The exhibit “Nueva York (1613-1945)” at the Museo del Barrio includes the story of the Cuban Esteban Bellán, the first Latin American to play major league baseball. He learned how to play baseball as a Fordham student in the nineteenth century. Many will remember that the research that discovered the importance of Bellán was carried out under the direction of LALSI professor Christopher Schmidt-Nowara. The Museo del Barrio exhibit is a wonderful reminder of the profound links between the histories of Latin America and New York. A not insignificant part of that link has been the traditional role of universities such as Fordham in the education of Latin American and Latinos, in the production of knowledge and in providing a forum for the discussion of Latin American and Latino topics.

The activities of LALSI during the past few months are a testimony that the tradition is alive and well. Our courses enjoy healthy enrollments across the disciplines. The “Faculty News” section of the Boletín provides many illustrations of the active intellectual production of our faculty. For example, in October Professor Barbara Mundy published Vistas: Visual Culture in Spanish America, 1520-1820, the result of a collaborative project with Professor Dana Leibsohn of Smith College. We include here a detailed description of this interactive DVD, which will be a wonderful resource for students and scholars of Latin America.

LALSI organized and co-sponsored many fascinating lectures this fall, including the visit of José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the Organization of American States, a round-table discussion on the legacy of Mexican writer Carlos Monsiváis, a talk by Chilean best-selling novelist Roberto Ampuero, a lecture by Brazilian Ambassador Osmar Chohfi, a discussion on the book by author Andrés Torres, “Signing in Puerto-Rico: A Hearing Son and his Deaf Family”, and a symposium marking the 100th anniversary of Cuban writer José Lezama Lima’s birth. Take a look inside for a detailed description of these and other LALSI-sponsored events.

The addition of young scholars is essential to keep the energy of Latin American and Latino Studies at Fordham. We would like to extend a warm welcome to Professor Sal Acosta, a newly affiliated faculty member who specializes in Latino History and who began teaching at Fordham University this fall 2010. Prof. Acosta comes to us from the University of Arizona. For more information on his research, look out for his faculty profile in the Spring 2011 Boletín.

We could not carry out our job without a strong team. We would like to welcome two additions to our staff. Isaac Tercero, LALSI’s new administrative assistant at Rose Hill, comes to us with an M.A. in Geographic Information Science from Clark University, and has done a wonderful job to our staff. Isaac Tercero, LALSI’s new graduate assistant. A welcome is also due to Darryl Brockman, Ph.D. candidate in History, who is the program’s new graduate assistant.

Christopher Kim and Greg Filippone, both LALSI Master’s students, are scheduled to obtain a February 2011 degree. Congratulations to you both!

Many thanks to Professor Héctor Lindo-Fuentes who has agreed to serve as Acting Associate Director at Lincoln Center for the academic year, while Professor Cynthia Vich is on a Faculty fellowship.

You’ll find here more news on LALSI’s faculty, students and alumni. If you haven’t yet done so, don’t forget to join our Facebook page for updates on events, and simply to keep in touch.

Wishing everyone a happy holiday season and all the best for the New Year!

Viviane Mahieux, Director
Héctor Lindo-Fuentes, Acting Associate Director
Faculty News

Greta Gilbertson (Sociology & Anthropology) recently published “Transnational Mobility, Domestic Arenas and Carework Among Immigrant Women from the Dominican Republic”, in Latino/a Studies, Volume 7, Number 3 (2010).

This past July Javier Jiménez-Belmonte (Modern Languages and Literatures) gave a talk at the XVII Congreso de la Asociación Internacional de Hispanistas at the Universidad de los Estudios de Roma La Sapienza entitled “Espejos de poder y vanidad: Cleopatra en la historia imperial y Cesárea de Pedro de Mexia (1545)”. This fall he was awarded a Fordham Faculty Fellowship for pursuing research on his new project on Cleopatra in early medieval Spanish literature and culture. In September, he gave a talk in the XIII Congreso Internacional Jornadas Medievales de la Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México entitled “Erotizar la historia: Cleopatra en la historiografía ibérica medieval”. He has also published an article this year entitled “Celestina, Abindarráez, Don Quijote y la tradición hispánica de la amistad” and has two forthcoming articles entitled “De Cleopatra y mecenazgos: poesía e historia en la historia de Marco Antonio y Cleopatra” and “Monstruos de ída y vuelta: gitanos y caníbales en la máquina antropológica barroca” in Hispanic Review. In the spring, he will be teaching a new upper level Spanish course crosslisted with LALS, entitled “The Spanish Diaspora”.

