



## *Exploring Art of the Ancient Americas: A CLAS and Frist Collaboration*



CLAS has partnered with Nashville's Frist Center for the Visual Arts to organize lectures, gallery talks, teacher workshops, and a dinner in conjunction with the exhibit *Exploring Art of the Ancient Americas: The John Bourne Collection*. The exhibit opens at the Frist on March 1 and will be on display until June 23, 2013. The Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery will display pieces from its pre-Columbian collection in the two large cases in the main atrium of Cohen Hall for the duration of the exhibit.

The exhibit features 125 pre-Columbian artworks representing more than 2,500 years of creativity in Mexico, Central America, and Andean South America from 1200 BCE to 1520 CE. The collection highlights fundamental principles of ancient American societies, including the shamanic foundation of rulership in Mesoamerica, Costa Rica, and Panama, and the cosmic principles embodied by gold and silver in Colombia. Other artworks, from elaborate musical instruments to portrayals of dancers, highlight the performative nature of politics and religion as a key to social, political, and ideological beliefs. Featured works include *Mother and Child* (100 BCE–200 CE), *Human Effigy Pendant* (400–1500 CE), and *Llama Effigy* (1000–1470 CE).

Area teachers will have the opportunity to attend two professional development workshops organized by CLAS and the Frist on the exhibit and led by Annabeth Headrick, associate professor of art history at the University of Denver. On March 26, staff from CLAS and the Frist will lead a virtual class for the Educational Media Program at MTSU for local high school students.

Arthur Demarest (Department of Anthropology) will give a public lecture, "The Mysteries of the Ancient Maya Civilization and the Apogee of Art in the Americas," on Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m. at the Frist. Annabeth Headrick, associate professor of art history at University of Denver will give another public talk on April 11: "Dressing the Part: Ritual Costume in the Mesoamerican World," also at 6:30 p.m. at the Frist. John Janusek (Department of Anthropology) and Iyaxel Cojtí (Department of Anthropology) will lead gallery talks as part of the Frist's *Connecting Disciplines* series on Saturday, March 16, and Saturday, April 20.

(continued on page 2)

### **Nearly 200 Students Volunteering in Latin America during Spring Break 2013**

The number of students choosing to spend their spring break conducting service learning in Latin America continues to increase. In 2013, a record number of 197 Vanderbilt students will travel to Latin America during spring break week. Manna Project has dramatically increased its spring break service learning trips from four trips in 2009 to 13 trips this year. The student-led service organization was founded at Vanderbilt and has permanent sites in Nicaragua, Ecuador, and Guatemala. During spring break the group organizes service trips to numerous other sites in Latin America. This year, 157 undergraduates will travel to communities in: Corozal, Belize (24); Ferry, Jamaica (12); La Ceiba, Honduras (12); Monti Cristi, Dominican Republic (12); Quetzaltenango, Río Dulce, and Chaquijyá, Guatemala (34); Quito, Ecuador (24); Managua, Nicaragua (12); and Quepos and Altamira, Costa Rica (27). Another 10 students will travel to Nicaragua through Alternative Spring Break. They will volunteer at La Esperanza Granada, an organization dedicated to improving children's education in impoverished areas of Granada.

In addition to these undergraduate students, 11 professional students in Owen's Project Pyramid course will spend their break in Guatemala to help develop business and marketing plans for the Mani+ nutritional program and to work with staff at the Moore Center for Pediatric Surgery. Nineteen graduate students in medicine, nursing, and the Spanish department will go to Nicaragua with the Nicaragua Global Health course taught by Dr. Nick Desai and Dr. Lindy Fenselson. During the trip, students will engage patients and providers in mutual education and outreach, and participate in journal clubs, Spanish education modules, triage, and clinical care.

# Center for Latin American Studies

VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY

230 Buttrick Hall  
PMB 351806  
2301 Vanderbilt Place  
Nashville, TN 37235-1806  
Tel: 615-322-2527  
Fax: 615-322-2305  
Web: vanderbilt.edu/clas

Director: Edward F. Fischer  
Executive Director: Avery Dickens de Girón  
Assistant Director of Outreach:  
Claire P. González  
Administrative Assistant:  
Alma Paz-Sanmiguel

Associate Director, FLAS Coordinator and Certificate: Helena Simonett  
Associate Director, Graduate and Undergraduate Advisor: Frank Robinson  
LAS Bibliographer: Paula Covington

## National Advisory Board

Nora England, University of Texas at Austin  
Franklin Knight, Johns Hopkins University  
Tom Reese, Tulane University  
Tom Trebat, Columbia University

## Steering Committee 2012–2013

Marshall Eakin (History)  
Earl Fitz (Spanish and Portuguese)  
Bill Fowler (Anthropology)  
Stephen Heyneman (Education)  
Mariano Sana (Sociology)  
Mavis Schorn (Nursing)  
Liz Zechmeister (Political Science)

