During the 2005-06 school year, the Center for Latin American Studies was honored to fund four faculty-led conferences and events.

**Latin American Politics Lecture Series**

Throughout the academic year, the Latin American Politics Lecture Series brought a host of eminent scholars to Bolivar House to give their perspective on the topic of Latin American politics. The series was organized by Beatriz Magaloni and Alberto Diaz-Cayeros in the Political Science Department.

The series began early fall quarter with a lecture from Chappell Lawson, an associate professor of political science at MIT. He gave a talk focusing on the recent Mexican presidential election of 2006, with relation on how it reflects on the previous election in 2000. Besides focusing on Mexican politics in particular and Latin American politics in general, Professor Lawson’s current research focuses on the relationship between citizens’ political skills and the quality of democracy across a range of countries.

Professor Barry Ames, hailing from the University of Pittsburgh, followed with his lecture on Brazil’s 2002 election, specifically looking at a longitudinal exploration of class, ideology, and partisanship. Ames received his Ph.D. in Political Science from Stanford.

The final lecture of Fall Quarter was given by Kent Eaton, an associate professor in the Department of National Security from the Naval Postgraduate School. His talk was titled “Armed Clientelism: How Decentralization Complicated Colombia’s Civil War.” Currently, Eaton’s research and writing focuses on political and economic reforms in developing countries.

Winter Quarter’s first lecture was from Deborah Yashar, an associate professor of politics and international affairs from Princeton University. Her talk “Contesting Citizenship in Latin America: The Rise of Indigenous Movements and the Postliberal Challenge,” stems from her interest in the comparative study of democracy.

“Bounded Rationality and Policy Diffusion: Social Sector Reform in Latin America” was the next lecture, as given by professor Kurt Weyland from the University of Austin. His research interests focus on democratization, market reform, social policy, and populism in Latin America. He has drawn on a range of theoretical and methodological approaches, including insights from cognitive psychology, and has done extensive field research in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Peru, and Venezuela.

The final lecture of the year, “International Linkage and the Democratization: The Rise and Fall of Competitive Authoritarianism in Post-Cold War Latin America,” was given by Steve Levitsky, associate professor of government and social studies at Harvard University. His areas of research include political parties and party change, informal institutions and organizations, and political regimes and regime change. His primary regional interest is Latin America, with a particular focus on Argentina and Peru.
LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Center had a very successful year. We accepted our first new class of MA students and have effectively re-established the traditional master’s program in Latin American studies. Among our first year students was one Venezuelan and one Peruvian and they came from such US universities as Stanford, Davis and Penn. This year we have also been able to circulate our rebirth to a wide audience and the number of applicants for admission to our second class has increased dramatically. Since my last letter we have also sponsored a large number of very successful and diverse faculty and student workshops and conferences, almost all in cooperation with other departments. This experience has been so successful, that from now on the Center will be devoting the bulk of our endowment funding to these joint projects. Last year we also converted our seminar room into a smart classroom and so for the past year all our weekly seminars have been using the latest in electronic presentations, which has worked out extremely well. Along with a long list of diverse lectures from visiting scholars, this year we also sponsored very lively panels on the Brazilian, Nicaraguan and Venezuelan elections. Another new development has been our funding for a new third year course in Portuguese, so that now all our language programs in both Spanish and Portuguese at Stanford go from introductory level to the most advanced courses. The Center with the help of the Department of History also sponsored two visiting scholars, Laird Bergad from the Graduate Center CUNY, an expert on slavery and Brazilian and Caribbean history in the Fall term, and Nathan Wachtel from the College de France who among his many areas of interest is a leading scholar on Andean society for the Winter Quarter. Our Tinker Visiting Professors from 2005-06 came from Argentina, Peru, Brazil and Mexico, and are spread over a large number of departments. Next year we are actively developing candidate applications for Tinker Visiting Professorships in cooperation with various Science and Engineering departments in an attempt to increase the impact of these grants across campus. Last year’s sponsorship of two scientists from Latin America for Tinker professorships proved highly successful. Aside from programs, lectures and visitors, there have also been significant changes at Bolivar House itself this year. Megan Gorman our former Program Coordinator became our Associate Director and Omar Ochoa and José Ignacio (Jimmy) Mosqueda were hired respectively as our Business and Program Managers. This is a great team to work with and I am delighted with our effective outreach and the prompt and effective administration which the Center now provides. With the ongoing support from the Division of International Comparative & Area Studies we expect next year to be a very active one, especially in terms of visitors and programs related to Latin America.

—Herb Klein

II Symposium on Portuguese for Spanish Speakers: Acquisition and Teaching

The symposium taking place on March 17-19, 2006, was organized by Lyris Wiedemann, Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Ana Isabel Delgado, and Nicole Barraza. It was composed of two keynote speakers and nine round-tables, comprising 21 presentations that varied from an appraisal of past, present, and future of the field and the acquisition/teaching of Portuguese phonology, morphology and syntax to assessment and testing and sociolinguistic issues.

The keynote speakers were Milton Azevedo (UC Berkeley) and Elizabeth Bernhardt (Stanford University). The table chairs and discussion moderators were: Marianne Akerberg (UNAM), Ana Maria Carvalho (University of Arizona, Tuscon), Toni Cowles (University of Pennsylvania), Ana Isabel Delgado (Stanford University), John Jensen (Florida International University), Dale Koike (UT Austin), Matilde Scaramucci (Universidad Estadual de Campinas) and Carmen Tesser (University of Georgia and Middlebury College).

The first important aspect of the meeting was gathering scholars from the three main world areas where teaching and research on Portuguese for Spanish Speakers take place: the United States, Brazil, and Spanish-speaking Latin America, representing universities and government agencies from four countries and 16 states within the U.S. The symposium clearly showed the occurrence of a consolidation of the field since the first symposium, which took place in 2003, and the accumulation of more solid research data.

A volume comprised mostly of papers presented at the symposium is currently in the works. There are plans for a third symposium to take place at the University of Campinas (UNICAMP), the leading Brazilian institution in Applied Linguistics.

Please visit http://www.stanford.edu/dept/lc/portuguese/ for more information.
Indigenous Peoples and Ecotourism Certification Workshop

In September of 2006, the Center for Ecotourism and Sustainable Development, a joint program of Stanford University and The Institute for Policy Studies held an event titled “Indigenous Peoples and Ecotourism Certification Workshop,” which was held in Quito, the capital city of Ecuador. Stanford faculty member professor William Durham and CESD coordinator Geraldine Slean organized the workshop.

The workshop hopes to promote these four concepts when it comes to ecotourism: 1) reinforce the vitality of industry standards via certification that will: 2) provide tangible economic benefits to host communities; 3) make a positive impact on conservation, and 4) educate hosts and guests. Ecotourism Certification (EC) wants to prevent negative environmental and socio-cultural impacts from the interaction between tourism and local indigenous communities. CESD believes that indigenous communities should have a central role in the process to generate and elaborate EC standards.

