

The Center for **Latin American**
and **Caribbean Studies**



Annual Report
2010-11

“Globalization creates a dual demand for knowledge that is both broad and deep, alert to cross-regional patterns and commonalities, yet also carefully attuned to contextual specificities”

From the Director: Globalizing Area Studies at Brown University



Do we still need area studies in a globalized world? The parochialism often associated with traditional area studies seems passé in the face of our increasingly interconnected globe. Educated citizens today want cosmopolitan skills that equip them to engage in global conversations and set human problems in a broad comparative perspective. Still, despite exaggerated claims that we now live in a “flat” and homogeneous world, profound cultural, social and political differences persist and emerge anew across and within regions. Grasping these differences and their implications, in turn, requires the nuanced, place-based knowledge produced by area studies. Globalization thus creates a dual demand for knowledge that is broad and deep, alert to cross-regional patterns and commonalities yet also carefully attuned to contextual specificities.

To meet the challenge of fostering broad and deep knowledge, CLACS is setting a new agenda of Globalized Area Studies at Brown University. We aim to promote teaching and research on Latin America and the Caribbean that (1) explicitly sets the area in comparative, multi-sited, and cross-regional perspective, (2) self-consciously engages with disciplinary knowledge and debates, thereby contributing both to disciplines and to Latin American and Caribbean area studies, and (3) centers on humanly important questions of pressing public and policy concern. Based at Brown's Watson Institute for International Studies, CLACS advances these goals by collaborating closely with faculty from the Institute, our sister area studies programs, and departments in the humanities, life, physical and social sciences.

This report highlights Globalized Area Studies in action. A vivid example is the conference, “Violent Cities: Challenges of Democracy, Development and Governance in the Urban Global South,” hosted by CLACS last year. The event paired practitioners from Latin America, including former mayors of two of the region's most violent cities, Medellín, Colombia and Juarez City, Mexico, with their peers from other regions, such as the former Commissioner of Police of Mumbai, India. By bringing together practitioners and scholars from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Latin America and the Caribbean who face similar problems of urban violence, the conference sparked a novel cross-regional dialogue that provided a wealth of fresh insights about the causes and potential solutions to the problem of violent cities. In 2012 we will host a broadly comparative conference on new approaches to poverty alleviation that sets Latin America in cross-regional perspective by focusing on innovative social policies across the Global South.

A further example of Globalized Area Studies is the conference, “Latin America and Climate Change: Regional Perspectives on a Global Problem,” that CLACS hosted jointly last Spring with Brown's Center for Environmental Studies. The conference, which was chaired by Brown Professor-at-Large and former President of Chile, Ricardo Lagos, who was the United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change, used a regional focus on Latin America to shed new light on the pressing global problem of climate change. A conference that explores another major global problem, turbulence in financial markets, through the regional lens of Latin America is planned for 2012.

In addition to these and other high-profile conferences, in 2010-11 CLACS hosted a lively lecture series and many cultural events, including the New England Festival of Ibero-American Cinema (NEFIAC), which we held again this Fall. Through courses, visiting professors, fellowships, conferences, workshops, symposia, lectures, films and cultural events, CLACS is spearheading the drive to globalize area studies at Brown.

As we begin another year, I invite you to join us in the excitement of defining a new agenda of globalized area studies at Brown.

Richard Snyder

Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Professor of Political Science

Globalized Area Studies

CLACS is setting a new agenda of globalized area studies at Brown through a set of innovative conferences and symposia that explore pressing global problems through the regional lens of Latin America and set the region in a broadly comparative perspective.

Violent Cities: Challenges of Democracy, Development, and Governance in the Urban Global South



At the start of the 21st century two striking phenomena characterize the Global South: urbanization and violence. Over half the populations of Africa and Asia and over three-fourths of those of Latin America and the Caribbean will reside in cities by 2030. As Bogota, Cape Town, Mexico City, Mumbai, São Paulo and other “violent cities” emerge as crucial nodes in the global economy, urban violence increasingly poses challenges for their development, governability and democracy. To address these pressing issues, CLACS hosted "Violent Cities: Challenges of Democracy, Development, and Governance in the Urban Global South," an international conference that brought together a multidisciplinary, cross-regional group of scholars and practitioners to explore new perspectives on violent cities from across the Global South.

The conference featured keynote addresses by former mayors of two of the world’s most violent cities, Medellin, Colombia and Juarez City, Mexico. Sergio Fajardo, mayor of Medellin (2003-2007) discussed the widely celebrated mitigation of violence achieved during his administration, whereas José Reyes Ferriz, mayor of Juarez City (2007-2010), offered his unique insights about the difficult challenges facing his city. Other participants included the former Secretary of State for Human Rights of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and the former Commissioner of Police of Mumbai, India. The conference offered valuable insights into the real-world challenges and opportunities that political leaders and other practitioners face in trying to stem violence and improve citizen security.



From left to right: Sergio Fajardo, Mayor of Medellin, Colombia (2003-2007); Richard Snyder, CLACS Director; and José Reyes Ferriz, Mayor of Juarez City, Mexico (2007-2010)



Meeran C. Borwankar
Former Commissioner of Police of Mumbai, India

Latin America and Climate Change: Regional Perspectives on a Global Problem

Latin American countries have a potentially crucial role in the negotiations creating a global solution to climate change. However, over the nearly twenty years of negotiations, very little has been reported in journalistic and academic circles about their positions, approaches, and impact. To explore how and why Latin America matters for climate change, CLACS hosted a conference jointly with the Center for Environmental Studies and Brown University Professor-at-Large, former President Ricardo Lagos of Chile, who was the United Nations Special Envoy for Climate Change in 2007-10.

The conference featured the “Brown Report from Cancun”, a document prepared by Brown students who attended the Cancun Climate Change negotiations, thus offering students a unique opportunity to get feedback from some of the world’s leading experts on climate change. The Brown Report assessed Latin America’s role in the negotiations, the roots of national negotiating positions, their effectiveness and the role of non-governmental environmental, indigenous and social justice groups from the region. Joining Brown faculty and students were key experts from Latin America on environmental policy and climate change, including Marina Silva, Brazil’s former Minister of Environment.



