Graduate Competition Showcases Exceptional Student Research by Peter Herlihy and Gillian Ford

To showcase the significant research being done by Latin Americanist graduate students at the University of Kansas, the Center of Latin American Studies hosted the first Latin Americanist Graduate Research Competition on April 7, 2008. Fifteen graduate students won spots (through the preliminary abstract contest) to present their original field and/or archival research in a competition for two grand prizes of $250 that were to be awarded to one Master’s level participant and one Ph.D level participant.

Based on the quality of a submitted abstract, fifteen graduate students were selected by a faculty/student committee to participate in the all-day event held in the Kansas Room in the Kansas Union. Throughout the day, four sessions of fifteen minute presentations were judged by an interdisciplinary faculty panel made up of Jane Gibson of Anthropology, J. Christopher Brown of Geography, and Ruben Flores of American Studies.

Each session was also chaired by a different faculty member, including William Woods of Geography, Anita Herzfeld of Latin American Studies, Laura Herlihy of Latin American Studies, and Peter Herlihy of Geography. Anthropology professor Brent Metz gave the faculty research keynote presentation, “Abduction of a Ladina Girl: A Window into Human Trafficking in Guatemala” that occurred at a luncheon attended by competition participants, their faculty advisors, and other KU affiliates.

The success of this event, which was sponsored by the Peter Stouse Fund, Department of Geography, and the Center of Latin American Studies, is due to the exceptional quality of all the graduate student research and presentations, which in turn forced a split-decision among the judges.

(see Graduate Competition page 6 for a complete list of competition winners, participants, and presentation titles)

From the Director’s Desk by Elizabeth Kuznesof

This has been an active year for Latin American Studies at KU. Much of our effort has been focused on the encouragement of graduate research and showcasing its results. We were fortunate to regain funding from the Tinker Foundation for Field Research Grants in Latin America, Spain and Portugal for graduate students for 2008-2010. The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Research and Graduate Studies each provided half of the needed matching funds. For this year we were able to make 21 awards (see story, p.9). In addition this year we were able to award the first Stansifer scholarship to James W. Herynk. Many thanks to Professor Emeritus Charles Stansifer for establishing this award for doctoral students with research focused on Middle America.

The growing Latino contingent of our faculty and graduate students has also been active. A conference bringing in scholars from several states with an interest in Hispanic issues took place at KU February 8 and 9th of 2008. Marta Caminero-Santangelo did a fabulous job of putting together funds from many units and bringing in first-class scholars from several states, while still involving KU faculty and graduate students.

(see Director’s Desk page 5)
A Delegation Experiences Human Rights Issues in El Salvador
by Sarah Birmingham

For the fourth consecutive annual (Alternative) Spring Break, a group of KU students and recent graduates visited El Papaturro, El Salvador for service learning and cultural exchange. El Papaturro, a small village of 300-400 people, is Lawrence’s sister-city through the U.S.-El Salvador Sister Cities Network.

This March, our delegation of 13 included individuals with various areas of study (biology, nursing, anthropology, art, linguistics, etc.) and a whole lot of enthusiasm. Upon arrival in El Papaturro, we were greeted with the customary open arms and loving warmth of the community that we have come to know from previous visits. However, there were a few largely different aspects of the trip that altered the week’s experience from those in years past. This time, we were visiting during Holy Week and the focus was concentrated on current human-rights issues, namely the Suchitoto 13.

Since we spent half of our trip in the capital, San Salvador, we were able to meet and speak with leaders of several grassroots and non-government organizations. These included but were not limited to Pro-Vida, which deals with health and water issues, Homies Unidos, dedicated to the re-acclimation of current and ex-gang members to school, work and society, and CRIPDES, described as the heart of the Salvadoran social movement. Along with these groups, we met with individuals involved in and affected by the events surrounding the Suchitoto 13.

The Suchitoto 13 refers to a group of citizens who on June 2, 2007, while on their way to a peaceful protest against the de-centralization of water, were stopped by the Salvadoran police and arrested. All thirteen were harassed, but some were beaten and experienced psychological torture. The group of 13 were split up and taken to different prisons with some of them being taken from prison to prison, making it difficult for family and friends to track them. Initially they were charged with acts of terrorism, which was easier for the state to do since the recent implementation of the anti-terrorism law. Throughout the court process the indictments were lowered to misconduct and creating public disorder. All charges were ultimately dropped and their freedom was finally granted this April.

These events caught the people of El Salvador by surprise and it took an incredible amount of solidarity, strength and support to get through the arduous process. The eventual success demonstrates the high energy and determination of those involved in the social movement, both in El Salvador and the international community. Our delegation was able to learn about the effects of this ordeal, both on the national level as well as in the lives of the rural populations, like El Papaturro, that are very aware of their political and social situations. Since our group was present during the time that the Suchitoto 13 were still being charged, we were anxious for the outcome of this situation. While there, we were given a tour of the events of July 2 and shown a video that can be found on YouTube. More information about the Suchitoto 13 can also be found on the Sister Cities website: http://www.us-elsalvador-sisters.org.
A Penny More Per Pound: La Lucha Sigue
by Ashley Depenbusch

¡Ya cayó, ya cayó, el rey ya cayó! we were shouting it out as we marched down Jayhawk Boulevard on our way to the Burger King at 23rd and Naismith, Saturday, April 12. KU Students and activists have been working locally in solidarity with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and the Student/Farmworker Alliance (SFA) over the past couple years to raise awareness about the unjust and inhumane conditions in which tomatoes, oranges, and other produce we enjoy are harvested.

The CIW is a community-based worker organization located in Immokalee, Florida about two hours west of Miami. The members are predominantly Latino, Haitian, and Mayan Indian immigrants earning sub-poverty wages and enduring conditions of modern-day slavery in the fields of the southwest United States. Fifteen years ago the coalition organized general strikes and a month-long hunger strike to raise awareness about the sub-poverty wages they were earning in the state’s most important agricultural center – Immokalee. Lawrencians are perhaps more familiar with the worker-led boycott against Taco Bell back in 2001. With the support of student groups, communities of faith, and other labor organizations the CIW has been successful in bringing fast food giants like Taco Bell, Yum Brands, McDonalds, and Burger King into the movement for Fair Food working together on two simple demands of a penny more per pound wage increase and a commitment to a corporate code of conduct that would implement a zero tolerance guideline "for certain unlawful activities that require immediate termination of any grower from Burger King’s supply chain.”

In February, Latin American Studies graduate and undergraduate students, along with LFF members traveled to Austin, Texas to participate in the International Latin American Studies Student Association Student Conference, where Lucas Benitez, co-founder of the CIW, was the keynote speaker. Meghan Cohorst, co-coordinator of the SFA, Benitez, and fair foodistas of Austin, TX and Lawrence, KS marched together to the Burger King on the University of Texas-Austin campus to demand justice for farmworkers.

Latin American Studies 2008 graduate Katy Murphy-Andrus is a member of the SFA Steering Committee and co-founder of Lawrence Fair Food (LFF). The SFA is a national network of youth, students, and community members working in solidarity with the CIW, and LFF has been a strong ally in the fair food movement. Thanks to the dedication and hard work of the members of this fair food movement, May 23, 2008 marks a monumental victory for farmworkers and allies as one of the leading fast food companies, Burger King, agreed to a penny more per pound wage increase and a commitment to a corporate code of conduct that would implement a zero tolerance guideline “for certain unlawful activities that require immediate termination of any grower from Burger King’s supply chain.”

Last month, Gerardo Reyes-Chavez of the CIW, and Marc Rodrigues of the SFA, spent a weekend in Lawrence, April 11-13. Along with KU Latin American Studies graduate student Shannon Gorres, they started a dialogue with Lawrence High School students about the harsh conditions in the fields of Immokalee, and the many ways in which our daily lives here in Lawrence are connected to the farmworker struggles in Immokalee. Reyes-Chavez and Rodrigues were also keynote panelists for the KU Fair Trade in the Heartland Conference, and led a workshop to introduce folks to the work and victories of the CIW and SFA, along with more (see A Penny More page 4)
Global Business Lessons from Brazil  
by Melissa Birch

Twenty MBA students spent two weeks in Brazil in May participating in a new course at the KU School of Business. Global Business Projects (GBP), a graduate-level course designed and developed by a consortium of Centers for International Business Education and Research (CIBERs), seeks to provide graduate students at participating institutions with the opportunity to increase their ability to conduct business in languages other than English—especially less commonly taught languages—by working in small teams on real business projects in foreign countries. The University of Kansas CIBER leads the program in Brazil, while CIBERS at University of North Carolina and Temple University lead courses in China and Japan, respectively. Students and companies met virtually between March and May. The Brazil portion of the GBP course began in Sao Paulo at the University of Sao Paulo (USP) on May 18. After 3 days, student teams met with their respective companies and began working on their individual projects. Two teams worked for software startups in Campinas, one team worked in Sao Paulo on a project for CCR a Brazilian toll road concessionaire, while another worked in Rio for Koch Industries. The team working for Tramco traveled to Mogi Guazu, Curitiba, and Rondonopolis, as well as having meetings in Sao Paulo.