During the workshop, participants looked at socio-cultural, environmental, and economic practices and how they relate to the question of ecotourism. Indigenous leaders and participants of the workshop felt strongly that cultural and natural resources contained within indigenous territories should be used for the self-development of the communities within those lands. The workshop resulted in a creation of a declaration document and the unilateral decision to create an indigenous tourism network of the Americas, called Intiruna (meaning ‘People of the Sun’ in Quechua).

The workshop was a great first step towards incorporation of indigenous viewpoints into EC. The workshop declaration should be seen as a directive that orients the international community on how to respect and promote indigenous rights within the tourism framework. Each of the indigenous communities represented at the meeting declared a strategic alliance with CESD and called for an immediate initiation to the process that would organize indigenous communities involved in tourism throughout the Americas.

Tropical Dry Forest Symposium

In December of 2006, Stanford University hosted a symposium entitled “Seasonally Dry Tropical Forests.” This was a joint effort between CLAS and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico (UNAM), and organized by Rodolfo Dirzo, Hal Mooney and Hillary Young. The Stanford Institute for Environmental Studies also provided support. The symposium convened prominent researchers in the field of tropical dry forests with the aims of 1) reviewing of our collective knowledge on the ecology and conservation of tropical dry forests and 2) putting together an edited volume composed of chapters prepared by participants of the meeting. This volume will be edited by Dirzo, Mooney, Hillary Young, and Gerardo Ceballos and is expected to be published in 2007.

The importance of this symposium cannot be underestimated. Though tropical dry forests are one of the most representative and highly endangered ecosystems in Latin America, knowledge about this ecosystem remains limited in numerous fields. Furthermore, the relevant information that does exist is scattered and poorly disseminated in the scientific and policy literature. The most significant compilation on the ecology of these forests was produced over a decade ago.

Participating in the conference were:

Please visit http://www.stanford.edu/group/seasonally_dry/index.html for more information.
Tinker and Visiting Scholars

Tinker Visiting Professors 2005-06

Under the auspices of a generous endowment from the Edward Larroque Tinker Foundation that was awarded to Stanford and four other universities in 1978, CLAS has had the honor and distinction of hosting an impressive roster of prominent senior scholars from Latin America, Iberia, and Canada as Tinker Visiting Professors in Latin American Studies. Each year, these scholars are selected from candidates nominated by faculty in any department or professional school at Stanford. While at CLAS, Tinker Visiting Professors teach classes in their areas of expertise, give lectures to Stanford audiences, and share their knowledge and research on a wide range of topics that focus on Latin America.

Gustavo Carlos Buscaglia is an associate professor of nuclear engineering at the Instituto Balseiro at Cuyo National University in Mendoza, Argentina, where he received his doctoral degree in 1993. He is also a researcher at the CNEA (National Atomic Energy Agency of Argentina), where he was Head of the Computational Mechanics Group from 1999-2001. He has published more than 30 papers in internationally recognized journals, such as the Journal of Non-Newtonian Fluid Mechanics, the International Journal for Numerical Methods in Fluids, Structural Optimization, and Physical Review. Buscaglia has been honored with the first ever Young Investigator Award from the Argentinean Association for Computational Mechanics. While at Stanford, he taught “Engineering Functional Analysis and Finite Elements.”

Marcos Cueto is an historian and a professor in the School of Public Health at the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Perú. He is also the director of the Institute of Health and Development, the research center of the School of Public Health. Dr. Cueto received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1988. In 1998, he was co-winner of the Premio Iberoamericano awarded by the U.S. Latin American Studies Association for the best book in the social sciences and the humanities on Latin America published in Spanish or Portuguese. While at Stanford, he taught an upper-level undergraduate course on “Health, Medicine and Society in Latin American History.”

Margo Glantz is professor emeritus at the Universidad Nacional de Mexico, DF, Mexico, Faculty of Philosophy and Letters. She is the author of eleven novels, including Las genealogías (1982), Síndrome de naufragios (1984), and El rastro (The Wake) which won the 2005 Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz Prize. Glantz is also a journalist and literary critic. Glantz has written extensively on Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, Álvar Núñez, Cabeza de Cava, and Carlos de Sigüenza y Góngora. At Stanford, she taught “Gender Violence in Latin American Literature.”

Ruy de Queiroz is associate professor of computer science at the Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil. He received his doctorate in computing science from Imperial College, University of London in 1990. He is the editor of several books and articles, including the book Logic for Concurrency and Synchronization (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2003). He is executive editor of Logic Journal, published by Oxford University Press. De Queiroz was chairman of the Organizing Committee of WOLLIC06 (Workshop on Logic, Language, Information, and Computation), held at Stanford in July 2006. He has been actively involved in the organization of these international WOLLIC meetings since 1994. At Stanford, de Queiroz taught the classes ‘Set Theory’ and ‘Recursion Theory.’

The Center had three visiting scholars during 2005-06.

Jimena Arenas
(United States) is a doctoral candidate at the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy of Tufts University. Arenas obtained her undergraduate degree in Spain from Complutense University and earned two master’s degrees in Colombia from the Universidad de los Andes, one in journalism and the other in public administration. She studied under a Fulbright scholarship at Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government where she obtained a master’s degree in public policy. She has a background in television journalism. She has also worked for the Colombian Ministry of Environment. While at Stanford, Arenas conducted doctoral research on inequalities in North-South environmental negotiations.

Luisa Farah Schwartzman
(United States) is a doctoral student in sociology at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She is currently writing her dissertation on the relationship between race and class in Brazil. Before starting her Ph.D., Luisa received a bachelor’s degree in economics from the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro and completed a master’s degree in Latin American studies at Stanford.

Peter Steeves
(United States) earned his Ph.D. in philosophy from Indiana University in 1995. He is associate professor of philosophy at DePaul University where he specializes in ethics, social/political philosophy, and phenomenology. In fall 2005, Steeves worked on the final chapter of his book “The Things Themselves,” a chapter that deals with his time living in Venezuela and attempts to pull together magic realism, democratic theory, and the Venezuela experience. He also did research for his upcoming book on Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez that argues for a nonliberal understanding of democracy and investigating the communitarian foundations of Chávez’s Bolivarian revolution.
2005-06 Lecture Series

Fall Quarter
The year kicked off on September 28 with a talk from Armando Nova, professor of Economics at the Centro de Estudio de la Economía Cubana, co-sponsored with the Stanford Center for International Development. He talked about cooperatives and their relation to agrarian development in Cuba.

