From the Director’s Desk 2010...

Finally we have reached the end of our very long Winter of Discontent. After four years of drought Latin American Studies has regained basic Center funding for 2010-2014 from the US Department of Education as a National Resource Center, and we also received graduate and undergraduate student grants (both academic year and summer) under Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS). What a relief!! Thanks and congratulations to all of you who have participated in the discussions concerning the direction of the Center this last year, and assisted in developing initiatives for this proposal. A lot of peoples’ work went into this document and it paid off. Most important to mention are the contributions of Melissa Birch, Peter Herlihy, Chris Brown, Brent Metz and John Hoopes. Both Alex Sphar and Jay Metz provided critical assistance in making maps, charts, tables, and collecting data. Now we need to make sure that the funding is utilized appropriately to strengthen our programs and faculty.

Some of the initiatives in the NRC proposal include: 1) a seeded position in Central American and Caribbean history in the history department; 2) development of courses focused on indigenous Latin America with a minor in Global Indigenous Nations Studies; 3) development of graduate courses on Latin America in Environmental Studies; 4) faculty grants for research in Latin America; 5) faculty travel grants to attend conferences on Latin America or to present papers focused on Latin America at conferences; 6) funds for outside speakers for the Brazilian Studies program; 7) new courses in indigenous languages; 8) one or two Conferences in each year; 9) 10 teacher training workshops 10) library acquisitions; 11) support for 2010 and 2013 meetings of the Midwestern Organization of Libraries of Latin American Studies (MOLLAS); 12) workshops focused on Latin American issues and the Professional Schools.

I began as Director of Latin American Studies in 1992 and have been privileged to serve in that position for 18 years. This year I return to history full-time to teach and focus on research. It has been incredibly rewarding to be able to develop programs, find funding, recruit faculty and graduate students, and do whatever I could to strengthen Latin American Studies at KU. I had no idea when I began how much I would enjoy conceptualizing a project and then seeing it come to fruition. Of course this could only happen because of the remarkable faculty at KU and the long held traditions which have valued connections with Latin America such as Study Abroad, the Organization of Tropical Studies (OTS) in the Biological Sciences, and efforts from the Departments of Spanish & Portuguese and Geography. That history of engagement with Latin America provided a latent strength in Latin American Studies which made it possible to substantially expand the Center since 1992 from about 30 to 123 affiliated faculty. Faculty and staff who were critical in their support over the years include Anita Herzfeld, donna luckey, Mehrangiz Nazafizdeh, Juan Velasco, Brent Metz, Peter Herlihy, and Danny Anderson and John Hoopes who acted as Directors of Latin American Studies while I was on leave. I would never have been able to do anything these years without help from Nancy Chaison, Barbara Wiseman, and, most importantly, Judy Farmer, who truly was my right hand. I also want to acknowledge the support of Victor Bailey...
and the Hall Center for the Humanities, particularly in these years of non-funding. We were able to secure funding three times (for nine years of funding) from the Tinker Foundation for Field Research Grants for Graduate Students which enabled the Center to sponsor more than 20 students each year to do research in Latin America. This project was very important to me since I think a program can only be as strong as its graduate students and the quality of graduate students greatly improved as a result.

I am particularly happy to be stepping down as Director at a time when our funding has just been renewed. I also know that I leave the administration of the Center in good hands. Peter Herlihy is Acting Director of Latin American Studies this Fall and there will be a search for a permanent Director to begin in the Spring. It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Director all of these years and I want to thank all of you for your help and support during that time. I could not have done what I did without the passion and commitment of KU Latin American faculty.

Acting Director’s Addendum

Peter Herlihy

After 18 years as Director of the Center of Latin American Studies (CLAS), Betsy Kuznesof was recognized again by her KU colleagues winning the 2009 George & Eleanor Woodyard International Educator Award. Then, accentuating her remarkable tenure, Betsy led an intensive grant-writing effort to the finish line that resulted in her regaining the coveted U. S. Department of Education “National Resource Center” status for the KU CLAS, including FLAS fellowships for students!

On behalf of all our Latin Americanist colleagues and students from the University of Kansas, it is an honor to recognize Betsy for her pioneering work and enduring commitment to strengthening and developing excellence in Latin Americanist scholarship at the University of Kansas. Both our newsletter and new website (http://www.ku.edu/~latamst/) showcase this excellence in our faculty, students, and programs, demonstrating the great potential we collectively offer Kansas and the World.

With great respect and gratitude, we thank you Betsy for all you have done!

Visiting Scholars from Latin America

The Center of Latin American Studies would like to welcome visiting scholars Anthony Goebel and Silvia Gonzalez. Anthony Goebel, from the University of Costa Rica, is a visiting researcher working with the C-Change program in IGERT this Fall. Silvia Gonzalez will be arriving in the Spring.

Students Receive Fellowships & Grants for Latin American Research

The Center honored 28 graduate students and their advisors on April 23rd at the annual Awards Luncheon. The ceremony recognized winners of Tinker Field Research Grants, Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships, the Stansifer Fellowship, and the Latin Americanist Graduate Research competition.

The Tinker Grants provide funding for KU graduate students to pursue international research opportunities throughout Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula. The grant writing, foreign travel, and research experience provide a competitive edge for students as they return to campus and pursue their career goals. This summer, the twenty Tinker awardees will be conducting field work in Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Spain.

The Stansifer Fellowship, endowed by KU Professor Emeritus of History Charles Stansifer, awards around $4,000 each year to a graduate student working on a thesis or dissertation on a Central American topic. The applicants can be seeking
degrees in any area of study and winners are selected by an interdisciplinary faculty committee. Anne Kraemer Diaz, PhD student in Anthropology, was chosen as the recipient of the fellowship for the 2010-2011 academic year. Under the supervision of advisor Brent Metz (Assistant Professor of Anthropology), she will be studying the relationship between the impact of development, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), indigeneity and grassroots movements in Guatemala.

Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowships are prestigious awards given to students pursuing coursework in a modern language. The KU Center of Latin American Studies administers FLAS awards for students of Portuguese, advanced Spanish, Quichua, Kaqchikel Maya, and Haitian Creole. With funding from the U.S. Department of Education, the fellowships cover tuition and fees for up to 12 credit hours in addition to a stipend of $15,000. For 2010-11, the Center has awarded FLAS fellowships to seven KU students. Students receiving awards this semester were:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department, Level, Country of Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lisenby, David</td>
<td>Spanish &amp; Portuguese, PhD, Cuba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miller, Tiffany</td>
<td>Spanish &amp; Portuguese, PhD, Guatemala</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norris, Andrew</td>
<td>Geography, MA, Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postma, Regan</td>
<td>Spanish &amp; Portuguese, PhD, Mexico</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheridan, Erin</td>
<td>Latin American Studies and Business, MA/MBA, Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silverstein, Sydney</td>
<td>Anthropology, MA, Peru</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stillo, Stephanie</td>
<td>History, PhD, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tappan, Taylor</td>
<td>Geography, MA, Honduras</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2010 Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship Winners (Name, Department, Level)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department, Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Longaker, Jacob</td>
<td>Political Science, MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin, Molly</td>
<td>Latin American Studies, MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creggan Miller, Tiffany</td>
<td>Spanish, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rausch, Lisa</td>
<td>Geography, PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheridan, Erin</td>
<td>Latin American Studies and Business, MA/MBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silverstein, Sydney</td>
<td>Anthropology, MA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Webb, Meghan</td>
<td>Anthropology, PhD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2010 Stansifer Fellowship Winner
Kraemer Diaz, Anne – Anthropology, PhD

2010 Graduate Research Competition Winners (Name, Department, Level, Place)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department, Level, Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bailey, Andrew</td>
<td>Latin American Studies and Business, MA, 3rd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dos Santos, Pedro</td>
<td>Political Science, PhD, 1st Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gentry, Jodi</td>
<td>Environmental Engineering, PhD, 2nd Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silverstein, Sydney</td>
<td>Anthropology, MA, 1st Place</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tummons, Emily</td>
<td>Linguistics, MA, 2nd Place</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Latin American Graduate Student Research Competition is discussed on page 8.)

