



LES HAINES

New Sources for the Study of Slave Societies Conference Held at Vanderbilt

On February 2–4, the Jean and Alexander Heard Library hosted an international conference to launch the Ecclesiastical and Secular Sources for Slave Societies (ESSSS) Digital Archive and website (vanderbilt.edu/esss/index.php). The archive is the result of a major National Endowment for the Humanities Collaborative Research Grant directed by Jane Landers, Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of History and acting director of the center, with collaborators, Paul Lovejoy, Canadian Research Chair in African History and director of the Harriet Tubman Institute for Research on the Global Migrations of African Peoples, at York University, Toronto, and Mariza Soares, director of the Brasil-Africa Research Group at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Rio de Janeiro. The collaborators focused originally on the preservation of records in Cuba and Brazil and with additional grants from the British Library Endangered Archives Programme, they have also added Colombian materials to the archive. The conference, that showcased Vanderbilt's impressive investments in black Atlantic and African diaspora in Latin America, was part of the Center for Latin American Studies' year-long programming on the theme of Afro-Latin America: Historical, Cultural, and Artistic Representations.

María Elisa Velázquez, president of the UNESCO Tracking the Slave Route Project and researcher at the Mexican Institute of History and Anthropology (INAH) inaugurated the

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Cafezinho/Cafecito at CLAS

Each month, CLAS now hosts an informal cafecito/cafezinho. Come by CLAS anytime from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. for a cup of Rumba Roast coffee—no RSVP needed. Please check weekly emails for upcoming dates.

CLAS Releases Occasional Paper on Mexican Direct Foreign Investment in Tennessee

A recent study by CLAS shows the significant and growing capital investment by Mexican multinationals in Tennessee alongside that of companies from Japan, Germany, and Canada.

Part of the CLAS Occasional Papers Series, the study was published in September 2011 by CLAS Director Ted Fischer, CLAS Affiliated Faculty Larry Harrington, and Mateo A. Perez-Rodriguez, economist and alumnus of Vanderbilt's graduate program in economic development.

If you are seeking an opportunity to vet and share your current academic work, CLAS is now accepting paper submissions for review and potential inclusion in the Occasional Papers Series. For further information or to make a submission, direct emails to clas@vanderbilt.edu.

Universidade de São Paulo Vice-Rector of International Relations, Adnei Melges de Andrade, Visits Vanderbilt

Vanderbilt welcomed Adnei Melges de Andrade, the vice-rector for international relations at the University of São Paulo (USP), on Feb. 1–2. Vice-Rector Andrade, along with economics professor and long-time collaborator in Vanderbilt's FIPSE/CAPES program, Carlos Azzoni, met with key individuals at Vanderbilt to discuss the many joint collaborations

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DIRECTOR'S CORNER: JANE LANDERS

It has been a sincere pleasure to work with the great staff and faculty of the Center for Latin American Studies this year as interim director, and I want to express my gratitude for all the support and collegiality I've experienced. Although the drastic cutbacks in federal funding for the center were a blow as we began our year, creativity, good will, and collaboration enabled us to do some wonderful programming nevertheless, and even to launch some new initiatives.

Some of those were based on our thematic focus for the year, recognizing the United Nations “Decade for the Peoples of African Descent,” or *Afrodescendientes*. The Inter-American Development Bank published a report in 1996 estimating that as many as 150 million Latin Americans, about a third of the region's population, are descendants of African slaves. Persons of African descent today form significant minorities in many Latin American countries, and are now a majority population in Brazil, the sixth largest economy in the world. Brazil, Colombia, and Nicaragua have recognized these populations in their constitutions and now require the teaching of their history in public schools and universities, creating a great demand for research, curricular development, and teacher training. CLAS is dedicated to helping fill that demand.

An international conference during Black History Month launched the re-designed Ecclesiastical and Secular Sources for Slave Societies Digital Archive and Website and enabled exchange of the latest research on Africans and their descendants in Cuba, Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico. María Elisa Velázquez (INAH), the first woman president of the UNESCO Tracking the Slave Route Project, opened the event. CLAS also co-sponsored an international Black Migration Symposium this spring and organized a very successful teacher/educator workshop on Afro-Brazil at Tuskegee University. CLAS plans to develop additional exchanges and programs with Tuskegee with the help of Rhonda Collier, Ph.D., professor of English and a Vanderbilt graduate in comparative literature, and Lisa Beth Hill, Ph.D., chairman of the Department of History and Political Science.

CLAS has also supported the development of interdisciplinary area studies groups on campus that highlight the deep strengths we have in Andean, Brazilian, and Mexican studies, in addition to those already developed in Guatemalan studies. Small grants from CLAS have enabled these groups to host guest speakers and program cultural events such as music and film festivals. Among our guests this semester were acclaimed Mexican filmmaker, Natalia Almada, and Brazilian director, Beto Brant, who screened films and engaged with Vanderbilt faculty and students, as well as with the larger Nashville community. CLAS also co-sponsored a Mexican studies symposium and a Mexican election debate with Sergio Gastelum of the Mexican Electoral Institute, and a reception for the former president of Mexico, Vicente Fox, and former governor and congressman of New Mexico, Bill Richardson, on campus for the IMPACT series.

