



## CLAS Receives \$1.8 Million Federal Grant

Vanderbilt University's Center for Latin American Studies will expand its interdisciplinary collaborations in research, teaching, and public engagement in Tennessee and around the world, thanks to a \$1.8 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education. The four-year grant renews the center's prestigious designation as a comprehensive National Resource Center.

"The historic mission of this center—to foster educational, cultural, business, and other relationships between the United States and Latin America—remains of vital importance," said John Sloop, interim dean of the College of Arts and Science. "We are pleased for this recognition of the center's leadership in Latin American Studies, in particular, its 'One Vanderbilt in Latin America' model of transinstitutional collaboration."



The "One Vanderbilt in Latin America" model integrates teaching, research, and public engagement with a focus on particular places and themes. These include health and development in Guatemala and race and history in Brazil. The new grant will strengthen this model in a variety of ways, according to Edward F. Fischer, director of the Center for Latin American Studies and professor of anthropology. "We will be able to better integrate research and teaching and to increase language offerings by employing virtual classroom technologies," he said. "In addition, the grant funds a Visiting Resource Professor program that integrates four-week visits by prominent scholars and political leaders into on-campus seminars."

Fischer praised the accomplishments of faculty and students that have made the center's leadership in Latin American Studies possible. "We are blessed with an especially accomplished and engaged group of faculty and students, and Vanderbilt is the perfect size and environment to foster interdisciplinary collaboration," he said. The center is home to the Vanderbilt Institute for Coffee Studies, the InterAmerican Health Alliance, and other research and teaching initiatives. We also offer summer language programs in Brazil and Guatemala.

## Intensive Summer Language and Culture Program in K'iche' and Kaqchikel Oxlajuj Iq'

### Mayan Language Institute Summer 2015

June 14–July 25

The Oxlajuj Iq' Mayan Language Institute is an intensive, FLAS-eligible, six-week program in Guatemala for the study of K'iche' and Kaqchikel Mayan languages and culture. Students study with both U.S. faculty and native speakers while participating in cultural activities, lectures, discussions, and excursions. Mareike Sattler, who leads Vanderbilt's academic year K'iche' Mayan program, will direct this year's institute.

With more than 1.5 million K'iche' and Kaqchikel speakers in Guatemala, the goal of the institute is to help students develop and attain proficiency in their chosen language and to gain a better understanding of the cultural and political contexts that have affected the historical development and preservation of the language. Efforts to protect these languages are playing a pivotal role in the Maya struggle to regain control over their political and cultural destiny.

Students pursuing K'iche' Maya will spend one week in Antigua and five weeks in Nahualá. Students pursuing Kaqchikel Mayan will spend their six weeks in Antigua. All students are placed with local families for home-stays.

The summer institute is a partnership among Vanderbilt's CLAS, Tulane University, University of New Mexico, University of Texas, and the University of Chicago. For more information and to apply, go to [stonecenter.tulane.edu/pages/detail/320/Mayan-Language-Institute-in-Guatemala](http://stonecenter.tulane.edu/pages/detail/320/Mayan-Language-Institute-in-Guatemala).

# Center for Latin American Studies

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CLAS was awarded a National Resource Center grant from the Department of Education in October. This is the highest honor a center can receive, and it comes with significant funding. We should all be proud of this accomplishment as a reflection of our collective achievements and for the acclaim that it brings Vanderbilt.

This is our third consecutive NRC award (the first was in 2006), and this year we are one of only nine comprehensive, stand-alone Latin American NRCs. The competition in this round was especially fierce, and several big centers (including Berkeley and Yale) were not funded.

NRC funding will allow us to re-inaugurate our Visiting Resource Professor program, bringing up prominent scholars nominated by you, the faculty, to participate in a graduate seminar for

three to six weeks. We will be pursuing our One Vanderbilt in Brazil initiative, looking for ways to strengthen ties across the university and enhancing student experiences around thematic areas. As always, we welcome your ideas for these programs and your general suggestions.

We are very pleased to welcome Jamie Lee Marks to CLAS as our new outreach coordinator. Jamie Lee has a background in political science, women's studies, and anthropology, and she comes to us from the University of Florida. She will continue to work with K–12 teachers from across the state and region, area colleges and universities, and community organizations to translate the knowledge we produce in our studies to a wider audience.

## Portuguese Language and Brazilian Culture Summer Program

São Paulo, Brazil • June 13–July 25, 2015

Each summer, CLAS offers an intensive, Portuguese language immersion program in São Paulo in collaboration with Tulane and the Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo. The program is open to both undergraduate and graduate students with foreign language and area studies fellowships. This year, a new partnership with CET will allow us to offer beginning Portuguese, as well as intermediate and advanced levels.

In addition to studying language, students take a culture class and participate in excursions within and outside of São Paulo. During the program, most students live with a host family for a complete Portuguese immersion experience. In 2015, Rebecca Atencio, associate professor of Brazilian cultural studies at Tulane, will direct the program and teach the culture course. For more information and to apply, go to [stonecenter.tulane.edu/pages/detail/315/Summer-in-Brazil](http://stonecenter.tulane.edu/pages/detail/315/Summer-in-Brazil).

## Federal Grant cont'd

Founded in 1947 as the nation's first Institute of Brazilian Studies, the Center for Latin American Studies has a long history of engagement with the region. Vanderbilt has a remarkable concentration of Latin Americanists, with particular strengths in Brazil, Central America, the Andes, and the Black Atlantic.

Over the last decade, the center has increased its number of engaged faculty and students, with 17 percent of the College of Arts and Science faculty now affiliated. We are the only program at Vanderbilt to have joint programs with every school and college on campus," Fischer said.

The center offers undergraduate degrees (including a new Brazilian studies minor) as well as a master of arts in Latin American studies. Joint graduate degrees with the Owen Graduate School of Management, the Vanderbilt School of Medicine, and Vanderbilt Law School are available. The center

also offers a graduate certificate program and administers summer research awards to students across the university carrying out work in Latin America. It is one of the select graduate programs approved by the U.S. Department of Defense for foreign area officer training.

Fischer noted that the center has built relationships with smaller Latin American Studies programs at schools across the region. The center has a demonstrated commitment to partnerships with historically black and other minority-serving institutions, including Fisk University. In addition, the center has grown its public outreach program, reaching more than 85,000 individuals last year. Working with the Nashville Public Library, the center created a popular marionette show based on the Maya Popol Wuj and has active collaborations with the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Cheekwood Museum of Art, and the Nashville Opera.

## Guayasamín “Art in Motion” Exhibit and Workshop

Art by Oswaldo Guayasamín, one of the most prominent Latin American artists of the twentieth century, was featured on campus in an exhibit, “Art in Motion: Guayasamín’s ‘Ecuador’ Unframed” from November 14–January 30. A reproduction of Guayasamín’s mural “Ecuador,” which consists of five panels representing the people of Ecuador, was the centerpiece of the exhibit.

Guayasamín’s vision was that identity is always in motion, and the mural “Ecuador” represents the inherent antagonisms and racial multiplicity of the Ecuadorian nation. Although the artist intended the panels to be moveable and interchangeable, the original was framed and thus fixed after his death. *Art in Motion* unframed the panels again through a digital interface that allowed visitors to interact with the art, create tens of thousands of configurations of the panels with an iPad app, and project them onto a screen.