One of CLAS’s biggest lectures was held on October 20. Rigoberta Menchú gave a talk in Memorial Church on the topic of human rights, democracy, and reconciliation in Guatemala. CLAS was honored to co-sponsor this talk along with El Centro Chicano, the Office of Religious Life, and the Native American Cultural Center.

On November 30, Lucia De Sa gave the final lecture of the Fall entitled “Life in the Megalopolis: Mexico City and Sao Paulo.” Sa was an associate professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Fall Quarter also included talks from Tinker Visiting Professor Margo Glantz, who read from her novel The Wake, Rodrigo Guerrero (“Social and Economic Approaches to the Prevention of Violence in Colombia”), CLAS visiting scholar Jimena Arenas (“Solving Inequalities in North-South Environmental Negotiations: The Principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibility”), Waldo Rojas, a Chilean poet, John Kraniauskas (“Amores Peros and Crime in Mexico”), and Marcia Ochoa (“Queen for a Day: Transformations, Misses, and Mass Media in Venezuela”)

Winter Quarter
CLAS rang in the new year on January 18 with a unique lecture entitled “Crude Reflections: ChevronTexaco’s Rainforest Legacy.” The lecture acted as an introduction to a photo exhibit called “Crude Reflections” that was on display at Bolívar House. The exhibit chronicles the human and environmental impact of ChevronTexaco’s oil pollution in the Ecuadorian Amazon and efforts by local communities to seek justice. Photographers Lou Dematties and Kayana Szymczak were on hand to present, as was writer and LAS alum Joan Kruckewitt.

On January 25, CLAS presented another unusual yet very interesting presentation focusing on the environmental and social impact of the Lapa Rios Ecotourism Project in Costa Rica. Angelica Almeyda, a Ph.D. candidate in Anthropological Sciences at Stanford, Eben Broadbent, from the Carnegie Institution of Washington at Stanford University, and Bill Durham, the Director of Stanford’s Center on Ecotourism and Sustainable Development, were on hand to share their findings on the first environmental impact assessment of Lapa Rios.

On February 22, CLAS invited several journalists participating in the John S. Knight Fellowship Program to Bolívar House in order to talk about the similarities and the differences in doing investigative journalism in their respective countries, including relative press freedoms and restrictions. The participating journalists were: Carola Fuentes, Reporter for Canal 13 in Santiago, Chile; Guillermo Lopez Portillo, Investigative Reporter for Televisa Mexico in Mexico City; and Daniel Coronell, News Director of Noticias Uno in Bogotá, Colombia.

Winter Quarter also included talks from Lalo Izquierdo (“Afro-Peruvian Music and Dance”), Carlos Miranda Pacheco (“Energy Crunch at the Southern Cone of Latin America and its Geopolitical Implications”), Rodolfo Dirzo (“Latin America: A Biodiversity”), Pablo Andrade (“Understanding Ecuador’s Political and Economic Crisis”), Jean Franco (“Peru and Guatemala and Racial Discrimination”), and Tinker Visiting Professor Marcos Cueto (“A History of Primary Health Care in Latin America”).

Spring Quarter
On April 12, Luisa Schwartzman, a Visiting Scholar to the Center, gave a talk entitled “Where the Official Meets the Unofficial: Racial Categories and Affirmative Action in a Brazilian University.” Schwartzman, who received a master’s degree in Latin American Studies from Stanford, is a doctoral student at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is currently writing her dissertation on the relationship between race and class in Brazil.

On May 3, Carlos Castresana, a Visiting Professor at the University of San Francisco, gave an engaging lecture entitled “Latin America and Human Rights.” Professor Castresana has served as an expert in international legal cooperation and other issues in Europe and Latin America, under appointment of the United Nations, European Union and Council of Europe.

The Lecture Series concluded the year with a special talk from renowned Mexican screenwriter Guillermo Arriaga. Arriaga wrote the Academy-nominated films 21 Grams and Babel, in addition to Amores Perros and The Three Burials of Melquiades Estrada. Arriaga, who in addition to being a screenwriter is a novelist, discussed his new book The Night Buffalo.

BoHo Film Series Highlights from 2005-06

Gypsies Without Tents (Documentary)
An eloquent depiction of the Rom (Gypsies) living in Chile and their everyday struggle between tradition and assimilation. “What gypsies do is adapt. Even if we use cell phones, drive trucks, and live in a house, even if our kids play Nintendo, we don’t stop being Gypsies.” – Directed by Ivan Tziboulka

Testimony: The Maria Guardado Story (Documentary)
Salvadoran political refugee, Maria Guardado, now living in Los Angeles, returns to her homeland and reminisces about repression, death squads, Archbishop Oscar Romero and her continuing work as a human rights activist in Los Angeles. – Directed by Randy Vasquez

Bus 174 (Documentary)
A powerful, award-winning examination of the tragic series of events that followed a desperate bus hijacking in Rio de Janeiro in 2000 that turned deadly when a SWAT team took evasive action against the hijacker.
– Directed by Jose Padilha

Blossoms of Fire/Ramo de Fuego (Documentary)
The town of Juchitan in Oaxaca, Mexico, was part of a matriarchal society centuries ago, but unlike most of the cities that surround it, Juchitan hasn’t lost touch with this side of its past – it’s a city where women enjoy a degree of political, economic, and social equality unknown in most of the world. The city’s dominant businesses are run by women, women take a leading role in city government and activist actions, and in most of the city’s households, it’s the women who handle the family’s financial affairs. The documentary “Blossoms of Fire” takes a look at Juchitan’s history and present-day notoriety, as well as the problems that have come with the city’s increasingly high media profile. Director and Bay Area filmmaker Maureen Gosling was present at this screening.

Me You Them/Eu Tu Eles
The legendary Brazilian songsmith Gilberto Gil supplies the score for this reality-based comedy, in which an independent-minded woman decides that if one live-in husband doesn’t fulfill her needs, she can always add more. The film begins when Darlene (Regina Case) returns to her small, dusty hometown in northern Brazil to receive her mother’s blessing for her young son Dimas. When she arrives, she finds that her mother has died; her funeral occurs the day Darlene arrives. Despondent over her new predicament, she accepts an extemporaneous marriage proposal from her neighbor Osias (Lima Duarte) and moves in with him. It becomes clear to Darlene, however, that Osias wants little more than a live-in maid. Darlene becomes pregnant and bears a child -- who bears no resemblance to the light-skinned Osias. When Osias’ cousin Zezinho (Stenio Garcia) comes to town and takes an immediate liking to Darlene, she doesn’t turn him away -- before long, she’s bearing his son as well. As the eager-to-please Zezinho takes over her housekeeping duties, Darlene decides that the one thing she’s lacking in her life is true passion, and fills that void with a sugar cane worker named Ciro (Luis Vasconcelos), who moves in as well. “Eu Tu Eles” was purportedly inspired by a Brazilian news story about a woman in a similar alternative-living situation, the film screened at the 2000 Cannes, Tokyo, and Toronto Film Festivals before making its stateside premiere. – Directed by Andrucha Waddington

