As you enter the Center for Latin American Studies, you cannot help but notice a bronze head of José Martí by the Cuban sculptor Juan José Sicre (1898-1974). This work of art came to the University of Florida in 1950 as a gift from the Alfaro Foundation. Emeterio S. Santovenia, then president of the Cuban Academy of History and an intellectual with strong ties to the Cuban political leaders of the period, presented the gift when he received an honorary degree from UF. The piece was originally housed in the Latin American Collection in the Smathers Libraries. During the Thanksgiving weekend of 1976 the statue was stolen. Two students, having played a prank, returned it to the campus police unharmed a few days later. The statue, affixed to a new, heavy base that made it very difficult to move, was transferred to the third floor of Grinter Hall where it currently stands, welcoming all visitors to the Center.

Anyone familiar with Latin American history and culture who sees the piece will immediately recognize the model – José Martí (1853-95), the founding father of the Cuban nation. A great Caribbean politician and intellectual, Martí lived his most productive years in the United States. He is recognized today as one of the intellectual fathers of Latino/a culture. But unfortunately, the artist who created this important work seems to have disappeared from the historical record. Both when the sculpture arrived at the University and when it was stolen for a few days, newspaper articles mentioned the model but not the artist. This seems unfair, since the piece is an important work by the pioneer of Cuban modern sculpture.

Juan José Sicre, who studied in Spain, Italy and France in the 1920s, was professor of sculpture at the Academia de San Alejandro in Havana, which at the time was the Cuban national school of fine arts. At the Academia, he trained many Cuban artists. By 1950, Sicre was recognized as a master in his field and was selected to create the monumental statue of Martí for the center of Plaza Cívica in Havana, now known as the Plaza de la Revolución. This monument was commissioned by the Batista government for the centenary of Martí’s birth. Sicre worked on the piece, probably his masterpiece or at least his best known work, from 1950 to 1958, when the monument was officially installed.

UF’s head of Martí, one of several casts, is a product of Sicre’s creative process for the Martí monument. Where are the other casts of this work of art? I have been unable to locate them. However, I do know that important museums – the National Museum in Havana and the Museum of Latin American Art in Washington, D.C., among others – have works by Sicre in their collections. Even though there is a small plaque at the base of UF’s sculpture that identifies both the model and the artist, we recognize Martí but ignore Sicre. Obviously, the model is far better known than the artist, but the next time you see the head of Martí at the entrance to the Center for Latin American Studies look at it carefully – think of the artist and think of the statue as a work of art. There is little doubt that Sicre is an artist worth knowing and admiring.

—Contributed by Efrain Barradas, Professor of Latin American Studies and Romance Languages and Literatures
I am pleased to announce that the Center for Latin American Studies has been renewed as a Department of Education Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) as part of the Florida Consortium for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. The UF Center has been funded in every Title VI competition since 1961. Since 1991, we have partnered with the Latin American and Caribbean Center at Florida International University as the Florida Consortium. A total of 18 NRCs (corresponding to 24 universities) were funded in the 2006-10 competition. The Florida Consortium finished second in terms of the level of funding awarded to a consortium, and fourth in overall funding. The total four-year award of $1 million is split equally between UF and FIU, as is the separate $1.5 million grant for Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships announced previously.

The main objectives of the Title VI NRC grant are to 1) strengthen Portuguese and Haitian Creole instruction and assessment; 2) increase undergraduate and graduate program enrollments; 3) increase the number of area studies classes, such as Portuguese language and foreign language across the curriculum courses; 4) deepen interdisciplinary course offerings, research and training programs, and joint degree programs with the professional schools; and 5) improve elementary and secondary school teacher training while increasing overall participation in outreach programs.

Among the innovative programs to be supported with the Title VI grant is the inter-center program on Law and Policy in the Americas. Based at the Center for Governmental Responsibility at the Levin College of Law, this project is a collaboration between the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) at the Warrington College of Business, the UF International Center, and the Center for Latin American Studies.

The Title VI grant will allow the Center to offer a Summer Institute in Garifuna beginning in 2008, the first of its kind in the US. Garifuna is spoken by approximately 200,000 people in Honduras, Guatemala, and Belize. Prof. Rick Stepp, a joint appointment between the Center and Anthropology, has carried out research in the Garifuna-speaking region and is increasingly attracting students who want to work in this long-neglected area of the Americas. Other Title VI centers have indicated that they have a similar need for Garifuna training among their students.

Also planned for summer 2008 is a new, short-term study abroad program in Brazil on the performing arts. Prof. Welson Tremura, a joint appointment between the Center and the School of Music, will be developing this as a stand-alone course as well as a follow-up course to the Center’s Brazilian Portuguese Language and Culture program in Rio de Janeiro.

In October the Center held its second Faculty Retreat. The overall aim of the one-day retreat was to review and assess progress on the Center’s Strategic Plan. One session focused on priorities for interdisciplinary research and graduate training programs, joint hires, and endowed chairs and professorships. Another focused on building linkages to Latin American institutions and increasing study abroad opportunities for undergraduates. As a result of the retreat two task forces were organized: one on building linkages and the other on increasing enrollments in Portuguese language courses. The latter is in response to the concern that, given the current financial crisis in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, low enrollments may threaten UF’s ability to offer upper-division Portuguese studies.

I was delighted that so many faculty (37) were willing to dedicate a Saturday to help chart the Center’s future. Their interest and engagement attests to the vibrancy of Latin American Studies at UF.
Bacardi Family Fall 2006 Eminent Lecturer: 
Dr. Alejandro Toledo

Dr. Alejandro Toledo, the former President of Peru, delivered the Bacardi Family Eminent Lecture on “Poverty and the Future of Democracy in Latin America” on October 17, 2006. Toledo presented some initial reflections on his presidential term, highlighted the role of education in reducing poverty, and challenged students to take responsibility for the future. He delivered his lecture with humor, wisdom and humility to an audience divided by admiration and derision for his politics.

