We began drafting this note on the eve of big changes, both at Fordham and in the United States. While on the national level the status quo was confirmed, on the university level changes are still in the offing. Under the new president, Father Joseph McShane, the University is undertaking an ambitious strategic planning process with input from every department and program. LALSI, working with other departments, is contemplating possibilities for the future. Our undergraduate program is well-established and thriving. We offer new courses, attract new faculty, and work with first-rate students. What can the future hold? An expanded graduate program interests all of us. LALSI has offered a graduate certificate since last year but our goal is to offer eventually a full-fledged master’s program. To do so we need to offer more graduate courses; while we regularly do so through History and Sociology, we need to involve faculty from other departments like Spanish. Right now we are discussing how to get to that point – by next year we should have a clearer idea.

As we have noted before in these pages, Dr. Armando Cruz-Malavé has organized a dynamic and successful graduate course taught at the Casa de las Américas in Havana. Summer 2004 was the last trip there for Fordham students, perhaps for the foreseeable future. One of the changes in American politics that directly affects Fordham and LALSI has been the tightening of travel restrictions between Cuba and the U.S. by the Bush administration. Under the new rules, it is increasingly difficult for Americans to study and teach in Cuba, while Cubans are also having a more difficult time coming to this country. Colleagues have told us that the entire Cuban delegation – some 60 or more scholars – was denied permission to attend the Latin American Studies Association meeting in Las Vegas this year. Apparently, this deadlock in Cuba-U.S. relations will remain in place for the next four years.

Christopher Schmidt-Nowara and Elizabeth Penry
Faculty News

Dr. O. Hugo Benavides (Anthropology) Dr. Benavides' book, Making Ecuadorian Histories: Four Centuries of Defining Power, was recently published over the summer by University of Texas Press. He is currently working on a second book manuscript on the politics of sentiment at the turn of the century in Guayaquil, Ecuador. At the recent LASA (Latin American Studies Association) meeting in Las Vegas, Hugo participated in three panels: an invited session by the SSRC (Social Science Research Council) on transnational flows, as a discussant on a panel on the Ecuadorian State and Citizenship, and gave another paper on transnational migration. He also will be giving a paper on cultural heritage titled, "The Heritage of Others: Dominance and the Archaeological Record," as well as participate in a workshop on providing resource to graduate anthropology Latin(o) students at the next AAA (American Anthropological Association) meetings in San Francisco, is late November. He also had had two recent publications in Spanish. The first, titled "Cochasqui y los feligreses de Inmaculada," to be published in Colombia’s Anthropological Institute Journal, Revista de la Sociedad Intermedia, The second publication is a commented article, "Los ríos de la agrarianiedad: Pasado, indígena y el estado ecuatoriano," in the first edition of the Journal of South American Archaeology funded by the World Archaeology Congress.

Dr. Susan Burger (Political Science) is the coordinator of the Guatemala Scholar Network, an international organization linking scholars and activists working on an in Guatemala. In her capacity as GSN coordinator, she edits the organization’s newsletter four times a year. Her article “Guatemala’s 1996 Constitution and Democracy,” is in Struggles for Social Rights in Latin America (Routledge). Her book, on the Guatemalan women’s movement is forthcoming from University of Texas Press in Spring 2005.

Dr. Rafael Lamas (Spanish) reports: "Paul un verano estupendo en Madrid investigando sobre la cumbre de la iluminación, ya que me diaron la Faculty Research Grant. También puedo que interese que vaya a dar un concierto en el Well Hall a Carnegie Hall el 7 de noviembre. Es un concierto de piano y canto donde tocaré como solista y acompañaré a unos cantantes (obras de Alem, Beethoven, Chopin entre otros)."

Dr. Héctor Linda-Fuentes (History) is in atubal exchange for the 2004-05 academic year. He organized the political history session of the Seventh Conference of Central American Historians held in Tegucigalpa, Honduras in July. He spent six weeks doing research at UNESCO headquarters in Paris for his educational television project. He is now in El Salvador conducting interviews and doing archival work for the same project.

Dr. Glenda Marín (Spanish) delivered a presentation of her latest book Eduardo L. Hoehnberg: Guerra y tres olas de otras memorias e inéditas (1872-1913) at the XXXV International Congress of Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana, Universidad de Poitiers, France, June 27-31, 2004.