State of Fear (Documentary)
Moving from the breathtaking beauty of the Peruvian Andes to the graceful sweep of coastal Lima, Pamela Yates’s harrowing documentary State of Fear chronicles 20 years of terror, brutality and repression. Based on the testimony of more than 16,000 people to the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission, the film begins with the rise of the Maoist leader Abimael Guzmán and his Shining Path guerrillas and culminates in the collapse of President Alberto K. Fujimori’s government in November 2000, when Mr. Fujimori resigned during a corruption scandal. Between those events lie an estimated 70,000 dead and untold numbers scarred for life.
– Directed by Pamela Yates, Paco de Onís, and Peter Kinoy

Taste of Latin America Cooking Series

Beginning April 28, CLAS kicked off its Spring Quarter cooking demos, entitled “Taste of Latin America.” The first dish served was moqueca, a Brazilian seafood dish, which usually consists of fish, onions, garlic, tomatoes, and chili pepper, among other spices. This dish was prepared by CLAS’ very own Ruy de Queiroz, a Tinker Visiting Professor, and his wife Anjolina de Queiroz.

On May 26, David Roncayolo, a graduate student in the Civil and Environmental Engineering program, prepared Venezuelan-style arepas. Arepas are composed of a flat meal cake of maize flour, split in half and filled with cheese and other fillings.

Dave Roncayolo leads the Arepas cooking demo.
Photo Exhibition

As part of the center’s rotating art program, the Center for Latin American Studies was proud to present Las Caras del Río: Photos from Volcán, Costa Rica, an art exhibit from Stanford undergraduate Mollie Chapman. The exhibit was on display from May 5 through January 23.

Mollie Chapman was a senior at Stanford University, majoring in Anthropology with an emphasis on Population and the Environment. She focused her studies on finding creative solutions to meet the goals of sustainable development. She has worked on sustainable development projects in Indonesia and Costa Rica, and also done research with the Center for Ecotourism and Sustainable Development in Washington, DC.

Photos by Mollie Chapman

LAS Honors and Minors Students

Graduates with Interdisciplinary Honors in Latin American Studies
John Yandell, B.A. International Relations with a Minor in Spanish, “The Struggle for Gay Unions: A Comparative Study of Chile and Argentina”

Graduates with the Minor in Latin American Studies
Lauren Meyer, B.A. with Honors, Political Science
Nicole Preston, B.A. Economics
Puja Shweta Venkat, B.A. English
My Experience at Stanford
Fabiola Puerta Dinan

I came to Stanford via a rather circuitous route. I was born in Lima, Peru, and after studying journalism, I was hired by the French news agency Agence France Presse. I ended up working for AFP for 8 great years, and had the opportunity to live and work in Uruguay, Paris, and Rio de Janeiro during this time. While working in Rio as a foreign correspondent, I met my now-husband, who was on vacation from Silicon Valley. I would say that things moved rather quickly and next thing I knew, I was living in sunny California and getting a full scholarship at Stanford, one of the most prestigious universities in the world.

My experience at Stanford is truly rewarding. After working in journalism for many years in South America, it is exciting to have the chance to study Latin America in an academic setting. Sure, I had to speed up to catch up with the rhythm of readings and writings but that is just part of the fun. I have a deep interest in many aspects of modern life in Latin America, such as politics, political economy and human rights. Stanford will afford me the opportunity to deepen my knowledge in these fields. Just to spend a bit more time than a news cycle allows a better understanding of the problems and opportunities of contemporary Latin America and this year as a graduate student will be most beneficial in that sense.

Attending a prestigious university like Stanford is a life changing event. The chance of being part of this lively community is an experience that is certainly improving my life. I do plan on continuing my career in journalism, and I bet that the year I spend at Stanford will provide me with added insight into my reporting. Just wish me luck!

Working Groups
2005-06

The Latin American Studies graduate student-run working group program offers faculty and students from Stanford as well as other institutions the opportunity to present their current research and explore topics of shared academic interest. Stanford students in consultation with faculty sponsors organize the working groups. As semi-autonomous entities, the groups set their own agendas, symposia, exchange of working papers, or collaborative research efforts.

This year, CLAS had four working groups: Andean Archeology, Latin America and Education Policy, Law and Policy in Latin America, and Mexican Studies. We are happy to report that all four working groups will continue into the 2006-07 school year and will be joined by a new group: Urban Ecology and Violent Crime in Latin America.

Andean Archeology

Graduate Student Coordinator:
Daniel Contreras
Among other activities, the Andean Archeology group put on a symposium entitled “Searching for Patterns in the Diversity of the Central Andean Formative.” This event, put on by Daniel Contreras and John Rick and sponsored by LAS, the Archaeology Center, and the Dept. of Anthropological Sciences, brought together several preeminent scholars working on the Formative Period (approximately 2500 - 200 BC) in the Andes. The goal was to synthesize a broad array of data about the Formative Period in the Central Andes into coherent understandings of several themes: Chronology, Ideology, Social Organization, and Regional Interaction. Attendees included researchers from the U.S., Peru, and Japan. The sites covered included a broad array of the Central Andes, and some comparative perspective from the South-Central Andes. The two days of discussion were very productive, and are currently being developed into a publication.

Latin America and Education Policy
Graduate Student Coordinators:
Brooke Weddle Ricalde and Iliana Brodziak de los Reyes
The Latin America and Education Policy (Continued on page 9)
During the 2005-06 academic year, the group Law and Policy in Latin America was extremely busy during the 2005-06 school year, inviting speakers to talk on various subjects, including: Latino enrollment in U.S. community colleges, radio stations operated by public Mexican universities, teacher absenteeism in Guatemalan schools, and teacher incentive programs in Mexico.

**Law and Policy in Latin America**

**Graduate Student Coordinator:**

Manuel Gomez

The group Law and Policy in Latin America organized various lectures and film screenings during the 2005-06 academic year. Some of the invited speakers included Luis Fernando Schwartz, a law professor from Brazil, and Bryant Garth, Dean of the Southwestern University School of Law. During the year, the group screened two films: *Secuestro Express* and *Oriana.*

**Mexican Studies**

**Graduate Student Coordinator:**

Luis Fernando Pérez Hurtado

The Mexican Studies group was very active during the school year, putting on 14 different events. These events included talks by Mexican author Xavier Velasco and a meeting with Carla and Guillermo López Portillo, two investigative reporters from “Noticieros Televisa” in Mexico. One of the biggest events the group put on was a conference: “2006 Mexican Elections: A Challenge for Democracy.” The Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, The Charles F. Riddell Fund - Yost House, VPLUE/DOSA - New Student Initiatives, Bechtel International Center, El Guiding Concilio - El Centro Chicano, Camacho Fund, ASSU Speakers Bureau, and United Airlines were co-sponsors of the conference.