On October 2nd, Claudio M. Burgaleta, S.J. (Theology) organized and hosted the second Convocación Metropolitana Pastoral de Conjunto. One hundred and twenty-five Hispanic ministry leaders from the archdioceses and dioceses of the New York metro area gathered for a day program to hear Drs. Eduardo Fernández, S.J. and Ana María Pineda, RSM of Santa Clara University speak and lead a process on the spirituality of pastoral de conjunto or Hispanic collaborative ministry. In addition, he moderated the 18th Annual Nostra Aetate dialogue sponsored by the Archbishop Hughes Institute of Religion and Culture that brings scholars of the Jewish and Catholic traditions together to examine issues of mutual interest in a spirit of interreligious dialogue and cooperation. The topic for this year’s dialogue, which was held on October 27th at the McNally Amphitheater at the Fordham University Law School, was Jews and Jesuits of Jewish ancestry in the early Society of Jesus. The presenters were Drs. Robert Maryks (History) Bronx Community College and Thomas Cohen (History) Catholic University of America.

Carey Kasten (Modern Languages and Literatures) has been carrying out research for her new project titled “José Tamayo, Cultural Ambassador in the Americas”. With the help of a Faculty Research Grant, a Faculty Fellowship and a grant from the Program for Cultural Cooperation between Spain’s Ministry of Culture and United States’ Universities, she traveled to Spain this summer and Colombia this fall to study Tamayo’s 1949-1951 trip to the Americas with his theater company. Professor Kasten also has two forthcoming articles entitled “Emerging from darkness: National and theatrical revision in Jesús Campos García’s Auto Sacramental” to be published in Hispanic Review; and “A Fatal Farce: Francisco Nieva’s tragic adaptation of Larra’s No más mostrador” appearing in Teatro Teatral. She is excited to be offering a new course next fall (2011) that will be cross-listed with LALS called “Representing the Spanish Civil War”.

Sara Lehman (Modern Languages and Literatures) spent the summer working on her edition of Infortunios de Alonso Ramírez (forthcoming in 2011) with the support of a Fordham University Summer Faculty Research Grant. In September, she organized and presented at the first Symposium on Language Teaching (SLanT), an all-day pedagogical workshop organized by the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures. She also presented her paper “The Moral Compass: Greed and New World Commerce” at the conference “From Iberian Kingdoms to Atlantic Empires: Spain, Portugal, and the New World, 1250-1700”, held at Notre Dame University in September. This paper, as well as her next course for the spring entitled “Sinful Business: Commerce in Colonial Literature”, grew out of her recent monograph on religious transgression in literature on and of the Spanish colonies (Sinful Business, Juan de la Cuesta Hispanic Monographs, 2010).

Héctor Lindo-Fuentes (History) was on sabbatical during the 2009-2010 academic year. He spent his time between New York City and Central America writing and conducting research. Among other public presentations he was invited to speak at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in Washington D.C. In November of 2009, he joined a delegation of the Washington office of Latin America and the Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities to attend the commemoration of the murder of the Jesuit martyrs of El Salvador. He published a translation of his recent book Recordando 1932: La Matanza, Roque Dalton y la Política de la Memoria Histórica. (San Salvador, FLACSO, 2010), co-authored with Erik Ching and Rafael Lara-Martínez. In addition, he published an article “Educational Television in El Salvador and Modernization Theory”, in the Journal of Latin American Studies 41-4 (November 2009) pp. 757-792; and a book chapter, “La Guerra fría en las escuelas de El Salvador” in Guatemala y la Guerra Fría en América Latina (1947-1977) (Guatemala: Universidad de San Carlos, 2010). During his sabbatical he also published four book reviews, one in the Hispanic American Historical Review, two in the Journal of Latin American Studies and one in The Americas. The main accomplishment of his sabbatical was finishing a new book entitled Modernizing Minds: Education Reform, Modernization and Cold War Politics in El Salvador, 1960-1980 (forthcoming, University of New Mexico Press), co-authored with Erik Ching. He recently visited Baruch College as member of an outside review committee that is evaluating one of Baruch’s programs.