Dr. Elizabeth Perry (History) traveled to Buenos Aires in August to work in the Archivo General de la Nación. Beginning in 1773 and up until independence, Buenos Aires was the capital of the Viceroyalty of Río de La Plata which included all of modern Bolivia, one major focus of Dr. Perry's research. Dr. Perry used a document from the AGN as the focal point for her presentation, "Crown and Commons in the Spanish Trans-Atlantic World" given at the Latin American Studies Association meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada in early October. This document, a 1673 copy of a document originally placed in an Indian town in 1575, outlines how the Spanish understood their political actions in colonial Peru. Defending themselves as bringing liberty to oppressed people who had been governed by tyrants (in this case the Inca), the document has a surprisingly modern ring to it.

Dr. Moacir River-Mindel (Psychology) delivered a paper in November to the Department of Psychology Colloquium entitled "Neurobehavioral Outcomes of HIV + Hispanics."

Dr. Christopher Schmidt-Newbark (History) received tenure and promotion to Associate Professor over the same year. Like Dr. Lamas, he spent a wonderful summer in Madrid, doing research on Spain’s relations with Haiti and the Dominican Republic in the nineteenth century, the findings of which he will present to a meeting on Caribbean history at the University of Colgate (Canada) in December. In October, he presented a paper on slow emancipation in Latin America to the symposium "Beyond the Line: Atlantic and Global Histories, 1500-2000" at SUNY buffalo. He is still celebrating the Red Sox victories over the Yankees and Cardinals.

Dr. Cynthia Vieh (Spanish) finished a paper on the work of the heroic poet Blanca Varela. This essay will be published in Peru in a book that will be a tribute to her life's work.

LALSI WELCOMES 2 NEW FACULTY MEMBERS:

Dr. Susan Norris (Anthropology) is an expert in the preconquest indigenous history and culture of the Americas. She has offered courses such as "Aztec, Inca, and Maya" and "Latin American Archaeology."

Dr. Norma Fuentes-Mayorga (Sociology) describes her research interests as: "Immigration, Urban Problems and Inequalities based on Gender, Class, Race and Ethnicity. I have also close to ten years research experience on housing and community health (HIV/AIDS/mental health and Homelessness) research in New York City, both at Teachers' College and the Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia University."
**STUDENT NEWS**

**Jorge Valles (FCRH ’04) shares with us his recent experience of working at Jet Blue Airways.**

On August 1, 2004, after a five and a half-hour flight to Long Beach, CA, I, in the eyes of the Federal Aviation Administration, qualified as an In-flight Crewmember for Jet Blue Airways. This flight was the culmination of not only a long and arduous training that took me to the Training Facilities of Airbus Industries in Miami, FL and New York’s JFK International Airport, but the materialization of a life-long dream of wanting to work in the aviation industry.

Since I was a little boy, I had been fascinated with the concept of flight. My interest was such that in early 2000 I began my flight training, with the hope of earning my Private Pilot’s license and someday becoming a pilot for a major commercial airline. However, as many economists (and air-line employees) can tell you, the aviation industry is very complex, and is affected by even the slightest upward or downward movement of the economy. In a post 911 world anything having to do with aviation seems to be going south.

Nevertheless, this was not enough to dampen my spirits and dreams of someday becoming a pilot; just a slight detour on my way to success. With graduation looming so close, I began looking for a job that would afford me the opportunity to work closely with pilots who could give valuable advice and mentor my aspiring pilot like myself, while at the same time gaining valuable experience with a major Airline. I also was looking for a company that would allow me to use the experiences and interests I had acquired as a Latin American/Latin studies and Spanish Language major at Fordham.

The search ended with a young, innovative, and very successful upstart, Jet Blue Airways. Jet Blue was looking to hire bilingual In-flight Crewmembers as they were expanding routes to Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. I quickly applied and two weeks later found myself having an eight-hour interview at Jet Blue headquarters. I successfully convinced the panel that my experience and studies made me an indispensable liaison between a company looking to expand into the Caribbean and Latin America, and its potential Latino customers. I was hired the next day.

Since then, I have had the opportunity to work many flights across the nation. The flights to the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, however, hold a special place in my heart. Looking back at what seems to be a whirlwind of events that have led up to this job, I definitely believe I owe my success to my experiences with the LALST program, which prepared me sufficiently to enter such a competitive industry. Although my dreams of becoming a pilot are still very much alive, I immensely enjoy my work as an In-flight Crewmember. I look forward to growing with Jet Blue and perhaps playing a larger role in some other capacity as it expands into the Latin American market.

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**Rosemary Ramsey (FCRH ’05) Discusses her recent experience with Casa de la Solidaridad**

In the Fall of 2003, I had the opportunity to study abroad in El Salvador with the Casa de la Solidaridad, a study abroad program with a service immersion component. In the four months I spent there, I immersed and learned in the Martinito cooperative, located in the small community of Suyapa. While I worked closely with the women of the sewing academy, among those in the dental clinic, and spent time with the group of scholarship students, I came to understand some of the obstacles faced by the cooperative. I was so inspired by my experience that I spent the following semester trying to figure out what I would like to do, but also to give something back.