While the exhibit was at Vanderbilt, CLAS and the Curb Center for Art and



Oswaldo Guayasamín

Enterprise hosted a professional development workshop for regional educators. Led by Tatiana Botero (Notre Dame), Andrei Jorza (Notre Dame), and Janey Camp (Vanderbilt), teachers in the workshop explored the sociohistorical background of Guayasamín’s work, while learning how to apply GIS technology in the classroom. The workshop has had a big impact on participants and beyond. Dr. Miwon Choe (Western Kentucky University) delivered a presentation on using Guayasamín’s work in K–12 classrooms at the WKU Arts Education Conference, and other workshop attendees have already created curriculum units and integrated them into undergraduate and secondary classrooms.

Dr. Choe has also coordinated a

transnational, interactive art project based on the mural; WKU students and educators have produced panels about their own identities to share with teachers and students in Cuba, who will then also produce art as a response. This exchange will happen during her team’s visit in March and is part of her long-term, collaborative art project “Cuba: Create, Crecer con las artes program.” CLAS looks forward to continuing our collaborations with WKU faculty and Bowling Green educators.

The exhibit at Vanderbilt was a collaboration with CLAS, Vanderbilt’s Fine Arts Gallery, the Curb Center, The Martha Rivers Ingram Commons at Vanderbilt, and the exhibit’s organizers, Notre Dame professors Carlos A. Jáuregui and Tatiana Botero. As part of our regional outreach program, the exhibit traveled to the Kentucky Museum at Western Kentucky University for the month of February as part of WKU’s “Year of Ecuador.”



Oswaldo Guayasamín, *Ecuador*, 1952, Mural, Fundación Guayasamín.

## Faculty Publications

**Robert Barsky** (French, English, and Jewish Studies): *Undocumented Immigrants in an Era of Arbitrary Law: The Flight and the Plight of People Deemed "Illegal"* (NY: Routledge, 2015).

**Carwil Bjork-James** (Anthropology): "Hunting Indians: Globally circulating ideas and frontier practices in the Colombian llanos." *Comparative Studies in Society and History* 57:1 (2015): 98–129.

**Celso T. Castilho** (History): "'Já é lei no Brasil nascer-se livre!': A politização da lei de 1871 em Pernambuco," in *Políticas da Raça: Experiências e legados da abolição e da pós-emancipação no Brasil*, eds., Flávio Gomes and Petrônio Domingues (São Paulo: Selo Negro Edições, 2014): 17–34. Translated by Fernanda Bretones Lane.

**Markus Eberl** (Anthropology): *Community and Difference: Change in Late Classic Maya Villages of the Petexbatun Region* (Vanderbilt University Press, 2014).

**Earl Fitz** (Spanish and Portuguese): "On the Shoulders of Giants: The Study of Portuguese and Luso-Brazilian Literature in the United States." *Luso-Brazilian Review* 50:2 (2013): 1–12.

**Ruth Hill** (Spanish and Portuguese): "Towards a Constructionist Essentialism: Critical Race Studies and the Baroque," *Transatlantic Hispanic Baroque: Complex Identities in the Atlantic World*, eds. Harald Braun and Jesús Pérez Magallón (Farnham, England: Ashgate, 2014): 35–54.

"The Blood of Others: Breeding Plants, Animals, and White People in the Spanish Atlantic," *The Cultural Politics of Blood: 1500–1900*, eds. Ralph Bauer, Kim Coles, Zita Nunes, and Carla Peterson, (New York: Palgrave, 2014).

**Edward Wright-Rios** (History) *Searching for Madre Matiana: Prophecy and Popular Culture in Modern Mexico* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 2014).

## FACULTY PROFILE

### Alicia Monroe

*Mellon Assistant Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies*

CLAS welcomes a new Brazilianist to Vanderbilt, Alicia Monroe, who joined the faculty in January as the Mellon Assistant Professor of African American and Diaspora Studies. Professor Monroe's research has focused on constructions of race in the Atlantic world, topics of urban slavery and abolition, the organizations of popular Catholicism, and the development of black civil societies in the African diaspora. Her research and teaching will contribute to the center's strengths in Afro-Brazilian studies and the Atlantic World.

Growing up in rural North Carolina, Monroe witnessed the shift as Latino populations began to immigrate and settle in the state. This piqued her interest in Latin American history and eventually in the narrative of the African diaspora in Latin America. She received her B.A. from North Carolina Central University in 2000, her M.A. from the University of Kansas in 2003, and completed her Ph.D. in history at Emory University in 2014.

Her dissertation, "Brotherhoods of Their Own: Black Confraternities and Civic Leadership in São Paulo, Brazil, 1850–1920," investigated the issue of social relations among slaves, freed people, and free people of color based on analysis of records from Afro-Brazilian confraternities and black secular associations from 1850 to 1920 in São Paulo, Brazil. The study examined the social context and activities of self-designated blacks who possessed a wide range of wealth and who chose to participate in and patronize collective associative spaces.

Monroe describes much of her

research as institutional study of the laity of the Catholic church and how they engage church structures, creating new configurations of what Afro-Latin American communities look like. She offers, "I find it challenging and rewarding to work at the intersection of the African diaspora and Latin American studies, which share agendas that think deeply about colonization, coerced labor, popular religiosity, and in more contemporary periods, anti-imperialist and nationally oriented freedom struggles."

In fall 2015, Professor Monroe will teach African American and Diaspora

Studies 1010, introducing students to the concept of diaspora and exploring the lived experiences of Africans and African descendants in the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Europe. Monroe will also teach the Atlantic Slave Trade (AADS 3458), which studies the largest trans-oceanic forced migration in history through primary

documents, including slave narratives.

Monroe's current project, "Living Monuments: Aesthetics, Adornment, and Black Sites of Worship in the Atlantic World," combines her research in Latin America with the U.S. South. The project explores religious spaces and practices of urban black religious congregations founded between 1700 and 1850 in the Iberian Atlantic and the U.S. South. Monroe is particularly eager to conduct research on Catholic African-American congregations in the U.S., since research has been traditionally focused on Protestant African-American communities.



## OWEN STUDENTS STUDYING PORTUGUESE

Owen students and faculty have been demonstrating an active interest in Brazil as they realize what a key player the country is in the global market. In October a group of approximately 20 Owen students traveled to Brazil for two weeks to study local business models, such as Natura, one of Brazil's most successful companies that works closely with native Amazonian peoples. Beyond this, Owen students report that Brazil is a constant

topic of conversation in classrooms and social conversations, and that there is a growing interest in the Portuguese language. As part of an effort to cater to this interest, CLAS has provided a group of students with the opportunity to learn Portuguese and develop their potential for professional and interpersonal relationships in the future. Tim Foster, a graduate student in Spanish and Portuguese, leads weekly instructional sessions for the students.

*"Learning Portuguese has been an interest of mine for quite some time. My Portuguese roots inspire me to learn the language; my grandfather often spoke Portuguese to me when he visited."*

—Alison Raisian, MBA Class of 2015



*"Due to Brazil's emerging economy and the new interest American companies have shown in developing economic interests within the company, I thought learning Portuguese could aid me in learning more about the people and culture of Brazil."*

—Landon Franklin, MBA Class 2015

*"I lived in Brazil growing up, but have since lost the Portuguese I used to speak. I've been wanting to get it back for years, and this is a great opportunity to do that. Also, Brazil is in a fascinating moment economically and politically, and as a business student, having the language skills to operate there may be very useful in the future."*

—Matthew Inbusch, MBA Class of 2016



*"I was motivated to learn Portuguese as a way to relate with the Brazilian culture and potentially open professional opportunities in the future."*

—Marilu Utrera, MBA Class of 2015

## Faculty News

**Cerwil Bjork-James** (Anthropology) presented a poster session entitled "The Sovereign Street: Events, Imagined Communities, Revolution," at the American Anthropological Association's annual meeting in December.