This semester we have also worked to strengthen our decade-long partnership with the top-ranked university in Latin America, the Universidade de São Paulo. CLAS welcomed visits by Adnei Melgues de Andrade, USP's vice-rector for international affairs and Carlos Azzoni of the Faculdade de Economia e Administração. Vanderbilt's Vice Provost for International Affairs, Tim McNamara, will return the visit later this spring. While in Brazil this spring with the Owen MBA program, Marshall Eakin worked with Azzoni to plan additional events with USP for next fall.

Meanwhile, CLAS will run additional summer language programs in Brazil and Guatemala and my co-directors, Marshall Eakin and Celso Castilho, and I will make site visits to our ongoing FIPSE student exchange projects in Recife, Rio Grande do Sul, Salvador and São Paulo, promoting further engagements with CLAS and Vanderbilt.

Ted Fischer will return as director of CLAS in the fall after a well-deserved sabbatical year.

Slave Societies Conference

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conference giving the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities' Annual Black Atlantic History Lecture entitled "Africans and Afrodescendant Women in Mexico City During Colonial Times: Social Relationships and Cultural Reproduction." Listen to the podcast at vanderbilt.edu/clas/podcasts-publications-2/velasquez.

Conference presenters included: Paul Lovejoy on "The British Library Project to Digitize the Public Archives of Sierra Leone"; Mariza Soares on "Ecclesiastical Sources and the Study of Slave Society in Rio de Janeiro"; Pablo Gómez, of Texas Christian University, on "Black, Sick, and Forgotten: 18th- and 19th-Century Sources from the Colombian Pacific and La Guajira"; René Souldre-LaFrance, King's College, University of Western Ontario, on "Sailing through the Sacraments: Parish Books on Board and Ashore from Cartagena de Indias"; David Wheat, Michigan State University, on "Havana Cathedral's *Libro de Barajas: A New Source for the Social History of the Early Spanish Caribbean*"; Oscar Grandío Moráquez on "Uncovering the Origins of African Slaves in the Historical and Ecclesiastical Archives of Matanzas, Cuba"; and William

Luis, Vanderbilt University, "Researching the Chinese Diaspora to Cuba I The ESSSS Digital Archive." Vanderbilt graduate students, Angela Sutton, Joanna Elrick, and John Maddox also presented on their dissertations in progress on Africans and their descendants in Latin America. The conference also featured a digital archive workshop showcasing the technical contributions and support of personnel critical to the success of the ESSSS project including Vanderbilt University's Director of Innovative Technologies, Marshall Breeding, Department of History graduate student, Courtney Campbell, and David LaFavor, Berry College.

Mona Fredrick and Kate Rattner of the Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities also previewed the soon to be launched "Who Speaks for the Negro?" digital archive, and Latin American Bibliographer Paula Covington showcased Vanderbilt's unique Colombiana collections—The Manuel Zapata Olivella and Helguera Collections. Olivella is an Afro-Colombian physician, anthropologist, folklorist, and diplomat who is regarded as one of the most distinguished figures in contemporary Colombian literature. William Luis, editor of the *Afro-Hispanic Review*, and Pablo Gómez were instrumental in acquiring the premier collection.

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and initiatives between the two universities. The visit included a Cafezinho at the Center, which provided an opportunity for faculty, staff, and students to meet the vice-rector and to learn more about the partnership. USP has research support for scholars seeking a research base for periods of anywhere from a few weeks to a full year. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Carolyn Miller at carolyn.miller@vanderbilt.edu.

In addition, four undergraduate economics students from the Universidade de Sao Paulo visited Vanderbilt between February 6–13, 2012. Winners of COPECO (Competition of Economic Policies in Brazil) in 2011, the students gave a presentation, "An Experimental Contribution to Brazilian Public Education." They also met with several faculty members to discuss hosting a parallel competition for Vanderbilt students, visited classes, and participated in a discussion on education in Latin America with Latin American Humphreys Fellows Sonia Dias, Julietta Sandoya, and Alonso Silva. Following their visit to Vanderbilt, the group made stops in New York and Washington, D.C.

Universidade Federal de Pernambuco Student at Vanderbilt in Spring 2012

Pedro Torreão, from the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, became the first exchange student from Vanderbilt's new FIPSE/CAPES consortium with the University of Florida and the Universidad Federal do Rio Grande do Sul and Pernambuco. Pedro is in residence at McTyeire International House. Vanderbilt is also hosting three doctoral students from Brazil who are being funded by Brazilian state and national grants. Maria Emilia Vasconcelos dos Santos from UNICAMP, Maira Chinelatto Alves from USP, and Francisca Carla Santos Ferrer from USP have become active participants in CLAS events and we welcome them all.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Department of Education has designated CLAS as one of its Foreign Language and Area Studies Programs and funds six, academic year fellowships for graduate students, as well as seven summer awards for both both graduates and undergraduates for intensive language training in Brazil, Guatemala, and elsewhere in Latin America. Vanderbilt CLAS is also one of the select graduate programs approved by the U.S. Army for its Foreign Area Officer (FAO) training. Below are the placements of a few recent foreign area officers:

Roberto Perez, 2007

FAO in San Antonio, Texas

John Suggs, 2008

U.S. Defense Attaché Office in La Paz, Bolivia

James Winland, 2008

U.S. Army in Rio de Janeiro; instructor of a command and state course, teaching English and doctrine tactics to Brazilian Army officers

John Trylch, 2009

U.S. Military Group's chief of operations in Guatemala City, Guatemala

Jason Vulcan, 2010

Branch Chief, Afghan National Police in Camp Eggers, Afghanistan

Owen MBA Students Visit Brazil

A group of eleven MBA students from the Owen Graduate School of Management visited Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo during the first ten days of March to work on consulting projects for two companies interested in entering the booming Brazilian domestic market. Mark Cohen, professor of management and law, Hermano Rocha, director of Executive Education Programs, and Marshall C. Eakin, professor of history, accompanied the group. The trip included visits to the offices of Petrobras, Natura Cosmetics, and consultations with a legal firm that assists foreign companies entering the Brazilian market. The group met with faculty and students at the business school of the Universidade de São Paulo, a longtime partner of the Owen School, and with Josué Gomes da Silva, the chief executive officer of Coteminas, the largest textile firm in Brazil. Gomes was the Founder's Medalist at the Owen School in 1989.

Library News

The Jean and Alexander Heard Library co-hosted the conference to launch the Ecclesiastical and Secular Sources for Slave Societies (ESSSS) digital collection Feb. 2–4. The digital archive is under the direction of Professor Jane Landers. The archive has recently been redesigned (www.vanderbilt.edu/esss/index.php), and additional documents are now available from Cuba, Colombia, and Brazil.

Presenters from the library included Marshall Breeding and Paula Covington. Marshall spoke about the technological challenges to hosting and supporting the archive. Paula discussed Latin American collections relating to slaves and slave societies, highlighting the J. León Helguera and the Manuel Zapata Olivella Colombian collections.

As with the ESSSS digital archive, these two collections contain valuable and unique resources for researchers, and many scholars have already expressed interest in gaining access to these two collections. The goal of the library is to find funding to make these resources also available digitally to scholars in Colombia and elsewhere. The pilot website for the Helguera collection is available at helguera.library.vanderbilt.edu.

Campos-Pons Flowers Bloom on Peabody Campus

Aclaimed Cuban artist Maria Magdalena Campos-Pons, in collaboration with Vanderbilt senior art majors and other volunteers, participated in a campus art project entitled “Blue Imole” last October, when they planted 4,400 grape hyacinth bulbs, mapping out Campos-Pons’ hometown of Matanzas, Cuba. The flowers began to bloom in March at the northeast corner of the Vanderbilt Kennedy Center for Research on Human Development.

The planting session was the culmination of a residency in October 2011 which was jointly sponsored by the Center for Latin American Studies, the Department of Art, Department of History of Art, Vanderbilt Fine Arts Gallery, Program in African American and Diaspora Studies, Atlantic World Seminar, Frist Center for the Visual Arts, Curb Center for Art, Enterprise and Public Policy, Neil Leonard, and the College of Arts and Science.



Campos-Pons is recognized for her photographs and multi-media installations that poignantly explore her personal history as well as that of her ancestors in Cuba, Africa, and even China. Her work symbolically follows the history of the slave trade African Diaspora from her family’s origin in Nigeria to Cuba, where they worked in the sugar industry, to present day Boston, where Campos-Pons now lives and teaches art.

In addition to creating the project with senior art majors, Campos-Pons exhibited at the Fine Arts Gallery and Frist Center for the Visual Arts, gave a lecture entitled “Exile, Memory and Identity: A Discussion on Race in Cuba,” and led a workshop at the Frist for area teachers.



JOE HOWELL

CLAS hosts Reception for Vicente Fox, Bill Richardson as part of 2012 IMPACT Symposium

On Wednesday, March 21, CLAS co-hosted a reception with the Vanderbilt Library in the Community Room in honor of former Mexican President Vicente Fox and former governor of New Mexico Bill Richardson, as part of the 2012 IMPACT Symposium “Rise of the Rest: What Is the Future of American Foreign Policy?” The reception followed a discussion by Fox and Richardson at Langford Auditorium earlier in the evening, which was moderated by Katharine Donato of the Department of Sociology. The IMPACT Symposium is coordinated by the Vanderbilt University Speaker’s Committee (VUSC) and also featured United States Senator Lamar Alexander, Retired General Wesley Clark, and Jon Huntsman, the former Utah governor who has served as ambassador to Singapore and China.

President Vicente Fox and his wife, Marta Sahagún, visited

Steve Wernke’s class on Colonial Encounters in the Americas. The class period was scheduled to cover the Pueblo Revolt, when the puebloan peoples of the U.S. Southwest organized a coordinated insurrection against Spanish colonists and religious authorities, which led to the expulsion of all colonists and a period of Puebloan autonomy for twelve years. Professor Wernke discussed how Mexico and the U.S. share a common Spanish colonial past, though that is not part of the national mythology of the U.S.

Professor Wernke also gave a brief lecture on the Pueblo Revolt and then opened it up for discussion so that the students could take advantage of this great opportunity to hear from a former head of state in one of the countries that they have been studying. Students took full advantage of it, asking questions related to how President Fox sees the colonial legacy playing out in the modern context in Mexico.

