A warm welcome to the new director of the Intercultural Center and LALS lecturer, Madeleine López!

Fall 2016, Issue 25

A Letter from the Chair

It is with great pleasure and pride that the faculty, students and staff of LALS can look back on the 2015–2016 academic year. It was a year full of fascinating and fun events, and terrific accomplishments.

There were many special events throughout the year, including our annual Día de los Muertos celebration held in the Shapiro Student Center. As we look forward to the coming year we’ll begin preparing more sugar skulls soon, and we are eager to engage the campus with such festivities. They offer an opportunity for fun, but also to educate the wider student body on the cultural significance of Día de los Muertos, particularly as celebrated in Mexico and Central America.

It was a year full of art. We had the pleasure of hosting artists like Yoshua Okón, and visiting the work of artists like Magdalena Campos Pons at the Peabody Essex Museum, guided by Art History professor José Falconi. Our undergraduate department representative, Estela Lozano, also organized a trip with fellow students to attend a wonderful Frida Kahlo exhibition in New York.

(continued on p 3)
Other noteworthy news

Elizabeth Ferry led a group of Brandeis alum to Cuba.

LALS students and the Multi-faith Chaplaincy traveled to Belize for the Building for Change project.

Pablo Delano’s photography students explored Latino businesses in Waltham.

Actress Jackie Cruz from Orange is the New Black spoke on campus in March.

(Note From Chair, continued)

And in the spring, professors Greg Childs and Laura Brown organized Graffiti Week. Students from across campus jumped in to create art at the Graffiti Wall, which also offered a capstone to Prof. Child’s new course, “Writing on the Wall: Histories of Graffiti in the Americas.”

As we start the new year, we also give our thanks and say our farewell to some important people, even as we welcome new faces. Undergraduate Department Representative Estela Lozano graduated in the spring, and she has our hearty congratulations and our heartfelt thanks for her contributions to the program. She worked energetically as our lone UDR this year and she will be missed. But even as we say que le vaya bien to Estela, we welcome a new group of four undergraduate representatives: Alex Ashley, Natalia González, Rodrigo García Granados, and Kimberly Tellez, all of whom we look forward to working with on all new programs.

A special thanks, too, to Maichelly Baez who helped us out much of last year as an unofficial UDR, for which we remain grateful. And our gratitude to Ledia Erkou, who filled a critical role in helping us to organize our outing to the Peabody Essex Museum in the spring.

We also say thank you, and nos vemos (not adios) to Pablo Delano, professor of Fine Arts at Trinity College who served as our Madeline Haas Russell distinguished visiting professor for 2015-2016. Pablo’s Digital Documentary Photography courses in the fall and spring challenged students to go out into the community and engage students with the people of Waltham and surrounding areas.

And we welcome back to campus Prof. Madeleine López as a teacher and in her role as director of the Intercultural Center (ICC). Prof. López’s course this fall, Hist 171b: Latinos in the U.S., together with Prof. Brown’s exciting new course in the spring, “Mapping Latino Boston,” are important contributions in helping LALS move towards better fulfilling our goal to educate the campus community about Latino culture and experiences. I look forward to what 2016-2017 brings.
LALS Events 2015-2016

Sept 17  
Reception honoring Javier Urcid  
Jane’s Chair  
Professor of Latin American Studies

Sept 21  
Screening of Documentary  
Granito: How to Nail a Dictator, moderated by Charles Golden and Kelley Ready (Heller School), co-sponsored by the Ethics Center

Oct 2-4  
LALS trip to New York  
Visit to Frida Kahlo Exhibit at NYC Botanic Gardens

Oct 13  
Empanadas and Q and A  
with Dr. Lucía Reyes de Deu

Oct 30  
Día de los muertos Celebration  
Students made sugar skulls, decorated an altar, and ate pupusas and dead bread.

