Inside this issue

Outreach Highlights Cover
From the Director’s Desk P.2
Elections in Paraguay P.3
Undergraduate Student update P.4-6
Faculty Updates P.5-6
Faculty Highlight P.6
Naksa, yang nini Lorena P.7
KU students excel at MOAS P.8-9
UCR professors at world Expo P.9
Merienda Brown Bag Lectures P.10
Outreach Highlights (cont.) P.10
Pan American Seminar P.11
Hall Center Seminars P.12
Our Students P.12
Student Awards P.13
Vamos al futbol! P.13
CLACS P.14
Bienvenidos! P.14
KU and Uruguayan University P.15
Giving LACS P.16

Outreach Highlights Global Environmental Concerns

Joint Outreach Events
By Danika Swanson
LACS Outreach Coordinator

On Saturday, March 9th, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies partnered with the KU Natural History Museum to present: Science Saturday: Insects, Reptiles and Other Animals of Latin America. Despite an ominous storm, a good crowd of 150-200 parents and children turned out to enjoy an afternoon of displays of a variety of reptiles, insects, birds, plants and other specimens from Latin America. Examples of exhibits include specimens from the Botany Department reflecting on the evolution of endemic plants from the Atacama Desert in Chile; drawers of aquatic beetles from Venezuela, and giant water bugs from South America presented by the Entomology department.

In addition, museum tours were led in both English and Spanish. This partnership allowed the Center to reach out to a wider audience, and the bilingual focus drew new visitors to the Museum’s monthly Science Saturday program.

On Saturday, April 6th, we again collaborated with the Natural History Museum, among many other departments to host an Educator Workshop on Global Environmental Concerns. K-14 educators joined us and the other KU area studies centers to learn about how different environmental problems are affecting each region of the world. The workshop, which took place at The Commons on the KU campus, included lectures

Continues on page 10
Welcome to Esteban Masis-González, who has replaced Sydney Stone as our Graduate Assistant in the office. Esteban is a graduate student from Costa Rica working on an MBA, and this newsletter that you are reading is his first! Welcome also to Ellora Sheela Swanson, Danika and Hamsa Stainton’s daughter, born March 15, 2013 (6 lbs. 1 oz., 19 inches). Danika, our outreach coordinator, will be on maternity leave for several weeks to adjust to parenting, but she set up several CLACS events before her great event and we have Gabriel Racca and Esteban working as her back-up so outreach goes on!

Gabriel organized our first celebration of Pan American Day (see his article on this with a list of speakers). Gabriel is also working on developing Pan Am clubs in high schools and community colleges that have interest in participating and we hope that this celebration of Pan Am Day will become an annual event at KU. The idea for these clubs sprang out of our involvement in the Model Organization of American States.

This year Jorge Soberón from EEB has been teaching the MOAS class and the country the group represented last March 25th was México. We paid to participate with some funding from our NRC grant and this year the College and some other donors have generously helped to offset the costs of the student’s travel, which really helps out. On-going events: Chris Brown from Environmental Studies and Peter Herlihy from Geography will be wrapping up the Hall Center Seminar on Latin America and the Environment this spring; next year’s seminar will focus on Social Conflict and Resolution in Latin America and will be organized by Tony Rosenthal in conjunction with Marike Janzen from the Peace and Conflict Studies Program. If you have any ideas for speakers you’d like to see, please get in touch with one of them.

I recently read an article in The Chronicle of Higher Education on the value of double majors, and it is particularly pertinent to this moment at KU and to interdisciplinary fields since changes to the core curriculum should allow students to more easily double-major in the future. In this article (March 15, 2013), Dan Berrett notes that: “Students who major in two fields are more apt than their single-majoring peers to think both integratively and creatively.” The researchers who studied this phenomenon called it “perhaps the most significant trend in the curricular lives of students in the last decade.” These researchers noted two ways in which different groups of students used their double-majors: to either deepen their knowledge across fields in a particular domain or to span their studies and bridge more intellectual distance. Making these connections among fields of study appears to allow students “to generate new ideas and novel theories” -- it stimulates their creative thinking. Let’s keep these results in mind as we encourage students to consider the benefits of a double-major with an international focus, such as Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Creative combinations welcome!