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**Walsh Grant Recipients**

Through a generous gift from alumna Monica Miller Wash and David Walsh, the center has instituted a summer grant program to support undergraduate internships in Latin America. This last summer five undergraduates undertook field projects in Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Venezuela.

**Amy Bonilla**

B.A. 2008 in International Relations

Internship: El Nuevo Diario newspaper, Nicaragua

“I had a great experience working for El Nuevo Diario in Nicaragua this summer. It was great to be part of a team that I respect so much, and to learn so much about the business aspect of a newspaper. I have always had an interest in journalism, but it was a very different experience to look at the workings of a newspaper from a business perspective. This internship was very challenging at times, but I feel that I learned a lot, and was able to experience my own home country in a way that would have otherwise been impossible.”

**Lisa Llanos**

B.A. 2009 in International Relations

Internship: health care, Venezuela

“My overall experience in Venezuela has been amazing. This is the longest time I have ever spent away from home, and the people here have made me feel at home away from home. Apart from my work, I have made strong friendships here and I hope to return. I thank Monica Miller Walsh and her family for giving me the opportunity to be here and learn from the Venezuelan people, an experience that I will take back to the US and share at home and at Stanford.”

**Christine George**

B.A. 2007 in Environmental Engineering

Internship: Agua Tuya, Bolivia

“For my internship I am working with Agua Tuya Designs to construct a model ecological toilet for the community to use.”

**Kevin McLean**

B.A. 2007 in Environmental Systems

Internship: Santa Martha Amazon Release Center, Ecuador

“My time in Ecuador has given me some incredibly powerful experiences and I am forever grateful for having this opportunity. The hands-on education that I received opened my eyes not only to the prevalence of this environmentally devastating industry, but also to my own interest in conservation science and policy. My practical experience in conservation biology and wildlife management gave me a breath of fresh air seeing the impact of my work, and I look forward to continuing my study in the field.”

**Natalie Ramirez**

B.A. 2007 in Architectural Design

Internship: Morales & Lopez Asociados & Construccion, Chile

“Being a recipient of the Monica Miller Walsh Undergraduate Summer Internship Grant extremely enhanced my undergraduate experience. The work experience I gained as a result is incredible. Exposure to the site like the Open City was made possible by this great opportunity. After completing my internship, I have gained a great confidence in my architecture abilities. Being exposed to a different culture’s architecture field, I feel, will make me a better architect.”

*(Continued from page 8)*
During the 2005-06 school year, the Tinker Foundation generously supported two faculty-led conferences. Below is a summary of each conference.

**Science Policy in Latin America Symposium**

On May 18, 2006 in Stanford’s Bolivar House an expert panel from Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, and Peru discussed science policy in Latin America. The panel was introduced by the Center for Latin American Studies Director Herbert S. Klein. The panel consisted of two commentators and four presenters who gave talks on aspects of science policy in their countries.

The commentators were Alfredo Caro, Argentine research scientist at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California, and Simon Schwartzman, president of the Instituto de Estudios do Trabalho e Sociedade in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The speakers were Ruy de Queiroz, Tinker Visiting Professor and associate professor of computer science at the Federal University of Pernambuco in Brazil, Gustavo Buscaglia, Tinker Visiting Professor and associate professor of nuclear engineering at Cuyo National University in Mendoza, Argentina, Marcos Cueto, Tinker Visiting Professor and professor of sociomedical sciences in the School of Public Health at the Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia in Lima, Peru, and Rodolfo Dirzo, Bing Professor in Environmental Science at Stanford University and formerly at UNAM, Mexico.

The conference consisted of two sessions. In Session One, Ruy de Queiroz and Gustavo Buscaglia spoke; they were followed by comments from Alfredo Caro and Simon Schwartzman. Some of the issues and themes touched upon in the first session included funding in Brazil for scientific research and graduate education, including the status of the Brazilian information technology bill, and how in Argentina the accreditation of the country's science program has led to much higher standards for academic teaching positions, but at the same time has created a bureaucracy (or technocracy) in scientific institutions. De Queiroz noted that in Brazil there are 180 million people, but only 30 million have access to information and communication technologies.

In Session Two, Marcos Cueto talked about science development in Latin America, while Rodolfo Dirzo spoke about the Mexican National System of Researchers (SNI) and the Mexican National Commission on Biodiversity. Commentators Caro and Schwartzman were again given the opportunity to respond. Some of the issues brought up in this session included the impact that Latin American scientists have had on the advancements of global medicine and health, the struggle to incorporate science into the cultural life of poor countries, and the dire situation of Mexico’s socioeconomic and political landscapes and how it related to science research there.

Overall, the panel was very informative and beneficial, both to the audience in attendance and the panelists themselves.


Held over the course of four days beginning July 18, 2006, WoLLIC 2006 included both extended tutorial sessions and general lectures, given by an international panel of the world’s top experts in the fields of theoretical and applied logic, linguistics, and computer science. The close contact of the participants ensured, within the intensive workshop environment, an intimate setting in which the free and fruitful exchange of ideas could take place. This workshop was chaired by Tinker Visiting Professor Ruy de Queiroz.

WoLLIC 2006 was able to invite and secure five of the world’s leading representatives of the field: Eli Ben-Sasson (Tel-Aviv University), Solomon Feferman (Stanford University), Yuri Gurevich (Microsoft Corporation), Thomas Scanlon (UC Berkeley), and Andre Scedrov (University of Pennsylvania).

Each year, WoLLIC proceedings are edited and then published in two different formats by Elsevier Scientific Press. This year’s proceedings will be published in paper in the journal *Information and Computation*, and in *Electronic Notes in Theoretical Computer Science*. Contributions were received in all areas related to the workshops themes, including context and situational theory, formal semantics of natural languages, information update and belief revision studies, set theory, game theory, model theory, logic programming, logical grammars, probabilistic proofs, among other important areas. The issues will appear either at the end of 2006 or the beginning of 2007.

**Faculty Summer Research Grants**


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Science Symposium photo on the far left (left to right): Alfredo Caro and Simon Schwartzman

Science Symposium group on the right
The Center for Latin American Studies is pleased to welcome Jimmy Mosqueda into the role of Program Coordinator. Jimmy joined the center in September of 2006, fresh from graduating from Stanford the previous June (B.A. English). Born in San Jose, CA but growing up in Southern California, Jimmy is of Mexican descent, with both his parents being born in Mexico. At home, he grew up learning both English and Spanish.