## CLAS-Affiliated Faculty

Theron Corse, Tennessee State University (History)  
Larry Harrington, Chief Deputy, Attorney General, State of Tennessee  
Michael LaRosa, Rhodes College (History)  
Jana Morgan, University of Tennessee (Political Science)  
Stephen Morris, Middle Tennessee State University (Political Science)  
Richard Pace, Middle Tennessee State University (Anthropology)  
Gerald Reed, Tennessee Department of State  
Christoph Rosenmuller, Tennessee State University (History)  
Brent Savoie, Johns Hopkins University

## Teacher Advisory Board 2012-13

Rae Finnie, Whitsett Elementary  
Joel Covington, Cane Ridge High School  
David Julseth, Belmont University  
Stephanie Knight, Hillsboro High School  
Rob Nasatir, Father Ryan High School  
Todd Wigginton, MNPS Social Studies Coordinator

## DIRECTOR'S CORNER: EDWARD F. FISCHER

The Center for Latin American Studies is an important source of support for teaching and research on Latin American topics at Vanderbilt. We fund graduate students, subsidize language instruction in less and least commonly taught languages, and support events and activities across campus. Our many outreach programs for educators and the general public may be less visible, but are no less important. Under the direction of our Assistant Director for Outreach, Claire González, we host several K–12 teacher workshops each year, both on and off campus, on topics ranging from Brazil 101 to the Panama Canal to Afro-Latin American cultures. We also develop summer institutes for K–12 teachers—and this summer, working with the University of Georgia and Tulane University, we will offer a Portuguese for Spanish teachers institute to encourage Portuguese instruction at the secondary level.

Our outreach program also includes close partnerships with the Nashville Public Library, Cheekwood Botanical Gardens and Museum of Art, the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, and the Nashville Symphony, among others. This spring, we are working with the Frist to organize lectures and other events around their upcoming *Exploring Art of the Ancient Americas* exhibit. We collaborate closely with Cheekwood to develop educational programs around their annual Día de los Muertos festival. And this fall will see the premier of a major new puppet show we developed with the Nashville Public Library over the past couple of years.

We are grateful to those of you who give generously of your time to help support these outreach efforts, and want to remind you of their importance. We annually reach thousands of students and teachers and the general public with our off-campus outreach programs, helping spread the knowledge that we work so hard on-campus to develop.



## Exploring Art of the Ancient Americas: A CLAS and Frist Collaboration: (continued from page 1)

In addition, CLAS and the Frist have planned a ticketed dinner, “Exploring the Food of the Ancient Americas: Five-Course Tasting Menu” on March 20. Dinner guests will be treated to a private viewing of the exhibition accompanied by a talk by CLAS Director Ted Fischer, a five-course tasting menu based on ancient American foods, and a talk by Mareike Sattler (Department

of Anthropology) on the historical and social significance of the foods and drinks in each course.

All lectures and workshops will be held at the Frist Center for the Visual Arts, 919 Broadway, Nashville, TN, 37203. More information on the events can be found at [fristcenter.org](http://fristcenter.org) or [vanderbilt.edu/clas](http://vanderbilt.edu/clas).

## *Wines of Chile and Argentina with Sister Cities of Nashville, Midtown, and CLAS*

CLAS, Sister Cities, and Midtown Wine hosted a wine tasting on February 7, featuring wines from Argentina and Chile. Phil Rasico (Department of Spanish and Portuguese), Pablo Piccolo of Catena Wines, and Larry Soble of Global Vineyard Importers spoke on Argentine wines and winemaking. The event was last held in 2009, the year that Mendoza, Argentina's Mayor Víctor Fayad and Nashville Mayor Karl Dean signed an official document making Nashville and Mendoza sister cities. Mendoza is home to over 1,000 wineries and is one of Argentina's most important

wine-producing regions, accounting for more than two-thirds of the country's production.

Midtown Wine donated wine for the event, and food was provided by Sister Cities and CLAS. The Sister Cities organization promotes peace through mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation one person and one community at a time. The group coordinates exchanges for high school and college students between Nashville and Mendoza; students from Belmont University travelled to study and work with business school students at the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo in 2012.



## *Gilberto Gil Plays Schermerhorn Symphony Center*

Vanderbilt was well represented at the Gilberto Gil concert on November 5 presented by the Schermerhorn Symphony Center. Gil is an acclaimed Brazilian singer, songwriter, activist, and one of the founders of Brazil's Tropicalia movement. From 2003–2008, he served as Brazil's minister of culture. Marcio Bahia (Department of Spanish and Portuguese) worked with Schermerhorn to bring more than 70 students and faculty to the concert and arranged for students to go backstage afterwards to meet the artist.



## Faculty Publications

**Katharine Donato** (Department of Sociology) "Variation in the Gender Composition of Migrant Populations: An Introduction"; *Social Science History* (2011) 36:2 and "Shifts in the Employment Outcomes among Mexican Migrants to the United States, 1976–2009" with Blake Sisk in *Research in Social Stratification and Mobility* (2011) 30:1.

**Leonard Folgarait** (Department of History of Art) *Mexican Muralism: A Critical History*, edited by Alejandro Anreus, Leonard Folgarait, and Robin Adèle Greeley. Berkeley: University of California Press, 2012.

**José Medina** (Department of Philosophy) *The Epistemology of Resistance: Gender and Racial Oppression, Epistemic Injustice, and Resistant Imaginations*, Oxford University Press, 2012.

