

Newsletter Editor: Laura Brown

**LATIN AMERICAN AND  
LATINO STUDIES**  
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**LATIN  
AMERICAN &  
LATINO  
STUDIES**

**BRANDEIS  
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# LALS 2017 - 2018

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AMERICAN  
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STUDIES

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Fall 2018, Issue 27

It has been my pleasure to serve as the incoming chair of LALS during this transitional year. As issues of immigration and cultural diversity take center stage in the public sphere, the Latin American and Latino Studies Program (LALS) continues to perform a vital function: to prepare its students for rigorous and critical engagement with some of the most pressing issues of our day, particularly as they pertain to the regions that the program encompasses. Now in its 55th year, through courses, research, and cultural events, our program continues to explore the hemispheric connections between Latin American and Latinx communities across the Americas and the multifaceted ways in which their cultural, political, and artistic imagination unfold across space and time.

With the generous support of the Janey Fund established by the Rothenberg family, LALS supported a wide array of student-led research projects and travel in Latin America and the U.S. this year once again—projects that were at once inward-looking and outward-facing, and that oftentimes allowed our students to hone in on professional or personal interests through a deep engagement with cultural difference. The program also honored the scholarly work of our students through our annual essay prize.

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55 Years of LALS

# 2018

A warm welcome to new Assistant Professor of Politics,  
Dr. Alejandro Telles

Fernando Rosenberg and Timo Schafer were honored by the Latin American Studies Association for their scholarship: honorable mention for best Humanities book (Southern Cone section) and best Social Science Book Award (Mexico section), respectively.



"Soñando en azul" by Nina Rosenblatt

(Note From Chair, continued)

Ariana Keigan's "Black Caribbean Domestic Laborers and National Claims to Modernity: A History of Dependence and Myth-Making" and Rachel Portnoy's "El femicidio en Ciudad Juárez y su representación en el cine" ["Femicide in Ciudad Juárez and its Representation in Cinema"] shared the first prize, praised by the selection committee for their breadth, originality, and theoretical ambition.

LALS also proudly sponsored or co-sponsored a number of academic, artistic, and social events on campus, several of them initiated by our own faculty. On the scholarly front, in early November we welcomed literary critic Héctor Hoyos (Stanford), recognized as a prominent new voice in Latin Americanist literary and cultural criticism. Professor Hoyos delivered a fascinating lecture on Gabriel García Márquez's *Noticia de un secuestro*, a non-fiction work by the Nobel Laureate that wrestles with the history of violence linked to the drug trade in Colombia. Another important highlight this year was the Sawyer Seminar on Comparative Revolutions

funded by a competitive grant from the Mellon Foundation. This seminar was co-organized by Professor Greg Childs and brought important scholars to chair interdisciplinary panels and symposia on the revolutions in Latin America, the Caribbean and the Middle East.

LALS also sponsored or co-sponsored a number of art- and film-related events, including a screening by Aviva Chomsky of the documentary, *La buena vida*, which highlights the conflicts between mining and indigenous rights, and the medical documentary *Clínica de migrantes*, which focuses on one of the only health clinics in the U.S. that provides healthcare to undocumented patients. In partnership with the Leonard Bernstein Festival of the Creative Arts, LALS co-sponsored the sound installation *Momo y Mimita*, conceptualized by its creators, journalist Cynthia Fernández and Brandeis graduate student in Composition and Music Theory Jeremy Rapaport-Stein, as an exploration of intimacy and identity in the context of the Cuban diaspora.



Photo by Alex Ashley

The Mellon Seminar in Comparative Revolutions and the AAIHS conference were two events organized by Greg Childs.

Elizabeth Ferry spent Spring 2018 teaching for Semester at Sea.

Our year ended with a screening of the film *En el séptimo día* directed by Jim McKay, a known figure in the independent film world, as well as in episodic television, whose credits range from independent features (*Everyday People*, *Our Song*) to episodes of *The Good Wife* and *Law and Order*.

McKay's latest feature, which marks his return to independent filmmaking, is a unique film in that it speaks to the experience of Latinx immigration in the U.S. through the light-hearted and often humorous, unexpected lens of a soccer team whose members are undocumented Latin American immigrants competing in an amateur league in New York City.

This screening also kicks off our collaboration with the Boston International Latino Film Festival, which will come to campus for the first time in the Fall of 2018, when Brandeis joins Harvard, Emerson and Northeastern as one of the official venues for this nationally-recognized film festival. We look forward not only

to screening a slate of fresh, vibrant films on campus—several of which will have their New England premiere here at Brandeis—but also to hosting a number of emerging Latin American and Latinx directors and producers on campus during the festival.