We have our end of the year celebration of Latin American Studies graduates (BAs and MAs) and awards ceremony (Summer Travel Grants, FLAS, and Stansifer Awards) on April 26th 2:00 pm-4:00 pm in the Alderson Auditorium at the Union. All CLACS faculty and graduating students and awardees and their families are invited to this event. We are also planning a year end soccer match and picnic between LACS faculty and students, Saturday May 4th (details in page 13). We continue to work to bring together the community of people with interests in Latin America across the KU campus and in the region. If each one of you engaged one or two more people (on campus and off) and let them know about what’s going on in the Center, our community would certainly grow as well. This summer and fall we will be working on the Tinker and the NRC grants; funding is particularly tight for the latter since this is a US Dept. of Education grant and funding has been reduced. We will be asking you for information and assistance as we do the legwork for these important sources of funding and appreciate your collaboration and support in this process! Please let us know about your activities and ideas!

Saludos cordiales,

Jill

Jill Kuhnheim
Director of the Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies
Elections in Paraguay

By Melissa Birch
Associate Professor
School of Business
Collaboration of Peter Haney and Gabriel Racca

While the US media Spring focused on elections in Venezuela this Spring, Paraguayans went to the polls on April 21 in an election closely watched by observers from Europe and Latin America. The Organization of American States (OAS) had an observer mission in Paraguay since February and fielded more than 55 observers Election Day itself. The OAS mission is led by Costa Rica’s former president and Nobel Laureate Oscar Arias. Also present in the country were 8 election technicians from the EU in March, and the Europeans sent an additional 22 long-term and 52 short-term observers for the election itself. UNASUR, which was not invited to send a delegation by the Paraguayan executive branch, was nevertheless invited by election officials. Its representatives verified electoral rules and monitored the organization of the elections since the end of March. All this attention is due to the peculiar status of Paraguay since the controversial removal from office of its democratically-elected president, Fernando Lugo and his replacement by vice president Federico Franco. Lugo’s election in 2008 was historic: the first time in 60 years that a candidate from a party other than the Colorados won the presidency. His inauguration represented the first time since independence in 1811 that a ruling party peacefully surrendered power to an elected member from the opposition. While the Colorado Party still controlled the legislature, Fernando Lugo, candidate from the Patriotic Alliance for Change, won the presidency by a margin of more than 10 percentage points. His removal from office in a hastily arranged impeachment process was challenged by Mercosur and UNASUR and questioned by the OAS and the EU. Paraguay was suspended from Mercosur and UNASUR pending the return to a head of state democratically elected in free and fair elections. During Paraguay’s interim suspension from Mercosur, Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay voted in favor of integrating Venezuela as a member of the bloc. Paraguay’s vote had previously barred that country from entry. As a result, the conduct of these elections had implications for Paraguay’s future in the international community. While there were eleven official candidates, the front-running four participated in two nationally televised debates in March. After that, two of those candidates combined forces. Efraín Alegre, from the traditional Liberal Party in alliance with a number of smaller progressive parties, has joined forces with UNACE, the conservative party of retired General Lino Oviedo who passed away in February in a helicopter accident. In the end the front runner, Colorado Party candidate Horacio Cartes, a businessman and owner of a Paraguayan soccer team, won by nine percentage points. A newcomer to the Colorado Party, he has no previous political experience. He is, however, familiar with Kansas having completed an internship with Cessna Aircraft Company in Wichita in the 1970s!

Cartes obtained 44.9 % of the votes over Efrain Alegre. Source: El Comercio
Undergraduate Student Update

This Spring, as winter weather lasted longer than anyone expected, students involved with the undergraduate program in Latin American and Caribbean Studies continued to distinguish themselves in the areas of research, language study, and international engagement. Research is one area that has attracted considerable attention recently. In January, Cassandra Osei, a history/Latin American studies double major received an Undergraduate Research Award for a project on Black feminism thought in the United States. Cassie will also be a FLAS fellow for 2013-2014, and she plans to travel to Salvador, Bahia, Brazil for Portuguese language study next Spring. Students doing work in Latin America were numerous enough to have a panel all their own at the University’s Global Scholars Symposium on April 20th. Presenters included Spanish/Anthropology/LACS major Jeff Miller, Journalism/LACS major Sarah Stern, and Human Biology major Ryan House. Jeff presented about his research on grassroots organizing among sex workers in Costa Rica, while Sarah shared her reflections on her photography project in Brazil, which we profiled in the last issue of the Latin Americanist. Ryan’s presentation covered his experiences working with the Centro Ann Sullivan in Lima, Perú, a non-profit organization that helps individuals with developmental disabilities live independently. That Center’s founder, Dr. Liliana Mayo, is a loyal KU alum and is always looking for interns to help with the project. This summer, Speech-Language-Hearing senior Tzara Sidney will be among the Jayhawks working there in collaboration with Profs. Nancy Brady and Holly Storkel on a communication assessment developed at KU.

