Bridging Knowledges, Technologies, & Cultures in Latin America and the Caribbean

Annual Meeting
New England Council of Latin American Studies

Worcester Polytechnic Institute
November 10-11, 2023

PROGRAM
Friday, November 10

2:00pm – 3:00pm Executive Committee Meeting
(by invitation only)
Chair’s Room
(Campus Center)

3:30pm – 5:00pm WPI Global School Forum
Caribbean Climate Knowledge-to-Action: Critical Reflections on Locally-Led Action, Disaster Preparedness, and Climate Education
Moderator: Mimi Sheller
Nigel Brissett, Clark University
“Climate Educational Aid and Collaboration as Reparative Justice”

Kevon Rhiney, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey
“Governing through Risk: Resilience Thinking, Biopolitics and Post-Disaster Landscapes in the Caribbean”

Stacy-ann Robinson, Colby College
“Locally Led Adaptation: Promise, Pitfalls and Possibilities”

Mimi Sheller, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
“Reflections on Implementing Human-Centered Design for Caribbean Climate Adaptation”

5:00pm – 6:00pm Global School Reception
Odeum A/B
(Campus Center)

7:00pm – 9:00pm Executive Committee Dinner
(by invitation only)
Volturno
Saturday, November 11

8:00am – 9:00am Continental Breakfast
Sponsored by WPI School of Arts & Sciences and WPI Department of Humanities & Arts

8:30am – 9:00am Opening Remarks

Elizabeth Rivero, President, NECLAS
Kate Moncrief, Chair, Humanities & Arts, WPI
John Galante & Aarti Madan, Co-Directors, Latin American & Caribbean Studies, WPI

9:00am – 10:15am Panel Sessions I

Reimagining Family and Kinship

Moderator: Hope Bastian

Carolina Añón Suárez, Fairfield University
"Re-imaginaciones insusanas de la figura de la madre en el arte y la literatura"

Hope Bastian, Wheaton College
"Becoming a Mother in Cuba: Cuban Counterpublics and Networked Matrescence"

Larissa Jimenez Gratereaux, Yale University
"Una llamada Dra. Satterthwaite: Family Planning as Eugenics in 1970s Brazil, the Dominican Republic, and Venezuela"

Tricia Reagan, Randolph-Macon College
"Daddy Issues: The Father Figure in Al otro lado, Sangre de mi sangre, y El viaje de Teo"

Narrating Abandonment: Care, Disaster, and Vulnerable Communities in Central America and the Contemporary Hispanic Caribbean

Moderator: Jessica Mulligan

Jessica Mulligan, Providence College
"Narratives of Abandonment in the Puerto Rican Health Care System"

Shey Rivera Ríos, Rhode Island School of Design
"Tierra Futura: Breaking Colonial Archives to Create Boricua Futurity"

Waleska Sanabria León, Pontifical Catholic University of Puerto Rico
"Suffering Narratives, Structural Violence and Disasters in the Southwest of Puerto Rico"

Mónica Simal, Providence College
"Aging in 'Paradise': The Fictional and Visual Representations of the Elderly in Cuba"

M. Gabriela Torres, Wheaton College
"Structural Abandonment and Gender Based Violence-Based Narratives of Asylum"
Traducciones, encuentros, y desencuentros en la historiografía latinoamericana de la Guerra Fría (Book Talk)  
Moderator: Nayelli Castro Ramírez
Nayelli Castro Ramírez, University of Massachusetts, Boston  
Robert Alegre, University of New England  
Susan Gauss, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Decolonizing Film Studies Curricula: Approaches through Latin American Cinemas  
Moderator: Paul Schroeder Rodríguez
Ana Almeyda-Cohen, Colby College  
“Pedagogical and Methodological Approaches to Latin American ‘B-Films’”
Bridget Franco, College of the Holy Cross  
“Latin American Film & Digital Humanities: The Cinegogía Project”
Paul Schroder Rodriguez, Amherst College  
“Community-Based Cinema in Abiayala”

Undergraduate Showcase, WPI Humanities & Arts Department
Moderator, Lina Muñoz-Márquez, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Agustin Alzate  
“Medellín As a Global Model for Urban Development”
Jessica Elmhurst  
“Al cielo, video juego entre espacios y conversaciones ecofeministas”
Jocelyn Hinchcliffe  
“The Zoot Suits that Ripped Open Racial Tensions”
Tom Kohen  
“Reflejos de Buenos Aires”
Aaron Landry  
“Gauchos, guerras y gobiernos: los factores únicos que crearon en Argentina una comunidad judía grande y resiliente”
Selina Tran  
“Unscrambling Latinx Identities”