At the center, Jimmy plans and coordinates events, including the lecture series and film series, and is involved in student services, external relations, and managing the website. Megan Gorman, the former Program Coordinator, started in her new position as Associate Director in July of 2006. The Center’s MA program returned with a new curriculum last year and Megan is having a great time getting to know the new master’s students. She became trained as a community mediator last year and co-mediated her first real mediation in December. She took a couple of nice trips last year to Oaxaca, Mexico and Quebec, Canada. She bought a bicycle a few months ago and rides to work every day.

After three years, associate director Molly Vitorte took a position at the Hispanic Scholarship Fund in San Francisco, CA. At HSF, Molly directs an outreach program that educates high school students about the college application process. We will miss Molly, but we’re glad she’s still close by.

Alumni News

Jessi Elana Aaron (M.A., ’00)
I have finished my PhD at the University of New Mexico in Spanish and Portuguese, and I am in a tenure-track position as Assistant professor of Spanish Linguistics in the Department of Romance Languages and Literatures at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida.

Javier Aguirre (B.A., ’96)
Since graduating from Stanford in 1996, I went to Loyola Law School in Los Angeles and returned to the Bay Area to work as a policy analyst for Santa Clara County. This past November, I was elected to serve as a member on the school board for Gilroy Unified School District, after having been appointed to the board last December. My wife and I are expecting our second child in February. I continue to follow Latin American issues, in particular, Mexican politics as it relates to my thesis and law school journal work on how the Mexican Constitution is rewritten numerous times during a Mexican presidency. These constitutional amendments follow the theory from Thomas Jefferson, that as a living document, amendments should occur every seven years since dramatic policies and local/national events will force a country to adapt to changes.

Cheryl Andrada (Minor, ’02)
I have been living in DC for the last three years, working for a Member of Congress. Part of my legislative portfolio includes foreign policy related to Latin America and immigration, so it’s a small way to keep connected with what’s going on in the region and how it relates to us here. A bigger part of my job, though, is domestic policy such as health care, education and Social Security. That’s about it. I’m hoping to go back to school finally in 2007 for law and I want to focus my studies (and future work) on the intersection of migration and development. If anybody has advice/experience in this arena, I would appreciate it.

Matthew Beem (M.A., ’01)
I work in the research division as an economist for Latin America for Stanford Financial Group based in Houston.

Charles Beeman (M.A. ’85)
For the last eight years, I have been a Partner of Hughes Hubbard & Reed LLP, a 100 - year
old Wall Street law firm. I focus my practice on Latin American corporate matters and on dispute resolution (principally arbitration). The bulk of my practice involves Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Argentina & Mexico.

John Bilderbeck (B.A., ’00)
John Bilderbeck has been living and working in Juneau, Alaska since July of 2005. He serves as Director of the Learning Center, an academic tutorial center, at the University of Alaska Southeast. He also teaches introductory public speaking classes on campus. Outside of work, he has been exploring forests, mountaintops, alpine lakes, and glaciers by foot, bicycle, and kayak. On one foggy morning in October (Friday the 13th!), he avoided the morning commute and took the ocean route, kayaking all the way to work from his front door. This holiday break, he plans to take a break from the chilly north with some quality time in Mexico and Cuba. Saludos to Kathleen Morrison and all the LAS alums from 2000!

Brian Bird (B.A. ‘03)
I’m about to complete my third year working in San Mateo at NexTag (www.nextag.com) doing Business Development and Product Management. I still end up spending a lot of time on campus going to Stanford football and basketball games.

Mercedes Briceño (M.A., ’01)
I am currently Executive Director at the Venezuelan National Investment Promotion Council, a not for profit, private public partnership, to promote national and foreign investment in Venezuela. At our bilingual webpage www.conapri.org and our offices in Caracas, we provide information on investment opportunities, investment legal framework and on other services we provide to investors (most of them free of charge). It is a wonderful job! I have had the opportunity to travel to China, Brazil, Russia and other destinations to promote investment in Venezuela. Since graduation, on occasion, I have talked to Mónica Hurtado, Mathew Beem, Mariana Mora, and Miguel Hilario. The last two I had a chance to talk to them at (Latin American Studies Association) LASA 2006 in Puerto Rico. I hope I will be able to keep in touch at the next LASA meeting.

Cory Conover (M.A. ’99)
I’m finishing up my dissertation in history at the University of Texas in Austin. It’s a study on the first beatified saint born in the Americas, San Felipe de Jesus of Mexico City martyred in Japan in 1597. My spare time is taken up with playing with my young daughter and spending time outdoors here in Austin.

Daniel Contreras (M.A. ’98)
I’m in my 6th year of a PhD in Anthropological Sciences, focused on archaeology, primarily in Peru. Hopefully finishing up this year...

Janet Crawford (M.A., 1994)
I am living in Mill Valley and running an independent practice in Leadership Development and Executive Coaching. I recently returned from a conference with the Newfield Network (founded by Chilen Julio Olalla and based in Boulder, Colorado and Chile) where we discussed world trends and integral philosophy. I had some spirited discussions around collaborating with the creator of an “ecopark” system in Southern Chile. Who knows where that will lead?

Stephanie Early (Honors, ’05)
Since graduating in 2005, I lived for 9 months in Sao Paulo Brazil, working at the international law firm Clifford Chance. I came back in April and worked for 4 months at an international backpacking hostel in San Francisco, until September, when I moved to Cambridge to start my first year of law school at Harvard. It’s been a busy year! Here at Harvard I am involved with the HLS Advocates for Human Rights, and am working on an advocacy project focusing on Brazil.

Mark Eisner (M.A., ’01)
Mark Eisner has just handed in “The Poet’s Calling: The Life, Times, and Poetry of Pablo Neruda” to his editor at W.W. Norton. Part of the book was written while living with Thomas Kohnstamm (MA 2001), who was working on his own writing, in front of the snow-capped Volcan Villarica in southern Chile. “The Essential Neruda” continues to be the bestselling collection in English, while the documentary is on hold awaiting funding. The jardin de amapolas rojas continues to grow (www.redpoppy.net). Eisner is planning on pursuing an MFA in Creative Nonfiction Writing in Fall 2007.

Andrew Fisher (B.A., ’92)
Thanks for the message. I really don’t have anything new to add since last year’s entry: I am on a tenure-track position in Latin American history at Carlton College (Northfield, MN). In addition to teaching, I am in the process of working on a monograph based on my dissertation and co-editing a book on identity in colonial Latin America to be published by Duke University Press.

Karen Fredericks (M.A., ’96)
I just had a baby girl, Rebecca, in September and am staying at home for a year on a leave of absence from teaching high school.