Marina Silva
Former Environmental Minister and
Presidential Candidate, Green Party,
Brazil



Ricardo Lagos
Former President of Chile and Brown University
Professor-at-Large



From left to right: **Richard Snyder**, CLACS Director; **Monica Araya**, Senior Associate, E3G: Change Agents for Sustainable Development (UK); **Virgilio Viana**, Former Secretary of State for Environment and Sustainable Development (Amazonas State, Brazil) and current Director General of the Amazon Sustainability Foundation; and **Timmons Roberts**, Director of the Center for Environmental Studies

The Next Left and Social Democracy in the North and South

In the midst of a global financial crisis blamed largely on free-market neoliberal policies, why have progressives proved incapable of presenting an alternative? “We have not been performing very well,” former Chilean President Ricardo Lagos said in answer to his own question, as he opened a two-day workshop hosted jointly by CLACS and the Watson Institute. The event convened scholars and policymakers from Europe and the Americas, including Alfred Gusenbauer, the former Chancellor of Austria, to explore how a comparative and cross-regional perspective can shed new light on the possibilities for progressive policies and institutions that combine economic growth with social inclusion.



Alfred Gusenbauer
Former Chancellor of Austria

Engaging Students

Undergraduates

CLACS engages undergraduate students at Brown through the concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies as well as through its many lectures, seminars, conferences and cultural events.

The Concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The concentration in Latin American and Caribbean Studies helps students develop an interdisciplinary understanding of culture, history, and contemporary issues in Latin America. In addition to taking a broad selection of courses in the humanities and social sciences that highlight the distinct methods employed by different disciplines to understand Latin America, concentrators acquire language competency in either Portuguese or Spanish and carry out an internship or volunteer work in Latin America or with a local organization that primarily serves Spanish or Portuguese speakers.

The presence of visiting professors in and affiliated with CLACS is an important component of the Center's contribution to undergraduate teaching. In 2011-12, CLACS will host Cogut Visiting Professor Ruben Oliven. Oliven, a distinguished anthropologist based at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil, will teach two courses, "Urban Latin America," which analyzes the dynamics, contradictions and consequences of urbanization in contemporary Latin America, and "The Making of Modern Brazil," which explores the cultural, societal and political dimensions of modern Brazil. Patrick Sylvain, Visiting Lecturer in Latin American and Caribbean Studies, teaches a range of courses on Haitian language and culture (see pp. 17 - 19 on "Haiti in Focus").



CLACS undergraduate concentrators participating in the Brown Study Abroad program in Cuba. On right, **Chelsea Sokolow '11** assisting a class in Managua, Nicaragua

"Being a Latin American Studies concentrator gave me the chance to be as flexible as I needed, letting me take an assortment of classes that gave me a truly multi-disciplinary perspective on the region. I was able to study abroad in both Cuba and Brazil. I strengthened my Spanish and learned Portuguese as a whole new language. But it wasn't just about quantifiable skills. I was also digging more profoundly, constantly being asked to look critically at the historical, environmental, political, economic, social and cultural contexts of the regions where these languages are spoken... I now feel better prepared to enter into a new phase in my life, whether it be working abroad in Latin America, or working for social justice and immigrant rights in my hometown in North Carolina."

Chelsea Sokolow '11

"The concentration in Latin American Studies is a liberal arts education at its best - it's at once grounded and flexible, pragmatic and idealistic. In the spirit of Brown's Open Curriculum, I've tailored my degree to my interests, focusing on Guatemalan textiles and immigrant politics. I'll leave the program with a thorough understanding of Latin America as a region -- its politics, economy, and history..."

Alexander Crane '12

Social Entrepreneurship at and after Brown: Perspectives from Latin America and the Caribbean

To highlight the exciting social entrepreneurial initiatives in Latin America and the Caribbean launched by Brown students and alumni, CLACS hosted a conference on "Social Entrepreneurship at and after Brown." By bringing together current students, recent alumni, and older alumni, the event fostered a novel cross-generational dialogue about best practices between young and more seasoned social entrepreneurs.

Participants included David S. Poritz '11.5 [see p. 7], the Founder and CEO of Equitable Origin, which aims to bring about improved practices and increased accountability in the oil and gas industry in Latin America; Daniel MacCombie '08, the Co-founder of Runa Tea, an enterprise that works directly with farmers in Ecuador's Amazon region to build a supply chain and market for guayusa, a naturally caffeinated holly leaf that has been consumed as a tea, and central to indigenous cultures and ecosystems, for centuries; and Kona Shen '10, the Founder and Director of Global Outreach and Love of Soccer (GOALS), a non-profit organization that uses soccer to empower youth, engage communities, and advance long-term development in Haiti.



From left to right: **Stephanie Savell**, Doctoral Student, Department of Anthropology; **Diana Wells '88**, President, Ashoka; **Orazio Belletini**, Executive Director, FARO; and **Marta Echavarría '87**, Founder of EcoDecision



From left to right: **Alan Harlam**, Director of Social Entrepreneurship, Swearer Center for Public Service; **David Poritz '11.5**, Founder and CEO of Equitable Origin; **Kona Shen '10**, Founder and Director, GOALS/Haiti; and **Daniel MacCombie '08**, Co-founder and Vice President, Runa Tea

Three senior entrepreneurs — including two Brown alumnas — reflected on how their organizations are making a social impact in Latin American countries: Diana Wells '88, President of Ashoka, Marta Echavarría '87, Founder of EcoDecision, and Orazio Belletini, Executive Director of the Foundation for the Advance of Reforms and Opportunities (FARO). Ashoka is a global organization that provides venture capital in the form of fellowships to social entrepreneurs across the world. Such funding frees entrepreneurs, and helps them to "focus all of their energy and time on developing, nurturing and implementing their innovative ideas," according to CLACS Director, Richard Snyder, who had a summer internship with Ashoka 23 years ago and gave an opening address at the conference. According to Wells, Ashoka is the first truly global association for social entrepreneurs, and by connecting fellows to a group of peers, who provide moral support as well as "network effect" benefits, her organization increases the impact these fellows have in their communities.

