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Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to present the 2015-2016 annual report of the Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAII). I joined LAII as director in January of 2016, succeeding Professor Susan Tiano.

I come to this role with both a long history of involvement at LAII, and the fresh perspective of one returning after an absence. I have served on various LAII committees regularly since 1992, and was interim director between 2001 and 2004. In recent years, however, I was department chair of Political Science and focused most of my attention within the discipline. Thus I was not fully aware of the renewal of Latin Americanist faculty that has taken place in the past decade. UNM has created one of the greatest concentrations of talent and interest on Latin America at any university in the United States. In May of 2016, LAII staff conducted a quick survey of how many faculty members at UNM are actively engaged in research and scholarship on Latin America and Iberia. We were surprised to find that as of August 2016, a conservative count of such faculty members is 101. This number does not even include LAII Faculty Concilium members who are engaged with Latin America primarily through teaching and service. Overall, UNM’s faculty strength on Latin America and Iberia has never been greater, and this has been recognized by the UNM Office of the Vice-President for Research, which has designated Latin American Studies an area of “Research and Scholarship Strength” at our university (see http://research.unm.edu/research-emphases).

“UNM HAS CREATED ONE OF THE GREATEST CONCENTRATIONS OF TALENT AND INTEREST ON LATIN AMERICA AT ANY UNIVERSITY IN THE UNITED STATES.”

Such accomplishments are always fragile, of course, and UNM will need to respond quickly when, as has happened many times before, our nationally prominent faculty members receive offers elsewhere. Maintaining our exceptional Latin American expertise will require close attention and strategic decision making as UNM enters a period of fiscal austerity.
The other thing that has been a joy for me coming back to the LAII is the outstanding quality of LAII staff and the strong sense of teamwork that prevails. There is a great deal of talent here. In particular, LAII’s outreach programs to K-12 teachers and the broader community are outstanding in quality and scope; LAII staff are responsive to the needs of various constituencies, including doctoral students attending UNM under a special agreement with two universities in Ecuador, faculty and students wanting to coordinate travel or international events and symposia, and Latin American Studies students navigating the complex options and requirements of our BA, MA, and PhD programs. The quality of journalism appearing in the *Latin American Data Base* newsletters has never been better.

During a typical day at the LAII offices, one can hear the sound of language classes in K’iche’ Maya and Quechua, see a lunch-time brown bag presentation, and see the arrival at 5:30 or 6:00 pm of dozens of elementary through high school teachers to participate in workshops on how to incorporate information about Latin American culture, language, and society into K-12 curriculum.

This report will provide you with a succinct snapshot of the scope of activity supported by LAII and there’s no need for me to summarize its content.

I do want to highlight one event that gives a sense of the kinds of things I particularly hope to continue and promote in the next few years. Last fall two graduate students, Fiorella Vera Adrianzán and Anna Calasanti, approached me with an idea for a conference on "conducting field research in complicated settings." They strongly preferred to make this a student-organized event, but they clearly needed institutional help to pull it off. In partnership with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Center for Health Policy at UNM and with multiple departments, LAII helped coordinate an event on April 21st and 22nd that brought six distinguished outside speakers from the US and Peru; screened the film *Cuchillos en el Cielo*, accompanied by an in-person introduction and discussion by filmmaker Alberto “Chicho” Durant; conducted workshops that paired students who were preparing for field work with experienced faculty who read project proposals and provided comments and advice; and convened faculty round-tables to discuss various kinds of challenging field work.

The design and content of the event was entirely driven by the student organizers. Those who attended will attest that the sessions were excellent, and brought up a series of issues, including research ethics, researcher safety, overcoming obstacles and deliberate obstruction, interviewing techniques, and community engagement – just to name a few – that cut across disciplinary boundaries. I learned things I had never considered about working in conflict zones, managing research assistants who are dealing with disturbing materials, and the complexities of studying children in special education settings.

What stood out for me about this event was the emphasis throughout on issues that are central to area studies as an approach: attention to the importance of place and context, a desire that work be grounded in the lived experiences of people beyond the personal sphere of the researcher, and a central concern for human values including basic physical integrity rights, accountability for past political violence crimes, and access to basic necessities.”
political violence crimes, access to basic necessities including food and water supply, migration, health, and identity. Researchers from diverse disciplinary backgrounds converged on common substantive interests as well as practical and ethical challenges, highlighting the value of interdisciplinary dialogue.

LAII’s quick review last May of the research activities of UNM’s Latin America- and Iberia-focused faculty impressed me with how many people are doing interesting work about which I had never heard. LAII will continue to cast the net widely to invite faculty to make accessible presentations of their work to interdisciplinary audiences.

My hope is that such presentations will not only generate greater mutual awareness between scholars who otherwise would not encounter one another’s work, but also potentially spark collaborations among researchers working on different pieces of related problems. It strikes me, for example, that there are a number of people working on various dimensions of sustainability in Latin America and Iberia, ranging from water supply and watershed management, to effects of pollution on flora and fauna, to studies of how past human communities responded to climate change, to the combined impact of international market forces and climate change on food production, to how design of human settlements affect well-being. This is just one of several areas in which it appears UNM has the potential for productive cross-disciplinary dialogue and collaborative research.

I will close by thanking LAII staff who prepared this report, as well as the faculty members who contributed throughout the year to the work of LAII through service on selection, funding, and governance committees, as well as those who made the effort to present and share their scholarship. LAII is nothing more nor less than a central node in a social network of scholars. The Institute supports and facilitates the work of this dispersed community, but it is nothing without that community. Thanks to everyone who contributed over the past year, and to all those who will carry this effort forward.

William Stanley
Director, Latin American & Iberian Institute
Professor of Political Science
The University of New Mexico
**BACKGROUND**

Because of the geographic location and unique cultural history of New Mexico, the University of New Mexico has emphasized Latin American Studies since the early 1930s. In 1979, the Latin American & Iberian Institute was founded to coordinate Latin American programs on campus. LAII is committed to two core ideas: that peace and prosperity in the hemisphere depend upon deep mutual understanding among peoples of diverse cultural, linguistic, and historical backgrounds; and that such understanding depends on the rigorous training of area experts who have the knowledge base to conduct inter-American relations into the future.

Designated a Title VI National Resource Center (NRC) by the U.S. Department of Education, the LAII offers academic degrees, supports research, and provides development opportunities for faculty. In addition to the Latin American Studies (LAS) degrees offered, the LAII supports Latin American studies in departments and professional schools across campus by awarding student fellowships and providing funds for faculty and curriculum development. The LAII is also committed to expanding awareness, knowledge, and understanding of Latin America and Iberia among diverse constituents. Through its community education programs, the LAII coordinates a wide array of outreach initiatives, including K-12 teacher professional development opportunities; post-secondary academic conferences and lecture series; workshops and symposia for business leaders, government officials, and media representatives; educational travel; and cultural events for the general community.

**MISSION**

The LAII’s mission is to create a stimulating environment for the production and dissemination of knowledge of Latin America and Iberia at UNM and beyond. We believe our goals are best pursued by efforts to build upon the insights of more than one academic discipline. We support research from the humanities and social sciences, as well as the natural sciences, health sciences, and other professional schools. Therefore, when allocating materials and human resources, we give special consideration to broadly interdisciplinary projects.
NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER DESIGNATION

The Title VI National Resource Center award recognizes preeminence in the field based upon quality of faculty, breadth and depth of course offerings, strength of library resources, commitment to the teaching of less commonly taught languages, and robust community outreach programs that encourage learning about Latin America beyond the confines of a university. With NRC funding, the LAII is able to build upon our existing strengths and enhance our initiatives. As is demonstrated throughout this report, NRC support has been critical to much of what we’ve accomplished in this past year. In a time of lean state budgets, we’re fortunate to leverage our NRC funding to seed new activities that might not be possible otherwise.

Through the US Department of Education’s Title VI program, the LAII has also secured fellowship funding for undergraduate and graduate students across campus. The Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship supports students who not only concentrate their studies on Latin America but who also make a commitment to studying a less commonly taught language such as K’iche’ Maya, Portuguese or Quechua, among others.
The LAII maintains a thriving outreach program that reaches across and beyond UNM. In addition to hosting our own events, we co-sponsor a range of programs in partnership with other departments and organizations across campus. Lecture series, invited presentations, and conferences all contribute to the dynamic learning experience at UNM. The following are a few highlights from among the year’s academic activities.

**LAII LECTURE SERIES**

In 2015-2016 we featured 7 UNM faculty: Dr. Ricky Lee Allen, Department of Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies; Dr. Laura Harjo, Community and Regional Planning; Dr. Carmen Julia Holguín Chaparro, Department of Spanish & Portuguese; Dr. Ted Jojola, Community and Regional Planning; Dr. Manuel Montoya, International Management; Dr. Jami Núñez, Department of Political Science; Dr. Marygold Walsh-Dilley, Honors College.