Nov 4  
“Latin@ and Afro-Latin@ Identities: Politics, Immigration, and Culture”  

Nov 13  
“Memory, Spirits, and Violence in Mapuche Chilean Geographies” presented by Dr. Ana Mariella Bacigalupo  
Brandeis Anthropology Research Seminar.

Nov 20  
Jane’s Travel Grant Presentations  

(Events continued on next page)
Nov 30
Artist Yoshua Okón presented at the Art/Race/Activism Discussion; led by Fernando Rosenberg and Jose Falconi.

Feb 8
“Spanish in the US: Myths and realities” presented by Kim Potowski, University of Illinois at Chicago (canceled due to snow)

Feb 14
Comida Boricua and Q and A with photographer Pablo Delano

Feb 26

Mar 13
Field Trip to Magdalena Campos Pons exhibit “Alchemy of the Soul” at Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA.

April 11-15
LALS Graffiti Week. Student painted on the graffiti wall throughout the week. (see p 6)

April 12

April 13
“Between Free Speech and the Spray Can: Graffiti as Social Protest from the Margin” co-sponsored by the Louis D Brandeis 100 Celebration. Discussion led by Greg Childs and Marcelo Ment.
April 14
“Digital Cuba: Contemporary Screen Cultures” Talk by Paloma Duong, MIT, on youth culture and media in Cuba.

April 15
Graffiti Demonstration by Marcelo Ment: Rio de Janeiro artist gave a spray paint demonstration. Co-sponsored by the Louis Brandeis Celebration, Creative Arts Festival, and the AAAS Department.

April 15
Graffiti Painting Prize awarded to student Chinyere Brown (p7).

April 16
Culture X 2016: ARISE Led by UDR Estela Lozano, hosted by the ICC.

May 2
Poetry Reading and Book Signing by Richard Blanco, 2013 Inaugural Poet, Co-sponsored by Politics.

May 3
LALS Annual Luncheon Photos on p19.

Photos: (top) LALS students; Poetry, (bottom) Poetry reading by Richard Blanco.

Congratulations 2016 Graduating Seniors!

Joy Brenner-Letich LALS major, SJSP minor
Estela Lozano LALS major, HSSP minor
Damian Preciado LALS and Philosophy majors
Maichelly Baez History major, LALS minor
Hannah Marion Anthropology and Hispanic Studies majors, LALS minor
Lydia McCaleb Psychology major, LALS minor
Special Thanks

to our dedicated and energetic faculty Jerónimo Arellano, Laura Brown, Greg Childs, Cristina Espinosa, Brian Fried, Elizabeth Ferry, Ricardo Godoy, Charles Golden, Ricardo López, James Mandrell, Wellington Nyangoni, Lucía Reyes de Deu, Fernando Rosenberg, Laurence Simon, Faith Smith, and Javier Urcid and to our 2015-2016 UDR, Estela Lozano, for all the hard work in keeping the LALS program vibrant and growing!

Graffiti Week 2016

Silvia Arrom (History, Emerita) published a book, Volunteering for a Cause: Gender, Faith, and Charity in Mexico from the Reform to the Revolution (University of New Mexico Press), lectured on social welfare history in Mexico City and Toluca, and presented a paper on Mexican social history at the LASA conference in NYC.

Laura Brown (Romance Studies, academic administrator of LALS) completed a graduate certificate in Digital Mapping through the University of Kentucky. She has developed a new course employing GIS technology and experiential learning called “Mapping Latino Boston,” to be offered in the Spring. This course was supported by a Teaching Innovation Grant. She presented at the ACLA conference and she has a book review forthcoming in Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos. Dr. Brown completed archival research in Brazil and Washington, DC towards an article on children’s television in Brazil, funded by a Norman grant.
Gregory Childs (History) published the article “Spectral and Secret: Torture and Secrecy in the Archive of Slave Conspiracies” in the December 2015 issue of Social Text. Another article, “Conspiracy, Sedition, Rebellion: Categories and Concepts in Black Resistance Studies,” is forthcoming in the anthology New Perspectives on the Black Intellectual Tradition (Northwestern UP). He was also the recipient of a Sawyer Seminar Fellowship through the Mellon Foundation, for which he will co-lead a seminar on comparative revolutions in Latin American, the Caribbean, and the Middle East, along with Prof. Naghmeh Sohrabi. He participated in numerous talks and conferences, continues to blog for the African American Intellectual History Society, and was elected to chair the committee that will bring the conference to Brandeis in 2018 (www.aaihs.org).

