



2015 newsletter ■

# brazil initiative



## message from the director

Dear Brown and Brazilian colleagues,  
alumni and other supporters:

In the span of a year, the Brazil Initiative at Brown University has expanded Brown's already stellar reputation as a center for research, discussions, and learning about Brazil. Through robust programming, the funding of collaborative and research grants in Brazil, and extensive outreach, the Brazil Initiative at Brown has continued to enhance the exposure of students to education and participation at Brazil-related events and further propelled Brown University forward towards being an

even more premier location for Brazilian Studies.

In addition, the Secretariat of the Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA) officially moved to Brown University in July 2015, and its next mega-conference in Brazilian Studies, BRASA XIII, will take place on Brown's campus March 31 through April 2, 2016. The current administrative manager of Brazil Initiative at Brown University, Ramon Stern, who has done a fabulous job coordinating Brazil Initiative activities, will also manage the secretariat of the Brazilian Studies Association. The merging of these responsibilities will only mean a greater visibility of Brazil on Brown's campus and a boost in the prominence of Brazilian Studies that faculty, students, alumni, and diverse departments can all enjoy.

In the upcoming academic year, in addition to the BRASA International Conference, our programming will largely occur in collaboration with departments and initiatives such as Africana Studies, the China and India Initiatives, the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, and the Music Department, among others. Our collaborative events will examine Brazil in a global context, touching on Afro-Brazilian positioning in the Black diaspora, Brazil as a world power in relationship to India and China, and the global reach of Brazilian music. We will also have a second annual CineBrasil Film Festival of recent Brazilian films that will include feature films, documentaries and shorts, as well as a film series in the spring focused on Brazilian music.

We have achieved much in the past year, and look forward to continuing to develop the key role of Brown University as a center for Brazilian Studies in the United States.

Um abraço,

**JAMES N. GREEN**  
*Director, Brazil Initiative at Brown*  
*Professor, Brazilian History and Culture*

## administrative manager: ramon stern



I am excited and proud to assume the role of administrative manager of the Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA) in addition to my role of coordinating the Brazil Initiative at Brown University. It gives me great pleasure to have seen the enthusiasm of students and faculty at our events and to have taken part in such a vibrant educational environment on a complex and rich country such as Brazil.

I owe great thanks to the two student assistants who contributed a great deal of time and effort to the functioning of the Brazil Initiative this past spring: Abigail Tisch, who worked on some wonderful interviews with key faculty and Lovinia Reynolds, an extraordinary assistant and partner for Brazil Initiative activities.