In Fall 2015, several outside scholars also spoke, including LAII Research Associate Dr. Kris Lane from Tulane University, who addressed the mint trade in Bolivia; Dr. Michael Stanfield of The University of San Francisco, who addressed politics of popular music in the Southern Cone; political scientist Dr. Nelly Blacker-Hansen, who addressed Ayotzinapa; and Cuban historian Dr. Jorge Ibarra, who spoke on Martí. In Spring 2016, a number of scholars were invited to address the question of emerging politics of Latin America, including Dr. James McGuire of Wesleyan University, Dr. Alfred P. Montero of Carleton College, Dr. Santiago Anria of Tulane University, and Dr. Candelaria Garay of Harvard University. We concluded the semester with a special presentation on the Cuban literacy programs with Cuban education professor Luisa Campos.

**Outreach Academic Events**

We collaboratively organized 55 campus events with 87 partners, reaching 2,559 people.
2015-2016
INTERDISCIPLINARY LECTURE SERIES IN LINGUISTICS

Through collaboration with the LAII, departments of Linguistics and Spanish & Portuguese, and the High Desert Linguistics Society, the Interdisciplinary Lecture Series in Linguistics continued for the second year in a row. Four speakers addressed topics such as Spanish identity variations among Mexicans and Puerto Ricans; tone and phonation in central Zapotec; perceptions of language variation in New Mexico; and New Mexican Spanish speakers’ responses to ethnic identities.

2015-2016
CNM•UNM LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES LECTURE SERIES

UNM and CNM partnered to create a Latin American Studies Speaker Series. In its inaugural year, the series brought six UNM faculty and graduate students to the CNM campus, where they spoke with great success on diverse topics. Students at CNM responded enthusiastically.

2015-2016
IV CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF CERVANTES’ DON QUIXOTE

In Fall 2015 and Spring 2016 the LAII proudly supported the Department of Spanish & Portuguese as they celebrated the 400th anniversary of Cervantes’ Don Quixote with live readings, symposia, a plenary presentation, and receptions.

We would like to thank the following people and institutions for their support: Consulate of Mexico in Albuquerque, Instituto Cervantes, Department American Studies, Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies, Department of English, Department of Foreign Languages & Literature, Department of History, Department of Spanish & Portuguese, Division of Student Affairs, Latin American & Iberian Institute, Office of the Provost, Spanish & Portuguese Graduate Student Association, Zimmerman Library.
AUGUST 21, 2015
CUBA EVOLVES TOWARD A NEW ECONOMIC MODEL

Cuban economist Dr. Rafael Betancourt gave New Mexicans an inside account of recent major economic policy revisions on the island nation through an event held in collaboration with the UNM Division of Continuing Education, the Richardson Center for Global Engagement, and La Fundación Educativa Mexicana de Nuevo México.

SEPTEMBER 10, 2015
SECRETO A VOCES: EXCESS, VOCALITY, AND JOTERÍA IN THE PERFORMANCE OF JUAN GABRIEL

Mexican ethnomusicologist Alejandro Madrid drew on Juan Gabriel’s excess in his vocality and performance to draw out the contradictions, silences, and absences of Mexican and Latin American heteronormative fantasies through this event that was sponsored in partnership with the Department of Music and the Center for Southwest Research.

NOVEMBER 23, 2015
UNDOCUMENTED: HOW IMMIGRATION BECAME ILLEGAL

Historian Aviva Chomsky argued that the recent Central American immigration crisis was so shocking because it jarringly challenged narratives and categories about immigration that have been instilled in us since elementary school; she critiqued how these narratives have blinded us to the ways that US immigration law has functioned in the past and continues to function today. This event was organized by the American Studies Research Cluster in Global Inequalities and Solidarities.
FEBRUARY 9, 2016

CUBAN ART FROM THE COLLECTIONS OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS IN HAVANA

Cuban art historian Omar Diaz, who is curator at the National Museum of Fine Arts in Havana, Cuba, used examples from the museum’s collection to highlight the evolution of artistic trends in Cuba and to discuss how those trends are reflected in the work of contemporary artists in Cuba. The National Museum of Fine Arts of Havana exhibits Cuban art from the colonial through contemporary periods. This event was organized by the Tamarind Institute.

APRIL 8-17, 2016

GENIUS YOU CAN’T REFUSE: RECOVERING THE STORY AND MUSIC OF MANUEL AREU (1845-1942)

As part of the Manuel Areu Project, the UNM Honors College presented a series of activities honoring the work of Manuel Areu (1854-1942) and his creative work in Spain, Cuba, Mexico, and the United States. UNM Honors College organized these activities to honor and recover Areu’s important historical and musical legacy.

APRIL 19, 2016

“HAYDÉE SANTAMARÍA” WITH MARGARET RANDALL

Noted author and activist Margaret Randall discussed her most recent publication, Haydée Santamaría, Cuban Revolutionary: She Led by Transgression (Duke University Press, 2015). Taking part in the Cuban Revolution’s first armed action in 1953, enduring the torture and killings of her brother and fiancé, assuming a leadership role in the underground movement, and smuggling weapons into Cuba, Haydée Santamaría was the only woman to participate in every phase of the Revolution. This event was organized in partnership with the Department of History, Feminist Research Institute, and University Libraries.
Conducting Fieldwork Under Complicated Circumstances: An Interdisciplinary Conference

April 21-22, 2016

This interdisciplinary conference brought together faculty and graduate students from across the United States, as well as guests from the US and Latin America, who were interested in improving approaches to fieldwork, particularly in situations where research is made more difficult due to complicated circumstances.

Organized by two graduate students from the Department of Political Science, Anna Calasanti and Fiorella Vera-Adrianzen, this conference was principally sponsored by the RWJF Center for Health Policy at UNM and the Latin American & Iberian Institute, with additional support provided from departments across campus and organizations in the community.

Conference organizers defined “complicated circumstances” as anything that increases the level of risk for either the subjects or the researcher. This could mean research involving vulnerable populations, fieldwork in areas where there is violence or state fragility, or any set of circumstances that heightens the ethical and moral considerations of the research project. The program included external guest speakers, both scholars and practitioners from the US and abroad, who spoke about their fieldwork experiences; faculty panels and practitioner panels discussing the challenges, dilemmas, methodological approaches, and potential solutions for fieldwork experiences across disciplines; student roundtables under faculty mentorship; and the US premiere of the Peruvian film Cuchillos en el cielo, that depicts the complex post-civil conflict scenario in Peru, followed by a question-and-answer session with the film’s director.
Image: L-R, T-B: Dr. Kathy Powers; graduate student Joaquin Rubalcaba; graduate student Yuliana Kenfield; Dr. Gabriel Sánchez; Dr. Michele Leiby; Dr. Jo-Marie Burt; Dr. Jami Núñez; and graduate students Viridina Garcia & Rebeca Gomez.
Outreach Cultural Activities

At the same time that we foster academic dialogue and scholarship on the UNM campus, we serve the broader general public by supporting cultural events that share the richness of Latin American and Iberian history, language, and art with diverse audiences.

The majority of our cultural programming is the fruition of partnerships with remarkable local community organizations. Working in tandem with them, the LAII proudly supported several high-profile and creative events during the past academic year.

Image: Community members examining students’ artwork at LAII.
THERE IS AN AMAZING COMMUNITY OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS IN NEW MEXICO DEDICATED TO PRESERVING AND PROMOTING LOCAL CULTURES. WE’RE FORTUNATE TO PARTNER WITH MANY OF THEM.

-KEIRA PHILIPP-SCHNURER,
LAII SUPERVISOR OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Image: ¡Cine Magnífico! Albuquerque Latino Film Festival fundraising event organized by Instituto Cervantes.
SEPTEMBER 18-20, 2015

CINE MAGNÍFICO! ALBUQUERQUE’S LATINO FILM FESTIVAL

A major film festival in New Mexico focused solely on cinema from and about Spain, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States. ¡Cine Magnífico! Celebrates its third year in Fall 2015. The festival continues to feature first-time filmmakers and established masters alike, bringing to New Mexico the best of award-winning comedies, documentaries, animation and dramatic masterpieces. Organized annually by the Instituto Cervantes of Albuquerque in collaboration with community partners such as the LAII, the film festival promotes the richness of Latin American, Iberian, and Hispanic cultures found around the world.

2015 brought an exciting new component to the festival: free screenings for students and faculty on the UNM campus. The campus films included AmericanDREAMers, a crowd-funded documentary focused on undocumented youth and their fight for immigrant rights and El espíritu de la memoria, a feature-length film that explored justice, memory, and truth among indigenous communities of Guatemala. As part of the screening of American DREAMers, one of the student activists from the film came to campus and spoke to UNM students about his experiences.