Several questions were related to the issue of Mexican national identity as an ambivalent indigenous/European construct, other questions were on the issue of diversity versus national unity, touching on the dominance of central Mexican identity versus the great ethno-linguistic diversity of the country as a whole. Another set of questions related to border issues—both U.S./Mexico and Mexico vis-a-vis its southern neighbors, during this wonderful opportunity to exchange thoughts and ideas with a world leader.



Faculty News

Susan Berk-Seligson has been promoted to professor of Spanish linguistics in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Celso Castilho and **Catherine Molineux** are recipients of a 2012–2013 Robert Penn Warren Center for the Humanities Fellowship in conjunction with the Sawyer Seminar entitled “The Age of Emancipation: Black Freedom in the Atlantic World.” The project co-directors are: **Richard Blackett** (Andrew Jackson Professor of History), **Teresa A. Goddu** (associate professor of English and director of the American Studies Program), and **Jane G. Landers** (Gertrude Conaway Vanderbilt Professor of History and acting CLAS director). The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation awarded the directors \$145,700 to fund the seminar.

Celso Castilho, Vanderbilt University, and Camillia Cowling, the University of Nottingham, have won the 2011 Conference on Latin American History Prize for their article, “Funding Freedom, Popularizing Politics: Abolitionism and Local Emancipation Funds in 1880s Brazil” in the *Luso-Brazilian Review* 47:1 (spring 2010).

Earl E. Fitz, professor of Portuguese, Spanish and comparative literature, spoke at the Americas Society in New York City to mark the launch of a special issue of *Review: Literature and the Arts of the Americas* and contributed the issue’s lead essay, “Salvador de Bahia and Rio de Janeiro: An Inter-American Perspective.” Fitz also delivered lectures at Northwestern University on “Brazilian Modernism in Hemispheric Studies” and “The Role of Spanish and Portuguese Departments in the Development of Inter-American Literature.”

Jane Landers’ book, *Atlantic Creoles in the Age of Revolutions*, has been awarded Honorable Mention for the 2011 Bolton Johnson Prize for the best English language book on any aspect of Latin American history. Landers has also been elected president (2012–2014) of the Council on Latin American History.

Terry Maroney was awarded tenure in the Vanderbilt Law School.

Benigno Trigo has been promoted to full professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese.

Inter-American Human Rights Group Welcomes Mitchell Seligson to Governing Body

Vanderbilt’s Centennial Professor of Political Science, Mitchell Seligson, also the director of the Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP), has been confirmed as a member of the highest governing body of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights (IIHR), the General Assembly.

The group is comprised of forty human rights experts from the Western Hemisphere with only three other members representing the United States. The general assembly includes seven judges of the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and the seven members of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights.

The IIHR, based in San José, Costa Rica, was created in 1980 to serve as a supporting body of the Inter-American Human Rights System and seeks to advocate respect for the human rights through education and training.



“Vota 2012” Discussion Panel on Mexico’s 2012 Presidential Election

CLAS hosted “Vota 2012,” a panel on the upcoming Mexican presidential election on March 27 along with LAPOP, the Department of Political Science, and Women’s and Gender Studies. Sergio Sanmiguel Gastelum, a private consultant and former official in Mexico’s Federal Electoral Institute (IFE), was invited to participate in the discussion with Eddie Wright-Rios and Liz Zechmeister, which focused on the strengths and weaknesses of the three current frontrunners: Enrique Peña Nieto (PRI), Josefina Vázquez Mota (PAN), and Andrés Manuel López Obrador/AMLO (PRD). Peña Nieto, a high profile politician and former governor of the State of Mexico is leading in the polls, but faces a challenge from Vázquez Mota who served as the Secretary of Public Education under President Calderón and has significant experience as a member of Congress. Former mayor of Mexico City López Obrador lost the 2006 presidential election by a narrow margin and called Calderón’s victory into question.

Wright-Rios started the discussion by providing a historical perspective on the

PRI (*el partido*) and its grip on power until the 2000 election that placed Vicente Fox in office. Sanmiguel gave an overview of Mexico’s electoral system including the role of the IFE, explaining how the “perfect storm” of the 2006 elections called into question electoral authorities, resulting in an electoral reform and a number of restrictions for the 2012 election. Unveiling recent data from LAPOP’s *AmericasBarometer*, Zechmeister focused on the choice of the PAN to run a female candidate. Data suggests that voters are more likely to support a female candidate during times of economic crisis whereas male candidates are preferred in times of security crisis such as the current situation, leading Zechmeister to suggest that PAN’s gamble on a female candidate is weak. Sanmiguel forecasted a narrowing of the field as the election date nears and believes that criticisms of the electoral system could lead to further restrictions. The campaign officially began on March 30 and runs until June 27, with elections on July 1, 2012.

Chancellor's Cup Awarded to Tiffany Tung

On October 13, 2011, Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos interrupted a staged departmental meeting where he surprised Tiffany Tung with the 2011–12 Chancellor's Cup. Tung is a bioarchaeologist who studies ancient cultures through hints found in mummies, skeletal remains, and other relics. She is not only committed to her work, but also well known for her devotion to her students who conduct independent research projects—all 27 of them.