Pablo Delano (Photography) was the Madeleine Haas Russell Fellow, and Visiting Professor from Trinity College. His solo exhibit, Museum of the Old Colony was featured at the Alice Yard Art Space in Trinidad & Tobago, and will travel to Tucumán, Argentina. He presented the paper “In Trinidad; In Living Black and White. Tropical Exposures: Photography, Film and Visual Culture in a Caribbean Frame” in New Orleans in March. He co-organized the February conference “Turning Tides: Caribbean Intersections in the Americas and Beyond” co-sponsored by Trinity College in Hartford, the University of the West Indies, and the St. Augustine Campus in Trinidad and Tobago. He also published photographs in the Hartford Courant and the article “Teaching Tiple Fever: Pedagogy, Heritage, Activism” in Centro Voices (http://centropr.hunter.cuny.edu/centrovoices/).

Cristina Espinosa (Sustainable International Development, Heller School) was on leave during 2015-2016. She participated in the panel “Social Difference and Exclusion and our Visions on Diversity” at the Brandeis Diversity Conference.

Elizabeth Ferry (Anthropology) received a Mandel Faculty Research grant to travel to Mexico and Colombia in summer 2016 for research on gold in mining and finance. She has several new publications including “Gold Prices as Material-Social Actors: the Case of the London Fix” in The Extractive Industries and Society, “Claiming Futures” in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute; and “On Not Being a Sign: Gold’s Semiotic Claims” in Signs and Society. She has submitted for publication the book Minerals, Collecting, and Value and continues to collaborate with Stephen Ferry on the book project “La Batea: Impressions of Gold in Colombia.”

Brian Fried, (Politics, Kay Fellow) developed and taught two new and innovative courses this year, Latin American politics and Narcopolitics. His article, “Jumping off the Fence: Acceptance and Opposition to Clientelism and Authoritarian Practices,” has been accepted for publication by Comparative Politics. He will present the article “The Persistence and Decline of Clientelism,” at Harvard’s Brazil Studies workshop series this fall.
Dr. Fried is also conducting research for a project called “Does Saving Lives Win Votes?”, which analyses the political ramifications of a water treatment program in Mexico in the early 1990s, subject of a future article. Dr. Fried participated in on-campus presentations for LALS, Brandeis International Journal, and the Kay Fellowship.


Ricardo López (International Business School) published “Foreign Technology Acquisition and Changes in the Real Exchange Rate” in The World Economy and “A Model of Firm Heterogeneity in Factor Intensities and International Trade” in the Canadian Journal of Economics. He is currently working on a project called “Are Export Subsidies Good for Women: Micro Evidence from a Quasi-Natural Experiment.” He presented papers at the Inter-American Development Bank in Washington, DC, and at the meeting of the Canadian Economics Association in Toronto.

Lucia Reyes de Deu (Romance Studies) was invited to participate in the research program “Género, culturas y sociabilidad: 1902-1926,” supported by the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas in Argentina. She attended the symposium in July 2016 and conducted research on Herminia Brumana at the Centro de Documentacion e Investigacion de las Culturas de Izquierda while in Argentina. Furthermore, he has been involved in the creation of a new curriculum for Argentinean secondary education. Dr. Reyes de Deu attended several conferences, including workshops held by Instituto Cervantes in Boston and New York, and the ACTFL Convention.