The GBP students come from KU, UNC-Chapel Hill and Temple University as well as Brigham Young University, Duke, George Washington, Ohio State and the Universities of Hawaii at Manoa, Indiana, Maryland and Pittsburgh. These schools created the GBP to provide an avenue for MBA and graduate students to increase their global business and language competency through guided, hands-on, business experience in global markets. The project capitalizes upon the individual strengths and international ties of the participating institutions, with each school responsible for leading teams to a country or region that matches its particular expertise. This year, the GBP program in Brazil is led by KU Professor Dr. Melissa H. Birch. Other faculty serving as advisors to individual student teams include: Chris Anderson, Kissan Joseph and Jim Morrison.

The KU Center for International Business Education and Research is one of only 31 CIBERS in the United States and is funded by the US Department of Education. The primary goal of these centers is to improve American competitiveness through comprehensive service and educational programs in academic and corporate settings.

(from A Penny More page 3)

information as to how to get involved in the movement for fair food, dignity, and justice. Saturday, April 12, KU students and Lawrence community members marched alongside Reyes-Chavez and Rodrigues down Jayhawk Boulevard to the Burger King at 23rd and Naismith united in the call for fair food and a resounding NO! to farmworker exploitation. Alongside Gorres, Latin American Studies undergraduates Jenn Hunt, Katy Murphy-Andrus, and Ashley Depenbusch participated in a Readers Theater piece written by Gorres in an effort to creatively communicate the history and goals of the fair food movement.

Support from the Center of Latin American Studies to bring in speakers has been extremely important for students to understand the actual effects of international economic policies in Latin America. There is a need for a broad base movement for this campaign to be successful.

Migration patterns between Latin America and the United States significantly shape this particular struggle – half of the coalition’s members are from Mexico, thirty percent from Guatemala, and roughly ten percent from Haiti. By building skills and knowledge through participation in the nationwide struggle for fair food, which is only a part of a broader international struggle for human rights, students involved in the CIW movement have helped bring about some of the most amazing victories for justice. With the resources the Center shares, students are experiencing individual and collective growth that stretches far beyond the classroom.
**Nuestra América in the U.S.**

by Erika Sandoval

The University of Kansas’ Department of English, the Office of Latino/Latin American Studies at the University of Nebraska, Omaha, and the Mid-American Studies Association hosted the first national Latino/a Studies Conference at KU on February 8 and 9, 2008. Dr. Marta Caminero-Santangelo did a remarkable job in organizing *Nuestra América in the U.S.? A U.S. Latino/a Studies Conference* with distinguished Latino/scholar speakers such as Roberto Suro from the University of Southern California and Emma Perez from the University of Colorado. Various scholars and graduate students from around the country presented on a wide array of topics ranging from the history of Latinos in the U.S. and Latino politics and immigration policy to Latino/a literature. More than 80 institutions, such as the Universities of California at Los Angeles, Illinois, Texas, Minnesota, Albany, and Arizona State were represented at the conference. In addition, more than 30 KU graduate and faculty members presented papers and moderated sessions.

Different panels tackled various topics and delivered a successful conference. This interdisciplinary conference not only brought together scholars, but also addressed important issues that are affecting the Latino community in the United States, such as healthcare, education, labor, politics, and cultural production. The conference coincided with the launching of the new academic minor of Latino/a Studies at KU.

The Nuestra América conference brought special attention to KU as the growth of Latinos can no longer only be felt along the east and west coasts of the United States, but in the nation’s heartland as well. With the assistantship of many sponsors, hosts, and the impressive efforts of Caminero-Santangelo, the impact of Latinization in the United States was felt at the University of Kansas on the weekend of February 8 and 9, 2008.

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(from Director’s Desk page 1)

A further innovation of note was the Graduate Student Conference on Latin America, organized by Associate Director Peter Herlihy and Gillian Ford. This day-long event featured fifteen chosen speakers (based on paper proposals utilizing primary sources). Cash prizes were also given for best presentations at the MA and PhD levels. Three faculty judges (Chris Brown from Geography, Jane Gibson from Anthropology, and Ruben Flores from American Studies) chose the winners. The event also included a lunch to which all faculty mentors of the chosen speakers were invited guests. Professor Brent Metz gave a talk as part of the lunch activities. This event was a wonderful demonstration of the quality of research being done on Latin America by graduate students across campus. It is an event I believe we will try to turn into a tradition. Thanks so much to Peter and Gillian for their efforts to make this happen.

We also look forward to welcoming some promising new colleagues with interests in Latin America and Latino Studies. These include Santa Arias (Spanish & Portuguese), and Barney Warf (Geography). Santa Arias has published on Bartolome de las Casas and the European Renaissance intellectual tradition. Her latest research is an exploration of the perception and representation of space as it relates to religious contact and conversion in Latin America from Columbus to the eighteenth-century missionary histories. This fall she will teach National Traditions in Spanish America (SPAN 463) and Textual Analysis (SPAN 340). Barney Warf is an economic geographer interested in global dimensions of human geography with over a hundred publications to his name. This fall he will teach Introductory Human Geography (GEOG 102) and Topics in Cultural Globalization (GEOG 571/771). In addition the new Associate Director of the Hall Center for the Humanities is Kristine Latta. While Kristine is taking on a full-time administrative position she is also working on a dissertation at Princeton on Ecuadorian merchants in the Otavalo Valley. We hope that she will share her research with us on some occasion.

Thanks to all of you for being a part of our community and for your support of our activities, particularly in this time when grants are scarce. Without that sense of purpose coming from faculty and graduate students at KU we could do nothing. Enjoy the summer.
Winners of the 2008 KU Latin Americanist Graduate Research Competition

PhD level

Pedro Mateo, Linguistics, “Nominalization in Q’anjob’al Maya”

Lilian Rebellato, Geography, “Precolonial Settlement Dynamics in Central Amazonia”

MA Level

Shannon Gorres, Latin American Studies, “Umalali Garífuna: Why Not in the Public Schools of Guatemala?”

David Robles, Anthropology, “Beyond Assimilation or Cultural Resilience: Wayuu Marketing in Riohacha, La Guajira, Colombia”

Melissa Velazquez, Latin American Studies, “Formalization of Housing in San José: A Community Pathway to Legal Incorporation”

The following is a complete schedule of events with the authors and titles for all fifteen invited research presentations.

Invited Participants and Sessions

8:30-8:45: Opening Remarks, Dr. Elizabeth Kuznesof
8:45-9:45: Session 1: Changing Geographies
Chair: William Woods, Geography
Jonathan Thayn, PhD Student, Geography: “Mapping Annual Inundations from N.A.S.A. MODIS to Monitor the Amazon”
Aida Ramos Viera, PhD Student, Geography: “Participatory Research Mapping as a Conservative Tool in Huastee Communities of Mexico”
Lilian Rebellato, PhD Student, Geography: “Precolonial Settlement Dynamics in Central Amazonia”
Andy Hilburn, PhD Student, Geography: “Settlements, Forests, and Mexico’s Changing Rural Sectors: A Look at the Sierra Mixe, Oaxaca”

10:00-10:45: Session 2: Viewing Community Development
Chair: Anita Herzfeld, Latin American Studies
Melissa Velazquez, MA Student, Latin American Studies: “Fundación Paraguaya’s Village Banking for Female Micro-entrepreneur Development”
Amanda Heter, MA Student, Latin American Studies: “Predicting Responses to Neoliberal Land Tenure Reforms among Villages in Mexico”
James Herynk, PhD Student, Anthropology: “What is Structural Violence? The Chaos of Illness and Disease and the Poqomchi’ Maya Experience”
Shannon Gorres, MA Student, Latin American Studies: “Umalali Garífuna: Why Not in the Public Schools of Guatemala?”
Pedro Mateo, PhD Student, Linguistics: “Nominalization in Q’anjob’al Maya”