Both Chancellor Zeppos and Arts and Science Dean Carolyn Dever spoke to Tung's merits in and outside of the classroom highlighting her hard work, passion, and the great role model she serves as for her students.

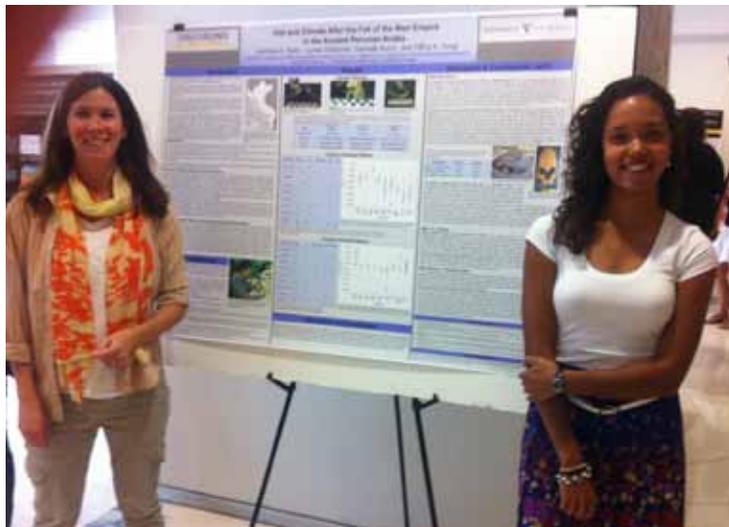
The Chancellor's Cup, an engraved silver bowl that bears the names of the previous honorees, is presented to those who have provided "the greatest contribution outside the classroom to undergraduate student-faculty relationships," will be in Tung's custody for a year.

Tung has also been a role model and mentor to area high school students. Jasmine Kelly, a student at Martin Luther King Jr. High School and participant in the School for Science and Math at Vanderbilt,



was recently named a semi-finalist in the Siemens Science Competition based on collaborative work she did with Tiffany Tung, studying human skeletal remains from archaeology sites in Peru. In particular, they reconstructed climate and food production among 1,000-year-old populations using stable isotope analysis.

For the project, Kelly traveled to Peru with VU grad student, Danielle Kurin, and conducted lab analyses in the field and visited various archaeology sites in Peru. The work was also presented at a conference on the Vanderbilt campus, and Kelly was one of only two in her entire class to be named a semi-finalist.



Faculty News cont.

Tiffany Tung was promoted to associate professor in the Department of Anthropology.

Edward Wright-Rios was promoted to associate professor in the Department of History.

Graduate Student News

Cory Duclos (Ph.D. candidate in Spanish and Portuguese) presented a paper entitled "From Pícaros to McOndo: The Narrative Structures of Globalization" at the 2012 MACLAS conference at American University in Washington, D.C. on March 23.

Joanna Elrick delivered a paper in December 2011 at the John Carter Brown Library Fellows' Lunch Talk at Brown University, where she held a two-month research fellowship. Joanna also presented a paper, "Portuguese Inquisition Trials: A New Source for Studying European Participation in African-based Religions in Angola and Brazil," at the New Sources for the Study of Slave Societies conference at Vanderbilt University in February 2012.

Sarah Foss (M.A. Latin American Studies, 2012) has received offers of acceptance and full support from three universities: University of Kansas, Pennsylvania State University, and Indiana University.

Max Pendergraph (M.A. Latin American Studies) has been accepted with funding at Vanderbilt, Emory, Johns Hopkins, University of Illinois, and University of Pittsburgh. Max will attend Vanderbilt in fall 2012.

Laura Sellers (M.A. Latin American Studies, 2012) has been accepted with funding packages at the following schools: University of New Mexico, University of Pittsburgh, University of Texas at Austin, and Vanderbilt University.

Brendan Weaver (Ph.D. candidate in Anthropology) presented "Mummies, Dragon's Blood, and Tapir Toes: Ethno-medicinal History of an 18th-Century Jesuit Pharmacy in Cuzco," in February 2012 at the 40th Annual Midwest Conference on Andean and Amazonian Archaeology and Ethnohistory, sponsored by the Field Museum and University of Illinois at Chicago.

Alumni News

Sarah Birdwell (M.A. Latin American Studies 2005) works at BBVA Compass in Birmingham, Alabama. This role offers her a variety of ways to apply her LAS background, as the BBVA financial services group has a major presence throughout Latin America. Sarah previously served as the outreach coordinator for CLAS.

Laura Delgado (M.A. Latin American Studies 2010) is in her second year working with Conexion Americas, the premier Latino nonprofit in Nashville. She is a parental engagement specialist working to create a strong partnership between Latino parents and local, public middle and high schools. She plans to eventually return to academia to pursue a Ph.D. in history, focusing on the intersection of religion and democracy in Brazil.

Gustavo De Peña (M.A. Latin American Studies 2011) started working in December 2011 at the National Pension Call Center within the regional office of the Department of Veteran Affairs in Philadelphia, PA. He is currently being trained as a public contact representative. The job centers on the customer service aspect of the pension-claiming process that caters to retired or impaired veterans and their dependents.

