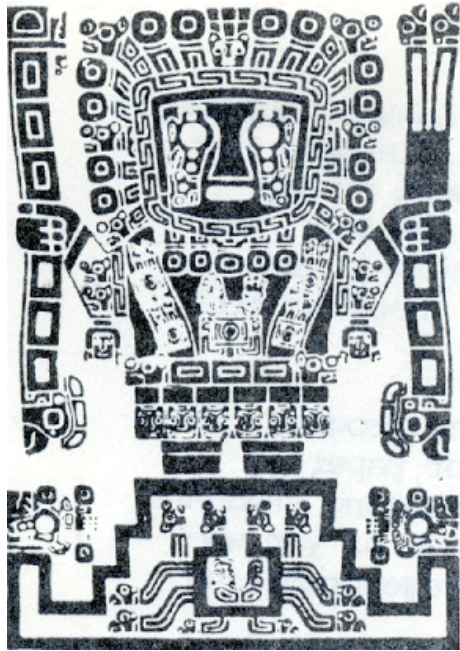


MACLAS NEWS



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Letter from the President

At a recent fashion congress in Cartagena de Indias, student designers presented on the runway their visions for the bicentennial of Latin American independence. The responses, categorized as "sostenibilidad bicentenaria", evoked the social, economic, environmental and cultural facets of sustainable design in Latin America. With materials as varied as old tires from military vehicles, gauze, and natural fiber weavings, the Colombian students created upcycled garments and Phrygian caps of liberty for the contemporary citizen. One dress revealed a colorful screenprint of Bolívar, the nineteenth-century leader whose dreams of a unified revolutionary effort were woven into *El Manifiesto de Cartagena*. Other garments evoked love, passion, peace, and empowerment, powerful tools with which to emerge from Colombia's war torn past. Arturo Tejada Cano, the director of one of Colombia's foremost design schools and whose students had produced these very creations, told me that these rescued clothes re-imagine independence in light of contemporary human rights abuses and injustices, economic disparity, the loss of cultural identity, and the ecological crisis at hand.

As we approach the next decade of the 21st century, MACLAS initiates a special conversation on independence, equality and empowerment in Latin America. Our upcoming conference at Johns Hopkins University anticipates both the bicentennial of Latin American independence and the centennial of the Mexican Revolution. It promises to be a fruitful and inspiring conversation.

Continued inside....

Letter from the President continued...

MACLAS is an intellectually vibrant organization that promotes and develops interest in Latin American studies and affairs. Since we seek to expand our membership base and help our organization continue to grow and flourish, please invite your colleagues to join our conversation at Johns Hopkins University. Thanks to the efforts of Benjamin Boone, our incoming newsletter editor, we also have an exciting newsletter format designed to facilitate communication among members beyond the website.



We celebrated thirty years of MACLAS in 2009. As we look ahead to the next decade, there are many exciting things in store. At this fall's executive committee meeting in Williamsburg, it was decided to expand upon the interdisciplinary scope of *Latin American Essays*, our journal, and work to secure the eventual sponsorship of a university press. In order to facilitate research in these trying economic times, especially as many institutions slash travel budgets and limit research opportunities, the executive committee moved to create the MACLAS Competitive Research Grant for members with faculty status (details forthcoming at our conference). We also put into place new protocols to facilitate the work of prize committee chairs. These initiatives affirm the mission of our organization, along with the scholarly connections designed to promote Latin American Studies within our region, nationally and internationally. As we consider the challenges and opportunities ahead at this particular historical juncture, like the young designers of Colombia, we are sure to unravel a diverse set of responses to notions of independence, equality and empowerment in Latin America. See you in Baltimore!

Best wishes,

Regina Root, President, MACLAS

Leading the Charge: the following individuals were nominated to stand for election for terms beginning March 27, 2010:

Vice-President and President-Elect: to a one-year term: Ken Lehman (Hampden-Sydney College)

Executive Committee members: to two three-year terms and two two-year terms, per the provisions of the Transitory Provision of the amendment to the Constitution approved March 6, 2009: Virginia Bouvier (United States Institute of Peace), Emma Cervone (Johns Hopkins University), Angelica Huizar (Old Dominion University), Meghan McInnis-Domínguez (University of Delaware), Hector Morey (Library of Congress), Carlos Rodríguez McGill (University of Michigan-Dearborn), Jeff Pugh (Johns Hopkins University), and Maria Roof (Howard University).

