A PENNY MORE PER POUND: KU students take
stand in justice for farmworkers movement

By Erin Adamson

“Si se puede! Si se puede!”
The victory cry came from Mexican,
Guatemalan and Haitian migrant farmworker
members of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers
lined up on the stage of the Chicago House of Blues
on April 14.

A diverse audience of their allies – students,
labor activists, and people from various faith
communities, including a delegation from KU and
Lawrence – echoed their cry until the chant became
a roar. “Power to the people,” they yelled. “We
want justice now!”

A group of Lawrence students and activists
had anticipated attending a rally and carnival kicking
off the CIW’s national boycott of McDonalds. But
right before the boycott launch, the fast-food
corporation agreed to pay a penny more per pound
of tomatoes picked to the companies that supplied
it with tomatoes from the fields of Immokalee, Florida. In turn,
those companies were obligated to pass on the
extra penny to the migrant workers who pick
tomatoes in the fields of Immokalee, Florida, for
low wages that have remained stagnant for 20
years.

The planned boycott was modeled on a
successful agreement with Taco Bell that the CIW
procured two years ago.

A school bus-load of Lawrence and
Kansas City-area CIW supporters had headed to
(see A Penny More on page 6)

FROM THE DIRECTOR’S DESK
By Elizabeth Kuznesof

I am happy to report that the Center of Latin
American Studies continues to be alive and well,
even after almost one year without major external
funding. Clearly we have taken a heavy hit,
particularly in our ability to fund outreach projects,
and in December 2006 we were forced to
temporarily terminate the employment of Adriana
Sommerville, who had been Outreach Coordinator
for Latin American Studies since August 1999. We
are deeply indebted to Adriana for all of her service
to the Center, particularly in developing Spanish
courses at K-12 schools in Lawrence. Fortunately,
Adriana will continue at the Center this Fall, though
only on a part-time basis for the time being. She will
provide indispensable help in maintaining our
outreach program so that we can be competitive in
the next round of funding. She and husband Sam
were in charge of the Fulbright Group Studies
Abroad Seminar in Argentina this summer. Reports
(see Director’s Desk, page 8)

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UNIVERSITIES AND COMMUNITY UNITE TO PROMOTE JUSTICE IN THE AMERICAS
By Erin Adamson

While traveling in Zapatista communities in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas during winter break 2006-07, Latin American Studies master’s student Cory Fischer-Hoffman saw the need to create a community gathering in Lawrence that would facilitate networking among groups working for justice in the Americas.

Through the hard work of numerous community groups, the idea manifested as a community event on February 10, 2007. A Celebration of Resistance at the Ecumenical Christian Ministries brought together diverse community members and 14 community organizations for an evening of music and food from across the Americas, networking and raffled prizes. Organizers produced a pamphlet containing contact information about all the sponsoring groups.

The Celebration of Resistance drew several hundred guests throughout the evening and raised $1,000 to benefit The Latino Community Coalition, Lawrence Fair Food, and Kansas Mutual Aid. The Latino Community Coalition focuses on improving Latino/a’s access to services and education in Lawrence. Lawrence Fair Food organizes to support the efforts of the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, a grassroots, worker-led organization that struggles for the rights of farm workers. Kansas Mutual Aid is a community organization dedicated to the education, betterment and liberation of society.

Co-sponsoring organizations shared information about their justice causes and some sold fair trade goods at tables around the main hall of the ECM. Guests were able to visit the tables to gather information, sit at dining tables and eat homemade vegetarian tamales and tostadas, play in the children’s area or dance to local music and Latin DJs. Throughout the evening, event coordinators and co-sponsoring organizations raffled off a variety of prizes.

Other co-sponsoring organizations were the American Indian Studies Club at Haskell University, Apoyo Trabajador, Cross Border Network, Colombia Action Network, Ecumenical Christian Ministries, Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO) KU chapter, the Center of Latin American Studies, Latin American Solidarity, Nicaragua Alternative Spring Break, Sigma Lambda Beta, and Sigma Lambda Gamma.

Left: Master’s student Melissa Velazquez participated in the career day at Indian Trail Junior High during spring semester 2007. Here she talks with a student about the career possibilities related to study of Latin American languages and cultures. Velazquez has been a recipient of the academic year FLAS to study Portuguese and of a KU Latin American Summer Field Research Grant. Her thesis explores informal housing practices in San Jose, Costa Rica.
GUATEMALA FULBRIGHT-HAYS PARTICIPANTS RETURN TO SHARE EXPERIENCES WITH TEACHERS
By Angie Spehar

Last summer, fourteen Kansas K-12 and Community College teachers applied to form the group of educators that would travel to Guatemala for an extensive five-week seminar on education led by KU Assistant Professor of Anthropology Brent Metz. After studying multi-cultural and multi-lingual education in different indigenous regions of Guatemala, each participant returned to Kansas and created a lesson plan based on the trip.