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

"There is nothing more powerful in terms of driving social change than finding an entrepreneur who has a new idea," she said. Such ideas, according to Wells, are "the best investment in making social change." EcoDecision, the social firm that Echavarria co-founded, focuses on the protection of ecosystem services in the Andes. Belletini's organization, FARO, is an Ecuadorian-based "think-and-do tank" that fosters citizen participation in strengthening the public policy framework to promote development and equity.

"There is nothing more powerful in terms of driving social change than finding an entrepreneur who has a new idea."

Diana Wells '88
President of Ashoka



The Social Entrepreneurial Spirit at Brown: Creating the World's First Oil and Gas Certification System



David Poritz '11.5, is a Harry S. Truman Scholar, a Henry David Thoreau Scholar, and Founder and CEO of Equitable Origin. Drawing on his experience working with communities of indigenous people harmed by oil extraction in the Ecuadorean Amazon, Poritz created Equitable Origin (EO), the first global certification system for the oil and gas industry.

EO aims to promote higher social and environmental standards, greater transparency, and more accountability in oil and gas exploration and production, using a market-based mechanism to incentivize and reward best practices in the oil industry. Through EO Certification, consumers who care about the impact of their purchases have a choice to buy from companies that responsibly produce and source fuels, plastics, apparel and other materials made from petroleum.

"CLACS has been the single most important resource for me during my time at Brown. As a center it has offered me remarkable faculty support, mentorship, financial resources and exposure to critical current issues."

David Poritz '11.5
Founder and CEO, Equitable Origin

Graduate Students

CLACS contributes to graduate education and training at Brown by providing fellowships for summer fieldwork in Latin America and the Caribbean, and dissertation fellowships. CLACS also sponsors interdisciplinary graduate colloquia where students are given an opportunity to present and get feedback on their research from peers and faculty members.

Supporting Fieldwork in Latin America and the Caribbean

Fieldwork is the cure for misconception, according to Richard Snyder, Director of CLACS. “When you do fieldwork you are forced to confront reality and you take your research problems from reality,” he said, in opening a workshop where graduate students shared findings from their summer field research. The workshop, “Back from the Field: Cross-Disciplinary Research on Latin America and the Caribbean,” gathered nine of 13 graduate student recipients of Tinker Field Research Grants, from the Departments of Anthropology, Economics, Hispanic Studies, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies and Sociology. Each presented research for constructive feedback in an interdisciplinary setting. For instance, Ana Tribin of the Economics Department presented her research on “Consejos comunales in Colombia: A Political and Propaganda Tool to Remain in Power, or a Successful Way to Expand Government Presence in Marginalized Regions?” Tribin collected data about the location of these community councils and analyzed whether locations chosen by the government appeared to be related to elections. Her research showed that though the consejos comunales might focus in marginalized regions they are in fact used as a political tool.

Research on “Latin American Projects in Lima and Bogota: Taking (Dis)organization Theory Out of the Anglo-Saxon Context” was presented by Omar Pereyra of the Department of Sociology. In Peru and Colombia, he explored questions about community, such as how neighborhoods, communities, and groups negotiate to live in common and to address problems. He identified ways in which class and social capital play a role in the organization and disorganization of a community. Presentations, in addition to Tribin’s and Pereyra’s, included:

- *Exploring Cuba’s Contemporary Literary Field*
Ezio Neyra, Department of Hispanic Studies
- *In Search of Brazil in Hispanic America*
Thayse Leal Lima, Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies
- *Poetics in the Tragic: Tyrants as Poets in the Sixteenth-Century Spanish Tragedies*
Felipe Valencia, Department of Hispanic Studies
- *Civil Society, Local Governance, and the Environment in the Brazilian Amazon*
Peter Klein, Department of Sociology
- *The ‘Place of Rest’ Under Duress: Conflicts over Natural Resources and Historical Memory in Highland Guatemala* - **Josh MacLeod**, Department of Anthropology
- *View from the Top: Archeological Excavations at El Diablo, El Zotz, Guatemala*
Sarah Newman, Department of Anthropology
- *Continuity and Innovation at the Las Palmitas Group in El Zotz Guatemala*
Nicholas Carter, Department of Anthropology



Building a Community of Latin Americanists: The Graduate Colloquium on Politics, Culture and Society in Latin America

CLACS contributes to graduate training at Brown by sponsoring an interdisciplinary colloquium on Politics, Culture and Society in Latin America. Doctoral students from anthropology, political science, and sociology meet monthly to present and get feedback on their ongoing research. Last year's Graduate Colloquium included the following panels:

NOVEMBER 17 - *Health in Latin America*

- *The Invisible Threat: The Political Economy of the Rise of Non-Intellectual Property and Non-Trade Pharmaceutical Regulations in Colombia* - **Tatiana Andia Rey**, Department of Sociology
- *Health under Federalism: Subnational Elite Electoral Incentives and the Building of State-Level Health Care Institutions in Brazil* - **Jorge Alves**, Department of Political Science
- Discussant: **Diana Graizbord**, Department of Sociology

DECEMBER 8 - *Alternative Political, Economic and Social Practices in Latin America*

- *'I Come and Go, Come and Go': The Circulation of Workers in Rio de Janeiro's Urban Periphery* - **Kathleen Millar**, Department of Anthropology
- *Honorable Pirates: Chilean Community Television and the Digital Transition* - **Jen Ashley**, Department of Anthropology
- *San Felipe: Living in Common and Boundary-Work in a Diverse Place* - **Omar Pereyra**, Department of Sociology
- Discussant: **Kristin Skrabut**, Department of Anthropology

FEBRUARY 16 - *International Development in Latin America*

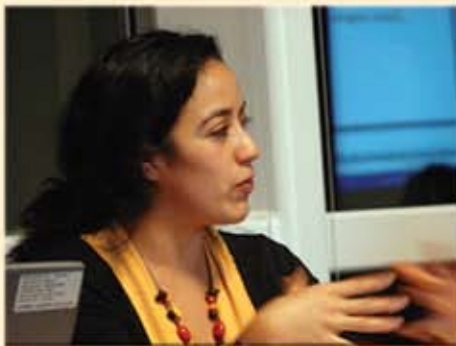
- *Get Your Schmooze On: Decoupling and Structural Stress in Nonprofit Funding Relationships in International Sustainable Development* - **Meghan Kallman**, Department of Sociology
- *Extractive Companies as Welfare Providers? The Distributive Politics of Mining Companies' Social Funds among Local Populations in Peru* - **Cecilia Perla**, Department of Political Science
- *Quilombola Communities in Brazil and Shell Oil's Corporate Responsibility Model* - **Paula Diaz**, Department of Anthropology
- Discussant: **Carla Alberti**, Department of Political Science