For my return trip, I decided I could be of most use to the women in the sewing academy project. This group has been teaching women in Jordan how to sew for the past decade. They had always discussed the desire to retain some of their sewing graduates to support a small clothing shop or “mini-taller.” In reality, many of their graduates had moved on to clothing factories or stayed at home to sew independently.

After discussing a plan of action with the master seamstress Sophia and the scholarship students assigned to support the project; I returned to Jordan with my cousin, an experienced seamstress. With us, we brought a substantial amount of donated fabric, and a grant from Dean Von Arx. We worked for seven weeks over July and August, and at last June I talked to Sophia they had just finished the uniforms for the school band. This is their project now, and I am more than thrilled by their success.
Chrisy Lemmon and Jennifer Griffin (FCRH '04) write to us from Latin America, where they are currently working as volunteers.

Chrisy Lemmon (FCRH '04), is spending the next couple of years working with the Good Shepherd Volunteers Program in Lima, Peru. As a Women's Studies and LALS double major, Chrisy became aware of the social and economic struggles of developing nations, in particular those of Latin America. In addition, she had the opportunity to travel to El Salvador and Nicaragua with Global Outreach and Casa de la Solidaridad. These experiences coupled with her education at Fordham have made her dedicated to the cause of social justice. Chrisy will be volunteering in a women’s human rights center and a school. She is also participating in the Global Women’s Exchange Program (www.gwcw.org), a worldwide women’s initiative to achieve economic sustainability by selling homemade products.

Jennifer Griffin (FCRH '04), 2004 recipient of the Peter Claver S.J. award, is also working with the Good Shepherd Volunteers. She will spend the next two years in Lima, Peru working with children who are HIV positive and with teenaged mothers who have been abandoned by their families. According to Jennifer, her Fordham education as an Urban Studies and LALS double major, and her commitment to the Fordham community gave her the tools to think progressively and to strive for social change. These experiences made her view community service in global terms, and her need for “justice for all” is what has led her to pursue a path of international service.

Jennifer and Chrisy have kindly asked for our financial support. Their goal is to raise $4000 each to pay for food, housing, and travel for the next two years. Any contribution, no matter how small, is appreciated. Please make your checks payable to Good Shepherd Volunteers, writing Chrisy Lemmon or Jennifer Griffin is the memo line. The mailing address for Good Shepherd Volunteers is as follows: 337 East 17th Street, New York, New York 10003, Attn: Thomas Hollywood.

For additional information on how to contact Chrisy or Jennifer, or to learn more about the Good Shepherd Volunteers, please contact the LALS office.

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Angelo Rodriguez Research Prize Winners, 2003-04

1st Place: Richard Bailey, "El desarrollo endógeno de la comunidad cultural: Las ONG y la autoedición." (Nominated by Rousad Méndez-Clark)

2nd Place: Graciela Béz, "Estrategias del poder: Disciplina en El Campo de Grízelda Gambaro." (Nominated by Rafael Lamas)

Gascaro Issac, "Nos atrapó, nos deshumbra e estimula": Caseno Veloso and Tropcialism in Brazil and the World." (Nominated by Christopher Schmidt-Novara)

This award was initially established in 1990 by Professor Clara Rodriguez and was financed by royalties from her book The Puerto Rican Struggle: Essays on Survival in the United States. It provides for an annual $500 prize for original and significant work done in the field of Latino and Latin American Studies. All Fordham students are eligible. Faculty members nominate students based on the production of superior in-class work during the academic year.

The Rodriguez Award also receives the support of dedicated friends and alumni of Fordham’s Latin American and Latino Studies program, as well as others.

If you would like to make a donation, please make checks payable to:

The Angelo Rodriguez Award c/o Fordham University Office of Development and University Relations
113 West 60th Street
New York, NY 10023-7484

ATTN: Catherine Buscher, Director of Development, Arts and Science
Once again, Dr. Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé took a group of Fordham students to study for several weeks (July 9th - August 6th) at the prestigious Casa de las Americas in Havana, Cuba. Fordham hopes to return in summer 2005 with a small faculty group but new restrictions have made travel there more uncertain for American citizens. Dr. Cruz-Malave reports:

"By every standard and from every standpoint Fordham's second on-site course on the "Cultural History of Contemporary Cuba" was a great success.