**Celso T. Castillo** (History) was the 2014 winner of the Kimberly S. Hanger Article Prize by the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association for his article, "Performing Abolitionism, Enacting Citizenship: The Social Construction of Political Rights in 1880s Recife, Brazil," *Hispanic American Historical Review* 93:3 (2013): 377-409.

**Marshall Eakin** (History) was awarded \$50,400 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to complete his book, *Shadows of the Soul: Brazilian Identity in the Twentieth Century*. The book explores the writings of Gilberto Freyre and his vision of *mestiçagem* (miscegenation or mixing) as the central narrative of twentieth century Brazil's culture and identity.

**Earl Fitz** (Spanish and Portuguese) received the Inaugural Prize for Best Academic Article on Inter-American Studies from the International Association of Inter-American Studies/Asociación Internacional de Estudios Interamericanos for the article "Native American Literature and Its Place in the Inter-American Project" published in *Comparative American Studies: An International Journal*. In April 2014, he delivered the plenary address to the Luso-Afro-Brazilian section of the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference on "Portuguese Studies in a Globalized World."

**Ruth Hill** (Spanish) presented "A Hemispheric South? Domingo F. Sarmiento on Civil War and Reconstruction" at the American Studies Association Annual Conference in Los Angeles on November 2014; "Las economías proverbiales de la raza en el Atlántico Hispano," *El Sur desde el Sur. Centros y periferias barrocas* at the Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia on October 2014; and "Reckoning with Whiteness in the 18th-Century Americas," at the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity, Middlebury College, October 2014.

## Faculty News cont.

**John Janusek** (Anthropology) gave a talk on “Beer, Brewing, and Empire in Ancient South America” at Yazoo Brewery in January for the Nashville chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. He spoke about his research and excavation of the Tiwanaku in the South American Andes in Bolivia.

**Jane Landers** (History) gave a presentation on her book in progress, “The First Maroon Wars in the Americas: Española in the 16th Century” in October at Yale. In December, she participated in a radio interview for *Majority Report* and published an essay titled, “Cuba: notes from a frequent visitor” in *The Conversation* on the news of changing U.S. policy on Cuba.

**Vesna Pavlovic** (Art) gave a talk titled “Photographic Event” on November 10 at the Wake Forest University Department of Art. Currently, she joins a group of contemporary artists who work with found images in an exhibition titled, “Found” at the New Art Gallery Walsall, UK.

**Benigno Trigo** (Spanish and Portuguese) was appointed chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese as of January 2015 and delivered a presentation titled, “Shame, Repetition, and Forgiveness in Recent Puerto Rican Literature” at the Modern Languages Association on January 10.

**Steve Wernke** (Anthropology) was announced as the 2015 winner of the Society for American Archaeology Book Award in the scholarly category, for his book, *Negotiated Settlements: Andean Communities and Landscapes under Inka and Spanish Colonialism* (University Press of Florida, 2013).

The prize is awarded to “a book that has had, or is expected to have, major impact on the direction and character of archaeological research.”



## OUTREACH NEWS

With our new funding from the Department of Education, CLAS will continue to expand our outreach to K–12 educators, minority-serving institutions, and other regional postsecondary institutions, businesses, and the general public to promote awareness of and advance education about Latin America. During the academic year, CLAS offers a series of professional development workshops followed by a week-long institute for educators in the summer.

Spring 2015 workshops (see below) highlight

our collaborations with the Nashville Opera, Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery, and our regional partnership with Western Kentucky University. This year’s summer institute is the first in a series of four institutes on Brazil organized in collaboration with Tulane and the University of Georgia. The institute will take place at Tulane, with Vanderbilt hosting it in summer 2016.

New outreach initiatives for the next four years include a curriculum development seed grant program for pre-school teachers in conjunction with Peabody faculty.

## CLAS Welcomes New Outreach Coordinator

Jamie Lee Marks joined CLAS in January 2015 as outreach coordinator. Jamie Lee holds a B.A. in women’s studies and political science and an M.A. in cultural anthropology from the University of Florida. She also holds a Certificate in English Language Teaching to Adults from the University of Cambridge. Jamie Lee will lead our public outreach program, organizing our K–16 teacher workshop series and summer institutes, strengthening our collaborations with MSI and regional postsecondary institutions, and our local partnerships with the Nashville Public Library, Cheekwood, and the Frist, among others. She also manages the CLAS Twitter feed: follow us @VanderbiltCLAS! and curates the feed Ethnographic Shorts (@ethnographshort), which

features and retweets ethnographic photos, films, and the anthropology humor feed Total Anthro Move (@TotalAnthroMove).

Before coming to Vanderbilt, Jamie Lee worked as a writing and English language instructor and graduate student mentor in Florida. She has taught courses in research writing, critical thinking and rhetoric, and the anthropology of sustainability at the University of Florida. Her graduate research explored gender and rural to urban migration, as well as the aesthetic and social components of public transportation reform in Lima, Peru. She has worked as a contracted researcher on projects related to political authority and civic engagement within Native American communities from contact to the contemporary period.



## UPCOMING OUTREACH EVENTS

The 2015 Summer K–16 Teacher Institute, “Somos Nós: Teaching Afro-Brazilian Identity,” is a twenty-hour program designed for K–16 teachers, librarians, and administrative staff. K–16 educators will benefit from this timely, interactive program about Brazil, one of the world’s strongest and most influential economies. The program is co-organized by Vanderbilt, Tulane University, and the University of Georgia.

In April, CLAS will partner with Tuskegee University to offer a professional development workshop, “Zora Neale Hurston: Health Practices and Spirituality in the Caribbean and the U.S. South.” The workshop will focus on themes that connect Hurston’s work to Tuskegee and to Latin American studies and will take place April 24–25 at Tuskegee University.

In July, CLAS will continue its K-12 Summer Film Institute series. “Teaching Latin America through Film 2015” will take place July 12–16 and will promote the integration of Latin American film and films about Latin America into the K–12 curriculum.

As part of the InDigital Latin America conference, CLAS and Middle Tennessee State University offered a professional development workshop that connects local educators with Kayapó filmmakers. The workshop, “Environment, Culture, and Survival in the Brazilian Amazon” will be held on March 26 before the opening reception of the InDigital conference.

## Study Abroad Programs to Latin America

Vanderbilt offers several opportunities for undergraduate students to study in Latin America during the spring, fall, and summer. The Global Education Office offers semester and summer programs to Argentina (Buenos Aires), Chile (Santiago and Valparaiso), the Dominican Republic (Santiago), and Brazil (São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro).

Our new Costa Rica summer study abroad program in San José offers students the opportunity to combine intensive Spanish language study with an internship or service learning. Students are required to take one Spanish language course and then may choose a second Spanish course, a service-learning course with a social justice theme, or an internship with local government or non-governmental entities. Applications are due in mid-March of each year. For additional information, please contact the program's director, Chalene Helmuth, at [chalene.helmuth@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:chalene.helmuth@vanderbilt.edu).

Other summer programs include the



Vanderbilt Initiative in Scholarship and Global Education (VISAGE) to Guatemala and Costa Rica, as well as Maymasters to Brazil (EES 210) and Peru (SPAN 204). These programs are not offered every year; check the GEO website, or contact CLAS for more information.