Undergraduate Showcase, College of the Holy Cross
Moderator: Maria Rodrigues, College of the Holy Cross
Anyelly Herrera  
“The Embrace of Shadows: A Collection of Short Stories”
Nicholas Lopez  
“Anti-Blackness in the Dominican Republic”
Alexis Soria and Allison dos Santos Soares  
“The Creation of ProspHER Student Group”
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| 10:15am-10:45am | **Coffee Break**  
Sponsored by WPI Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Multicultural Education | Mid-Century  
(Campus Center) |
| 10:45am-12:00pm | **Panel Sessions II**  
Social Movements and the Struggles for Rights, Justice, and Democracy in Paraguay (Book Talk) | Chair’s Room  
(Campus Center) |
|               | Moderators: Charmain Levy and Valerie L’Heureux  
Charmain Levy, Université du Québec en Outaouais  
Valerie L’Heureux, Concordia University  
Marco Castillo, City University of New York |                                    |
|               | **Soldiering On, or War’s Afterlives in Nineteenth-Century Latin America** | Hagglund  
(Campus Center) |
|               | Moderator: Aarti S. Madan  
Ronald Briggs, Barnard College  
“Positivism and Catholicism after the War of the Pacific (1879-1884)”  
Alicia Ríos, Syracuse University  
“Repetición y diferencia: La guerra de independencia en el imaginario cultural venezolano”  
Aarti S. Madan, Worcester Polytechnic Institute  
“The Unevenness of Postcolonial Ecologies: Argentina’s Conquista del Desierto (1878-1885)”  
Felipe Martínez-Pinzón, Brown University  
“Poesía, cementerios y música popular: la Posguerra de los Mil Días” |                                    |
|               | **Knowledge and Indigeneity** | Higgins Labs 114  
(Campus Center) |
|               | Moderator: Nina Gerassi-Navarro  
Joyce Bennett, Connecticut College  
“Indigenous Clothing and Qualia: Affect, Climate Change, and Well-Being”  
Nina Gerassi-Navarro, Tufts University  
“Appropriating Indigenous Knowledge: The Cultivation of Yerba Mate”  
Polly Lauer, Yale University  
“Maya Migration & Media: Online Indigenous Radio in Migrant Life”  
Jessica Rutherford, Central Connecticut State University  
“Drawing on Archival Silences: Representations of Prehispanic Mesoamerican Culture in Comics and Children’s Books” |                                    |
|               | **Life and Death: Ecosystems in Peril** | Odeum C  
Campus Center |
|               | Moderator: Gina Canepa, Independent Scholar  
Patrick Barker, Yale University  
“Rain, Drought, and Plantation Life in the Nineteenth Century Caribbean” |                                    |
|               | (panel listing continued on next page...) |                                    |
Carla Giaudrone, Rutgers University, Camden
"'Con cada yuyo venía un pedazo de geografía viva': Las plantas nativas en la literatura rural rioplatense de la primera mitad del siglo XX"

Vikram Tamboli, Brown University
"An Ethnobotanical Geopolitics of Healing and Harming in Latin America and the Caribbean"

Ana Ugarte, College of the Holy Cross
"PanchítXness: The Biopolitics of Peanuts"

Gendered Encounters in Latin American Film
Moderator: Stephanie Pridgeon

Ana Almeyda-Cohen, Colby College
"The Magical Social Horrors of the Celestinesque Witch in Arturo Ripstein’s La Tía Alejandra (1978)"

Inela Selimović, Wellesley College
"Intermedial Memories in Paula Markovitch’s Armando y Genoveva (2013)"

Stephanie Pridgeon, Bates College
"Disaffected Encounters in Marcela Said’s Los perros (2017)"

Undergraduate Showcase, College of the Holy Cross
Histories on Screen: Creating Digital Humanities Projects on Latin America
Moderators: Bridget Franco and Hannah Abrahamson

Éowyn Bailey & Ángel Collazo
"Cinegogía and Cineglos: Digital Humanities and Latin American Film"

J.T. Burgio
"Perusing the History of the Greater Peru Area: An Analysis of the Rebellon of Túpac Amaru II"

Adam Cooper
"From Rubber Balls to Rodeos: What Sports Can Tell Us about Indigenous History in Latin America"