**Phillip Rasico** (Department of Spanish and Portuguese) published several articles, including "Josep Roca-Pons, lingüista i filòleg: alguns records d'un amic i deixeble." *Jornades de la Secció Filològica de l'Institut d'Estudis Catalans a Sitges*, 2012.

**Frank Robinson** (Department of History) "Panama for the Panamanians: The Populism of Arnulfo Arias Madrid." Michael L. Conniff, ed., *Populism in Latin America*. 2nd ed., Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 2012.

**Helena Simonett** (Latin American Studies) *Ca'anáriam: Hombre que no hizo fuego*. Instituto Sinaloense de Cultura (ISIC), Sinaloa: Gobierno del Estado de Sinaloa: 2012. This illustrated children's book in Yoreme and Spanish was created in collaboration with Mexican indigenous musician Bernardo Esquer López.

"Cantos de venado: New Insights into Mexican Indigenous Performance and Composition Practices." *Flower World: Music Archaeology of the Americas*, edited by Arnd Adje Booth and Matthias Stöckli (Berlin, Ekho Verlag: 2012)

**Steve Wernke** (Department of Anthropology): *Negotiated Settlements: Andean Communities and Landscapes under Inka and Spanish Colonialism*. Gainesville: University Press of Florida, 2013.

## Faculty News

**Arthur Demarest** (Department of Anthropology) received a \$90,000 research grant from the Alphawood Foundation for the Vanderbilt Cancuén Regional Archaeological Project. Located on the Passion River in northern Guatemala, Cancuén was an important trade route and has one of the largest and richest royal palaces known in the Maya world. Demarest recently won a National Geographic Society Research Exploration grant to excavate the ancient Maya site of Raxruja Viejo.

**Katharine Donato** (Department of Sociology) gave a keynote address at the Conference on Migrations between Africa and Europe in Paris and a lecture at the Poverty and Immigration Conference held at UC-Davis.

**Marshall Eakin** (Department of History) was the keynote speaker at the 62nd Annual Conference of the UF Center for Latin American Studies February 14–15, 2013. The conference, themed *Emergent Brazil*, highlights Brazil's recent emergence as a global player in international economic and political affairs.

**Ted Fischer** (Department of Anthropology) delivered the Inter-American Lecture at the Inter-American Development Bank on October 4 on "The Once and Future Maya: Cultural Revival and Resurgence in the Modern World." He also spoke on "The Middle Class in Emerging Markets" at the Nashville Chamber of Commerce in August.

**Jane Landers** (Department of History) was interviewed by Skip Gates for a new PBS documentary called *The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross*. The documentary follows the earliest Africans to come to the Americas and runaway slaves from Carolina who were given freedom in Spanish Florida, Gracia Real de Santa Teresa de Mose. Landers also participated with noted novelist and Vanderbilt alumnus Madison Smartt Bell on a panel on the slave revolt in Saint Domingue at the Southern Festival of Books.



## CLASP Meeting at Vanderbilt

In October, CLAS hosted the annual meeting of the executive committee of the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP). Eleven representatives from Centers for Latin American Studies across the country traveled to Vanderbilt for the two-day meeting. The committee discussed the launch of the organization's commissioned paper series, collaborative initiatives for outreach, and strategies for less and least commonly taught language programs.

Paula Covington gave a tour of Vanderbilt library to the visitors, who were impressed by the *Stage and Screen* exhibit. The group

got a taste of the Nashville music scene on Friday night and enjoyed Southern food at Rotier's. Avery Dickins de Girón, chair of the Language Committee, hosted the group.

Pictured in the photo (left to right) are Avery Dickins de Girón (Vanderbilt), Matt Van Hoose (Indiana), Valerie McGinley Marshall (Tulane), Elizabeth Sáenz Ackerman (Stanford), Vince Gawronski (Birmingham Southern), Elizabeth Mahan (Connecticut), Julie Walsh (Georgetown), Natalie Arsenault (Texas-Austin), David Arrianza (UCLA), Amanda Wolfe (New Mexico), Paul Duncan (Georgia) and Liesl Picard (FIU).

## Peter Kornbluh of the National Security Archive Visits Vanderbilt

CLAS invited Peter Kornbluh, a senior analyst for the National Security Archive, to Vanderbilt in November to discuss his work declassifying government documents. His area of focus is Latin America with a special emphasis on Chile and Cuba.

Kornbluh delivered a public lecture to a full house, "Saving the World from Armageddon: The Secret Diplomacy of the Cuban Missile Crisis." He discussed the incorrect lessons learned from the crisis due to the secrecy of the Kennedy administration. According to Kornbluh, Kennedy was not a "resolute" president, but he was a "resolution" president.

LAS graduate students had the chance to sit down and talk to Kornbluh about his career in an informal meeting. Paula Covington and Bill Fowler invited him

to speak in LAS 290 (Research Methods), where he discussed his work in obtaining declassified documents about Charles Horman and Frank Teruggi, American citizens killed by the Chilean government during the 1973 Chilean coup. He also taught the students how to search for declassified documents in the National Security Archive and other government databases.