Andrea Romero, PhD student in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, studying the effects of forest fragmentation on rodent communities in Costa Rica on her 2009 Tinker Field Research Grant.

2010 Tinker Field Research Grant Winners (Name, Department, Level, Country of Research)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Department, Level, Country of Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amorim, Clarice</td>
<td>Anthropology, MA, Guatemala</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aubel, Mara</td>
<td>Latin American Studies, MA, Brazil</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bailey, Andrew</td>
<td>Latin American Studies and Business, MA/MBA, Brazil and Ecuador</td>
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<tr>
<td>Benfer, Adam</td>
<td>Anthropology, MA, Costa Rica</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burton, Stacey</td>
<td>Latin American Studies, MA, Nicaragua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabrera, Mirna</td>
<td>Choral Conducting, DMA (Doctor of Musical Arts), Cuba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delano, Winchell</td>
<td>History, MA, Argentina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dornak, Laura</td>
<td>Geography, PhD, Brazil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durón, Hispano</td>
<td>Film and Media Studies, PhD, El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fox, Phillip</td>
<td>History, PhD, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freudenburg, Kevin</td>
<td>Political Science, MA, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lira, Andres</td>
<td>Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, PhD, Mexico</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Andrea Romero, PhD student in Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, studying the effects of forest fragmentation on rodent communities in Costa Rica on her 2009 Tinker Field Research Grant.
Elizabeth Kuznesof Wins Woodyard International Educator Award

From KU News

Dr. Elizabeth Kuznesof, Professor of History and Director of the Center of Latin American Studies, was honored with the George and Eleanor Woodyard International Educator Award during the fall 2009 semester. The award recognizes faculty on the Lawrence campus who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in strengthening KU’s international dimension in such areas as curriculum development, study abroad programs, relationships with international partner institutions and collaboration with international colleagues in significant research and publications.

Kuznesof joined the Department of History in 1987 and has been director of the Center of Latin American Studies since 1992. Her colleagues laud her ceaseless work in securing funding for the center, her efforts to make sure that graduate students have the opportunity to do field research in Latin America, her accomplished research and teaching skills and her success in building a community of Latin Americanists at KU.

“International Programs is pleased to present this honor to Professor Kuznesof this year,” said Director of Faculty Programs Julie Kaarbo. “It is a wonderful recognition of her outstanding record of leadership in international education. We also appreciate the generous support of George and Eleanor Woodyard for this award.”

The Woodyards established the fund through KU Endowment. George Woodyard joined the KU Department of Spanish and Portuguese in 1966. During his career at KU, he held positions in the Graduate School and Academic Affairs. In 1989, he was named KU’s first dean of international studies. Woodyard created and strengthened exchange programs on the Lawrence campus and for the School of Medicine, and established many KU alumni chapters overseas.

Dr. Kuznesof joins a respected list of past recipients of the award (previously known as the Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education), including Latin American Studies affiliates John Head (2006), Anita Herzfeld (2005), Robert Timm (2003), Melissa Birch (2002), Judith McCrea (2001), and Charles Stansifer (1999).

New KULAC courses offered

Students who wish to improve practical language skills in non-literature and non-language subjects enroll in KU Languages Across the Curriculum (KULAC) courses. Since 1994, full courses and discussion sections have been offered at KU every semester. Spanish KULAC courses have been offered in History, Anthropology, Business, Geography, Political Science, Religious Studies, Environmental Studies, and Biology; 1-hour discussion sections provide extra depth in a specialized area. The courses are open to both graduates and undergraduates.

We are proud to announce our new KULAC classes for Fall 2010 will be:

**LAA 302/602: “The African Diaspora in Latin America”**
*Taught by Dr. Laura Herlihy, Lecturer - Latin American Studies*
*Thursdays 5:30-8:00 p.m, JRP 622*

**LAA 302/602: “Buenos Aires: tango y mucho más!”**
*Taught by Dr. Anita Herzfeld, Professor - Latin American Studies*
*Thursdays 4:00-6:30 p.m., JRP 243*
KU - UCR Archaeologists Uncover Pre-Hispanic Village in Costa Rica

John Hoopes

This summer 2010, John Hoopes, Director of the Global Indigenous Nations Studies Program and Associate Professor of Anthropology, has been directing archaeological excavations at the site of Nuevo Corinto, an ancient pre-Hispanic village near Guápiles, Costa Rica with the assistance of KU anthropology graduate students Anne Egitto and Adam Benfer. Nuevo Corinto was first reported in the 1940s by archaeologist Doris Stone, but it remained unstudied until its rediscovery by Costa Rican graduate students Mónica Aguilar and Jeffrey Peytrequín in 2000.

In January, with the support of a Franklin Research grant from the American Philosophical Society, Hoopes, Egitto, and Benfer worked together with a University of Costa Rica field school to clear and map features in the central precinct of the site. This summer, their efforts are focused on the recovery of charcoal samples in archaeological contexts that can be used for radiocarbon dating. They are also collecting soil samples from which pollen and phytoliths can be extracted for a pilot study of ancient environmental change at the site. Phytoliths are microscopic bodies that occurs in many plants and can be used by archaeologists to determine what people were growing and eating in the past. The phytolith analysis will be conducted by Steve Bozarth, in KU’s Dept. of Geography, while the pollen analysis will be undertaken by Guaria Cárdenes, in the UCR’s Dept. of Geology as a further inter-institutional collaboration supported by both universities.

Preliminary studies suggest that Nuevo Corinto was the center of a chiefdom-like society located in “La Union”–an area in which several rivers flowing down the slopes of the Irazú and Barva volcanoes formed a single, navigable route to the Caribbean Sea. It may have served as a center for the manufacture of stone sculpture and the redistribution of goods manufactured from raw materials brought to the Caribbean coast of Costa Rica from sources in Guatemala and Panama.
Students and a Latin American Studies instructor from KU are in Guatemala this summer, working through a Kansas City-based organization to help families displaced by the ravages of Tropical Storm Agatha.

Emily Tummons, an instructor of Kaqchikel, one of about 30 Mayan languages spoken in Central America, and Anne Kraemer Diaz, a doctoral student in anthropology, are founding members of Wuqu’ Kawoq (pronounced woo-KOO kah-WOHK), an organization formed in 2007 to provide medical services to Guatemalans in their native language.

Tummons chairs the board of directors for Wuqu’ Kawoq and arrived in Guatemala in early June. Kraemer Diaz is the organization’s executive director and plans to do field research for her dissertation in Guatemala this summer.

Reports they have gathered from fact-finding crews since Agatha landed May 29 indicate that food supplies are scarce and that roads are so badly damaged by the mudslides and diverted rivers that supplying the villages will be a challenge in the coming days. Potable water is the largest concern. Many villages are using schools as shelter for the countless displaced people whose homes have been destroyed.

Kraemer Diaz said Wuqu’ Kawoq is seeking aid to provide supplies of clean water and food and to help with rebuilding efforts in Guatemala’s Highland and Lake regions, which have been effected by the devastation.

Since the founding of Wuqu’ Kawoq, Tummons and Kraemer Diaz have encouraged students to do service learning work in development, language and medicine in Guatemala. This summer, five KU students will be in Guatemala to learn Kaqchikel language and culture. They also will assist with Wuqu’ Kawoq’s relief efforts. A spring 2010 graduate will intern for Wuqu’ Kawoq during the 2010-11 academic year helping to provide service and medicine to communities.