On October 19th, Cynthia Vich (Modern Languages and Literatures & Women Studies) participated in a panel discussion entitled “Politics and Playwriting” after a showing of the play Dramatis Personae by Peruvian playwright Gonzalo Rodriguez-Risco in the Cherry Lane Theatre in the West Village. This play examines the dynamics of living and writing in Peru in the 1990’s, in the midst of the country’s armed conflict between the state and the ‘Shining Path’.

The figure in our logo is that of Huiztilopochtli, main god of the Aztecs, fol. 89r Codex Magliabechiano, mid 16th c. Central Mexico.
Viviane Malieux (Modern Languages and Literatures) was invited to participate in the conference "Crime Narratives in Modern Latin America", held at Columbia University on April 30th and May 1st. She also traveled to the 2010 Latin American Studies Association Congress in Toronto, where she participated in a panel on the Argentine chronicler María Moreno. In addition, the May 2010 issue of *Review*, published by the Americas Society, featured an English translation of her Spanish introduction to the edition of Cube Bonifant's Chronicles, *Una Pequeña Marquesa de Sade: Crónicas Selektas (1921-1948)* (2009). This coming spring she will be teaching "Cultural Journeys through Mexico City" at Lincoln Center.

Professor Barbara Mundy visiting Cartagena, Colombia

The bicentennial celebrations across Latin America kept Professor Barbara Mundy (Art History & Music) on the road. She made her first trip to Bogotá, Colombia, in August for a conference, “Seeing the Nation: Cartography and Politics in Spanish America”, held at the Universidad de los Andes, one of the many events organized to commemorate Colombian independence, which was declared in 1810. She presented a paper, “Water and Urban Ideology in Colonial Mexico City”, from an ‘in-progress’ book on Mexico City in the 16th and 17th centuries. As a side trip, she visited the beautiful port city of Cartagena de las Indias, home to Gabriel García Marquez. In addition, she made a brief presentation, “‘Extirpation of Idolatry’ in Colonial Mexico: Renewal and Revelation”, at a workshop for Material and Visual Cultures of Religion, organized by Yale University in Napa, California (a longer version of this work will be presented at Yale in November of 2011). The California venue allowed her to return to her native city, San Francisco, and see friends and family during the summer vacation. Later in October, she presented a paper at a conference that commemorated the bicentennial of Mexico’s independence, the Reunión de Historiadores de México, Estados Unidos y Canadá in the lovely colonial city Santiago de Querétaro, Querétaro. Her paper, “La ciudad dividida: el mapa de Alzate de 1772 y la ideología urbana de la ciudad de México”, marks a new foray for her into the 18th century.

Christopher Schmidt-Nowara (History) took part in the conference "The Politics of the Second Slavery: Conflict and Crisis on the Nineteenth-Century Slave Frontier" hosted by the Fernand Braudel Center, Binghamton University. He published two essays in the fall, the first on slave emancipation in Latin America for the *Oxford Handbook of Slavery in the Americas*, the second on Latin American independence in *Latin American Research Review*. He is teaching a new undergraduate class in the spring: "Slavery & Freedom in Latin America".

