Over the last few months, we have been moving along an exciting and challenging transition period, marked by the completion of Professor Herbert Klein’s tenure of the Directorship of CLAS. So, it is appropriate to, first of all, start this communiqué by expressing, again, my gratitude to Professor Klein, for his outstanding work as director between September 2004 and August 2010. His work laid the foundations upon which we can now move forward to engage in creative efforts to study, teach about, and promote the general appreciation of the Latin American region.

Second of all, I want to thank CLAS’s Advisory Board for their dedication and support during the last years. I am happy to report that the current board is comprised of a rich faculty of 13 from 10 different academic units, whose scholarly expertise covers a broad range of areas of relevance to Latin American studies – including not only the humanities, but also the sciences; all in all, a delicious range of disciplines. I am excited and honored to have such an enthusiastic, capable and diverse board – a situation that splendidly dovetails with my aspiration of making CLAS an interdisciplinary academic unit of excellence within Stanford, and nationally as well as internationally.

Also, I am delighted to report that, after our previous Program Coordinator, Emily Davis, left CLAS to continue with her graduate studies, our previous Business Manager, Angela Doria-La, moved on to the position of Program Coordinator – which is very convenient given her great experience with CLAS in general. To fill her previous position we placed a call for applications and managed to attract a group of very interesting candidates. It is my pleasure to announce that
one of them clearly stood out, Laura Quirarte, who agreed to join us. Welcome Laura! With Angela, Laura, and the experience and continued leadership of Megan Gorman as Associate Director, the CLAS team is complete – and outstanding.

It is my pleasure to mention that the current cohort of students in our MA program in Latin American Studies consists of nine enthusiastic and exciting students who come with different and interesting academic experiences and perspectives, and with equally diverse cultural backgrounds: Brazilian, Colombian, Cuban, Peruvian and USA—including three Stanford students. In the course of this academic year, I have made the point of meeting with them and the staff twice per quarter, over dinner, at Bolívar House, to exchange news of interest about Latin America, and to have them provide feedback regarding how things are going with the MA. This is proving to be a productive and enjoyable experience.

On the other hand, our Lecture Series has been going extremely well. We had a great start, in fall quarter, with one terrific lecture on Bolivia, given by Professor Klein. Interestingly, on that occasion we had, together, three directors of CLAS present (Professors Jim Fox, Herbert Klein and myself) – a significant moment. The series has been diverse in themes, and is including well-established experts in LAS, as well as young but exciting and dynamic scholars, some of them graduate students.

We have engaged in a number of collaborations, co-sponsorships and plans for future collaborations. To name but a few, our interactions include the amazing exhibits on the Mexican Revolution and Independence at the Green Library; our contribution to the visit and impressive lecture by Professor Wayne Cornelius from UCSD; and our colloquium on the role of women in the Mexican Revolution and Independence, co-sponsored with Green Library, Bechtel Center and the Mexican Consulate in San Jose (great partnerships!). As a representative of CLAS, I have been speaker (twice!) at Centro Chicano and I am engaged in the planning of several activities with them. With the Center for African Studies and we are planning a series of presentations on sustainability in Africa-Latin America. We will let you know more about this in due course.

We have had an exciting pool of submitted proposals for conferences/workshops on a variety of exciting topics, including one, spearheaded by Professor Virginia Walbot (Biology Department) on the domestication, genetics, ethnobiology and commercialization of cacao, the plant that is the source of chocolate. Her conference, Inspiration Chocolate, included chocolate-testing sessions and movies featuring chocolate-related culture. More information can be found at http://web.me.com/dxroman/Site/Home.html

We are delighted with the arrival of this year’s Visiting Scholars: Almir Leal de Oliveira, associate professor of history at Ceara Federal University in Brazil; Rafael Herrera-Guillen, who holds a doctorate in philosophy from the University of Murcia; Jorge Tovar, associate professor of economics at Universidad de Los Andes in Colombia; and Alejandro Peres Cajias, a native of Bolivia who is currently based at the University of Barcelona in Spain. In addition to the scholars presently with us, others have concluded their visits: Edward Cleary, professor of political science at Providence College; Sidney Chalhoub, professor of history at the University of Campinas, Brazil; and Sandra Koutsoukos, post-doc fellow with FAPESP/University of Campinas (UNICAMP), Brazil.