Language study continues to be another area of strength for our program as we enter the final year of our current FLAS grant. Applications to the fellowship program from students at all levels are up, and this year’s committee struggled to choose from a strong field of candidates. Our three undergraduate Academic Year awardees are Cassandra Osei (LACS Major, Portuguese), Margo Bogossian (Spanish/Journalism major, Portuguese), and Gus Bova (LACS Major, Quichua). Margo will be taking classes in Portuguese here at KU next year, while Gus plans to travel to Ecuador this Fall for the University of Idaho’s Direct Enrollment program with the Pontifica Universidad Católica. LACS major Kate Sopcich, Linguistics major Rebecca Rosenkranz, and Spanish/LACS major Noemi Martinez are our summer undergraduate FLAS fellow this year. Kate will use the fellowship to participate in Prof. Laura Herlihy’s Language and Culture in Nicaragua Program, while Rebecca will head to Guatemala to participate in Tulane University’s summer Kaqchikel program. For her part, Noemi will travel to Brazil for the Tulane/Vanderbilt/Emory Portuguese Language and Brazilian Culture Summer Program. Having come to Kansas years ago from her native Mexico, Noemi is no stranger to the experience of being immersed in an unfamiliar language. With Portuguese under her belt and a summer in Brazil, she will be able to count herself as a true citizen of the hemisphere! Several of our other majors and minors who are not FLAS fellows are headed abroad as well this summer. Hannah Tighe, for example, will be in Costa Rica studying medical Spanish.

A number of Latin American and Caribbean Studies majors and minors are graduating this Spring, including the first group at KU to receive the BA from our Center under the new major requirements. 2013 Graduates will include Emily Carpenter, Ashley, Cotton, Robert “Nick” Johnson, Brett Lathrop, Noemí Martínez, Alex O’Nelio, and Sarah Stern. Graduating minors will include Alissa Anderson, Brianna Dean, Joe Falls, Andrew Haanpaa, Andrew Hartmann, Kaylee Sextro, Bailey Reimer, Christina Rojas, Kaleb Weaver, and Michael Welle. Congratulations to all for your hard work and dedication. And do stay in touch with us as you move on to the next phase of your life.

Speaking of those who have moved on, we recently heard from Jordan Sparrow (12) who has been in Costa Rica teaching English and Portuguese since graduating from KU last May. After working with various programs, he has joined a group of teachers that is offering an entirely new Spanish immersion program in the small town of Barva. The program offers intensive small-group classes and private tutoring along with home stays and volunteer opportunities in a beautiful rural setting near the Barva and Poas...
Brent Metz. PhD. Associate Professor of Anthropology. Along with his graduate teaching assistant Jodi Gentry, led an applied study abroad group of 6 students to eastern Guatemala from January 6 –20. The group teamed up with Engineers Without Borders — Sunflower State Professional Chapter in a water provision and purification project for Ch'orti’ Mayas. In this phase, students and EWB volunteers mapped the existing inadequate water system with GPS and collected water samples to test for contamination. Metz and his PhD student, Meghan Webb, also had an article on changing Maya masculinity accepted for publication. Metz presented at the Society for Latin American & Caribbean Anthropology meetings in March 2013 on how megaprojects (hydroelectric dams, mining, and superhighways) are affecting Ch'orti’s.

Antônio R.M. Simões. Associate Professor, Department of Spanish and Portuguese. Has been working on language prosody (intonation, tone, word stress, rhythm), especially in Spanish and Portuguese. In the last two years, he published two articles, gave four presentations and two workshops on this topic. He has also one article submitted for publication and two accepted ones to appear this year. His research activities are in theoretical and applied areas (Phonetics, Phonology and SLA). He will be on a sabbatical, this coming Fall, to continue his current research work.

Professor Simões is also active in creative writing under the name Roberto Monteiro. Some of his scholarly and creative works are available for free on the internet.

Creative writings:
http://www.simoes.dept.ku.edu/

Tamara Falicov. Associate Professor, Film & Media Studies. Tamara co-chaired a workshop for the Society for Cinema and Media Studies entitled “Contemporary Latin American Cinema's Breakthrough Paradigms for Sustainability: Innovation in Film Finance and Distribution” in March. During October she was an invited roundtable participant to discuss the role of Hubert Bals Funding (Rotterdam Film Festival) on Latin American film financing at the "Nuevas perspectivas sobre la transnacionalidad del cine hispanico” (New Perspectives on Transnational Hispanic Cinema) at the Catholic University of Lueven, Belgium. She published a book chapter called “Argentinean Cinema and the Crisis of Audience.” In The Argentinean Film, edited by Daniela Ingruber and Ursula Prutsch, 207-218. Münster/Berlin/Vienna/Zurich: LIT Verlag, 2012 which was then translated into Spanish by a Colombian (Medellin) cultural online journal: “Cine Argentino y la crisis de la audiencia.” In 2013 she published a book chapter called “Hollywood’s Presence in Latin America: Production Participation to Distribution Dominance.” In Blackwell’s International Encyclopedia of Media Studies: Volume II Media