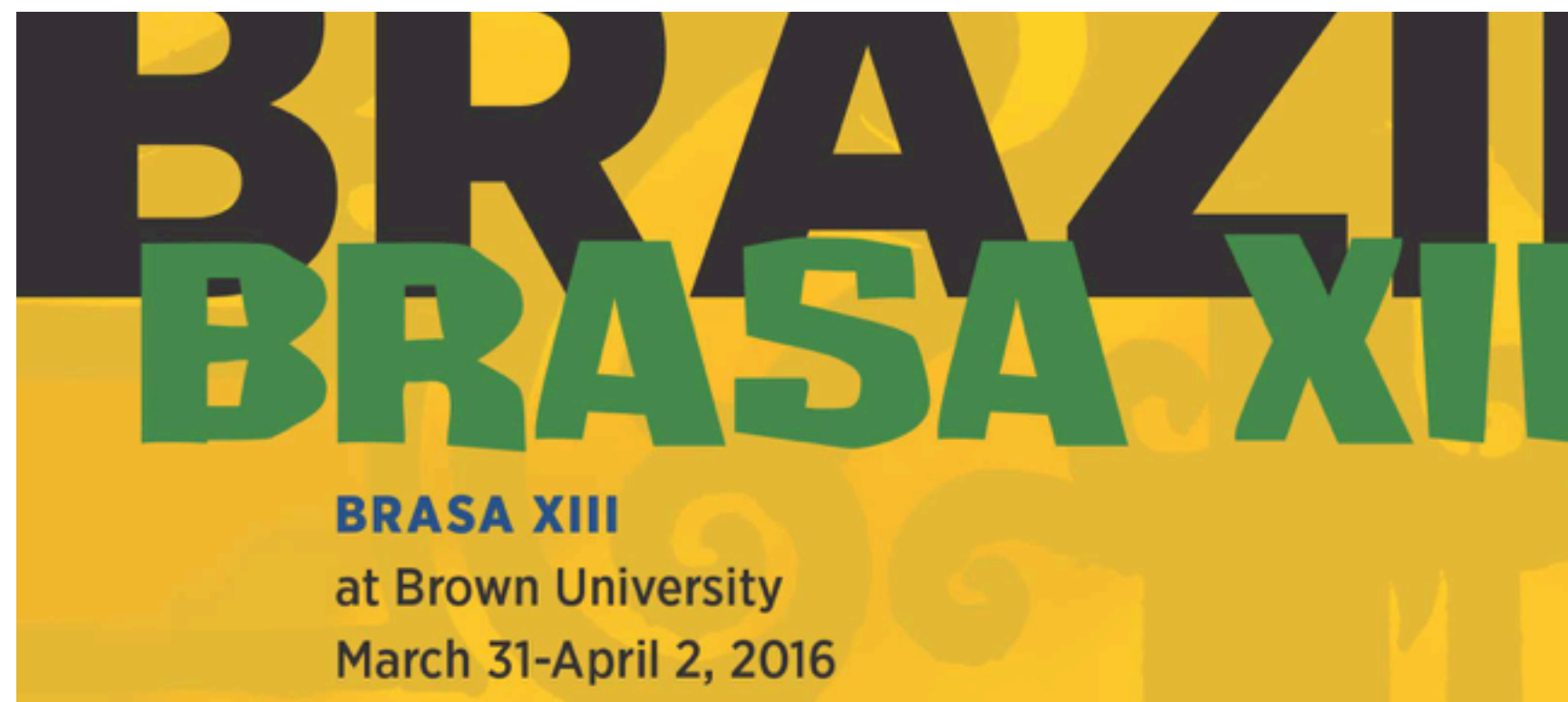
Many exciting projects, lectures, seminars and conferences are on the horizon. As always, I am open to the feedback of students, faculty, and alumni as to how to improve our programming and outreach to Brown and the larger community.

Sincerely,

**RAMON STERN**  
*Administrative Manager,*  
*Brazil Initiative and Brazilian Studies Association*  
*Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs*  
*Brown University*

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# brazilian studies association (brasa): brasa xiii, 2016 international conference and move of the secretariat

We have the pleasure to announce two major pieces of news concerning the Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA), the largest international academic organization for researchers in Brazilian Studies outside of Brazil. As of July 2015, the secretariat of this prestigious organization moved from its former home of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to Brown University.

Additionally, BRASA's 13th International Conference will be held at Brown University from March 31 through April 2, 2016. Ramon Stern, the administrative manager of the Brazil Initiative will also manage BRASA, and Professor James N. Green, the director of the Brazil Initiative, will serve as Executive Director of the Secretariat.

The Congress will bring upwards of 600 people to Brown's campus to present on a wide range of topics related to Brazil. If interested in volunteering or getting involved in BRASA's operations, please email [BRASA@BROWN.EDU](mailto:BRASA@BROWN.EDU) and we will be sure to find a way for you to help!



## choices program: brazil curriculum

### Bringing Brazil to U.S. High School Classrooms

How often do high school students in the United States learn about Brazil in their social studies classes? The answer is "hardly ever." And if ever, the resources available for teachers to use are often cursory and incomplete. The Choices Program, part of the Brazil Initiative and the Watson Institute, has set out to change that.

A national education initiative, the Choices Program has a twenty-five-year history of pushing the boundaries and bringing important, but often overlooked, international topics to secondary school classrooms. Choices collaborates with scholars at Brown to develop materials that bring the strength of Brown scholarship to high school classrooms, but in a form that teachers can use with students of varied abilities.