The goal of [the course was to give] students an overview of the evolution of Cuban culture since the 1959 socialist revolution with an emphasis on the important role of culture during the current "special period" of economic reform and incorporation of mostly state-controlled capitalist ventures was richly accomplished. Through their participation in classroom discussions, and in discussions in and out of the classroom, and weekly papers submitted to me, students all indicated and proved to me that they had gained an impressive first-hand knowledge of the evolution of Cuban culture and of the harsh realities and contradictions faced by average Cubans during this current period of economic and ideological transition and crisis.

Students all affirmed that they had learned more in this course than in most of their previous courses not only because of the excellence of the program and of the lecturers but because they could also experience what they were reading about in their daily lives. [They also] judged the course to have been a life-altering experience; one that complicated their view of Cuba, of U.S.-Latin America relations, of capitalism and socialism as economic and political systems and of their life, career, and values. Lecturers were also unanimous in their positive assessment of our Fordham group.

[The lecturers] were singularly pleased with the way our students performed in their classes, with their willingness to question, with the care and sophistication with which they asked these questions, with their preparation prior to and for the course, and with their 'quality as human beings.' For the second time, our students not only compared favorably but outshone and outperformed students from other American universities taking courses at Casa, such as a group of students from UC Berkeley."
Some of the Lectures for the Fordham course in Havana

Aurelio Alonso, one of Cuba’s most important religious scholars, lectured on the history and evolution of Catholic and protestant religious practice in Cuba since the revolution.

Nancy Morejón, one of Latin America’s most important poets and director of Casa’s Center for Caribbean Studies, spoke on the evolution of Caribbean studies and on the evolution of her poetry.

Reina María Rodríguez, Cuba’s most influential contemporary poet, spoke on the development of Cuban poetry since ’80s and on her own evolution as a poet.

Luisa Campuzano, an internationally acclaimed literary scholar, director of the journal Revolución y Cultura and of the Center for the Study of Women, spoke on women’s writing during the “special period.”

Enrique Collina, an accomplished Cuban filmmaker, whose most recent film “Entre ciclones” premiered at Lincoln Center last September, lectured on social critique in Cuban cinema, with a focus on cinema in the ’90s.

Jorge Fornet, Director of the Center for Literary Research of Casa de las Américas, lectured on major literary themes since the Cuban revolution, with emphasis on the “special period.”

Liliana González, an important musicologist, spoke on social critique in contemporary Cuban musical styles and genres.

Denise Rondon, an important art critic, lectured on the representation of social issues in Cuban art, with an emphasis on issues of migration, gender, and race during the current “special period.”

Vivian Martinez Tobraos, one of Cuba’s most important theater critics, lectured on the evolution of Cuban theater with an emphasis on styles and themes in current Cuban theater.

Margaria Alarcón, a specialist on Cuban politics and U.S.-Cuba relations spoke on the embargo, migration policy, and the transformations of the Cuban constitution during the “special period.”

Hiran Marchetti, a well-known economist, spoke on the transformation of the Cuban economy during the revolutionary period and the present “special period.”

Reinaldo Funes, an award-winning environmental historián, lectured on Cuban agriculture and environmental policy during the revolutionary period and the current “special period.”
LALSI Events

LALSI is proud to sponsor and co-sponsor speakers and performers at both campuses each semester. Fall 2004 events included:

- Two speakers on Haitian history, in commemoration of the bicentennial of Haitian independence. Jean-Claude Martinesse, a poet and political activist, spoke on the long view of Haitian history and politics, including Haiti’s relations with the United States and Europe. Ada Ferrer, Associate Professor of History at NYU, presented work from her study of the impact of Haitian independence on Cuba in the nineteenth century. LALSI co-sponsored these talks with African and African-American Studies with support from a Challenge Grant from the Dean of the College at Lincoln Center.

- Also in celebration of Haiti’s Bicentennial, LALSI was honored to welcome La Troupe Makandal to Rose Hill once again. Hosted by Dr. Elizabeth Perry, students and faculty gathered to watch the group’s drum and dance repertory and to engage in a bit of it themselves. In the accompanying workshop, students and faculty had the opportunity to learn about Haitian history and culture through traditional Afro-Haitian music and dance.