MARCH 16 - *Formal and Informal Politics in Brazil*

- *I Am Not a Leader: Grassroots Civil Society in Urban Brazil* - **Stephanie Savell**, Department of Anthropology
- *The Winners and Losers of Brazil's New Industrial Policy* - **Jazmin Sierra**, Department of Political Science
- Discussant: **Peter Klein**, Department of Sociology

APRIL 27 - *Natural Resources and Identity in Latin America*

- *'Place of Rest' Under Duress: Mega-Projects, Natural Resources, and Historical Memory in Post-Conflict Guatemala* - **Josh MacLeod**, Department of Anthropology
- *The Movement for Autonomy in Santa Cruz* - **Lachen Chernyha**, Department of Political Science
- Discussant: **Jazmin Sierra**, Department of Political Science



Clientelism in the Southern Cone: Cross-Regional Perspectives

In conjunction with Brown's Graduate Program in Development (GPD), CLACS hosted a cross-regional interdisciplinary graduate workshop on the topic of political clientelism in South America. Doctoral students from the departments of political science and sociology discussed and critiqued new papers on clientelism by Juan Pablo Luna, a Visiting Professor of Political Science from the Catholic University of Chile, and Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro, Assistant Professor of Political Science and Public Policy at Brown.



Juan Pablo Luna
Professor of Political Science,
Catholic University of Chile

The Craig M. Cogut Dissertation Fellowship

The Craig M. Cogut Dissertation Fellowship in Latin American and Caribbean Studies supports Brown doctoral students who are in the writing stage of their dissertations. The 2010-2011 Cogut Dissertation Fellows were Jennifer Ashley, Department of Anthropology, who completed her dissertation, "Televising Exclusion: Democracy, Activism, and Urban Politics in Chile," and Silvia Goldman, Department of Hispanic Studies, who completed her dissertation, "Beyond Interdiction: Poetry and the Recovery of the Word in Post-dictatorship South-America (1980-2005)." The 2011-12 Fellows are Federico Droller, Department of Economics, and Shelby Riskin, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

"The Cogut Dissertation Fellowship not only allowed me the opportunity to focus solely on my writing, but also the flexibility to travel to Chile during the semester for follow-up interviews. I also had the opportunity to present a chapter of my dissertation during the CLACS 'Politics, Culture, and Society' Graduate Workshop and receive feedback on my work from fellow Latin Americanists. The financial and intellectual support I received through CLACS was key both to my dissertation writing process and my academic job search."

Jennifer Ashley, PhD in Anthropology, 2011



"The Cogut Fellowship provided me the time, confidence, and financial support to fully immerse myself in the final steps of my dissertation. Thanks to the fellowship, I was not only able to complete the dissertation, but also to travel to Buenos Aires to start working on my next research project, Steps and Affects: Collective Memory in Post-dictatorship Southern Cone."

Silvia Goldman, PhD in Hispanic Studies, 2011

Visiting Scholars

The Honorable Domingo Faustino Sarmiento Fellowship



From left to right: **Noelia Enriz**, anthropologist from the University of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and Sarmiento Visiting Scholar at CLACS; **José Itzigsohn**, Professor of Sociology, and **Dr. Alfredo Cassiet**, founding sponsor of the Sarmiento Fellowship

Established through the generous support of Dr. Alfredo C. Cassiet and Maria-Elena Cassiet, this fellowship brings a scholar from a Spanish-speaking South American country to pursue independent research at Brown.

The 2010-2011 Sarmiento Fellow was Noeliz Enriz, a social anthropologist at the University of Buenos Aires whose research focuses on indigenous children in the northeast of Argentina. The 2011-2012 Fellow will be Dr. María Esperanza Casullo, a political scientist working on a cross-national comparative study of populist politics in Latin America and who currently serves as the Director of Research at the Argentine National Institute against Discrimination, Xenophobia and Racism.

Lecture Series

Each year CLACS hosts a lively Lecture Series where scholars from the humanities and social sciences present cutting-edge research on Latin America and the Caribbean.

Fall 2010

- *The Disappearance of Latin America: Implications for Latin American and Caribbean Studies*
Abraham Lowenthal, Professor of International Studies, University of Southern California, and **Jane Jaquette**, Professor of Diplomacy and World Affairs Emerita, Occidental College.
- *Cuba siglo XXI: Literatura en transición (Cuba in the XXI century: Literature in transition)*
Lizabel Mónica, Cuban writer, blogger and multimedia artist.
- *Wealth, Health and Democracy in East Asia and Latin America*
James McGuire, Professor of Political Science, Wesleyan University.
- *Brazil on the Rise: What Comes Next? A First Look at the Post-Lula Era*
Larry Rohter, New York Times Correspondent. Co-sponsored with the Office of International Affairs, the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, and the Watson Institute for International Studies.
- *Mexican and American Workers: Connected and Divided by the Crisis?*
Alejandro Álvarez, Professor of Economics, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)
- *Shaping State Autonomy? A Comparative Historical Analysis of Mineral States in the Andes*
Maritza Paredes Gonzales, Visiting Scholar, CLACS.
- *Of Bodies, Desire, and Jouissance: Danzón Dancing from a Transnational Perspective*
Alejandro Madrid, Associate Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies, University of Illinois, Chicago.