SEPTEMBER 18, 2015

MEXICO AT THE HOUR OF COMBAT: SABINO OSUNA’S PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION

The Maxwell Museum of Anthropology displayed an exhibition of Sabino Osuna’s photographs of the Mexican Revolution. The Mexican Revolution offered a nascent generation of photographers an opportunity to document a moment of drama, celebration, and tragedy. Advances in technology such as the regular use of halftones in popular periodicals and the ability to transmit images phototelegraphically contributed to an increased use of photography to tell the story of the revolutionary. Among the hundreds of photographers who appeared on the scene was Sabino Osuna, a skilled portrait photographer that was ripping open its core. The rules of war allowed him to be a noncombatant and not a target and to get close to the action. The exhibit was organized in partnership with broader programming developed in collaboration with the LAII, Chicana and Chicano Studies, Global Education Office, the Ortiz Center, and the Southwest Hispanic Research Institute.
MARCH 21, 2016

MENSAJES DEL CORAZÓN: STUDENT ART EXHIBIT

Organized in partnership with East San Jose Elementary School, the LAII transformed its offices into an exhibit space for the display of arpillera-inspired artwork created by fourth grade students at East San Jose Elementary School. The exhibit, titled “Mensajes del corazón,” was comprised of nearly 100 textiles expressing the students’ concerns and hopes for their community and the broader world. In developing the project, art and literacy educator Ms. Sweet drew in part on curriculum about Chilean arpilleras which was produced by the LAII in partnership with the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC), in relation to the NHCC’s 2012 exhibit, “Stitching Resistance,” which featured an extensive collection of original arpilleras. At the opening reception, Dr. Elizabeth Hutchison of the UNM Department of History and Dr. Tey Nunn of the National Hispanic Cultural Center Art Museum, spoke about the importance of art as a tool for justice and community empowerment.

APRIL 7, 2016

BORDER DOORS AND THE UNMASKING OF ZONES OF MEANING

In partnership with Sandia Preparatory School, the Lobo Reading Experience, Zimmerman Library, and others on campus and in the community, the LAII oversaw the exhibition of 18 doors created by high school students enrolled in a Sandia Prep class on “The Neglect of Women Workers and the New Era of Hope.” Taught by Claudio Pérez, the course encourages students to think deeply about issues related to immigration, from immigrants’ lived experiences to the complex historical relationship between the United States, Mexico, and Central America. Throughout the semester, Pérez relied on Nazario’s book, Enrique’s Journey, to present a compelling and informative account of immigrants’ experiences traveling through Central America to the United States. At the end of the term, Pérez invited the students to express their thoughts, responses, and realizations by using the doors as canvases for mixed-media collages. In Spring 2016, the students’ doors were displayed at eight different campus and community locations as part of an effort to encourage learning and conversation about immigration.
**NOVEMBER 15, 2015**

**THE AMERICAN-MEXICAN CONNECTION: VIRTUOSO PIANO MUSIC BY AMERICAN AND MEXICAN COMPOSERS - FEATURING MAURICIO NÁDER**

Mexican pianist Mauricio Náder, one of the most active and iconic figures on the Latin American music scene today, presented virtuoso pieces by US and Mexican composers, showcasing a vast spectrum of styles, techniques, and emotions. He performs regularly at major venues in the United States, Latin America, Europe and Asia, and has given private recitals for former presidents of Mexico, France, and Spain. His repertoire, ranging from Baroque to 21st century, includes many pieces written especially for him. He has recorded over 30 CDs as a soloist, member of a chamber music ensemble, and vocal accompanist. This presentation was organized as part of the Music of the Americas Concert Series organized by the UNM Department of Music in collaboration with numerous campus and community organizations.

**APRIL 30, 2016**

**REZILIENCE INDIGENOUS ARTS EXPERIENCE**

This new event brought together more than 60 indigenous artists and art-related professionals representing the US, Canada, and Latin America, to participate in a full-day event by sharing their talents, skills, and knowledge related to “movement,” “design,” “inspiration,” “voice,” “visions,” “expression,” and “exchange.” It was an immersive, all-ages experience focused on modern Indigenous Art processes and called together both nationally and locally recognized entertainers, muralists, multimedia artists, and poets. Executive Director Warren Montoya summarized the event by stating that it is “a movement based in creativity. It is our creative practices that have facilitated cultural longevity, community building, knowledge growth and healing for generations.” The LAII proudly supported the inauguration of this culturally rich event alongside many community partners.
The LAII provides outreach to K-12 educators and students in order to enhance and expand understanding about Latin American cultures and languages throughout grade levels. This focus on K-12 education is not only an integral element of the LAII’s mission, but a critical component of the LAII’s status as a National Resource Center, as NRCs are tasked with creating robust teacher training programs to foster a keen understanding of the region among younger students. It is largely through the support of the LAII’s Title VI National Resource Center grant that we can prioritize outreach to K-12 educators.

To help build global competencies among students, the LAII offers free professional development opportunities and develops curricula related to Latin America. Beyond just teaching about Latin America, the LAII’s K-12 programs emphasize providing culturally relevant content to New Mexico students. In a state in which Spanish is an official language, many residents come from Latin American backgrounds, and the state’s own history is informed by a long legacy of exchange with the broader Americas, rich and culturally appropriate content is critical to ensuring that New Mexico students are able to see themselves in the materials they study.

**K-12 ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Each year the LAII’s Teacher Advisory Committee, composed of pre-service educators and in-service educators from private, public and charter schools, advises the development of our K-12 programs. With their input, the programs have continued to grow and expand, reaching ever greater numbers of educators, students, their families, and their communities.

**WE HELD 52 K-12 EVENTS WITH 30 PARTNERS, REACHING 738 TEACHERS AND IMPACTING 23,490 STUDENTS**
THE LAII REMINDS ME THAT THERE ARE MANY OF US WORKING DILIGENTLY AND INTENTIONALLY TO TEACH WITH CULTURAL RELEVANCE, TO VALIDATE THE EXPERIENCES OF OUR STUDENTS, TO PRESENT DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES, AND TEACH CREATIVELY!

-ALLISON HAWKS, MEMBER OF TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Image: Maskmaker Felipe Horta sharing his work with Allison Hawk’s bilingual classroom at Cien Aguas International School in Albuquerque, NM.
The LAII organized 11 professional development workshops for in-service K-12 educators, many of them held in partnership with community organizations, including Central New Mexico Community College, Instituto Cervantes of Albuquerque, the Mexican Consulate of Albuquerque, the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, the National Hispanic Cultural Center, and the Spanish Resource Center of Albuquerque.

The topics were diverse, including but not limited to the indigenous history of Día de los Muertos; mask making and community plays in Mexico; raising social consciousness through art; civil rights; Posada and printmaking; the Mexican Revolution; and preserving cultural heritage through art. Our workshops provide participants with background information on the topic at hand, as well as curriculum materials, hands-on resources, and suggested teaching strategies to help integrate content into their classrooms.

Alongside community speakers, we welcomed faculty and graduate student presenters from the Departments of Art and Art History, Chicana and Chicano Studies, and Communication and Journalism.

We also began to work more closely with pre-service educators by offering 3 in-class and 4 online presentations to students in the College of Education at UNM.

These presentations covered topics such as multicultural education and critical literacy, bilingual teaching strategies, early childhood multicultural education, diverse literature, and creative ideas for working with English language learners (ELL).
K-12 Education Resources

CURRICULUM

To accompany the professional development workshops, the LAII creates and digitizes curriculum materials, making them freely available on the LAII website.

In 2015-16, the LAII collaborated with the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) to produce a curriculum guide to support teaching about immigration and human rights using the children’s book Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family’s Fight for Desegregation by Duncan Tonatiuh.

We also partnered with Instituto Cervantes’ ¡Cine Magnífico! to emphasize film in the classroom, creating a guide to facilitate using the documentary Who is Dayani Cristal? to explore immigrant rights and the tragic results of immigration policies as well as a guide to accompany the feature film Pelo Malo and discussions around race, culture, and sexual orientation in Latin America.

Lastly, we expanded our Educator’s Guide on Día de los Muertos by creating a complementary set of materials that focuses on activities that can support ELL students in the classroom.

LAII curriculum resources reached national audiences through presentations and exhibits at conferences for the National Council for Social Studies and the National Association for Multicultural Education.
SPECIAL EMPHASIS: LITERACY

BOOK GROUP AND BLOG

Since 2011 the LAII has sponsored “Vamos a Leer,” a monthly book group and blog dedicated to teaching about Latin America through literacy and literature. In 2015-16, we responded to members’ feedback by interspersing adult titles among our featured youth books. Consequently, our group began to provide both classroom resources and personal professional development opportunities. Lastly, we began to alternate meeting locations by adding coffee shops, breweries, and wineries into the rotation. Participation is more robust than ever!

Each month we read books that offer authentic and engaging portrayals of Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos in the United States. Both the book group and the complementary Vamos a Leer blog encourage educators to use great literature to create globally literate students, to engage in authentic discussions of culture, and to think about social justice issues. In 2015-2016, we featured nine books that led to discussions on topics such as gender disparities, civil war, immigrant rights, Afro-Latino identity, US-Cuban relations, and Haitian literature.

Our blog provides educators all over the world with classroom ideas, reviews of children’s books and young adult novels, and suggested reading lists, among other resources.

LENDING LIBRARY OF CLASSROOM SETS

Responding to teacher requests, we partnered with the Spanish Resource Center (SRC) and National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) to provide a lending library of nine classroom sets of bilingual books. The books are now housed at the NHCC, where they are part of the SRC Lending Library.

Image: Book display at Busboys and Poets in Washington, DC, where the Americas Award workshop was held in 2015.