On Saturday, April 28, 2007, The Center of Latin American Studies welcomed Metz and several of the returning Fulbright teachers to host “Culture and Education in Guatemala: A Workshop for Teachers.” Metz provided the teachers who attended with an introduction to Guatemala and information about the country’s tumultuous past and unstable political situation. The rest of the workshop focused on seven lesson plans developed by the Fulbright participants, which focused on different aspects of Guatemalan culture.

Presentations began with Mary Rickley from Chapman Middle School, Chapman, who presented “Mayan Calendar” and explained the unique counting system that the Maya peoples have recovered from their ancestors. Jennifer Hendrix, Cimarron High School, Cimarron, presented “Guatemala: The Science of Erosion” while discussing how to incorporate an international perspective into her science classroom. Jim and Susan Liotta, who both teach at Landon Middle School, Topeka, presented “A Journey to the Mayan Lands” in which they focused on different aspects of incorporating Maya culture into the secondary classroom. Bonnie Orozco, Ellsworth High School, Ellsworth, presented “The History of Chocolate” and focused on the history and universality of the bittersweet treat. Peggy Sorenson, Lawrence Free State High School, presented “Indigenous People” and discussed the breakdown of Maya. Eric Staab, Montezuma High School, Montezuma, discussed death and attitudes toward dying in Maya communities in his presentation “Power and Authority of Ancient Maya Leaders.”

The afternoon ended with an interactive discussion between presenters and participants about various ways to teach about Guatemalan culture in their U.S. classrooms and the resources available to them through the Center.

I would like to thank everyone that presented and participated in the workshop and announce that all lesson plans and presentations from the Guatemala Workshop will be made available on the Center’s website in the Fall 2007 semester to help other educators access resources to incorporate Latin America into their classrooms.
Students Spend Spring Break Building Relationships in Central America and Mexico
By Erin Adamson

Three Alternative Spring Break programs this March offered students the opportunity to learn about Mexico and Central America while developing relationships with communities there.

Ecumenical Christian Ministries coordinated the three trips to Nicaragua, El Salvador, and the border region of Juarez, Mexico, which provided students the opportunity to develop solidarity relationships and learn about another culture. The trips were not religious in nature, but participants did discuss the ways that religious faith was important to the communities they visited and to their own interpretation of their experiences.

The trips offered a range of activities and agendas.

It was the first year ASB participants traveled to Nicaragua on the trip exploring the impact of neoliberal economic policy and free trade on the Central American country, with a special focus on fair trade and cooperative alternatives. Heather Putnam, doctoral student in Geography, coordinated the trip and developed the itinerary based on her experiences during three years living in northern Nicaragua and working with coffee cooperatives and based on her experiences as a participant in the U.S. student fair trade movement.

The 17 students who traveled to Nicaragua visited rural artisans and coffee growers who sought a better income through selling Fair Trade products, participated in a home stay with coffee farmers in a rural community, toured a maquiladora, or foreign-owned factory producing for export, in Managua and learned about labor issues from union leaders and workers, and met with displaced campesino farmers seeking farmland with which to support their families.

Another delegation of KU students traveled to the rural village of El Papaturro, El Salvador. The village has a sister city relationship with Lawrence, and for the second consecutive year KU students spent their spring break learning how the civil war that raged in El Salvador during the 1980s and 1990s had affected their community. Jeff Utter, undergraduate in Latin American Studies and biology, coordinated the trip for a second year.

In El Papaturro, KU students lived with host families, visited with community leaders and schoolchildren, and learned about the poverty that affected almost all of the community.

A third delegation of KU students was immersed in issues facing residents of the U.S.-Mexico border region in El Paso, Texas, and Juarez, Mexico. The trip explored border issues, immigration and migration, women’s rights and the (see ASB, page 11)
FACULTY PARTNER WITH COMMUNITY FOR HANDS-ON LEARNING
by Erin Adamson

KU faculty who study Latin America and US Latino communities met with Douglas County community organizations working with Latinos on February 6 at an initiative of the Center for Service Learning. The meeting was designed to help faculty gather ideas for how to incorporate service-learning projects into their courses, said Meghan Walsh of the Center for Service Learning.

The KU Center for Service Learning, established in 2005, defines service-learning as “a credit-bearing, educational experience in which students participate in an organized service activity that meets identified community needs and reflect on the service activity in such a way as to gain further understanding of course content, a broader appreciation of the discipline, and an enhanced sense of civic responsibility.”

Danny Anderson, professor of Spanish and Portuguese and Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Lydia Leon, Director of the Centro Hispano Resource Center in Lawrence, spoke to about 10 KU faculty and 10 community organization representatives about possibilities for service learning.

Professor Anderson has already developed and implemented the course Spanish for Service Learning through the Spanish Department. When Anderson taught the course during Spring 2006 students were assigned readings and discussion in Spanish that dealt with the experiences of Latin American immigrants to the United States. Students were also required to develop a service learning project that required them to use their Spanish language skills in the Lawrence community. Their service learning projects ranged from tutoring Spanish-speaking immigrants in English, to developing Spanish-language resources for the health department, to offering free tax preparation for Spanish-speakers.

