2016 newsletter
brazil initiative
Dear Brown and Brazilian colleagues, alumni and other supporters:

Through two years of hard work, and the expansion of Brazil activities through key inter-department and other collaborations, and with the arrival of the Secretariat of the Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA), Brown University has become ever more abuzz with Brazil-related programming and accomplishments. We have continued to fund collaboration grants and spearhead education and programming on Brazil on Brown's campus together with the contributions of Africana Studies, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies, the Center for the Study of Slavery and Justice, and the collaborations of Middle East Studies, the China and India Initiatives, the larger Watson community, and a host of other departments.

This past year boasted a beautiful art exhibition at the Watson Institute in collaboration with Instituto Moreira Salles, a symposium in tribute to Afro-Brazilian leader and activist Abdias Nascimento, the thirteenth international conference of the Brazilian Studies Association, CineBrasil 2015 and a spring film series focused on Brazilian music in addition to a number of captivating lectures.

We look forward to continuing to provide a space for debate and rigorous examination of the issues of the day in Brazil and have an exciting set of speakers and events in store for Fall 2016 focused on the theme of “Equality and Social Justice.” As always, we are excited to support the education and expansive opportunity for reflection on Brazil at this institution. Thank you to all who have participated and will continue to participate together with us in our future endeavors.

Um abraço,

JAMES N. GREEN
Director, Brazil Initiative, Brown University
Carlos Manuel de Céspedes Professor, Latin American History

The academic year 2015-2016 was a year of great accomplishments in programming and academic exchanges. From CineBrasil 2015, to an exciting array of lectures and seminars, an art exhibition with Instituto Moreira Salles, a symposium in tribute to Abdias Nascimento and BRASA’s 13th International Conference, the fall and spring alike were a resounding success. We saw greater engagement and collaboration with Africana Studies, Middle East Studies and the China and India Initiatives on our events and expanded even further on the scope of topics covered.

Thank you to my team of students who helped to make these events and the daily administration of Brazil Initiative and BRASA a success: Aida Palma, Donovan Dennis and Lovinia Reynolds at the Brazil Initiative; Beatrice Bugane and Louise Leitão at BRASA; and also for the assistance of Uyanga Battulga, Flo-ra Thomson-Deveaux on the curating of the film festival and series, and the countless volunteers from the Watson Institute and graduate student programs who made the BRASA Conference run so smoothly!

I remain at work and open to feedback and engagement from faculty, students, alumni and all interested members of the Brown, Providence and larger community in our push to enhance and expand on the offerings of the Brazil Initiative and the Brazilian Studies Association.

Sincerely,

RAMON STERN
Administrative Manager, Brazil Initiative and Brazilian Studies Association
Watson Institute for International and Public Affairs
Brown University
Largely due to the efforts of curator Flora Thomson-Deveaux, the artistic quality of CineBrasil 2015 and of the spring film series soared to even greater heights. The films were excellently attended and exposed many social issues in Brazil and many new dimensions, largely unknown, about its film industry.

FEBRUARY 11, 2016: Saravah
Pierre Barouh, 1969

FEBRUARY 18, 2016: Branco Sai, Preto Fica
Adirley Queirós, 2014

MARCH 3, 2016: Sou Feia Mas Tô na Moda
Denise Garcia, 2005

MARCH 10, 2016: Horas
Marga Kempaner, Brown student

MARCH 17, 2016: A Negação do Brasil
Joel Zito Araújo, 2000

MARCH 24, 2016: Eu Sou Carlos Imperial
Renato Terra, 2015

APRIL 7, 2016: Vou rifar meu coração
Ana Reper, 2011
March 2 - May 31, 2016

Watson Institute hosted a stunning collection of photographs of iconographic and more marginal sections of Rio in the spring of 2016. An opening lecture and reception kicked off the exhibition on March 2, 2016.