Building upon past strengths, these new initiatives look toward the future of our program as seek to solidify our vision for LALS as an epicenter for Latin American and Latino culture on campus—one that will hopefully branch out beyond the bounds of our university and into our surrounding community. We hope that through this newsletter you join us in reflecting on this past year and future goals of our program, and on the many accomplishments of our faculty and students.

Best wishes for the new academic year,

Jerónimo Arellano, LALS Chair



## Jane's Essay Prize

**Ariana Keigan**

(LALS minor, AAAS and Women and Gender Studies majors)

"Black Caribbean Domestic Laborers and National Claims to Modernity: A History of Dependence and Myth-Making."

**Rachel Portnoy**

(Hispanic Studies and Psychology majors)

"El femicidio en Ciudad Juárez: Cómo se representa en el cine"

["Femicide in Ciudad Juárez, how does Cinema represent it?"]

## LALS Events 2017-2018

October 23, Meet the Majors and Grant Proposal Workshop.

October 27, Hunt Lecture in Economic Anthropology presented by Daniel Goldstein (Rutgers University) "Biometric Regulation of Immigrant Labor: From IRCA to E-Verify and Beyond."

November 3, lecture by Hector Hoyos (Stanford University) "A Nation Anew: García Márquez's *Noticia de un secuestro* as Refoundational Fiction."

November 9, Documentary screening of *La buena vida*, followed by talk on mining and Indigenous Rights in Colombia.

November 16, Discussion of *La buena vida* documentary with historian and documentary filmmaker, Aviva Chomsky (Salem St. University).

November 16, "I Am Global" International Bazaar, including Brazilian and Latin American tables.

## 6th Annual Jane's Photography Prize

Nina Rosenblatt  
(HISP major, LALS  
minor), pp. 1, 2

Honorable Mention  
Alex Ashley (LALS  
major), pp. 3, 4, 6



November 29, Mellon Foundation Sawyer Seminar on Comparative Revolutions. "Translating Revolutionary Theory into Practice" Panel with Brian Meeks (Africana Studies, Brown University) and Behrooz Ghamari-Tabrizi (History and Sociology, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign).

### Spring 2018

January 19, BARS Anthropology Seminar lecture "Violence Unresolved: Argentina and the Problem of the Perpetrator" by Ram Natarajan (University of Arkansas).

January 25, Screening and discussion of *Dolores*, Co-sponsored and hosted by Sin Fronteras (Heller School).

(Events continued on next page)



### Jane's Travel Grants

#### Winter 2017

**Raffi García** (IBS) "Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association Annual Meetings in Buenos Aires, Argentina"

**Krysla Grothe** (SID, Heller) "Agricultural Technology Adoption and the Effects on Child Health Status in Bolivia"

**Delande Justinvil** (ANTH, MA) "Intermingled Identities: Discerning the Origins of Historical Belizean Remains"

**Meng Diao** (Linguistics Politics), **Angela Mendez** (Education major, LALS minor) "Borderlinks Educational Experience Program: Brandeis Multifaith Chaplaincy"

## Jane's Travel Grants

Spring 2018

**Jessica Leonard** (ANTH, MA) "The Truth is in the Teeth: Exploring Spatial and Temporal Variability of Ancient Maya Diet in Northwestern, Belize"

**Gabriel Sol Fontes** (AAAS major) "The Madrina of Cuban Hip Hop: How an Exiled Black Nationalist Fostered the Havana Hip Hop Generation"

**Arlett Márquez** (AAAS major, LALS minor) "Haiti and Dominican Republic: Divided by history, United by Everything Else"

**Max Seidita** (ANTH, PhD) "Economic Integration on the Fringes of Political Authority at Flores Magón, Chiapas, Mexico"

**George Van Kollias** (ANTH, MA) "Preliminary Investigations at Lacanjá-Tzel-tal, in Chiapas, Mexico"



(Events continued)

February 2, Community Outing to Panela de Barro, co-sponsored by IBS Latin American and Brazilian Initiative.

February 9, BARS Anthropology Seminar "Touched by Music: Enchantment and Aspiration in Venezuela" talk by Yana Stainova (Dartmouth University).

February 27, Kim Potowski (U of Illinois, Chicago) presented "Spanish in the US: Myths and realities."

March 9, Jane's Travel Grant talk by Jessica Priestley.