Introducing himself through his family background, Toledo called himself “a statistical error”. One of 16 children born to a very poor family in the high Andes, Toledo started working at the age of five, shining shoes and selling lottery tickets on the streets of Chimbote. Yet, he was fortunate to receive an excellent education (including a Ph.D. from Stanford University) and become President of his native country. Toledo’s personal trajectory is the result of educational opportunities, which he firmly believes should be provided to all.

Toledo’s main message was that the consolidation of democracy in Latin America is threatened by the rampant poverty in the region. He stated, “Poverty can conspire against democracy if it is not reduced”. Economic growth is indispensable to fight poverty, he continued, but it has to result in improvement of the quality of life, including better access to education, nutrition and health. On the other hand, he also noted that poverty can constrain growth. If poverty results in citizen discontent, the ensuing instability might lead to a reduction in private investment, and hence growth.

The former President went on to discuss the achievements of his term of office (2002–06). Exports increased three-fold, while GDP growth rates averaged 7 percent. Inflation and the fiscal deficit were practically eliminated. He took pride in the fact that the poverty rate was reduced from 54 percent in 2000 to 48 percent in 2006, while recognizing that poverty-reduction efforts were still insufficient. He was pleased that under his leadership Peru negotiated free trade agreements with Chile, Mexico and Thailand.

Just as Toledo was addressing citizen participation, an individual sprung from the crowd onto the stage and positioned himself next to Toledo. The protestor stood in silence, his mouth taped shut, and wore a huge cardboard Peruvian flag with the words “NO ALCA, No to Free Trade.” This example of civic participation brought to mind the growing dissatisfaction in much of Latin America with free trade policies and neoliberal development.

During a lively question and answer period, Toledo was challenged on whether free trade and an export-oriented economic policy based on primary commodities was sufficient to ensure both long-term growth and poverty reduction. Toledo responded that he only signed free trade agreements if he thought that good jobs would result from them, an answer that left many in the audience dissatisfied. The former president was also asked about alleged corruption during his administration, a question that he avoided. Toledo challenged students to use their education to free others from poverty and urged international students to return to their home countries to affect change.

Legal and Policy Issues in the Americas Conference:
Justice Reform in Peru

The University of Florida Levin College of Law, in conjunction with Peru’s Pontificia Universidad Católica, the Instituto de Defensa Legal and Justicia Viva, hosted the 7th Annual Conference on Legal and Policy Issues in the Americas in Lima, Peru, May 25–26, 2006. The conference, entitled “Creating a Consensus for Justice Reform in Peru,” brought together attorneys, judges, policy makers and members of the business and academic community to discuss the rule of law and justice reform throughout the Americas.

Panel discussions focused on creating an impetus and blueprint for reform of the Peruvian justice system. Topics included citizen security and human rights, alternative dispute resolution, the Peru Trade Promotion Agreement, legal education and professionalism, infrastructure development, appellate systems, and property rights.

“Public opinion polls in Peru have for a long time shown that few people have confidence in the judicial system,” commented former United States Ambassador to Peru and Dean of the UF International Center, Dennis Jett. “While there is general agreement on the need for reform, there has been no common vision of how to accomplish it. The conference was an opportunity to begin to establish that vision.”

During the conference, Jorge Santistevan de Noriega – former national Ombudsman of Peru – received the Jon Mills Award for Significant Contributions to Relations between Florida and the Americas. Santistevan was first to preside as national ombudsman in Peru, protecting citizens against abuse by public officials, and serving as an independent watchdog with the jurisdiction to challenge the President, the Courts, and the Police.

All conference papers, PowerPoint presentations, press releases and select photos have been posted at http://www.law.ufl.edu/cgr/conference/.

—Contributed by Meredith Fensom, Director, Law and Policy in the Americas Program
The Power of Design, Memory, and Civic Participation in the Southern Cone

Martha Kohen, Director and Professor of the UF School of Architecture, presented a lecture entitled “The Disappeared and Detained Citizens: A Contemporary Dilemma for the Process of Social Healing in the Southern Cone” as part of the Fall 2006 Center/SALAS Colloquium Series. Kohen first provided a brief history of military rule in the region and the resulting disappearance and detainment of an estimated 40,000 or more citizens during the 1970s and 1980s. After an overview of the processes to construct memorials for the victims of military repression in each of the Southern Cone countries, she discussed her winning design for the Memorial of Disappeared and Detained Citizens in Montevideo, Uruguay.

Kohen explained that the central issues at this stage in the healing process are civil reparations for both the families of the disappeared and members of society in general, punishment of the guilty, and memorialization and social recognition of the trauma so that it does not occur again. Effective memorials address all of these issues. They also provide a sense of closure, especially for families of the victims, by paying tribute to lost ones. While memorials do not directly punish the guilty, they serve to organize civil society and, consequently, strengthen it. They become physical symbols of the community’s will and ability to rise above tragedy and/or oppression and to write their own history. Finally, as constant public and visual reminders of the tragedy, memorials raise consciousness in the hopes of keeping the memory alive and educating new generations about the past so that it does not repeat itself.

These are immense tasks for a community, let alone an architect, to accomplish. Tackling these issues depends on a number of considerations, including paying careful attention to timing and the organization of civil society. To show the effects of such factors and the resulting variation in memorials and healing processes in the region, Kohen cited examples from other countries. Argentina’s Parque de la Memoria, a comprehensive memorial park, pays tribute not only to the disappeared, but also to victims of various other historical tragedies in that country. In Chile, the memorials are small-scale and for the most part, spontaneous. In Brazil, there is no memorial at all for the victims of military rule.

The Uruguayan case is unique. It is the only country that has constructed an official memorial dedicated solely to the disappeared and detained. More importantly, the creation of the Uruguayan memorial arose from an organized civic process. Teams of architects presented designs in a competition that engaged the public in debate. Over 100 well-known members of Uruguayan society participated in the project. In addition, funds for the project came directly from Uruguayan citizens, both at home and abroad, despite generous offers from European countries to fund the memorial.