12:15-1:30: Brown-Bag Lunch, Dr. Brent Metz
1:30-2:45: Session 3: Indigenous Reflections
Chair: Laura Herlihy, Latin American Studies
John Kelly, PhD Student, Geography: “Predicting Responses to Neoliberal Land Tenure Reforms among Villages in Mexico”
James Herynk, PhD Student, Anthropology: “What is Structural Violence? The Chaos of Illness and Disease and the Poqomchi’ Maya Experience”
Shannon Gorres, MA Student, Latin American Studies: “Umalali Garífuna: Why Not in the Public Schools of Guatemala?”
Pedro Mateo, PhD Student, Linguistics: “Nominalization in Q’anjob’al Maya”

12:15-1:30: Brown-Bag Lunch, Dr. Brent Metz
1:30-2:45: Session 4: Population, Resources, and Society
Chair: Peter Herlihy, Geography
Lisa Rausch, PhD Student, Geography: “A Contextual Exploration of the Relationship between Soybean Farming and Population Change”
Ian Carrillo, MA Student, Latin American Studies: “The Role of the State in the Perpetuation of Imbalanced Resource Distribution: Brazil’s Government Under Vargas”
David Robles, MA Student, Anthropology: “Beyond Assimilation or Cultural Resilience: Wayuu Marketing in Riohacha, La Guajira, Colombia”
Mark Perry, PhD Student, Musicology: “Carmen Miranda and Xavier Cugat in Hollywood Musicals during the Good Neighbor Policy”

2:45-3:00: Closing Remarks
Area Teachers Explore Latin American Fiestas
by Gillian Ford and Adriana Sommerville

Last October, the Center of Latin American Studies sponsored a workshop for teachers entitled Latin American Fiestas: A Workshop on Latin American Folk and Popular Holidays, which was attended by over 30 area teachers.

Daniel Grippo, KU lecturer in Latin American Studies began the morning with a presentation on The Religious Meaning(s) of Popular Festivals. The focus of his presentation was on the religious significance of the Day of the Dead, Holy Week, and the Virgin of Guadalupe and how these festivities bridge the religious and the secular in the Latin American culture.

Celia Daniels, KU Instructor of Museum Studies who specializes in ethnographic artifacts, continued the workshop with a presentation entitled, A Fiesta for the Living and the Dead. Celia talked about the importance of Mexico’s Los Días de los Muertos, or The Days of the Dead. The holiday is compared by many to Halloween but is truly a celebration in honor of relatives and friends who have passed away. Families construct altars in their homes dedicated to their deceased loved ones. The altars typically include a picture of the person, candles, flowers, favorite foods and any special personal belongings. It is also common to go to the cemeteries and adorn the gravesites with flowers and then hold a candlelight vigil in honor of the person. To compliment her presentation, Celia created an extensive display of traditional Day of the Dead artifacts, including hand-carved wooden calaveras (skeletons) that are popular with children, as well as papel picado (cut-paper design), wooden toys, candies, and other handmade Mexican crafts.

Celia offered a curriculum for the teachers participating in the workshop which included lessons specific to the Days of the Dead. She also had the participants create their own special handicraft to be used as a model in their own classrooms.

After a short break, University of Maryland Ph.D. student and percussionist Jay Metz gave a fascinating presentation on the religious foundation of festive culture in Brazil. He started with an overview of Catholicism and the origins of Brazilian society. Jay then gave an explanation of folk Catholicism in Brazil, which, he explained, was a result of the combination of Brazil’s great size, relatively few priests, and social diversity, leading to a great variation in the forms in which Catholic faith was expressed and practiced. The participants also learned about Afro-Brazilian history and how it became the largest influence that shaped Carnival into what it is today.

The highlight of Jay’s presentation was a live performance of drums used in samba music and Carnival festivities. He brought in various types of drums and percussion instruments and demonstrated the various rhythms played on each.

The workshop proved to be a valuable experience for all of the teachers who attended and was an enriching experience for everyone. We will certainly continue serving the K-12 teacher community by organizing workshops and conferences that highlight the culture and society of Latin America.

Outreach Resources from The Center of Latin American Studies
The Center of Latin American Studies coordinates an array of outreach activities to support educators. It maintains a lending library of videos, music, and other resources that pertain to Latin America, and has an array of curricula and instructional materials for use by anyone teaching Latin America. The Center also creates study abroad programs for educators at the primary, secondary, and community college levels. These complement a variety of other area resources on the region. A list-serve (AMERICAS-L), which the Center administers, disseminates news and other information that pertains to Latin America. Please contact the center if you would like to add your email address to the list-serve.

website: www.ku.edu/~latamst
email: latamst@ku.edu
Latin Americanist Graduate Students Meet in
Austin, Texas
by Shannon Gorres

Along with 19 other graduate students, undergraduate students, and community members, three graduate students traveled to Texas and presented papers at the XXVIII Annual ILASSA Student Conference on three different panels:

Innovations In Social Policy
La Kuña Guapa: Enterprising Women in Paraguay’s Informal Sector and Their Experiences with Village Banking
Amanda Heter, University of Kansas

Indigeneity and Social Inclusion
We’re Not Just Black: Garifuna Stories of Interethnic Relations in Guatemala
Shannon Gorres, University of Kansas

Re-examining The Cold War
A Journey with Pan-Americanism
Aaron Moulton, University of Kansas

The Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association (ILASSA) hosted its 28th annual conference at the University of Texas, Austin, February 7-9, 2008. This is the oldest student-run academic conference on Latin America in the United States, and it included 23 panels with nearly 100 speakers. Undergraduate and graduate students from Texas and the U.S., as well as Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Puerto Rico, and Japan, presented their research on a wide range of critical topics, including immigration, human rights, social movements, indigenous rights, and social policy.

Lucas Benitez, a farmworker and award-winning human rights activist from the Florida-based Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW), delivered the conference’s opening address at the Thompson Conference Center on UT campus at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 7. For more information on the CIW, visit www.ciw-online.org.

The closing speaker, Dr. Carlos Gaviria, a Colombian lawyer, academic, and former magistrate, closed the conference Saturday afternoon. He was a co-author of Colombia’s 1991 constitution and a presidential candidate in 2006.

50th Anniversary Alumni Reunion
story and photos courtesy of The Jayhawk Planet

From March 6-9, 2008, the Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR) and the University of Kansas (KU) celebrated their historic 50th Anniversary of Academic Cooperation and Exchange. The KU-UCR partnership was initiated in 1958 in an agreement signed by former KU Chancellor, Franklin Murphy and UCR Rector, Rodrigo Facio. It is the oldest inter-university exchange of its kind in the Western Hemisphere.

Throughout its 50-year duration, the commitment to academic cooperation between UCR and KU has been the inspiration for numerous collaborative projects, including research symposia held at one of the participating campuses; short-term research collaborations and student exchange programs between the KU and UCR Schools of Social Welfare, Schools of Journalism, and Anthropology and Biology Departments; and numerous student exchange experiences during the semester and/or academic years. In recent years, the collaboration has expanded to include joint research projects funded by the Universidad de Costa Rica, the CR-USA Foundation of Costa Rica, and the University of Kansas, as well as the Estrategia XXI, a long-term strategic initiative aimed at enhancing education, science, technology, and innovation in all collaborating institutions.

The Universidad de Costa Rica and the University of Kansas commemorated this historic event with a series of events held in San José, Costa Rica. The celebration began on Thursday, March 6 with an Alumni Reunion and activities in honor of the long-standing student exchange agreement between KU and UCR. Following a tour of the UCR campus and a visit to downtown San José, alumni of the program from 1961-2004 and family members joined faculty, administrators, and invited guests from UCR and KU for a dinner at Jürgen’s Restaurant. Presentations were given by Rodolfo Mendez Mata, a native of Costa Rica and alumnus of KU, and Richard Paegelow, a KU alumnus and participant on the KU-UCR exchange program in 1967. Each remembered their experiences fondly, highlighting specifically the

Above: Debbie Bryant and Anita Herzfeld at the KU-UCR 50th Anniversary Reunion
Prestigious Field Grant Enables Student Research
by Elizabeth Kuznesof

The Center of Latin American Studies is the proud recipient of a prestigious grant from the Tinker Foundation to fund graduate student research in Latin America, Spain and Portugal for the years 2008-2010. The grant from Tinker is divided into $10,000 per year, requiring a 1:1 match in unrestricted funds, which the College of Arts and Sciences and the Office of Research and Graduate Studies are providing. Thus, over the next three years, a total of $60,000 will be distributed to approximately 20 students per year, with no grant exceeding $2,500. Grants are limited to travel expenses and do not include money for administrative or indirect costs. In addition the Center for International Business Education (CIBER) is providing some funds for business-related projects and the Museum of Natural History has promised to match grants made to students associated with the Museum.