Also, we have had an exciting group of Tinker Professors: Paulo Suarez, professor at the Institute of Chemistry at the University of Brasilia, Paulo Mendes, professor of mechanical engineering at Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Ricardo Mar, professor of classical archaeology at Universitat Rovira I Virgili in Tarragona, Spain, Jose Ignacio Santos, professor of experimental medicine and pediatric infectious diseases at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), and Piedad Urdinola, associate professor of statistics at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia.
As part of our overall mission of making CLAS a prominent center for the study and teaching of Latin American Studies (LAS), and the broad dissemination thereof, I plan to pursue a balance in the themes of LAS, whereby the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), also relevant and prominent in Latin America, are part of our diverse academic programs and initiatives. In addition, I look forward to having CLAS pay more attention to the study, understanding and support of regions/countries of Latin America where our work has been rather limited, and where attention is badly needed, in particular Central America and the Caribbean Region.

In fall quarter, we had the pleasure of holding a mini-symposium based on the reports of the students who conducted internships in Latin America last summer, with support from CLAS and Stanford alumnae Monica Miller Walsh and Ana Paula Pessoa. I am happy to report that the event, at BoHo, was well attended by students from different areas – and the Q&A sessions were very rich. Listening to the students’ reports made it evident that this is a great CLAS program: all students were emphatic in commenting this was a formative experience (most of them said, also, that their Spanish/Portuguese was improved or enriched).

Last but not least, I want to mention our prestigious Title VI National Resource Center designation that comes with Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships for the study of Portuguese and Quechua. In relation to this, I want to mention that the grant includes a commitment to engage in experience-sharing (otherwise known as outreach) with the broader community. This is an aspect Megan Gorman has been thinking a lot about, and indeed we have begun to explore (the Cesar Chavez Academy and Nuestra Casa, a non-profit organization, in East Palo Alto have been our first explorations). I am aware that at least some members of our faculty are planning to work on this and I look forward to hearing more specific plans about this important initiative. My own experience and work on an educational program with a continuation school in Redwood City (the Stanford-Redwood City High School REAL program) tells me that this can be a profitable activity, but it is time-consuming and challenging and thus we need your input as to how we can be effective in this area.

As we move out of this transitional period, I look forward to your input, and I thank the entire community of Latin Americanists for their continued interest in and support of CLAS.

Thank you/Gracias/Obrigado/Sulpayki!

Rodolfo Dirzo
Director, Center for Latin American Studies
Bing Professor in Environmental Science
Bolivar House Visitors 2009-2010

Under the auspices of a generous endowment from the Edward Laroque Tinker Foundation that was awarded to Stanford and four other universities in 1978, CLAS has hosted 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 are of concern to Latin Americans.

Tinker Visiting Professors, 2009-2010

Fernando Ferreira, a leading Portuguese specialist in logic, holds a Ph.D. in Mathematics from Pennsylvania State University and is currently Associate Professor of Mathematics at the University of Lisbon and corresponding member of the Academia das Ciencias de Lisboa. Dr. Ferreira taught PHIL 353C: Functional Interpretations.

Eduardo Dvorkin (Ph.D., MIT), an Argentine pioneer in the field Computational Mechanics, is a Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Buenos Aires. Dr. Dvorkin taught ME 411: Advanced Topics in Computational Solid Mechanics.

João Adolfo Hansen, Professor of Brazilian Literature at the University of São Paulo, is a specialist in Luso-Brazilian literatures and cultures of the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries. Dr. Hansen taught ILAC 374: Luso-Brazilian Practices of Representation in the 16th, 17th, & 18th Centuries.

In 1996, while visiting Stanford University, Brazilian president Fernando Henrique Cardoso announced the establishment of the Joaquim Nabuco Chair. With the generous sponsorship of the Safra National Bank of New York and the support of the Brazilian Embassy in Washington, DC, CLAS has been able to bring a series of both junior and senior Brazilian scholars to campus for short terms to lecture and do research at Stanford.

Nabuco Scholars, 2009-2010

Daniela Calainho (PhD, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, 2000) is Professor of History at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, specializing in the colonial history of Brazil. She was at Stanford late March through late April 2010.