Pete Haney. Assistant Director & Undergraduate Advisor. Traveled to the Fourth Annual Crime and Popular Culture Conference at Indiana State University in Terra Hauteon September 19th to present “Murder in the Carpa Cubana: Racialized Reporting and the Execution of Chief Red Wing for the Murder of Evangelina Cavazos, 1930-1931.” The paper contrasts the reporting of the English-language press in Texas on the 1931 trial and execution of a man known as “Chief Red Wing” with that of the Spanish-language press, highlighting the racialized and gendered dimensions of newspapers’ portrayals of the sad events and the distinct ways that the newspapers handled the accused man’s claim to Mexican nationality and request for consular protection. On November 17th, he presented "Genre, Heteroglossia, and Audience Participation In A Mexican Immigrant Nightclub Floorshow” at the American Anthropological Association’s annual meeting in San Francisco. Drawing on field recordings of comedy performances at restaurants in Los Angeles, the paper seeks to complicate traditional assumptions about audience behavior in greater Mexican popular theater, arguing that such participation responds to genre and entextualization and may be influenced by the presence of amplified sound. Pete thanks the Unclassified Senate for its support of his visit to Terra Haute.

“Cine Argentino y la crisis de la audiencia.”

Continues on page 6
Luciano Tosta, Assistant Professor of Brazilian Literature and Culture, will be joining the faculty of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese in the fall.

Prof. Tosta has a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and a Master’s degree in Portuguese and Brazilian Studies from Brown University, a Master's degree in Comparative Literature from the State University of Illinois at Buffalo, and a BA and Licenciatura in Letras from the Federal University of Bahia in Brazil.

He has published widely on Brazilian and Brazilian-American literature and culture. His articles have appeared in journals and as book chapters in the United States, Canada, Brazil, and England. He also co-edited the Luso-American Literature anthology published by Rutgers University Press in 2011. He is currently finishing his book manuscript entitled Confluence Narratives in the Literatures of the Americas for submission to a U.S. university press. His academic interests include transnational, postcolonial, and ethnic studies in the Americas, contemporary Brazilian film, Afro-Brazilian art, and Brazilian-American cultural production.

Before KU, Dr. Tosta held a similar position at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He was the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee of the XI BRASA (Brazilian Studies Association) Congress at Illinois and a member of the Executive Board of the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies since its inception. He was also the Portuguese Representative on the Executive Committee of the AATSP (American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese) from 2006 to 2008. His teaching experience include three years at Harvard University, and a year at Boston University and Rhode Island College during graduate school.

He has also taught at Middlebury College's Portuguese language summer program and at the Federal and State Universities of Bahia in Brazil. Dr. Tosta is the proud father of Ana Carolina and Lillian. In his free time he likes to think of himself as a musician and a capoeira enthusiast.

Before leaving the subject of study abroad, we should congratulate the winners of the new Anita Herzfeld Scholarship. Named for the Center’s recently retired and much-revered Undergraduate Director, this scholarship provides a $500 award to an undergraduate who plans on studying in Latin America. This year, our Undergraduate Committee awarded the scholarships to Hannah Lujano (Spanish/GIST major) and Erin Ice (Human Biology/Pre Medicine). As it happens, both will be studying in Prof. Herzfeld’s native Buenos Aires. Future applicants interested in studying elsewhere should not despair, however! And join us in congratulating all of our Finally, we should...
Nicaragua was a country I never thought I would visit. As an undergraduate pursuing degrees in Spanish and International Studies, it was always in my plan to study abroad. After taking a class with Dr. Laura Herlihy on Latin American Culture and Society, I was intrigued by the Miskitu culture off the Nicaraguan coast. After researching the program, I found it suited more needs for my major than I expected.

The program consists of two classes, each three credit hours. The first class is an introduction to the indigenous Miskitu language and the other is a culture-based class focusing on writing independent research papers. Since a majority of my interests lie in gender and globalization, I was thrilled I would be able to direct my own research with local residents in order to write my paper.