The Center for Service Learning hopes more KU faculty will find ways to incorporate on-the-ground learning into their academic curricula.

EDUCATORS TRAVEL SOUTH TO LAND OF TANGO AND BEEF, AGAIN
By Angie Spehar

Area teachers traveled south to experience the land famous for tango, President Juan Peron, and, of course, copious consumption of beef, as part of the Center of Latin American Studies’ summer 2007 Fulbright-Hays Seminar Abroad to Argentina to study the country’s education system. The 14 teachers departed in early June 2007 and returned mid-July.

The seminar was led for the second time by Sam Sommerville, Professor of Spanish at Johnson County Community College, and Adriana Natali-Sommerville, Outreach Coordinator for the Center of Latin American Studies. Participants selected for the trip were: Tara Tamburello, Central Middle School, Kansas City; Randy Kirkpatrick, Cherryvale Middle and High School; Robert Perry, Johnson County Community College, Overland Park; Jennifer Schlicht, Bonner Springs High School; Thomas Hegeman, Langston Hughes Elementary, Lawrence; Erin Douglas, Frontenac Junior and Senior High School; Jeanie Louden Unger, Rawlins Country High School, Atwood; Matt Allin, Blue Valley High School, Overland Park; Amy Culey, Whittier Elementary, Kansas City; Breanne Pater, J.C. Harmon High School, Kansas City; Regina Winemiller, Pittsburg High School; Kelly Parker, Central Middle School, Kansas City; Brenda Jones, East High School, Wichita; and Kasey Stadler, Olathe North High School.

Participants experienced daily life in Argentina through lectures and visits to schools and childhood institutions, while attending daily Spanish classes. They lived with a host family in the town of Villa Maria, in Cordoba province. Teachers also completed a three-day service-learning project at an apprenticeship school for at-risk youth.

Finally, participants had the opportunity to travel and visit the provinces of Salta, Jujuy, and Buenos Aires. The diverse visits and lectures allow insights into multicultural and multilingual education programs among indigenous populations of Northwestern Argentina, as well as many other communities within Argentina.
Chicago on a Thursday evening. The CIW supporters included students from KU and Haskell—including nine other Master’s students and two undergraduates in the Latin American Studies Department, members of Lawrence Fair Food and Kansas Mutual Aid, and other area activists. We drove overnight in order to reach a university campus in suburban Chicago by Friday morning where CIW activists from across the country were converging. A day of speeches by CIW organizers, Student Farmworker Alliance organizers and supporting organizations, and panels and workshops followed.

Latin American Studies master’s students Meredith Church, Amanda Heter and Shannon Gorres donned red clothing to play the role of dancing Immokalee tomatoes in a street theatre production portraying the struggle of farmworkers against workplace exploitation. Emily Hampton, senior in Anthropology, and I volunteered to help carry an enormous 30-foot-high puppet of a woman Immokalee farmworker. Marching with a puppet acting like a wind sail is difficult!

Cory Fischer-Hoffman, organizer of the Lawrence contingent and Latin American Studies master’s student, met with old friends working as activists in farmworker and other justice movements and planned for future Lawrence Fair Food support for the Coalición, as the CIW was exuberantly referred to in Chicago. Shannon Gorres met with indigenous Guatemalan members of the CIW and with other activists working in Guatemala to broaden her perspective and develop contacts for her summer 2007 master’s field research in Guatemala and for her long-term relationship working in solidarity with Guatemalans.

On Saturday, the Lawrence contingent attended the celebration carnival.

As I danced along with the crowd at the victory celebration, I was grateful for an experience where I could apply the social justice interests I developed as a student with activism in solidarity relationship with workers.

Following the carnival, the Lawrence group attended the Latin American Solidarity Conference on Saturday and Sunday. The conference brought together activists and scholars of Latin American social issues through panels and workshops.

I personally felt the solidarity most deeply on Saturday night. Our group was assigned to sleeping quarters in the same church that served as the temporary headquarters and dormitory for the CIW worker members, a wonderful band from California, and other supporters. That evening after eating dinner, I sat in the gymnasium with students Amanda Heter, Alex Sphar and Emily Hampton and CIW workers. Irvin, a farmworker originally from the southern Mexican state of Chiapas, stopped by our table and offered to show us a video he had (see A Penny More on page 7)
Students Learn About Latin American Languages and Culture

The Center of Latin American Studies joined other area studies and language departments at KU on February 28 to expose junior high school students to new languages at World Language Day. The event was organized by Randi Hacker, Center for East Asian Studies, and Tatyana Wilds, Center for Russian, Eurasian and Eastern European Studies.

Liberty Hall theatre in downtown Lawrence was transformed for several hours on into a casbah of world languages. The junior high students had the opportunity to visit tables that provided instruction on basic phrases in 17 different languages and even snacks from different countries.

Three Latin American languages, Spanish, Portuguese and Kaqchikel Maya, were represented at the table sponsored by the Center.