March 16, Jane's Travel Grant talk by Max Sedita.

March 12, Film Screening of *Beso de la mujer araña*.

March 27, Film Screening of *Clínica de migrantes*, about Puentes, one of the only health clinics in the U.S. involved in the practice of providing healthcare to undocumented immigrants.

April 15, Momo and Mimita, Creative Arts Festival.

April 20, Film Screening of *En el séptimo día* ["On the Seventh Day"] to kick off the 2018 Boston Latino International Film Festival.

April 27, LALS Annual Luncheon.

## Interested in Internships in Latin America?

Below are some Hiatt Resources, compiled by Jane Pavese, whose area specialties include Latin America (links consist of <https://www.brandeis.edu/hiatt> (+extension below))

[Brandeis Internship Exchange - BIX](#) is a database of internships that students have held in the past. Some groups of students, such as the WOW fellows and summer internship course students, are required to put their internships in the database. Some departments that have internship courses also require students as part of the course to enter their internship information. </jobs-internships/internship/exchange.html>

[Hiatt's Latin America/Latinx Work Resources Page](#) lists connections for Latinx-centered experiences </majors-careers/identity/cultural.html>

[Hiatt's International Job and Internship search pages](#) list international resources and tips. </jobs-internships/international/index.html>

[Handshake Job and Internship opportunities](#) page is a third party service provided to students. Scroll down to "Get Started with Handshake" (requires UNET log-in) </about-us/events-services/>

[Hiatt individual appointments](#). Advisors meet one-on-one with students to talk about goals and resources to meet their needs. </about-us/events-services/>

**Congratulations  
to our 2017-2018 Seniors!**

**Eliora Mintz**, LALS and history majors, Hispanic Studies minor

**Rodrigo Alfaro García Granados**, IGS and Theater majors, LALS minors

**Lauren Cohen**, Psychology and HSSP majors: LALS and Hispanic Studies minors

**Ariana Keigan**, AAAS and Women and Gender Studies majors, LALS minor

**Melanie Kaplan-Cohen**, Computer Science and Politics majors LALS and Social Justice & Social Policy minors

**Amy Steinhart**, Computer Science major  
LALS, Business, in Hispanic Studies minors

## News that Travels

The LALS newsletter traveled to Brazil! The 2016 images and events will be featured in an English-language textbook to be used by Brazilian students!

3 Take a look at this image and read the extract from Brandeis University Newsletter 2016. Then do the following with a classmate.

Respostas pessoais. **Objetivos:** aivar o conhecimento prvio sobre o tema do texto e formular hipotesas.



**April 11-15**  
**LALS Graffiti Week.** Student painted on the graffiti wall throughout the week.

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**LALS Graffiti Week.** Student painted on the graffiti wall throughout the week.>

Excerpt from newsletter, LALS 2015-2016, Brandeis University, Fall 2016, issue 25.





## Faculty Notes

**Patricia Álvarez Astacio (Anthropology)** received several awards for her documentary *Entretejido* including Best Cultural/Ethnic Documentary Film at the Houston International Film Festival and an Honorable Mention for Best Graduate Student Film, Society for Visual Anthropology Film Festival. She published "Piece Wages as Ethical Wages: Valuing Peruvian Artisanal Handwork in the Fashion Industry" in *Anthropology Quarterly*; "In Conversation: Trinh T. Minh-ha" in *The Brooklyn Rail: Critical Perspectives on Arts, Politics, and Culture*; and "Screening Room Series" in *Visual and New Media Review, Cultural Anthropology Online*.

**Jerónimo Arellano (Romance Studies)** published "An Unsentimental Education: Affective Creativity in Contemporary Latin American Fiction" in *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies* and "Reading the Affects in the Colonial Americas." in *Latin American Research Review*. He presented an invited talk at the ACLA in LA; "Narrative Empathy and

Generations of Feeling in Latin American Literary History."

**Silvia Arrom (History, Emerita)** published *Voluntarios por una causa: Género, fé y caridad en México desde la Reforma hasta la Revolución* (Mexico City: CIESAS, 2018) and presented "La Güera Rodríguez: Mujer y mito" at the Seminario Permanente de Historia Social of the Colegio de México.

**Laura Brown (Romance Studies, Academic Administrator of LALS)** was awarded a SEIU travel grant to present a paper at the Brazilian Regionalism in a Global Context at the University of Birmingham, UK. Her paper "Building Vila Sésamo: Children's Television and the Race Across the Nation" will be workshopped in the second Brazilian Regionalism meeting in April at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Lecturer in History, Irvin Ibarguen (PhD, Harvard 2018) was hired as an Assistant Professor of Latinx History at New York University. Congratulations!