## Alumni News

**Angelika Albaladejo** (M.A. 2014) moved to Washington, D.C. in September 2014 to begin a full-time fellowship with the Center for International Policy. As the Latin America Rights and Security Fellow, she served the role of researcher, writer, and program assistant in the Latin America Rights & Security and Security Assistance Monitor programs in the areas of U.S. foreign policy and security assistance, human rights, drug policy, organized crime, rule of law and government accountability and transparency in Latin America and the Caribbean. Angelika is on the job market now, but she has kept busy, publishing news analysis pieces on outlets like *Truthout* and creating digital media products that include an infographic on violence against women in Honduras and the conditions of migrating to the United States. This has been picked up by feminist advocacy organizations in Honduras, including the *Centro de Derechos de Mujeres*. Her next project is *Periphery: A Pan-American News Podcast*, co-produced and co-hosted with partner Mike LaSusa. The podcast will cover Latin American human rights, security, and social protest news, as well as domestic U.S.-Latin America issues and U.S. foreign policy toward the region.

**Matthew Layton** (M.A. 2009) has completed his Ph.D. in political science at Vanderbilt and accepted a position as assistant professor of political science at Ohio University in Athens starting fall 2015.

**Nick Stokes** (B.A. 2003) gave a talk in January to LAS majors and graduate students on careers in foreign service. Following graduation, he joined the Peace Corps and later received his M.A. in international human rights and security at the University of Denver. Since then, he has worked in volunteer recruitment and placement at Peace Corps Headquarters; the Department of Homeland Security's Office of Refugees, Asylum, and International Operations; and is currently working with the USAID's Foreign Service in Mexico City.

**Nicole Duciaume** (B.A., 2000) is based in Ecuador with ChildFund. She began working in international development in 2003 based in Washington, D.C. Missing her connections to Latin America, she transferred to the Americas region in 2010, starting in Panama and moving to Ecuador a year and a half ago. She has technical sponsorship oversight in Bolivia, Brazil, the Caribbean, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and in the U.S. (South Dakota, Oklahoma, Mississippi, and Texas), representing about 200,000 enrolled children in the region. Nicole describes her work as rewarding and transformative, and she values being immersed in the cultures and issues that impact Latin America.

## Alumni Trips

In spring 2015, Vanderbilt alumni have the opportunity to travel to three locations in Latin America with LAS-affiliated faculty through the Alumni Association's Vanderbilt Travel Program.

Associate Director for Graduate and Undergraduate Studies at CLAS Frank Robinson will lead alumni in an exploration of Cuba's art, culture, and music on a trip to the previously restricted island nation from February 26–March 6. Alumni will have the opportunity to visit a number of historic locales, including Ernest Hemingway's home *Finca Vigia*, as well as to experience local Cuban culture through food, music, and dance.

In April, alumni can travel to Brazil with renowned historian Marshall Eakin. The trip features visits to Copacabana and Ipanema in Rio de Janeiro, Pelourinho (Old Town) in Salvador, and jungle treks around Manaus. Running from April 12–24, this trip will give alumni the opportunity to experience the best of Brazilian history and culture.

Finally, a Panamá Canal/Costa Rica trip from February 26–March 6 features ports of call in San José, the Curú National Wildlife Refuge, and Manuel Antonio National Park. The luxury cruise gives travelers the opportunity to experience the beauty of the Costa Rican rainforest.



## CLAS Partners with the Nashville Opera for *Florencia en el Amazonas*

In January 2015, CLAS partnered with the Nashville Opera to host a series of community outreach events around the production of *Florencia en el Amazonas*. Inspired by the writings of Gabriel García Márquez, this opera was created by the Mexican composer Daniel Catán and tells the story of opera soprano Florencia as she journeys down the Amazon River. *Florencia* is Nashville's first Spanish language opera and was performed January 23, 25, and 27 at the Tennessee Performing Arts Center's Polk Theatre.

Community events began in November and included a panel on "Modern Opera and Magical Realism," with Marshall Eakin (History), Cathy

Jrade (Spanish and Portuguese), General and Artistic Director of the Nashville Opera John Hoopes, and Nashville artist Jorge Yances. Additional events included the screening and discussion of two films (*House of the Spirits* and *Love in the Time of Cholera*), a visual arts exhibit featuring magical realism, and an Osher Lifelong Learning Institute Series with discussions of the production of *Florencia*, the country of Brazil, and Nashville's immigrant community. In early January, CLAS affiliate faculty Richard Pace (Anthropology, MTSU) led a workshop for K–6 educators on the geography of the Amazon and culture of its inhabitants.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT LAS MAJORS CAN OBTAIN AN M.A. WITH JUST ONE ADDITIONAL YEAR OF STUDY?

Latin American Studies 4+1 program allows undergraduate students to obtain a B.A. and M.A. in LAS in five years. Requirements for the program are:

- An undergraduate major in LAS
- Completion of LAS 201 and 290 during the undergraduate years
- Application to the 4+1 program in the student's junior year

Students are also required to write a thesis as part of the program.

If you are considering the 4+1 program, consult with LAS Advisor Frank Robinson as early as possible. Applications consist of a letter of intent, a copy of college transcripts, and the names of two Vanderbilt faculty to be consulted as references.



## BRAZILIAN STUDIES READING GROUP

The Brazilian Studies Reading Group is a graduate student-led seminar funded by the Robert Penn Warren Center (RPWC) that provides a forum for topics related to contemporary Brazil. Seminar coordinators for 2014–15 are Fernanda Bretones Lane (History), Daniel O'Maley (Anthropology), and Laura Sellers (Political Science). This year, the discussion will focus on the broad theme of "Citizenship and the Nation." Spring 2015 speakers include:

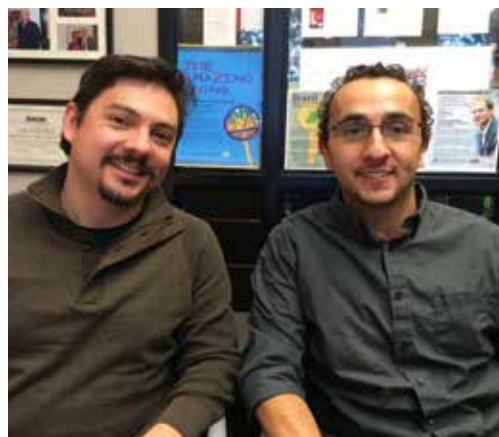
- **Mira Kohl** (Latin American Studies, Tulane University) "The Sweatshop and the Marketplace: Social Spaces of Bolivian Migration in São Paulo." Friday, January 16 at noon, Buttrick 162.
- **Jay Sosa** (Anthropology, University of Chicago) "Political Disorientation: São Paulo Activism in Queer Times." Co-sponsored by CLAS. Thursday, January 29 at noon, RPWC.
- **Melissa Teixeira** (History, Princeton University) "Experiments in Interwar Constitutionalism: The diffusion of legal ideas and constitutional projects between Portugal and Brazil." Thursday, February 19 at noon, RPWC.
- **Marcio Bahia** (Spanish and Portuguese, Vanderbilt University) "The Periphery Rises: Technology and Cultural Legitimization in Belém's Tecnobrega." Wednesday, February 25 at noon, RPWC.
- **Christopher Dunn** (Spanish and Portuguese, Tulane University) "Black Rio: The Brazilian Soul Movement of the 1970s." Thursday, March 19 at 4 p.m., Buttrick 102. The next day, he will meet with the Brazilian Studies Reading Group to discuss his paper, "The Sweetest Barbarians: Brazilian Counterculture and Baianidade," at noon in Buttrick 123. Co-sponsored by CLAS and the Department of Spanish & Portuguese.
- **Max Pendergraph** (History, Vanderbilt University) "A Cause for Reflection: Imagining Brazil at 100 Years of Independence." Thursday, April 2 at noon, RPWC.
- **Daniel O'Maley** (Anthropology, Vanderbilt University) "Brazilian Internet Freedom Activism: Participatory Democracy and the Future of the Global Net." Thursday, April 9 at noon, RPWC.

