

SPRING 2018 NEWSLETTER

MACLAS

Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the President

by Kathleen Cuniffe Peña (2018-2019)

Hello MACLAS Members! Another great conference is in the books, and I want to thank our hosts at Muhlenberg College, former president Bridget Chesterton, and all those who helped to make the event a great success. I have included some **photos of the conference** on page 4, and you can find more on our Facebook page.

If you missed this year's business luncheon and awards ceremony, you can read about **this year's prize winners** throughout this newsletter.

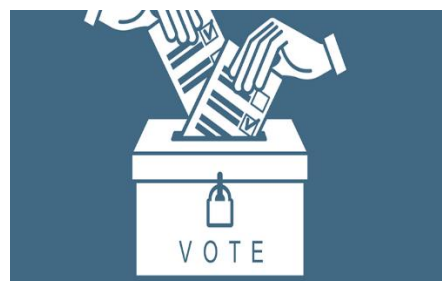
Our next conference will take place on **March 8-9, 2019 at Stony Brook University** in Long Island, New York. Please stay tuned for more details and a Call for Papers in our fall newsletter. We hope to see you there!

Meanwhile, we are looking for member participation in our **special election** to fill an open seat on our Executive Council. Please check out our candidate on page 2, where you will also find instructions for **online voting**.

Do you have news to share with MACLAS? We want to hear from you! Please send your updates to kathleencuniffepena@wilson.edu.

Wishing you all a productive (and hopefully less snowy) end of the semester!

Kathy Cuniffe Peña



Special Election

Announcing our newest candidate for the MACLAS Executive Council

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Conference Photos

Some snapshots of our March 2018 conference at Muhlenberg College

Page 4

Special election

Announcing our candidate for the Executive Council (3-year term)

Due to a last-minute change in the Spring 2018 ballot, we were unable to fill an open seat for the MACLAS Executive Council by this year's conference. However, we are very happy to announce our new candidate, Carlos Rodriguez McGill.

Carlos Rodríguez McGill is an Associate Professor of Latin American Literatures and Cultures at the University of Michigan-Dearborn, where he also serves as the Coordinator of the Spanish Program. Carlos received his Ph.D. from the Ohio State University with a concentration in Colonial and Nineteenth Century Latin American Literature. He has published eight peer-reviewed articles in specialized journals in his field, and in 2010 he received the James Street Prize award, for his article published in the 23rd volume of MACLAS- Latin American Essays. He has presented his research in national and international conferences, such as Modern Language Association, LASA (Latin American Studies Association) and has been a regular presenter at MACLAS since 2002, when he was an Assistant Professor of Spanish at Mary Washington University.

To complete your online ballot, please visit from an account linked to Google docs:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc9YZhb3PEq2yOB6zigE4KS6ywVoZIAjNShDIROzpRLHnwRmg/viewform?usp=sf_link



Dr. Carlos Rodriguez McGill

University of Michigan-Dearborn

Jeffrey D. Pugh Awarded the 2018 Davis Prize

Presented by committee members Michael J. Schroeder, Ivette Guzman-Zavala, and León Arredondo

The 2018 Harold Eugene Davis Prize was awarded to Jeffrey D. Pugh, for his article "Universal Citizenship Through the Discourse and Policy of Rafael Correa," published in *Latin American Politics and Society* in 2017. At the awards ceremony, committee member Michael Schroeder remarked, "Pugh's treatment of the discourse of universal citizenship in Ecuador offers a compelling framework for addressing one of the most important issues of the twenty-first century and one that only promises to become more salient with the social and political dynamic set in motion by global climate change."

Jeffrey D. Pugh is an Assistant Professor of Conflict Resolution at the University of Massachusetts, Boston and Executive Director of the Center for Mediation, Peace, and Resolution of Conflict (CEMPROC) based in Quito, Ecuador. He served as President of MACLAS from 2013-2014.

The Davis Prize is awarded annually to the best article published in the previous two years by a MACLAS member in good standing for the past two years. For more information about the Davis Prize and other MACLAS awards, please visit <http://www.maclas.org/prizes/>.

Ivani Vassoler-Froelich receives McInnis Award for Distinguished Service

On the tenth anniversary of the **Judy B. McInnis** Distinguished Service Award, Dr. Ivani Vassoler-Froelich stands out as a scholar who embodies its intent and richly deserves this honor. She has long provided enthusiastic, valuable service both to MACLAS and to the larger academic community and is an engaged teacher and scholar of Latin America.

Dr. Vassoler-Froelich is a great ambassador for MACLAS and a valued member of the organization. One of her nominators, Diane Johnson remarked: "Ivani was one of the first people I met at MACLAS in 2006, and she went out of her way to make me feel welcome. In the decade since then, I have increasingly appreciated her genuine warmth and sincerity, the quality of her scholarship, and her deep commitment to her students."