Spring 2011

- *Democracy and Violence in Latin America: A Comparison between Brazil, Colombia and Mexico*
Arturo Alvarado, Professor of Sociology, El Colegio de México.
- *The Institutional Basis of Commodity Upgrading: Sugarcane, Charcoal and Cattle in Brazil and Abroad*
Salo Coslovsky, Assistant Professor of International Development, New York University.
- *State Capture and State Failure: Drug Trafficking, Violence, and Corruption in Mexico*
Carlos Flores, Visiting Scholar, the University of Connecticut's Institute of Human Rights.
- *Invading the Favela: Echoes of Police Practices in the Everyday Lives of Brazil's Urban Poor*
Ben Penglase, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Latin American Studies, Loyola University. Co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology and the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies.
- *Mind the Gap: Inequality and Responsible Party Government*
Juan Pablo Luna, Associate Professor of Political Science, Catholic University of Chile. Co-sponsored by the Graduate Program in Development.
- *Indigenous Children in the Northeast of Argentina: An Anthropological Approach to Knowledge and Life Periods*
Noelia Enriz, Sarmiento Fellow, CLACS.
- *Ethnicity.gov: Global Governance, Indigenous Peoples, and the Right to Prior Consultation in Social Minefields*
César Rodríguez-Garavito, Director of the Program on Global Justice and Human Rights, University of the Andes, Bogota, Colombia.
- *Legislative Gender Quotas in Europe and Latin America*
Matthew Cleary, Associate Professor of Political Science, Syracuse University.
- *In Harm's Way at the Urban Margins*
Javier Auyero, Professor of Sociology, University of Texas at Austin.

The Disappearance of Latin America: Implications for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

"Why do we need Latin American studies?" asked Abraham Lowenthal, the Robert F. Erburu Professor of Ethics, Globalization, and Development at the University of Southern California. This question opened a talk co-delivered with Jane Jaquette, Professor Emerita of Diplomacy and World Affairs at Occidental College, titled "The Disappearance of Latin America: Implications for Latin American and Caribbean Studies." These two renowned scholars of Latin America, both adjunct professors at the Watson Institute, dedicated the rest of their presentation to conveying the significance of such a question for the discipline of Latin American studies as a whole, in these "earth-flattening times," and presenting a tentative answer.

Latin America is and will likely remain something worth studying and taking into account in policy considerations. The reason behind this significance, according to Jaquette and Lowenthal, is not traditional security concerns, but the "quodidian, day-to-day interactions" between Latin America and the United States. Additionally, the countries of Latin America are forming a broader consumer base for the United States' "necessarily expanding export market." Furthermore, Latin American countries seem to be ideal partners for the US in combating several global problems – arms and drug trafficking to name just a few. Finally, Latin America is increasingly informing and generating social science theory, providing real examples in which structural dependence and asymmetric relations are being successfully overcome.

Abraham Lowenthal
Professor of International Relations,
University of Southern California



Jane Jaquette
Professor Emerita of Diplomacy and World Affairs,
Occidental College



James McGuire
Professor of Political Science, Wesleyan University

Wealth, Health and Democracy in East Asia and Latin America

James McGuire, a professor in the Department of Government at Wesleyan University, shared conclusions from his new book *Wealth, Health, and Democracy in East Asia and Latin America* (2010), in which he explores why some developing countries have outperformed others in raising life expectancy and reducing infant mortality, drawing upon case studies from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Indonesia, South Korea, Taiwan, and Thailand.

Mexican and American Workers: Connected and Divided by the Crisis?

When the United States enjoys economic expansion, the boom also benefits Mexican industry, exports, and migrants. But when the northern neighbor stumbles – as during the 2008 financial crisis – Mexico suffers devastating losses, according to Alejandro Álvarez, professor of economics at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). “We have interconnected stories,” said Álvarez. “If you take a picture of North America today, it’s a social disaster,” he said, attributing many of the region’s problems to unregulated globalization. “But even in the worst conditions, we can do something.” In addition to advocating more financial regulation, Álvarez pressed Mexico to stop looking north. “We need to reorganize our economy in a different way,” he said. “We need to look at our domestic market.”



“But even in the worst conditions, we can do something.”

Alejandro Álvarez
National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)

Shaping State Autonomy?

A Comparative Historical Analysis of Mineral States in the Andes

Maritza Paredes Gonzales sought to steer away from bedeviling rents as the main culprits of shaky state formation in mineral-rich Latin American countries. The focus was instead put on the timing of the Andean commodities bonanzas and the impact that the sequence of these bonanzas had for elite politics. “Rents are an insufficient cause for explaining state underdevelopment,” said Paredes, a CLACS visiting research fellow and a PhD candidate in International Development, University of Oxford. “Timing and sequences and their effect on elite politics are also important.”

“Timing and sequences and their effect on elite politics are also important.”

Maritza Paredes Gonzales
CLACS visiting research fellow and PhD candidate in
International Development, University of Oxford



Brazil in Focus

The Brazilian Elections: Implications for the Future of Brazil and Latin America

The presidential election held last fall in booming Brazil broke racial, media, and gender barriers: Marina Silva, a black female candidate from the Green Party, garnered nearly 20 percent of votes in the first round. The web was a new, key force – unleashing influential videos that ranged from Lady Gaga remixes promoting Dilma Rousseff to parodies of her opponent, José Serra. And the second round culminated with the October 31 election of Lula’s protégée, Rousseff – who is the first woman to preside over Brazil. “Brazil used to be called a country of drunks,” said Peter Kingstone, from the University of Connecticut. “I think it’s remarkable that we don’t even have to remark on the fact that this was a normal election. We’re talking about a totally different country.”

But he and several of the other speakers at the CLACS Workshop on “The Brazilian Elections: Implications for the Future of Brazil and Latin America” lamented lingering social inequality, corruption, and a commodities-dependent economy. Kingstone spoke alongside Sonia Alvarez, of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and John French, of Duke University.

A sign of Brazil’s flourishing is that both Rousseff and Serra proposed similar policy in a bid to maintain the country’s boom, according to Brown Professor of Sociology, Gianpaolo Baiocchi, who moderated the workshop. “There was a real consensus of a kind of center-left proposal,” Baiocchi said, aimed at prolonging the rise of the lower-middle class. The ascendance of this class was evident on the campaign trail, Baiocchi added: “They’re talking about the butcher being able to buy a car.”