TO DATE OUR BLOG HAS
RECEIVED 155,000 VIEWS FROM 112 COUNTRIES AND FEATURED 93 CHILDREN’S BOOKS
AMÉRICAS AWARD

The LAII once more proudly supported the nationally-recognized Américas Award for Children’s and Young Adult Literature. In partnership with other National Resource Centers for Latin American Studies, 2015-2016 brought about remarkable programming across the country. Katrina Dillon, LAII Project Assistant, presented our curriculum materials at a workshop for area educators in Washington, D.C., alongside 2015 winning authors Margarita Engle and Duncan Tonatiuh, and in partnership with the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) and Teaching for Change. Keira Philipp-Schnurer, LAII Supervisor of Community Education Programs and Chair of the Américas Award Review Committee, presented the awards to the authors as part of the ceremony held at the Library of Congress during Hispanic Heritage Month.

Now in its 23rd year, the Américas Award continues to recognize exceptional children’s and young adult literature which authentically and engagingly portrays Latin America, the Caribbean, or Latinos/Hispanics in the United States. Winners of the 2016 award include Out of Darkness by Ashley Hope-Pérez and Echo by Pam Muñoz Ryan.

Image: T-B, L-R: Award-winning author Duncan Tonatiuh signing books; award-winning author Margarita Engle receiving award from Keira Philipp-Schnurer; participant at workshop; student and public participants at ceremony.
K-12 Education Youth Opportunities

Each year the LAII proudly partners with community organizations to support youth-focused events in Albuquerque, including Poesía eres tú, Cuentistas, and a Model United Nations (UN) Conference in Spanish. The first two are organized by the Spanish Resource Center of Albuquerque in partnership with the Instituto Cervantes of Albuquerque, the National Hispanic Cultural Center, and the Mexican Consulate of Albuquerque; the last is supported by these organizations, among others, but is overseen by a consortium of teachers from public and private schools.

We also contributed to two student art exhibits held on the UNM campus and a student art exhibit on display at the Albuquerque-Bernalillo Special Collections Library. Lastly, LAII was a partner of the “Bring a Book to Life” project held at La Mesa Elementary and organized by the UNM College of Education TECLA (or, Teacher Education Collaborative in Language Diversity and Arts Integration) program. The project entailed a school-wide effort to deepen learning related to multicultural literacy and culminated in a series of dramatization of the featured books.

LAII’S YOUTH ACTIVITIES PROVIDE UNIQUE OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS ACROSS NEW MEXICO

In related programming, we continued and built on our successes of bringing resources directly to students in schools, meeting with students at Alameda Elementary, Aguas International School, Cibola High School, East San Jose Elementary School, Gordon Bernell Charter School, Hoover Middle School, and South Valley Academy.
YOUTH EVENTS

POESÍA ERES TÚ
POETRY CONTEST

An elementary school student poetry contest in which elementary school children (from first to fifth grade) recite a poem in Spanish in front of a crowd of several hundred peers, teachers, family, and friends. The event was featured by Univisión and supported by the Consulate of Mexico, who presented the awards personally to the winning students.

CUENTISTAS
LITERARY CONTEST

An essay contest in which New Mexico high school students submit creative writing samples in Spanish. Non-native and native Spanish speakers are encouraged to participate to help demonstrate that the Spanish language is alive and thriving in New Mexico.

SPANISH MODEL UN
CONFERENCE

A Model UN conference for New Mexico high school students, this event is conducted entirely in Spanish and focuses only on studying Spanish-speaking countries. Now in its seventh year, the event continues to grow with new private and public school participants. The classroom preparation and formal debates stimulate the dissemination of the Spanish language and culture in a relevant, authentic context.

NEARLY 100 STUDENTS ATTENDED THIS YEAR’S SPANISH MODEL UN CONFERENCE

Image: Student participants debating as part of the Modelo Naciones Unidas versión en español held in 2016.
CLASSROOM VISITS

MASKMAKING IN MEXICO

In November 2015, Felipe Horta, a renowned maskmaker from Michoacán, Mexico, came to Albuquerque, to participate in an LAII-led professional development workshop where he shared his maskmaking techniques with educators, guiding them in creating their own masks out of mixed materials, and discussing how his masks are used in allegorical plays throughout Mexico. At the end of his visit, he also shared his work with students at Cien Aguas International School, where the bilingual students conversed with him in Spanish.

CENTRAL AMERICAN IMMIGRATION AND IMMIGRANT RIGHTS

On April 13, 2016, when Sonia Nazario came to Albuquerque as part of the UNM Lobo Reading Experience’s programming related to her book, Enrique’s Journey, she spent the last few hours of her time in town meeting with students and community at the South Valley Academy. Students heard Nazario discuss immigration and immigrant rights, and then reflected on their own family’s histories and experiences.

In a complementary presentation held a month later, UNM historian Dr. Kimberly Gauderman extended the impact of Nazario’s work by discussing Enrique’s Journey and related issues with students and teachers at the Gordon Bernell Charter School in the Metropolitan Detention Center.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND CULTURAL IDENTITY

In April-May 2016, the Santa Fe Art Institute organized an exhibit, “Creation Myths of Mesoamerica: Popol Vuh and Quetzalcoatl,” with artwork by Nicaraguan illustrator Luis Garay, who was in residency in New Mexico for the duration of the exhibit. The LAII collaborated with members of its Teacher Advisory Committee to bring Garay to speak with students at Alameda Elementary, Cibola High School, East San Jose Elementary School, and Hoover Middle School, where he spoke on the use of art as a tool for preserving cultural heritage. He completed his visit by sharing his work with an audience composed just of educators as part of a professional development workshop on “Teaching Cultural Heritage through Art.”
The University of New Mexico’s Latin American Studies program is a nationally prominent, competitive, interdisciplinary program that offers BA, MA, and PhD degrees. In addition to the MA in Latin American Studies, we offer dual degree options with five programs (Business Administration, Community & Regional Planning, Education, Law, and Public Health) in which students simultaneously earn the MA in LAS and a professional degree.

The academic program builds on a tradition of excellence in Latin American Studies at UNM that dates to the 1920s and is housed in the Latin American & Iberian Institute, which is a U.S. Department of Education-funded National Resource Center.

Students within the academic program benefit from an unusually broad distribution of Latin American expertise across disciplines and colleges, as well as one of the premier Latin America-focused library collections in the U.S. The degree programs are designed to be both rigorous and flexible, with robust foreign language study requirements and faculty advisement.
L-R, T-B: Melissa Leonard Leonard (MALAS ’16); Steve Maness (MALAS ’16); Javier Astorga (MALAS ’16); Julia Youngs (MALAS/MCRP ’16); Carolina Gomez (MALAS ’16); Lorraine Archibald (MALAS ’16); Lauri Gonzalez (BA ’16); Elise Payette (BA ’16); Jennie Greb (MALAS ’16); Charla Henley (MALAS ’16); Mateo Rocha (BA ’16); Priscila Hernandez (MALAS ’16).
NEW CONCENTRATIONS

In Fall 2015 several new concentrations were launched. At the MA level, students may now tailor their programs around Geography and Environmental Studies, Indigenous Studies, and Public Health. Doctoral students can pursue areas of focus in Built Environment (which combines course work in Architecture and Community and Regional Planning), Geography and Environmental Studies, Political Science, and Public Health. With these additions, 20 concentrations are now available to MA students and 14 are available to PhD students.

NEW COURSES

With Title VI NRC funds, we supported the development of two new courses.

- Anthropology: “Indigenous Mexico,” which will include a summer field school component in Oaxaca
- Community and Regional Planning: “Resisting Gendered Violence in Transnational Indigenous Communities”

LESS-COMMONLY TAUGHT LANGUAGES

During the academic year we supported the instruction of 4 sections of Quechua, taught by Yuliana Kenfield and Maria Medrano Vasquez, and 3 sections of K’iche’ Maya, taught by James Mondloch. Students were also able to choose from 18 sections of Portuguese offered through the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

247 COURSES OFFERED IN 25 DEPARTMENTS ACROSS 8 SCHOOLS COLLEGES
With the support of Title VI NRC funding, the LAII has continued its innovative partnership with Central New Mexico Community College (CNM) to increase the college’s capacities in Latin American Studies. Students may now pursue a degree in Latin American Studies at CNM and the LAII has contributed financial resources to develop one new semester-long course, “Latin American Film,” as well as a study abroad course. A UNM doctoral student also assisted with the online offering of Portuguese. With support from the LAII, CNM faculty were able to attend regional and national Latin American Studies-related conferences, including some that focused on study abroad development.

Finally, we sponsored a lecture series in which 6 UNM faculty and doctoral students presented their research to students on the CNM campus. They represented disciplinary perspectives from Anthropology, Music, and Political Science.

The LAII continues to work with CNM’s Education Programs to enhance Latin American content for pre-service teachers by collaborating with faculty, offering workshops, and developing curriculum materials.
Many university faculty in Latin America began their teaching careers with Masters degrees and want to earn doctoral degrees to enhance their knowledge and ability to conduct independent research. Often there are no doctoral programs available in their chosen fields in their own countries. Responding to this need, the Latin American and Iberian Institute developed a new program to help Latin American university faculty members earn doctorates at UNM.