Dr. Elizabeth Penry (History) gave a talk titled “Pueblos de los indígenas en el Charcas del siglo XVII” in at the Pontificia Universidad Católica in Lima, Peru in September. Her paper was part of a symposium re-examining the impact of the 16th century resettlement policy of indigenous people in South America. The symposium was the initial event of a three year research project sponsored by National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan. For more, see the project website at


In October, Dr. Penry gave a presentation titled “Indigenous Reading and Writing in Colonial Peru” at the conference “Atlantic World Literacies: Before and After Contact”, held at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

New Publication by Prof. Mundy

*Vistas: Visual Culture in Spanish America, 1520–1820*

By Dana Leibsohn and Barbara E. Mundy

Designed for use by teachers, students, and scholars, the bilingual and interactive *Vistas* DVD and companion website <www.smith.edu/vistas> introduce readers to the visual culture of Colonial Latin America. Examining works of high art as well as the material culture of daily life, Vistas explores the cross-pollination and cultural diversity that defined the colonial period in the wake of the Spanish conquest of indigenous America. Offering an unprecedented wealth of visual material, Vistas includes access to a gallery of over three hundred high-resolution annotated images, a collection with a range and richness unavailable from any other source. The DVD is published by University of Texas Press,


The DVD and website were developed with an Education Development and Demonstration Grant from the National Institute for the Humanities, as well as generous support from Fordham University and Smith College and in collaboration with Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia in Mexico.
Luisita Lopez Torregrosa (Latin America and Latino Studies) is now a columnist for the International Herald Tribune and NYTimes.com. Professor Torregrosa is also a correspondent for PoliticsDaily.com and an occasional Op-Ed writer for the Los Angeles Times. In November, she was the guest speaker at Syracuse University’s S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications as part of the school’s “Leaders in Communications” lecture series. She spoke on immigration and the elections. Next year in the fall, she expects to resume teaching “Latino Journalism”, a graduate-level course on Latinos and Latino issues. The course is partly seminar, partly hands-on workshop centered on the U.S. media and on selected contemporary nonfiction books about and by Hispanics. Students will report and write features focused on Latino issues and will also write reviews of assigned books. Spanish is not required.

Faculty Profile

Lina Meruane, Ph.D.
New Visiting Professor in Spanish
Latin American and Latino Studies
Fordham College Lincoln Center

Lina Meruane is a Latin American scholar with an interest in 20th Century Latin American Literature (Fiction & Non-Fiction), Representations of Disease, Gender Studies & Feminisms, and Global & Local Debates in Latin American Literature. She received her Ph.D. from New York University and has taught at Wesleyan University’s Romance Languages and Literatures Department and at the M.F.A in Creative Writing in Spanish at NYU. She is also a fiction writer with a host of short stories published in several languages and four books: the collection of short stories Las Infantas (Chile 1998, Argentina 2010), as well as three novels Póstuma (Chile 2000, Portugal 2001), Cercada (Chile 2000) and Fruta Podrida (Chile & México 2007), for which she obtained the Chilean Best Unpublished Novel Prize of 2006 (Consejo de la Cultura y de las Artes, Chile). She has received literary fellowships by the Chilean Fondo de Desarrollo de las Artes (1997), the Guggenheim Foundation (2004-2005) and from the National Endowment for the Arts (2010). Her academic book, Viral Voyages, Latin American Aids Fiction and the Crisis of Global Contagion (1986-2006) will be published in 2011 by Fondo de Cultura Económica.

Student News

In October, LALS Graduate Certificate student, Melissa Castillo-Garsow (also an English M.A. student with a concentration in creative writing; FCRH ’11) gave a talk on “A commitment to rap: A Brazilian answer to mainstream hip hop” at the Latin American Studies Association, Toronto, Canada (October 6-9, 2010) and at Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY (Oct. 11, 2010). In addition, she taught a class on Street Literature called, “Literatura, iconos y cultura popular en América Latina”. She is currently working on an essay “Life with a Hyphen” that will be published in Cartographies of Affect: Across Borders in South Asia and the Americas by the Worldview Press, Calcutta, India (Forthcoming Spring 2011). She also participated in The Future of American Studies Institute at Dartmouth College (June 21-28, 2010), as one of two students funded by Fordham University to participate in a week-long plenary of sessions and present works-in-progress in smaller research seminars lead by institute faculty.