Photo by Lily Eligator

## Faculty Notes

**Gregory Childs (History)** published "Conspiracy, Sediton, Rebellion: Categories and Concepts in Black Resistance Studies," in *New Perspectives on the Black Intellectual Tradition* (Northwestern UP) and "Cuadernos escandalosos, sujetos sediciosos: Luís Gonzaga y la Conspiración de los Sastres, 1798 Bahia, Brasil" in *Los mundos de Jose Antonio Aponte* (Instituto Juan Marinello, Havana, Cuba). He co-lead the Sawyer Seminar Fellowship, supported by the Mellon Foundation, on comparative revolutions in Latin American, the Caribbean, and the Middle East, along with Prof. Naghmeh Sohrabi, and organized the 2018 AAHS conference at Brandeis. He was awarded an American Antiquarian Society-NEH Fellowship and a Teaching Innovation Grant, Brandeis University (2017) for game design.

**Joan Dassin (International Development, Heller School)** won a Teaching Award from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management

(2017). She co-edited a book on International Scholarships in *Higher Education: Pathways to Social Change*, (Palgrave 2017). She served as member and Chair of the External Advisory Committee for the MSc Program in International Health and Tropical Medicine, Centre for Tropical Medicine and Global Health, Nuffield Department of Medicine, University of Oxford. She will continue to serve as Chair of the External Advisory Committee in 2018. In July 2017, Dr. Dassin held an appointment as Visiting Researcher at the Latin American Centre, University of Oxford.

**Cristina Espinosa (Heller School)** published "Breaking Taboos: Menstruation, Female Subordination and Reproductive Health" with Richard Karki in *Insights in Anthropology* (2018). She presented "Indigenous rights, Indigenous Entrepreneurship and Autonomous Sustainable Development" at the Indigenous Peoples Day Teach-In at Brandeis.

**Elizabeth Ferry (Anthropology)** recently published several articles and chapters including a Spanish translation of her book *Minerales, coleccionismo y valor a través de la frontera México-EU; La batea* (Editorial/Red Hook) with photojournalist Stephen Ferry; "Mining and the Defense of Afro-Colombian Territory" in *ReVista: the Harvard Journal on Latin America*; "The Diary of Helena Morley" for the online publication *Public Books*; and "Teaching Trouillot: Contemporary Anthropological Theory" for the *Living Anthropologically* website.

**Ricardo Godoy (Heller, Sustainable International Development)** published several articles including "The Visibility of Community Resource Inequality and Psychological Health" in *Economics and Human Biology*; "Cultural Variation in Music Perception: Indifference to Dissonance Among Native Amazonians" in *Nature*; "The Effects of Community Income Inequality on Health: Evidence From a Randomized Control Trial in the Bolivian Amazon" in *Social Science Medicine*; and "Catch-up Growth and Growth Deficits: Nine-year Annual Panel Child Growth Data from Native Amazonians in Bolivia" in *Annals of Human Biology*.

**Charles Golden (Anthropology)** continued his work as a co-director of archaeological surveys and excavations in the Usumacinta River Valley (between Mexico and Guatemala), seeking a better understanding of the ancient borderlands between Precolumbian Maya kingdoms. He was awarded a grant from The Alphawood Foundation to complete research in Piedras Negras,

Guatemala. He published three articles, "Reanalyzing Environmental LiDAR Data for Landscape Archaeology: Mesoamerican Applications and Implications" in the *Journal of Archaeological Science*; "The Life and Afterlife of the Classic Period Piedras Negras Kingdom" in *Ritual, Violence, and the Fall of the Classic Maya Kings* (U of Florida P), and "Landscapes, Lordships, and Sovereignty in Mesoamerica" in *Political Strategies in Precolumbian Mesoamerica* (U of Colorado Boulder).

**Aldo Musacchio (International Business School)** published "State Owned Enterprises as Multinationals: Theory and Research Directions." in *State Owned Multinationals: Governments in Global Business* and "Mapping Frontier Economies: Where to Play and How to Win" in *Harvard Business Review*. He had two forthcoming articles in 2017.



