing. Her paper, written for LAS 100, was entitled “El Teatro Campesino and Luis Valdez: A History in Three Acts.”

JANE’S FACULTY AWARDS

Five members of the Latin American Studies faculty received 2004 Jane’s Faculty Development Awards. They are: Roxanne Dávila (ROCL) for archival research in France about the Maya; Elizabeth Ferry (Anthropology) for archival research in England on Mexican mining; Angela Pérez-Mejía (ROCL) for the index to her manuscript A Geography of Hard Times and a conference in Spain; Faith Smith (AAAS/English) for conferences in Barbados and Trinidad; and Javier Urcid (Anthropology) for archaeological research in Oaxaca, Mexico.

STUDY ABROAD

Fourteen Brandeisians studied in Latin America during the 2003-04 academic year. They attended universities in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, and Nicaragua.
LATINO STUDIES CONSORTIUM

Brandeis faculty and students have been actively involved in founding the Greater Boston Latino Studies Consortium, formally launched this May with the conference A Gathering of Voices: Latino Studies and Pedagogies for Building Community held at Tufts University. The Consortium has started several initiatives to increase communication among scholars, support their teaching, and connect academic programs with the Latino community. Its web page provides resources for teaching Latino Studies at both college and high school levels. This fall the Consortium is planning a joint class for students from area universities taking Latino Studies courses. Brandeis students in Professor Lucia Reyes’ course on “Latinos in the U.S.” will be part of this shared learning experience.

ARCHAEOLOGIST JOINS LAS

Charles Golden has joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor of Anthropology. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania with a dissertation entitled “Disentangling Culture Change from Chronology: The Early Classic/Later Classic Divide at Piedras Negras, Guatemala.” His research interests include Mayan archaeology and architecture, and he has done fieldwork in Belize, Guatemala, and Honduras. He co-edited Continuities and Contentions in Maya Archaeology: Perspectives at the Millennium (2003) and has written numerous journal articles on Mayan archaeology. We welcome him to Brandeis and the LAS Committee.

MELLON FELLOW

Jeremy Mumford has been named the Mellon Postdoctoral Fellow in the Atlantic World, 1500-1800, for 2004-06. He received his Ph.D. from Yale University in 2004 with a dissertation entitled “Reducing the Andes: The Spanish Remaking of Inca Peru in the Sixteenth Century.” His research interests are the colonial Andes and the legal and ethnohistory of the native peoples of the Americas. This year he will be teaching two new courses: “New World Revolutions in the Age of Enlightenment: United States, Haiti, Peru” in the fall and “Native Peoples of the Americas to 1824” in the spring. We look forward to having him at Brandeis for the next two years.

VISITING PROFESSORS IN ROCL

Lucía Reyes de Deu will teach Professor Roxanne Dávila’s Latin American literature and Spanish courses while Professor Dávila is on leave during 2004-05. A native of Argentina, Ms. Reyes is a Ph.D. candidate at SUNY/Stony Brook. Her dissertation analyzes the indígenista literature of Argentina and Bolivia.

This past spring two classes in the Department of Romance and Comparative Literature were taught by Tufts University professors. Deborah Pacini Hernández (Anthropology) taught “Latin/o Music, Migration and Identity,” and Claudia Mejía (Romance Languages) taught “Latin American Literature and Film.”

SID CENTRAL AMERICAN SPECIALIST

Anthropologist Kelley Ready is the Associate Director of External Relations in the Sustainable Development Master’s Program of the Heller School. She has worked with women’s, indigenous, and human rights organizations in El Salvador and Mexico. Her research focuses on women in maquilas and other export industries in Central America. Her most recent article is “La Ciguanaba y el espíritu de las relaciones de género en El Salvador” in Mujeres, género e historia en América Central durante los siglos XVIII, XIX y XX (2002).

