

MACLAS

Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies

WINTER NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the President

by Bridget Maria Chesterton (2017-2018)

Hello! I am quite excited about this year's MACLAS conference at Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA. The themes of this year's conference, "Changing Climates in the Americas" could not be timelier. Just this afternoon I heard a story on NPR about how climate change is forcing women in Guatemala to learn to use new crops that are more in line with a warmer environment, thus altering children's diets. It seems that everywhere we turn there are news stories about climate change and dramatic (and often) violent weather. Our plenary speaker this year, Martha Few from Penn State will be discussing humans and their climate in her talk "These Noxious Little Animals: Battling Locus Swarms in Colonial New Spain."

But this year's conference is much more than just the literal climate and weather. We are lucky to have so many talented and gifted Latin Americanist academics in our region that can shed light on the changing social, economic, political, and linguistic climates and changes in the Americas. With over 70 separate presentations, 20 different panels, two invited speakers, and a poster presentation from a team of researchers from West Chester University on the Ese'Eja people of the Peruvian Amazon, this year's MACLAS conference promises a great diversity of academic and social environments to learn about Latin America.

Can't wait to see you there.

Bridget María Chesterton

President MACLAS 2017-8



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Things to Do in the Lehigh Valley

While you're in town for our spring conference...

Restaurants:

\$\$\$ **The Hamilton** (Downtown Allentown) - Seasonal American cooking & cocktails are served in a stylish space with retro flair & a patio.

\$\$ **Grain** (Downtown Allentown) - Stylish, rustic-industrial eatery with a long bar serving New American dishes & craft cocktails. (reservations typically required because it's small and delicious)

\$\$ **Bell Hall** (Downtown Allentown) - Gourmet Hamburgers and Craft Beer.

\$\$ **Carmel Kitchen and Wine Bar** (Next to Hotel) - Modern interpretations of Mediterranean cuisine meticulously paired with global wines and house-infused cocktails.

\$\$ **Anthony's Coal Fired Pizza** (Near Hotel) - Casual chain serving charred-crust pies, plus wings, subs & Italian plates in a modern setting.

\$ **Aqui Es A Taste of Mexico** (Downtown Bethlehem) - Homemade authentic mexican cuisine served in a low-key atmosphere. Voted 3rd best tacos in the country by Business Insider in partnership with Yelp.

\$ **Cali Burrito** (Near Campus and Hotel) - California style burritos and tacos, vegetarian options.



To do:

Allentown Art Museum: <http://www.allentownartmuseum.org/>

Crayola Factory Experience (Easton, PA): <http://www.crayolaexperience.com/easton>

- Families typically spend 3-4 hours exploring 28 hands-on attractions. Go on a wonderful, whimsical adventure with unique experiences, such as naming and wrapping your own Crayola crayon, or starring in your own coloring page.

DaVinci Science Center (Allentown, PA): <http://www.davincisciencecenter.org/>

- The Center's hands-on exhibits, programs, and partnership efforts present the STEM subjects of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to kids informally, playfully, and in ways that relate to their popular interests.

Historic Bethlehem Museums and Sites (Bethlehem, PA): <http://historicbethlehem.org/about/historic-sites/>

MACLAS Election!

Candidates for the MACLAS Executive Council (3-year term)

Ivette Guzmán-Zavala, Lebanon Valley College, Associate Professor of Spanish
B.A., University of Puerto Rico; M.A., Syracuse University; Ph.D., Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Guzmán Zavala is a native of Caguas, Puerto Rico and teaches Spanish language courses at all levels. She pursues research interests in Latin America and the Hispanic Caribbean. Her conference presentations and publications chiefly involve the representation of motherhood in literary texts and the visual arts.

León Arredondo, West Chester University, Associate Professor of Anthropology

I was born in Colombia where I completed my secondary education. I obtained a BA degree in anthropology from Montclair State University and a Ph.D. in anthropology from the Graduate Center-CUNY. I taught anthropology and Latin American Studies in the City University of New York-CUNY system, Colby College, Kean College, Felician College, and the University of Costa Rica, and currently teach at West Chester University in Pennsylvania. My primary area of research is working-class culture and politics. I conducted research on the social history, culture and politics of dockworkers on the Magdalena River in Colombia during the first half of the twentieth century. My current research projects in Colombia include the history of collective social action in an industrial city and the recent experience with violence and insecurity.

Candidate for Vice President

Patricia Rodríguez is Associate Professor of Politics at Ithaca College, NY. Her research interests include ethnic, peasant, and worker mobilizations in Brazil, Chile, and Colombia, the possibilities and challenges of cohesive alliance-building, and the consequences for democracy, social justice, human rights, and the environment. She is working on a book manuscript that explores the quest for 'peace in the territories' in Colombia from the perspective of organized civil society, in the context of government negotiations with armed rebel groups. The work explores the ways in which alternative economic, territorial, and socio-political proposals challenge dominant actors and forces in the name of creating space for a more dignified life in the so called post-conflict period. She has recently published an article on the civic strike in Buenaventura, Colombia, 'The People Don't Give up Dammit' (*Dollars and Sense*, November/December 2017); and a co-authored research paper on indigenous movement-partisan politics in Chile during the 1980s, 'Partisan Participation and Ethnic Autonomy in Chile,' (*Journal of Latin American Studies*, 2015). She is guest co-editing an upcoming special issue of MARLAS on 'Contention and nonviolent action in Latin America: Theory and practice.' Patricia was on the MACLAS Executive Committee (2013-2016).

Władysław Maryan Froelich Research Award Winners

The Władysław Maryan Froelich Research Award. Polish-born Władysław (Laszlo) Maryan Froelich (d.2010) lived in Latin America for many years and showed a deep affinity for the region's culture and people. A business professional by training, he demonstrated great passion for scholarship on topics as varied as Latin American folk art, pre-Colombian art and history, Argentine gaucho culture, and the landscape of the pampas.