Before I knew it, I was thrown into bustling taxis, sleeping in colorful hammocks, dabbling in indigenous dialects, splashing in sparkling coves, and watching fresh coconuts macheted open right before my eyes. For the first week, the group set up camp with host families in Granada on the pacific coast of Nicaragua. The vibrant colors of Spanish Colonial architecture, lively marketplace, and the warmth of our host family made my stay in Granada unforgettable. While in Granada we had several different daily excursions which included touring las isletas de Nicaragua, Laguna de Apoyo (just your average volcanic crater), hiked volan mombacho, and spent the weekend on Ometepe (an island nestled between two volcanoes).

As if Granada wasn’t perfect enough, a week later we boarded a tiny, twelve-person plane for Puerto Cabezas and flew across the country toward the Caribbean Coast. bed and breakfast staffed by smiling Miskitu women who quickly became a part of our Nicaraguan family. Our language classes were held in a sun-filled classroom that overlooked the Caribbean Sea. Despite some initial hesitations regarding the challenges of learning a new language, the Miskitu language came relatively naturally to us. This was largely in part because the language is heavily influenced by English.

Puerto Cabezas is a lively, friendly city. My classmates and I spent our time there practicing the language with our Miskitu friends, shopping in the marketplace, conducting interviews for our research, and exploring when we found time. Some of my favorite parts about our time in Puerto were trying love potions, sampling local food and drink, dancing to the tropical Miskitu music, visiting local communities, and establishing relationships with incredible people.

If I had to choose, one of the best things I took away from my trip was how much I learned about the life experiences of the Miskitu people. I came to admire their strength, their sense of humor, and their way of life, which was so unlike my own in the States.

On the plane ride back, Laura looked at the group and said in her smooth New Orleans accent, “Y’all did really great this trip. You should be proud of yourselves. I know it can feel like we’re on Survivor sometimes but y’all made it and I’m proud of you.” With these words and the indescribable journey I had just had, my eyes were opened to a learning experience (both life and academic) that is embedded into my heart- and still, weeks and months after my return I can still say it was one of the greatest times of my life (besides working at LACS, of course!).

By Lauren Lottino
Major in Spanish & International Studies
Distinguished delegates. All over the Americas, women, especially indigenous women, are egregiously abused, every day.” Thus began the Opening Statement of the representatives of KU to Committee I in the Model Organization of American States (MOAS). We were meeting in Washington DC, immediately after the Spring Break.

Students from 30 universities from Latin America, Canada and the United States were representing as many countries. The University of Kansas represented Mexico (in the past two years KU represented Paraguay and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines).

Students majoring in Latin American Studies, Political Sciences, Spanish, and Business constituted KU’s delegation to the 13th MOAS.

Between March 25 and March 30, KU students presented their PDRs (Proposed Draft Resolutions), and then argued and negotiated to have them approved. The other delegations were doing the same, and lively debates, under very strict formalities, followed the presentations of most PDRs. Not all PDRs were approved. KU in its role as Mexico opposed draft resolutions seen as against the interest of this country. KU had to play the rather difficult game that Mexico plays in these negotiations: that of a bridging country that belongs both to NAFTA and to the OECD, but that is also completely Latin American in history and culture.

KU negotiations resulted in a 100% approval of our PDRs, two by consensus, which is a very unusual result. The Model OAS therefore would create mobile phones systems to combat corruption, develop databases of gaps in reports of use of drugs in the public health systems of the Americas, promote enhanced legal protection of indigenous women and of indigenous political rights related to sustainable development, and systems to facilitate organized, on-line access to the myriad of international treaties, conventions and agreements that take place in the world.

The “Crisis Scenario” proposed by the faculty advisors KU excels at the 13th Model Organization of American States, Washington DC, March 25-29

From left to right: Kate Sopcich, Joey Henzler, Ramiro Sarmiento, OAS Mexican Ambassador Joel Antonio Hernández-García and professor Jorge Soberón
to the MOAS was a particularly venomous one: Venezuela claimed violation of its borders by an American observation plane, and forced it to land in Venezuela, whereby the American crew was detained. Both sides issued threats and the situation was rapidly escalating. The students had to find a diplomatic solution to this hypothetical but not impossible situation. KU was brilliantly involved in solving the crisis. Not only was the head of KU’s delegation a member of the small “Friends of the Chair” group that solved it, but also the General Secretary of the 13th MOAS was a KU graduate student, elected for the position during last year’s model. For three days, the group and the General Secretary worked from morning to late at night to find a solution that would be workable and acceptable to both Venezuela and the United States. Diplomacy won, and for the first time in the 13 years of this model, a viable solution for a Crisis Scenario was developed, presented, and approved. This includes the rather technical procedural details that in the past have been always missing, and which this time were contributed by KU students.