NEW UNDERGRAD COURSES FOR SPRING 2011

*NEW FACULTY MEMBER* HIST 3950 Latino History
4.00 credits Sal Acosta
This course explores the development of the Latina/o population in the U.S. by focusing on the questions of migration, race, ethnicity, labor, family, sexuality, and citizenship. Specific topics include: United States colonial expansion and its effects on the population of Latin America; Mexican-Americans, and the making of the West; colonialism and the Puerto Rican Diaspora; Caribbean revolutions and the Cuban-American community; and globalization and recent Latina/o migrations (Dominicans, Colombians).
MR 11:30-12:45, Course offered at Rose Hill

HIST 3979 Slavery & Freedom: Latin America
4.00 credits Christopher Schmidt-Nowara
This course will examine the history of the transatlantic slave trade, slavery and African cultures in Latin America, including Brazil, the Caribbean, Mexico, and Spanish South America.
MR 2:30-3:45, Course offered at Lincoln Center

SPAN 3230 Sinful Business
4.00 credits Sara Lehman
Analysis of greed in Colonial and Golden Age writings on New World treasure. Exploration of Classical and Jungian roots of negativity toward commercial navigation. Prose and poetry by authors such as Horace, Ovid, Cabeza de Vaca, Siguenza y Gongora, Quevedo, and Gongora. Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 2500
TF 2:30-3:45, Course offered at Rose Hill

SPAN 3800 The Spanish Diaspora
4.00 credits Javier Jiménez-Belmonte
This course proposes a study of the main religious, political and intellectual Spanish diasporic waves from 1492 to 1939. By exploring different literary and cultural sources produced both inside and outside Spain it aims to determine the impact of exile and displacement in the formation of Spanish national identity. Taught in Spanish. Prerequisite: SPAN 2500
MR 10:00-11:15, Course offered at Rose Hill

Congratulations to Craig Small, FCRH ‘11 (Latin American and Latino Studies) for making the 2009-2010 Dean’s List!

(Student news continued on next page)
SELECT GRAD COURSES FOR SPRING 2011

*NEW* LALS 5008 Cuba: Revolution Literature and Film
(Open to undergraduates with approval of instructor)
3.00-4.00 credits
Professor Arnaldo Cruz-Malave
The evolution of Cuban culture as seen in literature and film from the early years of the revolution of 1959 to the contemporary post-Soviet "special period." Literary texts from writers such as Barnet, Morejon, Desnoes, Piners, Lezama Lima, Arenas, Valdes, Ponte, and Pedro Juan Gutierrez will be studied, as well as representative films from directors such as Gutierrez Alea, Sola, and Perez. Conducted in English, though coursework may be done in Spanish at the request of student.
Thursday, 6:00-8:30, Course offered at Rose Hill

*RETURNING* HSGA 5913 Golden Age Spain and its American Empire
(Open to undergraduates with approval of instructor)
4.00 credits
S. Elizabeth Penry
The Spanish empire was without question the first of Europe’s globalized empires and the first modern archival state. But even the citizens of Latin American nations came to regard ‘modernity’ as something that needed to be imported from France, England and the United States. Their understanding and ours of the (un)importance of the Spanish colonial project for the modern world was certainly shaped by Spain’s eclipse by England and the creation of an anti-Spanish & anti-Catholic rise of the west narrative in the American academy. The recent scholarship we will examine rethink Spain’s role in world history to challenge this Black Legend perspective and poses questions such as: Can Spain be considered at the center rather than the periphery of modernity? Is Spanish neo-scholasticism the source of the concept of popular sovereignty? Is the modern nation state the child of the Spanish American colonies rather than of northern Europe?
Thursday, 4:45-7:15, Course offered at Rose Hill

Alumni News

Anna Loizeaux (FCLC ’10), LALSI graduate class of 2010, will be working with Augsburg College’s Center for Global Education in Cuernavaca, Mexico starting in January 2011. She will serve as a Resident Assistant and Teaching Assistant for the Center’s "Migration and Globalization" semester long program and will be engaging students on these issues with special focus on global citizenship and social justice. More information on this program can be found at <www.augsburg.edu/global>.