MACLAS is pleased to announce the two winners for the Władysław Maryan Froelich Research Award 2017. These two projects illustrate the spirit of Laszlo's varied interest on Latin American topics and the recipients will present their research at a future MACLAS conference.

Dr. Silvia Peart, Ph.D., Language and Cultures Department, United States Academy, focuses on important and current topics in the culture and reality of Mexico. Dr. Peart's research project is "Climate Migration Narratives in Mexico: Environmental Change and Mobility." Climate is a powerful signifier and one that is applicable to many contexts. Some of the topics that best describe the 20th and 21st centuries: climate change and migration.

Dr. Jeff Pugh, Ph.D., Department of Conflict Resolution, Human Security, and Global Governance, University of Massachusetts, Boston, examines the participatory climate in Latin America. Who can participate? Who has a voice in the many and diverse arenas in the Latin American cultural context? Dr. Pugh's research project, "Voices from the South: Participatory Action Research on Strategic Nonviolent Action in Latin America," embodies the spirit of Laszlo's diverse interests.

Dr. Peart and Dr. Pugh will each receive \$500.00 to further their research projects.

Book Table to Feature Member Publications

At this year's spring conference at Muhlenberg College, attendees will notice a book table at the registration area. All MACLAS members are welcome to feature recent publications at the table. To include your book, please contact Vice-President Kathy Cunniffe Peña at kathleencunniffepena@wilson.edu.

Please include the title, author(s), price, and the number of copies you are planning to bring. If you do not wish to sell copies but would still like to feature your book, please feel free to bring cards or posters.

Publications

-Cunniffe Peña, Kathleen. "Ferro's *El otro Joyce*: Originals and Copies." *Latin American Literary Review* 44.88 (November 2017).

-Roniger, Luis, Leonardo Senkman, Saul Sosnowski, and Mario Sznajder. **Exile, Diaspora, and Return.** Changing Cultural Landscapes in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay, and Uruguay. Oxford University Press, 2017.



Updates from MARLAS

From Managing Editor Ivani Vassoler: *MARLAS in its Second Year*

The *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies* is now entering the second year after releasing its two first issues in 2017. The Editorial Board is already accepting submissions for the 2018 volume, which includes a special issue focusing on non-violent action in Latin America.

MACLAS's decision to invest in MARLAS, an online, interdisciplinary, and peer-reviewed journal, sprung from the organization's 30-year publishing experience with its *Latin American Essays*, a printed journal, which can be found now in its digital archive at <http://www.maclas.org/latinamericanessays/>

Following that tradition, MARLAS is making steady progress to position itself among the top journals in the field of Latin American Studies. MARLAS is hosted by the Latin American Research Commons (LARC), the publishing digital platform of LASA – the Latin American Studies Association. <https://www.larcommons.net/site/journal-publishing/>

MARLAS is indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals, the Hispanic American Periodicals Index, and other databases. It accepts submissions in English, Spanish, and Portuguese. We invite you to review the latest issue and explore the journal's contents here: <https://www.marlasjournal.com/14/volume/1/issue/2/>

We kindly invite all MACLAS members to submit research articles, essays, and book reviews to MARLAS by accessing the submission page at <https://www.marlasjournal.com/author/login/?submit=True>

Regarding the special issue on non-violent action in Latin America, coordinated by invited editors Jeff Pugh and Patricia Rodriguez, please note that the deadline for submissions is approaching - March 15. Here is the Call for Papers:

<https://www.marlasjournal.com/announcement/>

The MARLAS Editorial Team thanks MACLAS for the unwavering and enthusiastic support to the journal. We look forward to seeing you at the Muhlenberg College, Allentown-PA, in March.

Announcing Winners of the Espadas & Martz Prizes

Each year, the Middle American Council on Latin American Studies sponsors several prizes, awards, and grants. For MACLAS 2018, both, undergraduate and graduate students will have the opportunity to submit their papers.

John D. Martz III Prize. For best paper submitted to the MACLAS 2018 conference by a graduate student.

Juan Espadas Prize. For best paper submitted to the MACLAS 2018 conference by an undergraduate student.

The Committees for the John D. Martz III and the Juan Espadas Prizes, submission guidelines, and deadlines will be posted on our website (www.maclas.org) after the MACLAS 2018 conference in March.

Winners of our Student Prizes for MACLAS 2017

JOHN D. MARTZ III PRIZE 2017: For best paper submitted to the MACLAS 2017 conference by a graduate student.

The 2017 Martz Prize was awarded to Claudia Gonzalez Rivas, graduate student at Villanova University, for her exceptionally compelling paper, "Disney y la dulcificación del (neo)colonialismo."

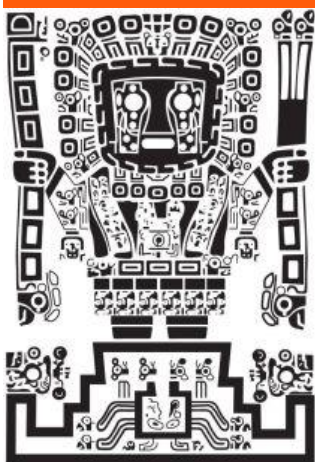
JUAN ESPADAS PRIZE 2017: For best paper submitted to the MACLAS 2017 conference by an undergraduate student.

The 2017 Espadas Prize was awarded to Nancy Dennehy, undergraduate student at Arcadia University, for her outstanding paper, "Exploring Literacy in the Bolivian Indigenous Video."

MACLAS

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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. The MACLAS newsletter is published three times a year.

MACLAS Executive Council

2017-2018

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