

2007 Lewis Scholars

Alexander Bajorek -Costa Rica
 Christine Doughty—Brazil
 Neil Gupta—Puerto Rico
 Clare Kalb—Spain
 Joseph Kern—Argentina
 Angela King—Spain
 Charles Lovely—Spain
 Courtney Mackenzie—Spain
 Alysia Ross—Argentina
 Jennifer Ward—Brazil

2007 Lewis Fellow

Dr. Christine Ehrick,
 Associate Professor of History
 “Women in Radio in Uruguay and
 Argentina, 1930-1950.”

Graduated LAS Minors

Mehera Baugher
 Emily Clausen
 Zachary Hensley
 Stephanie Meeks

Congratulations!



LAS Graduate Certificate

Nathan Bird
 Bill Lacap
 Maria Taylor



¡Felicidades!



The Latin American and Latino Studies office in Humanities 329C will be open for regular office hours from May to August. Please contact Dr. Buchanan at rhondabuchanan@louisville.edu for advising, or other matters. Please visit our LALS website for a complete list of courses offered in 2007-2008 and for updates over the summer months.

Desde los Cuatro Caminos



From the Crossroads

¡Saludos amigos! The new year got off to a great start for the Latin American Studies Program. In January our proposal for a new minor in Latino Studies was approved, and we changed our name to Latin American and Latino Studies to reflect our increased focus on issues concerning Latinos in the US and our commitment to serve Latinos in our community. We have many new collaborations and internships in store for next year, and you will be reading about those in our fall *Caminos* newsletter. We welcome suggestions for outreach to the community.

A new group of Panama Scholars is about to embark on the 5th Annual Study Abroad Program at the University of Louisville in Panama, with a new course offered by professors of the Communication Department. Plans are already underway for next year's program, so it's not too soon to reserve your place!

This spring we initiated a lecture series to feature those professors who have been awarded a Richard and Constance Lewis Fellowship in Latin American and Iberian Studies. Michael Fowler presented our first lecture on narcotics trafficking in Central America, captivating the audience with his research.

I wish everyone a *feliz primavera* and a wonderful summer,

Rhonda Buchanan, Director of Latin American and Latino Studies



Latin American and Latino Studies

LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES AT UOFL

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 College of Arts and Sciences
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New Minor in Latino Studies Accepts its First Students in Fall 2007

In January of 2007, the new minor in Latino Studies was approved by the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee, and already students are waiting to add this exciting new program to their major fields of study. Like the Latin American Studies Minor, the Latino Studies minor requires 21 hours and is interdisciplinary in nature. The courses offer more emphasis on social, economic, and political issues that impact US Latinos, and explore the diverse cultural contributions of Hispanic immigrants in this country. As part of the service learning component of the minor, students complete a local internship with an organization that serves Latinos in the Kentuckiana region. Please consult the LALS website for a detailed list of courses that fulfill the Latino Studies minor, and more information.

The Communication Department Joins the 5th Annual UofL Study Abroad Program in Panama



On May 3, 2007, 21 UofL students will be headed for Panama for a month-long Spanish Immersion program, directed by Berta Calvert, a CML Spanish lecturer and native of Panama, and her assistant, Joshua Hamilton, a Spanish instructor for the Department of Classical and Modern Languages, who will teach Spanish lan-

guage classes. We are very happy to announce that Joy Hart and Kandi Walker, two professors from the Communication Department, will offer COMM 440 Intercultural Communication for the first time in our program. Native Panamanian Instructor Ricardo Acosta will teach Panamanian Culture, which has proven to be a favorite course for our students over the past four years. Thanks to generous support from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Office of the Provost, twenty students will participate in the program as Panama Scholars. ¡Buen viaje a todos!

News from Our Latin American Studies Graduates

Jenessa Bryan (Our First LAS Minor - 2002): I am a Policy Analyst for KY Youth Advocates. My work focuses on immigrant and refugee children and youth in Kentucky. My career focus has been directly influenced by my undergraduate work in Anthropology, my minor in Latin American Studies, and the Lewis Award which enabled my ethnographic research in Mexico. In 2006, I graduated from the Kent School of Social Work with a Masters of Science in Social Work. International study and work experiences have given me a global lens through which to view social policy in Kentucky.

Nadine Jacobsen (LAS Minor - 2004): I work for Jefferson County Public Schools as a bilingual associate instructor. My responsibilities include bridging the communication gap between students and teachers as well as parents and teachers through interpreting and translations. The LAS minor helped prepare me to work with families from various Latin American countries. Currently I am certified to teach Spanish in both Kentucky and Indiana and am in the process of completing my certification to teach English as a Second Language. (Continued on page 3)

LATIN AMERICAN AND LATINO STUDIES AT UOFL

Caminos

Latin American and Latino Studies Co-Sponsored Events

Renowned Argentine Writer Perla Suez Presents Keynote Hispanic Presentation at the Annual Louisville Conference on Culture and Literature Since 1900

On February 23, 2007, Perla Suez spoke of the importance of memory in her fiction, and read passages from *Trilogía de Entre Ríos* (Editorial Norma, 2006), a trilogy of novels that capture the tumultuous history of the Jewish Argentine colonies of the Entre Ríos province, where the author's own great-grandparents settled after fleeing the pogroms of Czar Nicholas II. Earlier that day, Rhonda Buchanan, who translated the trilogy to English, chaired a session on Suez's creative fiction in which three critics, Professors Fernando Reati, Graciela Lucero-Hammer, and Carolina Rocha offered their interpretations of her works, and the author was present to comment. During her previous visit to UofL in 1999, Suez was named an Honorary Citizen of Louisville, and this year the title of Honorable Kentucky Colonel was bestowed upon her. Her campus visit was co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, LALS and the Louisville Conference.