While one could argue that the sheer amount of civic participation in the process makes the memorial an effective method of social healing, Kohen’s stunning design undeniably enhances the healing and overall effectiveness of the memorial. Striking in its simplicity, the memorial employs few basic materials—glass, rock, concrete, and light—in a natural forest setting close to the water. A white bridge juts out over a pool of exposed jagged rocks. Two large glass panels flank the sides of the bridge. The names of the 176 disappeared and detained citizens are etched in the glass. As such, the memorial has emerged as a “symbolic tombstone” for the disappeared, thus offering a greater sense of closure for the victims’ families. Its natural setting permits quiet contemplation of the issue. On a practical note, the memorial is easily accessible to the public. A pedestrian walkway with ample lighting leads directly to the memorial. It is also handicapped accessible. Despite the negative response from some members of the military, as well as complaints from others who believe the memorial was built too close to a neighboring military base, the memorial has received an overwhelmingly positive public response.

After Kohen’s presentation, some audience members posed questions about how to effectively address the politics of memory in a memorial. How do you create a memorial that remains effective over time? Can you add or delete names of victims if their status changes? How do you prevent the memorial from blending into its surroundings and becoming forgotten? Kohen referred again to the role of timing in the healing process. Although memory will inevitably be modified over time, the memorial represents an expression of collective memory at this point in time.

Kohen’s design, her eloquent argument to support it, and her emphasis on the importance of civic participation in the memorial process attest to the power of the memorial. Recent events in the news show that society’s wounds from this trauma remain open and reinforce the need for social healing. With eerily appropriate timing, Kohen’s talk follows the late September disappearance of Jorge Julio López, a former political prisoner and key witness in the trial of human rights abuser and former Buenos Aires police commissioner Miguel Etchecolatz. In reference to López’s disappearance, Argentine President Nestor Kirchner said, “The past has not been defeated or overcome. Let’s stay on the alert. We can’t allow this past to repeat itself.” In Montevideo, the Memorial of Disappeared and Detained Citizens powerfully asserts this message.

—Contributed by Molly Dondero, MALAS student

FALL 2006
CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
SALAS Colloquium Series

September 14
“America’s Colony: The Political and Cultural Conflict Between the United States and Puerto Rico.”
Pedro A. Malavet. Professor, Law

September 21
Terry McCoy. Professor, LAS and Political Science & Director, LABEP

October 5
“La Situación Actual de la Tuberculosis en as Americas, y el Plan Estratégico Regional para Alcanzar los Objetivos del Milenio.”
Mirtha del Granado. TB Program Advisor, Pan American Health Organization

October 19
Martha Kohen. Director and Professor, School of Architecture

November 2
“Problems with the Land Sparing Approach: A Case Study from Southeastern Mexico.”
Eric Keys. Assistant Professor, Geography

November 16
“The Formation of Creole Cuba, 1525–1607.”
Luis Martínez-Fernández. Director, Latin American, Caribbean & Latino Studies Program, University of Central Florida

November 30
“The Case of Hurricane Mitch in Central America: An Example of Effectiveness in Foreign Assistance.”
Anna Krift. Assistant Professor, International Relations, Lynn University

Center’s Fall Reception

Center for Latin American Studies faculty with UF President J. Bernard Machen at the Center’s Fall Reception. From left to right: Emilio Bruna, Carmen Diana Deere, J. Bernard Machen, Wilson Tremura and Ana Margheritis.

David Pharies, Charles Perrone, and Phil Williams, LAS affiliate faculty at the Center’s Fall reception.
The Aymara language, a member of the Jaqi family of languages, is spoken by two to three million people. It is the first language of a third of the population of Bolivia and the major native language in southern Peru and northern Chile. The Center for Latin American Studies’ “Aymara on the Internet” project builds on a series of 1969–90 U.S. Department of Education Title VI grants to the University of Florida that funded the development of classroom-based Aymara teaching materials by M.J. Hardman, UF Professor of Linguistics and one of the world’s foremost Aymara linguists. The current grant (2004–07) from the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI International Research and Studies Program builds on the text materials developed in the 1970s and converts them into a high quality, flexible, and easily accessed web-based delivery format in three languages: Aymara, Spanish and English.

This project is unique because of its interdisciplinary nature. The UF team consists of M.J. Hardman, Principal Investigator (Linguistics); Elizabeth Lowe, co-Principal Investigator and project manager (LAS); Justino Llanque Chana, Aymara linguist (UF Libraries and a member of the original linguist team in the 1970s); Howard Beck, computer science engineer and creator of the database (Office of Information and Technology, IFAS); Sue Legg, technical project coordinator (former director of UF Academic Technology), Gillian Lord, pedagogy specialist (RLL/Linguistics); and instructional design and web implementation staff from the UF Center for Instructional Training and Technology. The UF team collaborates with several institutions in the region, as well as U.S. universities with Aymara programs such as the University of Chicago and Florida International University.

The project has broad implications for linguistic scholars, heritage speakers, and the diaspora Aymara population, as well as for U.S. cultural, political and economic relations with the new Aymara-based Bolivian government. The intellectual merit of the project resides in the highly innovative nature of the database which will contribute to work on setting standards for ensuring the robustness and functionality of electronic archives of endangered languages.

For the Aymara people, this database of rich texts represents a historical repository. The materials can be adapted for bilingual education, literary materials and for historical and cultural purposes, including personal identity affirmation and continuing education. For the U.S. government, the project offers a way of training U.S. personnel about the region. The existence of this program has paved the way for a follow-on project to create a research database for Aymara’s sister languages, Jaqaru and Kawki. It will also foster future studies regarding discourse analysis, sociolinguistics and dialogue.