Art at Watson and Instituto Moreira Salles exhibit Rio: a visual dialogue over one hundred and fifty years
Professor Oswaldo Truzzi
Federal University of São Carlos (UFSCar) and National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq)
“LEBANESE AND SYRIAN IMMIGRATION TO SÃO PAULO FROM 1880 TO 1950: SOCIO-ECONOMIC MOBILITY AND IDENTITY PATTERNS IN A NEW HOMELAND”
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2015, 6:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor John T. Karam
Spanish and Portuguese, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
“MANIFOLD DESTINY: ARABS AT A SOUTH AMERICAN BORDER REMAKING THE HEMISPHERE”
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2015, 4:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Darien Lamen
Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Madison
“THE FUTURE OF THE FUTURE: AMAZONIAN SOUND SYSTEMS AND DIGITAL MUSIC MAKING IN BELEM, BRAZIL”
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016, 12:00 PM
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Marcelo Paixão
Associate Professor, University of Texas at Austin
“The Legend of Enchanted Modernity: Racial Injustice and Modernization in Brazil”
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2016, 12:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Jeffrey Hoelle
Anthropology, UC Santa Barbara
“CATTLE CULTURE AND DEFORESTATION IN THE BRAZILIAN AMAZON”
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016, 12:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Fabiano Maisonnave
“DO CRISSES SELL NEWSPAPERS? COVERING BRAZIL’S BREAKDOWN”
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2016, 6:30 PM
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Barbara Weinstein
History, NYU
“REPRODUCING REGIONAL INEQUALITY: THE CASE OF SÃO PAULO, BRAZIL”
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 12:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Rachel Harding
Ethnic Studies, University of Colorado-Denver
“MYSTICISM AND MOTHERING IN BLACK WOMEN’S SOCIAL JUSTICE ACTIVISM: BRAZIL/USA”
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2016, 12:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor James Woodard
History, Montclair State University
“CREATING BRAZILIAN CONSUMER CAPITALISM IN THE AMERICAN CENTURY: COMMERCE, CULTURE, POWER”
THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 2016, 6:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Professor Robert Gay
Sociology, Connecticut College
BOOK DISCUSSION ON “BRUNO: CONVERSATIONS WITH A BRAZILIAN DRUG DEALER”
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2016, 5:00 PM
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Gregory Morton
Watson Fellow in International Studies, Brown University
“ASSETS THAT LAST: WOMEN’S OWNERSHIP AND THE TIMING OF BOLSA FAMÍLIA BENEFITS IN RURAL BRAZIL”
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20, 2016 12:00 PM
JOUKOWSKY FORUM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Jeff Slayter-Beltrao
Political Science, Amherst University
“TAKIN’ IT TO THE BEACHES: A COMPARATIVE INTERPRETATION OF BRAZIL’S 2013 URBAN PROTESTS”
FRIDAY, APRIL 22, 2016, 12:00 PM
MCKINNEY CONFERENCE ROOM, WATSON INSTITUTE

Renan Quinalha, Edilza Sotero and André Martins Bogossian
ROUNDTABLE: “BRAZIL: WHAT’S NEXT?”
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2016
Brazil: A History of Change uses innovative lessons and readings to help secondary school students explore Brazil’s history and trace its legacies through the present. There is special emphasis on Brazilians’ efforts to reclaim their democracy after the end of military rule.

In an event organized by Brown students largely for students, the “Pan-American Student Forum on Race” focused on centering personal experience as another form of knowledge production, specifically surrounding racial hierarchies and forms of classification across the Americas. Great thanks are owed to Aida Palma for conceiving of the event and working so hard to make it a success! The help of Lovinia Reynolds and Donovan Dennis was also essential in putting on the workshop.
homenagem: remembering the life and work of abdias nascimento

December 4, 2015

Africana Studies, along with Brazil Initiative, organized a day-long tribute to a towering figure in Brazil’s Black Movement and for Black Rights, Abdias Nascimento (1914-2011), a political thinker, activist, educator, painter, playwright, human rights advocate and untiring warrior in the fight to end racial exclusion in Brazil and elsewhere. A number of scholars who knew Abdias Nascimento personally and were inspired by his work and activism, gathered for a special day of remembrance and intellectual rigor to reflect on the continued importance of Nascimento to present politics of Afro-Brazil and the larger African diaspora.

9:00-9:30 AM
Welcome and Opening Remarks
Anani Dzidzienyo, Brown University

9:30-10:45 AM
Abdias Nascimento: Quilombismo, Pan-Africanism and Afro-Centricity
Molefi Kete Asante, Temple University

11:00AM-12:15 PM
Diasporic Dialogues and Political Exchanges
Moderator: Roquinaldo Ferreira, Brown University

1:45 - 3:00 PM
Enacting Afro-Brazil
Moderator: Geri Augusto, Brown University
Abdias Nascimento: The Impact of an Afro-Brazilian Leader on the Field of Race Relations in Brazil
Carlos Alberto Medeiros, Independent Scholar and Translator
Shaping Afro-Latin America
Zachary Morgan, University of New Mexico
The Art and Life of Abdias Nascimento
Cheryl Sterling, The City College of New York

5:00-5:15 PM
Closing Remarks
Keisha-Khan Perry, Brown University
brasa xiii
international conference
March 31 - April 2, 2016

Attended by circa 500 scholars from across the United States, Europe and Bra-
zil, BRASA XIII was a tremendous success. A plenary session on the “Future of Brazil” and a townhall on the “Future of Brazilian Studies” drew hundreds and the panels were rigorous and well-attended.

Special thanks is owed to Jody Soares and Meghan Silvestri from Event and Conference Services at Brown University and student assistants Beatrice Rugani, Louise Leitão and Fernando Guimarães.

Great thanks is owed to Administrative Manager, Ilmon Stern, for all of his hard work and to his team of volunteers drawn from the Watson Institute and among the graduate students.