The organization’s work in the native tongue to provide clean water, encourage language preservation and growth and support midwifery sets Wuqu’ Kawoq apart from other medically minded nongovernmental organizations in the area.

Wuqu translates as “seven” in several Mayan languages and Kawoq is a day on the Mayan calendar related to medicine and healing arts.

More information about providing aid and updates on the relief efforts in Guatemala are online at [www.wuqukawoq](http://www.wuqukawoq).

Anthropology graduate students Anne Egitto has been investigating the site using remote sensing methodologies, while Adam Benfer is exploring how the site may have connected with historic and pre-Hispanic road systems. Both students won Tinker Foundation Field Research Grants to support their research.

Installation of a potable water system in Socorro, Guatemala
NSF Grant funds KU Climate Change Seminar with On-site Study in Mexico

During January 2010, thirteen graduate fellows and six faculty and staff members traveled to Mexico as part of a C-CHANGE seminar, Climates & Borders: Monarch Butterflies & Local Economies in Mexico. This interdisciplinary graduate seminar examines the cross-border migration between the US and Mexico of Monarch butterflies (*Danaus plexippus*) and other species with the goal of understanding the ecological, geographic, social, and political policy factors that shape the monarch migration in the United States and Mexico.

C-CHANGE is a National Science Foundation for an Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT) program in interdisciplinary climate change studies at the University of Kansas. The C-CHANGE program is for PhD students in the social sciences, natural sciences, and engineering who are interested in understanding the human causes and consequences of climate change and in developing strategies for responding to these changes.

Before traveling to Mexico, C-CHANGE fellows worked on a series of projects relating to the different factors that affect monarch butterfly distribution. Seminar participants explored proximate and underlying environmental, political, economic, cultural, and social forces affecting and responding to changing monarch distributions and population status through review of Mexico’s biodiversity policies analysis of economic development and tourism data, along with interviews from policymakers and indigenous community leaders.

After the spring 2010 seminar coursework, the group traveled to Mexico City where they met with KU PhD in Geography, Enrique Martínez Meyer, who is now an associate in the Institute of Biology at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). They visited his field study on the effects of climate change on the Volcano Rabbit (*Romerolagus diazi*). They also met with officials from the Mexican federal biodiversity authority (CONABIO), and other UNAM scientists. Then the group traveled to the state of Michoacan where they visited the butterfly sanctuaries in Rosario and Chincua. The class ended their tour in Morelia where they met with several members of the Center for the Investigation of Ecosystems at the Morelia branch of UNAM.

Faculty members leading the trip were A. Town Peterson (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology), Chris Brown (Geography & Environmental Studies), Nate Brunsell (Geography), and Jorge Soberon (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology). Also traveling with the group were IGERT associates Joane Nagel (C-CHANGE project director, Sociology) and Natalie Parker (C-CHANGE project coordinator, Center for Research on Global Change).

KU IGERT C-Change Seminar Fellows/Trainees/Associates:

- Naryani Barve (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)
- Alvin Rodriguez-Bonilla (Geology)
- Julia Brandes (Economics)
- Ferdouz Cochran (Geography)
- Rebecca Crosthwait (Anthropology)
- Jodi Gentry (Environmental Engineering)
- Laci Gerhart (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)
- Trish Jackson (Geography)
- Anna Kern (Environmental Sociology)
- Hannah Owens (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology)
- Alexis Reed (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology),
- Adam Sundberg (Environmental History)
- Linda Williams (Environmental Policy)
**Waggoner Colloquium’s Continued Success**

The Waggoner Research Colloquium is an annual meeting held every fall to celebrate the ongoing creation of scholarship about Latin America by KU faculty. It was inaugurated in 1992 by Elizabeth Kuznesof, and the tradition has continued over the last eighteen years. Faculty and graduate students affiliated with the Center gather to hear distinguished speakers and discuss current issues and topics related to the study of Latin America. The fellowship among colleagues and graduate students is seen as a central part of the event along with the scholarly program. The interdisciplinary sponsorship is a testimony to KU’s continuing commitment to international education and its promotion of international consciousness among students and faculty. It also celebrates and carries on the legacy left by George Waggoner, in whose honor this Colloquium was founded.

Dr. Waggoner was Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from 1954 until 1975, when he became the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs. During his tenure, Dr. Waggoner founded the College Honors Program and established educational ties with universities in the Caribbean and in Central and South America. He was presciently concerned with international programs and development and was instrumental in bringing many of the key Latin Americanists to KU who have helped make our programs distinguished.

**Latin Americanist Graduate Research Competition**

Held during the Spring semester, the annual Latin Americanist Graduate Research Competition allows KU graduate students focusing on a Latin American topic the opportunity to present their work in front of their peers and a panel of faculty judges. A keynote faculty speaker is featured during the catered lunch. Cash prizes are awarded to the top presenters at both the MA and PhD level.

The third annual Latin Americanist Graduate Research Competition was held on April 12th, 2010 in the Kansas Room of the Kansas Union. Open to graduate students at both the Masters and PhD levels, the competition featured 15 presentations on a wide variety of Latin American topics and a faculty keynote lecture by Associate Professor and Chair of the department of Film and Media Studies Tamara Falicov. A panel of judges, including Robert Rodriguez (Latin American Studies lecturer and Associate Director of the McNair Scholars Program), Charles Stansifer (Professor Emeritus, History) and Robert Timm (Associate Professor, Natural History Museum) selected winning participants at both levels.

**2010 Winners**

**MA Level**

1st- Sydney Silverstein, Anthropology: “After the Smoke has Cleared: The Truth Commission and Challenges Toward Reconciliation in Peru”

2nd- Emily Tummons, Linguistics: “Positional Roots of Kaqchikel Maya”

3rd- Andrew Bailey, LAS/Business: “Overcoming Barriers through Integration: The Development of Ecuadorian Football 1900-Present”

**PhD Level**

1st- Pedro dos Santos, Political Science: “O Pulo do Gato: Campaign Strategy, Finance, and Women’s Representation in Brazil”


**Guests at the annual Waggoner Colloquium**

The conference held on Friday November 13th, 2009 included an interdisciplinary panel on the theme of “Latin American and Transnational Identities: Gender, Space and Politics,” followed by a reception with wine and hors d’oeuvres.

This year brought together the talents of a wide range of interdisciplinary KU faculty from Santa Arias (Spanish & Portuguese) who presented “Entre el imperio y la patria: Creole and Spanish Reconfigurations of Peru in the Late Eighteenth-Century,” to Ben Chappell (American Studies) with “A Lowrider is a Performance of Space,” and Christina Bejarano’s (Political Science) presentation on “Transnationalism and Gender: Influence of Gender on Latinos’ level of contact with home country.”
2009-2010 Merienda BrownBag
Lecture Series

Meriendas are hosted by the Center of Latin American Studies at 12 noon in 318 Bailey Hall every Thursday throughout the fall and spring semesters. A presentation is offered by a KU or visiting scholar, professor or student in a casual setting open to the public. A simple lunch of rice and beans is provided, or those in attendance are invited to bring their own lunch. For more information on Meriendas and full titles of presenters, see the Center’s website at www.ku.edu/~latams.