The Tinker Foundation Grant was awarded to the Center of Latin American Studies from 1996-1998 and again from 2001-2004. In each grant period approximately 60 graduate students were funded for short-term research abroad. These funds gave students an opportunity to develop superior research proposals for external funding based on their time in the field. Tinker recipients often work in the field with faculty sponsors or participate in projects related to public health, conservation, microfinance or education. Project sites range from the Southern Cone to the Caribbean Islands, and from various countries in Central America to the border regions of Mexico. The proposals came from the Professional Schools, the Museum of Natural History, the Sciences, the Social Sciences and the Humanities.

Our past experience with Tinker Field Research Grants makes it clear that the opportunity to spend time in the field making contacts and learning of research opportunities is a life-transforming experience and often leads to a life of dedication to Latin American and Iberian issues. A list of this year’s recipients, projects, and country of research follows.

Michael Anderson, Southern Cone Biological Inventorying: Providing a tool for conservation workers, Argentina/Chile
Grant Blanchon, Perceptions of a Tlapanec Enclave: The Iliatenco-Lawrence Relationship, Mexico
Ian Carrillo, Assessing the Impact of Compartamos on its Clientele in Cuernavaca, Mexico, Mexico
Rebecca Crosthwait, Preliminary Investigation: Veracruzano Maritime Industry Migrants, Mexico
Pedro Dos Santos, Following the Money: The Impact of Campaign Finance on Legislative Behavior, Brazil
Gillian Ford, An Inquiry into the Survival Strategies of the Women of Colón, Panama
Audrey Fusco, Market Reformations and Food Provisioning in Cuba, Cuba

Above: A photo from Audrey Fusco’s work on sustainable agriculture in Cuba.

Maria José García Otero, The Influence of Territorial and Monetary gains in Gonzalo de Berceo’s “Vida de Santo Domingo de Silos”, Spain
Andrew Hilburn, Waste Management in Rural Indigenous Communities in Southern Mexico, Mexico
Peter Hosner, An Ornithological Inventory of the Gran Pajonal, Peru, Peru
John Kelly, Village-level Control of Natural Resources in Post-PROCEDE Indigenous Mexico, Mexico
Pedro Mateo, Studying the Acquisition of Split Ergativity and Training a Q’anjob’al Speaker to do Transcriptions, Guatemala
Aaron Moulton, Examining the Relationship between Colonial Elites and their Illegitimate Children in Brazil, Brazil
Carola Lucía Ramírez Castello, Cultural Expressions of Afro Peruvian Communities on the Coast of Peru: Identity and Changes, Peru
Aida Ramos Viera, Environmental Transformation of the Indigenous Tének Landscape by Neoliberal Property Regime Reforms, Mexico
Lisa Rausch, Understanding the Relationship between Migration and Soybean Cultivation in North Mato Grosso, Brazil, Brazil
Erika Sandoval, The New Slavery: Guatemalan Migrant Workers on the Riviera Maya, Mexico
Megan Thornton, Filmic Representations of Nicaraguan (Im)migrant Experiences in Costa Rica, Costa Rica
Ariane Tulloch, Constructions of Blackness in Costa Chica, Mexico, Mexico
Kendall Whitney, Hip Hop, Cuban Street Art of the “Second Revolution,” Cuba
Richard Williams, Sampling Wild Birds for Zoonotic Diseases in Peru, Peru
KU Faculty Awarded Grants to Conduct Research Abroad

story courtesy of University Relations
by Alison Watkins

Three faculty members at the University of Kansas have won Fulbright Senior Scholar Awards for the 2008-09 academic year.

Omofolebo Ajayi-Soyinka, associate professor in the Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies Program and the Department of Theatre and Film, has received a Fulbright grant to teach and conduct research in Senegal. She will be affiliated for the academic year with the University of Gaston-Berger in St. Louis, where she will teach a course titled Global Narratives: Cultural Representations in American Literature, which will emphasize issues of religion, gender and ethnicity/migration in various literary works. The title of Ajayi-Soyinka’s research project is “Gender Relationships and the Challenges of Global Evangelism in Lebou Communities, Senegal.” For her interview-based research, she will focus on religion and investigate the impact of global forces on gender relations, especially the empowerment of women in contemporary Lebou communities.

John Head, professor of law, received a Fulbright Distinguished Chair Award to teach and conduct research at the University of Trento in northern Italy. During the spring semester, Head will teach a course to graduate law students on international economic law and institutions, one of his specialties as a legal scholar. He also will give several lectures on Chinese dynastic law. This is Head’s second Fulbright award; he went to China in 1994.

Laura Herlihy, lecturer in Latin American studies, has received a Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Program grant to conduct research in Mexico. The grant is administered by the International Education Programs Service of the U.S. Department of Education. Herlihy’s research examines the social and political status of indigenous Zapotec women in Oaxaca’s Sierra Norte. Her main research question asks how the traditional practices and customs of Ixtlan de Juarez, an autonomous township that is governed by Mexican customary law, impact Zapotec women’s access to social justice and political leadership. Herlihy will partner with a team of Zapotec women to interview and collect oral histories from 60 Zapotec women.

The Fulbright Scholar Program is designed to increase mutual understanding between the people of the United States and the people of other countries. It was established in 1946 under legislation introduced by Sen. J. William Fulbright of Arkansas. The program is sponsored by the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and is administered by the Council for International Exchange of Scholars in Washington, D.C. KU’s International Programs coordinates all the Fulbright programs at the university. More than 283 KU faculty members have received Fulbright grants.

(from 50th Anniversary page 8) transformative power of international exchange in their personal lives and professional careers.

On Friday, March 7, the Universidad de Costa Rica hosted the official opening ceremonies of the 50th Anniversary Celebration. Held at the Ciudad de la Investigación, events included reflections by Jeff Weinberg, Assistant to the Chancellor (KU) and Rector Yamileth González García (UCR) on the history and future of the academic partnership between KU and UCR, an exchange of award-winning artistic works, a baroque music ensemble performed by faculty of both institutions, and the official signing of the renewed Agreement on Cultural and Academic Exchange. The evening ended with food, drink, music and dancing, as colleagues forged new relationships and renewed old friendships.

On Saturday, March 9, the University of Kansas hosted a series of academic panels highlighting the history of the UCR-KU relationship and the collaborative initiatives of the future. Charley Stansifer, María Eugenia Bozzoli, and Anita Herzfeld, key leaders in the organization of the student exchange program between KU and UCR, opened the day with a history of the Kansas / Costa Rica partnership, noting roots extending back to the late 19th century. Faculty of KU and UCR next presented summaries of their collaborative research initiatives, including projects in the areas of Education, Anthropology, Archaeology, and Biology. The day concluded with a presentation on the Estrategia XXI by Gabriel Macaya, former Rector of the UCR, and Alejandrina Mata Segreda, the current Vice Minister of Public Education in Costa Rica. Macaya and Mata Segreda addressed the current context of Costa Rica and the important role that international partnerships will play in the country’s future educational development. The 50th Anniversary Celebration concluded with a brunch held at the Costa Rica Marriott on Sunday, March 9.

Above: KU Professors Emeritus Charles Stansifer and Bob McColl at the KU-UCR 50th Anniversary Reunion
The Center of Latin American Studies, together with the Departments of Spanish and Portuguese, Geography, Political Science, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences hosted the Sixteenth Annual Waggoner Research Colloquium on November 9, 2007. The theme of this year’s event was “The Contradictions of Contemporary Brazil: Culture, Politics, Environment,” and featured presentations from an interdisciplinary panel of KU professors.

The Colloquium was founded in honor of George R. Waggoner, former Dean of the College of Liberal Arts, in recognition for his contribution to the development of the relationship between KU and Latin America. The Center was honored to have Barbara Waggoner, wife of the late Dr. Waggoner, in attendance.

Elizabeth Kuznesof, Professor of History and Director for the Center of Latin American Studies, moderated the event that was held in the Malott Room of the Kansas Union. J. Christopher Brown (Geography and Environmental Studies) kicked off the presentations with his talk “Food, Fuel and Forest: Energy and Environment in Brazil.” He was followed by Gary Reich (Political Science and International Studies) who presented “Proselytizing Politics: The Brazilian Evangelical Movement.” Paul Sneed (Spanish and Portuguese) wrapped up the event with his presentation “Funk and the Culture of Crime in Brazil.”