# Dr. Doug Morgan Keeps His Focus on Stomach Cancer in Central America

**D**oug Morgan recently joined the Vanderbilt School of Medicine faculty as an associate professor in the Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition. His primary interest is cancer epidemiology and prevention in Hispanic-Latino populations, with a particular focus on stomach cancer in Central America. Globally, gastric cancer is the second leading cause of cancer mortality, and the leading infection-associated cancer, with a particular prevalence in the mountainous regions of Latin America and among U.S. Hispanics. He joins the team of researchers at Vanderbilt, a national leader in stomach cancer research.

Dr. Morgan arrives in Nashville after a decade at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. In addition to his work in gastroenterology, he served as director of the UNC Center for Latino Health (CELAH) 2007–2011, and director of the UNC Program in Nicaragua. With grant funding, CELAH was created to address language barriers to care for the rapidly growing Spanish-speaking community in the Southeastern U.S. CELAH has developed an innovative model for culture and language concordance in the provision of clinical care for the Hispanic population. It includes features of patient navigation and medical home, which reaches to the sub-specialties. The infrastructure has provided a natural platform for research and teaching initiatives. CELAH now offers rotations and practicums for students and trainees, which are formal electives (in Spanish) within the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy, and Public Health. It also has become a network for bringing together Hispanic faculty in the health sciences.

In 2011, Dr. Morgan was presented with the Ohtli Award on behalf of CELAH, the highest honor from the government of Mexico, for innovations in health care in

the service of the North Carolina Hispanic-Latino population. Past Ohtli Award winners include: Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis, former New Mexico governor Bill Richardson, and President of the United Farm Workers Arturo Rodriguez.

Dr. Morgan has been anchored in Central America since his service as a Peace Corps engineer in Honduras, where he worked on rural electrification projects with the *municipios*. While at UNC, he established collaborations in gastrointestinal disease and cancer epidemiology in Honduras, Nicaragua, and El Salvador, with funding from the NIH, the Gates Foundation, and other sectors. In Honduras, the initiatives are partnered with the Ministry of Health in the Copán region, and in western Nicaragua, with the National Autonomous University (UNAN) in León. The epidemiology initiatives have spawned a variety of education offerings, including clinical, research, and practicum electives in medicine, nursing, and public health. He is hoping to restart the summer field epidemiology elective for health sciences graduate students in the Mosquitia region of Nicaragua, a partnership with UNAN.

Dr. Doug Morgan attended Dartmouth College and received his medical degree from Case Western Reserve University. He completed his postgraduate training in internal medicine and gastroenterology at the University of California, San Francisco, with a master's degree in public health in epidemiology at the University of California, Berkeley.

A Peace Corps adage: volunteers returning from Asia speak of mysticism; those from Africa are smiling; while those returning from Latin America converse about revolution and politics and change. Así es.

*Contributed by Elizabeth Murphy*

## Faculty News cont.

**Liz Zechmeister** (Department of Political Science) received the Jeffrey Nordhaus Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching from the College of Arts and Science in October.

## Graduate Student News

**Courtney Campbell** (Department of History) is currently on a IIE Graduate Fellowship for dissertation research in Brazil. Her research focuses on regional identity formation and globalization, and she has travelled to historical and cultural archives in Pernambuco, Paraíba, Ceará, Rio Grande do Norte, Maranhão, Piauí, Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, and Bahia.

**Daniel Zizumbo** (Department of Political Science) participated in a symposium entitled "La Milpa de los Mayas" as part of the Mundo Maya de Yucatán conference held in Merida, Yucatán, in December 2012.

## CLAS Alumni Updates

**Hamilton Bowman** (M.A. 2003), a Latin American studies and Owen School of Management graduate, is the chief operating officer at Enable-Comp in Franklin, Tennessee. He and his wife of nine years have two beautiful daughters.

**Jason Howard** (B.A. 1999) is an agricultural commodity broker at American Commodities Brokerage Company in New York City. He works across all continents, except Antarctica, and uses Spanish and Portuguese daily in his job. After marrying a lovely woman from Brazil, he also uses Portuguese at home.

**Matthew Layton** (M.A. 2009) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Political Science Department at Vanderbilt University. His areas of interest are comparative politics and American politics.

**Kevin McDonald** (B.A. 1978) is a partner at McDonald Lehner, an investment banking firm. He arranges mergers and acquisitions in Latin America. He recently published an article, "Salários dos Executivos em São Paulo são os Mais Altos do Mundo" in *Investimentos e Notícias*, a Brazilian publication.

## CLAS Alumni Updates cont.

**Brian McNaughton** (M.A. 1998) is currently serving as deputy commander for operations at Fort Sam Houston and U.S. Army South. This command has purview of all Army security cooperation activities with the U.S. partner-nation armies in Latin America. Last year, he adopted three siblings, which brought his grand total of children to eight.

**Becky Reuse** (M.A. 2011) recently accepted a job in as placement specialist for LASPAU (Academic and Professional Programs for the Americas) at Harvard University. LASPAU handles many scholarship and professional development programs including the Fulbright. In her position, Becky helps students who are accepted into the Ciência sem Fronteiras program prepare, plan, and carry out the U.S. Ph.D. program application process.