A JOINT EFFORT

Joining forces to create a new course in Comparative Literature, Professors Angela Pérez-Mejía (ROCL) and Faith Smith (AAAS/English) team-taught “Creating the Transnational Caribbean: Language, Race, and Gender” this spring. The course was funded by a grant for interdisciplinary teaching from the Atlantic Philanthropies Grant.

As they taught, the two professors learned from each other. Professor Pérez-Mejía specializes in the Spanish Caribbean during the 16th and 17th centuries, while Professor Smith’s expertise centers on the English-speaking Caribbean in the 19th century. Touching on the benefits of having professors with different perspectives, Professor Pérez-Mejía explained, “It’s good for the students to see teachers who don’t always agree, or expect to.”

ESSAYS, THESES, DISSERTATIONS

Movement in Chile: An Examination of Race, Class, and Gender”; Natasha Ushomirsky (Spanish): “Ilusiones, Illusions and the Hyphen in Roberto Fernández’s En la ocho y la doce”; Eyal Wallenberg (Economics): “Cuba’s Private Sector: Labor Reallocation in the Context of Dollarization and Economic Reforms.”


LAS FACULTY NOTES

Silvia Arrom (History) presented a paper on Catholic philanthropy and civil society and was the chair and commentator of a panel at the XI Meeting of the Historians of Mexico in Monterrey, Mexico in October. A translation of one of her books appeared in Mexico as Revuelta en las ciudades: políticas populares en América Latina (2004).

Roxanne Dívila (ROCL) gave a talk on “Walking the Ruins: Early Travelers and Explorers at Palenque” at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C. in April. She presented a paper on “Latinos in the U.S.: Perspectives from History, Literature, and Film” at the “Gathering of Voices” conference at Tufts University in May.


Wellington Nyangoni (AAAS) conducted research in Cuba this summer to complete a book on the transition from socialist to a market-based economy.

Angela Pérez-Mejía (ROCL) presented conference papers on “Catalina de Erauso: Constructing Masculinity Through Virginity” in Portugal in June; “Lionel Wager: Constructing the Illegal Border in the Darien” in Colombia in August; and “Fray Servando Teresa de Mier: Displacement Writing” in Washington, D.C. in September. She chaired a panel on “Exploring the Role of Language in Latino Studies” at the “Gathering of Voices” conference at Tufts University in May.

Faith Smith (AAAS/English) presented conference papers on “When the West is Not the West: Locating Reason and Modernity in the Late 19th Century Caribbean” in Barbados in October; “Not Cities in the Accepted Sense: Locating the Modern in the Late 19th Century Caribbean” in India in April; and “Caribbean Cosmopolitanism: Caribbean Travelers in the Caribbean and West Africa in the Late 19th Century” in San Diego in December.

Ibrahim Suniata (AAAS/History) conducted research in Rio de Janeiro and Salvador, Brazil this summer. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Advisory Committee of the National Slavery Museum.

Eva Thorne (Politics) has been named Meyer and Walter Jaffe Assistant Professor of Politics. She is organizing a series of Ford Foundation workshops on Afro-Latin land rights. She published “Ethnic and Racial Political Organization in Latin America” in Social Inclusion and Economic Development in Latin America (2004).


PROFESSOR LEAVES BRANDEIS

Professor Dora Older (ROCL) left the Romance and Comparative Literature Department after seventeen years. She was an active member of the LAS Committee and advisor to the AHCRA! student organization. We thank her for her dedication to our Program and wish her well.

ALUMNI NOTES

Elyssa Auster ’03 is a second-year graduate student at Boston University School of Theology with a concentration in social ethics.

Larissa Ruiz Baia ’94 received her Ph.D. in political science from the University of Florida. Her dissertation is entitled “Christianity and the Imagined Latino Self: The Emergence of A Pan-Ethnic Identity Among Latinos in Paterson, New Jersey.” She is the International Program Coordinator at the Center for International Programs and Services, Lynn University, Boca Raton, FL.

Carlos Baia ’94 is Economic Development Manager for the city of Deerfield Beach, FL.
Juan Corradi '65, a Professor of Sociology at New York University, is Director of the South/North Development Initiative and co-editor of Opinión Sur, an internet journal. SNNDI creates sustainable, market-driven systems that support local economic and social development in Southern countries.