Boris Fausto (PhD, Universidade de São Paulo 1969) is Professor of History in Sao Paulo. He is Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of São Paulo and a member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences. He was at Stanford in May 2010.

Carlos Fausto (PhD, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro, 1991) is Associate Professor of History at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro. He was at Stanford in May 2010.
Visiting Scholars, 2009-2010

Marta Maria Chagas de Carvalho (PhD, Universidade de Sao Paulo, 1986) is a professor at Universidade de Sorocaba, specializing in the history of education in Brazil. She is currently academic advisor and research coordinator at Universidade de São Paulo and a member of the editorial board of Educacao e Sociedade. She was in residence at Stanford during winter quarter, January-March 2010.

Rosa Fontes (PhD, North Carolina State University, 1988) was Professor of Economics at Universidade Federal de Viçosa (Brazil) with a Ph.D. in Economics from North Carolina State University (1988). She was a Visiting Scholar at University of California – Berkeley (1993-94) and at Ludwig Maximiliams Universität in Munich, Germany (2000-01), and she is the former Dean of Humanities, Languages and Arts at UFV (2001-2006). She was in residence at Stanford during the 2009-2010 academic year.

Pedro Maciel (PhD, Universidade de Brasilia) is former Manager of Fiscal Analysis at the Brazilian Secretariat of the National Treasury - Ministry of Finance. He is responsible for developing studies and policies regarding fiscal programs of the Brazilian Government. He has published articles about fiscal policy and economic growth in Brazil and has been awarded several national prizes for his research. He was in residence at Stanford during the 2009-2010 academic year.

"My one-year visiting scholar program at the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) was an unforgettable academic experience. I had an office space in Bolivar House, which provided a cozy ambiance during the entire program. Stanford library collections and databases enabled me to conduct my research on fiscal policy and development in Brazil from different perspectives. I had the opportunity to present my research at CLAS and at the Stanford Center for International Development’s Institute of Economic Policy Research, where I received very important suggestions from the audience that helped me develop my research. I also took advantage of many first-class academic activities such as graduate courses, seminars and lectures across campus. Stanford offers an incredible infrastructure for its community, from offices/classrooms to restaurants and sports facilities. I believe I found a fantastic place to develop my research program and I am really glad with the results. Finally, I would like to emphasize how professional and wonderful the people are that I had the privilege to work with. It was really rewarding and I will miss you!" - Pedro Maciel

Nancy Robinson is a graduate of Yale (BA Latin American Studies) and Stanford (MA Latin American Studies), Dr. Robinson has taught at Bryn Mawr College, Stanford University and universities abroad. Prior to joining the UN peacekeeping mission in Guatemala, she was Coordinator of the Council on Latin America at Yale University and taught in the Spanish Department. Dr. Robinson has held posts with the UN High Commission for Human Rights in Mexico, the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti and UNICEF in Guatemala. Dr. Robinson was in residence at Stanford late May through September 2010.
Lecture Series

September 22, 2009
Tom O'Keefe
Creating a Community of the Americas: The Missing Link in an Obama Policy for Latin America and the Caribbean

September 29, 2009
Dr. Herb Klein
The Free Afro-Brazilians in the Slave Period

October 6, 2009
Dr. Rodolfo Dirzo
The Biological Treasures of Latin America and Unusual Anthropogenic Threats

October 13, 2009
Dr. Tamar Herzog
Defining Empires: The Spanish-Portuguese Conflict in the Americas (16th-19th Centuries)

October 20, 2009
Dr. George Handley
Ecocriticism in Latin America: Prospects and Challenges

October 27, 2009
Oliver Kaplan
Civilian Autonomy in Civil War? Understanding Civilian Responses to the Armed Conflict in Colombia

December 1, 2009
Mike Albertus
A Revolution for Whom?: Assessing the Venezuelan Land Reform under Chavez

November 3, 2009
Dr. Marilia Librandi-Rocha
From Sun to Sun: Sousândrade and Hélio Oiticica in New York

November 10, 2009
Adriana Dreyzin de Klor
The Expansion of MERCOSUR: Special Approach in the Case of Venezuela