Ten years ago, the Choices Program published *Brazil: From Colony to Democracy*, a curriculum unit featuring readings, lesson plans, and videos. Close collaboration with Professors Thomas Skidmore and Anani Dzidzienyo, as well as Fernando Henrique Cardoso during his time as a visiting scholar at Brown, made the materials unique in scope and quality. In 2015, with the support of the Brazil Initiative, Choices has be-

gun developing new curriculum resources that are scheduled for release in the spring of 2016. The resources will draw on new scholarship, and include new readings, digital content, and lessons. The Choices Program seeks to deepen understanding of Brazil in the United States by providing teachers and their students an opportunity to explore the country's complex history, unique culture, and the questions and challenges facing Brazilian people today.

Choices' Director of Curriculum of Development Andy Blackadar sees the Brazil Initiative's programming and faculty as a vital component of the process. "The breadth of scholarship at Brown on Brazil is really special and the initiative's programming is a big help. We've done a series of video interviews of visiting speakers and are working with Brown faculty as well." Blackadar notes that Brown undergraduates are working in archives in Brazil gathering documents, photographs, and video footage for use with the new materials. "The faculty participation across disciplines and collaboration with students reflect what I think is a great strength of the Brazil Initiative and of Brown."



# brazil community health fellowship (bchf): bahia and brown

The Brazil Community Health Fellowship (BCHF) is a collaboration between Brown University's Brazil Initiative, the Brown University School of Public Health, and Instituto de Saúde Coletiva, Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA), the premier public health program in Northeastern Brazil.

The objective of this program is to engage Brown University undergraduate and medical students in experiential learning about community-engaged work related to HIV/AIDS and reproductive health in Brazil, with a focus on community service and reducing health disparities.

Additionally, the BCHF serves to formally unite the Brown University Brazil Initiative and the Universidade Federal da Bahia with the hope that this partnership will serve as the basis for many future collaborations and funding opportunities. Dr. Dourado will continue to work with Dr. Nunn and other colleagues to develop research and programmatic collaborations related to HIV/AIDS and other infectious diseases in Brazil.

Dr. Amy Nunn (*top*) had the following to say on her partnership with Dr. Inês Dourado (*bottom*): "Inês and I have worked together for the past ten years. We were brought closer together through Sarah MacCarthy, a former postdoc at Brown University. The Brazil Initiative Collaboration Grant allowed us to get much closer and for Inês to become a CAPES visiting scholar at Brown in Spring 2015."

Dr. Inês Dourado, an associate professor and researcher at the Health Collective Institute (Instituto de Saúde Coletiva) of the Federal University of Bahia describes the importance

of collaboration: "Public Health in Brazil is called "Collective Health." There is a conscious, political choice to call it "collective" health. The idea of collaboration and working together is already built into the name and finds its way into the culture in which it is studied. Bringing people from different cultures and backgrounds together to combat health issues is hugely important. HIV/AIDS is a perfect example of a world-wide collaboration."



## brazil lecture series and the brazil seminar, spring 2015

**Professor Bryan McCann**

*History, Georgetown University*

**"FAVELA POLITICS AND  
DEMOCRATIZATION IN RIO DE JANEIRO"**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2015, 6:00 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

**Professor Beatriz Mamigonian**

*History, UFSC*

**"TO BE OR NOT TO BE A LIBERATED AFRICAN:  
ILLEGAL SLAVE TRADE, INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATION,  
AND RIGHTS IN NINETEENTH-CENTURY BRAZIL"**

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2015, 12:00 PM  
CENTER FOR STUDY OF SLAVERY AND JUSTICE, 94 WATERMAN

**Professor Frances Hagopian**

*Government, Harvard University*

**"PROGRAMMATIC PARTIES AND  
SOCIAL POLICY CHANGE IN BRAZIL"**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015, 12:00 PM  
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

**Professor Jeffrey Lesser**

*History, Emory University*

**"MILITANT ETHNICS AND ETHNIC MILITANCY  
IN BRAZIL, 1940-1980"**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2015, 6:30 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

**Professor Ines Dourado**

*Public Health, Federal University of Bahia (UFBA)*

**"TRANSGENDER HEALTH AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTION IN NORTHEASTERN BRAZIL"**

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4TH, 10:00AM - 11:00AM  
121 SOUTH MAIN STREET, 4TH FLOOR, ROOM 408