Alex Dupuy (M.A. '76) is a Professor of Sociology at Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT. He received the Haitian Studies Association's 2003 Award for Service and Contribution to Haitian Studies and has written several reports on Haiti for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees. His books include Haiti in the New World Order: The Limits of the Democratic Revolution (1997).

Anna Ellison-Gladstone '01 teaches World Cultures and Geography in Chelmsford, MA. This year she developed and supervised an after-school peer tutoring program.

Nancy Foner '66 is the Ackerman Visiting Professor of Equality and Justice in America at the Baruch College, CUNY. Her latest book, From Ellis Island to JFK: New York's Two Great Waves of Immigration, won the 2000 Theodore Saloutos Award of the Immigration and Ethnic History Society.

Jon Greiner '03 taught history last year as a student teacher at Watertown High School, Watertown, MA.

Marcos Hazan-Cohen '96 is an attorney with Cozen O'Connor, Dallas, TX. He does pro-bono work with Latinos to prepare wills, set up small businesses, and help on family-related cases.

Jessica James '01 is living in Paris, France. She works for Publicis Dialog in the branch that organizes the World Economic Forum.

Temma Kaplan '64 published Taking Back the Streets: Women, Youth, and Direct Democracy (2004). It analyzes women's struggles to reverse tyranny throughout the world, including sections on Latin America and the Caribbean. She is a Professor of History at Rutgers University.

Peter Korabính '79 is Director of the National Security Archives Chile Documentation Project. His most recent book, The Pinochet File: A Declassified Dossier on Atrocity and Accountability, was selected by the Los Angeles Times as a "Best Non-Fiction Book of 2003."

Leora Lev '82 is an Associate Professor at Bridgewater State College, where she teaches Latin American and Spanish literature as well as Women's Studies.

Leo Olper '92 is a Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for Lápiz, the Hispanic division of the Leo Burnett agency. The agency specializes in advertising and marketing to the Hispanic community.

Edward Ramos Sousa '79 is an attorney at Wolf, Arnold & Knoll in New York. The firm provides legal counsel to Latin American law firms and businesses with interests in the United States.

Sarah Reynolds '01 returned home from her Peace Corps service in Guatemala. She worked with women's groups in a small cooperative, teaching topics such as family planning and home economics. She is currently volunteering at a medical clinic.

Yaser Robles '03 is a high school college advisor for ASPIRA, an organization assisting Latino youth, in The Bronx. This fall he begins a master's program in Humanities at the State University of New York, Buffalo specializing in Caribbean Cultural Studies.

Luís Rubio (M.A. '78, Ph.D. '83) continues as president of the Centro de Investigación para el Desarrollo en México. CIDAC's most recent project is the web publication Asuntos Capitales, which investigates economic and political issues. He co-edited Mexico Under Fox (2004), which includes his article "Democratic Politics in Mexico: New Complexities."

Judith Shapiro '63, President and Professor of Anthropology at Barnard College, was elected to the American Philosophical Society. In July 2003, she traveled to Brazil with a curatorial and photographic team from the Smithsonian Institution to study the Tapirapé for the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.

Ben Singerman '99 has completed his second year at Stanford Law School. He volunteers at a clinic, helping indigent people with immigration issues.

Becky Smith '99 is a social worker managing a food pantry and emergency assistance fund at El Centro del Cardenal, a nonprofit agency serving Latinos in Boston.

Michael E. Smith '75 published The Postclassic Mesoamerican World (2003). He is a Professor of Anthropology at the University of Albany, SUNY.

Diana Veneros Ruiz-Tagle (M.A. '92, Ph.D. '98) is a Professor of Latin American History at the Diego Portales University in Santiago, Chile. She published Allende: un ensayo psicobiográfico (2003) on the 30th anniversary of the Chilean coup.