Preparation for this intense and fruitful week of work included the delegation of KU researching the Agenda Topics presented by the Faculty Committee, and spending substantial preparatory time reading about Mexican history, its economic role in the NAFTA region and the world in general, and the roots and characteristics of Mexico’s foreign affairs policy. The students benefitted from lectures and conferences by KU experts on these issues. The Mexican Permanent Mission to the OAS in Washington advised the delegation of KU. The Background Policy Documents that the Mexican Permanent Mission developed for the next General Assembly were shared with KU, and KU’s students visited the Ambassador Joel Hernández, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the OAS, in the gorgeous and historical house that is the venue of Mexico’s OAS office in DC. They had a very informative Q&A hour with the ambassador, and with the experts in women’s and indigenous issues.

Overall, KU obtained excellent results in this rich and rewarding experience.

Professors from UCR participate in KU’s World Expo

Last April 18th, KU’s World Expo event hosted more than 60 countries around the world and 100 representatives from these countries. Collaborators included students from different countries and international student organizations. Harold Hutt and Angelica Vega, from University of Costa Rica participated along with other KU students from Costa Rica. The World Expo is an opportunity for a cultural exchange experience for public in general.

Thank you to the UCR representatives for their valuable contribution!
Merienda Brown-Bag Lectures

The Center’s Merienda lectures, held most Thursdays during the fall and spring semesters, provide an opportunity for invited students, faculty, community members and visiting scholars to share their experiences and research in Latin America. The speakers represent a wide range of disciplines and backgrounds. Presentations typically last 40-45 minutes and allow for audience questions at the end. A simple lunch of rice and beans is served. Meriendas take place in Bailey Hall, Room 318 from 12:00-1:00pm.

We would like to thank all the Spring 2013 Merienda presenters listed below. We want also to Please visit our website the Merienda website under the News & Events section for more information and event photos. Thank you:

Spring 2013 Schedule:
Jan 31  Hispano Duron
Feb 7  Liliana Mayo
Feb 14  Santa Arias, Gregory T. Cushman, Mike Wuthrich and Ruben Flores
Feb 21  Angela Paez
Feb 28  Laura Herlihy
Mar 7  Mario Ramos Reyes
Mar 28  Cassandra Mesick
Apr 4  Luiz Miranda
Apr 11  Caroline Chaboo
Apr 18  Town Peterson
Apr 25  José Faus

Global Environmental Concerns (continued from cover)

by faculty from each of the area studies. Presenters and topics included: Christopher Brown, Associate Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies, “Linking Everyday Consumption to Social and Environmental Impacts in Mongolia and Brazil;” Jean Eichhorst, Department of Geography, “Turning Deserts into Cropland;” Marie-Alice L’Heureux, Associate Professor of Architecture, “Environmentalism, Design and Planning in a post-Soviet World;” and Town Peterson, Distinguished Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, “Information is (Academic) Power: Building Open Access to Data, Literature, and Techniques Across Latin America and Africa Related to Environmental Research.”

Following the presentations there were workshops to help educators incorporate learning about the environment into their curriculum. Activities included looking at ways to use the Panorama at the Natural History Museum to teach about a wide range of environmental issues, a tour of the teaching gallery at the Spencer Museum of Art and a discussion about using art in conversations about global environmental concerns, and a hands-on activity, Paper Rainforest, where they learned to make brown bag trees and origami endangered animals.

It is always a great opportunity for Outreach to partner with other departments and institutions on campus and beyond and we will continue to look for ways to partner to bring new ideas and programs to our existing, and hopefully an expanding, audience.
By Gabriel Racca  
MA student, Latin American & Caribbean Studies  

For the Pan-American Seminar we brought together faculty, alumni and distinguished members of our community to talk to fellow educators and students of Kansas about the many and diverse disciplines that the Western Hemisphere. From Biodiversity conservation and indigenous knowledge to politics and film, the Pan-American Seminar provided a great opportunity for KU students and Lawrence residents to learn about potential educational and professional careers centered in the region.

The seminar took place on April 19th at the Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

We want to thank our guest speakers for supporting the event.

SPEAKERS:

Carolina Pardo Torres  
Graduate Student of Educational Technologies at the University of Kansas

Peter Herlihy  
Associate Professor, Geography at the University of Kansas

Peter Haney  
Assistant Director of Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Kansas

James Malouff III  
President of Pan American Association of Kansas City

Kirwin Shaffer  
Associate Professor of Latin American Studies at Penn State University

Tamara Falicov  
Associate Professor and Chair of Department of Film and Media Studies at the University of Kansas

John Hoopes  
Associate Professor of Archaeology and Director of Global Indigenous Nations Studies at...
The Latin American Seminar explores the regional, topical, and methodological research strengths and concerns of the KU Latin Americanist faculty and graduate students. The Seminar is a key integrating component of the Center’s NRC Grant (2010-2014) strategy to promote Latin Americanist Scholarship among KU faculty and graduate students.