Continuing Struggles for Independence and Justice

2010 is both the bicentennial of Latin American independence movements and the centennial of the Mexican Revolution, yet many of the goals of those movements remain unfulfilled as peoples in the region continue to struggle with dependency and social inequality. The program committee invites faculty, students and practitioners to submit individual paper and panel proposals that are particularly concerned with the notions of independence, equality and empowerment. Of course, papers dealing with other aspects of Latin American studies are most welcome. Additionally, the organizers will consider a limited number of workshop proposals that aim at informing

students and faculty on issues such as study abroad programs in Latin America, academic publishing, the road to tenure, and the use of technology in the classroom.

Please submit a 250-word abstract for individual papers or complete panel proposals (250 word abstracts for all 4 papers) in English or Spanish to maclasproposals@gmail.com by **December 31, 2009**.

Be sure to check www.maclas.org for all the details and most updated information!

Hotel information to come in January.



The Johns Hopkins University will serve as our host for the annual conference from March 26-27, 2010.

Prize and Scholarship Information

MACLAS is proud to continue the Christina Turner Graduate Student Travel Fund, open for application from all graduate student participants of the conference.

In addition to the travel scholarship, there are five awards given each year:

The Arthur P. Whitaker Prize for the best book published by a MACLAS member in the past two years

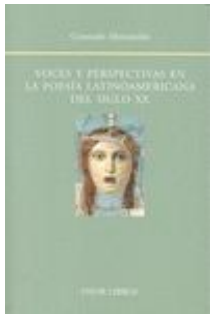
The Harold Eugene Davis Prize for the best article published by a MACLAS member

The James Street Prize for the best article published by a MACLAS member in Latin American Essays

The John D. Martz III Prize for the best paper presented by a graduate student at the annual conference

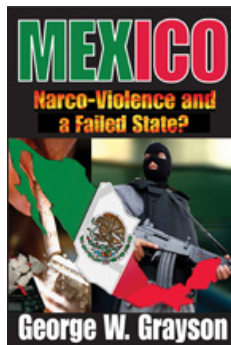
The Juan Espadas Prize for the best paper presented by an undergraduate student at the annual conference

Recent Research



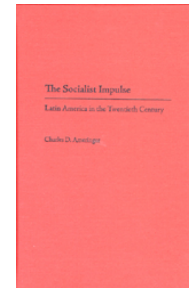
Voces y perspectivas en la poesía latinoamericana del siglo XX by Consuelo Hernández of American University (Visor 2009).

El presente volumen constituye una visión excepcional de la poesía latinoamericana del siglo XX. Con agudeza y sensibilidad de poeta, Consuelo Hernández nos provee con un estudio plural de excelente oportunidad y sintonía. Basándose en los textos poéticos, entronca su reflexión crítica con nuevas corrientes de investigación donde confluyen la poética y los estudios culturales.



Mexico: Narco-violence and a failed state? by George Grayson of The College of William and Mary (Transaction 2009).

Mexico, Narco-Violence and a Failed State? addresses the significant consequences of each in a lively and provocative manner, providing revealing, current, and controversial insights into their impact on its political stability, social fabric, and relations with the United States.



The Socialist Impulse: Latin America in the Twentieth Century by Charles D. Ameringer, professor emeritus at Penn State University (U. of Florida Press 2009).

Ameringer's sweeping analysis covers a wide range of countries and decades. He concludes that whatever the variety of socialism attempted in Latin America, none has stood the test of time. By analyzing the socialist movements and governments that evolved, he is able to highlight the events and factors that led to their eventual collapse.

We want to know what our members are producing!

Please forward recent publications and research accomplishments to be included in the next issue of the MACLAS newsletter.