Angie Spehar, undergraduate in Latin American Studies and outreach assistant for the Center, taught Spanish and Portuguese. Shannon Gorres, master’s student in Latin American Studies, represented Kaqchikel Maya at the table. Spehar and Gorres taught students basic phrases and talked with them about the importance of learning other languages and opportunities to do so at KU.

Above: Shannon Gorres, master’s student in Latin American Studies, talks with Lawrence junior high students about Mayan culture and language at World Language Day in February.

(continued from A Penny More on page 6)

made documenting working conditions in Immokalee. So, huddled around his little hand-held video camera, we spent an hour talking with Irvin about his migrant life picking tomatoes, melons, eggplants and sometimes fruit in the forest, about working from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m., his fellow workers who died from snakebites in orchards and were broken from exhaustion, and about a life far from his farm and community.

I came away from our weekend trip to support the CIW with a strong sense of my interconnectedness with people across the nation and the world and all of our struggles for justice. During a group reflection as we headed back to Kansas, most of the Lawrence and Kansas City participants described our experience with the CIW and its supporters as one of the most empowering experiences of our lives. Not only had big business agreed to the demands of exploited workers, but those workers had created a successful coalition that worked in solidarity with students and religious leaders.

Erin Adamson completed her master’s degree in Latin American Studies in summer 2007 and served as the Center’s program assistant for two years. For information about the CIW, visit www.ciw-online.org/


We have been fortunate to be able to transform the hall seminar, which began as the Andean and Amazonian Worlds Seminar in 2003, into the Latin American Seminar this coming Fall (see 2006-2007 schedule, page 8). The support of Director Victor Bailey has been key to our success. For the next two years the seminar will focus on Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean. A lunch at the Eldridge Hotel on May 29 to discuss this change included Danny Anderson (Spanish & Portuguese), Tamara Falicov (Theatre & Film), Ruben Flores (American Studies), Peter Herlihy (Geography), Anita Herzfeld (Latin American Studies), Brent Metz (Anthropology), Yajaira Padilla (Spanish & Portuguese), John Simmons (Natural History Museum), Jorge Soberon (Natural History Museum) and myself. The Hall Center will host another lunch in Fall 2007 for faculty interested in becoming involved. This seminar will provide a means of hosting outside speakers who otherwise probably could not bring without having Title VI funding. Already we have a full roster of six speakers for the Fall and several possibilities for Spring 2008. Our hope is to increase visibility of Mexican and Caribbean topics and faculty, as well as highlight KU’s traditional strength in Central America.

The possibility to provide opportunities for students to have immersion experiences with language and culture in Latin America, and even develop research projects has long been a hallmark of the KU Latin American Studies program. Having lost funding for the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships along with Title VI has greatly curtailed these opportunities. However, while our efforts to achieve more external funding for students continue, again we have been able to pull together considerable support from various sympathetic units on campus. For this year funding of the KU Latin American Field Research Grants for graduate students has come from the Andrea and Robert J. Oppenheimer Fund, the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the Graduate School and the Center for International Business Education in the Business School (see page 12). Additional help will come from the new Study Abroad Fellowships funded by the Horner Scholarship Fund for undergraduate and graduate students who have projects overseas. Graduate students in Latin American Studies this year have also shown enormous initiative in

(see Director’s Desk, page 10)
IF ONLY I HAD 20/20 Hindsight
By Nyana Miller

So what are you going to do with a degree like that?
For many liberal arts students, this is the much-dreaded question. While engineers investigate companies and business students learn how to dress for an interview, liberal arts students like me are left trying to clutch fistfuls of sand. Two years and three non-profit jobs after my graduation, I’m preaching the gospel of hope. Yes, there is hope.

With a little planning and a well-doctored resume (visit KU Resume Doctor often!) you can land a job that engages your interests and develops your practical skill set. These are some of the lessons that I learned while trying to break into the field of non-profit careers in or related to Latin America.

1. Keep a list. No matter where you are in your studies, it’s never too early or too late to start compiling a list of interesting opportunities and organizations. Every time you read about something in the paper or in a class that you’d like to be part of, add it to your list. Look at their websites to see what kind of staff positions they have and where they post openings.

2. Read bios of all your professors, guest speakers and accomplished individuals you admire. Where did they get started professionally? How did they advance? If you have the opportunity to chat with someone whose job you’d like to have, don’t let it pass you by!

3. Research possible career fields by taking classes and going on an Alternative Spring Break or other exploratory trip. Once you think you know what type of work you like you should, a) make sure you know the negatives as well as positives of this field; and b) identify the key players in this field and how they differ from each other.

4. Assess your skills and strengths. In general, non-profit jobs fall into several categories. You should identify and then develop your skills. Important non-profit job skills include writing and research, delivering services, fundraising, data entry, Website development and communications and public relations.