—Contributed by Elizabeth Lowe, Associate Director, Center for Latin American Studies

56th Annual Conference, UF Center for Latin American Studies

Indigenous Peoples in Digital Cultures: Communications Technologies and the Impacts on Indigenous Languages and Cultural Identity in the Americas

February 14–16, 2007 J. Wayne Reitz Union, UF Campus

The mission of this conference is to examine from multidisciplinary perspectives how communications technologies have affected indigenous language and cultural identity in the Americas. Since the middle of the 20th century, indigenous communities throughout the Americas have gained considerable demographic, political and cultural presence in their respective national arenas. Such increasing invigoration of indigenous communities has depended, to a large extent, on the conscious revitalization of their native languages, their traditional cultures, and the skillful and widespread use of communications technologies. This conference will focus on the impact and potential of global technologies of communication on indigenous languages, cultures and identities in the Americas.

Keynote speakers will include Bolivian Ambassador to the U.S., Gustavo Guzmán; UF linguist and expert on Jaqi languages, M.J. Hardman; Denny Moore of the Museu Goeldi (Belem, Brazil); and Richard Grounds, Director of the Euchee Language Project. There will be video and film screenings from Mexico, Peru, Bolivia and Venezuela as well as an “experiential media” virtual performance with participants from around the hemisphere.

For further information contact: Elizabeth Lowe, Conference Chair (elowe@ufl.edu).
Faculty News and Notes

Terry McCoy (LAS/Political Science) and Karen Kainer (LAS/SFRC) won the 2006 UF International Educator of the Year Award in their respective categories for senior and junior faculty. Six of the Center’s affiliate faculty also received the International Educator of the Year award for their respective colleges: Sergio Vega (Fine Arts), Nick Comerford (Agricultural and Life Sciences), M.J. Hardman (Liberal Arts and Sciences), Berta Hernández-Truyol (Law), Marilyn Roberts (Journalism and Communications) and Jorge Hernández (Veterinary Medicine).

Alex Alberro (Art and Art History) delivered an invited paper on “Cannibalism, the Non-Object, and Late-Twentieth Century Brazilian Art” at the University of Pittsburgh.

Andrés Avellaneda (RLL) was given the title “Distinguished Guest of Honor” (Huésped de Honor Extraordinario) by the President of the Universidad de La Plata in Argentina. He was a special guest participant in a round table on literature and politics at the Universidad de La Plata. He was also the keynote speaker at the Sixth Orbis Tertius International Conference on Theory and Literary Criticism in Argentina.

Florence E. Babb (Women’s Studies and Gender Research) presented an invited paper on “Touring Vicos: Revisiting Gender Through Experiential Tourism” at Cornell University. She presented an invited paper on “Cuban Tourism as Development Strategy in a Time of Globalization” at Northwestern University. She also presented an invited paper on “Love for Sale: Sex and Sentiment in Contemporary Cuban Tourism” at Loyola University. She delivered the paper, “Yearning for Cuba: Tourism and the Ambivalence of Nostalgia” in a symposium on Island Tourism in the Americas: Research, Practice, and Politics. She also presented the paper “El género y el turismo: Revisitaing Vicos y el Callejón de Huaylas” at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú in Lima.

Emilio Bruna (LAS/WEC) received a NSF grant for the project “Mechanisms influencing seedling recruitment and establishment in a fragmented Amazonian landscape” (with Maria Uriarte from Columbia University). He participated as an invited panelist in a roundtable on Careers in Ecology and Evolution at the annual meeting of the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science in Tampa. He was also invited to teach a graduate course on “Mechanisms of coexistence in tropical communities” at the Universidade Federal de Uberlândia, Brazil. He received a NSF Minority Career Advancement Award entitled “Linking population and ecosystem ecology: How does nitrogen deposition influence plant demography in tropical savannas?”.

Carmen Diana Deere (LAS/FRE) co-edited a special issue on Women and Wealth in Feminist Economics which was the subject of “Hot Type” in the May 12, 2006 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education. She presented “Gender and the Distribution of Wealth in Developing Countries” (with Cheryl Doss) at the UN University World Institute for Development Economics Research (WIDER) Conference on Wealth in Helsinki, Finland and also at Cornell University. She also presented the keynote address at the 7th Congress of Latin American Rural Sociology in Quito on “La feminización de la agricultura? Campesinas y asalariadas en la reestructuración económica en América Latina rural”. She was also interviewed about her research career for the section on “Reflections” in the European journal Development and Change, 37(6), 2006.

David Geggus (History) delivered an invited paper on “Print Culture and the Haitian Revolution: The Written and the Spoken Word,” at a meeting on Print Culture and Enlightenment in the American, French, Haitian, and Spanish American Revolutions, hosted by the American Antiquarian Society, in Worcester, MA.

Elizabeth Ginway (RLL) delivered an invited paper on “Eugenics and Literary Utopias in Brazil 1909–1929” at the UF History of Science Colloquium Series. She also presented an invited paper on “Do implantado ao ciborgue: A violência dentro do corpo social na ficção científica latinoamericana contemporânea” at the 2nd UF Colloquium on Hispanic/Latin American Literatures, Linguistics and Cultures.

Dorota Haman (Agricultural and Biological Engineering) presented a paper on “Evaluation of Illustration-based Educational Materials” (with Cornejo, C. and N.T Place) at the meeting of the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education in El Salvador.


Tace Hedrick (English) presented an invited paper on “Race and the Americas” at the South Atlantic Modern Language Association Special Symposium in Charlotte, N.C.
Peter E. Hildebrand (FRE) reports that the UF Library is digitizing an International Farming Systems Collection representing nearly forty years of teaching, research and extension resources pertaining to the Farming Systems approach to international agricultural development. The focus of the collection has been on the ever increasing number of smallholder farmers and their heterogeneous livelihood systems on a global scale. The collection can be found at: http://web.uflib.ufl.edu/ufdc/UFDC.aspx?c=fao1&s=ifers&

Reynaldo Jiménez (RLL) chaired a session entitled “Women, Memory and Transgressions” and presented a paper entitled “Memoria y afirmación: el sujeto decentrado en la narrativa de Zoe Valdés y Mireya Robles” at the International Conference on Caribbean Studies at the University of Texas-Pan American.