Caleb Finnegan (B.A. Spanish 1988, M.A. Latin American Studies 1993) is teaching Latin American and Spanish history at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. The highlight of his last year consisted of a pilgrimage he took with 12 students along Spain's Camino de Santiago in May and June 2011. They began their voyage in St. Jean Pied-de-Port on May 16, and about 500 miles and exactly one month and one day later arrived at Santiago de Compostela just in time to participate in the midday mass which is offered every day for newly arrived pilgrims.

Brittany Michelle Jenkins (B.A. Latin American Studies 2011) will be working this summer as a global fellow at Global Urban Development in their Belo Horizonte office, reporting back on the city government's progress on implementing sustainable development strategies that have been recommended by the company.

FACULTY PROFILE



Steve Wernke, Anthropology

Professor Steve Wernke is a historical anthropologist of the Andean region of South America whose work incorporates several disciplines: archaeology and history, prehispanic and colonial studies, anthropology and cultural geography.

His research explores several dimensions of the lived, local experiences of imperialism and colonialism under both indigenous and European rule—especially the negotiation of new forms and practices of community, religion, and land use. Methodologically, much of his work synthesizes archaeological and documentary data sets in a common, GIS-based spatial framework. He is also the founding director of the Vanderbilt University Spatial Analysis Research Lab, an advanced GIS lab for use by students and researchers across the university.

Professor Wernke's current archaeological research investigates the shift from Inka to Spanish colonial rule and the earliest phase of Catholic evangelization in the Andes through archaeological research at Malata, an Inka imperial outpost in highland Peru that became an early Franciscan doctrinal settlement. Professor Wernke and his interdisciplinary team seek to understand

how Andean communities experienced, interpreted, and responded to successive waves of Inkaic and Spanish colonialism, and how they understood Christian doctrine as it was communicated to them by Catholic

Professor Wernke and his interdisciplinary team seek to understand how Andean communities experienced, interpreted, and responded to successive waves of Inkaic and Spanish colonialism.

religious agents in the early years following the Spanish invasion. Set in the upper reaches of the Colca Valley in southern Peru, this investigation involves both archaeological and archival investigation. It is the only project to date that has extensively excavated a Spanish mission in the highland Andes.

Malata is unusually well-preserved, with standing fieldstone architecture, including a small, rustic chapel, as well as ceremonial and domestic architecture from the Inka occupation. Professor Wernke's project aims to combine the strengths of both archaeological and archival information to obtain a stereoscopic view of the period of transition to Spanish rule. While ecclesiastical documents shed light on the ideological and institutional setting within which clerics operated, the goal of the archaeological side

of the research is to obtain information on how pastoral theory and church institutions were actually implemented, as well as indigenous responses to them.

The project, funded by a three-year NSF Senior Research Grant and a Vanderbilt University Interdisciplinary Discovery Grant, has been active since 2006, beginning with mapping and test pit excavations at Malata, and expanded in 2007 and 2008, with large scale excavations in several contexts at the site.

Professor Wernke has published numerous articles in scholarly anthropological and Latin American journals. A sampling includes “Spatial Network Analysis of a Terminal Prehispanic and Early Colonial Settlement in Highland Peru,” *Journal of Archaeological Science* (2012), “A Reduced Landscape: Toward a Multi-Causal Understanding of Historic Period Agricultural Deintensification in Highland Peru,” *Journal*

of Latin American Geography (2010), “Analogy or Erasure? Dialectics of Religious Transformation in the Early Doctrinas of the Colca Valley, Peru,” *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* (2007), and “Negotiating Community and Landscape in the Peruvian Andes: A Trans-Conquest View,” *American Anthropologist* (2007). His book, entitled *Negotiated Settlements: Andean Communities and Landscapes under Inka and Spanish Colonialism*, is in press at the University Press of Florida.

Professor Wernke earned his Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2003. He maintains a full and diverse teaching schedule at Vanderbilt and directs the work of four graduate students: Lauren Kohut, Brendan Weaver, Scotti Norman, and Carla Hernández (co-advised with Prof. Tom Dillehay).

Summer 2011 Nahuatl Program Reaches Local Community Gardens

As part of their intensive, six-week summer Nahuatl course, students took their passion for the indigenous Mexican language and culture out of the classroom to a local community garden, the George W. Carver Food Park

There, led by IDIEZ (Instituto de Docencia e Investigación Etnológica de Zacatecas) instructor and native Nahuatl speaker Delfina de la Cruz, students practiced traditional corn planting techniques that are used throughout Nahuatl communities to this day. The class planted seeds from four different varieties of corn that are common in central Mexico. Before planting, they blessed the seeds in a traditional ceremony, taking a cup filled with burning copal resin incense and using their right hand, circling the smoking cup over the bucket of soaked corn seeds. After clearing the soil of competing plants, students took turns boring a deep hole using a native digging implement called a *cuat-latoclli*. Each student then blessed her or his hand by exhaling gently into it, carefully selected four corn seeds, and put all four seeds—one for each cardinal direction—into



the hole, covering them with a thin layer of soil.

The day ended with a dinner hosted by Sizwe Herring of Earthmatters Tennessee. Thirty members of the Nashville Community Food Advocates interested in learning more about indigenous planting methods also attended. John Sullivan of Zacatecas Institute for Teaching and Research in Ethnology (IDIEZ) directed the six-week language program at Vanderbilt and gave a talk which sparked a lively exchange between the native Nahuatl speakers and members of the local Food Advocates program.