**Isabel Segovia** (M.A. 1997) lives in Bogotá, Colombia. After working for the Ministry of Education in Colombia, as the director of access to education and later as the vice-minister, she has moved on to a nonprofit. She is currently working for La Fundación Compartir, one of the oldest and largest foundations in Colombia. The foundation works to construct houses and buildings for those affected by natural disasters and to build educational programs for the less privileged. In her personal life, she has a beautiful daughter.

**Ellen Weirich** (M.A. 2002) is teaching Spanish at St. Mary's Episcopal School in Memphis, Tennessee.

**Brian Wortham** (M.A. 2003) is the director of marketing at Dianne's Fine Desserts in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.



## 2013 Brazilian Culture and Portuguese Language Intensive Summer Program

The Summer in Brazil intensive academic program is organized by Vanderbilt, Tulane, and Emory universities with the Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo (PUC-SP). The program offers immersion in the Portuguese language as well as coursework on Brazilian culture and a number of excursions.

In summer 2013, the program will be held from **June 15–July 26**. Both graduate and undergraduate students are eligible to attend. The program qualifies as a FLAS-approved program with 140 contact hours of language instruction.

Students interested in applying should visit the CLAS website for information regarding application procedures and deadlines, or contact [helena.simonett@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:helena.simonett@vanderbilt.edu).

### CERTIFICATE IN LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

CLAS offers graduate students from different departments and schools at Vanderbilt the opportunity to complete a Certificate in Latin American Studies. The certificate allows students to document their regional specialization by earning the certificate, which is awarded in conjunction with their M.A. or Ph.D. The LAS Certificate also encourages graduate students to study outside of their disciplinary specialization. For more information on the certificate, please see "Graduate Students" on the CLAS website.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSION TO THE 4+1 PROGRAM

The College of Arts and Science at Vanderbilt University offers students in most departments and programs the opportunity to earn both the bachelor's degree and the master's degree in a shorter period of time and at less cost than is normally the case. The usual period of study for both the bachelor's and the master's degree is six years. Through the 4+1 option, the student with her or his advisor plans a five-year program of study. Undergraduate completion of major in LAS (or in exceptional cases, a closely related field with sufficient LAS content), LAS 201, and LAS 290 during undergraduate years, and submission of application to 4+1 program in junior year are required. For more information, go to: [vanderbilt.edu/clas/undergraduate](http://vanderbilt.edu/clas/undergraduate)

## *CLAS Educates with Altars, Butterflies, and Crafts at Día de los Muertos at Cheekwood*

For the second half of October, a colorful altar adorned with yellow and orange flowers, photographs, incense, food, and perhaps most memorably, sugar skulls greeted everyone who passed through the main stairwell of Buttrick Hall at Vanderbilt CLAS staff and graduate students constructed the altar for the annual Día de los Muertos Festival, held at Cheekwood on October 27. Each year, CLAS partners with Cheekwood to develop and provide educational activities and crafts at the festival for children and adults, and distributes a pamphlet on the customs of the celebration in Latin America. CLAS also works with Cheekwood to offer a teacher workshop each fall on some aspect of the Día de los Muertos tradition. This year the focus was on monarch butterflies as symbols of the cyclical nature of life and their annual migration from North America to Mexico.

The day at Cheekwood was a brilliant celebration of Mexican and Latin American culture complete with art, music, dancing, and food. Dozens of vendors lined the

outdoor space, while high school students crafted sidewalk chalk murals and a mariachi band entertained. Although it was remarkably cold, over 3,000 people attended. There were many activities inside the Botanic Hall, where the heart of the celebration, the altars, were displayed. Families and groups throughout the community, including Vanderbilt's Center for Latin American Studies and Katharine Donato's Contemporary Mexican Society class, set up vibrant and unique altars as tributes to those who have passed away. Dance troupes and musical performers serenaded the full auditorium as everyone enjoyed traditional Mexican cuisine.

New at the festival this year was the Monarch Butterfly Room, designed by area teachers after they attended the CLAS teacher workshop. In this room, festival participants learned about the species' migration to Mexico and helped recreate the habitat by crafting their own butterflies.

*Contributed by Chelsea Williams*



### **The Society for the Anthropology of Lowland South America (SALSA)**

2013 meetings will be held at Vanderbilt, from March 7–10, 2013. This gathering of Amazonian anthropologists is being hosted by Vanderbilt, with Beth Conklin of Vanderbilt's Department of Anthropology responsible for general conference organization and Carlos D. Londoño Sulkin of the University of Regina responsible for the academic program. Academic paper panels, workshops, and film screenings will be offered as part of the program.

### **Mexican Studies Group**

MSG is co-sponsored by the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities and the Center for Latin American Studies. In its third year, this group brings together faculty and graduate students from history, political science, literature, sociology, art, anthropology, music, pedagogy, and Latin American studies.

On January 28, Lance Ingwersen (Ph.D. student in history) gave a brown bag lunch talk on "Associative Life, Urban Citizenship, and Democratic Practice in the Mexican Capital, 1867–1920."