Fall 2010
Sept 2  Barney Warf
Sept 9  Anthony Goebel
Sept 16 Gary Reich
Sept 23 Summer Marvin
Sept 30 Martha Rabbani
Oct 7  Andrés Lira-Noriega
Oct 21 Emilia Barbosa
Oct 28 Elizabeth Kuznesof
Nov 4  Sydney Silverstein
Nov 11 Regan Postma
Nov 18 Adam Benfer
Dec 2  John Hoopes

Spring 2010
Jan 28  Charles Stansifer
Feb 4   Hispano Duron
Feb 11  Jodi Gentry
Feb 17  Brenna Daldorph
Feb 28  Mirna Cabrera
Mar 4   Joshua Tucker
Mar 25  Yajaira Padilla
April 1 Meghan Kirkwood
April 8  Walter Clark
April 15 Stacey Burton
April 22 Chris Frazer
April 39 Greg Cushman

Fall 2009
Sept 3  Erika Sandoval
Sept 10 Lisa Rausch
Sept 17 Heather Putnam
Sept 24 Silvia Salgado
Oct 1   Jay Metz
Oct 8   Gerardo Hernández
Oct 22  Rebecca Crosthwait
Oct 29  Anita Herzfeld
Nov 5   Mónica Chávez González
Nov 12  Aida Ramos Viera
Nov 19  Norberto Baldi Salas
Dec 3   Kristine Latta

Featured Faculty

Gregory Cushman, Assistant Professor in History, specializing in Latin American and Environmental History

Following in Darwin’s Footsteps

150 years after the publication of Darwin’s book ‘On the Origin of Species’ the Clipper Stad Amsterdam, sailed around the world following the route of the Beagle, Darwin’s original ship. The 2009 expedition was part of a 35 episode Dutch TV series called, Beagle, in the Footsteps of Darwin, and along with TV cameras had internationally acclaimed scientists from a range of disciplines who carried out various types of research.

The Beagle Project with the three-masted Clipper Stad Amsterdam (76 meters long), carried an international crew of scientists, philosophers, historians, artists and biographers on a voyage around the world. Since September 1st, 2009 this exciting expedition has sailed from Holland to Great Britain, Spain, Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina, Chile, Peru, Ecuador, Tahiti, Australia, Mauritius, and Cape Town.

In December 2009, Gregory Cushman (History), a field consultant for the show, took part in filming episode 18, “The Last Drop,” of the TV documentary on the round-the-world voyage of the New Beagle. It visited the Serengeti of the Sea and explored how the melting of Peru’s highland...
Food, Fuel, and Environment in Brazil

J. Christopher Brown in Geography and Environmental Studies has developed a series of projects together with Embrapa Informática, and has exchanged undergraduate and graduate students with researchers at the Remote Sensing Group of the Agricultural Engineering School at UNICAMP, the State University of Campinas in Campinas, São Paulo. Projects include: the political, economic, cultural, and ecological dynamics of the expansion of soybean production in the Amazon, the geo-traceability of agricultural commodities (for example, fair trade certification of coffee), and the political and ecological dynamics of Brazil’s landless movement (MST).

Professor Brown’s graduate students have won Tinker, Fulbright, Boren, and other scholarships to fund international work in these areas of research. Heather Putnam is completing PhD research comparing human and environmental aspects of coffee certification processes in Nicaragua, Brazil, and Uganda. Heather has received numerous small grants and Title VI FLAS funding for her work. Lisa Rausch, another PhD student, is going to Mato Grosso, Brazil on an IIE Fulbright to study municipal-level efforts to legalize agricultural production in major soy-producing regions.

Greg Cushman came to KU Department of History in Fall 2003 and has an emphasis in Latin American and environmental history. He is currently researching the history of international understanding of the El Niño phenomenon, and its invention as a global disaster, by which he hopes to learn how humans came to envision environmental problems on a scale that spans not only the Pacific Ocean, but the whole earth. He is also actively engaged with KU’s NSF-funded C-CHANGE IGERT program focused on the human dimensions of climate change.

Latin Americanist named dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

From KU News

Danny J. Anderson, interim provost at the University of Kansas, an award-winning teacher and scholar in Latin American culture and literature, will be the next dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences effective July 1.

Anderson was chosen after a national search to succeed Joseph Steinmetz, who resigned to become executive dean and vice provost of arts and sciences at Ohio State University.

“I am honored to be appointed dean in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences,” Anderson said. “I am excited to lead during this important moment of change at KU under the leadership of Chancellor Gray-Little and with our incoming provost Jeff Vitter. The remarkable strengths in the College are fundamental to KU’s identity as an international research university. As dean, I value these strengths and look forward to advancing them even further through collaboration with faculty, staff and students.”

Before his interim appointment, Anderson was vice provost for academic affairs. During that time, he was instrumental in development of the Jayhawk Generations Scholarship, which provides partial tuition waivers to out-of-state students who meet certain academic requirements and who have a parent or grandparent who graduated from KU. He also played a key role in establishing the Latino Vision Council, which has led to initiatives including the first Hispanic chapter of the KU Alumni Association and KU’s Spanish-language Web site, ku.edu/espanol.

“Danny’s experience and accomplishments at both the departmental and university levels give him valuable perspectives for this important college leadership role,” said Vitter. “I very much look forward to working with Danny to continue and build upon the College’s many successes.”

Danny Anderson, Dean of College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
Latin Americanist Faculty Directed Maya Language School

Emily Tummons, lecturer in Kaqchikel Maya at KU directed a Kaqchikel Maya language field school in Santiago Sacatepequez, Guatemala, June 7th - June 18th. It was taught by 4 native Maya speakers, and several KU undergrad and graduate students took the course this summer. The field school, called “Kab’lajuj Ey” was hosted by the NGO Wuqu’ Kawaq, which Tummons founded and directs.

A few of the students shared quotes about their experience at Kab’lajuj Ey:

“Our time in Kab’lajuj Ey was invaluable to our learning of Kaqchikel. The teachers were wonderful, so helpful and patient, and the immersion method was both challenging and incredibly fun.”
-Kate Moneymaker
(undergraduate, Social Welfare)

“Kab’lajuj Ey was a great way to learn Kaqchikel: it was fun, engaging, and extremely productive. I had no exposure to Kaqchikel before the class, and the full time immersion was challenging but also very rewarding. The professors are amazing people with so much patience and so much to teach - much more than their language. And the students were truly wonderful people who were genuinely concerned about indigenous people in Guatemala and the issues they face in their daily lives.”
-Clarice Amorim
(graduate, Anthroplogy)

“I think it is very important for people to understand that Kaqchikel Maya is far from being a ‘dead’ language. There are over half a million speakers here in Guatemala, many of whom I have spoken with as patients (of Wuqu’ Kawaq) only speak Kaqchikel.”
-Miranda Greiner
(graduate from KU in May 2010, Biology)

“I was one of the tijoxela’ (students) that participated in Kab’lajuj Ey. It was an amazing opportunity to work with Lajuj Tijax, Ixkamey, Ixim Nikte, and Filiberto (our instructors) from 7am until 4:30pm every day. The lessons were intensive, but the interactive components really helped us learn the material.

The last day of the Kab’lajuj Ey course, there was also a clinic being held in the Wuqu’ Kawaq. It must have been quite a spectacle for everyone to hear us gringos trying our best at Kaqchikel because there were lots of people peeking in the kitchen door to check out what was going on in our class!”
- Tiffany Creegan Miller
(graduate, Spanish and Portuguese)

The language field school Kab’lajuj Ey created a unique opportunity for students looking to travel and study in Latin America. An exceptional group of teachers and students gathered for the language immersion, and intensive grammar lessons that created the daily structure of the school. The grammar lessons (Kemchi’) were taught by the knowledgeable Filiberto Majzul - the author of the OKMA Kaqchikel dictionary, “Rusoltzij ri Kaqchikel.” As one of the few Spanish to Kaqchikel dictionaries, it is a necessity. Kab’lajuj Ey provided unique experience by creating friendships within the Kaqchikel community and with other students maintaining similar interests.
Faculty Updates

Giselle Anatol, Associate Professor of English, has begun a project with Palgrave Macmillan analyzing Stephenie Meyer’s popular Twilight saga. She was contacted by the publishing company following the 2009 release of her book, Reading Harry Potter Again: New Critical Essays. The vampire theme crosses over from Anatol’s study of children’s / young adult literature to her interests in Caribbean and African-American literature, and she also continues to work on her booklength manuscript, The Things That Fly in the Night: Images of Female Vampirism in Literature of the African Americas. This year she presented at two conferences: the Sidney Poitier International Conference and Film Festival, held in February at the College of the Bahamas in Nassau, and the twelfth international conference of the Association of Caribbean Women Writers & Scholars, held at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge, LA from April 20–24.