5. Regularly read job posts. Even if you are eons away from graduation, it’s good to get a feel for how often jobs are available and what the requirements are. This should help you select classes, internships, and extra-curricular activities. If contact information is available, contact the recruiter to express your interest and ask for tips on how to prepare yourself for similar openings.
   • For international work you may find that entry level positions require two years experience. This means that they probably hire mostly from a pool of applicants that have completed the Peace Corps or other internship program.
   • While it’s possible to amass several years of experience through numerous temporary positions and part-time jobs, it is more attractive to have experience with 1 or 2 organizations. This demonstrates that you are loyal and mature enough to work through problems that come up in the workplace instead of becoming dissatisfied and leaving.

6. Volunteer/Intern strategically. You should look to accomplish the following objectives during internships and volunteer work. Remember that it’s possible to get funding from the Honors Program to alleviate the financial burden of working for nothing.
   • Find out what it’s like to be an “insider.” Ask staff members about job satisfaction and experience the internal politicking of an organization.
   • Network and get letters of recommendation.
   • Get an insider perspective on what entry-level positions are available at the organization you’re with and its partner organizations.
   • Find out what skills are necessary for entry-level positions.
   • Build skills and your resume.

(see 20/20 Hindsight, page 10)
include the bus trip of students to the Latin American Solidarity conference in Chicago in April, as well as efforts to connect with local Latino organizations as an aspect of service learning.

Every year brings sad farewells. Our program assistant Erin Adamson will be joining a PhD program in Sociology at UC Santa Cruz and we will certainly miss her. We owe so much to her initiative and strong level of organization these last two years. She also performed yeoman service as Undergraduate Advisor while Anita Herzfeld was on sabbatical. We are most unfortunate to lose Deborah Schwartz-Kates (music & dance) who has accepted a position at the University of Miami, partly for family reasons. We are glad for the time she spent with us and wish her well in Florida. Similarly, Michelle McKinley (Law) has accepted a position at the Law School at the University of Oregon in Eugene. It is a sad and unfortunate loss but we hope the move is a good one for her and her children. Finally, Kenny Kincaid (KU PhD in History) has accepted a tenure-track position at Purdue University Northwest in Indiana. Congratulations to Kenny and his family. We love it when our students succeed and land good jobs, but why do they have to leave us?

We also look forward to welcoming some promising new colleagues with interests in Latin America and Latino Studies. These include Christina Bejarano (Political Science), Ben Chappell (American Studies), Sheyda Jahanbani (History), Paul Sneed (Spanish & Portuguese) and Jessica Vasquez (Sociology). Christina Bejarano, Ben Chappell and Jessica Vasquez all have interests related to Latino Studies. Sheyda Jahanbani works on approaches to world poverty, but much of her research is in Mexico. Paul Sneed’s focus is on Brazilian Studies and he has proposed a range of new courses in Portuguese and Brazilian Culture for next year.

Thanks to all of you for being a part of our community and for your support of our activities. Without that sense of purpose coming from faculty and graduate students at KU, we could do nothing.
ongoing murders of Mexican women in the industrial zones surrounding maquiladoras, and the effects of free trade policies.

The trip also facilitated a process to “reflect on and synthesize the experience with group members to link our experience in Juarez to our activities in our own communities,” according to the trip brochure.

Group reflection was an important element in the Nicaragua trip as well, where participants met at the end of each day to process what they had seen, how they felt about those experiences, and how they could channel their experiences into action when they returned home to Kansas.

Upon returning to KU, participants in both the Nicaragua and El Salvador trip accepted an offer from the Center of Latin American Studies to share their experiences at a brownbag Merienda. There, Heather Wurtz, undergraduate in Latin American Studies, shared that learning from people in El Papaturro about their experiences during the Civil War profoundly broadened her perspective. Wurtz was especially interested in the health clinic and midwifery services available in El Papaturro and secured an undergraduate research grant to travel to Peru during summer 2007 to learn about midwifery there.

Students who participated in the Nicaragua trip have planned to continue strengthening ties to communities they met through activities in fall 2007.

**Faculty Announcements**

**Christopher Anderson, Associate Professor of Business,** will take Sabbatical in Fall 2007 to conduct empirical research on capital markets and work on six projects for submission.

**Chris Brown, Assistant Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies,** conducts research on the expansion of mechanized agriculture in the Brazilian Amazon. He seeks to understand the relationship between the intensification of agriculture and increasing deforestation in the region. His research is facilitated by a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2006 between KU and Brazil’s Federal Agricultural Research Agency (EMBRAPA). Brown will be leaving on Sabbatical during the spring semester of 2008 to conduct research integrating socio-economic and cultural studies in order to understand human and environmental dynamics involved in the expansion of land use in the Amazon forests.