Fernando Rosenberg (Romance Studies) published the book After Human Rights: Literature, Visual Arts, and Film in Latin America (1990-2010) with Pittsburgh UP. During the last year he co-founded the Symbolic Reparations Research Project and traveled with other project scholars to Bogotá to give a symposium at Universidad del Externado. He also presented at LASA in New York, and traveled to Santiago, Chile for the 2016 Hemispheric Encounter on Performance and Politics, where he co-directed a working group on Latin American visual arts with support from a Norman grant.

Laurence Simon (Sustainable International Development, Heller School) delivered a paper at the American Association of Geographers on the concept of place in the writings of W.E.B. DuBois, Gustavo Gutiérrez and B.R. Ambedkar. He also gave a lecture on these three thinkers at the GDS International Conference on Caste, Inequality and Economic Growth: Challenges of Tradition and Modernity. He has continued his research and writing for a book on the thought and legacy of Paulo Freire in the contemporary context.

Faith Smith (English, AAAS) participated in a symposium on 1960s Jamaica at the University of Miami, chaired a panel on “The United States in the Caribbean World” the Organization of American Historians in Rhode Island, and explored the themes of violence, intimacy, and neo-slavery in recent Caribbean novels as a Visiting Professor at Florida Atlantic University in the Spring. She attended the Caribbean Studies Association in Port au Prince, Haiti, where she chaired the panel “Of Tourism, Celebrities, and Piracy in Contemporary Caribbean Discourses,” as well as the panel “Caribbean and African Connections,” presenting a paper on Haitian and other international students at Tuskegee Institute in the first decade of the 20th century, drawn from her book manuscript “Whose Modern? Forging Futures in the Trans-Caribbean,
Javier Urcid (Anthropology) established a collaborative project with the Dept. of History and Cultures at the University of Bologna, Italy, and served as a Davis Teaching Fellow at Brandeis. He presented “Teotihuacan and post-Teotihuacan Writing in the Central Highlands as seen from NW Oaxaca and Southern Puebla” at the Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology. He co-authored an essay that appeared in La Piedra de la Letra, Santo Tomás Jalieza, Oaxaca, (Arqueología Oaxaqueña, Centro INAH-Oaxaca and Municipio of Santo Tomás Jalieza), he has several forthcoming publications, including “Una extraordinaria vasija de piedra en el Museo Etnográfico de Berlín” in Arqueología Mexicana, “Two Fragments of an Ancient Mantic Manuscript in San Bartolo Yautepex, Oaxaca” in Ancient Mesoamerica, co-authored with Sebastian Van Doesburg, and “Joyas Irridiscientes: los pectorales de concha de Vista Hermosa, Tamaulipas, Mexico” Excavaciones en Vista Hermosa (Ed. Claude Stresser-Péan, Centre Français D’Études Mexicanas et Centraméricaines, Mexico, co-authored with Guilhem Olivier).

Other Noteworthy News

Natalia González was awarded a Schiff Fellowship to conduct research on the development of political identities among immigrant communities from Latin America in the Miami area.

Linda Phiri was a recipient of a 2015-2016 Karpf & Hahn Peace Prize. Linda developed an online magazine for provide a space for the voices of refugees, “Moments in Time,” including memories of refugees living in Recife, Brazil.

Brontë Velez, former Jane’s Travel grant recipient, was awarded a Davis Fellowship for her project on plantable books. She was also awarded a Karpf & Hahn Peace Prize to develop a film based on Alice Walker’s story “The Flowers” evoking the remnants of slavery. Bronte graduated with highest honors in May.

Roanne Kantor was a visiting Assistant Professor in the English Department during the 2015-2016 year. Her translation of Juan José Saer’s The One Before was published with Open Letter Press in 2015. At Brandeis she taught comparative literature classes, such as Eng 142: Literary Booms: Latin America, South Asia, and Beyond.

