

Rural Transformation and Changing Climates Focus of Annual LAII Symposium

For Immediate Release
November 8, 2018

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- Organized by the Latin American and Iberian Institute at The University of New Mexico
 - Interdisciplinary symposium with keynote speeches, facilitated discussions, and lightning round-style research presentations
 - Free and open to all members of the community
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The UNM Latin American and Iberian Institute (LAI) will hold its fifth Richard E. Greenleaf Interdisciplinary Symposium on Latin America from November 14-16, 2018, addressing the timely theme of “Rural Transformation in Latin America's Changing Climate,” in UNM's Hodgkin Hall (Bobo Room). Over the course of the symposium, local and invited faculty and graduate students will take part in plenary talks with guest speakers, facilitated discussions, and lightning round-style research presentations.

This annual event brings together leading researchers in the field alongside exceptional junior scholars to advance theoretical understandings of critical issues in Latin America. It is entirely free and open to the public. Complete information can be found on the [LAI website](#). Registration is requested to add with planning: <http://tiny.cc/rural-transformation>

Participants will be asked to consider smallholder agriculture and rural landscapes within the context of ecological, political, and economic transformation in Latin America. Rural transformation is happening in Latin American societies in which inequality is extremely high, climate change is increasingly disruptive, economic liberalization is rapid and radical, and globalization is overwhelming local cultures. Despite these challenges, smallholder agriculture and rural people continue to contribute to the rural economy and to society at large, asserting their agency and shaping their emerging environments.

Symposium sessions will focus on three main themes of agroecology, water governance, and security measures, touching on topics related to food systems and food sovereignty, labor migration, water and resource governance, climate change, rural development, and competing interests among nation-states, industry, and rural peoples.

Convened by the LAII as the fifth Richard E. Greenleaf Symposium on Latin American Studies, this conference is held in honor of Dr. Richard E. Greenleaf. A distinguished scholar of colonial Latin America, Dr. Greenleaf (1930-2012) had an extensive career in teaching, research, and service at The University of New Mexico and beyond.

The event is organized under the leadership of a steering committee composed of Dr. Benjamin Warner and Dr. Chris Duvall of the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies; Dr. Jami Nuñez of the Department of Political Science; and Dr. Marygold Walsh-Dilley of the Honors College. It has been generously supported by the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, Department of Political Science, Honors College, National Security Studies Program, Office of the Provost, and the Phi Beta Kappa New Mexico Chapter.

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The UNM Latin American and Iberian Institute plays a vital role in promoting a greater understanding of Latin America and Iberia within and beyond the university. It offers academic degrees, supports research, provides development opportunities for faculty, engages with K-12 educators, and coordinates an outreach program that reaches diverse constituents. More information can be found at laii.unm.edu.

