



Latin American and Caribbean Studies Alumni Where Are They Now?

The Brown University Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) is pleased to bring you the first issue of our Latin American and Caribbean Studies Alumni Newsletter.

From 1975-2015, 311 students concentrated in Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Brown. These former students now live across the country in 38 states and Puerto Rico, and abroad in Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, the Bahamas, Switzerland, and the Czech Republic.

Our alumni are engaged in groundbreaking work on the region from a wide range of disciplines. This issue highlights a criminal defense and immigration lawyer, a Fulbright Research Scholar focusing on micro-business, a sexual and reproductive health policymaker with Planned Parenthood, a Columbia law student studying minority voting rights and campaign finance reform, a design specialist at Harvard's Center on the Developing Child, a manager of the Chiquita company in Switzerland, a University of Vermont Professor of Latin American History, and an economist at Harvard's Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs. Alumni are listed in alphabetical order by surname.

If you would like to be featured in the next issue of our Alumni Newsletter, please send an update and a picture to clacs@brown.edu. The newsletter will be published again in May, 2016. As always, many thanks for your support of CLACS!

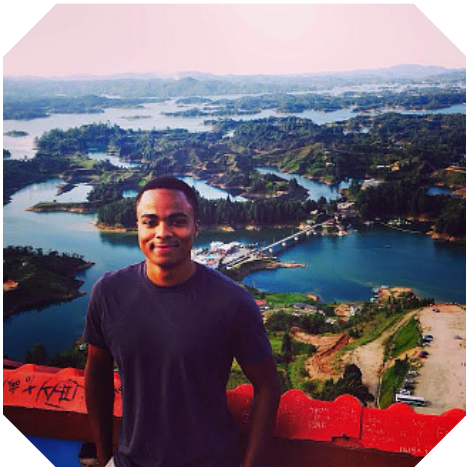
Richard Snyder
Director, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies is organizing an Alumni Reception in May. Stay tuned for more details!



Lily Axelrod

(Class of 2009) has pursued her interest in Latin American immigration since graduating, from community organizing in Mississippi to paralegal work in Memphis, and eventually to law school. She graduated from Harvard Law School in May of 2015, and she now works at the intersection of criminal defense and immigration law at Masferrer & Associates, a small firm in Boston. She represents noncitizens accused of crimes before state and federal courts, as well as those involved in deportation proceedings and other immigration matters. She continues to spend as much time in Mexico as she can. In March 2016 she will be in Cuernavaca, Morelos to marry Griff Camp, a Spanish teacher who shares her love of Latin American history and literature.



Austin Cole

(Class of 2015) is currently on a 10-month Fulbright Research Grant at the Universidad de Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia. His research focuses on social and solidarity economic programs that seek to aid micro-enterprises in the "comunas" of Medellín. In the course of his research, he regularly visits small businesses and groups of business owners. With the grant's support, he has had the opportunity to travel throughout Colombia, Panamá, and Ecuador.



Jennifer Friedman

(Class of 1996.5) has been working at the International Planned Parenthood Federation in the Western Hemisphere Region, coordinating the implementation of sexual and reproductive health programs throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, for the past nine years. This job has allowed her to combine her interests in public health and social justice in the region. She has had the chance to travel extensively throughout Latin America and the Caribbean, collaborating with amazing local health providers, advocates, and young people who are working to secure sexual and reproductive health care for all.



Shane Grannum

(Class of 2015) has begun to pursue a JD at Columbia Law School, with plans to graduate in May of 2018. He is interested in a career in election law, fighting for the voting rights of racial and language minorities in the United States, as well as campaign finance reform. He is also interested in comprehensive immigration reform and protecting deferred action programs that have allowed immigrants and their families to remain in the United States.



Jessica Mason

(Class of 2005, née Malkin) spent the year after graduation conducting research on education policy reform in Argentina with a Zucconi scholarship. She then worked in international business development for an educational services firm based in Washington, DC. She is currently the Senior Project Manager for International Innovation and Design Strategy Lead at Harvard University's Center on the Developing Child. She is responsible for the design and management of two social innovation labs, one in Brazil and one in Mexico, focused on improving the lives of children and families experiencing adversity. Jessica is also a facilitator, coach, and instructor of human-centered design at the LUMA Institute. There, she works with a variety of public and social sector clients in the US and Latin America. She is frequently in São Paulo, Brazil and Monterrey, Mexico.



Sheila Morrison

(Class of 1984) received an MBA from Harvard in 1990. Between her first and second years at business school, she leveraged her background in Latin American Studies and Spanish language to land an internship with Dole Foods in Santa Marta, Colombia. Upon graduation she returned to Dole with production operations in Costa Rica. She spent 20 years in the region (primarily in the agriculture sector) with varying responsibilities from Ecuador in the south to Mexico in the north. Today she lives in Switzerland, managing Chiquita's DACH region (Germany, Austria, and Switzerland), where collaboration with her Latin American peers remains constant.



Sarah Osten

(Class of 2000) studied with Professor Thomas Skidmore [Emeritus, Department of History] during her undergraduate years. She went on to earn an MA in Latin American Studies in 2004, and a PhD in History in 2010, both at the University of Chicago. She is now an Assistant Professor of Latin American History at the University of Vermont, specializing in modern Mexican political history. She has published research on post-Revolutionary Mexican politics, women's suffrage, and the history of the Mexican Southeast. She is currently writing a book about the formation of political parties in Mexico during the 1920s.



Adam Seigel

(Class of 2009) worked on issues related to the Andean region and US-Latin American relations following graduation as a Program Assistant at the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, DC. After two years at The Dialogue, he took a job as the Latin America Researcher at the consulting firm Eurasia Group where he analyzed political risk in Mexico, Colombia, and Central America. He moved to Bogotá, Colombia in 2013 and interned there for International Crisis Group's Latin America office. After returning to the US, he received an MA in International Relations and International Economics from the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies. Adam currently works on the research staff of the Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs at Harvard University.

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