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies appreciates the active collaboration of our guest speakers. At the same KU welcomes them to keep joining efforts in future events.

### January
25th: Brent Metz and Jodi Gentry, KU, “Combining Engineering and Anthropology in Development Projects: Engineers Without Borders among the Ch’orti’ Maya of Guatemala” – Latin American

### February

### March
29th: Caroline Chaboo, KU, “Art and Biodiversity in the Peruvian Amazon” – Latin American / Environmental Studies co-sponsor

### April

### May
10th: Greg Cushman, KU, “Christian idioms, Quechua narratives, Aymara concepts, environmental foundations: the cosmology of Joan de Santa Cruz Pachacuti Yamqui Salcamaygua (circa 1610)” – Nature and Culture / Latin American / Early Modern co-sponsor

---

**Our Students ...**

Heather Wehr

Rebecca Rosenkranz

Diana Restrepo

Devon Lee
2013 Award Recipients and Graduates

FLAS
Academic Year Graduates
Crystal Boson
Marisela Chávez Narváez
Josephine Kapicka
Rachel Denney
Ginett Pineda
David Cooper
Academic Year Undergraduates
Gustin Bova
Margo Bogossian
Cassandra Osei
Summer
Colleen O'Brien
Anna Hasemann
Ariane Tulloch
Marcela Risso
Devon Lee
Rebecca Rosenkrans
Noemí Martínez
Kathryn Sopcich
Anita Herzfeld Scholarship
Hannah Lujano
Erin Ice
Stansifer
Maria Gabriela Torres
Montero
Summer Field Research Grants
Heather Wehr
Jorge Thieroldt Llanos
Diana Restrepo-Osorio
Meghan Webb
Sherry Warren
Oppenheimer
Josephine Kapicka
Marisela Chávez-Narváez
MA Graduate
Lindsay Dudley
Undergraduate Majors
Ashley Cotton
Alex O’Nelio
Emily Carpenter
Brett Lathrop
Noemi Martinez
Sarah Stern
Shelby Stewart
Danielle Olson
Undergraduate Minors
Alissa Anderson
Jen Ciszewski
Brianna Dean
Joe Falls
Andrew Haanpaa
Alex Hartmann
Bailey Reimer
Christina Rojas
Kaleb Weaver
Michael Welle
Ezra Brooks
Devin Gerling
Kerry Lee

Congratulations to all our Students!

Vamos al fútbol!

The end of semester is approaching and so is the Faculty vs. Student Soccer Match!
When: Saturday, May 4th
Where: “Dad” Perry Park North
Time: 11 am to 2:00 pm
Bring Food to Share! Drinks will be provided.
For more information contact:
latamst@ku.edu or
(785) 864-4213
Will Faculty members win this time?
CLACS Continues to Support Cluster Awards for Faculty and Student Collaboration

In keeping with its mission of supporting collaboration across disciplines among faculty interested in Latin America, the Center has once again awarded support to two faculty research clusters for 2013-2014. The award for 2012-2013 went to a cluster whose project was titled “Social and Environmental Determinants of Health for the Ch’orti’ Maya.” This project included collaborators from anthropology, engineering, geography, and public health who came together to explore water and public health issues facing the Ch’orti’. The coming year’s awardees include the “Mercosur and Latin American Regionalism: Land, Business, Environment, and Politics” research cluster, which brings together faculty and graduate students from History, Political Science, Business and Environmental Studies to examine the implications of regionalism and economic integration for research on Latin America. A second cluster, “Early Modern Globalizations in the Iberian World,” will bring together for the first time at KU faculty and graduate students in different disciplines of the humanities with a series of monthly roundtable discussions devoted to key areas of the global early modern imperial engagements (religion, colonial subjectivities, travel and mapping, and Iberian geopolitics). The cluster will hold a symposium at the end of the academic year that will serve as a platform to address key questions explored and will be open to the public. Keep an eye out for events related to these clusters and form a new one for the final call for submissions in this last year of this NRC grant cycle!

Bienvenidos!