## Announcing the Founding of the Latin American and Caribbean Vanderbilt Student Association

In January 2015, a group of graduate students founded the Latin American and Caribbean Vanderbilt Student Association when they realized there was no school-wide student association that gathered people from the historical and geographical region of Mexico, Central America, the Caribbean Islands, and South America. Known as LACS, the group seeks to serve as a network for its members to share their experiences at Vandy, provide support for new and existing international students from the region, and make themselves visible at Vanderbilt and in the Nashville area.

The founders of the organization, Alejandro Arango (Philosophy), Rafael Montenegro (Chemistry), Jimmy Medina (Spanish and Portuguese), and Gloria Pérez (Anthropology) are working with the organization's adviser, José Cárdenas Bunsen, to ensure LACS has a long and productive life. They welcome all students, postdocs, and

visiting scholars who identify themselves as Latin American and Caribbean, regardless of citizenship, as well as those who are interested or passionate about the region. Find them at: [anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/lacs](http://anchorlink.vanderbilt.edu/organization/lacs).



Alejandro Arango and Rafael Montenegro

## Area Studies

### Midwest Conference on Andean and Amazonian Archaeology and Ethnohistory

Vanderbilt's Department of Anthropology, together with CLAS, hosted the 43rd Annual Midwest Conference on Andean and Amazonian Archaeology and Ethnohistory from February 28 to March 2 at Vanderbilt. Inaugurated in 1974, the conference moves from university to university each year; this was the second time that Vanderbilt has hosted it. This year's conference convened a large and diverse group of scholars presenting their research on a wide array of topics, from archaeological investigation of early prehispanic times to ethnohistorical analyses of the colonial encounter in the Andes and Amazonia. Clark Erickson (University of Pennsylvania) was the keynote speaker. More information is available at: [vanderbilt.edu/midwest](http://vanderbilt.edu/midwest).

### Midwest Mesoamericanists Meetings

The Midwest Mesoamericanists Meetings bring together archaeologists, ethnographers, art historians, and other scholars interested in the history and culture of the Mesoamerican region, emphasizing the presentation of current and ongoing research. The 2015 meetings were held at Middle Tennessee State University in Murfreesboro, Tennessee on March 6 and 7 ([mtsu.edu/midwestmeso](http://mtsu.edu/midwestmeso)).

The meetings began on the afternoon of Friday, March 6, with a keynote presentation by the distinguished archaeologist Patricio Davila Cabrera, followed by a reception at MTSU and a party at the home of Professor Andrew Wyatt. Papers were presented all day on Saturday, March 7, on the MTSU campus, followed by a reception at Vanderbilt University and a night out for some food and honky tonkin' in Nashville.

The Midwest Mesoamericanists Meetings have been held annually for more than a quarter century, and they have provided a forum for Mesoamerican scholars from throughout the Midwest to share information on current

## Area Studies cont.

research projects. The meetings occur in an informal atmosphere, as presenters are encouraged to make unscripted presentations, and allow more time for questions and answers. The goal is to create a more collaborative atmosphere where presenters can discuss ongoing research and receive feedback from their colleagues.

Because the meetings were held this year in the Middle Tennessee region, an informal theme of the conference was to explore the relationship between the people and cultures of Mesoamerica and the Southeastern U.S. To complement this theme, we hosted a keynote presentation by Patricio Davila Cabrera, a distinguished researcher from Mexico who has spent much of his career researching in the Huasteca, a much understudied area of Mesoamerica.

### Circum-Atlantic Studies

Founded in 2001, the Circum-Atlantic Seminar meets to discuss works-in-progress by seminar participants and invited guests. The scholarship is interdisciplinary and centers on themes related to Atlantic slavery, colonialism, and/or postcolonialism. Broadly conceived, the works link Africa, Europe, the Americas, and the Caribbean. The seminar is sponsored by the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities at Vanderbilt and CLAS. The spring 2015 speakers series includes:

- **James Sanders**, a Colombianist at Utah State, spoke on January 22 on his new book, *The Vanguard of the Atlantic World: Creating Modernity, Nation, and Democracy in Nineteenth-Century Latin America* (Duke University Press, 2014).
- **Mariza Carvalho de Soares**, Universidade Federal Fluminense, spoke on "Friendship and Diplomacy Between Portugal and Dahomey in the Era of the Atlantic Slave Trade" on April 6.
- **Molly Warsh**, from the University of Pittsburgh, spoke on "American Baroque: Pearls and the Nature of Empire, 1492–1700" on April 1.

## Students to Latin America for Spring Break

Contributed by Jordan Holland

In March 2015, Project Pyramid sent student groups to four international sites over spring break, including two project groups to Guatemala. Project Pyramid is a student-led organization at the Owen Graduate School of Management devoted to the alleviation of poverty through socially conscious business practices. During the spring semester, multidisciplinary student teams experience the Project Pyramid curriculum and work with social enterprises around the globe, including a site visit.

Two teams visited Guatemala over spring break. One team worked with coffee organizations in both Guatemala and stateside in order to help alleviate the business barriers for small producers of coffee in Guatemala. The group researched the infrastructure and informational

asymmetries in the current small-holding system and worked on developing a market-based approach to connect microasters to the Guatemalan small-holding farmer market.

The second Guatemala team worked with Primeros Pasos, a nonprofit clinic in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. In an effort to help Primeros Pasos establish new funding streams, the team researched potential donor candidates for specific clinic initiatives. They also developed a marketing strategy with pitch materials for Primeros Pasos to use when soliciting additional funding.

All of Project Pyramid's groups are interdisciplinary and include teams from Owen, Peabody College of Education, the Graduate Program in Economic Development, School of Nursing, Divinity School, and Law School.

## Alumni Reception in São Paulo

In October, CLAS, the Owen Graduate School of Management, and the Provost's Office held a reception in São Paulo for Vanderbilt alumni. Rosenberg and Associates hosted the reception at their Jardins offices. Luis Paolo Rosenberg and José Savasini treated their guests to a traditional churrasco with cold chopp (draft beer). More than 15 Vanderbilt alumni, as well as a group of 20 Owen students on a faculty-led trip in Brazil, Vanderbilt undergraduate students spending a semester abroad in Brazil, former Humphrey Fellows, and representatives from CLAS attended the festive reception. Attendees enjoyed networking and swapping stories about

Vanderbilt. This reception builds on a previous one in 2014, for which a delegation of Vanderbilt leaders traveled to São Paulo. The next reception is planned for October 2015.

The reception was part of a larger trip, in which CLAS met with the International Office at the Universidade de São Paulo to discuss organizing a workshop to feature and inspire research collaborations between Vanderbilt and USP faculty. The workshop is slated for October 2015 to coincide with the next alumni reception. While in São Paulo, CLAS also met with colleagues at the Lemann Foundation and the Fundação Instituto de Administração.



## Announcing the CLAS Book Series



VANDERBILT  
UNIVERSITY PRESS



Center for Latin  
American Studies

Vanderbilt University Press and the Vanderbilt Center for Latin American Studies announce the establishment of the **CLAS Book Series**, examining all aspects of Latin American life & culture. All inquiries should be directed to Ted Fischer, CLAS Director ([edward.f.fischer@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:edward.f.fischer@vanderbilt.edu)) or Eli Bortz, VUP Acquisitions Editor ([eli.bortz@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:eli.bortz@vanderbilt.edu)).