**Luis Corteguera, Associate Professor of History,** lectured on “Encuentros imaginados entre súbdito y monarca: historias de perdón y petición en la Espaza Moderna” in May 2006 as part of the “1er Ciclo de Conferencias del Grupo de Estudio de Historia de la Cultura Política en América (www.gehcpa.org) at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Iztapalapa, Morelos, Mexico. Corteguera has received a Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Huntington Library in 2007-8 to research papers from the Mexican Inquisition for his book *Talking Images in the Spanish Empire.*

**Tamara Falicov, Associate Professor of Theatre and Film,** published the article, “Hollywood’s Rogue Neighbor: The Argentine Film Industry during the Good Neighbor Policy, 1939-1945.” She presented two scholarly papers, one on an Argentine documentary for a conference in England titled “Visual Synergies: Fiction and Documentary Film in Latin America” in June 2006 and a paper on the Mexican and Argentine

**Tanya Golash-Boza, Assistant Professor of Sociology and American Studies,** went to conferences abroad in San Juan, Puerto Rico; Santiago, Chile; Montreal; and Lima between January 2006 and January 2007. She also spent two months in Peru conducting research for her book *Yo Soy Negro: Local and Global Discourses of Blackness among African-Descended Peruvians.*

**John Head, Professor of Law,** has continued his work in the area of international financial institutions and indigenous peoples in Latin America. In 2006 he published the article “Protecting and Supporting Indigenous Peoples in Latin America: Evaluating the Recent World Bank and IDB Policy Initiatives.” Head’s research work also includes preparation of a book under contract on general principles of business and economic law and he is considering having it translated into Spanish for marketing in several Latin American countries.

**Peter Herlihy, Associate Professor of Geography and Associate Director of Latin American Studies,** has been leading the first American Geographical Society (AGS) Bowman Expedition in Mexico. Called Mexico Indigena (MI), and funded by the US Foreign Military Studies Office, it represents a collaboration between the KU Department of Geography, where KU Geographer and AGS President Jerry Dobson is the project’s PI, and the Coordination of Social Science and Humanities (CCSyH) at the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi, Mexico, where Director and Geographer Miguel Aguilar Robledo is National Director. The project uses humanistic participatory research mapping and high tech Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to build a database on Mexico and to study the country’s new, gargantuan, neoliberal property regime called PROCEDE and how it impacts the lands and natural resources of indigenous communities. The MI research team has a dedicated group of Latin Americanist Geographer-Jayhawks at its core, including Derek Smith from Carleton University (Ph.D. 2003, KU geography) and KU geography Ph.D. students John Kelly, Aida Ramos, and Andy Hilburn. Two months of the summer will be spent in intensive field research, alongside other UASLP students and local investigators, in Zapotec-speaking communities of the isolated Sierra Juarez of Oaxaca; including previously undocumented archaeological ruins of great significance in two of our Zapotec study communities which the participatory mapping component of the project mapped and geo-registered. Additional information on the AGS Bowman Expedition concept and initial results from Mexico Indigena can be found on the website (http://web.ku.edu/~mexind/).

*Above: AGS Bowman Expedition Mexico Indigena uses participatory mapping to plot archaeological sites in Zapotec community of the Sierra Juarez, Oaxaca.*
Anita Herzfeld, Professor of Latin American Studies, was honored to be invited to become a corresponding member of the Academia Argentina del Lunfardo. She was also invited to evaluate Fulbright applications in Washington D.C. in January. Throughout the year, Professor Herzfeld traveled extensively for various activities. At the Conservatorio “López Buchardo” Instituto Universitario Nacional de Artes at the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, she presented a paper entitled, “La música caribeña como factor cohesivo de identidad.” At the 52nd International Congress of Americanists in Seville, Spain, Herzfeld presented “Una evaluación de la vitalidad lingüística de lenguas en contacto: el criollo limonense de base inglesa en Costa Rica hablante.” She also conducted a survey among Paraguayan adults on their preference between Guaraní or English as a language to be taught to their children at school. At KU, Herzfeld presented “Endangered Languages: What is there to lose?” at the 15th Annual Waggoner Research Colloquium as a member of a panel entitled “Resistance, Endangerment and Identity in Latin America: Gender, Language and Culture;” and she was also invited to give a talk at the Induction Ceremony for Phi Beta Delta. Professor Herzfeld published a number of times. These articles include “Afro-Caribbean Music as a Cohesion Factor of Identity,” in Rastafari a universal philosophy in the third millennium, “Mecanismos de cambios lingüísticos inducidos por contacto;” in Dinámica Lingüística de las lenguas en Contacto, “El reggae: Un nuevo despertar de la identidad de los criollos limonenses” in Tres Grandes Cuestiones de la Historia de Iberoamérica, “El encuentro conflictivo de lenguas en contacto: el criollo limonense de base inglesa en Costa Rica hispanohablante;” in Tres Grandes Cuestiones de la Historia de Iberoamérica. “Un encuentro trilingüe y su consecuencia lingüística,” published as a CD in Memorias del XIV Congreso de ALFAL, “Respuesta estudiantil peruana a la educación bilingüe: un estudio preliminar,” ALFAL, Santiago de Chile: Lingüística 2005.

Kenny Kincaid, Ph.D. in History and Lecturer in Latin American Studies, accepted the tenure-track position of Assistant Professor of History at Purdue University - North Central, in Westville, Indiana. He will be developing the Latin American History and Studies program.