Vienna F. Copado
"The Power of Indigenous Comics and Graphic Novels: An Analysis of Emerging Indigenous Voices"

Owen McIntosh
"Pecos: Procedure and Pitfalls"

12:15pm – 1:15pm Lunch
Sponsored by WPI Global School

NECLAS Awards presented by Mary Ann Mahony, Central Connecticut State University

Local Writers Talks
Naida Saavedra, Worcester State University
Joe Aguilar, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Panel Sessions III

Hispanics and Italians in the Mid-Twentieth-Century United States (Roundtable)

Moderator: John Galante
Emma Amador, University of Connecticut
Rosa Carraquillo, College of the Holy Cross
John Galante, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Ervin Kosta, Hobart and William Smith Colleges

Roles of Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge Systems in Local and Global Politics

Moderators: Ben Fallaw and Fernando Armstrong-Fumero
Fernando Armstrong-Fumero, Smith College
“‘The Records are No Longer Here’: Archives as de-Patriated Intangible Heritage”
Lydia Crafts, Manhattan College
“Reading Indigenous and Marginalized Guatemalans’ Claims to Bodily Sovereignty in the Archival Record of ‘Guatemala’s Tuskegee’”
Tiffany D. Creegan Miller, Colby College
“Maya-Japanese Oraliteratures: Global Indigenous Modernities and Alternative Collective Imaginaries in Humberto Ak’abal’s Poetry”
Ben Fallaw, Colby College
“Forgetting and Remembering Maya Peon Communities in Yucatán’s Henequen Zone: The Case of Oxcum”
Walter E. Little, University at Albany, SUNY
“Navigating the Conflictual Politics of Textile Tradition and Fashion in Maya Guatemala”

Displacement and Justice in Education

Moderator: Rebecca Campbell-Montalvo
Beatriz Alvarado, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
“The Virtual Dilemma in Peruvian Rural Schools during and after the Pandemic: A Retrospective Analysis on the Teaching and Learning Experience”
Rebecca Campbell-Montalvo, University of Connecticut
“Naming and Understanding How Latinx Students’ Language and Race are Erased in Schools in the Contexts of Migration”
Rocio Fuentes, Central Connecticut State University
“Raíces en el Caribe: La expresión de la identidad y la agencia en un grupo de hablantes de herencia del español”
Sara Pan-Algarra, Teachers College, Columbia University
“Climate Change-Induced Displacement and Girls’ Access to Education in Honduras”
Protest, Natural Resources, and the Environment

Moderator: Grant Burrier

Grant Burrier, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
“Politics and Protected Areas in Latin America and the Caribbean”

Daniela Domínguez Tavares, University of Connecticut
“Mexico Meets Argentine Oil: Comparison of the Oil Industries in 1960”

Jack Markowitz, Yale University
“Environmental Justice in Chilean Protest”

Emiliano C Villanueva, Eastern Connecticut State University
“Business Profile of Exporting Wineries in Argentina: A Successful Story of International Recognition”

Kehan Wang, Boston University
“Protest in the Inca Heartland: A Study of Mobilization around Mining in Southern Peru”

Undergraduate Showcase, WPI Global School: From the Ground Up: Community Centered Innovation

Moderator: Courtney Kurlanska, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

John Adams, Alexi Echevarria, Tai Le, and Humberto Torres
“Community Mapping in La Perla, Puerto Rico”

Elidja Diakite
“Enhancing the Experience at the Hotel Cerrito”

Emma Bass, Russell Kam, Taina Quiñones, and Aunika Yasui
“Capturing Cañari Culture in Primok Supplemental Materials in Cañar, Ecuador”

Sarah Saeed, Leah Kolb, Anna Callaghan, Sam Ollari, Micah Vargas
“Diablos Rojos: A Window into Panamanian Identity”

2:45pm – 3:15pm

Coffee Break
Sponsored by WPI Office of Diversity, Inclusion, and Multicultural Education

Mid-Century (Campus Center)

3:15 – 4:30pm

Panel Session IV

Climate Justice in Latin America and the Caribbean

Moderators: William San Martin and Avi Chomsky

Avi Chomsky, Salem State University
“Extractivism on the Periphery: Colombia’s Wild Northeast”

Hilda Lloréns, The University of Rhode Island
“Making Livable Worlds: Afro-Puerto Rican Women Building Environmental Justice”

William San Martin, Worcester Polytechnic Institute
“More-than-Human Sovereignty and Rights of Nature in the Anthropocene”