Several doctoral programs at UNM have agreed to streamline doctoral course requirements to enable Latin American university faculty to complete the residential portion of their doctoral training in 24 months, after which they return to reduced teaching duties at their home institutions while completing dissertation research. The government of Ecuador has funded this effort on a pilot basis, for which UNM has partnered with the Central University of Ecuador and the University of Cuenca.

Through the 2015-2016 academic year, fifteen Ecuadorian professors from the Universidad Central del Ecuador (UCE) and the Universidad de Cuenca (UCuenca) pursued PhDs at UNM in fields as diverse as Educational Linguistics, Latin American Studies, Economics, Civil Engineering, and Mechanical Engineering.

2015-16 COHORT

Evelyn Almeida Garcia (UCE) - Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies

Sandra Cabrera Moreno (UCuenca) - Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies

Natali Cáceres Arteaga (UCE) - Latin American Studies

Guido Duque Suárez (UCE) - Economics

Paulina Lima Guaman (UCE) - Civil Engineering

Janneth Chumana Suquillo (UCE) - Educational Linguistics

Denisse Vásquez Guevara (UCuenca) - Latin American Studies
“WE, THE EDUCATORS, MUST CONTRIBUTE TO PROPAGATE THE VOICE OF CHANGE, HAVING KNOWLEDGE AND A PROFOUND RESPECT FOR DIVERSITY AS OUR TOOL”

-SANDRA CABRERA-MORENO, DOCTORAL STUDENT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LITERACY AND SOCIOCULTURAL STUDIES
The LAII maintains a vibrant network of over a hundred partnerships with universities in Latin America and Spain that continue to facilitate connections and unique study abroad programs. We are always attuned to growing our international community and are working closely with UNM’s Global Education Office (GEO) in fomenting new and strengthening existing international relationships.

In July 2015 the LAII signed an agreement with FLACSO – Sede Ecuador (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales). FLACSO is an international organization with campuses in several Latin American countries that promotes the teaching of social sciences at the graduate level. The LAII continues to maintain a strong relationship with other universities in Ecuador, primarily in relation to the Doctoral Program for Latin Americans. UNM continues to work with the Universidad Central del Ecuador (UCE) to receive their faculty at UNM, and in March of 2016 UNM signed an agreement to establish an Institute of Languages at UCE. In November 2015 UNM signed an agreement with the Universidad de Cuenca to receive their faculty at UNM.

In April 2016 UNM renewed an agreement of Academic and Cultural Cooperation with the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG) in Belo Horizonte, Brazil. Originally established in 2011 to facilitate the exchange of students through a FIPSE (Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education) grant from the US Department of Education, the LAII is hoping to establish new collaborative research projects with faculty at UFMG.

The LAII continues to build a vibrant exchange with partners in Cuba. We have expanded our People-to-People programs to other parts of the island and in so doing are establishing new relationships with scholars from within and outside of Havana. The Cuban scholars who have visited UNM in the past year are featured prominently in our look back at academic events.
Recognizing the value of immersive experiences, the LAII provides a range of international educational programs for individuals to study, research, and learn about Latin America and Iberia. Many of these programs are offered through the agreements we have established with universities outside of the United States, enabling the LAII to leverage shared expertise about the region.

In the past academic year, we supported several opportunities for UNM students to study abroad in Mexico, Guatemala, and Ecuador.
MEXICO:

AN ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY OVERVIEW THROUGH A PRACTICAL LENS

JULY 10-24, 2016

This interdisciplinary summer field school project was led by Francisco Uviña, Interim Director, Historic Preservation and Regionalism Graduate Certificate Program at the UNM School of Architecture and Planning. UNM students engaged closely with Mexican students and well-known Mexican architects at historic locations around Mexico City, Cuernavaca, and Cholula to document and propose the rehabilitation of important buildings in those communities. Students also learned the importance of traditional building technologies through interaction with local community members who were asked to play an active role in decision-making of future projects within their communities.

The case study projects visited by the students in this program will benefit the future PHI-USA studio planned for the Spring 2017 semester. Student projects will be incorporated into the PHI (Patrimonio Historico+Cultural Iberomerican) international platform. The PHI project was founded in 2008 by the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid (UPM) as a form of documenting and networking all Spanish heritage and cultural sites around the world. UNM is the first university in the USA to collaborate with universities in Latin America and Iberia in this ambitious project of collecting student work and uploading it into one international digital platform.

This course was supported in part by the LAII’s Title VI National Resource Center funding.
GUATEMALA:

MAYAN LANGUAGE INSTITUTE 2016: INTENSIVE SUMMER LANGUAGE & CULTURE PROGRAM IN K’ICHE’ AND KAQCHIKEL

JUNE 19 – JULY 29, 2016

Supported in part by the LAII’s Title VI National Resource Center funding, the Mayan Language Institute is an intensive 6-week summer immersion language program in K’iche’ Maya and Kaqchikel Maya that takes place in Guatemala each year. Alongside the LAII, the program is co-sponsored by Tulane University, Vanderbilt University, University of Texas, and the University of Chicago. In addition to language study with US faculty and native speakers, students participate in cultural activities, lectures, discussions, and excursions.

Over the course of the institute, students enhance their language proficiency and gain a better understanding of the cultural and political contexts that have affected the historical preservation of Mayan languages. The 2016 Mayan Language Institute hosted 18 graduate and undergraduate students from across the United States of whom 11 studied Kaqchikel and 7 studied K’iche’.

ECUADOR:

CONEXIONES ECUADOR 2016

MAY 26 – JUNE 26, 2016

Begun in 1982, the Conexiones program is an intensive Spanish language and culture study abroad program that fuses language study with cultural exploration. Coordinated by the UNM Honors College and the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Conexiones Ecuador 2016 traveled to Cuenca, Ecuador, where students lived with host families and were offered an introduction to the country’s history, cultural diversity, and environment, with special emphasis on the strong presence of Indigenous cultures. The program emphasized opportunities that allowed students to witness the challenges that present-day Ecuadorians face in having to choose between preserving their natural resources and cultures, and developing economically.

Students earned 3 credit hours in one of three UNM Spanish courses, and 4 UNM Honors credit hours while attending classes at the Universidad de Cuenca’s Programa de Español para Extranjeros. Weekly excursions included visits to Ingapirca, Cajas National Park, Zamora-Chinchipe, Gualaceo and Chordeleg, Susudel and Oña. Students hiked along the Inca Trail, stayed in an ecolodge as part of field study in the village of Saraguro, and traveled to the indigenous community of Quilloac in the Province of Cañar to participate in the ancient solstice ritual Inti Raymi.

This course was supported in part by the LAII’s Title VI National Resource Center funding.

18 STUDENTS LEARNED ABOUT
THE CHALLENGES OF
BALANCING PRESERVING NATURAL
RESOURCES AND FOSTERING
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN
INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

Cuba holds a special fascination for many people in New Mexico and beyond. Its legacy of Communist government since 1959, including a mix of social equity achievements as well as serious social and civil liberties problems; its history of close but fraught connections with the United States; its arrested development and time-capsule qualities; and the rapid changes unleashed by Cuba’s partial opening to international visitors and market forces, all make it a place of special interest to people interested in social policy, medical professionals, artists, and educators, to name a few.

Yet despite recent changes in US policy, Cuba remains a difficult place to visit, with significant regulatory hurdles as well as logistical challenges such as extreme scarcity of lodging, transportation, and even, at times, food.

To address demand for travel to Cuba, LAII regularly designs, organizes, and leads non-credit educational programs open to members of the general community. Although varied in content and scope, all of the LAII’s programs focus on creating meaningful exchanges between US and Cuban citizens.
“I never knew I liked jazz so much! What an enlightening experience! Surrounded by music, there was no animosity!”

- Alicia Corral, “Havana Jazz & Deco” Participant

“When we saw these examples, we felt we were seeing the best of our profession in front of us.”

-Eric Dwyer, FIU Associate Professor of Education, co-leader of “A Revolutionary Perspective in Education”
DECEMBER, 2015 & APRIL, 2016

CUBA AT A CROSSROADS

In partnership with UNM Continuing Education, during this 10-day trip participants explored Havana, Cienfuegos, and Trinidad - three cities designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites - and visited national parks and reserves, met with grassroots organizations working on conservation issues, and discussed agricultural strategies with tobacco farmers.

DECEMBER, 2015

HAVANA JAZZ & DECO

During this trip, participants attended the 31st International Jazz Plaza Festival in Havana and learned about Art Deco architecture which flourished in Havana during the ‘30s, ‘40s, and ‘50s. The group also visited several of Havana’s museums and met with grassroots community projects and young professionals to gain a deeper understanding of the country’s cultural practices and history.

JANUARY, 2016

DISCOVER CUBA

In partnership with UNM Continuing Education, this trip led participants to Havana and Cienfuegos, two cities designated as UNESCO World Heritage Sites. An emphasis on natural resources involved visits to national parks, reserves, and botanical gardens. A complementary interest in the island’s cultural resources led the group to visit, too, the Literacy Campaign Museum and the home and art studio of ceramist and painter José Fuster.
JANUARY, 2016

VISUAL ARTS

In partnership with the Tamarind Institute, this trip showed participants the studios of some of Cuba’s most important artists and many of Havana’s culturally significant museums. Participants were also introduced to grassroots community projects, and given ample time to experience the varied architecture, dance, and music of Havana.