Gianpaolo Baiocchi, Associate Professor of Sociology and International Studies, Brown University; Sonia Alvarez, Professor of Latin American Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

The Brazilian Elections:
Implications for the Future of
Brazil and Latin America

Watson Institute's McKinney Conference Room
Thursday, Nov. 4, 2010
4pm-6pm

Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
clacs

Co-Sponsored by the Department of
Portuguese and Brazilian Studies


A discussion with:
Sonia Alvarez, Professor of Latin American Politics and Studies, University of Massachusetts, Amherst; John French, Professor of History and African and African-American Studies, Duke University; and Peter Kingstone, Professor of Political Science, University of Connecticut.

Rio de Janeiro in Literature

In conjunction with the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, the Department of Comparative Literature, the Instituto Cultural Cidade Viva (Rio de Janeiro), and the Instituto Light (Rio de Janeiro), CLACS presented a symposium on the occasion of the North American launching of the first three volumes in the River of January series. The event was opened by Ambassador Ronaldo Dunlop, Consul General of Brazil in Hartford, CT, and featured a discussion panel with Francis Miszputen, executive producer of the River of January series; Professor Luiz Valente (Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies); and Professor Nelson Vieira (Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies).

Brazil on the Rise: What Comes Next? A First Look at the Post-Lula Era

Award-winning journalist Larry Rohter, who previously served as a correspondent for *Newsweek* and the bureau chief for the *New York Times* in Rio de Janeiro, shared his deep familiarity with the country and his expertise on its recent transformation in a lecture about his new book, *Brazil on the Rise: The Story of a Country Transformed*, in which he discussed topics pertinent to the "country of the future" such as politics after Lula, petroleum and ethanol, the myth of a racial paradise, and the tropical lifestyle.



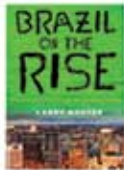
Brazil on the Rise:
What Comes Next? A First Look at the Post-Lula Era

A talk by
Larry Rohter P'04
New York Times correspondent

Wednesday, November 10, 2010
12 pm
Joukowsky Forum
Watson Institute of International Studies
111 Thayer Street

*Mr. Rohter will sign books
immediately following his remarks.*

Sponsored by: The Center of Latin American Studies, the Office of International Affairs,
the Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies and the Watson
Institute for the International Studies



Haiti in Focus

The 22nd Annual Haitian Studies Association Conference: *Haiti, History, Healing: Facing the Challenges of Reconstruction*

About 250 scholars of Haitian studies gathered in Sayles Hall to attend an opening ceremony that began with a brief moment of silence to commemorate the victims of the catastrophic earthquake that struck Haiti in January 2010. "Haitian studies is everywhere," said Guerda Nicolas, president of the Haitian Studies Association (HSA), in her speech con-voking that organization's 22nd annual conference held at the Brown University campus.

The conference featured more than 50 sessions with wide-ranging topics, from political development and economy to music and visual arts, approaching the issue of reconstruction from "both disciplinary and interdisciplinary views," said Marc Prou, executive director of the Haitian Studies Association. The conference was an "outstanding endeavor," promoting the "pursuit of new knowledge and skills for Haitian studies," he added.

Brown decided to help organize the conference two years ago upon the request of the association, said Professor of Africana Studies, Barrymore Bogues, in his speech at the opening ceremony. Hosting the conference at Brown is an "integral part" of the University's initiative to engage with issues of the world beyond campus, he said.

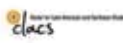

Panelists, Students, and Participants at The Haitian Studies Association 22nd Annual Conference at Brown University



**Haitian Studies Association
22nd Annual Conference
Asosyasyon Etid Ayisyen**

Nov. 11 to 13, 2010

Brown University Campus
Registration: Watson Institute for International Studies, 111 Thayer Street.
For more information visit www.watsoninstitute.org/clacs

The USA Conference also received support from the Departments of African Studies, Anthropology, Modern Culture and Media, Sociology, Center for Public Humanities & Cultural Heritage, Office of the President, Dean of the College, John Carter Brown Library, John Hay Library, Watson School of Design, Alliance Française of Providence



Haitian Language and Culture Courses

The Haitian Language Program at Brown has seen great success in the past two years. Under the leadership of Professor Patrick Sylvain, the program has expanded to include beginning, intermediate and advanced classes, making Brown the only university in the country that offers four levels of Haitian language and culture courses. In Haitian language courses, various tools are used to provide students a cultural context for newly acquired material. Written text, dialogue, stories, poetry, music and film are used regularly so that students can better understand the idiosyncrasies and metaphors of the language. Moreover, students take part in cultural-immersion exercises within the local community to reinforce their learning. Trips to local restaurants and mentorship opportunities with Haitian-American youth (the Hope High School Project H20) bring real-world application to classroom experiences. Brown is in the process of expanding its Haitian Language Program to secure its position as the leader in Haitian studies in the United States and beyond.



Performance at "Faces of Haiti: Empowering Communities through Culture and Music"



Michele Pierre-Louis
Former Haitian Prime Minister



Undergraduate students in a Haitian Creole class. 4 levels of the language are taught at Brown

Film & Culture

In addition to hosting the New England Festival of Ibero-American Cinema (NEFIAC) each Fall, CLACS fosters greater knowledge about culture in Latin America and the Caribbean by sponsoring film screenings as well as musical and theatrical performances.

The New England Festival of Ibero-American Cinema (NEFIAC 2010)

The New England Festival of Ibero American Cinema (NEFIAC) is a ground breaking film festival dedicated to the promotion of the Hispanic culture through the exhibition of feature films, documentaries, shorts and animations, as well as through other artistic manifestations, which have been produced in Latin America, Spain and Portugal. NEFIAC seeks to link the rich academic knowledge available in the New England region to the community at large. This Festival is also the only festival of its genre to offer Juried Awards. NEFIAC's first edition in 2010 was hosted in Providence, Rhode Island by CLACS. Film screenings were also held at Yale and Harvard.