After Kuznesof closed the colloquium, a reception with wine and hors d’oeuvre gave the panel presenters and guests the opportunity to mingle and discuss the issues presented throughout the event.
First Stansifer Fellowship Awarded
by Elizabeth Kuznesof

Latin American Studies is pleased to announce that James W. Herynk has been awarded the Stansifer Fellowship for 2008-2009. James Herynk is a Ph.D student in Anthropology whose research focuses on the biocultural causes and consequences of chronic anemia in a Guatemalan Mayan village. The project crosses the areas of medical and cultural anthropology. Herynk is working with Professors John Janzen and Brent Metz.

The Stansifer fund was endowed by Professor Emeritus Charles Stansifer for the support of graduate students planning to complete a doctorate in the study of Middle America (defined as Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean.) Priority is to be given first to students of Central America (Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Belize, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, or Panama) second to Mexico, third to the Caribbean, and fourth to students of relations between the United States and any Middle American country. Graduate students from any department in the College of Arts and Sciences are eligible. The award will depend upon the interest from the endowment but will not exceed $4000 per year. A student may hold the fellowship in succeeding years, at the discretion of the committee.

Local Teachers Experience Latin American Song and Dance
by Gillian Ford and Adriana Sommerville

On Saturday, April 26, more than thirty local educators gathered at Bailey Hall to attend Latin American Music and Images, a workshop hosted by the Center of Latin American Studies.

Area teachers were treated to breakfast, followed by two presentations by KU PhD student of Music and Dance, Mirna Cabrera, and licensed teacher and dance instructor, Sara Moraille. Cabrera began with “Latin American Traditional Children’s Songs and Games,” and Moraille continued with “The Movement: Enriching Curriculum through Dance.” Cabrera presented elementary appropriate skills and activities while Moraille did the same for junior high and high school age, and then taught those in attendance how to dance the merengue, all skills that the teachers could then put to use in their own classrooms. One workshop participant said of Moraille’s presentation, “Seeing a professional teacher competent in using music so perfectly was a real treat that opened my eyes to the possibilities and intrinsic value of this technique.”

The day continued with presentations by Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad to Argentina participants Amy Culey, Jeanie Louden Unger, Regina Winemiller, Kasey Stadler, and Randy Kirkpatrick. These educators made up part of a group of fourteen that traveled to Argentina last summer to study the country’s education system. There they experienced daily life in Argentina through lectures and visits to schools and childhood institutions and brought back experience and skills with which to create their own lesson plans. These lesson plans were shared at the workshop and offered area educators diverse classroom ideas, including a photocultural writers’ workshop in which students exercise writing skills based on a visual image; an exploration of Argentine, U.S., and native cultures based on 12

(see Music and Images page 18)
The AGS Bowman Expeditions Prototype: Digital Geography of Indigenous Mexico
by P.H. Herlihy, J.E. Dobson, M. Aguilar Robledo, D.A. Smith, J.H. Kelly, A. Ramos V., and A.M. Hilburn

This first Bowman Expedition, called Mexico Indigena (MI), reinforces the American Geographical Society’s (AGS) mission to inform the public and the United States government about world regional geography. Recalling a past when government sponsors supported geographic scholarship abroad, the modern AGS expeditions are named in honor of geographer and former AGS director Isaiah Bowman. Their goal is to foster international understanding through place-based field research in foreign regions. The prototype expedition to Mexico, led by KU geographer and Associate Director of Latin American Studies, Peter Herlihy, and a team of Latin Americanist geographers, is studying indigenous land tenure, focusing on the Mexico’s gargantuan neoliberal land reform program that allows for the conversion of communal lands from social to private property. The prototype developed a multi-scale geographic information systems (GIS) database through traditional field and archival research combined with participatory research mapping (PRM), aiming at a digital regional geography of indigenous Mexico.

Check out our results and details from the prototype on the MI teams’ ESRI Award Winning Website to experiment with the digital regional geography, or so-called human terrain, featuring GoogleEarth and interactive GIS online at http://web.ku.edu/~mexind/index.htm.

Above: México Indígena team members found GIS work enriched by their “dirty boots” understandings of the study communities; Carleton University geographer (Ph.D. KU, 2003) Derek A. Smith and KU Geography Ph.D. candidate John H. Kelly (center left and right) process data into the GIS database with KU Ph.D. student Aida Ramos V. (far left), and undergraduate Martha Elena Ramirez Espinosa (right) and assistant (back) from the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosí (Photograph Herlihy, 2005).

Below: MI team on a previously undocumented pyramid that they mapped with indigenous Zapotec community members in Oaxaca, Mexico. Unlabeled MI teamers are Carleton Professor and KU Ph.D. Derek Smith (far left), KU Ph.D. student Andy Hilburn (far right), and Peter Herlihy (center) with local investigators and students and faculty from the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosí (Photography México Indígena, 2007).
Faculty Announcements

Giselle Anatol (English) participated in the Nuestra América in the US? A Latino/a Studies Conference at KU this Spring; she presented a paper entitled “The Drowning Dominicana: Racial and Ethnic Identification in Angie Cruz’s Soledad.” In May, she will speak on Elizabeth Nunez’s novel Prospero’s Daughter at the Association of Caribbean Women Writers and Scholars Conference in Grenada. Anatol continues to work in the field of children’s literature as well: her proposal for a new edited collection on the Harry Potter series—Reading Harry Potter Again: New Critical Essays—has been accepted for publication by Praeger Press.

Danny Anderson, (Spanish and Portuguese), Associate Dean for Interdisciplinary Programs and Area Studies Centers in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has been appointed as the Vice Provost for Academic Affairs at the University of Kansas, effective June 1, 2008. He published the article “El futuro neolíbico y la utopía perdida en Lejos del Paraíso de Sandro Cohen,” Symposium 61.1 (2007) and has a chapter in the forthcoming volume Mexico: Reading the United States, edited by Linda Egan and Mary K. Long (Vanderbilt University Press). An electronic gallery of his recent Spanish through Service Learning class can now be viewed through the Center for Teaching Excellence website at http://www.cte.ku.edu/teachingInnovations/gallery/servicelearning/anderson.

Chris Brown (Geography) traveled to Brazil in October of 2007 to present his research on Amazonian soybean expansion to EMBRAPA (equivalent of the USDA) and CONAB (Brazil’s Agricultural Statistics agency) in Brasília and to researchers at the Agricultural Engineering School of UNICAMP (State University of Campinas) in Campinas, São Paulo. Brazilian researchers at EMBRAPA and UNICAMP are working with Chris to submit a research proposal to CONAB to fund student exchanges as well as GIS and satellite remote sensing workshops designed to increase agricultural monitoring efforts in the Amazon. Chris’s recent publications include: “NGOs and ongoing changes in Latin American society” in Placing Latin America, and co-authorship in “Agricultural intensification on Brazil’s soybean frontier in southern Rondônia” in Land Change Science in the Tropics, “Who gives, who receives, and who wins? Transforming capital into political change through non-governmental organizations,” in Comparative Political Studies, “Multi-temporal, moderate spatial resolution remote sensing of modern agricultural production and land modification in the Brazilian Amazon,” in GIScience and Remote Sensing, “Using MODIS to detect cropping frequency variation in mechanized agriculture in Amazonia,” in Anais XIII Simpósio Brasileiro de Sensoriamento Remoto, and “Promoting and preventing political change through internationally-funded NGO activity,” in Latin American Research Review.

Ben Chappell (American Studies) presented papers at the Nuestra América in the US conference at KU, the American Seminar of the Hall Center for the Humanities, and the 17th annual Kansas State University Cultural Studies Conference. In March he joined a roundtable discussion of researchers working on Mexican American lowriders at the National Association of Chicana and Chicano Studies annual meeting in Austin, Texas. Chappell delivered invited lectures at Bethel College and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and will present a paper in late May at the Cultural Studies Association annual meeting in New York. Chappell and his ethnographic research on lowriders were featured in the short documentary “Anthropology: Looking at the Human Condition,” which aired on the History International channel in February and is included as supplemental material in the DVD box set “The Young Indiana Jones Chronicles - volume 3” from Lucasfilm. His essay “Lowrider Style: Cultural Politics and the Poetics of Scale” appeared in Cultural Studies: An Anthology from Blackwell.

Michael Crawford (Anthropology) gave an invited plenary address, November 16th at the Juan Comas International Association meeting in St. Cristobal, Chiapas, Mexico. The address was entitled: “Peopling of the Americas: Aleutian Archipelago Perspective.” This presentation was sponsored by the Programa de Visitas de Profesores Distinguidos, Academia Mexicana de Ciencias and Fundacion Mexico-US. While in Mexico, Crawford also gave an invited short course on Anthropological Genetics (based on his recently published volume) at the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico City, November 20-24, 2008. The participants (approximately 50) were drawn not only from UNAM but the Politecnico University of Mexico City.