Ned Littlefield is an incoming graduate student in the Department of Politics. After graduating Kenyon College in 2010, he held a Fulbright English Teaching Fellowship in Colombia, and worked on a community-based agriculture project in Nicaragua. Ned has been conducted research in Central America on the impact and effectiveness of a U.S.-funded citizen security program and on the sustainability of agricultural cooperatives. At Brandeis Ned plans to research war and peace in Colombia.
LALS Fall 2016 Classes

AAAS126b: Political Economy of the Third World-Nyangoni

AMST 55a: Race, Ethnicity, and Immigration in American Culture-Powers

ANTH 136a: Archaeology of Power: Authority, Prestige, and Inequality in the Past-Golden

ANTH 147b: Mesoamerican Civilizations and Their Legacies-Urcid

ANTH 156a: Power and Violence: The Anthropology of Political Systems-Ferry

*FA 18a: Digital Documentary Photography-Delano

HISP 111b: Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture-Rosenberg

HISP 164b: Studies in Latin American Literature (Nation and Narrative): Rosenberg

*HISP 182a: Narratives of the Drug War in Latin America-Arellano

HISP 198a: Experiential Research Seminar in Literary and Cultural Studies-Arellano

HIST 71b: Colonialism, Slavery, Freedom in Latin America and the Caribbean-Childs

*LALS 170a: Sports, Games, and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean-Brown


*POL 144a: Latin American Politics (Democracy and Decay)-Fried

SOC 122a: The Sociology of American Immigration- Lucken

New course offerings for 2015-2016

ANTH 107A Wealth, Value, and Power in a World without Money-Golden

HIST 171b Latinos in the U.S.-M. López

LALS 144b Mapping Latino Boston-Brown
AAAS 123a: Third Word Ideologies—Nyangoni

FA 18a: Digital Documentary Photography—Delano

*FA 177b: Second Nature: On the Nature of Landscape in Latin America—Falconi

HISP 108a: Spanish for Heritage Speakers—Reyes de Deu

HISP 111: Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture—Arellano

*HISP 165b: The Storyteller: Short Fiction in Latin America—Arellano

*HISP 196a: Topics in Latina/a Literature and Culture—Reyes de Deu

*HIST 162a: Writing on the Wall: Histories of Graffiti in the Americas—Childs

HIST 175b: Resistance and Revolution in Latin America and the Caribbean—Childs

*POL 149b: Narco-Politics—Fried

*POR 14b: Accelerated Beginning Portuguese—Brown

* Indicates a new course in 2015-2016
These last two summers have been very rich in traveling, as I had the chance to take up some of the topics I discussed in my last book, *After Human Rights: Literature, Visual Arts and Film in Latin America* (U of Pittsburgh Press, 2016), into new avenues of research. In 2015, along with my colleagues in the Symbolic Reparations Research Project (conjoining scholars from U of Connecticut, Boston University, and Harvard), I visited Bogotá, Colombia, to take part in a conversation with visual artists, human rights activists and officials, and legal scholars. The group had been developing some lines of inquiry and action regarding the intersection of visual arts with human rights and judicial processes; and the Colombian case, with its ongoing peace talks and its strong tradition of cutting-edge visual artists, was a privileged site from which to apply, test, and expand our assumptions. We participated in a three-day exchange with legal scholars and artists at Universidad del Externado (reputed for its Law School), where we presented our recommendations for memorials and sites of consciousness for the Colombian case; we visited several sites of memory (some official, some emerging from the creative need to confront violence and trauma with art); we intervened formally in public debates regarding the arts and peace process; we wrote guidelines that we hope will be used by governments and legal experts when recommending or commissioning memorials and artistic production regarding human rights abuses. My on-going investigations into visual cultural production as social intervention were broadened this past summer at the 2016 Hemispheric Encounter on Performance and Politics in Santiago, Chile. I co-organized a working group under the title “Mirar de reojo” to discuss how visual and performatic artistic production develop critical visions, looks, and perspectives on neoliberal governance (which in Latin American was imposed by dictators, perpetuated social injustice, and which has been contested ever since). But besides the scholarly discussions, I had the enormous privilege of being exposed, in the context of the Encounter, to the varied and challenging production of performance artists from all throughout the Americas that converged for a whole week in Santiago. Thanks in part to two consecutive LALS faculty grants, these research trips are for me a reminder that advancing knowledge in the humanities (even more so in Latin American and Latino Studies) might entail being part of conversations across national and disciplinary borders as well as a degree of critical social engagement outside the borders of the university.
Anastasia Christilles, Esperanza Peace & Justice Center, San Antonio, TX
Anastasia helped maintain the website, managed social media, participated in community meetings, and assisted in organizing actions for environmental awareness and sustainability at the Esperanza Peace & Justice Center. The center works to empower those affected by oppression based on gender, race, ethnicity, sexuality, and class through a variety of projects, such as book readings, performances by featured musicians, historical exhibits, and selling local art.