NEFIAC's program includes panel discussions with filmmakers and other industry professionals, academics, students and the rest of the community. The program *Desde Cuba: New Cinema* brings the best and most contemporary work from independent filmmakers in Cuba, thus offering a unique opportunity to watch Cuban cinema. Special guests are invited to add to the enriching festival experience, such as Hollman Morris, an award-winning journalist from Colombia; renowned Argentine Director, Fernando Birri; and Bélgica "Dede" Mirabal, the only surviving sister from the Mirabal family, who fervently opposed the dictatorship of Rafael Trujillo in the Dominican Republic. Mrs. Mirabal visited the Dominican community in Providence and talked about the hardships of the Trujillo Era and the struggle her sisters and family were part of. CLACS is looking forward to hosting NEFIAC again from September 30th - October 9th, 2011.

Film Screenings

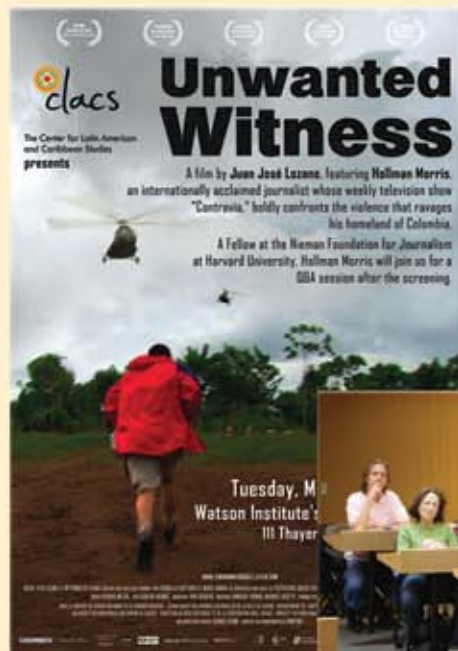
***Unwanted Witness*, featuring Hollman Morris**

Unwanted Witness, a film by Juan José Lozano, features Hollman Morris, an internationally acclaimed journalist whose weekly television show, "Contravía," boldly confronts the violence that ravages his homeland of Colombia. Though he has won prestigious awards abroad, at home he is faced with death threats and intimidation, putting a strain on his family life. Crimes committed by paramilitary groups are too often glossed over, said Morris during a talk and film screening hosted by CLACS.

"This country should know the truth about all atrocities, regardless of which group committed them," said Morris. "A journalist should never fear power – power should fear journalism." "All of Colombia is traumatized by the war," Morris said. "I want to see Colombia seated on the psychiatrist's sofa. Because the patient named 'Colombia' is still in shock." And as the conflict weakens, following President Alvaro Uribe's crackdown on the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), the national psyche is entering a new stage – the posttraumatic one. "It still happens to me when I hear the sound of a helicopter. For me, a helicopter is war," Morris said.

"I'm just one other victim. And an extremely privileged one at that." To overcome this collective trauma – and ensure that similar acts do not recur – the country must confront the crimes committed on its soil, he stressed. "As Colombians, we know there are people who played football with human heads," Morris said.

"So how does this society continue living as if nothing happened?" The crux of the blame can be attributed to the Uribe government, he said, which undercut the voices of opposition and bolstered its links with media groups. But Colombian society is now stirring, Morris said, and may begin to hold journalism accountable for crimes perpetrated during the conflict. "They'll ask – where were you? Did you denounce that?" he said. "Journalism has a duty. It's the eyes and ears of society."



Colombian journalist, **Hollman Morris**, answers questions from the audience after the screening of *Unwanted Witness*



The Institutional Basis of Commodity Upgrading
Sugarcane, Charcoal and Cattle in Brazil and Abroad

March 2, 2011
McKinney Conference Room
Watson Institute
5:00-6:30 pm
wine and cheese reception to follow

Presented by
Salo Coslovsky
Assistant Professor of
International Development
New York University

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
The Watson Institute at Brown University

Wealth, Health and Democracy
in East Asia and Latin America

James McGuire
Department of Political Science
Westleyan University

Watson Institute, Brown University
McKinney Conference Room
5-6:30 pm
wine and cheese reception to follow

CLACS-GPD (Graduate Program in Development)
Joint Graduate Colloquium on

Clientelism in the Southern Cone:
Comparative and Cross-Regional Perspectives

Juan Pablo Luna
Associate Professor of Political Science
Catholic University of Chile

Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro
Associate Professor of Political Science
and Public Policy, Brown University

Discussants
Tariq Thachil Assistant Professor of Political Science, Yale University
Govril Billev PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, Brown
Christopher Gibson PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology, Brown

March 15, 2011
Watson Institute Library, 3rd Floor
4-6 pm
wine and cheese reception to follow

Women of African Descent
in Today's Cuba

Research with spontaneous immigration to England

Tomás Fernández Robaina
Research Professor
Instituto Nacional José Martí, Havana, Cuba

6:30pm
Wednesday Dec. 8, 2010
Joukowsky Forum

Sponsored by: Department of Comparative Literature,
Department of African Studies, CLACS

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
The Watson Institute at Brown University

presents a Colloquium on

Social Entrepreneurship at and after Brown:
Perspectives from Latin America and the Caribbean

Monday, March 21
Watson Institute for Intl. Studies
Joukowsky Forum
3:00 to 6:00 PM
• Reception to follow •

Andrew Cleary
Associate Professor of Political Science
Barnwell School of Syracuse University

LEGISLATIVE GENDER QUOTAS
IN EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA

Thursday, April 21
5:00-6:30 PM
McKinney Conference Room
wine and cheese reception to follow

THE DISAPPEARANCE
OF LATIN AMERICA:
IMPLICATIONS FOR LATIN AMERICAN
AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES

A talk by
JANE JAQUETTE
Professor of Diplomacy and World Affairs Emerita,
Occidental College
& **ABRAHAM LOWENTHAL**
Professor of International Studies,
University of Southern California

Wednesday October 6, 2010
McKinney Conference Room
Watson Institute
5:00-6:30 pm
wine and cheese reception to follow

PARTICIPANTS:

DIANA WELLS, '88, PRESIDENT, ASHOKA INNOVATORS FOR THE PUBLIC

MARTA ECHAVARRIA, '87, ASHOKA FELLOW, FOUNDER OF ECODECISION

ORAZIO BELLETTINI, ASHOKA FELLOW/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCE OF REFORMS AND OPPORTUNITIES (FARO)

DAVID PORITZ, '11, 5, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF EARTHABLE DESIGN LLC

DANIEL MACCOMBIE, '08, CO-FOUNDER AND VICE PRESIDENT, ROMA TEA

KONA SHEN, '10, FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR, GOALS/HAUTE

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

EMPIRE OF LIBERTY

Presented by
ANTHONY BOGUES
Professor of African Studies Anthony Bogue will present his newly published book "Empire of Liberty: Power, Desire, and Freedom"

Discussion panel participants will include
James Der Derian, Watson Institute for International Studies
Robert Lee, Dept. of American Civilization
Cory Winters, Dept. of African Studies
Lindsay Warren, Harvard University Press

The panel discussion will be followed immediately by a wine and cheese reception.