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), Donald Hindley (Politics), James Mandrell (ROCL), Wellington Nyangoní (AAAS), Dora Older (ROCL), Angela Pérez-
Mejía (ROCL), Laurence Simon (SID), Faith Smith (AAAS/English), Ibrahim Sundiata (AAAS/History), Eva Thorne (Politics), Javier Urcid (Anthropology), Dessima Williams (Sociology).

2004 LAS GRADUATES

The LAS Program extends its congratulations to its graduating seniors.

The LAS majors are:
Whitney Heather Stern – additional majors in Sociology and Politics; honors in Politics and Latin American Studies; Undergraduate Research Program; Maurice and Fay Karpf Peace Prize Award; Richard Kaufman ’58 Memorial Prize for Leadership and Academic Excellence; magna cum laude;
Eyal Wallenberg – additional major in Economics, minor in Spanish Language and Literature; high honors in Latin American Studies, highest honors in Economics; Presidential Scholar; Phi Beta Kappa; summa cum laude.

The LAS minors are:
Elizabeth Lynn Carlson – major in Spanish Language and Literature; high honors in Spanish Language and Literature; Eli D. and Mollie Goodstein Prize in Spanish; Presidential Scholar; Phi Beta Kappa; summa cum laude;
Mara Beth Cohen – majors in Politics and Environmental Studies, additional minor in Spanish Language and Literature; Rachel Carson Award for Environmental Citizenship;
Victor Hugo Coral – majors in Economics and Politics, additional minor in Spanish Language and Literature; cum laude;
Jesse Dawn Gordon – major in Psychology; honors in Psychology;
Laurence Alex Green – major in Anthropology; honors in Anthropology; cum laude;
Lauren Alison Kanter – major in Spanish Language and Literature; Justice Louis D. Brandeis Scholar; magna cum laude;
Carlos David Lugo – major in Politics;
Evan Scott Paster – major in Politics; magna cum laude;
Adina Rivas – major in Spanish Language and Literature;
Ariella Shaffer – major in History, additional minor in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies; cum laude;

ITEMS FOR THE 2005 NEWSLETTER

Do you have professional information you want to share or a new e-mail address? 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; web: brandeis.edu/ departments/latinam.

Faculty, students, and friends at the LAS luncheon May 4.
(Photo by Michael Lovett)
# Latin American Studies Courses Offered During 2003-2004

## Fall
- **AAAS 126b** Political Economy of the Third World
  - Instructor: Nyangoni Ferry
- **ANTH 55a** Models of Development
  - Staff
- **HIST 71a** Latin American History, 1870 to the Present
  - Arrom
- **LAS 92a and b** Internship
  - Staff
- **LAS 98a and b** Independent Study
  - Staff
- **LAS 99d** Senior Research
  - Hindley
- **POL 144a** Latin American Politics I
  - Thorne
- **POL 180b** Sustaining Development
  - Williams
- **SOC 171a** Women Leaders and Transformation in Developing Countries
  - Dávila
- **SPAN 108a** Spanish for Bilingual Students
  - Pérez-Mejía
- **SPAN 111b** Introduction to Latin American Literature
  - Dávila
- **SPAN 166b** Writing for the Latin American City
  - Pérez-Mejía
- **SPAN 168b** Latin America Through the Eyes of Women

## Spring
- **AAAS 123a** Third World Ideologies
  - Nyangoni
- **COML 111b** Creating the Transnational Caribbean: Language, Gender, and Race
  - Pérez-Mejía/Smith
- **POL 131b** Social Movements in Latin America
  - Thorne
- **POL 144b** Latin American Politics II
  - Hindley
- **SPAN 111b** Introduction to Latin American Literature
  - Pérez-Mejía
- **SPAN 164b** Art and Revolution in Latin America
  - Dávila
- **SPAN 191a** Hispanic Topics in Translation: Latino/o Music, Migration, and Identity
  - Pacini-Hernández
- **SPAN 193b** Topics in Cinema: Latin American Literature and Film
  - Mejía

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