**Lucía Reyes de Deu (Romance Studies)** co-organized a panel at the LASA Convention in Barcelona, Spain called “Feminismos transnacionales: circulación de saberes e ideologías en el espacio transatlántico, 1860-1930.” She presented “‘La cuestión de la mujer’ y las influencias anarquistas en el magisterio argentino (1909-1920)” at LASA. She received a Milstein Grant (Subsidio Milstein), from Ministerio de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Productiva (Presidencia de la Nación de Argentina) and spent one month conducting research and teaching a seminar in Argentina during the summer. In collaboration with Prof. Elena González Ros, she received a Teaching Innovation Grant to redesign Spanish 10.

**Fernando Rosenberg (Romance Studies)** published numerous articles, including: “Toxicidad y narrativa: Los suicidas del fin del mundo de Leila Guerriero, Cromo de Lucía Puenzo, y Distancia de rescate de Samanta Schweblin” in *Revista Iberoamericana*; “Teaching Poetry and Human Rights” in *Teaching Latin American Poetry*; “Human Rights and the Modern Constitution: The Human, the In-human, the Non-human” in *Reconciliation and Resistance: Literatures and Cultures of Human Rights* (Stanford UP). He gave the Luis B. Eyzaguirre Annual Lecture on Latin American Studies and Culture, “Human Rights and the Imperative to Reimagine the Planet. A Latin American Perspective” at the University of Connecticut.

**Laurence Simon (Heller, Sustainable International Development)** served on the Editorial Advisory Board of the

*Journal of Social Inclusion Studies*, Sage India.

**Faith Smith (English, AAAS)** delivered a public lecture on the 19th century intellectual John Jacob Thomas, at the Lloyd Best Institute in Tunapuna, Trinidad and Tobago. She gave the paper “Shadow Histories of Photography, Circa 1900-1910” on the panel “Shadow Archives: Hidden Photographic Histories in the Caribbean,” at the Caribbean Studies Association in Havana, Cuba. She participated in the symposium “Dons, Yardies and Posses: Representations of Jamaican Organized Crime” at the University of Amsterdam, where she also gave the keynote lecture at Leverhulme Trust symposium on Caribbean In/Securities: Creativity and Negotiation in the Caribbean, entitled “Policing the Crisis? Stories of Intimacy and Power in Early 20th-Century Jamaica.” Recent articles appear in *Victorian Jamaica* (Duke UP), and “Carrie Mae Weems: Strategies of Engagement,” the catalogue for a new exhibition at Boston College’s McMullen Museum of Art.

**Javier Urcid (Anthropology)** published numerous papers in 2017-2018 including “El Nagual de la Serpiente de Fuego y el Juego de Pelota” and “El Concepto de la Rueda en Mesoamérica” in *Arqueología Mexicana*. He contributed five chapters in edited volumes on wide-ranging topics such as rituals, jewels, bodily transformations and writing traditions. His 2018 book, co-authored with Michael Coe and Rex Koontz, is *Mexico: from the Olmecs to the Aztecs* (Eighth edition).

(Faculty Notes continued)

**Dalia Wassner (Hadassah-Brandeis Institute)** published several articles including “The Sword, the Pen, and the Uterus: Feminist Culture and the Argentine *Proceso*” in *Journal of Iberian and Latin American Studies*; “From Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz to Jorge Luis Borges: Feminist Roots of Latin American Post-Colonial Literature” in *Latin American Research Review*; and the Introduction to *Anne: An Imagining of the Life of Anne Frank*, by Marjorie Agosín and Francisca Yáñez (Solis), as well as “Multidirectional Postmemory: Gendered Spaces of Truth between the Holocaust and the ‘Dirty Wars’ of the Southern Cone” in *(Con)textualizing Gender and Sexuality in Jewish Latin American Cultural Production*. She was a panelist at several film festivals and the Latin American Jewish Studies Association.

## World of Work Interns

### **Natalia Gonzalez '19 Cuba Program at Columbia University**

As a visiting scholar, Natalia assisted with the second volume of an edited series on US-Cuba relations and a digital study on the impact of recent Cuban economic reforms on women’s incomes. She collected data by reading essays in Spanish, identifying common themes, repetitions, suggesting additional data to the authors, and helping to produce a coherent analytical study.

### **Kenneth Hong '19 Interlock Media, Cambridge, MA**

Interlock Media produces films and radio broadcasts, as well as web and podcasts. The company is dedicated to exploring solutions to international, environmental and human rights issues with artistry and compassion in film. Interlock Media is a non-profit organization run entirely by volunteers and committed to training future media professionals while also releasing important works. Interlock Their many projects have brought them to Asia, Latin America, and Africa. A few of the many projects that Interlock Media has worked on include exploring the clash of culture for the Xukuru people of Brazil, and exploring sustainability in the South American Rainforest

### **Gilberto Rosa '19 The Parsnip Ship, Brooklyn, NY**

The Parsnip Ship (TPS) is a podcast and theatre programming initiative focused on curating and creatively producing theatre, episodic and audio content for diverse audiences seeking new and innovative voices.