On Monday, February 25, Chris Boyer (associate professor of history and Latin American and Latino studies, University of Illinois at Chicago), will visit Vanderbilt. Professor Boyer's scholarship is located at the crossroads of the social and environmental history of modern Mexico. His brown bag lunch talk is entitled "Land, Water, and Forests: The Environment and Mexican History." Professor Boyer will also give a public lecture at 4:10 p.m. on "Political Landscapes: Forests and Social Contention in Twentieth-Century Mexico."

## Guatemala Focus of CLAS Booth at Celebrate Nashville

CLAS took part in the Celebrate Nashville Festival on October 6 in Centennial Park by hosting a booth on Guatemala. The most popular in the global village, the booth had people lined up throughout the day waiting to find out the meaning of their birthdate in the Mayan calendar. Pakal B'alam and his family organized this activity; CLAS and other graduate students assisted and helped explain the cultural significance of various Guatemalan items from the center's culture box. Carlos Girón and Carmelina Espantzay represented Guatemala in the "wisdom circle," where they shared their thoughts on local and international community issues. Thousands of people came out to enjoy the festival, designed to promote cultural awareness, celebrate diversity, and highlight the fact that more than fifty different cultures make their home in Nashville. The day was filled with food, music, dancing, and cultural discussions. Fifty-five musical groups participated in the day, including the drumming group of LAS student Charlie Gilbert.

## Graduate Students Take Part in Teleconference with Universidad del Valle

Three graduate students in the Department of Anthropology participated in a conference in Guatemala using the Polycam system available at Vanderbilt. The conference was part of IV Colloquia on Anthropology and Sociology, organized by the Universidad del Valle in Guatemala. The students presented preliminary data collected last summer in Guatemala, research supported by the CLAS summer grants. Ixchel Carmelina Espantzay Serech spoke on "Percepciones y decepciones: Las candidatas mayas en las elecciones del 2011 en Guatemala," Tatiana Paz Lemus presented her research on "Educación y desarrollo: explorando sus intersecciones desde Tactic, Alta Verapaz," and Felipe A. Girón gave a talk titled "Entre el presente democrático y el pasado autoritario: trayectorias de vida y contexto social en el Oriente de Guatemala, el caso de Zacapa."



## *Vanderbilt and Universidad de los Andes Sign Memorandum of Understanding*

In November, Bart Victor (Owen Graduate School of Management), Peter Martin (School of Medicine), and CLAS Director Ted Fischer travelled to Bogotá to meet with Universidad de los Andes officials to explore areas of mutual interest. Vanderbilt's ties to los Andes include the Institute for Coffee Studies

and LAPOP, which recently received a grant from USAID to continue its research with the Colombian university. While there, Vanderbilt faculty signed a memorandum of understanding with los Andes, which will enable the two institutions to explore further areas of cooperation.

## *Brent Savoie Appointed as CLAS Affiliated Faculty*

Dr. Brent Savoie is a physician and legal scholar with more than a decade of experience working with rural health programs and conducting health and human rights research in Guatemala. Brent is the president of the Inter-American Health Alliance (IAHA); in this role he has helped develop a successful partnership with CLAS, collaborating on programs in Guatemala. He is the co-founder of Primeros Pasos, a rural health program in the Department of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, that provides medical care, dental care, and health education services.



Brent is a graduate from Vanderbilt University (A&S '01) and Vanderbilt University Medical School ('09). He was awarded the Jefferson Scholars Graduate Fellowship in Law to study health and human rights law, and graduated from University of Virginia School of Law in 2007. His research focuses on the intersection of health and human rights law and intellectual property law. He has conducted research on the impact of international intellectual property provisions in the Central America Free Trade Agreement on access to medicines in Central America. He currently practices medicine at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland.

## Américas Award 2012

The Américas Award for Children's and Young Adult Literature, a book award co-coordinated by Vanderbilt and Tulane and sponsored by CLASP (Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs), was presented at the Library of Congress on October 5, 2012. The award honors authors and illustrators who produce quality children's and young adult books which best portray Latin America. Fiction and nonfiction books are selected for their distinctive literary quality, cultural contextualization, illustration and design, and potential for classroom use. 2012 winners were Monica Brown and Julie Paschkis for *Pablo Neruda: Poet of the People* and Margarita Engle for *Hurricane Dancers*. The award aims to link the Americas beyond geographic borders, focusing instead on cultural heritages within the hemisphere,

and encourages the exploration of complex themes in the classroom and at home.

A unique element of the Américas Award is the emphasis placed on potential for classroom use. This year's program featured a professional development workshop for educators at Busboys & Poets, coordinated by Tulane and Vanderbilt with Teaching for Change, Henry Holt and Company, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Teachers heard presentations by 2012 award winners Monica Brown, Julie Paschkis, and Margarita Engle, as well as strategies for incorporating Latino children's literature in the classroom from experienced facilitators. Vanderbilt sponsored one media specialist, Connie Sharp, from Metro Nashville Public Schools to attend both the awards ceremony and teacher workshop; she is currently creating curriculum with CLAS staff around the books featured in the award.