- Dr. Clara Rodríguez (Sociology), helped bring to Fordham several speakers, whose topics of interest are relevant to her course, *Is Stereotyping in Film and Television Unavoidable?* Among these were:
  - Ray Bradford, National Director of the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (AFTRA)
  - Dr. Elizabeth Messina on “Italian-American Stereotypes in Film and Television”
  - Dr. Mari Castañeda Paredes, (University of Massachusetts) on “Re-Mapping Spanish Language Media in the US”

LALSI Celebrates *Dia de los Muertos*

Pictured above is our first annual altar for Dia de los Muertos. Although celebrated in some form across Latin America on either All Saints’ Day or All Souls’ Day (November 1 and 2), the Day of the Dead is most famously known as a Mexican celebration. It is commonly thought to blend both Christian and Aztec traditions. People honor their loved ones, or even celebrities, or folk heroes who have died by commemorating them on home altars. Our altar featured pictures of Pancho Villa and Che Guevara and was decorated with the traditional skeleton figures, candles, and bowls of dulces. Faculty and students were invited to remember their friends and relatives who had passed away.
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Winter 2005 Courses

Rose Hill Campus

ANRO 1100 Intro to Cultural Anthropology
ANRO 3351 Comparative Cultures
ECOC 3303 Economics of Emerging Nations
HISG 1400 Intro to Latin American History
HISU 3952 American Family History
HISU 3974 Andean History I
HISU 1220 Tradition of Storytelling
PORT 3909 Viñamata, Coba, JFC Annihilation
RSUV 3245 Theologies of Liberation
SOIL 3147 Social Change: Latin America
SOIL 3675 Latinx: Immigration / Inequality
SPUL 3802 Topics in Spanish American Culture
SPUL 3100 Approaches to Literature
SPUL 2461 Spanish Conversation and Comp.
SPUL 2602 Spanish Phonetics
SPUL 2603 Business Spanish II
SPUL 4001 Crime Fiction in Hispanic Literature
SPUL 3100 Literature of Discovery
SPUL 4401 Guata Loreen

Graduate Courses Open to Undergraduates

HIGA 5953 African American Women’s History

Wakimoto-Owens

Lincoln Center Campus

AALG 3644 Post-Colonial Literature in English
AALV 4650 Social Welfare and Society
CGOL 3800 Reading: Am. Culture through Film
ECOC 3303 Economics of Latin America
ECU 1336 International Economics
HISG 1400 Intro to Latin American History
HISU 3617 Age of Empire
HISU 4955 US and Latin America
LILL 2481 Latin American Pluralism
POLG 2503 Latin American Politics
POLG 3501 Third World Politics
POLG 2503 Latin American Politics
POLG 3501 Third World Politics
POUP 3408 Diversity in American Society
SOF 1670 Hispanic Women
SOFU 7140 Caribbean Literature and Film
SOFU 7140 Caribbean Literature and Film

Evening Courses

HIGE 1400 Intro to Latin American History
AALV 4650 Social Welfare and Society
SOIL 4017 Inequality in Latin America

THE LATIN AMERICAN & LATINO STUDIES CONCENTRATION

The Latin American and Latino Studies program integrates a series of courses in the humanities, social sciences, and arts designed to acquaint students with Latin America and the experience and cultural expressions of the Latin populations in the United States. The interdisciplinary approach aims at equipping students to the medieval, materials, and tools of various disciplines. The major provides students for graduate study and to enter the fields of international trade and finance, foreign service, teaching, publishing, and Hispanic media and communications.

The M.A. option consists of four courses: (a) an introductory course; (b) two courses from the social sciences; (c) two courses from the humanities; and (d) one upper elective in history, literature, or another related area. Pre-1950 Spanish is required. Students must write a senior thesis under the guidance of one of the program’s faculty members.

The B.A. option consists of six courses: (a) an introductory course; (b) two courses from the social sciences; (c) two courses from the humanities; and (d) one elective. Since language competency in Spanish is expected, majors and minors should take at least Latin American/Latino literature courses above the 200-level. Students are encouraged to study in Latin America.

Courses that fulfill college requirements may, where appropriate, be counted toward the major or minor. Students whose particular interests do not conform to the patterns of electives described above are encouraged to consult with the director or the associate director to work out a program more appropriate to their needs.

STUDYING ABROAD. Students interested in studying abroad usually do so in their junior year. Advisory services at Fordham ensure appropriate course selection and transfer credits, as well as maintaining quality control to ensure an educational experience equivalent to Fordham’s standards. During the semester prior to departure, students must have their study-abroad approval approved. At this time, an estimate is also made of the number of credits that will be granted upon receipt of transcripts indicating satisfactory completion of courses. For deadlines and specific information about study abroad, contact Dr. Mendez-Chalk at (718) 817-3464 or 817-9687.

Fordham University

The Latin American & Latino Studies Institute
Faculty Memorial Hall 405G, Bronx, NY 10458
(718) 817-4792, 2676 fax (718) 817-5987
www.fordham.edu/lsbl
lsbl@fordham.edu

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