Giberto managed social media, and wrote and edited performance pieces for the Parsnip Ship.

*“El oro es muy bendito/ El oro es muy sagrado.../Cuando suben los precios.../Llenan los corazones/Del amor por el trabajo”  
[Gold is very blessed/gold is very sacred...when the prices go up/ hearts fill/with love for work.]*

These lyrics come from a song written by the musician and songwriter Luis Gonzaga Díaz, lifelong resident and unofficial troubadour of the town of Marmato, Caldas, Colombia. I first heard Gonzaga’s music in the documentary *Marmato*, which tells the story of the town’s decade-long battle with the Canadian multinational mining company Gran Colombia Gold. For nearly 500 years, gold mining, mostly in small mines owned by local property owners, has defined Marmato. Marmato’s miners have never used mercury, and while the town faces some significant environmental problems from gold mining (which the miners are aware of and working to resolve), it can also claim a vibrant cultural history, strong social fabric, and low levels of violence. Because of mining, the town became a crossroads for people from many different places and groups, including indigenous people, free blacks, Cornish, and the descendants of Spanish settlers.

When Colombia’s internal armed conflict began to subside in the 2000s and the price of gold rose to historical highs, mining companies turned their eyes on the country’s vast gold resources. In Marmato, Gran Colombia Gold hoped to buy out the small-scale miners and move the town, making way for an open-pit mine. However, they were unprepared for the level of organization, political savvy, and passion of Marmato’s “traditional miners,” who launched an array of defenses, including demonstrations, lawsuits, outreach to national and international solidarity groups, and the formation of a group of “marmatologists” from Marmato and elsewhere (of which I am a proud member). As of now the traditional miners have managed to hold off the company, though things are still very much up in the air.

Marmato is one of the cases that my brother Stephen—a photojournalist—explores in our book *La Batea*, which looks at small-scale gold mining in Colombia. We look at both the negative aspects of gold mining, such as its connection to armed groups and its use of mercury, and at the positive aspects less frequently acknowledged. These positive aspects include a vibrant and living culture, anchored communities, and the independence gained through mining, particularly for indigenous and Afro-Colombian miners (who, for instance, bought their freedom and sustained themselves after escaping from slavery with gold from rivers in the Pacific region). In July, I visited Marmato to present *La Batea* to the public there. Luis Gonzaga played his songs at the presentation, which took place high on the Cerro el Burro, in an event space known as the Discoteca Cerro de Oro [“Golden Mountain”]. The audience included miners, politicians, schoolteachers, academics, social workers, and others—much more varied than we usually find in academic conferences and even public appearances.

I was delighted that the audience in Marmato appreciated the book and found it to be a useful contribution to their own efforts. I came away with a renewed appreciation for the town and a rekindled desire to go back next year and work and learn more.

# LALS Annual Luncheon



## Fall 2017

AAAS 125b- Caribbean Women and Globalization: Sexuality, Citizenship, Work- Smith

ENGL 107a- Women Writing Desire: Caribbean Fiction and Film- Smith

ANTH 55a- Anthropology of Development- Sheridan

ANTH 147b- Mesoamerica Civilizations and Their Legacies- Urcid

HISP 182a- Narco Cultures in Latin America and the United States- Arellano

HISP 196a- Topics in Latina/o Literature and Culture: Autobiography Writing the Self- Mandrell

HISP 111b- Introduction to Latin American Literature- Rosenberg

HIST 175b- Resistance & Revolution in Latin America and the Caribbean- Childs

HIST 172b- Historicizing the Black Radical Tradition- Childs

POL 128a- The Politics of Revolution: State Violence and Popular Insurgency in the Third World- Thaxton

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

## Spring 2018

ANTH 119a- Conquests, Resistance, and Cultural Transformation in Mexico and Central America- Golden

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

FA 77b- Twentieth-Century and Contemporary Latin American Art- Falconi

HISP 108a- Spanish for Heritage Speakers- Reyes de Deu

HISP 111b- Introduction to Latin American Literature and Culture: The Arts, Mass Media, and Community in Latin America- Arellano

HISP 192b- Latin American Global Film- Rosenberg

HIST 71a- Latin American and Caribbean History I: Colonialism, Slavery, Freedom- Schaefer