## Anthropology Speaker Series

CLAS co-sponsored two lectures organized by the Department of Anthropology as part of their Fall Speaker Series featuring visiting speakers Charles E. Orser and Axel Nielsen. Orser (New York State Museum) discussed *quilombos* in Brazil and peasant Irish settlements in Ireland in his lecture, "Strategies Toward an Archaeology of Self-Liberation." Nielsen (Instituto Nacional de Antropología y Pensamiento Latinoamericano, Argentina), spoke about his research on the interaction at llama caravan hubs in relation to the archaeological study of ancient trade networks in his talk titled, "Llama Caravan Hubs in the South Central Andes: Ethnography and Archaeology."

# Exploring Brazil

A WINDOW INTO THE LANGUAGE  
& CULTURE OF A COUNTRY ON THE RISE  
SUMMER K-12 TEACHER INSTITUTE  
JUNE 9 – 13, 2013 • ATHENS, GEORGIA

Center for Latin  
American Studies  
VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY



VANDERBILT.EDU/CLAS/OUTREACH/OUTREACH-OPPORTUNITIES

## Project Nicaragua Chapter Founded at Vanderbilt

The Vanderbilt University Chapter of Project Nicaragua, a nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the quality and accessibility of health care in Nicaragua, is in its first year as a student service organization at Vanderbilt. The founding executive board members will make their first trip to Nicaragua for two weeks in May to determine the needs of the partner community and how best they can create a lasting and sustainable impact. The group will work with La Mascota Children's Hospital, the National Ophthalmology Center, and Chacraseca Clinic. While there, the students plan to distribute hundreds of donated eyeglasses, dental supplies, and personal care items, offer assistance to nurses and physicians, and help with educational programs on health, hygiene, nutrition, and first aid. All of the officers look forward to learning, growing, and serving together as an organization, and bringing back their experiences to share with the Vanderbilt community. For further information, please contact [projectnicvanderbilt@gmail.com](mailto:projectnicvanderbilt@gmail.com).

## Department of Spanish and Portuguese Speakers Fall 2012

CLAS also co-sponsored several visitors hosted by the Spanish and Portuguese department in fall 2012. Writer Conceição Evaristo (Universidade Federal Fluminense) spoke about the exclusion of Afro-Brazilian women writers in literature and Eduardo de Assis Duarte (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais) discussed critiques of Afro-Brazilian literature. Professor Santiago Morales Rivera from the University of California at Irvine gave a lecture titled, "La Invención de Sandoval: de La Memoria Histórica de La Imaginación Siniestra." Afro-Cuban scholar and literary critic Roberto Zurbarano spoke on black themes in Cuban letters in his talk, "Raza, Literatura y Nación: El triángulo invisible del Siglo XX Cubano."

## FACULTY PROFILE

### *Emanuelle Oliveira-Monte, Department of Spanish and Portuguese*

*Associate Professor of Luso-Brazilian Literature Emanuelle Oliveira-Monte studies Afro-Brazilian literature, race relations, the relationship between literature and politics, and popular culture.*

She teaches Portuguese language and literature courses, as well as seminars on Brazilian cinema and popular Brazilian culture. Originally from Rio de Janeiro, Oliveira did her doctoral study at UCLA and has been at Vanderbilt since 2002. Since then she and other Portuguese faculty have worked closely with CLAS to build Vanderbilt's Portuguese program into one of the top in the nation.

Oliveira's first book, *Writing Identity: The Politics of Contemporary Afro-Brazilian Literature* (2007, Purdue), examines the intricate connections between literary production and political action by focusing on the Brazilian black movement and the literature of a São Paulo-based group of Afro-Brazilian writers, the Quilombhoje. Her current research project explores the representations of race vis á vis crime and violence in Brazilian literature and cinema, and will serve as the basis of her upcoming book, *The Color of Crime: Representations of Race and Delinquency in Contemporary Brazilian Literature and Cinema*.

Oliveira works closely with CLAS to put together events at Vanderbilt on Brazil,



including a conference on human rights in Brazil in 2010, a film festival with director Beto Brant in 2012, and lectures by Eduardo de Assis Duarte and Conceição Evaristo this past fall.

Oliveira sits on the editorial boards for the *Afro-Hispanic Review*, *Chasqui*, and *Transmodernity: Journal of Peripheral Cultural Production of the Luso-Hispanic World*. She is a member of the Luso-Brazilian section of the Modern Language Association and was the treasurer of the the Brazilian section of the Latin American Studies Association. Professor Oliveira is a current member and former executive member of Brazilian Studies Association (BRASA).

Among her other publications are several articles: "An Ethic of Esthetic: Racial Representations in Brazilian Cinema Today" in *Vanderbilt E-Journal of Luso-Hispanic Studies*, "Revisitando o Cânone Brasileiro: Autores Negros Contemporâneos e Sua Re-interpretação Crítica da Poesia Negra no Modernismo" in *Ethnos Brasil*, and "O Gosto Amargo da Festa – Literatura e Momento Político no Brasil: 1960/1990" in *Luso-Brazilian Review*.

