The Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies



FOCUS ON FACULTY FALL 2015

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

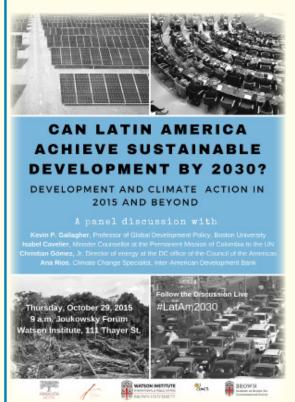


Forrest Gander Translates Lost Poems of Pablo Neruda

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 Organizes Conference on Violence in Venezuela at Tulane University

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 Caraqueña* (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 University 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 "Oficio 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

Guy Edwards and **J. Timmons Roberts**, *A Fragmented Continent: Latin America and the Global Politics of Climate Change*. Forward by Ricardo Lagos. MIT Press, 2015.

Jessaca Leinaweaver, *La migración adoptiva: criando a peruanos en España*. Lima: Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, trans. Adriana Soldí, 2015.

"How (Not) to Talk About Adoption: On Communicative Vigilance in Spain." (with Susan Frekko & Diana Marre) *American Ethnologist* 42(4): 703–719. 2015.

Felipe Martínez Pinzón and Javier Uriarte, eds. *Entre la niebla y el humo: guerra y cultura en América Latina*. Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana, University of Pittsburgh, 2016.

Felipe Martínez Pinzón and Kari Soriano Salkjelsvik, eds. *Re-visitar el costumbrismo: cosmopolitismo, pedagogías y modernización en Iberoamérica*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 2016.

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

"La lectura transatlántica, Un paradigma dialógico de la historia cultural latinoamericana" in *Literatura latinoamericana y literatura mundial*. Editors Gesina Muller and Dunia Gras. Vervuert, Madrid, 2015, 8-16.

"España aparta de mí este cáliz. Hacia una poética" in Carmen de Mora, ed. *Viajeros, diplomáticos, exiliados hispanoamericanos en España (1914-1939), vol iii.* Universidad de Sevilla, 2014, 505-528.

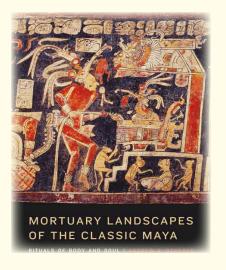
"Trayecto Transatlántico," in Letral. Universidad del Litoral, Argentina, 2015.

Andrew Scherer, *Mortuary Landscapes of the Classic Maya: Rituals of Body and Soul.* University of Texas Press, 2015.

Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro, "Political Corruption and Partisan Engagement: Evidence from Brazil," (with Matthew S. Winters) *Journal of Politics in Latin America* 7(1): 45-81. 2015.









Faculty Affiliates

Africana 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

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Paja Faudree
Matthew Gutmann
Dwight Heath, Emeritus
Stephen Houston
Jessaca Leinaweaver
Andrew Scherer
Kay Warren

Archeology and the Ancient World

John Cherry Rolf Winkes

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 ScienceGabriel Taubin

Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Mark Bertness Linda Deegan Erika Edwards Fred Jackson Stephen Porder Jeremy Rich Jon Witman **Economics**

Pedro Dal Bó Andrew Foster Justine Hastings John V. Henderson, Emeritus Sriniketh Nagavarapu

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Daniel Bisaccio

Environmental Studies

Heather Leslie Dawn King

French Studies

Pierre Saint-Amand Réda Bensmaïa, Emeritus

Geological Sciences

Karen Fischer Jack Mustard Alberto Saal

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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

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Massimo Riva

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Claudia Elliott

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Norman Fiering, Emeritus Neil Safier Kenneth Ward

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Christopher Neil

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Sonia Fiegenbaum

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Meenakshi Narain David Targan

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Robert Blair Jeff Colgan Richard Locke Richard Snyder Rebecca Weitz-Shapiro

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Timothy Empkie Omar Galarraga Matthew Mimiaga Don Operario **Religious Studies**

Thomas Lewis

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Theatre Arts and Performance Studies

Patricia Ybarra

Warren Alpert Medical School

Bruce Becker Cesario Bianchi Joseph Bliss Jeffrey Borkan Suzanne de la Monte Joseph Diaz David Egilman Mark Fagan Timothy Flanigan John Foggle Beth Fuchs Roberta Goldman Skip Granai **Emily Harrison** Rami Kantor Michael Lepore Barry Lester Simin Liu Stephen McGarvey

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Barbara Stallings