Welcome to Focus on Faculty

CLACS is pleased to bring you a new issue of Focus on Faculty. Comprising over 140 Brown faculty members in the humanities, natural sciences, and social sciences who work on Latin America and the Caribbean, the CLACS faculty community is broad and diverse (see page 6 for a complete list of CLACS faculty affiliates). Focus on Faculty opens a window on the cutting-edge scholarship, pedagogy, and public engagement of our colleagues on Latin America and the Caribbean. This issue highlights exciting research and teaching by our faculty on topics ranging from climate change, to social violence, to undocumented immigrants, and the recently rediscovered poems of the Chilean poet Pablo Neruda. As always, many thanks for your support of CLACS!

Richard Snyder
Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
Forrest Gander Translates Lost Poems of Pablo Neruda

Forrest Gander, the Adele Kellenberg Seaver Professor of Literary Arts and Comparative Literature, has finished the English translation of a collection of 20 rediscovered poems by Chilean poet Pablo Neruda. The poems were found last June by archivists at the Pablo Neruda Foundation in Santiago, Chile. The collection, titled *Then Come Back: The Lost Neruda*, is set to be published by Copper Canyon Press in April 2016. With poems dating from 1956, the volume is reflective of Neruda's imaginative language and includes several love poems, a form he was famous for. The soon-to-be published bilingual hardcover collection will include full-color, facsimile presentations of Neruda's handwritten texts.

Timmons Roberts and Guy Edwards Organize Conference on Development and Climate Action in Latin America

On October 29, 2015 the Climate and Development Lab at the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society (IBES), which is directed by Timmons Roberts, the Ittleson Professor of Sociology and Environmental Studies and co-directed by Research Fellow Guy Edwards, organized a conference titled “Can Latin America Achieve Sustainable Development by 2030? Development and Climate Action in 2015 and Beyond.” The event was supported by the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies with funding from the Botín Foundation. The conference featured a panel discussion which included Isabel Cavelier (Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of Colombia to the UN), Kevin P. Gallagher (Professor of Global Development Policy, Boston University), Christian Gómez, Jr. (Director of Energy at the Washington Office of the Council of the Americas), and Ana Rios (Climate Change Specialist, Inter-American Development Bank)

This panel was convened at a pivotal moment given Latin America’s central role in the design of the United Nations’ 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the active involvement of Latin American countries in the UN climate negotiations leading up to the COP21 in Paris. The panel of experts discussed the prospects for Latin America to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030 and the likely implications of a new global agreement on climate change for the region. The discussion centered on the larger thematic issues of cities, energy, natural resources, and financing sustainable development, while also specifically addressing Latin American countries’ climate commitments and the impact of global partnerships that are forming in the region.
Verónica Zubillaga, Associate Professor at Universidad Simón Bolívar and Craig M. Cogut Visiting Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Brown University (Fall ’14 & ’15), with David Smilde (Professor of Human Relations, Tulane University) and Rebecca Hanson (Doctorate Candidate, University of Georgia) organized a conference “The Paradox of Violence in Venezuela: A Comparative Approach.” The event was held at Tulane University from October 29-30, 2015. The goal of the conference was to understand why a country that saw significant progress in reducing poverty and inequality also experienced soaring crime and violence. The conference brought together leading scholars on urban violence in Latin America to reflect comparatively on violence in Venezuela. Over the course of the two-day conference, participants presented research that focused on the roots of violence in Venezuela, prisons and the illegal drug trade, citizen security policies, police reform, and civil society responses. Verónica Zubillaga’s presentation gave an overview of the factors driving violence in Venezuela, emphasizing the key role that drugs and firearms have played. CLACS Director Richard Snyder offered comparative and concluding remarks at the conference.

Verónica Zubillaga’s research interests include urban violence and drug trafficking in Latin America and the intersections of structural violence and social subjectivities. In recent years, Zubillaga has combined academic work with activities that have a public impact on social violence, specifically promoting an arms control and disarmament public policy in Venezuela. Her publications include the co-authored books Violencia Armada y Acuerdos de Convivencia en una Comunidad Caraquena (Caracas, Editorial Equinoccio, 2015) and La sociedad de la incertidumbre (IIS, UNAM, México, 2013). During the Spring 2016 semester she is a Visiting Scholar at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University.