Ivani has been involved as both a contributor to and editor of the MACLAS journal. In the last couple of years, she was instrumental in reshaping the journal into MARLAS and successfully led a team that implemented the new online format and registered our publication in the Directory of Open Access Journals. She now serves as its managing editor.

At SUNY Fredonia, where she has taught in the Politics and International Affairs Department since 2003, Dr. Vassoler-Froelich also has made significant contributions. For a number of years she coordinated the interdisciplinary major in International Studies, and she received the 2016 President's Award for Excellence in Teaching. The speech she gave at that occasion analyzed "Americans in Brazil, Brazilians in the U.S.: A Two-Century-Long Relationship."

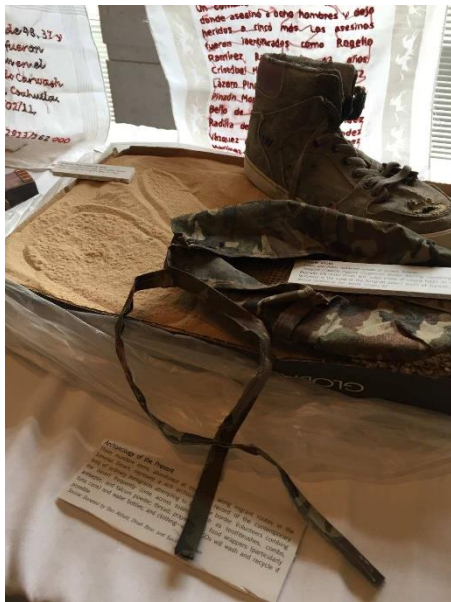
Dr. Vassoler-Froelich has done extensive field research in Brazil and Mexico and has presented her work at a number of conferences including the one hosted each year by MACLAS. She published *Urban Brazil: Visions, Afflictions and Governance Lessons* (Cambria Press 2008), and coedited *The Geography, Politics and Architecture of Cities* (Edwin Mellen Press 2012). Most recently, she edited a volume called *Reducing Latin America's Democratic Deficit from an Urban Perspective: Citizens, City Governments and the Limits of Change* (Scholars' Press 2017). She also contributes to the *Encyclopedia of U.S.-Latin American Relations* (CQ Press). In 2004 and again in 2012, she won the award for the best article published in MACLAS's *Latin American Essays*.

For these reasons, the Executive Council of the Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies unanimously determined Dr. Ivani Vassoler-Froelich to be a thoroughly deserving recipient of the **Judy B. McInnis** Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. McInnis (1943-2006) was Professor of Spanish, Comparative Literature and Women's Studies at the University of Delaware from 1971-2006. She was among the earliest members of MACLAS and served as its president and treasurer. The award is not made annually but only when the Executive Council votes to honor a longstanding member for outstanding service to MACLAS and/or to the larger academic community of Latin American Studies, for continuous outstanding scholarship, excellent teaching and/or humanitarian endeavors in Latin America.



Camilla Townsend (Rutgers University)
delivers the 2018 Whitaker Address.



Faculty and students from West Chester
University brought a travelling exhibit on
human rights in Latin America.



"Cooking, Speaking, Performing: A
Transdisciplinary Panel on Women's
Struggles and Potentialities in Latin
America"



Franca Roibal Fernández (Boston U/Moravian
College) presents "¡Qué asco!", a paper on
gastronomic racism in Uruguay.



MACLAS EC members pose at the entrance
to this year's conference.

Michael J. Schroeder Honored in Nicaragua

Michael J. Schroeder, past president of MACLAS and history professor at Lebanon Valley College, is "the leading U.S. authority on the historical legacy of Augusto César Sandino and a renowned expert on Latin America," according to the Nicaraguan Academy of Geography and History, which inducted him as a corresponding member in 2017—one of only three state-side scholars currently honored with this recognition.

Mike was lauded for creating the valued site, www.SandinoRebellion.com, containing over 4,700 documents. This largely bilingual, expansive, digital archive on Nicaraguan history during the period of U.S. military intervention in the 1920s and 1930s is an easily searchable treasure trove on topics from the air war and its "air-toons"—political cartoons and graphics, to the Atlantic Coast, Marine actions, political gangs, the National Guard, and the porous Honduran border, with a wealth of photos and illustrations. The site constitutes a major resource for new historical research, with its ample bibliography of archives, manuscript holdings, books and articles.