Tuesday, Dec. 7th, 6-7:30pm - McKinney Conference Room, Watson Institute

Mexican and American workers:
connected and divided by the crisis?

Talk by **Alejandro Alvarez**
Professor of Economics
National Autonomous University of Mexico

Thursday, November 18, 2010
5:00-6:30 pm
Watson Institute
McKinney Conference Room
wine and cheese reception to follow

2010 - 11 Executive Committee

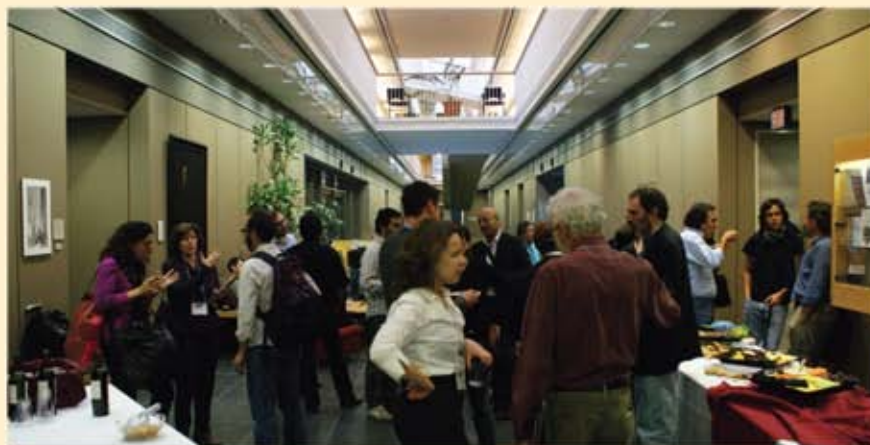
Gianpaolo Baiocchi	<i>Department of Sociology, and Watson Institute for International Studies</i>
Beth Bauer	<i>Department of Hispanic Studies</i>
Anthony Bogues	<i>Department of Africana Studies</i>
Anani Dzidzienyo	<i>Department of Africana Studies</i>
Claudia Elliott	<i>International Relations Program</i>
Timothy Empkie	<i>Alpert Medical School</i>
Paja Faudree	<i>Department of Anthropology</i>
Patricia Figueroa	<i>Brown University Library</i>
James Green	<i>Department of History</i>
Matthew Gutmann	<i>Office of International Affairs, and Department of Anthropology</i>
José Itzigsohn	<i>Department of Sociology</i>
David Lindstrom	<i>Department of Sociology</i>
Julio Ortega	<i>Department of Hispanic Studies</i>
Patricia Sobral	<i>Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies</i>
Luiz Valente	<i>Department of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies</i>
Leah VanWey	<i>Department of Sociology</i>
Kenneth Ward	<i>John Carter Brown Library</i>
Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro	<i>Department of Political Science</i>
Esther Whitfield	<i>Department of Comparative Literature</i>
Ted Widmer	<i>John Carter Brown Library</i>

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*Richard Snyder (Director & Undergraduate Concentration Advisor), Susan Hirsch (Administrative Manager), and José Torrealba (Outreach Coordinator & Executive Director of New England Festival of Ibero-American Cinema).
Student Assistants: Crystal Huang (Undergraduate Assistant), Jazmin Sierra (Graduate Student Coordinator), Chelsea Sokolow (DUG Leader), and Esther Hernandez-Medina (PhD Candidate, Department of Sociology).*



Acknowledgments

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Upcoming Events in 2011-12

Scholars, Practitioners and Inter-American Affairs

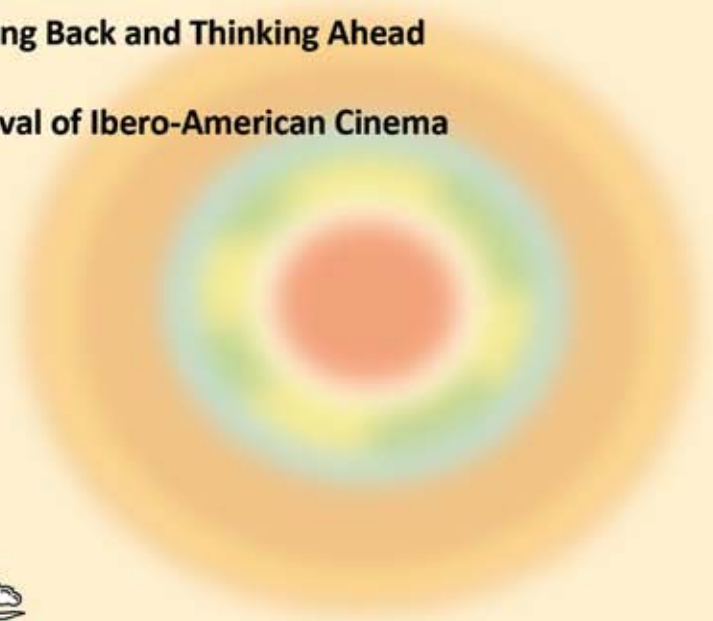
with keynote lectures by Ricardo Lagos, former President of Chile,
and José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the Organization of American States

Innovative Approaches to Poverty and Inequality Reduction in the Global South

The Oil Industry in Latin America: New Visions, Opportunities and Challenges

Drug Wars in the Americas: Looking Back and Thinking Ahead

The 2nd Annual New England Festival of Ibero-American Cinema



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