Inaugural volume in the  
**CLAS Book Series:**  
*Anti-Drug Policies in Colombia:  
Successes, Failures, and Wrong Turns*  
Edited by Alejandro Gaviria &  
Daniel Mejía  
\$65.00 • Forthcoming

## Other Latin American Studies titles coming out in 2015 from Vanderbilt UP

*Black Writing, Culture,  
and the State in Latin  
America*  
Edited by Jerome C.  
Branche  
\$24.95



*Nineteenth-Century  
Spanish America:  
A Cultural History*  
Christopher Conway  
\$24.95



*In and Of the  
Mediterranean:  
Medieval and Early  
Modern Iberian  
Studies*  
Edited by Michelle  
M. Hamilton & Núria  
Silleras-Fernández  
\$34.95



*Practically Invisible:  
Coastal Ecuador,  
Tourism, and the  
Politics of Authenticity*  
Kimbra Smith  
\$55.00



*Popular Politics and  
Rebellion in Mexico:  
Manuel Lozada & La  
Reforma, 1855-1876*  
Zachary Brittsan  
\$55.00



*The Man Who Wrote  
Pancho Villa: Martín  
Luis Guzmán and  
the Politics of Life  
Writing*  
Nicholas Cifuentes-  
Goodbody  
\$55.00



*Nicaragua and the  
Politics of Utopia:  
Development and  
Culture in the Modern  
State*  
Daniel Chávez  
\$65.00



*Empire's End:  
Transnational  
Connections in the  
Hispanic World*  
Edited by Akiko  
Tsuchiya & William  
G. Acree Jr.  
\$34.95



Order from any bookseller or call our toll-free number at 800-627-7377.  
For ebook pricing and other information, visit us at [www.vanderbiltuniversitypress.com](http://www.vanderbiltuniversitypress.com).

## "Historical Archaeology in South America" Series

The practice of historical archaeology in South America has increased dramatically in the last two decades. To help disseminate the exciting work produced by historical archaeologists across the continent, a new book series from the University of Alabama Press co-edited by Vanderbilt's Jacob Sauer (Anthropology) with Pedro P. Funari aims to present the theoretical and methodological advancements being made through holistic approaches to studies of the post-1492 era. Drawing on the documentary record and ethnographic information and emphasizing archaeological investigations, books published in this series will highlight the interconnected nature of archaeological investigation in South America and its applicability to other parts of the world. For more information and manuscript submission queries, contact Pedro P. Funari ([ppfunari@uol.com.br](mailto:ppfunari@uol.com.br)) or Jacob J. Sauer ([jacob.j.sauer@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jacob.j.sauer@vanderbilt.edu)).

## CLAS INVITES NOMINATIONS FOR 2015-2016 VISITING RESOURCE PROFESSORS

The Visiting Resource Professor program funds two distinguished Latin American scholars, politicians, or writers per year to come to Vanderbilt for approximately four weeks to participate in a graduate seminar and to interact more widely with V.U. students. (We may also consider nominations for an advanced undergraduate seminar.)

Candidates for the Visiting Resource Professorship must be nominated by a member of the Vanderbilt faculty who will integrate the VRP into a seminar and who will work with CLAS to host the VRP and coordinate the professorship. Nomination is open to faculty from any department or school. In the nomination, the faculty member should demonstrate how the scholar will contribute to a course s/he is teaching during the semester for which the VRP is sought. The VRP will be in charge of a designated number of seminar sessions; during those sessions, the seminar should be opened to students from other departments and programs with an interest. In departments where students have sufficient proficiency in Spanish or Portuguese, the class should be conducted in that language to promote a "languages across the curriculum" approach. We especially encourage the nomination of scholars whose work transcends several disciplines, making the proposed seminars compelling for students in related fields. Previous VRPs have included Mexican migration expert Jorge Durand, father of Latin American cultural studies Jesús Martín-Barbero, and Chilean filmmaker Alberto Fuguet.

CLAS now welcomes expressions of interest in the VRP program for fall 2015 and spring 2016 professorships. Please contact Ted Fischer ([edward.f.fischer@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:edward.f.fischer@vanderbilt.edu)) or Avery Dickins de Girón ([avery.dickins-degiron@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:avery.dickins-degiron@vanderbilt.edu)) to discuss possible nominees and how they would fit into the program.

## Third Wave Coffee Movement Focus of Vanderbilt Discussion

The Vanderbilt Institute for Coffee Studies hosted two events in February 2015. The first, “Quality and Inequality: a panel discussion about current trends in specialty coffee research,” brought together coffee trade researchers to examine the impacts of the high-end specialty coffee industry on fair trade and labor. Panelists included Sarah Lyon, associate professor of anthropology at University of Kentucky; Sarah Grant, a postdoctoral student at Hendrix College; Linda Asturias, an anthropological consultant to small coffee producers in Guatemala; and Michael Ripps, owner of Jittery Joe’s specialty coffee in Athens, Georgia. Panelists discussed links between fair trade, direct trade and quality, and the dynamics of emerging specialty coffee markets. The panel attracted a large crowd, many of whom are part of the coffee industry and are interested in Nashville’s third wave coffee movement. A reception hosted by CLAS and local coffee shop Crema offered participants the chance to taste local specialty coffee before the panel discussion.

On February 22, the Institute for Coffee Studies partnered with Music City Baroque and Bongo Java Roasting Co. to host a coffee concert. Nashville’s premier Baroque ensemble explored music and coffee house culture of the eighteenth century with



J.S. Bach’s comical “Coffee Cantata” and performed music of his contemporaries on period instruments. The concert was held at the Bongo Java roasting facility in the Gulch.

Housed in CLAS, the Vanderbilt Institute for Coffee Studies was established in 1999 and is dedicated to promoting anthropological,

historical, sociological, literary, and economic research into coffee production and consumption. It also seeks to disseminate research findings and promote educational exchange and economic development programs with partner nations and to investigate the health effects of coffee consumption.

### MEXICAN STUDIES GROUP



Co-sponsored by the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities and the Center for Latin American Studies, the Mexican Studies Group (MSG) brings together faculty and graduate students from a variety of disciplines to discuss in-progress work authored by members and invited scholars from beyond Vanderbilt. MSG aims to raise the profile of research related to Mexico on our campus. For the spring semester, MSG has organized a symposium called “Mexico on the Verge: Students, the State, and the Histories of Current Crisis.” The conference took place on Friday, March 13, 11a.m.–4 p.m. and included the following presentations:

- **Tanalís Padilla** (Dartmouth College): “When they Took Away Socialist Education: Preserving a Collective Consciousness in Mexico’s Rural *Normales*.”
- **Alex Aviña** (Florida State University): “An Unprecedented Experiment in Military Governance: Counterinsurgency, State Formation, and the Rise of a Transnational Narcotics Economy in 1970s Guerrero.”
- **Jaime Pensado** (University of Notre Dame): “Young Martyrs in Revolution: Liberación, Armed Struggle, and the Latin Americanization of Catholic Students in Late 1960s Mexico.”

On Thursday, April 9 at 4 p.m., **César Burgos** (University of California, Berkeley) will discuss his new research on “El narcocorrido como una expresión musical transnacional.”

## InDigital Latin America Conference: March 26–28

Indigenous peoples throughout the world are using new digital technologies to fight for environmental and cultural rights. Prime examples are native Kayapó filmmakers from Brazil, three of whom headlined a public conference on the rapidly expanding use of digital media by Latin American indigenous people at Vanderbilt University March 26–28.

Organized by Professor of Anthropology at Middle Tennessee State University Richard Pace and CLAS, the InDigital Latin American Conference covered indigenous filmmaking as well as indigenous engagement with radio, television, DVDs, photography, social media, and more. Presentations addressed media production and consumption in Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, and Ecuador.