Jill Kuhnheim, Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, will take Sabbatical in Fall 2007 to conduct research for a book exploring the tradition of the public performance of poetry, the recitation of poetry in schools and other practices that take poetry beyond the pages.


Brent Metz, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, organized, chaired, and presented at
the panel “Borderline Indigeneities” at the Latin American Studies Association meetings in Puerto Rico, Summer 2006. He also led 14 Kansas schoolteachers on a 5-week Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad, where all explored the topic of Mayan education. In Guatemala and Honduras, he continued his research on Ch’ortí’ memory and indigeneity project.

Clifton Pye, Associate Professor of Linguistics, presented the paper “Adquisición de la Fonología en Cinco Idiomas Mayas” with Pedro Mateo, Bárbara Pféiler, Ana López and Pedro Gutiérrez at the IX Encuentro Internacional de Lingüística en el Noroeste in Hermosillo, Mexico, in November, 2006. Pye and his co-authors presented child language data they collected over the summer during field work in Guatemala and Mexico. Pye will take Sabbatical during the 2007-2008 academic year and plans to travel to Guatemala and Mexico to research and document the acquisition process in three different Mayan languages in order to establish a linguistic infrastructure for recording and transcribing samples of children’s language.

Gary Reich, Director of International Studies and Associate Professor of Political Science, will take Sabbatical in Spring 2008 to conduct research for a book-length manuscript examining how socioeconomic inequality, state power, ethnic tension and violence contextualize religious politics in Brazil.

John Simmons, Collections Manager of the Natural History and Biodiversity Research Center and Director of Museum Studies, served as an outside reviewer for a new master’s degree program in Museum Studies in the Escuela Interdisciplinaria de Posgrados, Universidad Nacional, Bogotá, Colombia. He also presented a workshop entitled Cuidado, manejo, y conservación de colecciones de historia natural, at the Instituto Alexander von Humboldt in Villa de Leyva, Colombia, from 17-27 March 2006.

Deborah Schwartz-Kates, Associate Professor of Musicology, was invited to give a plenary lecture at the Primeras Jornadas Internacionales sobre Investigación en la Música Académica Latinoamericana, sponsored by the Universidad de Cuyo in Mendoza, Argentina. Her lecture focused on the film music of the Argentine composer, Alberto Ginastera, in a presentation titled, “La música para el cine de Alberto Ginastera: una aproximación a las fuentes y su significado.” She was also hired as Chair of the Musicology Department at the University of Miami and will be leaving KU in the fall semester of 2007.

William I. Woods, Director of Environmental Studies and Professor of Geography, contributed three chapters to the volume As Terras Pretas de Índio: Caracterização e manejo para formação de novas áreas, presented a lecture at the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia in Manaus, organized symposia and presented papers on terra preta, or black earth, for the AAAS and World Congress of Soil Science meetings, presented a paper at the Society for American Archaeology meeting, and conducted field studies in the Central Amazon. He served as a consultant for the BBC and Discover magazine; a graduate student reviewer, Ministério da Educação, Brasilia, D.F.; and an international collaborator for Embrapa, Rio de Janeiro. Woods’ Amazon work was reported in Nature, BioScience, and Science News.

George Woodyard, Professor Emeritus of Spanish, presented papers at conferences in Asunción (May 2006) on the first on Dominican theatre within the context of US-Hispanic theatre and in Buenos Aires (August 2006) on Argentine theatre in perspective. His essay on key moments of Latin American theatre in transformation will appear in a volume to be published by Bucknell Press in
CONGRATULATIONS
KU Graduate Students CLAS Summer Field Research Grants

Ten KU graduate students were awarded the KU Latin Americanist Summer Field Research Grants. These awards are made possible with contributions from the Andrea and Robert J. Oppenheimer Fund, the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, the Graduate School, and the Center for International Business and Education in the School of Business.

1) Norberto Baldi Salas, “Bio-cultural Studies in Central America”
2) Ryan Gaston, “Gender and the Decline of the Spanish Empire: The Junta de Reformacion, 1619-1625”
3) Shannon Gorres, “Collaborative Ethnography on Garifuna Cultural Identity”
4) James Herynk, “The Cultural and Biological Responses by Males to Endemic Anemia among the Poqomchi’ and Q’eqchi’
6) Anne Justice, “Mayan mtDNA Variation: A Pilot Study for a Multidisciplinary Understanding of Anemia in Highland Guatemala”
7) Theresa Lammer, “The Shaman’s Grave: San Jose de Moro Excavation”
8) Heather Putnam, “The Link Between Fair Trade Certification and Local Development Agendas”
9) David Robles, “Merchant Wayuu Women in the Market Economy of Riohacha, Colombia”
10) Andrea Romero, “Small Mammals of Costa Rica’s La Selva Biological Station: Are Mammal Communities Changing Over Time?”

INCOMING FACULTY

Christina Bejarano will join the Political Science Department in the fall and incorporate interests in minority, Latino and Latin American politics, as well as political behavior and women and politics. Bejarano obtained her doctorate from the Univ. of Iowa with a dissertation titled “Latina’s Double Electoral Advantages.”