January 5, 2010
Dr. Salvador Montiel Ortega
Subsistence Hunting and Prey Status in the Mayan Lands of Yucatan, Mexico: An Overview

January 12, 2010
Dr. Carter Hunt
An Inconvenient History: Dictators, Disasters, and Delayed Development in Nicaragua

November 17, 2009
Dr. Pedro Juca Maciel
Development in Brazil and Latin America: A Policy-Oriented Approach

January 19, 2010
Rachael Garrett
The Macroeconomic Drivers and Social and Environmental Consequences of Soybean Expansion in Brazil
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
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<tr>
<td>February 2, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Joao Adolfo Hansen</td>
<td>Grande Sertão: Veredas e o Sertão (Large Backlands: Pathways and the Backlands)</td>
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<td>March 2, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Zephyr Frank</td>
<td>The Slave Market in Rio de Janeiro circa 1869: Movement, Context, and Social Experience</td>
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<td>March 8, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Torcuato di Tella, The Same From Perón to Kirchner?</td>
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<td>March 9, 2010</td>
<td>Robert Samet</td>
<td>Populism, the Press, and the Politics of Urban Violence in Caracas, Venezuela</td>
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<td>March 16, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Rosa Fontes</td>
<td>Inequality in Brazil: The Roles of Education, Gender, Race and Regions</td>
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<td>April 6, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Diego von Vacano</td>
<td>The Princely Republican: Bolivar's Machiavellian Approach to Race</td>
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<td>April 8, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Frank Moya Pons, Política y Medio Ambiente en la República Dominicana</td>
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<td>April 13, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Daniela Calainho</td>
<td>Black Sorcerers in Portugal During the Modern Age</td>
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<td>April 27, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Kathleen Coll</td>
<td>Remaking Citizenship: Latina Immigrants and New American Politics</td>
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<td>May 4, 2010</td>
<td>Alfonso Cuellar</td>
<td>Colombia at the Crossroads: A New Beginning after Decades of Conflict?</td>
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<td>May 11, 2010</td>
<td>Dr. Mauricio Fontes</td>
<td>Geographical and Technological Indexes to Support Regional and Economic Planning in Brazil</td>
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<td>May 18, 2011</td>
<td>Dr. Carlos Fausto</td>
<td>A Thousand Years of Transformation: an Amazonian People Between the Past and the Future</td>
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<td>May 25, 2011</td>
<td>Katrina Kosec</td>
<td>The Political Economy of Investment in Pre-Primary Education: An Analysis of the Brazilian Case, 1998-2008</td>
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The Spring Fiesta 2010 was a huge success. With a great turnout our guests got a taste of Latin American culture and enjoyed plenty of food, rhythm and romance. People moved their hips and danced to the beat of the congas and the mambo/salsa brought by the talented Stanford Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble. The Stanford Tango Club made a unique romantic performance where guests could get a sense of the elegant music danced in the clubs and streets of Buenos Aires. The food offered reflected the diversity and tastiness of Latin American cuisine. Argentinian empanadas, Peruvian ceviche, Salvadoran pupusas, Cuban plátanos and arroz con leche for dessert were some of the dishes that our happy guests were able to taste. The always popular horchata, a Mexican and Central American drink could not be left out. Guests had fun and the night was full of culture, food and music for everyone to enjoy.
Spotlight on Undergraduate Research in Latin American Studies:

**Coloring Brazil Inside the Lines: Black Identity Formation in a “Raceless” Society**
Thais Hernandez, BA in International Relations, Interdisciplinary Honors in Latin American Studies, Minor in African and African American Studies, June 2010

**Sowing their Sovereignty: The Nicaraguan People’s Struggle against GMOs, and for Food Security and Sovereignty**
Sasha Novis, BA in American Studies, Minor in Latin American Studies, 2010

Thanks to a generous gift from Stanford alumna Monica Miller Walsh and her husband David Walsh, CLAS was able for the sixth year in a row to award Monica Miller Walsh grants to support Stanford undergraduates in summer internships in Latin America.