Chris Anderson and Melissa Birch, Associate Professors in the School of Business and the Center for International Business Education and Research, served as country coordinators for Brazil in the 2010 Global Business Projects (GBP) endeavor. GBP is a multi-institution consortium that directs study abroad business consulting projects for MBA students in Brazil, China, and Japan. Three teams composed of four MBA students from business schools at the University of North Carolina, Duke, Columbia, Maryland, George Washington, Wisconsin, and Purdue worked with client firms Hanes Brands, Wenger Manufacturing (Sabetha, Kansas), and Bradbury Group (Moundridge, Kansas) on consulting projects in Brazil.

Danny Anderson, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, has been named Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Danny spent the past year as the Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor of the University.

Santa Arias, Associate Professor of Spanish, has continued her research on the politics of spatial representations in Latin America’s geo-narratives during the eighteenth century for her book in progress: Transatlantic Reconfigurations of the Americas: Mapping, Empire and Identity during the Enlightenment. In 2009-10 she published two essays “Rethinking Space: An Outsider’s View of the Spatial Turn” in GeoJournal and “Geografía, imperio e iglesia bajo la huella de la Ilustración: Juan Ignacio de Molina y los espacios del imaginarrio cartográfico jesuita” in the volume Poéticas de lo criollo: La transformación del concepto “criollo” en las letras hispanoamericanas, published by Corregidor (Buenos Aires). She received two awards: one from Spain’s Program of Cultural Cooperation with American Universities to support the Early American Borderlands Conference (May 2010, St. Augustine Fl) and got accepted into the NEH Institute Mapping and Art in the Americas at the Newberry Library (Summer 2010).

J. Christopher Brown, Associate Professor in Geography and Director of Environmental Studies, has developed a series of projects together with Embrapa Informática, and has exchanged undergraduate and graduate students with researchers at the Remote Sensing Group of the Agricultural Engineering School at UNICAMP, the State University of Campinas in Campinas, São Paulo. Projects include: the political, economic, cultural, and ecological dynamics of the expansion of soybean production in the Amazon, the geo-traceability of agricultural commodities (for example, fair trade certification of coffee), and the political and ecological dynamics of Brazil’s landless movement (MST). Professor Brown’s graduate students have won Tinker, Fulbright, Boren, and other scholarships to fund international work in these areas of research.

Marta Caminero-Santangelo, Professor & Chair of the Department of English, is currently in Washington DC, where she holds a Smithsonian Latino Studies Fellowship and is doing research for a chapter on life writing by undocumented immigrants which will be a part of her larger book project on Latino/a literature and undocumented immigration. A portion of another chapter of this project, titled “The Lost Ones: Post-Gatekeeper Border Fiction and the Construction of Cultural Trauma” is forthcoming in Latino Studies. Marta also co-edited a vol. of the journal Antípodas, on literature about the Trujillo dictatorship in Dominican Republic, it came out in fall 09.

Ben Chappell, Assistant Professor of American Studies, had his article, “Lowriders and Urban Space” published in City & Society (June 2010, Vol. 22, Issue 1).

Luis Corteguera, Associate Professor of History, co-organized the conference, “Image and Devotion in the Early Modern Spanish World,” at the annual meeting of the University of Southern California-Huntington Library Early Modern Studies Institute in San Marino, California on May 7-8, 2010. The conference featured participation of art historians, historians, and literary scholars, including the Latin Americanists Clara Bargellini (UNAM), Thomas Cummins (Harvard), Kenneth Mills (Toronto), and Jeanette Favrot Peterson (UC-Santa Barbara).

Ana-Paula Cupertino, Asst. Professor of Preventive Medicine & Public Health, helped forge partnerships for the KU Medical Center with both Mexico and Brazil. In December, Dr. José Ángel Córdova, Mexico’s Secretary of Health, visited Kansas City to sign a letter of intent for
cultural, educational and scientific cooperation between KUMC and the Ministry of Health of Mexico.

Richard De George, Distinguished Professor of Philosophy, has published the revised 7th edition of his book, Business Ethics.

Tamara Falicov, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Film and Media Studies presented the paper, “Hubert Bals and International Film Festival Funds: Its Impact on Latin American Film Production” at the Geographic Imaginaries and Hispanic Film conference at Tulane University in November. She also gave a workshop presentation at the Society for Cinema and Media Studies conference in Los Angeles this past March entitled “The Pluses and Pitfalls of Researching Latin American Film Industries.” She delivered the keynote lecture, “Hollywood in Latin America: A Comparative Study of U.S. involvement in Mexican and Argentine Film Industries” for the 2010 KU Latin Americanist Graduate Research Competition. The following is recently in print: “Mobile Cinemas in Cuba: The Forms and Ideology of Traveling Exhibition.” as part of a special dossier Tamara edited on mobile screens for the Canadian journal Public #40: Screens. Her book chapter “Migrating from South to North: The Role of Film Festivals in Funding and Shaping Global South Film and Video.” Greg Elmer, Ed. Locating Migrating Media. Lanham, MD: Lexington Books, a division of Rowman and Littlefield, July 2010, features work by Latin American filmmakers. The following two book chapters deal with Argentine video and cinema: “New Visions of Patagonia: Video Collectives and the Creation of a Regional Video Movement in Argentina’s South” In Carolina Rocha and Cacilda M. Rego, Eds. New Trends in Argentine and Brazilian Cinema, London: Intellect Books, December 2010. And finally, “Daniel Burman’s Lost Embrace” in Lawrence Baron, Ed. The Wandering Jew: Modern Jewish Experiences in World Cinema, Waltham, MA: Brandeis University Press, 2010. Falicov was awarded a NEH faculty fellowship to spend the month of July in Sao Paulo, Brazil to study urban fiction and film, and the Portuguese language.

Ruben Flores, Assistant Professor of American Studies, has been on fellowship leave for 2009-2010 with support from the National Academy of Education (USA). In November 2009, he delivered two talks at UNAM in Mexico City, one at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CIALC - Centro de Investigaciones sobre Amer’ica Latina y el Caribe), the other at the Institute for Historical Investigation (IIH - Instituto de Investigaciones Histó’ricas). Last February, he participated in a conference on American pragmatism in Latin America alongside colleagues from Cuba, Colombia, Mexico, Peru, and Brazil. He spent July and part of August 2010 in Mexico City and Guanajuato with the assistance of a travel award from KU’s Office of International Programs to visit Mexico’s Archivo General de la Nación. In August 2010, he delivered an invited lecture on indigenous education in postrevolutionary Mexico at the Instituto Tecnoló’gico y de Estudios Superiores de Occidente (ITESO) in Guadalajara, Mexico.