Carlos Gervasoni (M.A., ’95)
After graduating from Stanford in 1995 and working as a professor of Political Science in Universidad Catolica Argentina and Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, and also doing public opinion consulting in Argentina, I am back in the USA in my third year of the Ph.D. in Political Science at Notre Dame. More importantly my former Stanford classmate Sybil Rhodes (Ph.D. Political Science, 2002), and I got married last year in Buenos Aires (May 28th, 2005) and Clemmons, North Carolina (June 25th, 2005).

Tress Goodwin (M.A., ’02)
I’m currently a 3rd year medical student at Stanford, still deciding on what specialty to pursue (maybe Emergency Medicine). Try to make it to San Francisco for salsa dancing as often as possible!

Shauna Harrison (B.A., ’00)
This past June I graduated from UCLA with an MA in LAS and an MPH in community health sciences. I went back to Costa Rica (where I had conducted my research for my thesis while at Stanford) for my internship for public health on a grant for work with the Latino / Latin American populations. I worked with the CEN-CINAI to help them create and implement a nutrition education program for their preschool kids. I created a manual for their centers with nutrition activities for the kids and parents. I am now currently at Johns Hopkins University in my first year of the PhD program in Public Health in the Department of Health, Behavior & Society. I am still looking to either Latino populations and/or Latin American populations abroad and focusing mostly on obesity and body image related research.

Miguel Hilario (M.A., ’01)
Miguel Hilario is writing his PhD thesis in Anthropological Sciences at Stanford University, and plans to graduate in 2006. On January 07, he will begin working for Inter American Development in DC.
Dana Marie Hornbeak (B.A., Honors ’05)
I’m currently in my second year (a clinical year) at Duke Medical School, so I’m working in the hospital and clinics doing rotations in Internal Medicine, Surgery, Pediatrics, OB-GYN, Ophthalmology, ENT, Anesthesia, Psychiatry, and Family Medicine. I am loving it and learning a ton! I also went on a medical mission trip to Manila, Philippines over the summer, and taught health education classes at a local high school in the spring. In my free time I co-chair the Duke Global Health Committee, spend time outside, write, read, study, cook, explore the local area, and hang out with friends.

Elizabeth Hulings (M.A., ’93)
I live in New York City (my husband and I have been here for almost eight years now!) and run my own free-lance consulting firm called Counterpoise. I started it five years ago. I focus on Strategy, marketing and capacity building. I work with both for-profit and not-for-profit groups.

Mario Jales (M.A., ’00)
After three years working at the Brazilian Institute for International Trade Negotiations (ICONE), in Sao Paulo, I returned to the United States on August 2006. I am now pursuing a PhD in Applied Economics at Cornell University.

Jessica Jenkins (B.A., ’03)
I’ve just moved to New York City where I am pursuing a joint degree in law and social work (JD/MSW) at Fordham University.

Madeline Kiser
My husband, Oscar Beita, and I are nurturing and building RioArte, an internship and training program for young environmentalists from all disciplines — scientists, artists, academics, community organizers and others - in a critical basin in Costa Rica’s south. In conjunction with local residents, students and professionals work on numerous interrelated projects to protect and restore this rich area of the country. Thank you for advertising the program in a recent CLAS bulletin. Please email mkiser@dakotacom.net. For more information about RioArte, contact Madeline Kiser.

Thomas Kohnstamm (M.A., ’01)
I am living in Seattle, working as a freelance travel writer (for everybody from Lonely Planet to Travel + Leisure) and am working on my first book which will be published by Random House in June 2008. I spent much of the year in Mexico, Colombia, Brazil and Venezuela.

Anne-Lucie Lafourcade (M.A., ’02)
Anne-Lucie Lafourcade is currently working in microfinance. After graduating from Stanford and working for eight months for Transparency International in Berlin, Anne-Lucie returned to Washington, DC to join the Microfinance Information eXchange (MIX), a non-profit dedicated to improving the information infrastructure in the microfinance industry. Since July 2004, Anne-Lucie is regional manager for sub-Saharan Africa and while her work has taken her more to Africa than Latin America, she finds her Portuguese remnants from CLAS language courses very useful when working in Angola or Mozambique!

Amy Lerner (Minor, ’00)
I just had a minor in LAS but it has really stayed with me. I lived in Ecuador for 6 months as a naturalist guide and also have taken trips to the Peruvian Amazon with middle school kids with a non-profit, Global Explorers (Job obtained through another LAS alum, Biasha Mitchell). I am currently pursuing a PhD in Geography with an emphasis in human-environment relations in Latin America at UCSB, particularly in Guatemala.

Jill Martin (M.A., ’99)
I have a 9 month old son, Leif. I am currently working part time as an attorney and spending the rest of my time taking care of Leif. He is quite a character.

Sarah Faye McMullen (B.A., ’01)
Well, I am living and working here in San Cristobal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico. I’ve had the great luck to have been able to work with a lot of great people and organizations, learning about the history of Chiapas and Mexico and the campesino and popular organizations here. Presently, I’m volunteering with Kinal Antsetik as a project fundraising assistant. Kinal Antsetik works in education and accommodation of women’s organizations, especially the weaving cooperative Jolom Mayaetik. I’ve also been involved with the Ecumenical Coordination of Mexican Mayan Indian Theology, which just celebrated its 16th annual Indian Theology gathering, with over 500 participants from Chiapas, Yucatan, Tabasco and Guatemala. It was incredible! Another really special thing that I’m involved in right now is coordination of the children’s component of a literacy training program for trabajadoras domésticas. We meet twice a month for five hours at a time, and my part of the program is to plan and carry out the work with the women’s children (while they are in their classes)—we play games, learn about botany and agriculture through growing our own corn and bean plants (thus far), use traditional stories from the different Maya groups here in Chiapas to highlight important values and cultural traditions, and will soon begin experimenting more with the arts (especially painting and printmaking). I’m totally excited!

Denis Minev (MA ’99)
I am currently working as finance director of a distribution and retail company in northern Brazil, based in Manaus. If anyone would like to visit the Amazon forest, I would be glad to show anyone around.

Beatriz de la Mora (M.A., ’94)
Here is an update on what I am up to now: I joined UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) in June of this year as Resource Mobilization Specialist for Reproductive Health Commodity Security.

Daniel Mountjoy (M.A., ’88)
One year ago I was promoted to be the Assistant State Conservationist for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. I manage 15 county field offices on California’s central coast and San Francisco Bay and Delta region. We promote sustainable farming and natural resource enhancement. I have been promoting these services to California’s growing number of Hispanic farmers for the past 12 years and look forward to expanding our services to more under-served beginning farmers through my new position.

Gerry Munck (M.A., ’84)
I am teaching at the School of International Relations, at the University of Southern California. I have been here since early 2003. I have been doing work with the UNDP and also with the OAS’s electoral observation missions in Latin America.