Ben Chappell will join the American Studies Department in the fall and incorporate interests in Mexican American popular culture and modern intercultural studies. Chappell obtained his doctorate from the Univ. of Texas at Austin with a dissertation titled, “Lowrider Space: A Critical Encounter of Knowledges.” Chappell has taught at Bridgewater College, Eastern Mennonite Univ., and Bethel College.

Sheyda Jahanbani will join the History Department in the fall and incorporate her interests in U.S. and global poverty into her teaching. Jahanbani obtained her doctorate from Brown Univ. with a dissertation titled “’A Different Kind of People: ’Developing the Poor at Home and Abroad, 1935-1980.”

Paul M. Sneed will join the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in the fall to teach courses on Portuguese and Brazilian language, literature and cultural studies. Sneed obtained his doctorate from the Univ. of Wisconsin-Madison with a dissertation titled “Machine Gun Voices: Bandits, Favelas, and Utopia in Brazilian Funk.” Sneed has taught at Univ. of Wisconsin, Univ. of Oklahoma and San Diego State Univ., where he was Director of Luso-Brazilian Studies.

Jessica M. Vasquez will join the Sociology Department in the fall and incorporate her research on Mexican-American identity, race and ethnicity, and culture into her courses. Vasquez obtained her doctorate from the Univ. of California, Berkeley, with a dissertation titled “Across Borders, Across Generations: Immigration, Assimilation, and Racial Identity Formation in Multi-Generational Mexican American Families.”
GRADUATING MASTER’S STUDENTS

Erin Adamson graduates Summer 2007 with her thesis “MUDHA: History of Haitian and Dominican-Haitian Women’s Organizing in the Dominican Republic.” She has a fellowship for graduate study in Sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Meredith Church graduated Spring 2007 with her thesis “Portunol and Border Identity in Rivera, Uruguay: Reconciling Identities and Claiming Space in the National Imaginary.”

Arinya Eller lives in Vienna, Austria, and works at the Admissions Department of Webster University. She is currently applying to work for an NGO. At some point in the future she plans on pursuing a doctorate, perhaps at the University of Vienna, in either Social Anthropology or Political Science.

Renée Hanson graduated in December 2006 with her thesis “Identity and Memory: Transcribing Oral Histories of Plant Animism in the Upper Amazon.” She now lives in Austin and works in fund development and grant writing for Manos de Cristo, an organization that assists immigrants with health, education and basic needs.


Elizabeth Mueting graduated Spring 2007 with her non-thesis “Women’s Organizations in Honduras and El Salvador.” She plans to earn a Master’s Degree in Education and teach social studies at the high school level.

Alex Sphar graduated in the Spring 2007 with a joint master’s degree in Latin American Studies and an MBA in Business. He plans to move to Brazil following graduation.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE GRADUATING LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES STUDENTS:

MAJORS
Kelly Bartlett
Catherine Butel
Melissa Evans
Skylar Frasier
Kimberly Howk
James Ingram
Scott Karlin
Brent Kiger
Robert Lopez
David Melgren
Rachel Mehl
Sarah Mueting
Justina Patterson
Maria Rodriguez
Angela Spehar

MINORS
Katherine Black
Joseph Brewer
Marissa Buschow
Kyle Hoedl
Kayron Kelly
Shayne Scholl

GRADUATION DAY

Above: Center director Elizabeth Kuznesof poses for a photograph with graduating master’s students, from left, Erin Adamson, Stacy Lutsch, and Meredith Church, before the Spring 2007 hooding ceremony for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.
BABY NEWS FROM OUR FACULTY AND STUDENTS

Above: Kenny Kincaid, Latin American Studies lecturer, and his wife, Sonia Rivadeneyra Kincaid, welcomed Amadeo Kincaid Rivadeneyra to their family in February 2007. Amadeo is pictured here with big brothers Antonio and Alejandro.

Above: Sarah Blanche Finzer, daughter of Spanish and Portuguese doctoral student Erin Finzer, was born March 4, 2007. She weighed 7 lbs, 9 oz and was 19 1/2 inches. Here is Sarah with her Frida Kahlo doll.

Above: Robert and Irina Rodriguez celebrated their daughter Gabriela's first birthday on May 24th. Gaby is shown here at eight months with her Boca Juniors soccer outfit. Robert Rodriguez is a lecturer in Latin American Studies and Associate Director of the McNair Scholars Program.

Not Pictured: Congratulations to Amy Rossomondo and Robert Bayliss, assistant professors of Spanish and Portuguese, on the birth of their daughter, Anna Delaney Bayliss, on June 20, 2007!

Below: Ruben and Leslie Flores welcomed into the world their second child, Zachary Isaiah Flores, at 5:57 p.m. on June 22, 2007. Zachary was 7 lbs, 12 oz, and 21 inches at birth. Ruben Flores is Assistant Professor of American Studies at KU.
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