**Professor Marcelo Ridenti**

*Sociology, Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP)*

**"JORGE AMADO AND HIS COMRADES  
IN EXILE DURING THE COLD WAR"**

THURSDAY, MARCH 5, 2015, 12:00 PM  
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE



Congresswoman Benedita Da Silva

“BRAZILIAN POLITICS, PRESENT AND FUTURE”  
MONDAY, MARCH 9, 4:00PM  
CRYSTAL ROOM, ALUMNAE HALL

Professor Anthony Pereira

*Director, Brazil Institute, King’s College London*  
“THE NATIONAL TRUTH COMMISSION:  
BRAZILIAN EXCEPTIONALISM IN TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE?”  
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015, 12:00 PM  
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Cheol-Sung Lee

*Sociology, University of Chicago*  
“EMBEDDEDNESS AND WELFARE STATES:  
A NETWORK APPROACH TO SOCIAL POLICY EXPANSION  
AND RETRENCHMENT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES”  
THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015, 12:00 PM  
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor José Antônio Cheibub

*Political Science, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign*  
“ORDER IN CHAOS:  
INTRA-PARTY COORDINATION IN SYSTEMS OF  
OPEN-LIST-PROPORTIONAL-REPRESENTATION”  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015, 6:00 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Marlon Weichert

*Brazilian Federal Prosecutor*  
“THE NATIONAL TRUTH COMMISSION REPORT:  
WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS?”  
TUESDAY, APRIL 7, 2015, 12:00 PM  
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM

Professor Geri Augusto

*Africana Studies and Science and Society, Brown University*  
“CONTRA O APARTEID LÁ NA ÁFRICA DO SUL...E LÁ VOU EU:  
CRITICAL ORALHISTORIES OF PROTEST, ANTI-RACISM  
AND BLACK TRANSNATIONALISM IN BRAZIL”  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015, 6:00 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Severino Albuquerque

*Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Madison*  
“CRUISING THE RUINS:  
SEX, PERFORMANCE, DISPLACEMENT, AND  
RACE IN TULIO CARELLA’S RECIFE DIARIES”  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2015, 6:00 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Seth Garfield

*History, University of Texas at Austin*  
“A THIRD-RATE MUSICAL COMEDY, EXCEPT IN THE DEADLY  
SERIOUSNESS OF ITS IMPLICATIONS: BRAZIL, THE UNITED STATES  
AND THE AMAZON RUBBER CAMPAIGN OF WORLD WAR II”  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015, 6:00 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Marina Silva

*Brazilian Environmentalist, Senator & Former Presidential Candidate*  
“OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN BRAZIL”  
THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2015, 5:00 PM  
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

spring film series

EDIFÍCIO MASTER (EDIFÍCIO MASTER, 2002), 110 MINUTES  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 2015

LINHA DE PASSE (2008), 113 MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 5, 2015

MADAME SATÃ (2002), 105 MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 12, 2015

DE PASSAGEM (PASSING BY, 2003), 87 MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 26, 2015

EDUARDO ESCOREL, O TEMPO E O LUGAR  
& A VOCAÇÃO DO PODER  
MARCH 11-12, 2015

DOMÉSTICA (HOUSEMAIDS, 2012), 76 MINUTES  
APRIL 9, 2015

LIXO EXTRAORDINÁRIO (THE WASTELAND, 2010), 100 MINUTES  
APRIL 16, 2015



prominent visitors

Benedita da Silva

Benedita da Silva, one of the most prominent Afro-Brazilian politicians in the history of Brazil, currently a congresswoman and former governor of Rio de Janeiro, spoke to a crowd of 80 plus people in the Crystal Alumnae Room about the achievements of the Workers’ Party governments and about her own personal challenges rising to the top of the Brazilian political sphere. Her charisma and affability were clearly visible, as was her willingness to respond to difficult questions from the audience on issues concerning the environment, policing and drug policy, institutional racism and other critiques and interventions.



## Eduardo Escorel

Brown University had the wonderful privilege of hosting Eduardo Escorel, a highly accomplished filmmaker, documentarian and editor in the Brazilian film industry. Not only did he give a lecture on the history of Brazilian documentaries and the Brazilian Northeast and screen two remarkable documentaries, he also had the opportunity of visiting a Portuguese language class to speak about filmmaking in Brazil and his own personal journey to the profession and to field questions from eager Portuguese language students. Mr. Escorel had the generosity to donate a copy of each of the documentaries to the Brown library after the screenings.