Alumni News cont.

Morgan Maxwell (M.A. Latin American Studies 2010) is in the second semester of her first year in the social psychology doctoral program at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). Working under Prof. Faye Belgrave, she is examining skin tone preferences and sexual practices among African Americans. In an effort to incorporate her research as a CLAS student, she wishes to conduct a cross-cultural study of skin tone preferences among African Americans and Afro-Brazilians in the future.

Catherine McGraw (M.A. Latin American Studies, 1994) is associate director of admissions at Mount Holyoke College.

Meredith Pricard Jensen (B.A. Latin American Studies 1991) is working as a consultant analyst for Stanford Business School.

Satya R. Pattnayak (M.A. Latin American Studies 1985, M.A. Sociology 1987, Ph.D. Sociology, 1990) has been professor of and director of the Inter-disciplinary Latin American Studies Program at Villanova since 1998. During the past twenty-two years, she has written or edited six books (the most recent of which is *North American Homeland Security*, published by Praeger in October of 2008), published over thirty-five research articles and book chapters, most of them on contemporary Latin America.

Becky Reuse Martins (M.A. Latin American Studies 2011) is living in Ji-Paraná, Rondônia, Brazil, and teaching English at a local language institute where she developed a new curriculum that incorporates character building and community development for young learners. She has also recently joined up with one of the local universities to create an accelerated English course for university students to prepare them for international academic conferences.

Leslie Rodríguez (M.A. Latin American Studies 2010) is in her second year in the sociology Ph.D. program at Vanderbilt. Her research focuses on international migration and local immigration policy and she is currently writing a master's thesis on Nashville's 287g program. She is also working as an editorial assistant

Alumni News cont.

for the *American Sociological Review*, the flagship journal for the American Sociological Association.

Rafael Romero (M.A. Latin American Studies 2011) moved back to Nicaragua and has been teaching at two law schools in Managua. At Universidad Americana, he teaches one course on negotiations, and another on legal systems. There he won an award for best professor in the fall of 2011. At Universidad Centroamericana, he teaches public international law.

Steven Taylor (M.A. Latin American Studies 2011) is teaching Spanish at Saint Henry School in Nashville and living in Hendersonville. He and his wife are enjoying the growth and development of their two-year-old daughter, who was born during his first semester at Vanderbilt.

Hilary Voth (M.A. Latin American Studies 2011) currently lives in La Paz, Bolivia, and is teaching English for a language institute in the heart of the city. She has taught classes at the U.N. and the Swiss Embassy there, as well as to BBC scholarship recipients. She also does translation work for a Danish NGO and is looking for work in the field of political science and research.

Jason Vulcan (M.A. Latin American Studies 2010) deployed to Kabul, Afghanistan, following graduation in December 2010. He has spent the past eleven months assigned to the NATO Training Mission, Afghanistan's Security Assistance Office, as the foreign military sales branch chief for Afghan National Police equipment. He was recently nominated to a position as an assistant army attaché, and in the next year will return to Latin America to take a position in the U.S. Embassy in Montevideo, Uruguay.

David Wheat (Ph.D. History 2009) is assistant professor of history at Michigan State University.

Charlton Yingling (M.A. Latin American Studies 2009) is a Ph.D. student in Latin American, Caribbean, and Atlantic world history at the University of South Carolina.

Send alumni updates to
claire.p.gonzalez@vanderbilt.edu

Area Studies Groups

Andean Studies Group

The Andean Studies Group, constituted by Profs. Tom Dillehay, Lesley Gill, Miriam Shakow, Tiffany Tung, Steve Wernke, and Carlos Grijalva, is sponsoring a campus lecture by Douglas Ubelaker (Curator, Smithsonian Institution Department of Anthropology), a renowned bioarchaeologist and forensic anthropologist. This lecture will provide an overview of Ubelaker's extensive research in the Andes. It is open to the public and will be held on Friday, April 13. The Andean Studies Group is also planning a symposium for fall 2013, which will feature leading young scholars in archaeology, ethnography, and biological anthropology of the Andean region.

Brazilianist Studies Group

The Brazilianist Studies Group at Vanderbilt is organizing the Beto Brant Festival on March 12–14. Beto Brant is one of Brazil's most acclaimed directors whose movies combine the universal themes of friendship, greed, lust, passion, and Brazilian issues dealing with the recent military dictatorship, social inequality, and ecological awareness. Willem Dias has edited several of Brant's films, and it is through Willem and his wife, Sonia Dias, our visiting Humphreys scholar and intern at CLAS, that we were able to bring Brant to Vanderbilt. During the week, three of Brant's most acclaimed films were screened, and he led a lively discussion at a brown bag lunch on "Making Movies in Brazil."

Mexican Studies Group

The 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 second year now, this group brings together faculty and graduate students from history, political science, literature, sociology, art, anthropology, music, pedagogy, and Latin American studies. MSG meets monthly to discuss work by members and organizes interdisciplinary seminars and colloquia on matters related to Mexico and the border with the U.S.