**Internship Grant recipients for summer 2010:**

**Nima Ahmadi**
BS 2013, Biomedical Computation
MS 2013, Bioengineering
Transitions Foundation
Antigua, Guatemala

“This summer was very important to me. I needed assurance that the field of biotechnology development was something that interests me. I am very eager to enter the field of bio/pharma/bio-design and move into an international development specific focus within a few years of industry experience. My experience in Guatemala inspired me. It has encouraged me to work harder in school with new found motivation and continue in the path to achieving my goals.”
Natalia Birgisson
BA 2013, Comparative Studies in
Race and Ethnicity
Volunteer Pediatric Clinic
Roatan, Honduras

“My favorite experience was taking the bus back to my apartment and realizing that I was sitting next to a mother and child that we had just seen. The mom smiled at me and thanked me for seeing her child and helping her get better. The little girl gave me a drawing she had made for me as they had waited in line for the pharmacy. It felt really nice to not only be making a difference, but to feel like I was a part of the community.”

Caitlin Rugg
BA 2010, Human Biology
MS 2011, Biology
Rostros Felices
Guayaquil, Ecuador

“Thank you again for giving me the opportunity to have these wonderful experiences. I learned so much about myself, about medicine, and about the human experience. I can’t wait to go back to South America for similar work!”
In addition, in 2010 CLAS awarded the second Pessoa-Trejos grant for a Stanford undergraduate to complete a summer internship in Brazil. This award is made possible by a gift from the Stanford alumna Ana Paula Pessoa and her husband Raul Trejos.

**Brittany Rymer**  
BA 2013, Urban Studies  
Global Student Embassy  
Santa Fe, Argentina

“While I did grow professionally and academically by interning for GSE, I feel that the majority of the growth I underwent in Argentina was personal. Responsibility and independence are the two main personal traits that my time in Argentina helped me to nurture within myself… I am incredibly grateful for having the opportunity to spend my summer in a fascinating country doing work that I loved, and I look forward to re-investing what I learned this summer back into the Stanford community.”

**Richard John Bartz**  
BS 2011, Earth Systems  
BA 2011, Iberian and Latin American Cultures (ILAC)  
MS 2011, Earth Systems  
U.S. State Department Environment, Science, Technology and Health Section  
Brasília, Brazil

“Overall I consider my internship with the State Department in Brasília as incredibly successful due to my engagement with environmental diplomacy inside and out of the U.S. Embassy. I was immersed in diplomatic activities both inside the Embassy and out, which allowed me to meet with a wide variety of Brazilian diplomats, scientific professionals, and other diplomats that collaborate with climate change issues in Brazil.”
Rethinking Brazilian History Conference

Conference in Honor of Boris Fausto
May 21, 2010
Bolivar House

Conference Chair
Dr. Herb Klein, Center for Latin American Studies

Speakers
Dr. Boris Fausto, University of São Paulo and member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences
"Populism in the Past and Its Resurgence"
Commentator: Dr. Francisco Vidal Luna

Dr. William Summerhill, University of California at Los Angeles
"Political Events, Sovereign Default Risk, and the Atlantic Capital Market: Brazil, 1825-1889"
Commentator: Dr. Stephen Haber, Stanford University

Dr. Alida Metcalf, Rice University
"Revisiting Hans Staden: The Visual Imagery of Warhaftige Historia"
Commentator: Dr. Carlos Fausto, Museu Nacional, Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

Dr. Joseph Love, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
"The Brazilian Federal State in the Old Republic: Did Regime Change Make a Difference?"
Commentator: Dr. Zephyr Frank, Stanford University

Dr. Shawn Miller, Brigham Young University
"Spaces in Time: Rio's Logradouros, from Colony to Metropolis"
Commentator: Dr. Chris Ebert, Brooklyn College City University of New York

Dr. Jeffrey Needell, University of Florida
"Revocation of the Pena de Açoites (1886): Political Process, Political History, and the Abolitionist Movement"
Commentator: Dr. Gail Triner, Rutgers University

Dr. Jeffrey Lesser, Emory University
"Foreign Ethnicity as Brazilian National Identity"
Commentator: Dr. Herb Klein, Stanford University
The 119th Commencement of Stanford University was held on Sunday, June 13, 2010. The Center for Latin American Studies recognized nine graduates for the Master of Arts degree, one graduate for the undergraduate Interdisciplinary Honors certification, and two graduates for the undergraduate Minor in Latin American Studies. The keynote speaker for the CLAS Commencement ceremony was Dr. Nancy Robinson, an alumna of the MA program in Latin American Studies (Stanford ’80). 2010 MA graduates Adam Riggs and Casey Engelbert also gave speeches to commemorate the occasion. Families and friends joined us in the Bolivar House garden to celebrate with the graduates.