## Marina Silva

Marina Silva, an environmentalist, former Brazilian senator and two-time presidential candidate, graced Brown University with her presence for almost a week in May 2015. In addition to speaking to a packed house in Joukowsky Forum, she met with faculty and students from the Watson Institute among many other departments and also dialogued with Brazil-interested students, faculty and staff at a lunch. The Brazil Initiative, on behalf of and with the Watson Institute, would like to thank Marina Silva for her openness and willingness to share her knowledge with the larger Brown community.





# collaboration grants

Due to the generosity of an anonymous donor, the Brown-Brazil Initiative is able to fund collaborative research projects between Brazilian institutions and Brown faculty. The awardees of the grants during the fall and spring cycles, as well as the names of the projects, are listed below.

## fall 2014

**Helen Fuchs and Eleftherios Mylonakis**  
“**BRAZIL/BROWN NETWORK FOR THE STUDY OF CANDIDIASIS**”  
Fungal infections are a major cause of morbidity and mortality in Brazil and our labs will train Brazilian scientists in molecular biology assays for the study of fungal pathogenesis, to allow them to discover novel diagnostic assays and treatments.

**Rami Kantor and Amilcar Tanuri**  
“**DRUG RESISTANCE IN HIV-1 SUBTYPES**”  
The researchers tackle drug resistance, a major hurdle to sustainable treatment of the worldwide AIDS pandemic, by investigating mutation patterns in diverse, global HIV variants.

**Amy Nunn and Ines Dourado**  
“**TRAINING, RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TO ENHANCE BRAZIL’S HIV/AIDS CARE CONTINUUM**”  
The funding of a second year of The Brazil community health fellows program, which is an exchange program that trains students and fellows from Brown University and Universidade Federal da Bahia in community engaged scholarship related to HIV/AIDS. This experiential learning program takes place both in Brazil and the United States.

**Gabriel Taubin**  
“**FUNDAMENTAL GEOMETRY PROCESSING**”  
This Brazil Collaboration Grant complements and expands a Science Mobility Project grant issued by the Brazilian Government. The research comprises problems in Discrete Differential Geometry at the intersection of Mathematics, Computer Science, and Engineering.

## spring 2015

**Jennifer Friedman and Jonathan Kurtis**  
“**THE ROLE OF MICROBIAL TRANSLOCATION IN THE PATHOGENESIS OF S. MANSONI ASSOCIATED MORBIDITY**”  
Human schistosomiasis, a Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD), affects over 200 million individuals and remains a significant cause of morbidity and mortality in developing countries, despite available drug treatment. This project will prospectively define the kinetics of gut microbial translocation, in the context of *S. mansoni*, and in a cohort of 350 8-18 year olds living in Minas Gerais Brazil.

**Simin Liu**  
“**A BROWN-BRAZIL INITIATIVE IN CARDIO-METABOLIC HEALTH**”  
This project seeks to identify risk factors and means for improvement of cardio-metabolic health in both Brazilian and U.S contexts through collaboration with Dr. Paulo Lotufo of the University of São Paulo, Dr. Ali Mokdad of the University of Washington and Eduardo J. Simões of the University of Missouri.

**John Logan**  
“**URBAN ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC HEALTH IN BRAZIL**”  
This grant will allow for the creation of a data archive to map public health access in specific regions of São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro to shed light on spatial inequalities in Brazilian cities.

**Wolfgang Peti**  
“**A COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE PETI LABORATORY AND UFRJ**”  
Second year on a project in collaboration with the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro Federal University of Rio de Janeiro on a project that involves training in the use of structural biology equipment in Brazil and research to help fight infection-causing bacteria in soil and wetland environments found in Brazil and across the rest of the world.