Maxine Margolis (Anthropology) delivered an invited lecture on “Immigrants: New Actors in Brazil” at the Bildner Center for Western Hemisphere Studies at the City University of New York. She delivered an invited lecture on “Brazilian Immigration to the U.S. after 9/11” at the Conference on Brazilian Immigrants on the West Coast, at the Brazilian Consulate in San Francisco.

Thomas Oakland (Educational Psychology) has established the Costa Rican Professional Preparation Program to help prepare graduate students in clinical, counseling, and school psychology to work with Hispanic children, their teachers, and families.

Augusto Oyuela-Caycedo (Anthropology) delivered an invited paper on “El Formativo Temprano en el Caribe Colombiano” at the VI Simposio sobre la Historia de Cartagena in Colombia. He presented a paper on “Looking at the forest as a fragmented archaeological artifact: Toward an archaeology of the tropical forest” at the International Congress of Americanists at the Universidad de Sevilla in Spain. He also delivered an invited paper on “Cosmology and Ecology in White and Black Water Rivers” as part of the Dean’s Workshop series “New Amazonian Perspectives” at the University of Binghamton in New York.

Charles Perrone (RLL) delivered an invited paper on “Writing from the Corners: Twentieth Century Iconoclasts in Brazilian Literature and Society” at The Americas Society in New York. He also delivered an invited paper on “Mapping the Marvelous Megalopolis: São Paulo and Modernist Imaginations” at the Great Cities in Literature and Film Spring Lecture Series at the University of Illinois in Chicago. He delivered a keynote address on “Insularity, Invention, and Interface: Brazil & Lyric in the Americas” at the 12th Annual Carolina Conference on Romance Literatures at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He also presented a paper on “Stages of the World: Polylingual Play in Caetano Cantor” at the Annual Conference of the Brazilian Studies Association at Vanderbilt University. He presented a paper on “Women’s Voices in Brazilian Transamerican Lyric” at the American Portuguese Studies Association at the University of Minnesota.

Maria Rogal (School of Art & Art History) was awarded a Fulbright-Garcia Robles Scholar Grant (México, 2006–07) to conduct research on her project “The Visual Culture of Mexicanidad in Yucatán”, and to teach in the Social Communications Program at the Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán in Mérida.

Helen Safa (LAS/Anthropology) was awarded an Uppity Woman Award from UF’s Center for Women’s Studies and Gender Research. She delivered an invited paper at a conference on Poverty and Globalization in Brazil/Estados Unidos no currículo de uma Universidade Norte Americana” at The Brazilian National Conference of Ethnomusicology in São Paulo, Brazil. He also delivered an invited paper on “Aspectos Harmônicos e melodiosos” at the Hospital Adolfo Bezerra de Menezes during the Simposium on Chico Buarque: Psiquiatria, Psicologia e Psicanalise in São José do Rio Preto, Brazil.

UF Acronymns

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<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>FLMNH</td>
<td>Florida Museum of Natural History</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRE</td>
<td>Food and Resource Economics</td>
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<td>LABEP</td>
<td>Latin American Business Environment Program</td>
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<td>LAS</td>
<td>Latin American Studies</td>
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<td>MALAS</td>
<td>MA in Latin American Studies</td>
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<td>PGL</td>
<td>Partnership in Global Learning</td>
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<td>RLL</td>
<td>Romance Languages and Literatures</td>
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<td>SFRC</td>
<td>School of Forest Resources &amp; Conservation</td>
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<td>SNRE</td>
<td>School of Natural Resources &amp; Environment</td>
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In October 2006, the Center for Latin American Studies screened Mulheres do Brasil (Women of Brazil), a recently released Brazilian docudrama. Malu de Martino, the film’s director, introduced the film at the Reitz Union Cinema. A native of Rio, de Martino studied film at the New School in New York before returning to Brazil to work in television and documentaries. Mulheres do Brasil is her first full-length feature film.

In a question and answer session held the following day at the Interdisciplinary Colloquium on Hispanic Literature, Linguistics, and Culture, de Martino elaborated on the movie’s themes, the filming process, and the docudrama genre. Through vignettes of the lives of five women in different Brazilian cities, de Martino explained that she sought to create “a gallery of female types that represented ordinary women.” While actors portray the five main characters, de Martino intersperses documentary clips of interviews with “real” women throughout the film.

Furthermore, de Martino noted that she hoped that both foreign and Brazilian audiences would gain insight into the diverse regions of Brazil. In order to accomplish this, she used local writers to craft the stories. Music in each vignette is also region specific. Community members participated in documentary clips or as extras. Finally, the film presents a colorful visual experience of the varied cultures and geography of Brazil since it was shot on location in each city.

Additional screenings of the film were held at Florida International University and Valencia Community College. De Martino’s visit was made possible through the Florida Consortium for Latin American and Caribbean Studies’ Title VI National Resource Center Guest Artist Program and the Central Florida Brazilian American Chamber of Commerce.

—Contributed by Molly Dondero, MALAS student
University of Florida’s Jacaré Brazil music ensemble performed a magical concert on October 26, 2006 featuring Brazil’s northeast musical traditions of maracatu and coco. Each year, the Center for World Arts, in partnership with the Center for Latin American Studies, brings Latin American performing artists of exceptional quality to UF for collaborative projects involving faculty, students, and local community artists. This fall’s guest artists included Jorge Martins (percussion), Jorge Continentino (flute and saxophone), the group Nation Beat led by Scott Kettner, and Juliana Azoubel (choreographer and dancer).