Kevin Escudero Receives Grant from Swearer Center’s Engaged Scholarship Program

Kevin Escudero, a Presidential Postdoctoral Fellow in American Studies, received a course development grant from the Swearer Center’s Engaged Scholarship Program for his course “Immigrant Social Movements: Bridging Theory and Practice,” to be taught in Spring 2016 and 2017. He was also appointed to the program committee of the Association for Latina/o Anthropology’s sessions at the 2016 American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting. Starting in March 2016, he will begin his term as the New England Representative for the National Association for Student Affairs Professionals (NASPA) Undocumented Immigrant Student and Allies Knowledge Community (KC), working to promote resources for undocumented immigrant students at colleges and universities throughout the region. Kevin will begin his appointment as Assistant Professor of American Studies and Ethnic Studies at Brown University in Fall of 2017.
Lectures, Talks, & Awards

**Jessaca Leinaweaver,** Associate Professor of Anthropology and Interim Chair
Professor Leinaweaver was recently appointed to the Editorial Board of *The Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* for the 2016-2020 term. During the Fall semester, she gave a virtual seminar on child circulation in the Andes for students of the Seminario de Primera Infancia en el Espacio Público: Experiencias Latinoamericanas, coordinated by the Programa Infancia of the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana in Mexico City. Professor Leinaweaver also presented a paper on “Transnationalized Aging Trajectories: Home Care as Piecework in the Andes” at the 2015 American Anthropological Association’s annual meeting.

**Thomas Lewis,** Professor of Religious Studies
Professor Lewis received a Laurance S. Rockefeller Visiting Faculty Fellowship from The University Center for Human Values at Princeton University for the 2015-16 academic year. Fellows devote an academic year in residence at Princeton to research and writing about topics involving human values in public and private life. While at Princeton, Professor Lewis will be writing a book on the transformation and hidden perdurance of notions of ethical formation in the modern West.

**Dr. Simin Liu,** Professor of Epidemiology and Medicine
Professor Liu was awarded a 2015 Watson Institute Brazil Initiative grant. His project seeks to identify risk factors and means for improvement of cardiometabolic health in Brazilian and U.S. contexts through collaboration with Dr. Paulo Lotufo of University of São Paulo. Their work on physical activity and cardiometabolic fitness was published in the *Journal of American Heart Association* in 2015. He also gave a presentation at the AHA annual meeting titled “Pathways Analysis of Genomic Drivers for Cardiometabolic Outcomes,” which focused on understanding gene-diet interactions for cardiometabolic health in diverse populations. Dr. Liu was also appointed as a honorary visiting professor at the Centro de Pesquisa Clinica e Epidemiologica at the Univeristy of São Paulo.

**Julio Ortega,** Professor of Hispanic Studies
In December of 2015, Professor Ortega co-organized the two-day conference “Segunda Jornada de Estudios Transatlánticos” in Barcelona, Spain with co-sponsorship from the University of Barcelona and The Consortium for Advanced Studies in Barcelona. Participating in the conference were three Brown University graduates and current Assistant Professor of Hispanic Studies Sarah Thomas. In addition, Professor Ortega gave talks during the Fall 2015 semester at the Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, México and The Graduate Center, CUNY and participated on the panel “Cultura y Educación en el XXI” at the X Foro Iberoamericano in Barcelona, Spain.

**Luiz F. Valente,** Professor of Portuguese and Brazilian Studies and Comparative Literature
Professor Valente traveled to Portugal in October to participate in the symposium “Ofício Múltiplo: poesia e outras artes,” sponsored by the University of Oporto and the international research group Lyra Compoetics, of which he is one of the founding members. Professor Valente’s talk was titled “Glauber Rocha: entre o cinema e a poesia.”

**Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro,** Stanley J. Bernstein Assistant Professor of Political Science
Professor Weitz-Shapiro’s book *Curbing Clientelism in Argentina: Politics, Poverty, and Social Policy* (Cambridge University Press, 2014) received the Donna Lee Van Cott Best Book Award from the Political Institution Section of the Latin American Studies Association, 2015. She also gave a talk on her current work focusing on public opinion towards corruption in Brazil at the University of Texas at Austin in October 2015.
Publications


Julio Ortega, César Moro, Obra poética completa. Edited by André Coyné, Daniel Lafont, and Julio Ortega. Université de Poitiers, 2015.