Master of Arts in Latin American Studies awarded to:

- Casey Engelbert
- Vijay Gallardo
- April Jernberg
- Kara Kapp
- Maria Luisa Palomino
- Mac Parish
- Adam Riggs
- Jared Ritvo
- Guadalupe Rojo

Interdisciplinary Honors in Latin American Studies awarded to:

- Thais Hernandez, BA in International Relations, Minor in African and African American Studies

Undergraduate Minor in Latin American Studies awarded to:

- Sasha Novis, BA in American Studies

Congratulations, graduates!
Faculty News

Jorge Ruffinelli (Professor and Chair, Iberian and Latin American Cultures) has published *América Latina En 130 Películas*. [Santiago, Chile]: Uqbar, 2010.

Marilia Librandi-Rocha (Assistant Professor, Iberian and Latin American Cultures) has published *Maranhao-Manhattan, Ensaios de Literatura Brasileira*. Prologue by Luiz Costa Lima. Rio de Janeiro: 7Letras, 2009. She was also the roundtable moderator for "When Lives Become Form" at the Yerba Buena Art Center for the Arts in San Francisco on January 16, 2010. Other participants at this round-table discussion included João Adolfo Hansen (Tinker Visiting Professor), Jens Hoffman, Jason Stanyek, Ana Maria Seara, Jom Tob Azulay, Karen Tei Yamashita and Bettisue Hertz (organizer).

Jonathan Greenberg (Lecturer, Law School) was appointed to the International Advisory Board, Faculty of Law, Escuela Superior de Administracion de Negocios (Universidad ESAN) in Lima, Peru.

Hector Hoyos (Associate Professor, Iberian and Latin American Cultures) received a second year of support for Cultural Synchronization and Disjuncture, a working group on cultural theory and Latin Americanism sponsored by the Division of Literatures, Cultures, and Languages at Stanford University, often in collaboration with the Center for Latin American Studies. His academic publications during the last academic year include the following articles:


Library Update

Extensive print and non-print resources await avid Latin Americanists at Stanford’s libraries.

Travel to book fairs in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Spain (partly funded by the Center) have made possible acquisition of many movies that are not available commercially in the United States. The library’s online catalog lists an ever-growing collection of Spanish-language videos/DVDs with over 6,500 titles.

An overflowing “F” section housing the bulk of the Latin American collection in Green Library is an indication of a robust acquisitions program that adds more than 10,000 print volumes from/about the region. Digital resources supplement these vast holdings with e-books via the Ebrary platform (over 400 available titles are currently available).


The Center for Latin American Studies said farewell to Dr. Herb Klein, CLAS Director from 2004 to 2010. In recognition of his service to CLAS, including the reinstatement of the MA degree program, and of his unmatched scholarly contribution to the field of Latin American history, colleagues and friends gathered in the Bolivar House garden on June 2, 2010 to celebrate his achievements and wish him the best as he departed from CLAS. Dr. Klein continues to be affiliated with Stanford University through the Hoover Institute as a Senior Research Fellow.

Megan Gorman (Associate Director, CLAS) is serving a one-year term as the Executive Director of the Division of International Comparative and Area Studies (ICA). Her term will end in July 2011. Megan continues to serve as the Center’s Associate Director.

Emily Davis (Program Coordinator, CLAS) has left the Center for Latin American Studies to pursue a Master's in Literary Translation Studies at the University of Rochester.

Angela Doria-La, former CLAS Business Administrator, was promoted to Program Coordinator.

Daniel Cruz and Cristal Garcia continue being our superstar student administrative workers. We are delighted that both Daniel and Cristal have joined us again after studying abroad in Paris and at Oxford and Florence, respectively.