Mike has received grants from Lebanon Valley College, as well as the Mellon and Rockefeller Foundations. He is coauthor of the widely used college textbook *The Twentieth Century and Beyond* (McGraw-Hill), coeditor of the seven-volume *Encyclopedia of World History* (Facts on File), and author of *The New Immigrants: Mexican Americans* (Chelsea House). Mike's books in progress include *The Sandino Rebellion; Counterinsurgency in Las Segovias, Nicaragua, 1927-1934*; and *Los Voluntarios: A Failed Counterinsurgency Experiment of the US Marines in the Mountains of Northern Nicaragua, 1927-1932*.

We applaud Mike as an outstanding scholar of Latin American history and thank him for his many contributions to MACLAS as officer, chair and member of the Executive Council and of numerous awards committees.

Dr. Robert Karl awarded Arthur P. Whitaker Prize

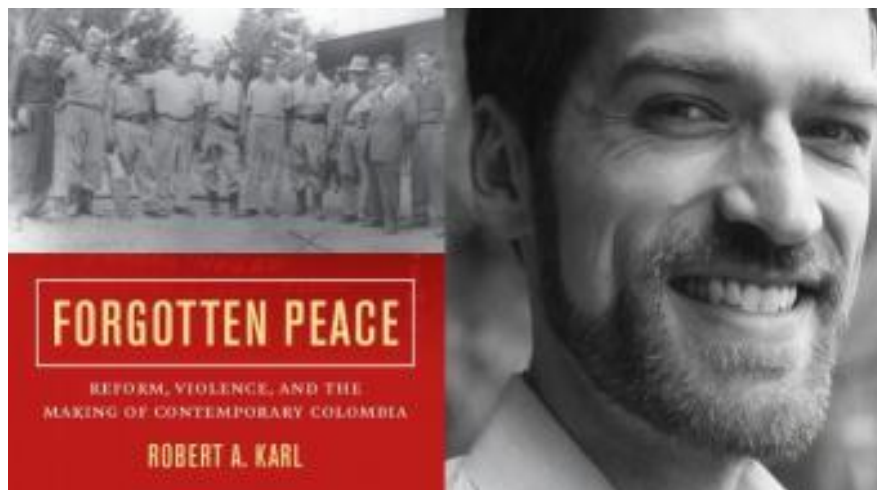
Presented by committee members Luis Roniger, Gerardo Cummings, and Kathleen Cunniffe Peña

MACLAS honored Princeton University Assistant Professor of History **Dr. Robert Karl** at the annual conference in March 2018 with the Arthur P. Whitaker Prize, awarded each year for the best book published in the previous two years by a member of MACLAS.

Dr. Karl teaches modern Latin American history at Princeton University and holds an A.B. from Dartmouth College and a Ph.D. from Harvard University. At Princeton, he is a Faculty Associate for the Program in Latin American Studies and the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies, and is involved with the Center for Digital Humanities. He has earned fellowships from the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation, Fulbright Colombia, the Eisenhower and Johnson presidential libraries, and the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard.

***Forgotten Peace: Reform, Violence, and the Making of Contemporary Colombia* (University of California Press, 2017)**, presents Dr. Karl's insights into an apparent paradox: Colombia has had a reputation for violence, yet at the same time, one of the longest traditions of democratic governance. Until recently, when the prospects of a lasting peace seemed promising, scholarship focused on violence almost without contemplating the ongoing efforts to build peace in that country since the end of authoritarianism in 1957. In *Forgotten Peace*, Karl reconstructs many of those efforts by combining archival and testimonial research. He offers a reinterpretation of Colombian history and the origins of *La Violencia* that considers also popular and intellectual reactions to the failing peace that eventually led to the rise of the armed resistance group, the FARC. The meticulous analysis in *Forgotten Peace* has important implications for the prospects of contemporary peace in Colombia, as well as for global conversations about peace and violence.

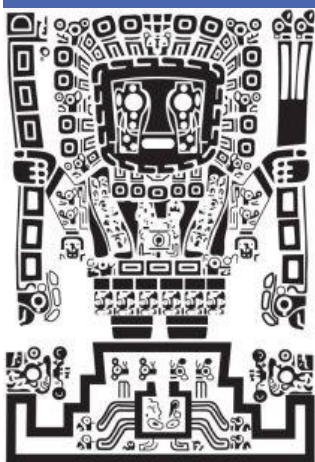
As the recipient of this year's Whitaker Award, Dr. Karl has been invited as the keynote speaker at the 2019 Middle Atlantic Conference of Latin American Studies, which will take place at Stony Brook University in New York.



MACLAS

Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies

www.maclas.org



The [Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies](#) is comprised of scholars, researchers, teachers, students, and interested professionals in all disciplines and pursuits from the region comprised of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. MACLAS has as its objectives promoting and developing interest in Latin American Studies and affairs. The organization was founded in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania in 1979.

MACLAS Executive Council

2018-2019

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