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Affiliates</th>
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| **African Studies** | Geri Augusto  
  Anthony Bogues  
  Anani Dzidzienyo  
  Patsy Lewis  
  Brian Meeks  
  Keisha-Khan Perry  
  Besenia Rodriguez |
| **American Studies** | Leticia Alvarado  
  Kevin Escudero  
  Ralph Rodriguez  
  Elena Shih |
| **Anthropology** | Paja Faudree  
  Matthew Gutmann  
  Dwight Heath, Emeritus  
  Stephen Houston  
  Jessaca Leinaweaver  
  Andrew Scherer  
  Kay Warren |
| **Archeology and the Ancient World** | John Cherry  
  Rolf Winikes |
| **Biology** | Christopher de Graffenried  
  Amanda Jamieson  
  Gary Wessel |
| **Chemistry** | Wolfgang Peti |
| **Cognitive, Linguistic, and Psychological Sciences** | Scott AnderBois  
  Joachim Krueger |
| **Comparative Literature** | Forrest Gander  
  Esther Whitfield |
| **Computer Science** | Gabriel Taubin |
| **Ecology and Evolutionary Biology** | Mark Bertness  
  Linda Deegan  
  Erika Edwards  
  Fred Jackson  
  Stephen Porder  
  Jeremy Rich  
  Jon Witman |
| **Education** | Daniel Bisaccio |
| **Environmental Studies** | Heather Leslie  
  Dawn King |
| **French Studies** | Pierre Saint-Amand  
  Réda Bensmaïa, Emeritus |
| **Geological Sciences** | Karen Fischer  
  Jack Mustard  
  Alberto Saal |
| **Hispanic Studies** | José Amor y Vázquez, Emeritus  
  Laura Bass  
  Beth Bauer  
  Michelle Clayton  
  Jill Kuhnheim  
  Felipe Martínez Pinzón  
  Aldo Mazzucchelli  
  Stephanie Merrim  
  Julio Ortega  
  Nidia Schuhmacher  
  Victoria Smith  
  Silvia Sobral  
  Sarah Thomas  
  Mercedes Vaquero |
| **History** | Amy Bushnell  
  R. Douglas Cope  
  Roquinaldo Ferreira  
  James Green  
  Evelyn Hu-Dehart  
  Jennifer Lambe  
  Iris Montero  
  Jeremy Mumford  
  Amy Remensnyder  
  Daniel Rodriguez |
| **History of Art and Architecture** | Camila Maroja  
  Catherine Zerner, Emerita |
| **International Advancement** | Joshua Taub |
| **Italian Studies** | Massimo Riva |
| **International Relations** | Claudia Elliott |
| **John Carter Brown Library** | Norman Fiering, Emeritus  
  Neil Safier  
  Kenneth Ward |
| **John Hay Library** | Patricia Figueroa  
  Holly Snyder |
| **Latin American and Caribbean Studies** | Carla Alberti  
  Marcelo Leiras  
  William Miles  
  Veronica Zubillaga |
| **Marine Biology Lab** | Christopher Neil |
| **Music** | Matthew McGarrell  
  Kiri Miller  
  Joshua Tucker |
| **Office of Global Engagement** | Sonia Fiegenbaum |
| **Physics** | Meenakshi Narain  
  David Targon |
| **Political Science** | Peter Andreas  
  Robert Blair  
  Jeff Colgan  
  Richard Locke  
  Richard Snyder  
  Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro |
| **Portuguese and Brazilian Studies** | Onésimo Almeida  
  Maria Pacheco  
  Leonor Simas-Almeida  
  Patricia Sobral  
  Luiz Valente  
  Nelson Vieira |
| **Public Health** | Timothy Empkie  
  Omar Galarraga  
  Matthew Mimiaga  
  Don Operario |
| **Religious Studies** | Thomas Lewis |
| **Sociology** | Patrick Heller  
  Paget Henry  
  José Itzigsohn  
  David Lindstrom  
  John Logan  
  Timmons Roberts  
  Andrew Schrank  
  Leah VanWey |
| **Warren Alpert Medical School** | Bruce Becker  
  Cesario Bianchi  
  Joseph Bliss  
  Jeffrey Borkan  
  Suzanne de la Monte  
  Joseph Diaz  
  David Egliman  
  Mark Fagan  
  Timothy Flanigan  
  John Foggie  
  Beth Fuchs  
  Roberta Goldman  
  Skip Granai  
  Emily Harrison  
  Rami Kantor  
  Michael Lepore  
  Barry Lester  
  Stephen McGarvey  
  Amy Nunn  
  Pablo Rodriguez  
  Peter Simon  
  Barbara Stonestreet  
  Patrick Vivier |
| **Watson Institute** | Robert Bates  
  Andrew Blackadar  
  Steve Bloomfield  
  Peter Evans  
  Janice Gallagher  
  Jane Jaquette  
  Deepak Lamba-Nieves  
  Abraham Lowenthal  
  Yalidy Matos  
  Barbara Stallings |