Veronica Garibotto, new faculty member in Spanish & Portuguese earned her “Licenciatura en Letras” (with specialization in literary theory) from the Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina, and received both her M.A. and Ph.D. in Latin American literature from the University of Pittsburgh. Her research focuses primarily in the link between narrative (literature and film), history and politics in Latin America. She has recently been working on the contemporary representation of the nineteenth century in Argentina, Chile and Uruguay; and on the relation between aesthetics and politics in post-dictatorial literature, film and testimonio. She recently published “Releo mis papeles del pasado para escribir mi romance del porvenir Respiracin artificial y el programa de refundacin del campo cultural argentino” Revista Iberoamericana (forthcoming) (in co-authorship with Antonio Gmez); “Readings of the Sixties after the Crisis”, A contracorriente (forthcoming) (in co-authorship with Antonio Gmez); “Un epitafio en el desierto: poesia y revolucion en Roberto Bolao” en Gustavo Favern Patriau y Edmundo Paz Soldn (comp.), Bolao Salvaje, Barcelona: Candaya, 2008 (in co-authorship with Andrea Cobas Carral); “Ms all del formato memoria: la repostulacion del imaginar posdictatorial en Los rubios de Albertina Carri”, A contracorriente Vol. 3, N.2, Winter 2006 (in co-authorship with Antonio Gmez).

Tanya Golash-Boza, Assistant Professor of Sociology and American Studies, will be awarded the Distinguished Early Career Award from the Racial and Ethnic Minorities Section of the American Sociological Association in Atlanta in August 2010. She recently published three articles on Peru, including “Had They Been Polite and Civilized, None of This Would Have Happened: Racial Discourses in Multicultural Lima” in Latin American and Caribbean Ethnic Studies (2010); “Does Whitening Happen? Distinguishing between Race and Color Labels in an African-Descended Community in Peru” in Social Problems (2010); and “Blackness in Mestizo America: The Cases of Mexico and Peru” (with Christina Sue) in Latino(a) Research Review (2009). She is finishing up her Fulbright-Hays funded research with deportees in Latin America and recently published an article on deportation “Criminalizing the Undocumented: Legalities and Realities” in the journal Societies without Borders (2010).
John Head, recently named as the Robert W. Wagstaff Distinguished Professor of Law, participated in three academic conferences in the fall of 2009 – at the University of the Pacific (Sacramento), the University of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia), and the University of Trento (Italy), where he offered observations on the current global financial crisis, the Asian Financial Crisis (a retrospective), and the rule of law in China. Also in 2009, Head’s book General Principles of International Business and Economic Law was published by Renmin University Press (Beijing) for use in Chinese law schools.

Laura Herlihy, Lecturer in Latin American Studies reports that her book, “The Mermaid and the Lobster Diver: Gender, Sexuality and Money on the Miskito Coast” will be published by the University of New Mexico Press this academic year. Laura also published two articles, “Ta Upla Brooklyn: Buhtku bara Limi; Interview (in Miskitu) with Brooklin Rivera,” (Wani Revista del Caribe Nicaraguense), No. 59(2009): 64-73; and a book chapter, “Rising Up? Indigenous and Afro-Descendant Women’s Political Leadership in the North Atlantic Autonomous Region,” in National Integration and Contested Autonomy: The Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua, edited by Luciano Baracco (N.Y., Algora, 2011). These two articles highlight Laura’s interviews with the most significant Miskitu political leaders, Brooklin Rivera and Mirna Cunningham. Rivera is the former Contra leader who made an alliance with the Sandinistas to heal old war wounds; and Cunningham is member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. During the 2009-10 academic year, Herlihy taught seven courses, including two new KULAC courses, “Women and Globalization in Latin America” and “Miskitu Language and Culture.”

Peter Herlihy, Associate Professor of Geography, co-edited the scholarship of 20 Latin Americanist geographers in Ethno- and Historical Geographic Studies in Latin America: Essays Honoring William V. Davidson. He also published with his students Derek Smith (Carleton University), John Kelly, Aida Ramos Viera, and Andy Hilburn (PhD. students, KU geography on “The Certification and Privatization of Indigenous Lands in Mexico” and on “Indigenous Territoriality at the End of the Social Property Era in Mexico: The Huasteca Potosino Case” (Journal of Latin American Geography 8(2):175-208; 9(2): in press).

Anita Herzfeld, Professor of Latin American Studies, attended two conferences in Buenos Aires this past spring and was invited to speak at the University of Buenos Aires. She received a diploma of recognition for special services from the Learning Communities Program and gave a talk on “The Teaching of Guaraní in Paraguay,” at the Instituto de Língüística, University of Buenos Aires, Argentina. She attended the 12th Mediterranean Studies Association Meeting at the University of Cagliari, Sardinia, Italy, and presented a paper entitled “Contributions to the Lunfardo of the Third Millennium,” May 29-31, 2009. She also attended the LASA Conference in Rio de Janeiro, and presented a paper entitled “Desafíos hacia una política lingüística justa: el criollo Limonense vis-à-vis el español en Costa Rica,” June 15, 2009. The paper was published in a C.D. She attended the International Congress of Americanists in Mexico D.F., and presented two papers: “La progresión lectal del [d] en el criollo limonense,” and “Poco o nada de morfología: una observación sobre los criollos que necesita ser revisada,” July 18-25 2009. She presented “Tango: the Narrative Art of Lunfardo” at the Center of Latin American Studies, October 29, 2009. She attended the “First Colloquy on Rhetoric and Politics,” in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 17-19 March 2010. She was invited to attend “Congreso Argentino de Hispanistas,” Universidad de La Plata, April 27-30, 2010. She was invited to attend “Congreso Internacional de Traductores Publicos,” May 2010. She presented: “Catchers of Identities: Lunfardismos of the 3rd Millenium” at the Mediterranean Association Congress in Salamanca, Spain, May 26-29, 2010.

John Kennedy, Associate Professor of Political Science, went to the University of Costa Rica in March 2009 with Tailan Chi, Business, for KU-UCR China Studies exchange. They worked with UCR to develop curriculum and to add sections about the political, social and economic development in the People’s Republic of China (PRC). Due to the long relationship with KU, they went to UCR to help deal with the academic transition (adding PRC to existing courses outlines and research connections). Julie Karbo, Political Science, and Megan Green, Center for East Asian Studies, also went to Costa Rica in November 2009 to help start this academic China exchange.

Elizabeth Kuznesof, Professor of History, presented a paper at the Mediterranean Studies Conference in Salamanca, Spain May 26-29, 2010, “Perspectives on Brazil in the Mediterranean World, 19th century.” She will present a paper at the International Congress of Historical Sciences (Amsterdam 22-28 August 2010) on “Domestic Service and Urbanization in 19th Century
Latin America.” An article based on that paper will be published in a volume entitled, Global Migration Systems of Domestic and Care Workers since Decolonization edited by Dirk Hoerder (2010). She also published an article entitled “Women and Gender in Latin America” for the first edition of the new British journal, Women’s History in the Americas (2010).

Linda Lee, Associate Professor of Journalism, is a 2010 recipient of Teaching Achievement Recognition by the KU Center for Teaching Excellence, having been chosen by undergraduates for the honor. This summer, she will be taking 15 students from Journalism and Latin American Studies to Argentina for the International Media and Marketing Study Abroad program.

Brent Metz, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, published the article “The Violence After “La Violencia” in the Ch’orti’ Region of Eastern Guatemala” with co-authors Lorenzo Mariano and Julián López in the Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology. He was also awarded a Hall Center for the Humanities Research Fellowship for the Spring Semester of 2011.

Devon Mihesuah, Professor of Global Indigenous Nations Studies and Cora Lee Beers Price Professor, had her work on Indigenous Food and Health featured in the April 25th edition of the Chronicle of Higher Education. Her 2009 book, Choctaw Crime and Punishment, 1884-1907 earned the Outstanding Book on Oklahoma History Award from the Oklahoma Historical Society and was also named the Best Non-Fiction Book of 2009 by the Oklahoma Writers’ Federation. She has also been awarded a Keeler Family Intra-University Professorship for Spring 2011.