Santiago Montoya, Cinco Puntos Press, El Paso, TX
Santiago worked at Cinco Puntos Press, an organization that works to diversify the book market in America by publishing works that represent the experience of marginalized communities in the US/Mexico border region. As a partner of the We Need Diverse Books (WNDB) organization, Santiago read and edited manuscripts, managed social media and other aspects of web design. He also supported the administration with use of his Spanish in translation and review of submissions.

Claudia Roldan American Red Cross Puerto Rico Chapter, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Claudia served as a program coordinator for the Red Cross Home Fires Preparedness Campaigns. The goal of these campaigns is to reduce the rate of death and injuries due to home fires by 25% by creating community coalitions in at risk-neighborhoods, providing fire safety and disaster preparedness training, and installing smoke alarms. She planned, managed, and executed the campaign’s events and activities and also worked in collaboration with fire departments and coalition partners.

LaShawn Simmons, Empowering Through Education (ETE) Camp, Hinche, Haiti
LaShawn worked as a camp counselor for Empowering Through Education (ETE) Camp, whose primary mission is to serve underprivileged youth that do not have access to comprehensive education and positive leadership. The organization works to actively build community and parental support by connecting students with a respected community leader in addition to hosting an afternoon adult English learners class. The organization also aims to create spaces for them to speak about sociocultural barriers that shape their self-esteem and to promote social change. LaShawn helped organize curriculum and events focusing on literacy, academic skills, and increasing self-confidence through teamwork and leadership. As a camp counselor, she taught English and monitored students’ progress, and communicated with camp staff.
Cristina Oria-Loureiro, MA candidate, Anthropology, “Huari-Ancash Bioarchaeological Project; Jane’s Travel Grant

“The Jane’s Travel Grant along with the department of Anthropology and the department of Graduate Student Affairs generously funded my project entitled ‘Huari-Ancash Bioarchaeological Project.’ I spent five weeks in Peru with four of those weeks focused on excavating at the Huari-Ancash Field School and one of the weeks focused on visiting museums in Lima and Cusco in order to familiarize myself with the ceramic styles of the Wari, Moche, Nazca, and Recuay peoples. The Huari-Ancash archaeological Field School focuses on three archaeological sites in close proximity to Huari, Ancash, Peru. We primarily excavated at a potential ritual complex that has been identified as Recuay. Prior to this field season, no evidence of interaction with the Wari state was present, but we excavated a feature that revealed small deposits of obsidian. The Wari state would be the closest possible route of exchange for obtaining obsidian, which suggests that this site was somehow interacting with the Wari through trade. Overall, the project allowed me to explore my interest in hinterland interactions with the Wari state. I hope to continue to explore this avenue for my Master’s thesis.”