# brazil small grants

The Brazil Small Grants program awards modest grants to doctoral students:

Nicolas Campisi	<i>Doctoral Student, Hispanic Studies</i>	FOOTBALL NATION: FUTEBOL, LITERATURE AND POLITICAL VIOLENCE IN BRAZIL (1964-2014)
Jamie Corbett	<i>Doctoral Student, Music</i>	PERFORMING AZOREAN FOLKLORE IN NEW ENGLAND AND SOUTHERN BRAZIL
Moises Costa	<i>Doctoral Student, Political Science</i>	THE ORDER OF BRAZILIAN PROGRESS: IS ECONOMIC GROWTH NECESSARY FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
Daniel MacDonald	<i>Doctoral Student, History</i>	SHOPPING CITY: CONSUMER CULTURE AND URBAN TRANSFORMATION IN SÃO PAULO, 1960-1980
David Mittelman	<i>Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies</i>	CLARICE LISPECTOR’S ÁGUA VIVA AND THE BOOK OF PSALMS
Xiaochen Lin	<i>Doctoral Student, Epidemiology</i>	UNDERSTANDING THE EFFECTS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ON CARDIO-METABOLIC HEALTH IN THE BRAZILIAN POPULATION
Marcelo Lotufo	<i>Doctoral Student, Comparative Literature</i>	LITERARY ROMANTICISM IN 19TH CENTURY BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA
Jon Nelson	<i>Doctoral Student, Sociology</i>	BRAZIL REFORESTATION PROJECT, ILHÉUS, BRAZIL
Andre Pagliarini	<i>Doctoral Student, History</i>	COMFORTABLE DEPENDENCY: DEVELOPMENT, POPULISM AND THE POLITICS OF CONTEMPT IN BRAZIL
Miguel Rosas Buendia	<i>Doctoral Student, Hispanic Studies</i>	TRAVEL WRITING IN THE AMAZONIAN REGION IN THE 19TH CENTURY
Hasan Shahid	<i>Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies</i>	MUSLIM VOICES IN BRAZILIAN CULTURE: REPRESENTATIONS IN LITERATURE AND THE MEDIA
Flora Thomson-Deveaux	<i>Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies</i>	LIFE AND WORKS OF SANTIAGO BADARIOTTI MERLO, BUTLER TO THE MOREIRA SALLES FAMILY





# symposia on the brazilian environment and sustainable development

On April 17th and 18th, 2015, the Institute at Brown for Environment and Society and the Brazil Initiative convened an international symposium at Watson Institute, Brown University entitled “Brazil’s Model of Low Carbon Sustainable Development.” The purpose of the conference was to discuss Brazil’s approach to low-carbon sustainable development with a focus on territorial planning and international negotiations in the face of climate change.

This exciting symposium brought together cutting-edge natural and social science research with discussions of current and future policy. Over the course of two days, panels presented research on “Mapping and Monitoring the Landscape,” “Regional Climate Change and Agriculture,” “Territorial Planning Under Climate Change,” and “Environmental Incentives and Institutions.” Research presentations covered land-use change and deforestation; and environmental, agricultural, and forest policy and governance.

The conference provided a forum for scholars and policymakers to reflect on management of Brazilian territory for agriculture, forest, and other uses; and on Brazil’s role in international climate change negotiations. Attendees and presenters included actors from the government, universities, and NGOs across Brazil, and from universities in the United States and Canada. Attendees praised the collaborative and engaging nature of the conference as well as the wide variety of perspectives presented. The conference was not only a success



to those who attended, but also to those viewing remotely. At 900 webcast views, the conference was the second most viewed event of the semester at Watson Institute. It was also one of the top topics trending on Twitter in Providence for the week.

The lead organizer, Leah Van Wey, gathered a tremendous group of scholars and representatives of environmental organizations in Brazil to discuss the science and social implications of the environment in Brazil. Timmons Roberts and Guy Edwards of Brown University, and Avery Cohn of Tufts University

also played key roles in putting together panels, broadcasting the event on Twitter and bringing important guests.

As a co-organizer of this conference, we at the Brazil Initiative hope to continue to provide spaces of critical inquiry into Brazilian culture, politics and environment. We would like to acknowledge the support of the Watson Institute, the Brown Office of Global Engagement, Fundación Bofin and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Brown University and FAPESP in Brazil, without whom this conference would not have been possible.







# BRAZIL INITIATIVE