Martha Rabbani, Lecturer in Humanities & Western Civilization, had work published twice in the past year: “Citizenship, Justice and Recognition in Modern Societies” in Estudos para a Paz edited by Vahideh Rahnema, Universidade Federal de Sergipe, Brasil, 2010 and “The struggle for recognition and modern citizenship,” in the Revista Pensamiento Jurídico, Universidad Nacional de Colombia. February 2010. She is currently working on a book entitled, The Development and Antidevelopment Debate: Critical Reflections on the Philosophical Foundations that is scheduled to be released by Ashgate Publishing in March, 2011. This fall Martha will be teaching Peace & Conflict Studies 555: Education for Peace and Nonviolence. The course is based on Paulo Freire’s work The Pedagogy of the Oppressed.

Kimber Richter, Associate Professor of Preventive Medicine and Public Health and director of UKanQuit at KU Med gave a presentation entitled “Helping People in Drug Treatment Quit Smoking” in November 2009.

Robert Rodriguez, Latin American Studies lecturer since 2003, has accepted a tenure-track assistant professor position in Latin American politics at Texas A&M University-Commerce. He will relocate to the Dallas area in August, and can be contacted at: drrobertrodriguez@yahoo.com. Robert recently published a chapter in L’Art et le Sport (atlantica Press) entitled, “Sports Metaphors in Political Cartoons” with co-author Allyson Flaster.

Paul Sneed, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Brazilian Literary and Cultural Studies, Co-Founder of the Two Brothers Foundation/Instituto Dois Irmãos. Professor Sneed received his BA in Political and Social Thought from the University of Virginia and his MA and PhD in Portuguese from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. At the University of Kansas, he teaches Brazilian Literary and Cultural Studies at the graduate and undergraduate level, as well as a variety of Portuguese language classes. He is currently working on a book manuscript on spaces of everyday power in a squatter town, or favela, in Rio de Janeiro and their relationships to the climate of violence and social exclusion around them. He has published articles in the Latin American Research Review, Hispania, the Latin American Music Review, and World Literature Today. He is also interested in Brazilian popular music, especially the bailes funk of Rio de Janeiro, as well as the relationship between academic scholarship in the humanities and social sciences and community-based social action. Recently, he has begun researching contemporary Brazilian film and has directed a short documentary called Rocinha: At Home on the Big Hill (2007). In 1998, Mr. Sneed co-founded two sister non-profit organizations, the Two Brothers Foundation and the Instituto Dois Irmãos. Since that time he has actively worked with both to promote opportunities in education, community service and international cultural exchange in Rio’s favela of Rocinha. (www.2bros.org)

Paulette Spencer, the Deane E. Ackers Distinguished Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Director of the Bioengineering Research Center, was a Visiting Professor at the Bauru School of Dentistry, University of Sao
Paulo in Brazil for 1 month in 2009 where she worked with graduate students and faculty on research questions related to biomaterials and gave lectures on the structural characterization of biomaterials and characterization of biomaterial/tissue interfaces. She was also one of four featured speakers at an international conference held in Londrina, Brazil, August 14-15, 2009.

Emily Tummons, Lecturer in Latin American Studies, continues to work with NGO Wuqu’ Kawoq which she created and runs. Taught at a Kaqchikel Maya Language Field School called, “Kab’lajuj Ey,” in Santiago Sacatepequez, Guatemala, June 7–June 18. It was taught by 4 native Maya speakers, and several KU undergrad and grad students were students in this course.

Jessica M. Vasquez, Assistant Professor of Sociology, published two articles this past year, “Blurred Borders for some but not ‘Others’: Racialization, ‘Flexible Ethnicity,’ Gender, and Third Generation Mexican American Identity” (2010 Sociological Perspectives) and “Tradition and the Invention of Racial Selves: Symbolic boundaries, collective authenticity, and contemporary struggles for racial equality” in Ethnic and Racial Studies (with Christopher Wetzel in 2009). This second article won the 2010 Distinguished Contribution to Research Best Article Award from the Latino/a Sociology Section of the American Sociological Association. Dr. Vasquez’s book is forthcoming with New York University Press (due out Spring 2011). The book is entitled Mexican Americans across Generations: Immigrant Families, Racial Realities. Dr. Vasquez has also begun research on another research project (for which she won a KU GRF and an ASA/NSF Fund for the Advancement of the Discipline) that concerns marriage, family dynamics, and race among Latino/a families in Kansas and California.

Maria Velasco, Associate Professor of Art, gave birth to her son, Alex, on August 1st, 2009.

Marta Vicente, Associate Professor of History and Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies, won the Best First Book Prize for books published between 2006 and 2009 in Spanish and Portuguese history for her monograph “Clothing the Spanish Empire: Families and the Calico Trade in the Early Modern Atlantic World” (Palgrave, MacMillan, 2006). The prize is awarded by the Association for Spanish and Portuguese Historical Studies.

Barney Warf, Prof. of Geog., was published in the Journal of Latin American Geography with his article, “Do you know the way to San José? Medical tourism in Costa Rica.”

Ketty Wong-Cruz, Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology, in December 2009, conducted fieldwork on the Christmas pageant “Pase del Niño” (Passing of the Infant Child) in Cuenca, Ecuador. This fieldwork was an activity she conducted with graduate students in the Master’s in Music Program at the Universidad de Cuenca, where she taught the seminar “Research Methods in Ethnomusicology.” In July 2010, Prof. Wong will teach two courses in Andean ethnomusicology at the Pontificia Universidad Católica of Quito. Her article “The Song of the National Soul: The Ecuadorian Pasillo in the Twentieth Century” will be published in Latin American Music Review in the spring/winter volume of 2011.

Student News

Two Undergraduates Receive Nelson Scholarship
LAS majors Rachel Bohn and Jackie Murdock have been awarded Harvey S. Nelson Scholarships for the 2010-11 academic year. Administered by the Honors Program, are made available through the Harvey S. Nelson family, which provides for at least one scholarship to an outstanding undergraduate from each department in the humanities, social sciences and the School of the Arts.

Graduations: Congratulations to the following LAS students who completed their degrees in 2009-10:

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<th>Majors</th>
<th>Minors</th>
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<td>Jorge Soberón</td>
<td>Alison Cumbow</td>
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<td>Lauren Landry</td>
<td>Maria Elena Cuevas</td>
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<td>Daphne Hiatt</td>
<td>Quincy Jones</td>
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<td>Jeff Utter</td>
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<td>Rene Sandigo</td>
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<td>Kerrie Emig</td>
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Masters
Sarah Saffia- Thesis: “In the Womb of the Earth: Sex in the Maya Cave Setting.”
Joel Nalley- Thesis: “Curricular Choices for Elite Bilingual Schools on Colombia’s Caribbean Coast: American Accreditation or the International Baccalaureate”

Clarice Amorim, a 2009 graduate with a minor in Latin American Studies and a major in Anthropology, is currently finishing her first year in the MA program in Anthropology and working with Dr. Brent Metz. Her research focuses on health care in Guatemala among indigenous peoples. Clarice received a Tinker grant and a Caroll Clark award to spend 8 weeks in Guatemala this summer, during which she will study a community in the Boca Coast region with high rates of infant malnutrition where a clean water project has been recently developed. She will also use this time to visit multiple NGOs working with nutrition in Guatemala to get a better picture of issues and their possible solutions.
Mexican Health Secretary Signs Intent Letter with KU Medical Center

From KUMC News

On Friday, December 18th, Dr. José Ángel Córdova, Mexico’s Secretary of Health, signed a letter of intent Friday morning for cultural, educational and scientific cooperation between KU Medical Center and the Ministry of Health of the United Mexican States.