MAY, 2016

ARTS AND CULTURE IN CUBA

In partnership with UNM Continuing Education, this trip provided opportunities for participants to visit museums with stunning collections, meet with grassroots organizations working on literacy, environmental and agricultural initiatives, explore artists’ studios, dialogue with community members about contemporary life in Cuba, and explore Habana Vieja.

JULY, 2016

REVOLUTIONARY PERSPECTIVE ON EDUCATION

Developed in partnership with Florida International University’s Kimberley Green Latin American and Caribbean Center, this trip provided participants with opportunities to study educational practice and philosophy. The group explored museums; engaged in discussions with grassroots organizations working on literacy, environmental science, and the humanities; interacted with K-12 teachers and administrators, toured university campuses and met with professors; and conversed with community members about the role of society and culture in education.
The LAII stimulates Latin American research and scholarship by supporting students within the Latin American Studies program and from affiliated departments across campus.

Funding may take the form of fellowships or scholarship for field research, advanced doctoral studies, foreign language and area studies instruction, or professional development at conferences. Students at both undergraduate and graduate levels may benefit from this interdisciplinary, cross-campus support.

Image: Victor Oneschuck, master’s student in History, conducting field research in Región de Los Ríos, Chile.
MY EXPERIENCE AS A LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES STUDENT HAS ALLOWED ME TO DEEPEN MY KNOWLEDGE OF THE REGION WHILE ALSO PROVIDING THE SUPPORT TO TRAVEL TO PLACES LIKE BRAZIL AND MEXICO IN ORDER TO PUT THIS KNOWLEDGE INTO PRACTICE.

-NORA LAMM, MALAS 2017

Image: Photograph of Brazil by MALAS student Nora Lamm.
FIELD RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Each spring the LAII awards Field Research Grants (FRGs) to graduate students across campus who pursue research in Latin America or Iberia.

FRGs offer graduate students an opportunity to acquire a comprehensive knowledge of Latin American languages, terrain and cultures; to familiarize them with information sources relevant to their studies; to conduct pilot studies and preliminary investigations that will inform their thesis or dissertation proposals; and to develop contacts with scholars and institutions in their fields of study.

HOLLY BRAUSE
PhD student in Anthropology
MEXICO: Examine Chile Production in New Mexico and in Mexico

TERESA DRENTEN
Dual MA student in Community & Regional Planning and Latin American Studies
PERU: My Many Tíos: Rural-Urban Connectivity in Cuzco, Peru

YULIANA KENFIELD
PhD student in Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies
PERU: Examine the Struggles Young Indigenous People in Peru Face in Maintaining their Cultural Practices While Simultaneously Succeeding in the Global Community

NAOMI AMBRIZ
PhD student in American Studies
CUBA: Afro-Latino Political Identities in the Wake of Newfound Cuban-U.S. Relations

MARÍA JOSÉ RAMOS
MA student in Latin American Studies
COSTA RICA: The Relationship Between Foreign-led Economic and Environmental Exploitation and their Sociocultural Effects on the Costa Rican Pacific

SHELBY MAGEE
PhD student in Anthropology
CHILE: Deciphering the Inka Roads: A Pilot Study on the Use of Non-Reconstructive Least Cost Path Analysis on the Roads of the Loa-Salado Region of Chile

VICTOR ONESCHUCK
MA student in Anthropology
CHILE: Unearth the Transnational Influences that Helped Refashion Middle Class Identity in Chile During the Second Half of the 20th Century
“PERFORMING RESEARCH IN THE ANDES IS A NEAR SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE. THE RELATIONSHIPS I DEVELOPED WITH THE PEOPLE I MET AND THE INTERACTIONS WITH THE LAND ITSELF HAVE LEFT AN INDELIBLE MARK; I WILL NEVER BE THE SAME.”

-SHELBY MAGEE, FRG AWARDEE / PHD FELLOW
PHD FELLOWS

LAII PhD Fellowships are highly competitive awards given to Latin Americanist doctoral students from across campus in order to support their dissertation research and writing.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Lara Gunderson - “Contemporary Christian Base Communities: Renewal under the Shadow of Orteguismo”

BIOLOGY

Janeth Peña - “Study of Snail Biology to Counter Parasitic Disease of Humans in Latin America”

ECONOMICS

Brandon Bridge - “Individual and Household-level Impacts of Energy Poverty on Human Development in Latin America”

José Bucheli - “Microcredits, Financial Services, and Risk Mitigation in Latin America”

HISTORY

Daniel Cozart - “Afro-Peruvian Creoles: The Social and Political History of Black Peruvians in an Era of Nationalism and Scientific Racism”

Lean Sweeney - “Unfixed Frontiers and Rootless Communities: Keys to State Power in 19th Century Guatemala, Belize, and Southeastern Mexico”

LINGUISTICS

Rebeca Martínez Gómez - “Language, Stereotypes and Social Categorization in Mexico”

Andrés Sabogal - “A Cognitive Grammar Approach to the Semantics of Valence and Aspect in Wayuunaiki”

SPANISH & PORTUGUESE

Ana Hernández Gonzalez - “Diversas de sí, entre el hoy y el ayer: (Re)memoria de íconos femeninos en tres novelas postcoloniales del siglo XXI”

Nathaniel L. Redekopp - “Performing (Female) Masculinity in the Early Modern Ibero-Atlantic World: An Analysis of the mujer varonil in Genre- and Gender-Based Contexts”
FOREIGN LANGUAGE & AREA STUDIES FELLOWS

FLAS Fellowships are highly competitive awards that recognize and assist meritorious undergraduate and graduate students seeking intensive language training in less-commonly-taught languages of Latin America, including K’iche’ Maya, Quechua, and Portuguese. Through support received from the U.S. Department of Education, the LAII is able to offer academic year and summers awards.

José Almeida, PhD, Anthropology: Quichua (Summer)

Lorraine Archibald, MA, Latin American Studies: Quechua (AY)

Andy Barrientos, MA, Spanish and Portuguese: Portuguese (AY)

Sarah Bullwinkle, B.A., French and Portuguese: Portuguese (AY)

Alice Donahue, MA, Latin American Studies: Portuguese (Summer)

Teresa Drenten, MA, Latin American Studies and Community and Regional Planning: Quechua (AY)

Christina Faris, MA, Geography and Environmental Studies: Portuguese (AY)

Kalyn Finnell, MA, Latin American Studies: Quechua (Summer)

Jennie Greb, MA, Latin American Studies: Portuguese (AY)

Sam Johnson, MA, Spanish and Portuguese: Portuguese (Summer, Academic Year)

Jacqueline Kramer, MA, Latin American Studies: Quichua (Summer)

Laura Powell, PhD, History: Portuguese (AY)

Mateo Rocha, B.A., Latin American Studies and Linguistics: Portuguese (AY)

Neoshia Roemer, JD and MA, Latin American Studies: K’iche’ Maya (AY)

Heather Sands, PhD, Anthropology: K’iche’ Maya (Summer)

Julia Youngs, MA, Latin American Studies and Community and Regional Planning: Portuguese (AY)

11 STUDENTS FROM 8 DEPARTMENTS RECEIVED AWARDS TO STUDY 5 LANGUAGES AND VISIT 4 COUNTRIES

Sam Johnson, master’s student in Spanish & Portuguese, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, while studying Portuguese.
“THE MOST MEANINGFUL PART OF MY EXPERIENCE IN CUSCO WAS EXPERIENCING FEELINGS OF LOVE AND RECIPROCITY WITH THE PEOPLE I MET AND THE PLACE I INHABITED.”

-KALYN FINNELL, FLAS FELLOW

Image: MALAS student Kalyn Finnell harvesting crops in Peru while studying Quechua.
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

We were able to provide modest support to LAS graduate students who were invited to present papers at professional conferences or participate in prestigious training programs.

Brown University, Brazilian Studies Association
Julia Youngs (MALAS/MCRP), Interpretações dos Direitos Desiguais no Brasil

International Peace and Security Institute, Bologna Symposium on Conflict Prevention, Resolution and Reconciliation
Javier Astorga (MALAS), received certification in International Conflict Management

Tulane University, Latin American Graduate Organization Conference
Teresa Drenten (MALAS/MCRP), Peru’s Informal Market: Impacts of Neoliberalism Past, Present, and Future

Melissa Leonard (MALAS), It’s Not About the Numbers: Gender-Based Violence and Agency in Guatemala

University of Texas at Austin, Institute of Latin American Studies Student Association
Lorraine Archibald (MALAS), Agriculture as a Site of Community Resistance: South Valley Acequias de Común(idad)

Jennie Greb (MALAS), Say NO to Santolina: Mobilizing Around Acequia Culture to Fight Neoliberal Development

Melissa Leonard (MALAS), Mal de Mina: Mercury Contamination in Andean Mining Communities and Its Regional Impact on Health

Maria José Ramos (MALAS), Water Paradoxes of Costa Rica as the Poster Child for Sustainability: Acting Locally, Thinking Globally

8 LAS STUDENTS
SHARED RESEARCH ON TOPICS FROM WATER MANAGEMENT TO VIOLENCE AND AGENCY

MALAS student Javier Astorga in Italy.
Over one hundred faculty members at UNM conduct research on Latin America and Iberia. In the past 5 years, they have published 410 articles and book chapters, and 41 scholarly books, largely in fields in which single or limited co-authorship predominates. Over the same time period, their work has been supported by external research grants valued conservatively at a $12.15 million, from sources such as NSF, NIH, NEH, Fulbright, and NEA. In the last 5 years, these faculty received over one hundred individual awards and citations for excellence, including the nationally prestigious Andrew Carnegie Fellow award.