Perla Suez (center) with Dr. Buchanan's Honor Students

Alexis Levitin Offers an Engaging Public Lecture on "Translating the Music of Poetry"



Alexis Levitin (center) with Dr. Sullivan's Students

On March 28, 2007, students of two CML classes enjoyed lectures by the award-winning translator Alexis Levitin, Professor of English at SUNY - Plattsburgh, who shared his interpretations of poetry by Eugénio de Andrade, one of Portugal's most beloved contemporary poets. Professor Levitin visited Isabel Pereira's Portuguese language class, and then lectured to the students of Clare Sullivan's Spanish 590 Capstone course, which focused this semester on the art of translation. Through a close reading of several poems, Professor Levitin engaged the audience in a lively discussion of the importance of sound in translation. Professor Levitin's campus visit was co-sponsored by the CML Department, LALS, and Portuguese Studies.

"Bribes, Bullets, and Intimidation: Narcotics Trafficking and Corruption in Central America"

On Tuesday, April 17, 2007 Michael Fowler, Professor of Political Science, initiated the Lewis Fellow Lecture series with a fascinating talk on the evolution of drug trafficking and corruption in Central America. In 2005 he received a Richard and Constance Lewis Fellowship, which supported in part his research for a book he has co-authored with Dr. Julie Bunck on narcotics trafficking and judicial and political corruption in Central America. In his lecture, Professor Fowler identified the ongoing activities of narcotics organizations that transship drugs through the region.

Internationally Renowned Vocal Group Opus Cuatro Comes to Louisville

Sister Cities of Louisville, Inc. presents Opus Cuatro to benefit World Communities of Louisville, Inc on Friday, May 11, 2007, 7 p.m. at the University of Louisville Playhouse. Critics all over the world rave about the excellent vocal talent of Opus Cuatro as brilliant voices, deep, of perfect harmony and outstanding resonance. Their repertoire includes rhythms and popular music from Latin America, like Argentinean Tango, Spirituals and jazz. Ticket information available on LALS webpage, or call (502) 561-5422.

News from Our Latin American Studies Graduates

Sean Deskins (LAS Minor - 2004): I will graduate from UofL's Louis D. Brandeis School of Law in May. After taking the bar exam, I will spend a year in Europe as a Fulbright Scholar. I'm going to do research in the Slovak Republic about how their labor law has developed as the country prepared for entry into the European Union (EU) in 2004. While Central Europe is much different than Latin America, the exposure to other cultures that I received while getting my LAS minor helped create my desire to pursue the Fulbright. Also, because the Panama trip, my first study abroad experience, was so positive, I felt confident enough to apply to study in a country for a year by myself.

Betsy Berns Janes LAS Minor - 2004): I volunteered at the Hispanic Latino Coalition during my time as an undergrad. I moved back to Louisville this year, and I am currently studying in law school at night and working at the Legal Aid Society during the day.

Travis Wimsett (LAS Minor - 2005): Upon graduation, I interned in Buenos Aires, Argentina as a tutor for children orphaned by HIV and AIDS. My studies in Latin American culture, history, and, of course, in Spanish, allowed me to excel in my internship. Upon my return, I was offered an ESL position with the Nelson County School System. I have applied for graduate school for LAS programs, and has been accepted to several schools.

Kristin J. Reading (LAS Minor - 2005): I am currently the Database Associate for the Louisville Area Chapter of the Red Cross. Aside from my regular duties in the Financial Development Department, there are opportunities to translate in the event of a disaster.

Kim Davis (LAS Minor - 2005): I'd have to say that my Spanish and LAS minors have really had an impact on my job performance. There are hundreds of Latinos working at UPS, and being able to communicate with them in the work place has really been beneficial in being able to improve my interpersonal communication skills. I was recently placed in the full-time management pool and am waiting for a position to open. However, I really feel that being able to speak Spanish has been a big part of UPS's interest in promoting me.

Jessica Sanders Milling (LAS Minor - 2006): I am currently finishing my first year of law school and I think my LAS minor has helped me a lot. I am able to bring a different perspective to the subjects that I am learning and also my Spanish skills have come in handy while looking for jobs with different firms. Also my minor gives me a different background than most of my classmates who majored in Political Science.

Jessica Abati (LAS Minor - 2006): Currently, I am completing my Master's in Teaching in Spanish. I feel that my LAS minor served to give a more holistic view of the Spanish language. Students receive cultural and historical perspectives that flesh out the language. Furthermore, it gives the language purpose and context.

Medina del Castillo (LAS Graduate Certificate - 2006): I only have about 2 months left in beautiful Mexico and I still can't believe I have already been here for 8 months! Graduate classes continue to go well. My previous classes taken for the LAS Grad Certificate definitely prepared me in regards to having a base for understanding Latin American history, politics, and culture.

Paige Janes (LAS Graduate Certificate - 2006): Language structures and vocabulary constitute only half of what it takes to teach Spanish. I incorporate Latin American culture into every class meeting. Besides teaching, I love to visit Latin America, where I can personally explore the elements of Latin American Studies.

Caroline Conner (LAS Graduate Certificate - 2006): I am currently working as an export sales representative for an international company. My job has given me the opportunity to work directly with clients all over the world. Some of our most important clients are located throughout Latin America, and with the knowledge I gained from my LAS studies at U of L, I have been able to communicate with them on their level and in their own language; and this knowledge has allowed me to become more of an asset to the company.

Arezú Elias (LAS Minor - 2006): I am working at Uof L hospital full-time as a surgical technologist. I have also stayed in touch with Artesanías Sorata and I sell their wares at international festivals. I will be beginning massage school in July, which will hopefully give me the skills and the means to potentially start my own business.