"Through this conference, we are able to link research, teaching, and public outreach, and explore a topic of global importance at the same time," said CLAS Director Ted Fischer.

The conference was co-sponsored by CLAS and Middle Tennessee State University (MTSU), along with Vanderbilt's Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy and the Department of Anthropology. A K–12 teacher workshop was held on March 26 preceding the opening reception in the Sarratt Gallery. A related art exhibit featuring Kayapó photographs, films, and beadwork will be on display in the Sarratt Gallery through April 10.

"Shooting for Survival in the Amazon" was shown in the Vanderbilt Central Library Community Room, where Kayapó filmmakers screened some of their recent work and participated in an open discussion.

"In the 1990s Kayapó videographers from the Brazilian Amazon began producing short films to document their society's struggles for land, rainforest preservation, and cultural

survival," said Richard Pace, professor of anthropology at MTSU and an affiliated professor with CLAS. Pace noted that by 2010, a new generation of Kayapó videographers had begun to emerge. The younger videographers are respectful of tradition, but are seeking to capture new cultural innovations as the Kayapó engage the outside world.

"Whether it is a 'Miss Kayapó' beauty contest held at a Brazilian country fair or an intertribal demonstration in a faraway city to protest the construction of a hydroelectric dam, the videographers are there to film," Pace said. "These latter films embody cultural hybridity, or cultural invention, which refracts and recombines elements from multiple cultures. Through innovative processes of reconfiguration, integration, and juxtaposition, the productions consistently challenge Western notions of aesthetic composition and broaden the possibilities of representation."



Brazilian videographers Krakrax Kayapó, Benepu Kayapó, and Kiabieti Metuktire showed works produced on their own village-based laptop editing suites as part of the Goeldi Museum media project and the Kayapó Video Project.

Glenn H. Shepard Jr., senior researcher at the Goeldi Museum, and Terence Turner, professor emeritus of anthropology at the University of Chicago, accompanied them for the presentation, translated for the Kayapó filmmakers, and discussed Kayapó cultural survival and current events in the Brazilian Amazon.

Turner, who is also a visiting professor at Cornell, has worked with the Kayapó since 1962 and made ethnographic films for the British Broadcasting Company and Granada Television International. He founded the Kayapó Video Project, through which the Kayapó have learned to shoot and edit videos about their own culture and encounters with Brazilian society. Turner worked with Kiabieti on the original Video in the Villages project, a pioneer project in the field of indigenous filmmaking in Brazil.

Shepard Jr. is a filmmaker, media anthropologist, medical anthropologist, and ethnobotanist. He received an Emmy for his work on "Spirits of the Rainforest," which surveys biological and anthropological research in Manu National Park in Peru. Shepard currently directs the Kayapó Film Initiative through the Goeldi Museum.

Other highlights of the conference included a keynote address by Faye Ginsburg, director of the Center for Media, Culture and History at New York University. Ginsburg, who is also the David B. Kriser Professor of Anthropology, has been writing about and curating with indigenous media producers since 1988. She began her research on indigenous media and cultural activism in central Australia and has hosted many visiting indigenous filmmakers from all over the world at the NYU Center for Media, Culture and History. She is completing a book called *Mediating Culture: Indigenous Identity in a Digital Age*.

## CLAS Awarded Tinker Foundation Grant to Fund Graduate Summer Research

CLAS received a three-year institutional grant from the Tinker Foundation to establish a Tinker Field Research Grants program to fund graduate research. These grants support field research and travel to Latin America. Preference is given to doctoral students in the early stages of their research, but exploratory and language study may also be funded. Annual Tinker funds of \$10,000 will be matched equally by university funds. CLAS

anticipates awarding an average of 10 graduate students with Tinker funding each year, with \$2,000 as the maximum award.

Edward Larocque Tinker (1881–1968) created the Tinker Foundation in 1959 in memory of his wife Frances McKee Tinker, his father Henry Champlin Tinker, and his grandfather Edward Greenfield Tinker. He was convinced that the future freedom and prosperity of the peoples of the Americas

depended upon their mutual trust, friendship, and cooperation, and it was in that spirit that the foundation was established.

Graduate students from across Vanderbilt are encouraged to apply; the deadline for application is in early February of each year with awards announced by early March. More information is available on the CLAS website: [vanderbilt.edu/clas/funding-opportunities/student-summer-awards](http://vanderbilt.edu/clas/funding-opportunities/student-summer-awards).

## LIBRARY NEWS

Contributed by Paula Covington

The library has recently received two very special collections relating to Colombia, thanks to the generosity of Professor J. León Helguera. One includes correspondence to and from Tomás Cipriano de Mosquera during his presidency in the mid-nineteenth century. Mosquera was a Colombian general who was a four-time president of Colombia, first serving as president of Nueva Granada. In December, Dartmouth student Sarah DeLozier volunteered her time during winter term to help organize and process the collection and began preliminary research for the accompanying guide. The second collection is a treasure trove of eighteenth and nineteenth-century publications and documents from Pasto, Colombia. Even though it remained isolated geographically, Pasto had been a political and religious center of Colombia since the sixteenth century. Many of these



Fernanda Bretones Lane and Gretchen Selcke are in the process of completing their Colombian focused Dean's Fellow project. In the next few weeks, selected correspondence

items are unique and will enhance Vanderbilt's already significant Colombian collection.

to and from Manuel Zapata Olivella and corresponding essays relating to his novels, Afro-Colombian identity, and the Congresses on black culture he organized will soon be available digitally with open access. This will be a boon to researchers in Colombia as well as those who have inquired about access to the MZO collection from England, Brazil, and many other locations.

In December, Paula Covington attended the Guadalajara Feria Internacional del Libro, the largest book fair in Latin America. She was able to purchase materials from Cuba, Central America, and Brazil in addition to her focus on Mexican resources. Paula does an outstanding job finding relevant materials on current research by student and faculty request, and we are lucky to have her as our LAS bibliographer. She finds her work gratifying and notes the widespread interest across campus on Mexico, from issues relating to Aztec bioarcheology to health and energy reforms to remittances to theater history. In February, she traveled to Guatemala on one of her annual book-buying trips.

—Avery Dickins de Girón

## New Digital Initiative Brings Haitian Creole and Tibetan to Vanderbilt

As part of Vanderbilt's new digital learning initiative, the College of Arts & Science (with support from CLAS, the Department of Anthropology, and the Office of the Provost) will offer K'iche' Mayan to students at Duke University and the University of Virginia beginning in fall 2015. In exchange, Vanderbilt students will have the opportunity to study Haitian Creole and Tibetan. A simultaneous interface will bring

students together through Vanderbilt's new digital classroom, which will be outfitted over the summer. Mareike Sattler (Anthropology) currently teaches K'iche' Mayan at Vanderbilt and looks forward to having students from other universities in her virtual classroom. Faculty at Duke will lead the Haitian Creole course, and UVa will offer Tibetan. Instructors and students from Vanderbilt will facilitate the Creole and Tibetan classes. The initiative is

important for less and least commonly taught languages (LCTLs), or "orchid languages" as Sattler describes them, which often struggle for enrollments. Programs through similar institutional partnerships have met with success in increasing enrollments and interest in LCTL languages; we hope this will be the first of many additions to Vanderbilt's language offerings.