The special appearance of African artists Mohamed da Costa, Abou Sylla, and Tsana Camara, which integrated the African instrumental sounds of djembe, balafon, and kora, further enriched the performance. There was also a piece featuring the drumline from Gainesville’s Eastside High School.

The thirty members of the Jacaré Daçante dance ensemble, lead by the choreographer and dancer Juliana Azoubel, performed traditional and contemporary steps of coco and maracatu. The group is composed of students that are taking the World Dance and Intercultural Performance class in the Department of Theatre and Dance. For some dancers it was the first opportunity to perform, while for others it provided an opportunity to perfect their dance expertise. The combination of traditional and contemporary dance concepts resulted in a very exciting mix of movement, colors, and energy.

—Contributed by Welson Tremura, Assistant Professor, Latin American Studies and Music & Juliana Azoubel, MALAS student

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Faculty Publications continued from page 10.


Elizabeth Lowe (LAS) translations of several Brazilian short stories have been recently published in K.D. Jackson, ed., The Oxford Anthology of the Brazilian Short Story, Oxford: Oxford Press, 2006.


Recent Books

Anna L. Peterson
Oxford University Press, 2005
*Seeds of the Kingdom: Utopian Communities in the Americas.*

In these skeptical and disillusioned times, there are still groups of people scattered throughout the world who are trying to live out utopian dreams. These communities challenge the inevitability and morality of dominant political and economic models. By putting utopian religious ethics into practice, they attest to the real possibility of social alternatives. In *Seeds of the Kingdom*, Anna L. Peterson reflects on the experiences of two very different communities, one inhabited by impoverished former refugees in the mountains of El Salvador and the other by Amish farmers in the Midwestern U.S. What makes these groups stand out among advocates of environmental protection, political justice, and sustainable development is their religious orientation. They aim, without apology, to embody the reign of God on earth. The Salvadoran community is grounded in Roman Catholic social thought, while the Amish adhere to Anabaptist tradition. Peterson offers a detailed portrait of these communities’ history, social organization, religious life, environmental values, and agricultural practices. *(Description provided by Oxford University Press.)*

Jeffrey Needell
Stanford University Press, 2006
*The Party of Order: The Conservatives, the State and Slavery in the Brazilian Monarchy, 1831–1871.*

This study analyzes Brazil’s monarchy, which adapted European ideas and practices to a Creole plantation society that was traditionally based on African slavery. It focuses upon the Conservatives, who represented the sugar and coffee elites in reconstructing the new nation’s state as a strong, representative, constitutional monarchy in troubled times. After the monarch himself assumed power, however, his views undercut parliamentary and party government, which were also sapped by regional differences and the pressure for state patronage. Increasingly, the emperor and his cabinets used state patronage and state authority to dominate politics. When the emperor decided upon gradualist abolition, Conservatives were unable to defeat it, despite its unconstitutional origin and imposition and its threat to the society and economy they represented. The legacy of an authoritarian, centralized political culture survived; that of a representative, constitutional regime did not. This book dramatically revises notions of the monarchy in terms of the social and ideological origins and nature of the Brazilian state, the role of the monarch, and the range and complexity of elite politics in the era. *(Description provided by Stanford University Press.)*

2006 Doctoral Teaching Awards

The Center for Latin American Studies is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2006 Latin American Studies Doctoral Teaching Awards. There were thirteen outstanding entries and the selection committee faced a very difficult decision. The committee was amazed at the talent on the UF campus as reflected in the proposals and are much encouraged about the future of Latin American Studies. The four winners and the seminars they will teach in the Spring and Fall of 2007 are as follows:

- Juan Carlos Callirgos, History (advisor: Mark Thurner): “Race, Ethnicity, and Nation in the Andean Region”
- Matthew Watson, Anthropology (advisor: Susan Gillespie): “The Post-Colonial Maya”
- Miriam Wyman, Forest Resources and Conservation (advisor: Taylor Stein): “Ecotourism in Latin America”

Congratulations to each of these outstanding young scholars and thank you to all those who submitted proposals (and for making deliberations both so difficult and rewarding).

—Contributed by Richmond Brown, Interim Associate Director of Academic Programs
In October 2006, the Brazilian Certificate of Portuguese Proficiency for Foreigners (CELPE-Bras), the Brazilian government’s official Portuguese as a foreign language proficiency exam, was administered for the first time on the UF campus to seven students. Five of these students were Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship recipients who took the exam as part of a required proficiency assessment. Representatives from the Brazilian Ministry of Education (MEC) traveled to UF to give a workshop on the administration of the exam to Portuguese professors from UF, Florida International University and University of North Florida. Currently, UF and Harvard are the sole authorized CELPE-Bras testing locations in the U.S.

The CELPE-Bras exam is required for admission of international students to Brazilian universities. It is also accepted internationally as proof of Portuguese language competence. The exam consists of an intensive written test, including both oral and reading comprehension, and an oral test that consists of an individual interview with a Portuguese professor trained to administer the exam. MEC grants certificates for the following levels of proficiency: intermediate, superior intermediate, advanced, and superior advanced. The CELPE-Bras test will continue to be administered at UF in October and April of each year and is open to UF students and the general public. In the future, there will be a small fee charged to take the exam. For more information on the April 2007 test, contact Mary Risner at maryr@ufl.edu.

The CELPE-Bras group at UF. From left to right in the back: Elizabeth Ginway (UF), Mary Risner (UF), Patricia Almeida Campo (MEC), and Charles Perrone (UF); and in the front: Augusta Vono (FIU), Elizena Rossy (MEC), and Fernando Rocha (UNF).
Lending Library Featured Items: New Materials

The Center for Latin American Studies recently acquired approximately 65 new items, including books, biographical films, documentaries, and videos for the Outreach Lending Library. Examples of these new materials include three film biographies of contemporary Latin American leaders — Aristide: Endless Revolution, Fidel, and Lula’s Brazil, and several international business videos dealing with issues of fair trade in the world economy.