Last year, Crawford initiated two new research programs that involve Mexico and Central America. Through the support of an International Studies grant, a joint KU-UCR research program on the genetic structure of indigenous populations of Central America and the peopling of the region was developed. Under this program, researchers from the Laboratory of Biological Anthropology (LBA), doctoral candidates Phil Melton and Norberto Baldi Salas, conducted field investigations with the Rama people of Nicaragua. In addition, a memorandum of agreement was signed between the University of Chihuahua, Public Health of Chihuahua and Texas and the International Consortium for the Study of Tuberculosis (ICST) for a study of genetic susceptibility to tuberculosis in Mestizos and Tarahumara native people of Chihuahua, Mexico. This summer, Bart Dean and M.J. Mosher of the Department of Anthropology, will conduct a pilot study on the effects of nutrition on susceptibility to strains of tuberculosis.

Gregory Cushman (History) spent fall 2007 in Hungary on a Fulbright scholarship. He taught courses in environmental history and ethics at Europe’s oldest school for advanced
studies in agriculture, the Georgikon Faculty of Agriculture, Pannonia University, in Keszthely. A biography of Cuban Jesuit scientist Benito Viñes just appeared in the *New Dictionary of Scientific Biography*. Viñes was the world’s foremost authority on hurricanes and tropical cyclones at the end of the nineteenth century. He is also one of the few Latin American scientists to appear in this key reference work in the history of science and technology.

**Stuart Day (Spanish and Portuguese)** will spend part of the summer in Mexico and Argentina conducting research and presenting work related to his current project on performance and public intellectuals. Among his recent publications is a chapter on Mexican playwright Vicente Leñero, the basis of which was Stuart’s Waggoner Colloquium presentation in 2005. Stuart recently completed his first year as Editor of the *Latin American Theatre Review*, which was founded by KU Professor Emeritus George Woodyard in 1967.

**Tamara Falicov (Theater and Film)** published “Hollywood in Latin America: How Mexico and Argentina Cope and Cooperate with the Behemoth of the North” in Janet Wasko and Paul McDonald, eds., *The Contemporary Hollywood Film Industry*, Blackwell Publishers, and two short entries for the U.S.-Mexican Border: *An Encyclopedia of Culture and Politics*. Spring semester she attended the following conferences: The Society for Cinema and Media Studies, where she presented a paper on the Ibero-American co-production fund Ibermedia and served as a respondent on a panel about contemporary Brazilian film and television production. Falicov was invited to a small conference composed of Brazilian and U.S. communication scholars who met at Tulane University. She presented a paper on Hollywood’s involvement in the Argentine and Mexican film industries. Falicov will give a presentation on Hemingway represented through Cuban cinema at the 13th Biennial International Hemingway Conference in Kansas City, MO in early June.

**Ruben Flores (American Studies)** has been awarded fellowships from the Institute of Historical Studies at UT Austin and the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution to write his book manuscript during the 2008-9 academic year. He is at work on a historical study that explores the influence of Mexico’s post-revolutionary integration projects on the American civil rights movement in the 1930s and 40s. He and his family will be in Austin for the year beginning in August 2008.


**John Head (Law)** presented a two-week short-course for graduate law students at the Anahuac University of Xalapa in October 2007. The course addressed issues of international financial law and institutions. Head has taught at Xalapa (or Veracruz) before, under the auspices of a cooperation agreement put in place a few years ago. Head also recently had published two books with some pertinence to Latin American law and economics: *General Principles of Business and Economic Law* (Carolina Academic Press 2008) and *Losing the Global Development War* (Nijhoff/Brill 2008).


**Peter Herlihy (Geography and Associate Director, Center of Latin American Studies)** will lead the final charge of the México Indígena (MI) research team immortals in their concluding field season (July-Dec 2008) on the award-winning American Geographical Society (AGS) Bowman Expedition prototype in Mexico, creating the first “digital regional geography” or so-called “human terrain” of indigenous Mexico. The MI team authored a review article on the expedition and concept for the forthcoming July 2008 issue of the prestigious journal *Geographical Review*.
The Council of the American Geographical Society has just officially recognized Peter as the Society’s First “Bowman Scholar” in recognition of his distinguished field research in Latin America. Peter will be on sabbatical leave as a Visiting Professor of Geography at the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosí as he works with the international MI team to finish field work among indigenous communities in Oaxaca and San Luis Potosí (see story on page 13 for details). He will return to his duties in the Center again next January.

Anita Herzfeld (Latin American Studies) was honored at the 50th Anniversary of Academic Cooperation and Exchange between the Universidad de Costa Rica and the University of Kansas for her key leadership role in the organization of the exchange program. Herzfeld was director of the KU-CR exchange program from 1968 to 1970 and in 1975 and continued to be involved in its organization from her position as Director of the Office of Study Abroad from 1971 until 1985. The 50th Anniversary event was held from March 6-9, 2008 in San José, Costa Rica, during which Herzfeld gave a speech entitled, “Memories are made of this...” Herzfeld presented a paper, “¿Qué prefieres Ud.: El castellano o el guaraní?,” at the 61st Annual Kentucky Foreign Language Conference at the University of Kentucky in April of 2008. She has also had a number of articles accepted for publication. To be published in Spain and edited by Azucena Palacios are: “Assessing Ethnolinguistic Vitality: Contact and Conflict between Limonese Creole and Spanish in Costa Rica,” “Un encuentro trilingüe y su consecuencia lingüística,” and “Criollos en contacto con el español en Centroamérica.” Herzfeld will also see “La política lingüística y la planificación lingüística: del nacionalismo a la globalización,” published in Germany and edited by Silke Janzen and Haralambos Symeonidis and “La criollística en el Siglo XXI: Los criollos centroamericanos,” published in Mexico and edited by Luz María Martínez Montiel.


Brent Metz (Anthropology) presented “When Our Subjects Come Knocking at the Door,” at the KU Latin Studies conference “Nuestra America?” in February, and “Racial Ideologies in the Ch’ortí’ Area,” at the “First Conference on Ethnicity, Race, and Indigenous Peoples in Latin America and the Caribbean” at the University of California, San Diego, on May 23, 2008.

Tony Rosenthal (History) won the Ned N. Fleming Trust Award recognizing distinguished teaching, scholarship and service.

Antônio Simões (Spanish and Portuguese) published two books and expects to conclude a third one this year. One of the books, Pronouncing Brazilian Portuguese, (LinguaText 2007) was co-authored with Richard Teschner, from the University of Texas at El Paso. The second, Pois não (UT Press 2008) is a textbook and a scholarly book, which contrasts Spanish and Portuguese, a sequel to Simões’ similar book, Com Licença! Simões is working on the final stages of a book to teach Brazilian Portuguese to advanced students, which uses Brazilian Popular Music as one of its main characteristics. It is scheduled to be published in 2009 with Georgetown University Press. He also presented a paper at the Hispanic Linguistics Conference, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Finally, he was honored to have been given the Cramer Award for research this last spring. Simões will be directing the KU Summer Institute in Barcelona and will be on a visiting professorship assignment during academic year 2008-09 in West Point, New York.

Paul Sneed (Spanish and Portuguese) published the article, “Bandidos de Cristo: Representations of the Power of Criminal Faction’s in Rio’s Proibidão Funk.” He presented
two scholarly papers, one on the representations of a new drug gang in the funk music of Rocinha, a favela, or squatter town, in Rio de Janeiro, for the meeting of LASA in Montreal, Canada in 2007. He also presented a paper on the use and meaning of portrayals of violence in the cultural and rhetorical contexts of Brazilian funk music at the conference of BRASA in March 2008. Sneed’s article, “Favela Utopias: The Bailes Funk in Rio’s Crisis of Social Exclusion and Violence,” will appear in the Latin American Research Review in June 2008.

Vicky Unruh (Spanish and Portuguese) is completing the co-edited critical collection Telling Ruins in Latin America (with Michael J. Lazzara) for publication by Palgrave/MacMillan. This volume addresses the cultural debates generated by (primarily) urban ruins in turn-of-the-millennium Latin American literature, architecture, visual arts, theatre, and dance. The co-editors ran a special session at the 2007 LASA congress in Montreal on this volume. Unruh’s piece in the collection examines urban ruins in contemporary Havana. At LASA Unruh also delivered a paper on tourism in recent Latin American theatre, which she is currently expanding for publication in a special issue of Studies in Twentieth and Twenty-First Century Literature dedicated to “Theater and Performance in Nuestra América.”