Email maclas.newsletter@gmail.com

Employment, Presentation and Study Abroad Opportunities

USC CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES HAYWARD R. ALKER POST- DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION

Deadline: January 11, 2010

2010-2011 CALL: LATIN AMERICA/MEXICO

CIS invites applications from scholars who specialize in Latin America and its interaction with the international system. This specialization covers a wide range of topics and countries but we are particularly eager to encourage applications from scholars focusing on Mexico and its relationship with the United States. The competition is open to junior scholars: those who have received a Ph.D. within the last 3 years or who will have defended a dissertation by August 2010. Equivalent experience is not accepted. No English tests are required. Applications from a variety of disciplines, including the social sciences, humanities and communications are encouraged.

www.usccis.org

International Conference on The Historical Roots of Social Exclusion in Latin America and the Caribbean

Institute for the Study of
the Americas, London
Thursday 24 and Friday 25 June 2010
Convenor: Ame Bergés
Sponsored by the Economic History
Society Conferences and Initiatives Fund

<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/>

Program Director, Latin America and the Caribbean, CIEE (Portland, Maine)

The Program Director oversees the administration of study abroad programs and works closely with other managers to deliver faculty and other special programs (Teach in Chile, Teach in Dominican Republic) at the CIEE Study Centers. The Program Director achieves objectives through the supervision and management of resident staff as well as through strong collaboration with other business units in CIEE that directly impact successful delivery - Academic Affairs, Enrollment Management, U.S. Institutional Relations, Human Resources, Finance, IT, Marketing and Participant Services.

www.ciee.org

Assistant Professor, Brazilian Studies - U. Mass. Boston

The Hispanic Studies Department at the University of Massachusetts Boston is seeking a tenure track Assistant Professor in Brazilian Studies, to begin September 1, 2010. The department is a multidisciplinary unit that combines social sciences and humanities and is dedicated to research and teaching that explore the historical, linguistic, and cultural diversity of the local, international and transnational communities of the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking worlds.

umb.interviewexchange.com

STUDY ABROAD IN BRAZIL - SUMMER 2010 (State University of New York at Fredonia)

Open to undergraduate students with an interest in political science, international relations, international business, art history, Latin American history, environmental policy, urban studies and international political economy. This is an interdisciplinary study trip that combines guided visits to research centers, government institutions and cultural sites in São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Ouro Preto and Brasília, plus an expedition to the Amazon rainforest. The formal course (3 credits) consists of lectures and group discussions in Brazil; students will be evaluated through written and oral assignments.

Semester Summer 2010: June 7- June 29.

Contact Information: Ivani Vassoler-Froelich, Director of International Studies, Dept. of Political Science
Ivani.vassoler@fredonia.edu

Whitman College: One year visiting position in Spanish, with expertise in **Latin American Literature and Culture** at the rank of assistant professor.

The successful candidate will teach Spanish language in the context of culture, introduction to literature and critical thinking skills courses in Spanish, and advanced seminars on Latin American Literature and Culture; and will participate in the supervision of senior projects and theses.

Send materials to: Nohemy Solórzano-Thompson, Associate Professor of Spanish, Chair of the Latin American Literature Search, Whitman College, 345 Boyer Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362. Deadline: February 1, 2010.

Whitman College: One year visiting position in Spanish, with expertise in **U.S. Latina and Latino Literature and Culture** at the rank of assistant professor. The successful candidate will teach Spanish language in the context of culture, introduction to literature and critical thinking skills courses in Spanish and advanced seminars on U.S. Latina and Latino Literature and Culture; and will participate in the supervision of senior projects and theses.

Send materials to: Nohemy Solórzano-Thompson, Associate Professor of Spanish, Chair of the US Latina and Latino Literature Search, Whitman College, 345 Boyer Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362. Deadline: February 1, 2010.

The College of William and Mary has 3 positions available in the Hispanic Studies section:

1. Instructor of Hispanic Studies: responsible for the coordinating language program, teaching language courses and offering an advanced course in area of specialization; six course load per year. MA required
2. Assistant Professor: 2-year replacement; six course load per year; specialization in Latin American cultural studies with a preference for contemporary Mexico or poetry. ABD/PhD required.
3. Visiting Assistant Professor: 1-year replacement; six course load; specialization in Medieval Iberian studies. ABD/PhD required.

For mor information see jobs.wm.edu

News from the 2009 MACLAS Conference Key-Note Speaker:

The United States Institute of Peace announced on December 15, 2009 that it will be focusing more heavily on Latin America, in particular Colombia. Virginia Bouvier will be the senior program officer for Latin America in the Center for Mediation and Conflict Resolution. Previously, Ms. Bouvier was with the Institute's grant and fellowship program. An expert on Latin America, Bouvier is the editor of "Colombia: Building Peace in a Time of War" (USIP Press, 2009). "We are delighted that Ginny is going to spend most of her time on the challenges and opportunities in Latin America including gender-related work, interfaith dialogue, democracy and human rights," said Tara Sonenshine, executive vice president.