HIST 171b- Latinos in the US- Iburguen

HIST 174a- U.S. Relations with Latin America and the Caribbean- Schaefer

LALS 1a- Introduction to Latin American and Latino Studies- Brown

NEJS 132a- The Jews of Latin America- Wassner

AAAS 123a- Third World Ideologies- Nyangoni



**Gabriel Sol Fontes** traveled to Havana to continue working on a project entitled, “The Madrina of Cuban Hip-Hop: How Nehanda Abiodun Fostered the Havana Hip-Hop Generation.” The project documents the influence of Abiodun, an exiled Black liberation fighter, on the Cuban Hip-Hop community. In the early 2000’s, Abiodun hosted community spaces that politicized a generation of Hip-Hop artists. Through interviews with Abiodun, cultural critics, and raperos, Gabriel documented her role as an activist, teacher, cultural ambassador, and to many, a mother. Gabriel's research demonstrated that her legacy is carried on through the community organizing and music of her mentees. Some of the most interesting anecdotes include: Harry Belafonte convincing Fidel Castro to fund Cuban Hip-Hop, how the Cuban government supplanted Hip-Hop with Reggaeton, and an Assata Shakur birthday party.

**Raffi García** attended and presented research at the Econometric Society and the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association Annual Meetings in Buenos Aires, Argentina. His paper “Plant Behavior & Equal Pay: The Effect on Female Employment, Capital Investments & Productivity – A Difference-in-Discontinuity Design.” investigates how equal pay regulation can influence plant behavior and strategy. At this conference he shared the same stage with top economists such as Jean Tirole (Nobel Prize Winner), Drew Fudenberg, Marianne Bertrand, and David Levine, among others. He networked with old friends and professional colleagues. He was explored and enjoyed the beautiful city of Buenos Aires and its amazing food and culture!



**Krysla Grothe** traveled to Bolivia to carry out a small qualitative analysis on agricultural technology use and child health outcomes. The study comes after a year-long quantitative analysis of data collected in 2008 and 2009 through a randomized control trial with Tsimané communities near the town of San Borja, in the lowlands of Bolivia. Twenty household interviews over two weeks collected information on use of agricultural technology, attitudes towards agricultural technology, new information sources, access to markets, and attitudes towards child health. Data from this qualitative study support this analysis by providing insight into the agricultural practices that shape child health outcomes in regards to labor, land, education, and access to technology.

**Max Sedita** conducted a month of archaeological research in the Middle Usumacinta River valley region of Chiapas Mexico. Initially this project sought to understand the relationship between the ancient community of Flores Magon and its surrounding Classic Period (250 – 800 C.E.). He documented what remained of the archaeological site utilizing traditional mapping and photography as well as drone photogrammetry to create 3D models of the ancient structures which remained. His excavations of the archaeological site of Sacrificio Don Adolfo and terrestrial and drone survey recovered evidence of intense occupation during the Preclassic (B.C.E. 400 – 250 C.E.) followed by a subsequent reoccupation during the Late Classic period through the Terminal Classic period (600 – 950 C.E.). Our investigations shed light not only on the occupational history of the site but also onto the nature of land tenure and heritable landscape amongst the ancient Maya. Additionally, these excavations provided insights into the ancient economy of the Piedras Negras kingdom and the functions of ancient states.



**Angela Méndez** and **Meng Diao** traveled with Borderlinks, an agency that creates service learning experiences for students. A Brandeis group of 13 visited grassroots organizations and community organizers working for immigrant justice in and around Tucson, Arizona. They learned from experts about Operation Streamline, the court proceedings of migrants awaiting deportation; they visited immigrants in detention centers and went on a desert walk to drop off water for those making the journey across the border; they visited the border wall and experienced the extreme militarization of the borderlands, while learning from Borderlink's interactive workshops. Through the trip, they experienced and glimpsed the physical, political, and spiritual conditions where much of the most dangerous and difficult migration to the United States takes place.

**Arlett Márquez** conducted research in the Dominican Republic on the relationship and history of Dominican Republic and Haiti by focusing on the political, social, and economic factors at play. Before traveling she interned at the City College of New York at the Dominican Studies Institute. She traveled to Elias Pina with three professors from the Institute of Technology in the country's capital, Santo Domingo, and accompanied them while they conducted surveys in the area over the communities' use of the land and agriculture. She traveled to Dajabon and Monte Cristi, along the border of Dominican Republic and Haiti, to observe communities and forms of labor that differ from the capital. One of these experiences included visiting the Dajabon market where Haitians and Dominicans come together every Monday and Friday to buy and sell products.