Five films dealing with Latin American women’s issues were also purchased: Macho investigates the internationally acclaimed organization, Men against Violence, and its work towards eliminating machismo in Nicaragua and other parts of Latin America. Señorita Extraviada is about the more than 350 kidnapped, raped and murdered young women in Juárez, Mexico. This film provides testimonies from the victims’ families and documents a two-year search for the truth. War Takes exposes everyday life in Colombia alongside the conditions of war. The film includes local television coverage, archival footage and historical background. Amazon Sisters portrays the strong women of the Amazon rainforests and their vision to save the environment. La Cuenca Sola includes interviews with five Chilean women who all lost a father, a husband, or a friend. Isabel Allende, Monique Hermosilla, Estela Ortiz, Carolina Toha and Moyenei Valdes speak out through political action or vocal performance and reveal their shocking experiences under Pinochet’s dictatorship.

The Outreach Program’s Lending Library contains books, teaching guides, slides, and videos related to many aspects of Latin America. You may search for items in the new database at: http://www.latam.ufl.edu/outreach/outreachlib.html.

New MALAS Students

The Center for Latin American Studies welcomed twelve new MALAS students in August 2006.

Student
Alexandra Anda
Carly Voight
Cecelia Larsen
Elizabeth Smith
Jason Taylor
Karl Slazinski
Michele Knapp
Molly Dondero
Paula Hamsho-Diaz
Sergio Cabrera
Stephanie Hoehn
Vanessa Vargas

MALAS Specialization
Development Studies
TCD
History
Anthropology
Development Studies
Latino Studies
Political Science
Latino Studies
Sociology
Political Science
TCD
Anthropology

▲ New MALAS students at the Fall 2006 orientation.
2006 Business in Brazil Study Abroad Program

The Center for Latin American Studies and the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) sponsored the seventh year of the Business in Brazil summer study abroad program. The program is designed to give students an overview of Brazil’s business environment, as well as provide an opportunity for Portuguese language study. Business courses at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio) and language classes are taken at the Instituto Brasil Estados Unidos (IBEU).

The academic program consists of approximately four hours per day of Portuguese language study and several afternoons per week dedicated to corporate site visits and to seminars by PUC faculty covering organizational strategy, human resources, marketing, and finance. To further enhance opportunities to speak Portuguese, students are placed in homestays with Brazilian families, most of whom speak little or no English.

The corporate site visits give students access to all sectors of Brazilian business. The 2006 program visited a private mining company (CVRD), a public energy utility (Furnas), a telecommunications firm (Embratel), a world-class jeweler (H. Stern), and the largest television studio and communications company in Brazil (TV Globo). During the final week of the program, students traveled to São Paulo to learn more about financial markets. They visited the Bovespa stock exchange, the futures market, and the Central Bank.

Although the program requires a lot of hard work, time, and extra effort, one can always find time for some fun. Rio is a beautiful city with gorgeous beaches, striking mountains and sunsets, and has enough culture, music and food to satisfy anyone’s cravings. Furthermore, PUC-Rio is a well-known, respected university that has established a good reputation throughout Latin America. Business in Brazil is a great program that provides excellent experience in one of the world’s largest emerging markets.

—Contributed by Jacob Schultz and Mary Mitchell, MALAS students and participants in the 2006 Business in Brazil Program.

2007 Latin American Business Symposium and Career Workshop

January 26, 2007
Emerson Alumni Hall, UF Campus

The Latin American Business Environment Program of the Center for Latin American Studies will host the third Latin American Business Symposium and Career Workshop. Morning sessions will feature senior level managers who will discuss their companies’ perspectives on the business outlook for Latin America. Companies to be represented include Prudential Real Estate Investors, FedEx, Porter-Novelli, Votorantim, Seald Sweet, and a legal firm. Jay Brickman of the Crowley Maritime Corporation will give the luncheon keynote address on prospects for doing business in Cuba. The afternoon sessions will focus on corporate careers, careers in government and careers with non-governmental organizations. Each session will feature UF graduates from a variety of degree programs who will share their experiences in finding jobs dealing with Latin America.

The symposium/workshop is open to UF students and faculty as well attendees from other institutions. Thanks to the generous support of corporate and university sponsors, there is no registration fee, but those wishing to attend must pre-register at http://www.latam.ufl.edu/. Attendance will be limited to 100.
SALAS Colloquium Series

January 18
“Diversity and Unity in Brazil’s Contemporary Indigenous Movement.”
Robin Wright. Professor, Religion

February 8
Emilio Bruna. Assistant Professor, LAS and WEC

February 22
“Gringolândia: Mexican Perceptions of the United States and Mexican Identity.”
Stephen Morris. Director, International Studies and Professor, Political Science, University of South Alabama

March 8
“Indigenous Translators and Bilingualism in Conquest Era Mexico.”
Ida Altman. Professor, History

March 29
“Chile’s Carabineros: A Challenge to Democracy?”
Meredith Fensom. Director, Law and Policy in the Americas, Levin College of Law and Center for Latin American Studies

April 12
“New Latino Destinations.”
Manuel Vásquez. Associate Professor, Religion

Colloquia are held on Thursdays, 11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m., in Grinter 376.
For further information contact Richmond Brown at rfbrown@latam.ufl.edu.