*Contributed by Yvonne White*

## CLAS OUTREACH



### *CLAS Welcomes La Camioneta Filmmaker*

In January, CLAS welcomed its alum Mark Kendall (M.A. 2009), filmmaker and producer of *La Camioneta: The Journey of One American School Bus*. The documentary tells the story of buses which leave the United States on a south-bound migration to Guatemala, where they are repaired, repainted, and resurrected as the brightly colored camionetas, and carry many Guatemalans to work each day.

CLAS organized a number of activities around Kendall's visit to Vanderbilt. He presented the film at the January 29 International Lens screening and led a discussion with the audience following the showing. Vanderbilt students in film studies and LAS also had the chance to meet and talk to Kendall at a brown bag lunch. Assistant Director for Outreach Claire González arranged for the Belcourt Theater to host a showing for area high school students. Another screening, at Conexión America's new home, Casa Azafrán on Nolensville Road, gave another opportunity for members of the Nashville community to see the film. Conexión Américas promotes the social, economic, and civic integration of Latino families in Middle Tennessee.

CLAS supported production of the film and more recently has been working closely with Kendall to develop curriculum materials on the film that can be used in K–12 classrooms. These materials were presented to teachers at the professional development workshop on January 31. Educators attending the workshop had the opportunity to interact with Kendall and CLAS Director Ted Fischer as well as joining in a discussion about modern Guatemala.

### *MAESTRA: CLAS Black History Month 2013*

In February 2013, in honor of Black History Month, CLAS offered a series of events around the documentary *Maestra*. Catherine Murphy, director and producer, visited Vanderbilt February 18–21. The documentary, which premiered in the U.S. in 2011, tells the story of the Cuban Literacy Campaign of 1961, when 250,000 volunteers taught 700,000 people to read and write in one year. The campaign is thought by many to have been one of the most successful literacy campaigns to date and a pinnacle moment in the history of the Americas.

Activities that week included an International Lens film screening on February 19, followed by a discussion with Murphy, a K–12 teacher workshop, and two lunch discussion panels. Following the visit to Vanderbilt, Murphy traveled to Tuskegee with CLAS faculty and staff where CLAS and Tuskegee offered a film screening and teacher workshop. The events were sponsored by CLAS, Vanderbilt's Film Studies Program, Women's and Gender Studies, the Robert Penn Warren Center, and Peabody International Education Affairs.

### **CLAS Welcomes New FAO Student Jessica Turner**



Jessica Turner is from Payson, Utah, and is a captain in the United States Army. She is fulfilling her dream of becoming a Latin American

Foreign Area Officer (FAO) and came to Vanderbilt in January 2013 as part of the military's FAO training program. Jessica spent the past year living in Panama, working at the U.S. Embassy and traveling throughout Central and South America as well as the Caribbean. She previously lived in Argentina, where her love for Latin America began. She is particularly interested in *La Guerra Sucia* and the military's involvement.

### **LAPOP News**

On December 1, 2012, the Latin American Opinion Project released the *AmericasBarometer* 2012 survey data. The fifth round of *AmericasBarometer* tackles the tremendous gaps in opportunities experienced by and resources available to the region's citizens. The data, collected in the majority of countries with smart phones, includes 41,632 interviews collected from 26 countries in the Americas. The information, which in the past has been free of charge to other researchers, is now available online to the public for free at [vanderbilt.edu/lapop/free-access.php](http://vanderbilt.edu/lapop/free-access.php).

In early 2013, the *Insights* series, which provides an analysis of key data gathered by the *AmericasBarometer*, will resume; anyone can sign up to receive these insights by sending an email to [insight@mail.americasbarometer.org](mailto:insight@mail.americasbarometer.org). LAPOP recently received an important grant from USAID to continue its collaborative research with the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, as well as another substantial grant from USAID in support of the *AmericasBarometer* and special studies focused on crime and violence in the region.



## COMING UP AT CLAS



**February 19–22**

*Maestra* Film Screening,  
Panel Discussions,  
Teacher Workshops

**March 1–June 23**

*Exploring Art of  
the Ancient Americas:  
The John Bourne  
Collection* at Frist  
Center for the  
Visual Arts



**March 7–10**

SALSA 2013 Conference  
(see page 7)



**May 5**

Music City Baroque Performance  
at Benton Chapel, 3 p.m

**June 9–13**

CLAS K–16 Summer Institute,  
*Exploring Brazil: A Window into  
the Language and Culture of a  
Country on the Rise*, at University  
of Georgia–Athens



**June 15–July 26**

Brazilian Culture and Portuguese  
Language in São Paulo  
Summer Program

**July 10–12**

Guatemala Scholars' Network  
Conference in Antigua, Guatemala

"Vanderbilt" and the Vanderbilt logo are registered trademarks and service marks of Vanderbilt University. Produced by Vanderbilt University Creative Services and Vanderbilt Printing Services, 2013.

Printed on paper with 30 percent post-consumer recycled content with ink made from renewable resources, as part of the university's commitment to environmental stewardship and natural resource protection.

This publication is recyclable. Please recycle it.



Contains 30% recycled  
post-consumer content



**VANDERBILT**  
UNIVERSITY

Center for Latin American Studies  
PMB 351806  
2301 Vanderbilt Place  
Nashville, TN 37235-1806