## FIPSE E-Book Published

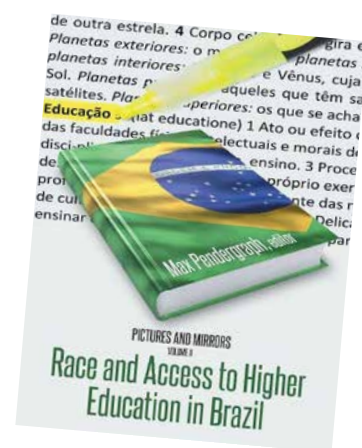
Submitted by Max Pendergraph

The collection *Pictures and Mirrors, Vol. 2: Race and Access to Higher Education in Brazil* edited by Vanderbilt doctoral candidate Max Pendergraph (History) is the product of the hard work and vision of Professor Jane Landers at Vanderbilt University, along with her colleagues, Professors Marshall Eakin and Celso Castilho, who helped to administer a multi-year grant from the United States Department of Education—the Fund for the Improvement of Post-Secondary Education.

The book is organized around two primary themes at the forefront of contemporary

Brazilian studies: "Brazilian Race Relations in Historical Perspective" and "Access to Quality Higher Education in Brazil." Each author in the collection was a recipient of a FIPSE grant and spent substantial time in Brazil performing research that informs the work and continues to influence their research and professional activities.

The e-book is available at: [lulu.com/content/e-book/pictures-and-mirrors-volume-two-race-and-access-to-higher-education-in-brazil/15550670](http://lulu.com/content/e-book/pictures-and-mirrors-volume-two-race-and-access-to-higher-education-in-brazil/15550670)



# LAPOP Publishes Impact Evaluation of USAID's Crime and Violence Prevention Approach in Central America

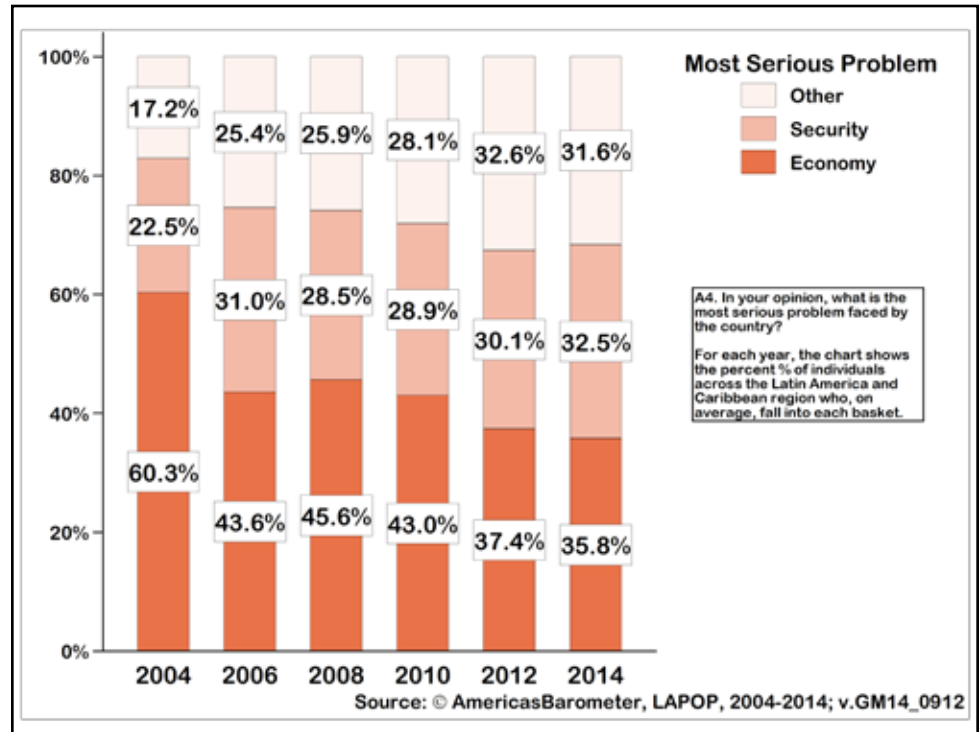


Contributed by Emily Saunders

Citizens of the Americas feel increasingly insecure, and community-based crime prevention programs offer one channel through which to combat this challenge. The Latin American Public Opinion Project drew these conclusions at the end of 2014 via, respectively, the latest AmericasBarometer regional survey and a multicountry impact evaluation of the effectiveness of community-oriented programming. In early December, LAPOP released the 2014 AmericasBarometer report and data from 27 countries and nearly 50,000 interviews. Also toward the end of 2014, LAPOP published a report on its Impact Evaluation of USAID's Crime and Violence Prevention Approach in Central America.

The AmericasBarometer data and report releases were marked by events at the Americas Society/Council of the Americas in New York City, the Inter-American Dialogue in Washington, D.C., and Florida International University in Miami. These events were attended by policymakers, academics, and press and have been widely reported. For more information on the 2014 round of AmericasBarometer and to download the comparative report, "The Political Culture of Democracy in the Americas, 2014: Democratic Governance through 10 years of the AmericasBarometer," please visit [vanderbilt.edu/lapop/studies-year.php](http://vanderbilt.edu/lapop/studies-year.php)

The results of the impact evaluation,



which took place over five years across four countries, were received with enthusiasm in the policy and diplomatic communities. The release of the general report on the study was marked by events in October at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C., and in November at a hemisphere-wide conference hosted by USAID and the World Bank in Antigua,

Guatemala. To access the impact evaluation report, please visit [vanderbilt.edu/lapop/carsi-study.php](http://vanderbilt.edu/lapop/carsi-study.php)

LAPOP will continue to disseminate information on these studies, in particular via country-specific reports into 2015. We encourage you to visit the project website, [lapopsurveys.org](http://lapopsurveys.org) to learn more!



## CLAS EVENTS SPRING 2015

### January 9

*Art in Motion: Guayasamin's Ecuador Unframed* Exhibit Opening

### January 10

K-16 Teacher Workshop: *Art in Motion: Guayasamin's Ecuador Unframed*

### January 15

K-16 Teacher Workshop: *Florencia en el Amazonas* at Nashville Opera

### January 23

"The Hip Hop Family Album"  
Talk by Dr. Rhonda Collier  
(Tuskegee University)

### February 4

Dinner and a Movie with  
Humphrey Fellow Libni Guardado,  
*Who is Dayani Cristal?*

### February 12

Quality and Inequality: Panel  
Discussion of Current Trends in  
Specialty Coffee

### February 22

Music City Baroque presents  
Bach's "Coffee Cantata"  
at Bongo Java

### February 27–March 1

Midwest Conference on Andean  
and Amazonian Archaeology

### March 6–7

Midwest Conference on  
Mesoamerican Archaeology  
and Ethnohistory

### March 10–April 10:

InDigital Latin America Exhibit  
in Sarratt Gallery

### March 11

Latin America Trivia Night  
at the Vanderbilt Pub

### March 13

Mexico on the Verge Conference,  
organized by the Mexican Studies  
Group

### March 16

Festa Junina

### March 26–28

InDigital Latin America  
Conference

### March 26

Opening Reception for InDigital  
Latin America and *Shooting for  
Survival* screening and discussion  
with Kayapó filmmakers

### March 27

InDigital Latin America Keynote  
with Faye Ginsburg



*InDigital* Latin America Conference, see page 13.

### April 24–25

Professional Development  
Workshop with Tuskegee Univer-  
sity—Zora Neale Hurston: Health  
and Spirituality in the Caribbean  
and U.S. South

### June 7–18

Summer in Costa Rica: Language,  
Social Justice, and Service

### June 13–July 25

Portuguese Language and Brazil-  
ian Culture Summer Program in  
São Paulo

### June 14–18

K–16 Summer Institute: Somos  
Nós: Teaching Afro-Brazilian  
Identity at Tulane University

### June 14–July 25

Oxlajuj Iq: Mayan Language  
Institute Summer 2015

### July 12–16

Latin America Through Film 2015  
at the University of Kentucky



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