Ketty Wong (Ethnomusicology) presented two scholarly papers: one at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Ethnomusicology in Columbus, November 2007 (“Reminding and Materializing the Ecuadorian Nation in Madrid”), and the other at the Biannual Meeting of the International Association of Popular Musics in Mexico City, June 2007 (“The Tecnocumbia Boom in Ecuador”). In June 2007, she was invited to present a series of conferences on Ecuadorian art and popular music in the Fundación Filarmónica Casa de la Música and the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) in Quito. She contributed a series of entries on Ecuadorian popular music to the Latin American Music volume of the Encyclopedia of Popular Musics of the World (EPMOW). With a KU New Faculty Grant, she will conduct fieldwork research this summer in Spain to study the effects of the international migration in Ecuadorians’ perception of their national identity.

The Center Recognizes Faculty Accomplishments

Elizabeth MacGonagle (History) was awarded the 2007 ING Excellence in Teaching Award (Formerly the TIAA-CREF Award). This award recognizes outstanding teaching on the Lawrence campus and carries a cash prize of $1,000. She accepted her check at the Sept. 15 football game.

Anton Rosenthal (History) received the Ned N. Fleming Trust Award, which recognizes distinguished teaching, scholarship and service and carries a $5,000 cash prize. The fund for this award was established in 1990 by the estate of the late Ned N. Fleming, chief executive officer and honorary chair of the board of Fleming Cos. of Topeka.

Lee Skinner (Spanish and Portuguese) was honored last August when a “surprise patrol” led by Chancellor Robert Hemenway and Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Richard Lariviere presented her with $5,000 W.T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence award. The Kemper fellowships recognize outstanding teachers and advisers at KU as determined by a seven-member selection committee. Now in their 12th year, the awards are supported by $650,000 in gifts from the William T. Kemper Foundation (Commerce Bank, trustee) and $650,000 in matching funds from KU Endowment. Skinner receives the good news below.
Graduating Master’s Students

Grant Blanchon graduates Summer 2008 with his thesis, “Household and Adaptation: Migration in the Iliatenco-Lawrence Connection.” He plans on relocating to Austin or San Antonio where he hopes to teach or work with immigrants.


Amanda Heter graduated Spring 2008 with her thesis, “Enterprising Women and Village Banking in Urban Paraguay: Current impacts and future implications for social change.” This summer Amanda will continue working with her thesis advisor, Business Professor Melissa Birch, on the data she collected while doing field research in Paraguay. She will also be job-hunting for a position either with a non-profit organization working in Latin America or with the Latino community, or as an advisor in a Center of Latin American Studies. Amanda is pictured below with her advisor, Melissa Birch (Business).


Melissa Velazquez graduated Spring 2008 with her thesis, “Formalization of Housing in San José, Costa Rica: A community pathway to legal incorporation.” She will be starting a new job with the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging, a non-profit organization meeting the physical needs of those in poverty and working in community development abroad. She will be based in Kansas City but be doing a fair amount of traveling in order to work with her organization’s Latin American projects. Melissa is pictured below with her advisor, Peter Herlihy (Geography).

Congratualtions Graduates!

(from Music and Images page 12)

the analysis of Argentine legends; and a listening, reading, and translation exercise based on fairy tales and fables. Feedback from the experience was highly complimentary, with the overwhelming sentiment regarding what participants wanted at the end of the day succinctly and enthusiastically summed up by one attendee: “More!”

At right: Workshop attendees learn a dance at the Latin American Music and Images Workshop.
Latin American Studies Undergraduates Win Scholarship
by Shannon Gorres

Congrats to Clarice Amorim and Kerrie Emig, who have been selected from the Latin American Studies Department to receive Harley S. Nelson Scholarships for 2008-2009. The scholarship is awarded for excellence, without regard to need. Recipients must have a grade point average of at least 3.0 and 3.5 in the major. The Harley Nelson family, through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, provides the Scholarship worth $1,200.

Clarice Amorim is a superbly engaged student of Latin American Studies: an excellent and conscientious student, a member of the Dean’s Scholar Program, and extremely involved in extra-curricular activities concerned with Brazil and Latin America. She stands out as a student in subjects from History of Art to Economics. While Clarice is very much a Brazilian, she is also an unusual Brazilian. She is highly self-aware, unusually mature, and globally conscientious. With a broad perspective and hopeful attitude, Clarice believes that deep study and interdisciplinary analysis of the complexity of the region are keys to building democracies of real development and social justice. Clarice already combines her studies and her passion for bettering our world through her participation in KU UNICEF and BRASA (Brazilian Student Association).

Kerrie was also rated one of the top students screened by a sub-committee in Latin American Studies for the Nelson Scholarship. This year Kerrie was attending a study abroad program called “Mexico Solidarity.” It was a great eye opener for her to experience Chiapas and the social issues that the region is struggling through, as well as a great opportunity to improve her Spanish. She also visited the maquilas on the border, and we hope to hear about her experiences when she returns. Look for her name on the list of presenters in our weekly Merienda series!

Fall 2008 KULAC Courses Will Explore Religion, Gender and Culture

KULAC Language Across the Curriculum (KULAC) courses are conducted entirely in Spanish, although some readings will be in English, and students have the option of writing papers and taking tests in Spanish or English.

Religion and Social Change in Latin America will be offered in the fall through the Center of Latin American Studies by Shannon Gorres, MA Student in Latin American Studies. The course will examine a variety of religious practices from pre-colonial times to the present, with special emphasis on indigenous cosmovision and African beliefs. Students will discover how religion has been integrated in the domination and resistance of Latin American societies. The class will study the relation between the Catholic Church and the Spanish crown, independent nations, and the effects of liberation theology. Recent Evangelical, Protestant, and Pentecostal movements will also be explored, as well as the revitalization of indigenous religious practices.

Gender and Culture in Mexico and Central America will explore gendered cultural representations and how gender has influenced cultural production in Mexico and Central America since the early twentieth century. Of particular interest will be how gender intersects with expressions of indigeneity. A chronological approach to texts from the region will not only demonstrate the presence of cultural exchange and differences among the distinct countries of Mexico and Central America, but will also allow students to examine how gendered cultural representation and production have evolved over a century of revolutions, political oppression, neoliberal economic policies and migration. Texts will be in Spanish and English and will be derived from “high,” popular, and mass cultures.
Spring 2008 Merienda Brown-Bag 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 to find a schedule for Fall 2008, see the Center’s website at www.ku.edu/~latamst.

Jan. 31 “U.S. Military Interference in Latin America and the Struggle to Halt It.” Shona Clarkson, Conor Brown, and Ashley Depenbusch, KU Undergraduates

Feb. 7 “The Acquisition of Mayan Languages.” Pedro Mateo, PhD candidate, Linguistics

Feb. 14 “Rocinha: At Home on the Big Hill: Rocinha: Em Casa no Morrão.” Paul Sneed, Assistant Professor, Spanish and Portuguese

Feb. 21 “I’m Mexican, the Upper-Echelon: Discrimination and Resistance Strategies Among Three Generations of Mexican Americans.” Jessica Vasquez, Assistant Professor, Sociology

Feb. 28 “Adventures in the Search for Universal Grammar: Three Mayan Languages in Mexico and Guatemala.” Clifton Pye, Associate Professor, Linguistics

Mar. 6 “Cocaine and Roses: Thorny Issues in Colombia and Ecuador.” Max Paley, Undergraduate, Latin American Studies

Mar. 13 “Locating Indigenous Media: The Case of Dulce Conivencia/Sweet Gathering.” Laurel Smith, Assistant Professor, Geography, University of Oklahoma and Filoteo Gómez Martínez, Independent Documentary Filmmaker

Mar. 27 “Globalization and Gender?: The Case of Post-Pinochet Chile.” Eve Clark, Lecturer, Sociology

Apr. 3 “Urbanization, demographic change, but mostly forests and land use in the Sierra Mixe, Oaxaca, Mexico.” Andy Hilburn, PhD candidate, Geography

Apr. 10 “The Argentine Financial Crisis and autogestión: A Report from the First International Meeting on Workers’ Self-Management.” Scott Pinkelman, Undergraduate, Latin American Studies

Apr. 17 “Cowboys and Mexicans: Movies, History, and Culture in Y tu mamá también and The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada.” Kirsten Drickey, Graduate student, Spanish and Portuguese

Apr. 24 “Cuba: Agriculture, Sustainability, and the National Program.” Audrey Fusco, Graduate student, Geography

May 1 “Dispatches from Brazil’s Culture Wars: Mandleragem, Musical Nationalism, and the Samba-Chanchadas of Moreira da Silva and Miguel Gustavo (1960-1972).” Jay Metz, Lecturer, History and Latin American Studies

Hall Center Latin American Seminar Series

The Hall Center for the Humanities sponsors ongoing seminars which bring together faculty and graduate students from different departments for interdisciplinary dialogue and discussion and to present research. Many of the seminars also invite visiting speakers from other US universities and from overseas. Latin American Seminars take place on the fourth Friday of each month, from 3:30 until 5:00 p.m. Below is a list of the past Spring 2008 Latin American Seminars, and those scheduled for the upcoming Fall 2008 semester follow. Please visit www.hallcenter.ku.edu for more information on events sponsored by the Hall Center.