Laura Quirarte joined the Center this past October. Laura brings several years of experience to her new role as CLAS Business Administrator, having worked for several Fortune 500 companies. Laura arrived at Stanford as a student spouse and immediately fell in love with life on campus, where she eventually became the coordinator of programs for spouses and international families at the Bechtel International Center. She has taught Spanish classes at Bechtel and studied Portuguese. Her most recent work was related to the improvement of customer service and business relationships with corporate clients throughout Latin America for a high-tech company in Silicon Valley. Laura graduated with honors from La Salle University in Mexico City with a BA in Business Administration. She is fluent in English and Spanish. We are delighted to have her on board!
**Alumni Updates**

**Mark Anner** (MA, 1991) is Assistant Professor of Labor Studies and Political Science at The Pennsylvania State University. His next book, coming out in April, is titled *Solidarity Transformed: Labor Responses to Globalization and Crisis in Latin America*, published by Cornell University Press.

**Penny Rich** (MA, 1993) has been an adjunct Professor of Latin American Studies at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont for the past 18 years. She has also been a literacy teacher in Santa Cruz, CA through an ESL program for the past 15 years.

**Ross Evans** (Minor and Honors) began his work with Terry Karl back in 1995 and is now the proud founder of Worldbike and Xtracycle. After the early years of working in Latin America, the bulk of their focus has been in Africa. However, they are now exploring new opportunities to expand their work in Latin America again. Two of their bikes were featured in the Smithsonian Museum’s Exhibit "Design for the Other 90%." Xtracycle has gone on to pioneer the LongTail cargo bike and bring cargo cycling to the forefront in the US cycling industry. Our country’s largest bike companies (Trek, QBP, Kona, J&B) are now producing LongTail cargo bikes. Both organizations share an office in Emeryville, CA.

**Denis Minev** (MA, 1999) left the State Government of Amazonas in 2009, where he was state secretary for planning dealing with issues ranging from deforestation to development and education. Denis then became finance director of a group of companies in the industrial, retail and distribution segments based in Manaus.

**Jessica Ernst Powell** (MA, 2000) completed her Ph.D. in Hispanic Languages and Literatures at UC Santa Barbara, in 2006. Jessica is married and has two children, ages 3 and 8, and lives in Santa Barbara where she works as a literary translator. Most recently, Jessica has been awarded a 2011 National Endowment for the Arts Translation Fellowship, in support of her translation into English of Antonio Benítez Rojo’s final novel: *Mujer en traje de batalla* (Woman in Battle Dress).

**Mariana Mora** (MA, 2001) holds a tenure track position in the department of anthropology at Tulane University in New Orleans. She is continuing to do research on decolonizing subaltern politics and Zapatista indigenous autonomy but has also begun a new research project on human rights and state violence in the context of the war against organized crime in Mexico.

**Mercedes Briceño Pulido** (MA, 2002) is expecting her second child on May 7. A stay-at-home mom, Mercedes now lives in Venezuela and is the proud mother of Ana.
**Marcelo Hallack** (Minor, 2003) moved to São Paulo in 2008 and is currently working in private equity at BTG Pactual's merchant banking division.

**Araceli Ortiz** (MA, 2008) is currently at the Stanford GSB pursuing a joint MBA/MA in Education. She will graduate in June 2012 and hopes to move to Latin America and do something related to sports development.

**Victoria Harman** (Minor, 2009) is currently an M.Phil student in Latin American Studies at the University of Cambridge. She is researching Brazilian economics as well as a variety of current issues in the Southern Cone. Victoria is also serving as the Newsletter Editor for Pulsamérica, a Latin America news link started by her classmates at Cambridge. After graduation in June, Victoria hopes to return to her native New York City and find a job that involves working with Spanish and Portuguese speaking clients.

Send us updates for next year’s edition of Enlace by September 30, 2011 to latinamerica@stanford.edu

STAY CONNECTED!

Join the Stanford Latin American Studies Alumni Network on LinkedIn

and

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/stanfordCLAS
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<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>GREGORY ASNER</strong></td>
<td>Faculty Scientist, Global Ecology, Carnegie Institution</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CLIFFORD BARNETT</strong></td>
<td>Professor Emeritus, Anthropology</td>
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<td><strong>MARTIN CARNOY</strong></td>
<td>Professor, Education</td>
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<td><strong>SUSAN CASHION</strong></td>
<td>Senior Lecturer Emeritus, Dance</td>
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