The agreement outlines a mutual desire to promote further cooperation between the United States and Mexico in all fields of academic endeavor. By signing the letter, both parties agree to joint research and educational activities; exchange of information in fields of mutual interest; and an exchange of scholars, faculty and graduate students for lectures, study, clinical experiences and research.

“I believe today’s events highlight the tremendous potential we have to share research and educational experiences with our colleagues in Mexico. I have no doubt that the opportunities this agreement creates will be an invaluable addition to the careers and research of our faculty, the training of our students and the overall care of all our patients, who in the end will benefit most,” said Karen Miller, RN, PhD, FAAN, senior vice chancellor, KU Medical Center, and dean, KU Schools of Allied Health and Nursing.

Secretary Córdova signed similar agreements with Shriner’s Children’s Hospital in Sacramento, Cal., and Children’s Mercy Hospitals & Clinics in Kansas City, Mo.

KU’s Continued Work with the University of Costa Rica

From Office of International Programs

KU has one of the oldest continually operating US academic exchange programs with the University of Costa Rica (UCR). This year there have been several exciting faculty exchanges and opportunities. The KU/UCR Collaboration Fund, which has been offered for four years, is coordinated by International Programs and the University of Costa Rica’s Vice-Rectory for Research. This year Professors John Hoopes, anthropology, and Steven Bozarth, geography, received funding for their project “Relationships between Culture and Environmental Change in a Pre-Columbian Human Settlement in the Caribbean Lowlands of Costa Rica.” With KU/UCR funding they were able to conduct research in Nuevo Corinto, Costa Rica excavating a pre-hispanic village.
Exchanges between KU/UCR are part of the ongoing, long-term relationship between KU and UCR. Carmen Caamaño-Morúa, associate professor of psychology and director of the Institute for Social Research at the University of Costa Rica, visited KU February 21-26 to meet with faculty and administrators and explore new opportunities for collaboration. Caamaño-Morúa is the fourth UCR faculty or staff member to visit KU.

Another important collaboration consisted of the three workshops held at UCR that were facilitated by KU Faculty this year. KU faculty members presented research on political psychology at the University of Costa Rica. From June 1-2, KU faculty presented to a group of 25 UCR faculty and graduate students, among others. Juliet Kaarbo, political science; Ludwin Molina, psychology; Christina Bejarano, political science; and Chris Crandall, psychology, were joined by Ryan Beasley from Baker University. Kaarbo, director of faculty programs, International Programs, and Carmen Caamaño, director, Institute of Social Research, UCR, co-organized the workshop.

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Hall Center for the Humanities
Latin American Seminar

The Latin American Seminar takes a different regional or topical focus every one or two years with the larger Latin American context, and with an interdisciplinary approach. It features scholarship in the humanities as well as the social and physical sciences, and is open to KU graduate students, faculty, and staff. For a schedule of upcoming Hall Center seminars and events, visit hallcenter.ku.edu.

The following Latin American Seminar presentations will take place Fall of 2010 in the Hall Center Seminar Room unless noted otherwise from 3:30-5:00pm.

**Fall 2010**


**Nov 10** - **Prof. Ruben Flores**, American Studies, KU: “The Beloved Communities: Indians and Immigrants in the Postrevolutionary Melting Pot.” *Hall Center Conf. Room

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The following Latin American Seminar presentations took place during the 2009-10 academic year:

**Spring 2010**

**Feb 1** - **Prof. Viviana Grieco**, History, University of Missouri-Kansas City: “Trade, Credit and Royal Revenue: The Case of Francisco Ximenez de Mesa, Merchant and Director of the Aduana of Buenos Aires”

**Feb 26** - **Prof. Mark Carey**, History, Washington & Lee University, **Prof. Adrian Howkins**, History, Colorado State University, **Prof. Gregory Cushman**, History, KU, **Prof. Johan Feddema** and **Trish Jackson**, Geography, KU: “Climate and Human History in the Southern Hemisphere: From Antarctica to the Andes to Easter Island”

**Mar 25** - **Prof. Peter Herlihy**, **John Kelly**, Andrew Hillburn, PhD Student, and **Aida Ramos Viera**, Geography, KU: “Land Tenure and Property Rights in Mexico and Central America”

**Mar 26** - **Prof. Juan Carlos Gonzalez Espetia**, Spanish, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill: “A Latin American Syphilography: Literary, Medical and Political Discourses”


**Apr 30** - **Prof. Anne Martinez**, History, University of Texas at Austin: “Bordering on the Sacred: Race, Nation, and US-Mexican Relations 1910 – 1929”

**Fall 2009**

**Aug 28** - **Prof. Peter Herlihy**, Geography: “Geopiracy vs. Geoadvocacy: Results from the American Geographical Society Bowman Expedition Prototype to Indigenous Mexico”
**Professor of Art, Maria Velasco and her son Alex, born August 1st, 2009, on Halloween last year.**

**New ‘Latin Americanist’ Arrivals**

CLA Acting Director Herlihy visited Burton (r.) and Tappan (l.) on a July trip to the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve w/ KU Geogr. PhD candidates Andy Hilburn & John Kelly (photo by Kelly)

While in Kuri, both students continued their studies of the indigenous Miskitu language (a Misumalpan, Macro-Chibchan language of South American origins). Stacey and Taylor previously studied Miskitu during the KU Latin American Studies Study Abroad program to Nicaragua in 2009; and then in a KU course, “Miskitu Language and Culture” (LAA 302/602). The villagers marvel at the gringos who love to speak their language and play with their children.

Stacey and Taylor also met former KU anthropology graduate student Lisa Jackson at a nearby village down the coast, where she is stationed completing her dissertation research on the coastal lobster-diving business for her Ph.D. in anthropology at the University of Wisconsin.

Congratulations to Stacey and Taylor and we look forward to hearing more about their research during a Merienda this academic year!

**KU Graduate Students Study Miskitu Language & Society on Tinker Grants**

Laura Hobson Herlihy

Stacey Burton and Taylor Tappan were awarded 2010 Tinker Summer Field Research Grants from CLAS to do field research on the Miskito Coast, an indigenous homeland in northeastern Honduras and Nicaragua. They spent June and July in the Honduran territory in the Río Plátano Biosphere Reserve living in the small community of Kuri (population 200), where they enjoyed a new access to cell phones in a village that still does not have running water or electricity, now more than a decade after their academic mentor (the author) had lived there! Stacey, who will complete her MA in Latin American Studies this May, focused her research on gender violence and sexually transmitted diseases. Taylor, a KU graduate (BA, Geography and Spanish, 2010), began the KU master’s program in geography in June and his field research focuses on land tenure within the new Miskitu autonomy movement.

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**New ‘Latin Americanist’ Arrivals**

**Sept 11- Prof. Myrna Santiago, History, St. Mary’s College of California: “The Making of a Mexican Oil Town’: Petroleum, Environment, and Tampico, 1900-1935”**

**Sept 25- Prof. Yolanda Martinez San Miguel, Spanish, University of Pennsylvania: “Sexiles: (Post)Colonialism and the Machine of Desire”**

**Nov 2- Prof. Marta Vincente, History/Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies: “‘The Popular Fable of Sex Change’: Medical Analysis of Sex and Gender in Early Modern Spain”**

**Nov 6- Prof. Kirsten F. Nigro, Languages and Linguistics, University of Texas at El Paso: “Walking the Line: The U.S./Mexico Border as and in Performance”**

**Nov 18- Prof. Ben Chappell, Amer. Studies: “Barrio Metaxis: Ambivalent Iconicities in Mexican American Lowriders”**

**Dec 7- Prof. Ryan Gaston, History: “Making the Men Spain Needed: Gender and Education Reform in Early Seventeenth-Century Spain”**
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