Gisselle Vila Benites, Clark University
“The Moral Ecologies of Mining in Latin America: Caring for Extraction in Aquatic Spaces”
Voice and Liberation

Moderator: Ángel Rivera, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Michele C. Dávila Gonçalves, Salem State University
“Tras la mirada del Otro: Narrativa neohistórica femenina puertorriqueña”

Jennifer Schaefer, Gregory Colati, and Michael Howser, University of Connecticut
“Crowdsourcing and Automating: A Puerto Rican and Connecticut Document Transcription Project”

Alexander Waid, United States Coast Guard Academy
“Intersectionality in Latin American and Caribbean Socially-Conscious Rap: The Liberatory Voices of Mare Advertencia Lírika, Krudas Cubensi, Chocolate Remix, Jaas Newen, and Líricas del Caos”

Sexual Dissidence in the 20th Century

Moderator: Elizabeth Rivero

Crista Fiala, University of St. Joseph
“Challenging the Hyper-Masculinity of Argentina’s Western Frontier: Las aventuras de la China Iron”

Ryan M. Jones, SUNY Geneseo
“Not Easy Being Green: Theories of Sexual and Gender Inversion, History, and Color in 20th Century Mexico”

Adrianna Pitetta, Mount Holyoke College
“Marcianos, abducciones y cibermundos: Formas de la catástrofe política”

Elizabeth Rivero, United States Coast Guard Academy
“Disidencias sexuales/Disidencias discursivas: 50 años, 20 historias trans de Karina Pankievich y Diego Sempol y Cantoras de Carolina de Robertis”

Understanding Crime, Policing, and Deferred Action

Moderator: Lori Hopkins

Anjuli Fahlberg, Katherine García, Laura Garcia, Justin Pérez
“Gender and Police Action in the Governance of Urban Violence: A Comparison between El Salvador and Honduras”

Lori Hopkins, University of New Hampshire
“Cristina Rivera Garza: An Expediente on Crime”

Lisa M. Knauer, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth
“Immigrant workers and the U.S. immigration system: Agency, organizing, and shifting policies”

Carlos Rubens López Pari, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
“Tecnologías de Posguerra en la obra literaria y visual de Jorge Eduardo Eielson”

Michael Wolff, Western Washington University
“Memoria del trauma en la producción cultural reciente del Cono Sur”
**Undergraduate Showcase, Wellesley College and University of Connecticut**

**Higgins Labs 114**

Moderator: Koichi Hagimoto, Wellesley College

Alexandra Cahn, Wellesley College

“Playing for You: An Exploration of Selena as a Borderlands Artist”

Mimi Diaz-Salgado, Wellesley College

“‘Always Personal Best’: Reflections from Latinx FGLI Students in a College-Access Program”

Reginal Gallardo, Wellesley College

“The Influential but Under-Examined Publishing Activity of Mexican Artist Adolfo Best-Maugard during the 1920s in the United States”

Leonardo Gamez, University of Connecticut

“The Role of Travel Socialization in the Economic Resilience of Recent Latino Immigrants: A Literature Review”

Laura Leal de Souza, Wellesley College

“When Race Becomes Central: Challenging Racial Flexibility in Brazil”

Isabel Orozco Piedrahita, Wellesley College

“Sana Sana: Healing From Conflict in Colombia”

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**Undergraduate Showcase, WPI Global School**

**Tools of the Trade: Understanding and Applying Appropriate Technology**

**Higgins Labs 116**

Moderator: Courtney Kurlanska, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Alexandra Ballentine and Oliver Zaba

“Stormwater Management at Escuela Agrícola Cerrito, Paraguay”

Samantha Curtis, Gachau Kabuga, Cambria Pomeranz, Giovanni Ramirez, and Ilana Whittaker

“Increasing Street-Level Accessibility in Cuenca, Ecuador”

Bridget Gillis and Steven Defreitas

“Hydraulic Modeling and Water Distribution Optimization in Corregimiento Kuna Nega, Panama City, Panama”

Sol Giesso and Patrick King

“Hecho en Monteverde: An Evaluation of An Improved Criteria for a Voluntary Sustainability Certification”

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5:00pm – 7:00pm

Reception featuring Music by Carlos Odria Trio
(Must by over 21 to attend)

Courtyard by Marriott Worcester
72 Grove Street
Learn more about
WPI’s Program in Latin American & Caribbean Studies