Spring 2008

Jan. 25 “Vectored Victories: The Rockefeller Foundation’s anti-Yellow Fever Campaign in Mexico’s Tropical Periphery, 1917-1929.” Heather McCrea, History, Kansas State University

Feb. 22 “Adventures in the Search for Universal Grammar: Three Mayan Languages in Mexico and Guatemala.” Clifton Pye, Linguistics, University of Kansas

Mar. 14 “VISUALING Indigenous Geopolitics: A Story about Intellectuals, Organizations, and Other Agencies.” Laurel Smith, Geography, University of Oklahoma

Apr. 14 “The Indian Bullfighter and the Virgin: Sex, Suicide, and Public Outrage in Mexico City, 1908.” Kathy Sloan, History, University of Oklahoma

Apr. 25 “On Location in Cuba: Street Filmmaking in Times of Transition.” Ann Marie Stock, Modern Languages and Literature/Hispanic Studies, College of William and Mary

Fall 2008

Aug. 22 “Damming Sonora: Water, Agriculture, and Environmental Change in Northwest Mexico.” Sterling Evans, Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair, Brandon University, Manitoba, Canada

Sept. 12 “The dawn of ‘sun coffee’ in Central America: technification, Cold War politics, and environmental change, 1950-1990.” Stuart McCook, History, University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada

Sept. 26 “Travel with ‘An Island Called Home: Returning to Jewish Cuba’.” Ruth Behar, Anthropology, University of Michigan

Oct. 24 “From Refugees to Domésticas: Cultivating Central American Subjects in U.S. Media and Film.” Yahaira Padilla, Spanish and Portuguese, University of Kansas
**The Center of Latin American Studies Welcomes New Faculty**

**Santa Arias** will join the Spanish and Portuguese department in the fall and incorporate her interests in colonial Latin American studies and Caribbean literature and culture. Arias received her doctorate from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and will be joining us from Florida State University. She has also taught at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the University of New Mexico.

**Barney Warf** will join the Geography department in the fall and incorporate his interests in political economy, social theory, producer services, financial markets, telecommunications, geography of cyberspace, military spending, and international trade. Warf received his doctorate from the University of Washington and will be joining us from Florida State University. He has also taught at the University of Connecticut and Kent State University.

**Kristine Latta** will become the new Associate Director at the Hall Center for the Humanities. Ms. Latta earned her MA from Princeton University (2002, cultural anthropology), where she is ABD (Ph.D. anticipated Fall 2008). Her BA is from the University of Missouri, Kansas City (anthropology). She also has specialized training in management for the nonprofit sector (Indiana University-Perdue University), fundraising (Association of Fundraising Professionals), and grant development (Grantsmanship Center). Ms Latta’s publications include journal articles on subjects ranging from Amish Culture to Ecuadorian merchants, all in the field of cultural anthropology.

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**For More Information:**

**Educators:** the Center’s website is frequently updated and includes a catalog of our video and CD library, and details about other available instructional materials. Our lending procedures are also described. [http://www.ku.edu/~latamst](http://www.ku.edu/~latamst)

**Students:** Latin American area studies courses are cataloged online. Information about our affiliated faculty is also available. During the school year we post a monthly calendar of campus events related to Latin America.

**Past issues** of the KU Latin Americanist are available on the Center’s website: [http://www.ku.edu/~latamst](http://www.ku.edu/~latamst)

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**The Center Recognizes KU Latin Americanist Accomplishments**

**Promotion to associate professor with tenure:**

**Elizabeth MacGonagle,** History and African and African-American Studies

**Marta Vicente,** History and Women’s Studies
Affiliated Faculty

Omofolabo Ajayi-Soyinka, Theater & Film/Women’s Studies
Giselle Anatol, English
Chris Anderson, Business
Danny Anderson, Spanish & Portuguese
Santa Arias, Spanish & Portuguese
Philipe Barriere, Architecture and Urban Design
Michael Baskett, Theater & Film
Christina Bejarano, Political Science
Melissa Birch, Business
Chris Brown, Geography/Environmental Studies
Marta Caminero-Santangelo, English
Diana Carlin, International Programs
Ben Chappell, American Studies
Talain Chi, Business
Muriel Cohan, Dance
Luis Corteguera, History
Michael Crawford, Anthropology
Greg Cushman, History
Stuart Day, Spanish & Portuguese
Geraldo de Sousa, English
Bart Dean, Anthropology
Rene Diaz, Architecture & Urban Design
Dietrich Earnhart, Economics
Tamara Falicov, Theater & Film
Stephanie Fitzgerald, English
Ruben Flores, American Studies
Ron Francisco, Political Science
Bryant Freeman, African & African American Studies
Jane Gibson, Anthropology
Tanya Golash-Boza, Sociology/American Studies
Manuela Gonzalez-Bueno, Teaching and Leadership
David Graham, Engineering
Michael Greenfield, Biological Science
Shirley Harkness, Sociology
Tanya Hart, American Studies
Tanya Hartman, Art
John Head, Law
Peter Herlihy, Geography
Anita Herzfeld, Latin American Studies
John Hoopes, Anthropology
Shigeru Iwata, Economics
Sheyda Jahanbani, History
William Johnson, Geography
John Kennedy, Political Science
Jana Krentz, SPLAT/Watson Library
Jill Kuhnheim, Spanish & Portuguese
Elizabeth Kuznesof, History/Latin American Studies
Paul Laird, Music and Dance
Linda Lee, Journalism
Thomas Lewin, History
donna luckey, Architecture & Urban Design
Elizabeth MacGonagle, History
Patricia Manning, Spanish & Portuguese
Paul Markham, Education & Instruction
Jonathan Mayhew, Spanish & Portuguese

Judith McCrea, Art
Lewis Mennerick, Sociology
Brent Metz, Anthropology
Felix Moos, Anthropology
Joane Nagel, Sociology
Mehrangiz Najafizadeh, Sociology
Ebenezir Obadare, Sociology
Yajaira Padilla, Spanish & Portuguese
Andrew Townsend Peterson, Biological Sciences
Rosalea Postma-Carttar, Spanish & Portuguese
Catherine Preston, Theater & Film
Clifton Pye, Linguistics
Gary Reich, Political Science/International Studies
Isidro Rivera, Spanish & Portuguese
Fred Rodriguez, Education & Instruction
Carol Rose, Business
Tony Rosenthal, History
Amy Rossonomo, Spanish & Portuguese
Paola Sanguinetti, Architecture Administration
Robert Schwartz, Music and Dance
Antonio Simoes, Spanish & Portuguese
Lee Skinner, Spanish & Portuguese
Paul Sneed, Spanish & Portuguese
Jorge Soberon, Natural History Museum
Michael Swann, Architecture & Urban Planning
Orley Taylor, Biological Sciences
Valery Terwilliger, Geography
Barbara Thompson, Special Education
Robert Timm, Natural History Museum/Biological Sciences
Susan Twombly, Teaching and Leadership
Vicky Unruh, Spanish & Portuguese
Jessica Vasquez, Sociology
Maria Velasco, Fine Arts
Marta Vicente, History
Barney L. Warf, Geography
Ted Wilson, History
Jack Winerock, Music and Dance
Ketty Wong, Music and Dance
William Woods, Geography/Environmental Studies
Don Worster, History
Akira Yamamoto, Anthropology

Adjunct Faculty
Laura Herlihy, Latin American Studies
Nina Kinti-Moss, Latin American Studies
Robert Rodriguez, Latin American Studies

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- Organizes teacher workshops to help Kansas educators incorporate Latin American languages and cultures into their classroom curriculum.

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