Joanna Poz-Molesky (FCLC ’10) writes about her experience on how she founded JUNTOS, a dance outreach organization she started in 2008, and what they have accomplished thus far. She writes:

“...To many, my major in Dance with minors in Latin American/Latino Studies and Theology seemed a quirky and unprofitable result of my four years at Fordham University. I, on the other hand, thought it was quite clear. If I’m interested shouldn’t I study it? It’ll all come together in the end. As a young woman and artist interested in social justice, I also constantly questioned art’s purpose in the global context. Why should dance be important when food, shelter and clothing aren’t evenly distributed in the world? After many Ailey and Fordham classes
Inspired by a theology course in 2008, I founded JUNTOS. At its core, JUNTOS works to build community and share everything art can offer: expression, inspiration, healing and unity among many other qualities. Utilizing my acquired skills and a new articulation of dance as ‘sharing truth’, I began to build a base for artists to learn, teach and share their art in various communities. A year later, this collective (dancers from Fordham, Juilliard, and SUNY Purchase) traveled to Mexico for two weeks of performance and intercultural exchange to teach, perform and share dance in schools, orphanages, retirement homes and other communities that seldom encounter modern dance.

Since graduating, I’ve continued my work with JUNTOS. With help from the Fordham student body, we continue organizing New York community outreach and are in the process of becoming our own non-profit organization so that we can expand the program to other communities lacking performing arts. Last year’s trips included Guatemala and Mexico and future trips include California and Ecuador. We also provide free public performances; the last performance and teach-in at St. Paul the Apostle was held on Sunday, October 24th. Please visit <www.juntoscollective.org> for more information on events or to follow the collective.

My advice to undergrads is to: follow your passions. You never know where you’ll end up and what great futures lay ahead.”

Fall 2010 Events

“The Dangers for Democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean”
Lecture by José Miguel Insulza
See excerpt from The Ram for additional details.  
Tuesday, September 21st, Rose Hill

“Reading Carlos Monsiváis in New York”
Celebrate Mexico Now - 7th Annual Festival
Carlos Monsiváis was one of Mexico’s most important public intellectuals. For more than 40 years, he served as an indispensable chronicer of Mexican arts, culture and politics. When he died on June 19, 2010, he left an enormous legacy as a writer, critic and patron of popular arts. This homage to Monsiváis will feature a round table discussion with Rafael Barajas “El Fisgón” (Cartoonist for La Jornada), Jean Franco (Professor Emeritus, Columbia University), Rubén Gallo (Professor, Princeton University), Carmen Boulosa (New York-based Mexican Writer).  
Wednesday, September 29th, Lincoln Center

“Razones de un Novela ‘Noir’ del Sur en la Época de la Globalización”
Co-sponsored by the Modern Languages and Literatures Department and the Latin American and Latino Studies Institute, they held a discussion by Roberto Ampuero, Best Selling Chilean author and professor of Spanish at Iowa University.
Wednesday, October 27th, Rose Hill

“The Journey: An Afro-Puerto Rican Family in the 19th and 20th Century”
Dahlma Llanos-Figueroa has won the Bronx Council on the Arts ACE and BRIO Awards, as well as a BCA Literary Arts Fellowship. Black Pearl Magazine and LatinoStories.com have selected her novel Daughters of the Stone as one of 2010’s best fictions and Dahlma has been selected as runner up in the prestigious 2009 PEN America Bingham Literary Award for her novel. She discussed her novel and the journey of an Afro-Puerto Rican family in the 19th and 20th centuries with the Fordham Community.
Wednesday, November 3rd, Rose Hill

“Brazil After the Elections”
Lecture by Ambassador Osmar Chohfi
H.E Osmar Chohfi is a Brazilian Career Diplomat and the Consul General of Brazil in New York. Prior to being assigned as Consul General in New York, he served as the Ambassador of Brazil to Ecuador, and Spain. He has also held the position of Permanent Representative of Brazil to the Organization of American States. In Brazil he was the Secretary General of the Foreign Ministry.
Thursday, November 18th, Lincoln Center