Gwyn Firth Murray (MA ’87, JD ’87)
Gwyn Firth Murray is founder and principal of the Matau Legal Group, which offers a

(Continued on page 14)
broad range of commercial, licensing, and other legal services to both start-up and established companies in the high tech and biotech industries (see www.matalegal.com). She also is co-founder of Open Bar, Inc., a not-for-profit organization focused on legal rights and responsibilities in the world of open source software (see www.open-bar.org). Gwyn has spent over fifteen years working as an inside and outside counsel to computer hardware, computer software and pharmaceutical companies, including Apple Computer, SGI, and Alza Corporation. Gwyn is a graduate of Stanford University School of Law and also holds an M.A. in Latin American Studies from Stanford University. She obtained her B.A magna cum laude and with distinction in economics from Yale College. Gwyn is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese.

Megan O’Reilly-Lewis (M.A., ’85)
Currently, I am Director of Corporate Marketing for TANDBERG Televison, a video equipment manufacturer that makes video headends, video on demand and interactive software for television service providers like DirecTV, Comcast and the like. I used to work for a Silicon Valley startup in the video equipment space called SkyStream Networks, which makes similar products to TANDBERG. We were acquired by TANDBERG in March of this year. I’ve been in this industry for about 4 years. Prior to that I worked for technology start-ups here in the valley, always in a marketing role. My role is to manage “thought leadership” for the company, and to articulate our company vision, value propositions for our solutions and provide service providers with the information they need to deploy an excellent video system.

Lauren Phillips (B.A., ’00)
I recently finished my PhD at the London School of Economics in International Relations. I worked on the reaction of financial markets in Brazil and Mexico as well as other emerging economies to political risk. After defending my thesis, I moved to Rome to join my boyfriend, but continue to work remotely for a research institution focused on development in London called the Overseas Development Institute. I am working a lot on Latin America (and in fact am writing from Brazil). The most exciting news is that I got engaged last week to my boyfriend, and will be planning a wedding for next autumn!

Antonia Powell (B.A., ’00)
My husband, Brian, and I have been living and working in Sierra Leone for the past two years. I’m working as the Health Program Manager for Catholic Relief Services, managing maternal child health and malaria prevention programs in rural areas of the country. My husband is working for Save the Children as the Logistics Manager. When we are not bouncing down the incredibly bad roads of the countryside, we get out to the beach for a swim or play with our dogs at home. I’ve managed to find a contingent of Spanish speakers here so my Spanish isn’t too rusty yet!

Suzanne Radotic (M.A., ’03)
I am teaching Spanish and English at Hillsdale High School in San Mateo, CA, while I finish my last year of Administrative credentials/MA to become a public school principal. I was also recently married to Corey Woolfolk (class of 01) with friends and family in attendance at our wedding in Jamaica.

Sebastian Saiegh (M.A. ’96)
Sebastian is back in California. After spending the last three years as an assistant professor in political science at the University of Pittsburgh, Sebastian joined the political science department at the University of California, San Diego this Fall.

Rachel Sandoval (M.A., ’03)
I started a tenure-track position as Instruction and Outreach Librarian at Westvalley Community College. I transcribed interviews for the Mexican OC (oral history and theatre project), participated in the Latino Studies section of the Resources for College and am an Advisory Board Member for Greenwood Press’ Latino American Experience.

Lucrecia Santibanez (Ph.D., ’02)
I am currently working as an Assistant Professor in the Public Administration Department at CIDE in Mexico City. My husband and I moved here in Feb of 2006 with our son Tomás. Baby #2 is on the way.

Joel Simon (M.A., ’89)
I became executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalist in July. I’ve been here since 1998, first as Americas program coordinator then deputy director. Here’s the web site, if you need some background: www.cpj.org.

Thomas Stelzer (M.A., ’85)
Since 2001 I have been serving as Ambassador and Austrian Permanent Representative to the United Nations (Vienna), IAEA, UNIDO and CTBTO (PrepCom). From 1997 to 2001 I was Chief of Staff of the CTBTO PrepCom. In both positions I have been able to pursue my keen interest in Latin American Affairs. Only last month I was in Buenos Aires to participate in a workshop on the UN Convention against Corruption as well as in Brasil during the second round of the Presidential Elections. During the Austrian EU Presidency I also worked on European-Latin American anti-drug coordination. Last May I participated in the European/Latin American Summit in Vienna (where I also had an opportunity to meet with President Lula).

Ana Maria Stuven (Ph.D., ’91)
I am currently a professor at the Instituto de Historia of the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, ready to present my last book, Chile Disperso. El pais en fragmentos, with Editorial Cuarto Propio in Santiago, Chile. I am also working on my book on the history of Chilean women and their process of incorporation into the public sphere.

Leia Sutton-Barnes (B.A., ’01)
For the last few years I have been living in Vieques, a small island off the east coast of Puerto Rico, running a guesthouse. I just finished moving to the main island of Puerto Rico and am currently tutoring sixth graders.

Mauricio Tenorio (Ph.D., ’94)
Recent move, From associate professor at UT Austin, to Professor LI of Chicago. Still professor, CIDe MEXICO.

Rubiahna Vaughn (Honors, ’05)
I’ve just returned from a year in Malaysia as a Henry Luce Scholar doing women’s health research. Now I’m settling into my first year as a Masters in Public Health student at Columbia University as a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar. In addition to my classes, I’m involved with projects at the Harlem Health Promotion Center and serving as a research assistant for the editor-in-chief of the American Journal of Public Health. After receiving my Masters in Public Health I plan to attend medical school.

Chuck Walker (M.A., ’82)
Chuck Walker has just finished a book on a massive earthquake/tsunami in Peru in 1746.
He will be on leave from UC Davis this year and will spend six months in Seville to embark on a couple of new projects.

Myriam Zech (M.A., ’89)
Anyway, here’s my quick info. Through some incredibly serendipitous twist of fate, I did an MS program in Environmental Engineering at Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées in Paris France, graduating in 1991. Then I traveled extensively to Mexico City and the State of Tabasco, Mexico, where I did field work on ecological restoration projects. I came back to California in 1997, and haven’t done anything incredibly exciting except when I worked in Raúl Ojeda’s first campaign for governor of the State of Tabasco in 2000, and when I took a leave of absence from my current job to work with Doctors without Borders in Afghanistan in 2003. I’m currently working as a “Water Resources Control Engineer” for the “Water Quality Control Board” in Oakland. In my current assignment, I am the enforcement officer for the NPDES division, reviewing dischargers’ exceedances of their permit limits, and fining them whenever I can. I also volunteer with CHIA (California Habitats and Indigenous Activists), an awesome and soulful little non-profit in the East Bay.
The Center for Latin American Studies supports research and teaching on Latin America by the faculty and students of Stanford in all fields of study.

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