And finally, a great thank you is owed to Judy Bieber of the program committee and all of the members of the BRASA Executive Board for their assistance, as well as the James N. Green, Executive Director of the Secretariat.
Dr. Helen Fuchs and Dr. Eleftherios Mylonakis  
**STUDY OF CANDIDIASIS**

New treatments, diagnostics methods, and a better understanding of fungal virulence factors are needed to improve the health-care of patients with candidiasis. Fungal infections are a major cause of morbidity and mortality in Brazil, with even higher infection frequency than observed in the U.S. Our lab has developed infection models with the nematode Caenorhabditis elegans and the greater wax moth Galleria mellonella that aid in identifying new antimicrobial compounds through the use of high through put methods, and evaluating virulence traits.

Dr. Amy Nunn  
**ENHANCING PRE-EXPOSURE PROPHYLAXIS PROGRAMS**

The Brazil Community Health Fellowship (BCHP) 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.

This year, our students spent their internships in the community interviewing men about HIV prevention programs. Most patients were HIV-negative men who were at high risk for HIV acquisition. These interviews took place in Portuguese in clinical and community settings in Salvador.

Dr. Richard Bennett  
**UNDERSTANDING CLINICAL PERSISTENCE IN HUMAN FUNGAL INFECTIONS**

This project is a collaboration between the Bennett lab at Brown and Dr. Colombo at the Universidade Federal de São Paulo (UNIFESP) in Brazil, and addresses the mechanisms by which bloodstream fungal infections resist drug treatment. In particular, it examines clinical isolates of Candida that have been collected by Dr. Colombo and persisted in the bloodstream of patients despite treatment with antifungal drugs. The collection of isolates is now being examined both by Dr. Colombo’s group (to determine their intrinsic resistance to antifungal drugs) and by the Bennett lab (to define their genome sequences as well as their phenotypes). These experiments will reveal if a subset of Candida isolates resist effective drug treatment due to particular properties associated with these isolates. In addition, exchange visits between researchers will strengthen the expertise in both groups in analyzing the properties and genomes of Candida isolates.

Dr. Chi-Wang Shu  
**EFFICIENT NUMERICAL METHODS AND APPLICATIONS**

Joint research on the development, analysis and application of high order weighted essentially non-oscillatory schemes for parabolic partial differential equations.

---

Thamyris Almeida  
**Doctoral Student, History**

Silvia Cabral Teresa  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

Nicolas Campisi  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

Adi Gold  
**Doctoral Student, Ethnomusicology**

Esther Viola Kurtz  
**Doctoral Student, Ecological and Evolutionary Biology**

Robert W. Lamb  
**Doctoral Student, History**

Daniel MacDonald  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

Jon Nelson  
**Doctoral Student, Sociology**

Oluwadamilola O. Oni-Orisan  
**Doctoral Student, School of Public Health**

Watufani M. Poe  
**Doctoral Student, Africana Studies**

Amy S. Teller  
**Doctoral Student, Sociology**

Flora Thomson-DeVeaux  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

---

**THE BRAZIL SMALL GRANTS PROGRAM AWARDEES 2016**

The Brazil Small Grants program awards modest grants to doctoral students in order to support their research.

**THERY WILL NOT KILL ME: THE COLLECTIVE MEMORY OF OSVALDÃO**

Thamyris Almeida  
**Doctoral Student, History**

**RACE AND GENDER IN CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE IN BRAZIL AND AFRICA**

Silvia Cabral Teresa  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

**INVENTORS OF EXILE: BRAZILIAN JEWISH FICTION AND COSMOPOLITANISM**

Nicolas Campisi  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

**SUBJECTIVITY AND THE INTEGRATION OF NATURE AND THE CITY IN CONTEMPORARY BRAZILIAN FICTION**

Adi Gold  
**Doctoral Student, Ethnomusicology**

**EMBODIED KNOWLEDGE AND THE TRANSFORMATION OF CONSCIOUSNESS IN CAPOEIRA ANGOLA**

Esther Viola Kurtz  
**Doctoral Student, Ecological and Evolutionary Biology**

**PLACING BRAZIL’S REEF FISH COMMUNITIES IN A GLOBAL CONTEXT**

Robert W. Lamb  
**Doctoral Student, History**

**LISPECTOR’S ÁGUA VIVA AND THE BOOK OF PSALMS**

Daniel MacDonald  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

**ATLANTIC RAINFOREST**

Jon Nelson  
**Doctoral Student, Sociology**

**LEGACY OF YORUBA SLAVES IN BRAZIL: IDENTIFYING ETHNICITY THROUGH THE LENS OF FACIAL SCARIFICATION**

Oluwadamilola O. Oni-Orisan  
**Doctoral Student, School of Public Health**

**THE RACE TO SEXUALITY: BLACK LGBT MOVEMENTS IN BRAZIL**

Watufani M. Poe  
**Doctoral Student, Africana Studies**

**CHOCOLATE FUTURES ON BRAZIL’S CACAU**

Amy S. Teller  
**Doctoral Student, Sociology**

**TRANSLATION OF MEMÓRIAS PÓSTUMAS DE BRÁS CUBAS**

Flora Thomson-DeVeaux  
**Doctoral Student, Portuguese and Brazilian Studies**

---

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