“Signing in Puerto-Rico: A Hearing Son and his Deaf Family”
A discussion on the book by author Andrés Torres. The only child of deaf Puerto Rican immigrants, Dr Andrés Torres grew up in Washington Heights in a large extended family that included several deaf aunts and uncles. In his book he opens a window into the little known culture of deaf Latinos chasing the American Dream.
Monday, November 29th, Lincoln Center

“Enrique del Risco”
Enrique del Risco is a Cuban writer. He has published many collections of short stories, including ¿Qué pensarán de nosotros en Japón? (2008) which was awarded the Fifth Premio Iberoamericano Cortes de Cádiz. He has also authored two books of essays, is the coeditor of Pequeñas resistencias 4, and contributes regularly to literary and cultural venues in Spain and the U.S. He is currently a lecturer in the Spanish and Portuguese Department at NYU and teaches Creative Writing workshops.
Wednesday, December 1st, Rose Hill

“El Legado de Lezama - The Legacy of José Lezama Lima: A Symposium”
This symposium celebrated the 100th anniversary of Cuban writer José Lezama Lima’s birth. The event was held in Spanish and moderated by Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé and Julio Ramos. With the participation of:
Isabel Alvarez-Borland, author of Cuban-American Narratives of Exile: From Person to Persona and editor of Negotiating Identities in Cuban American Art and Literature; 
Arnaldo Cruz-Malavé, author of El primitivo implorante: El sistema poético del mundo de José Lezama Lima and Queer Latino Testimonio, Keith Haring, and Juanito Xtravanganza: Hard Tails,
Duanel Diaz, author of Los límites del origenismo and Palabras del trasfondo: Intelectuales, literatura e ideología en la Revolución cubana; Antonio José Ponte, author of El libro perdido de los orgenistas and La fiesta vigilada; José Manuel Prieto, author of Livadia and Enciclopedia de una vida en Rusia; his most recent novel is Rex; Julio Ramos, author of Desencuentros de la modernidad en América Latina: Literatura y política en el siglo XIX and Por si nos da el tiempo; and Rubén Ríos Avila, author of A Theology of Absence: The Poetic System of José Lezama Lima and La raza cómica: Del sujeto en Puerto Rico. Friday, December 3rd, Lincoln Center

José Miguel Insulza, Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS) delivered a lecture entitled "The Dangers for Democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean" in front of more than 200 Fordham faculty and students in Tognino Hall, Duane Library on September 21st in which he addressed the hope that his home region will show more progress and achieve a complete harmony in political, social and economic aspects in the near future.

Sponsored by the Office of the President and the Latin American and Latino Studies Institute, the event was a success despite Insulza's late arrival due to traffic on his way from Manhattan, where he was staying for the 65th United Nations General Assembly occurring two days later.

"Originally from Guatemala, I have always been interested in the interactions between Latin America and the United States," Analy Garcia, FCRH '13, said. "So when I was informed about the lecture by secretary general of the OAS on our campus, I got excited for such a wonderful opportunity to hear current information about Latin America activities and current circumstances from the secretary general himself."

Secretary General Insulza conveyed that Latin America is experiencing rapid economic growth, which has significantly reduced the poverty rate and led to the rise of the middle class. However, he added that due to existing problems, "[the] government institutions are fragile."

"Violations continue, including police abuse, sub-human conditions in prisons, persistent violence against women and discrimination against vulnerable groups." Not only did he convey the challenges and hopes existing in the Latin American society, but as the Secretary General of OAS, he also addressed the critical international role of OAS in promoting democratic governance in the society.

Concerning the topic of the lecture, the secretary general was originally asked for the talk about the Democratic Charter of Organization of American States; however, he had the option to choose his focus based on more current, pressing issues, according to Professor Viviane Mahieux, the director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Institute.

Many student attendees were part of the Latin American and Latino Studies program.

"The point that captured my attention was how democracies are effective not only for elections, but also internal political problems like violence, drug trafficking and internal politics," Carolina Ceron, GSB '11, said.