▲ Professor of Anthropology Carla Freeman of Emory University delivering a lecture on “The ‘Reputation’ of Neoliberalism: Gender, Flexibility, and Entrepreneurship in Barbados” to faculty and students in the Department of Anthropology, the Center for Women’s Study and Gender Research and the Center for Latin American Studies, September 2006.
SPRING 2007

BACARDI FAMILY LECTURE SERIES

The State of Latino Studies

January 29
“Transnational Migration from the Hispanic Caribbean: Changing Settlement Patterns and Cultural Identities.”
Jorge Duany. Professor of Anthropology and Chair of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras; 2007 Bacardi Family Eminent Scholar in Latin American Studies at the University of Florida
Keene Faculty Center

February 12
Miren Uriarte. Professor of Sociology and Interim Director, Gaston Institute for Latino Community Development and Public Policy, University of Massachusetts, Boston
Ruth McQuown Room, Dauer Hall

February 26
“The Cuban American Lobby: Myth and Reality.”
Maria Cristina García. Professor of History, Cornell University
Keene Faculty Center

March 19
“Itinerant Cultures: Diasporic Imperatives in the Caribbean Experience.”
Silvio Torres-Saillant. Associate Professor of English and Director of Latino-Latin American Studies, Syracuse University
Rion Ballroom, J. Wayne Reitz Union

April 2
“Imagining the Puerto Rican Nation from within the Diaspora.”
Edna Acosta-Belén. Distinguished Professor of Latin American, Caribbean and U.S. Latino Studies and Women’s Studies, University at Albany, SUNY
Rion Ballroom, J. Wayne Reitz Union

April 19
“Civic Bequests: Family Dynamics and Civic Engagement among Los Angeles’ 1.5 and 2nd Generation Immigrants.”
Louis DeSipio. Associate Professor of Political Science and Director of Chicano/Latino Studies, University of California, Irvine
Friends of Music Room

The Bacardi Family Lectures are held on Mondays, 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. For further information contact Jessica Caicedo at jra76@latam.ufl.edu
Kevin Athearn (MALAS 1999; Ph.D. FRE 2004) is Assistant Professor of Natural Resource Economics at the University of Maine at Machias.

Hannah Covert (MALAS 1998) is Executive Director of the UF Center for Latin American Studies and Associate Director of the UF Tropical Conservation and Development Program.

Celina Fernández (MALAS 1997) is the President of the Advisory Council to the Government of Nuevo Leon in Mexico. She is in charge of a group of “Citizen Advisors”, people with experience in the political process who provide advice to various departments of the government on a volunteer basis. In addition, she teaches political science at the University of Monterrey.

Lawrence Graham (Ph.D. Political Science 1965) is Professor Emeritus of Government, University of Texas at Austin. Prior to retirement, he was Associate Vice President for International Programs. His most recent book is The Politics of Governing: A Comparative Introduction (Congressional Quarterly Press, 2006).

Omar Monteagudo (MALAS 1996) is ETP Principal at the School for Advanced Studies, Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Miami-Dade College. He is currently completing a law degree at Florida International University.

Baldonedo Napoleão (MA Political Science 1970) is Professor of Public Administration at the Federal University of São João del Rei and President of the Empresa de Pesquisa Agropecuaria de Minas Gerais (EPAMIG), Brazil. Since graduating from UF he has been a mayor, a congressman, a state sub-secretary and president of several state companies. He currently serves as Chairman of the International Board of Directors of Partners of the Americas.

Wendy Pond (MALAS 2006) was a Huntington Junior Fellow at the Library of Congress’ Hispanic Division this past summer. She is currently employed at the Organization of American States working on a project to implement the recommendations generated by the Follow-up Mechanism to the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption.

Jessica (Robb) Massay (MALAS 1999) is a partner of Guia Brand Planning in San Antonio, Texas. This small, upstart company handles communications strategy development for a wide range of companies hoping to connect with the Hispanic marketplace. Jessica focuses on consumer research, strategic development and providing creative “inspiration” in the development of advertising messages. She uses her MALAS degree every single day — from diving deeper to understand consumer nuances to helping companies cross borders from Latin America into the U.S. Hispanic marketplace.

Ernesto Sagás (MALAS 1988; Ph.D. Political Science 1993) is Assistant Professor of Political Science at Southern New Hampshire University. He is the author of Race and Politics in the Dominican Republic (University Press of Florida, 2000) and co-editor of The Dominican Republic: A Documentary History (Markus Wiener Publications, 2003) and Dominican Migration: Transnational Perspectives (University Press of Florida, 2004). He is currently researching overseas voting among Latin American immigrants in the US.

Joseph L. Scarpaci (Ph.D. Geography & LAS Certificate 1985) is Professor of Geography at Virginia Tech. His book, Plazas and Barrios: Heritage Tourism and Globalization in the Latin American Centro Histórico (University of Arizona Press, 2005), received Virginia Tech’s Phi Beta Kappa’s Al Sturm Outstanding Faculty Publication Award. He taught at the Universidad ORT’s School of Architecture in Montevideo in 2006 as a Senior Fulbright Scholar and has recently been appointed book review editor of the Journal of Latin American Geography.

William R. Summerhill (BA Political Science & LAS Certificate 1986; MA History 1991) earned his Ph.D. at Stanford University and is now Professor of History at UCLA. He is the author of Order Against Progress: Government, Foreign Investment, and Railroads in Brazil, 1854-1913 (Stanford, 2003) and has recently completed a manuscript entitled Inglorious Revolution: Political Institutions, Sovereign Debt, and Financial Underdevelopment in Imperial Brazil. He is currently a Burkhardt Fellow of the American Council of Learned Societies studying the broad economic consequences of colonialism, dependency and slavery in Brazil.

The Center for Latin American Studies would love to hear from its Alumni. If you have not already done so, please complete our Alumni Survey. The survey can be downloaded and printed from:

http://www.latam.ufl.edu/news/newsnotes.html
Thanks To Our Donors

The Center for Latin American Studies would like to express its gratitude for the generosity of those who have responded to our mailings and the University of Florida Foundation’s annual appeal. Their donations go towards the Latin American Studies Fund and/or the Latin American Studies Graduate Student Travel Fund.

Gracias to the following people:

Daniel Alabre
Lygia & Donald Bellis
Brian Bombassaro
Jay Brickman
Harvey Goldstein
Christopher D. Howell
Paul Losch

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