In April faculty from the Universidad Autónoma del Estado de Morelos (UAEM) and from UAEM Facultad de Medicina - Cuernavaca, Mexico visited the KU Medical Center. Susan Gronbeck-Tedesco, Associate Vice Provost for International Programs, hosted a lunch with Professor Paula Cupertino, KUMC, Dr. Rodolfo Gatica, Dr. Jesús Santa-Olalla, Dra. Martha Andalco, Dra. Patricia Castillo, Dra. Norma Angélica Juárez, Angela Perryman, Director of Study Abroad and Professor Jill Kuhnheim, CLACS.
The Environmental Studies Program, led by J. Christopher Brown, Department of Geography recently founded the KU-Land Institute Initiative, a partnership with the Land Institute of Salina, Kansas. The initiative is designed to increase interdisciplinary research and training across the social sciences, natural sciences, and humanities at KU regarding the development of agriculture involving perennial polycultures. The Center of Latin American and Caribbean Studies hosted the initiative’s first international visitors, Professors Valentin Picasso and Pablo Speranza, from Uruguay’s Universidad de la República, in March 2013 to discuss joint research and exchange opportunities. A lunch with Marsha Haufler, Associate Dean of International and Interdisciplinary Studies, Susan Groenbeck-Tedesco, Associate Vice Provost of International Programs, Tim Crews, Director of Research at the Land Institute, Professors Chris Brown, Jorge Soberón (EEB), and Jill Kuhnheim (CLACS) was followed by a meeting at The Commons with researchers from a wide range of fields to discuss specific areas of research related to perennial polycultures and sustainable agriculture. Nate Brunsell and Chris Brown will be paying a return visit to our Uruguay partners in August to establish further connections, exchanges, and specific research projects.

KU PARTICIPATING RESEARCHERS

Kelly Kindscher, Kansas Biological Survey and Environmental Studies
Sara Gregg, History
Joy Ward, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Dave Mechem, Geography and Atmospheric Sciences
Nate Brunsell, Geography and Atmospheric Sciences
Dan Hirmas, Geography
Benjamin Gray, Anthropology
John Head, School of Law
Dave Fowle, Geology and Associate Director of Environmental Studies
Johan Feddema, Chair of Geography
Paul Stock, Sociology and Environmental Studies
J. Christopher Brown, Geography, and Director, Environmental Studies

Tim Crews, Director of Research, The Land Institute
Jorge Soberón, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and the Biodiversity Institute
Town Peterson, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and the Biodiversity Institute

Faculty Highlight

In a recent announcement by KU’s Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little, five of our Faculty members were promoted and awarded. We want to publicly recognize these professors for this accomplishment:

- John Hoopes - Full professor
- Peter Herlihy - Full professor
- Luis Corteguera - Full professor
- Chrstiina Bejarano - Associate professor with tenure
- Ben Chappell - Associate professor with tenure

In our chancellor's words:

“They are representative of the comprehensive research and educational excellence of KU”

Congratulations!
By giving to LACS, you contribute to Latin American academic activities, community outreach, special guests and cultural events and student research like that described in the preceding pages of our newsletter.

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

♦ Supports teaching and learning about Latin America on campus and travel to the region for research and study by students and faculty.
♦ Disseminates knowledge of Latin America through academic conferences, seminars, weekly brownbag Merienda lectures, cultural performances, museum exhibits and cultural celebrations.
♦ Organizes teacher workshops to help Kansas educators incorporate Latin American languages and cultures into their classroom curriculum.
♦ Sponsors visiting scholars, lectures series and field trips

Donations to the Center of Latin American Studies may be used for:

- Undergraduate study abroad scholarships
- Research or conference travel for students or faculty
- Public programs such as conferences, lectures, exhibits and performances
- *The Latin Americanist* Newsletter

You may give online by visiting the “Giving” page on The Latin American Studies website (http://latamst.ku.edu/about/giving/index.shtml). Online giving is secure, speedy and simple. Click the area you would like to support and you will be redirected to the website of KU Endowment, the non-profit fundraising organization that supports KU.

**Latin American Studies Contingency Fund:** Donations help fund undergraduate or graduate study abroad scholarships, research or conference travel for students and faculty, public programs such as conferences, lectures, exhibits and performances, and the Kansas Latin Americanist newsletter.

**Stansifer Fund:** Initially endowed by Professor Emeritus Charles Stansifer, this fund awards support to graduate students planning to complete a doctorate in the study of Middle America (defined as Central America, Mexico, and the Caribbean). Fellowships are granted on a competitive basis.

**In honor of Anita Herzfeld:** Donations help to build a scholarship fund which will help sponsor undergraduate students who wish to study abroad.

If you wish to send a donation by mail, please contact us at:

Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
The University of Kansas
Bailey Hall, 1440 Jayhawk Blvd., Suite 320
Lawrence, KS 66045-7574

Your gifts are tax-deductible as allowed by law