Since Secretary General Insulza is a high-profile-speaker, bringing him to campus required a lot of effort.

"This was an event that actually began through the initiative of the Ambassador in Residence Juan Carlos Vignaud," Mahieux said. "He has a teaching appointment with two graduate programs: Latin American and Latino Studies Institute and International Political Economy and Development; he helped the two programs to take initiative to invite Secretary General Insulza to speak at Fordham. He deserves our gratitude for initiating this event and for guiding us every step of the way. Also, the Office of the President helped us a lot along the way by organizing the event."

"Overall, I definitely thought the lecture was informational," Dania Martinez, [LALSI MA] graduate student at Fordham University, said. "It motivated me to think more about the current state of affairs in Latin America and to do more research about the state of politics and the economy in Latin America in general."

Duanel Diaz, author of Los límites del origenismo and Palabras del trasfondo: Intelectuales, literatura e ideología en la Revolución cubana; Antonio José Ponte, author of El libro perdido de los orgenistas and La fiesta vigilada; José Manuel Prieto, author of Livadia and Enciclopedia de una vida en Rusia; his most recent novel is Rex; Julio Ramos, author of Desencuentros de la modernidad en América Latina: Literatura y política en el siglo XIX and Por si nos da el tiempo; and Rubén Ríos Avila, author of A Theology of Absence: The Poetic System of José Lezama Lima and La raza cómica: Del sujeto en Puerto Rico.
Spring 2011 Course Offerings
Below, please find a sampling of our course offerings for Spring 2011. For the complete listing and descriptions visit our website www.fordham.edu/lalsi

AFAM 3150 Caribbean Peoples & Culture
ANTH 3354 Race, Identity and Globalization
ARHI 2257 Modern Latin American Art
ECON 3240 World Poverty
ENGL 2000 Txts and Cntxt: Race and Amer Culture
ENGL 3690 Literature of the West
HIST 1400 Understanding Hist Chnge: Latin America
HIST 3950 Latino History
HIST 3979 Slavery & Freedom: Latin America
MVST 2998 Study Tour: Medieval Spain
POSC 3909 Vietnam, Cuba-JFK Assasination
SOCI 2410 Inequality: Class, Race, Ethnicity
SOCI 3140 Old/New Minorities in the U.S.
SOCI 3147 Social Change: Latin America
SPAN 3075 Crime Fiction in Hispanic Literature
SPAN 3230 Sinful Business
SPAN 3630 Cultural Journey Through Mexico City
SPAN 3800 The Spanish Diaspora
THEO 3455 Theologies of Liberation

Graduate Courses:
ECON 5570 Global Financial Markets
ENGL 5733 Literatures and Theories of Colonialism
HIST 5913 Golden Age Spain and its American Empire
LALS 5008 Cuba: Revolution Literature and Film
LALS 6000 Latin America: Current Trends
REGR 6128 US Latino Christianities

THE LATIN AMERICAN & LATINO STUDIES CONCENTRATION

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

The major consists of ten courses: (a) an introductory course; (b) two courses from the social sciences; (c) two courses from the humanities/arts; (d) one upper elective in history; (e) one methods seminar (normally taken in the junior year); (f) one capstone seminar (normally taken in the senior year); and (g) two electives. Seniors may wish to write a senior essay under the guidance of one of the program's faculty members.

The minor consists of six courses: (a) an introductory course; (b) two courses from the social sciences; (c) two courses from the humanities/arts; and (d) one elective. Since language competency in Spanish is expected, majors and minors should take at least one Latin American/Latino literature course above the 2001 level. Students are encouraged to study in Latin America.

Courses that fulfill College requirements may, where appropriate, be credited toward the major or minor. Students whose particular interests do not conform to the pattern 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.

LALSI provides an intellectual home for students and faculty who are interested in Latin America and the Latino Populations of the US. With offices on both campuses, the Institute acts as a clearinghouse for information, organizes conferences, invites speakers to the university, maintains video/journal collections and sponsors film series and internships.

LALSI's newsletter BOLETÍN is published twice a year.