LAII’s role is to support these highly diverse efforts by providing seed money for new projects, support for follow-up field research to help finalize projects, travel funding for conference presentations, assistance in negotiating inter-institutional cooperation agreements with international counterparts, and a venue for scholarly exchange.

The LAII itself has raised and distributed $2.84 million in external funding for research, student support, curriculum development, and outreach over the past five years. Field research grants (FRGs) can be particularly helpful to junior faculty. For example, Assistant Professor of Linguistics Rosa Vallejos Yopán received LAII FRGs in 2013 and 2015 for her work on Amazonian languages. Field research in remote locations is expensive, and Professor Vallejos’ work would have been impossible without major, sustained funding from National Science Foundation and National Endowment for Humanities. Yet LAII has been able to provide important supplements. The 2013 LAII FRG allowed her to return to her research area to conduct a workshop with consultants for her Kukama-kukamiria dictionary, and the 2015 grant helped her start a new project on changes in Spanish in contact with Amazonian languages, for which she is currently seeking major grant funding. Professor Vallejos was among those honored at last year’s LAII faculty book reception for her *Diccionario Kukama-kukamiria/castellano*. Her second book from this project, *A grammar of Kukama-Kukamiria: A language from the Amazon*, was published in 2016.
FACULTY BOOK PUBLICATIONS

On April 29, 2016, the LAII hosted a reception to honor affiliated faculty who had published books in 2015. The event, hosted alongside our annual Affiliated Faculty Concilium meeting, provided the opportunity to reflect on the breadth and depth of scholarship shared by Latin Americanist and Iberianist faculty across campus.

Sherri Burr: *Sum and Substance on International Law* (Second Edition)

Erin Debenport: *Fixing the Books: Secrecy, Literacy, and Perfectibility in Indigenous New Mexico*

Lawrence Guy Straus: *The Red Lady of El Miron Cave: Lower Magdalenian Human Burial in Canabrian Spain*; *Solutrean Studies: Human Adaptations to the Last Glacial Maximum in SW Europe* (editor and contributor)

James Mondloch: *Basic K’iche’ Grammar*

Patricia Rosa Lopateguí: *El asesinato de Elena Garro. Periodismo a traves de una perspectiva biografica*

Ruth Trinidad Galvan: *Women Who Stay Behind: Pedagogies of Survival in Rural Transmigrant Mexico*

Rosa Vallejos Yopán: *Diccionario kukama-kukamiria / castellano*

Santiago Vaquera-Vázquez: *One Day I’ll Tell You the Things I’ve Seen*

Richard Wood: *A Shared Future: Faith-Based Organizing for Racial Equity and Ethical Democracy*
**PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS**

The LAII continued its practice of supporting faculty research via travel grants for presentations at conferences.

**Chris Duvall, Geography and Environmental Studies:** Portugal, Portuguese Center for Overseas History 2015 International Conference, “Drug-plant knowledge transfers between Central Africa and Latin America”

**Alexis Handal, Public Health:** Brazil, International Society for Environmental Epidemiology, “Knowledge and experiences of work conditions among female workers in a flower-growing region of Ecuador: A qualitative study”

**Anthony Cárdenas, Spanish and Portuguese:** Spain, Cervantes y los generos literarios: V Congreso Internacional de la Sociedad Cervantina de Madrid, “De perros y asnos: Cervantes y la tradicion”

**Anna Nogar, Spanish and Portuguese:** Austin, TX: Modern Language Association Convention, “Ethnohistorical Reading in Colonial Mexico: Broaching New Methodologies in the Contextual Archive”

**Rosa Vallejos Yopán, Linguistics:** Peru, Simposio Internacional de Español Amazónico 2015, “No gasten sus plata: Nominal Possession in Amazonian Spanish”

**Naomi Shin, Linguistics:** Canada, Conference on New Ways of Analyzing Variation 44: Intersections, “Bilingual children’s patterns of morphosyntactic variation: Variable clitic placement in Spanish”


**Mary Quinn, Spanish and Portuguese:** Boston, MA: Annual Meeting of The Renaissance Society of America, “Hybridity as Innovation in Calderon de la Barca’s El laurel de Apolo”

**Kimberly Gauderman, History:** Chicago, American Immigration Lawyers Association Mid-west Regional Conference, “Expert Witness Criteria for Latin American Asylum Cases”

**Leila Lehnen, Spanish and Portuguese:** Providence, MA: Brazilian Studies Association Conference, “The Right to Develop: Reading Peripheral Literature through the Lens of the Declaration on the Right to Development”

**Jeremy Lehnen, Spanish and Portuguese:** Providence, MA: Brazilian Studies Association Conference, “The authoritarian macho: Tropa de elite and the Discourse of Neo-authoritarianism”

**Damian Wilson, Spanish and Portuguese:** Puerto Rico, WSS8: 8th Workshop on Spanish Sociolinguistics, “Language Contact and Progressive Constructions in Spanish”

**Frances Hayashida, Anthropology:** Orlando, FL: 81st Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, “Copper Rich, Water Poor: the Southern Atacama during Inka Rule”

**Kathy Isaacson, Communication and Journalism:** Colombia, Constructing a Culture of Peace in Colombia, “Designing Talk for Change”

**Ana Alonso-Minutti, Music:** Finland, Music History and Cosmopolitanism/Beyond the Nation, Beyond the Cosmopolis, “Cosmopolitan Imaginaries and Modernist Localities in Mario Lavista’s Music”

**Eleuterio Santiago-Díaz, Spanish and Portuguese:** Columbia, MO: University of Missouri, Afro-Cuban Artists: A Renaissance, “La parranda de Calzada: memoria afroboricua”
FIELD RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENTS

Every Spring semester, the LAII holds a competition for faculty grants to support field research in Latin America, Spain, or Portugal. These grants give UNM faculty members the means to begin field research on new projects or to complete, supplement, or add a comparative dimension to field work conducted previously. In 2015-16, we supported the following faculty researchers:

MARYGOLD WALSH-DILLEY
Assistant Professor in the Honors College
BOLIVIA: Adaptation to Dual Threats: Rural Andean Responses to Climate Change and the Global Quinoa Boom

HAROLD TORO
Assistant Professor in Sociology
MEXICO: Socioeconomic Background, Education, and Earnings Inequality after Neo-Liberalism: Mexico, 2006-2011
One of the longest running premier news and educational services on Latin America, LAII’s Latin America Data Base (LADB) features three weekly electronic publications: NotiCen, NotiSur, and SourceMex and a fully searchable archive with over 29,000 articles that provide timely information and historical perspective on various Latin American issues.

The LADB editorial team includes professional journalists in Latin America who produce weekly articles in English, providing in-depth analyses and highlighting key developments in the region on a variety of topics. LADB currently has approximately 152 individual subscribers and 45 institutional subscribers, including the United Nations, the London School of Economics, the University of California Digital Libraries, and numerous other universities, with a readership of about 3,500.
Publications Podcasts

FALL 2015 RECORDINGS

20 AUGUST 2015
DANIEL ARBINO
Artistic Bombs: Cultural Responses to the Los Alamos National Lab

21 AUGUST 2015
RAFAEL BETANCOURT
Implicit Utopias, Ambiguous Ethics, and Neoliberal Rescues

24 SEPTEMBER 2015
ALEJANDRO L. MADRID
Secreto a voces: Excess, Vocality, and Jotería in the Performance of Juan Gabriel

24 SEPTEMBER 2015
ANGHARAD VALDIVIA
Implicit Utopias, Ambiguous Ethics, and Neoliberal Rescues

30 SEPTEMBER 2015
MARYGOLD WALSH-DILLEY
Evangelical Protestantism in Rural Andean Bolivia: The Social Impact of Religious Change

OVER 40 DYNAMIC SPEAKERS WERE RECORDED AND DIGITALLY ARCHIVED

22 OCTOBER 2015
VANESSA FONSECA
Following the Manito Trail: Los Nuevomexicanos en Guayomin (Wyoming)

28 OCTOBER 2015
NELLY BLACKER-HANSON
Ayotzinapa: From the Revolution’s Commitment to Education to the Massacre of 2015

19 NOVEMBER 2015
JAMI NÚÑEZ
Artistic Bombs: Cultural Responses to the Los Alamos National Lab

23 NOVEMBER 2015
AVIVA CHOMSKY
Undocumented: How Immigration Became Illegal
SPRING 2016 RECORDINGS

2 FEBRUARY 2016

Kris Lane
Corrupting the King’s Blood: Interpreting the Great Potosi Mint Fraud of 1649

2 MARCH 2016

Ricky Lee Allen
Transforming the Loveless Society: Psychoanalysis in the Work of Paulo Freire

7 MARCH 2016

James W. McGuire
Politics, Gender, and Health: Insight from Argentina’s Provinces

24 MARCH 2016

Alfred P. Montero
Brazilian Democracy at the Crossroads: The Normalization of Crisis or the Democratization of Normal?