**G. Van Kollias III** traveled to Chiapas, Mexico, to begin preliminary fieldwork for dissertation research. His research investigates the relationships between ancient Maya elites, and the ways in which these relationships were characterized by intricate trade and exchange networks, shared material culture, and courtly practices. Preliminary fieldwork at the recently identified ancient city of Lacanjá Tzeltal has allowed us to identify the royal capitol of an important ancient Maya dynasty after decades of speculation regarding its location. Survey, mapping, and preliminary excavations of the city's site core form the foundation of ongoing research which has allowed his team to better understand the nature of this ancient city and begin to establish the relative antiquity of the site in comparison to others in the region.



**Juan Eugenio Corradi '65** published *Strategic Impasse: Social Origins of Geopolitical Disarray*.

**Nancy Foner BA '66** was awarded the 2018 Merit Award from the Eastern Sociological Society in recognition of outstanding contributions to the discipline, profession, and the organization. She was awarded a Berlin Prize Fellowship at the American Academy in Berlin (2017) and a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Fellowship (2017-18). She published "Race in an Era of Mass Migration: Black Migrants in Europe and the United States" in *Ethnic and Racial Studies* (2018).

**Donna Guy '67** finished an article on prostitution and suicide in late 19th-century Argentina, as well as an article on department stores and the rise of female mobility on the streets of Buenos Aires in the early 20th century. She presented a paper on an unpublished manual for men on their wedding night from early 20th-century Argentina.

**Frances Hagopian '75** published *Reorganizing Political Representation in Latin America: Parties, Program, and Patronage in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Mexico*. She also published the article "The Political Economy of Inequality in Brazil," forthcoming in the *Routledge Handbook of Brazilian Politics*, edited by Barry Ames (London: Taylor and Francis).

**Peter Kornbluh '79** published articles in *The Nation*, *Mother Jones*, and *Politico* related to Fidel and Raul Castro.

**Peggy Levitt '80**, published "The Migration-Development Nexus and Organizational Time" in *International Migration Review* and "The Missing Link? The Role of Subnational Governance in Transnational Social Protections" with Erica Dobbs (Oxford Development Studies). She also published "Response to Symposium on Artifacts and Allegiances: How Museums Put the Nation and the World on Display" in *Identities*.

**Ned Littlefield MA '17** published a "Literature Review: Cross-learning between Countering Violent Extremism and Gang Violence Prevention" with Kristen Sample and Anoma Bhat, as commissioned by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). He was also awarded a FLAS fellowship to study Portuguese.

**Yaser S. Robles '03** of Rosemary Choate Hall traveled to Cuba for Choate's first cultural immersion program there. The week long program was held in partnership with Academics Program International (API). He co-edited *Dynamics of Community Formation: Developing Identity and Notions of Home*, which included his article "Latino Experience in the Barrios of the South Bronx, New York City: The Other Side of the American Dream."

**Ruben Rumbaut MA '73, PhD '78** published numerous articles, edited volumes, and chapters including *Immigration and Crime and the Criminalization of Immigration* with Katie Dingeman and Anthony Robles; and *Crossings to Adulthood: How Diverse Young Americans Understand and Navigate Their Lives* with Teresa Toguchi Swartz and Douglas Hartmann (Brill), and *America's Languages: Investing in*

*Language Education for the 21st Century* for the Commission on Language Learning of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences

**Luis Rubio PhD '83**, President of the Mexican Council on Foreign Relations (COMEXI) published numerous commentaries for the Pacific Council on International Policy. He also published the book *¿Y ahora qué? México ante el 2018* (Penguin).

**Michael Smith '75** published "Social Science and Archaeological Inquiry" in *Antiquity*, and "The Teotihuacan Anomaly: The Historical Trajectory of Urban Design in Ancient Central Mexico" in *Open Archaeology* (2017). He blogs for *Publishing Archeology*.

**Lynn Stephen PhD '87** is a fellow at the Center for US-Mexican Studies at UC San Diego. She will serve as president of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) from June 1, 2018- June 1, 2019. Her next book will be published with Duke University.

**Diana Veneros Ruiz-Tagle PhD '97** of the Universidad Diego Portales presented "Gobierno universitario y liderazgo femenino: una relación esquivada" at the "Mujeres, Sociedad y Universidad" conference, at the Universidad de Tarapacá.