Photos: Chullpa (funerary house) at the Marcajirca archaeological site, and Recuay ceramics; by Cristina Oria-Loureiro
Notes from the Field

Alex Ashley, LALS Major, Jane’s Travel Grant

“I conducted a research investigation of private small businesses, or particulares, in Havana, Cuba. Through interviews with Cubans, focusing mostly on small business owners, I was able to arrive at some very fascinating conclusions about this slowly shifting system. In contrast to the beliefs of many people in the US, I do not yet believe that Cuba is on the brink of radical change. In a socialist country which is only beginning to warm up to private business ownership, it was no surprise to find that few people would freely discuss the undeniable changes of economic privatization, or US-Cuban relations surrounding the commercial embargo. What was fascinating, however, was the intricacies of this strange economic imbalance, as private business owners make at least ten times more money than the average state-employed Cuban—even doctors and engineers—without having to go through years of education to acquire mastery in a field. This stimulates demotivation for the pursuit of higher education as well as dissatisfaction with the unequal and increasingly un-socialist nature of Cuban society. Through direct integration in Cubansociety, I was able to dig beyond the economic and political issues that mask real voices and real people; I also had the privilege to gain a deeper understanding of the complex and rich Cuban culture and lifestyle.”
Joshua Basseches ’12 is a PhD student in Politics at Northwestern University.

Joy Brenner-Letich ’16 is a student fellow in the Donovan Urban Teaching Scholars M.Ed. Program, at Boston College. Her research focuses how two-way language immersion programs integrate language minority students and language majority students for the purpose of becoming bilingual together with each other as natural language models. This fall, she will continue at BC and also be working as a full time teaching intern and assistant teacher in Boston Public Schools’ Mason Pilot Elementary School in Roxbury Massachusetts.

Juan Corradi ’65 continues to write for Opinion Sur, and is currently at work on Sociology of Conflict and War: a Reader as well as My Pirate Years: A Seamanship Memoir.

Alex Dupuy MA was named John E. Andrus Professor Emeritus of Sociology at Wesleyan University.

Nancy Foner ’66 published Strangers No More: Immigration and the Challenges of Integration in North America and Western Europe with Richard Alba (Princeton UP) and Fear, Anxiety, and National Identity: Immigration and Belonging in North America and Western Europe (Russell Sage Foundation).

Frances Hagopian ’75, Peter Kornbluh ’79, Lynn Stephen ’87, and Silvia Arrom, emerita, participated in the 2016 Latin American Studies Association Conference in New York City.

Donna Guy ’67 won the Crevenna/Sadler Prize for Outstanding Service at the 2015 Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies.


Peter Kornbluh ’78 accompanied the White House Press Corps to Cuba in March 2016 for The Nation. His most recent book, with William LeoGrande, Back Channel to Cuba: The Hidden History of Negotiations between Washington and Havana, won the 2015 Douglas Dillon Award from the American Academy of Diplomacy, a Foreign Affairs Best Book of the Year honor, and was recognized as a 2016 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title.

Peggy Levitt ’80 was the CMRS Distinguished Visiting Scholar at the American University in Cairo and a Robert Schuman Fellow at the European University Institute. In 2015 she published Artifacts and Allegiances: How Museums Put the Nation and the World on Display (U of California P).

Roberto Marquez ’66 retired after 45 years of teaching as William R Kenan Jr. Professor Emeritus of Latin American and Caribbean Studies. He is working on a memoir of his years in Spanish Harlem.


Luis Rubio PhD ’83, Chairman of the Center for Research Development at the Wilson Center published El problema del poder: México requiere un nuevo sistema de gobierno (Wilson Center).

Barbara Tenenbaum ’68, a Mexico specialist at the Library of Congress, presented “The Truth about Santa Anna’s Leg” at NM State.

Michael Smith ’75 published the book At Home With the Aztecs: An Archaeologist Uncovers their Daily Life (Routlege), and several articles.

Diana Veneros MA ’92, PhD ’97 began a job as a consultant for the educational firm DIVERT Ltda. in Chile, following her work for the Chilean Ministry of Education.

Steve Volk ’68 published three articles on history and pedagogy, and an encyclopedia entry on Salvador Allende in the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History.
Laguna de los Tres by Melissa Darling