7 APRIL 2016

Santiago Anria
The Rise of Movement-Based Parties in Latin America: Lessons from the Bolivian MAS in Comparative Perspective

21-22 APRIL 2016

Conference
Conducting Fieldwork Under Complicated Circumstances

27 APRIL 2016

Lucila Del Carmen Leon Velazo
Soldiers of Baja California, 1697-1840. Social Interaction Processes in Northwestern New Spain Date

7 JULY 2016

Jacqueline Avila
Film Music and Identity in Mexican Cinema (1896-1952)
Our People **SOLAS**

Image: Annual Sin Fronteras Film Festival held at the Guild Cinema near campus.

**STUDENT ORGANIZATION FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES**

The Student Organization for Latin American Studies (SOLAS) is an independent, student-government funded group comprised of both undergraduate and graduate students who share an interest in Latin America. It is open to both LAS students and students in other departments with an interest in Latin America. SOLAS often sponsors speakers from within and outside of the UNM community and it maintains a website (www.solasunm.org) that features articles written by students.

SOLAS also coordinates an annual film festival, Sin Fronteras, that features Latin American and Latino films. The festival is held at an independent theater in Albuquerque and draws significant attendance from community members. Film showings are frequently enhanced by directors’ presentations. In Spring 2016, SOLAS held the annual Sin Fronteras Film Festival, which drew a crowd of 275 people over a 3-day period with film film screenings (three feature films and two documentaries). All screenings were made available to the general public free of charge.

**OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES**

**Julia Youngs,** President  
**Lorraine Archibald,** Vice President  
**Melissa Leonard,** SOLAS Coordinator  
**Jackie Kramer,** Secretary  
**Charla Henley,** Treasurer  
**Logan Shea,** LAII Executive Committee Rep.  
**Kalyn Finnell,** LAII Grants and Awards Rep.  
**Elizabeth Lake,** LAII Operations Committee Rep.  
**Elise Payett,** Undergraduate Representative
To ensure that the LAII’s K-12 resources truly support teachers in the classroom, the LAII actively seeks input from practicing teachers through the LAII Teacher Advisory Committee.

**TEACHER ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2015-2016**

**Keira Philipp-Schnurer**, Chair  
Latin American and Iberian Institute

**Neritza Díaz-Cruz**  
UNM College of Education

**Andrea Fletcher**  
Gordon Bernell Charter School

**Corina Fraire-Duran**  
Cochiti Elementary School

**Carolyn A. Gonzalez**  
Emerson Elementary School

**Mike Graham de la Rosa**  
South Valley Academy

**Allison Hawks**  
Cien Aguas International School

**Blanca Lopez**  
Health Leadership High School

**Toni McRoberts**  
Cibola High School

**Marilyn Mendes**  
Alameda Elementary School

**Jessica Elizabeth Morales Flores**  
UNM College of Education

**Kaycie Robinson**  
Hoover Middle School

**Maria Sheldon**  
Ortiz Middle School

**Magdalena Vazquez Dathe**  
Dorn Charter Elementary School
Our People Affiliated Scholars

Each year various U.S. and international scholars are affiliated with the LAII as Greenleaf Visiting Library Scholars, Visiting Scholars, or Research Associates. LAII-affiliated scholars regularly access institutional resources, engage with the research and teaching functions of the university, and facilitate institutional exchanges.
RICHARD E. GREENLEAF VISITING LIBRARY SCHOLARS

Through its affiliated scholars program, the LAII facilitates research opportunities by providing access to UNM’s wealth of Latin America-related resources. The LAII awarded 3 grants to Greenleaf Visiting Library Scholars for a total of $10,000; scholars were from the University of Kansas, Drury University, and Villanova University. The LAII has granted 41 Greenleaf Visiting Library Scholar awards since 2004, when the program was established through a generous gift from the late Dr. Richard E. Greenleaf.

Recently awarded scholars include:

Daniel Arbino. Assistant Professor, Spanish, Center College Kentucky (Summer, 2015): Artistic Bombs: Cultural Responses to the Los Alamos National Lab

Vanessa Fonseca, Assistant Professor, Latina/o Studies and English, University of Wyoming (Fall, 2015): Following the Manito Trail: Los Nuevomexicanos en Guayomin (Wyoming)

Lucila del Carmen León Velazco, Professor, History, Instituto de Investigaciones Historicas, Universidad Autónoma de Baja California (Spring, 2016): Soldiers of Baja California, 1697-1840: Social interaction processes in the Northwest of New Spain

ASSOCIATE & RESEARCH SCHOLARS

In addition to Visiting Library Scholar, the LAII offers two designations to its affiliated scholars: Visiting Scholar and Research Associate. Visiting Scholar is a title reserved for scholars who are visiting the University and participating in some way in its teaching or research functions, while Research Associate is a title used for independent researchers whose primary function is to conduct individual research or collaborate with university researchers.

Recent affiliates include:

Susan Kellogg. Professor, University of Houston, History. Focus on Nahuatl and Spanish translations of indigenous and mestizo writers of late XVI and early XVII century central New Spain.

Mary Louise Pratt. Professor, New York University, Department of Social and Cultural Analysis, research on comparing the relations between Spanish and Nahuatl in Mexico in the 16th to 18th centuries with relations between English and Spanish in what became the U.S. Southwest after 1850.

Maria del Mar Castillo Martinez, doctoral student, Universidad de Granada, Departamento de Literatura Espanola, Spain. Focus on Spanish authors from the XIX century and the bohemian period and the influence that American authors had on them.

Nelly Blacker-Hanson. Independent Scholar, Valparaiso University. Focus on project entitled “Painting Over History: The Strange Case of Lecumberri Prisoner Murals and Creation of the Archivo General de la Nacion.”

Kris Lane, Professor of History, Tulane University. Focus on book research for project tentatively entitled “Treasury of the World Debased: The Great Potosi Mint Fraud of 1649.”
The LAII draws together a diverse community of affiliated faculty from across campus who comprise our Faculty Concilium. To ensure disciplinary representation in our programs, awards, and events, we also have five committees that provide guidance:

- Executive Committee
- Grants and Awards Committee
- Operations Committee
- Interdisciplinary Committee on Latin American Studies (ICLAS)

The collective advice gathered through the committees is put into action by professional staff who carry out the day-to-day operations of the Institute.
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
2015-2016

Leila Lehnen, President
Spanish and Portuguese

Margaret Jackson, Vice President
Art and Art History

Ana Alonso-Minutti, Secretary
Music

Rebecca Blum-Martinez, Representative
Language, Literacy & Sociocultural Studies

Chris Duvall, Representative
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Community and Regional Planning

Liz Hutchison, Representative
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Logan Shea, Student Representative
SOLAS

William Stanley, Ex-Oficio
Latin American and Iberian Institute
GRANTS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE
2015-2016

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Latin American & Iberian Institute

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Communication and Journalism

Les Field, Representative
Anthropology

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Latin American Studies

David Henkel, Representative
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Christian Koops, Representative
Linguistics

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Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies

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School of Law

Jami Núñez, Representative
Political Science

Michael Alan Ryan, Representative
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OPERATIONS COMMITTEE
2015-2016

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Ana Alonso-Minutti, Representative
Music

Allison Borden, Representative
Educational Leadership

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Elizabeth Lake, Student Representative
SOLAS

Barbara Reyes, Representative
History

Mario Rivera, Representative
Public Administration

Michael Alan Ryan, Representative
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Suzanne Schadl, Representative
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Rosa Vallejos Yopán, Representative
Linguistics / Spanish and Portuguese
INTERDISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (ICLAS) 2015-2016

William Stanley, Chair
Latin American and Iberian Institute

Erin Debenport, Representative
Anthropology

Chris Duvall, Representative
Geography

Linda Hall, Representative
History

Lois Meyer, Representative
Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies

Manuel Montoya, Representative
International Management

Eva Rodríguez González, Representative
Spanish and Portuguese

Ilia Rodríguez, Representative
Community and Journalism

Julia Youngs, Student Representative
Latin American Studies
Our People Professional Staff

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Director

Ronda Brulotte
Associate Director for Academic Programs

M. Robyn Côté
Program Manager

Matias Fontenla
Associate Director for International Initiatives Coordination

Varun Nalluri
User Support Analyst

Carlos Navarro
Writer/Editor for LADB

Vickie Madrid Nelson
Associate Director for Business Operations

Ileana Oroza
Editor for LADB

LAIi STAFF HELP
CREATE A DYNAMIC AND SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENT AT THE LAII

Keira Philipp-Schnurer
Supervisor of Community Education Programs

Frances Rico
Supervisor of Administrative Support

Amanda Wolfe
Associate Director for Program Development