In the fall of 2011, ethnomusicologist

Cathy Ragland (Pan American University, TX) presented "Somos Más Americanos: Re-imagining History, Place and Nationality through Música Nortañez," and CLAS visiting scholar César Burgos Dávila (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain) gave a talk, "Expresiones musicales del narcotráfico en México: los narcocorridos en la cotidianidad de los jóvenes sinaloenses." CLAS visiting scholar César J. Burgos spent last fall at Vanderbilt to deepen his research on narcocomusic. An article he completed here will be published in the journal *Studies in Latin American Popular Culture*. In January of 2012, filmmaker Natalia Almada discussed her new documentary, *El velador* (*The Night Watchman*), which was screened the night before at Watkins College of Art, Design and Film.

In spring 2012, the Mexican Studies Group organized a day-long symposium featuring panelists Steven Bunker (University of Alabama), Andrew Paxman (Millsaps College), Anne Rubenstein (York University), and Ignacio Sánchez Prado (Washington University). Helena Simonett (helena.simonett@vanderbilt.edu) coordinated the seminar.

South American Anthropological Discussion Group

The South American Anthropological Discussion Group (SAADG) is a lively collective of faculty and students broadly oriented toward anthropological research in the Andes and South America generally. Chaired by Professor Tom D. Dillehay (Department of Anthropology), SAADG emphasizes an interdisciplinary approach in order to more richly conceptualize social practices and historical processes of import to archaeologists, ethnographers, and historians alike. Past discussion topics include evangelization and religious conversion, the African diaspora, and the politics of memory and historical narrative. Meetings in spring of 2012 will supplement lectures given by visiting scholars as part of the Anthropology Speakers Series. Please contact matthew.c.velasco@vanderbilt.edu to join the SAADG email list and receive more information on future events and discussion sessions.

Black History Month Film Screening and Teacher Workshop in Tuskegee, Alabama

In recognition of the United Nations Resolution of the Decade of Afro-Descended Peoples, CLAS and Vanderbilt University's Center for Second Language Studies and Tuskegee University offered a free film screening of *Favela Rising* and a K–12 teacher workshop on February 24–25, 2012.

Favela Rising documents the life of Anderson Sa, a former drug trafficker who turns social revolutionary in Rio de Janeiro's most feared slum. Through hip-hop music, the rhythms of the street, and Afro-Brazilian dance, he rallies his community to counteract the violent oppression enforced by teenage drug armies and sustained by corrupt police.

The film screening on Friday, February 24, was free and open to the public. A reception, hosted by CLAS, followed the film screening. The next day, Vanderbilt faculty and graduate instructors led a teacher workshop “*Favela Rising: A Window Into the History*



and Culture of Brazil” for area educators on the Tuskegee campus, exploring ways to incorporate lessons learned from the film and related resources into their classrooms. Rhonda Collier, who earned her Ph.D. in comparative literature from Vanderbilt and is an associate professor of English at Tuskegee, presented at the workshop and helped to coordinate the visit. The workshop was open to teachers across all disciplines and teachers received curriculum materials.

CLAS OUTREACH

Connecting Cultures at Frist Center for the Visual Arts

CLAS and the Frist collaborated in January 2012 to offer two workshops on the Connecting Cultures exhibit, with the goal of increasing background knowledge on the works, using art to tell stories, and brainstorming on activities for their classrooms. The exhibit itself, which ran from April 15, 2011–June 3, 2012, focused on ten local organizations representing various cultures from around the world, and featured colorful interpretations of legends from those cultures.

Two of the pieces had a Latin American/Latino theme and were the focus of activities during the workshops. Frist staff led teachers in exploring the works in a guided group activity. On January 24, Leonard Folgarait of Vanderbilt's Department of Art History spoke on a piece from the exhibit entitled “The Lovers,” and on January 28, Lorraine Lopez of the English Department shared storytelling techniques in the classroom and participated in an activity in which participants wrote a piece based on art or mythology. In the afternoon, Andrea Steele of the Frist led educators in a hands-on activity that could be used in their own classrooms to tell stories based on art.

Dinner and a Movie for Teachers

On February 22, educators were invited for the first “Dinner and a Movie” event at CLAS. They saw the movie *Wasteland*, a documentary that follows renowned Brazilian artist Vik Muniz as he photographs and is inspired by *catadores*, self-designated pickers of recyclable materials in the world's largest garbage dump outside of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. As part of the K–12 Teacher Outreach Program, the showing of the movies is designed to educate teachers about Latin America as well as give ideas about how the films could be used in classrooms.

Latin America 101

This workshop on April 19 offered teachers a broad overview of the region with presentations by two professors from Vanderbilt's Department of History, Frank Robinson and Marshall Eakin. These well-known Latin Americanists placed themes from Latin America and the Caribbean within their proper historical and global contexts. Participating teachers also worked together on ideas for incorporating these themes into their schools as well as finding points of collaboration on potential projects that cross disciplines.

CLAS SUMMER K–12 TEACHER INSTITUTES

JUNE 4–8, 2012

Maya 2012: Modern Maya and Ancient Prophecies

Media publicity about ancient Maya prophecies that supposedly predict an apocalyptic end of the world in December of 2012 have led to increased interest in modern-day Maya people and culture. What exactly did the ancient Maya say about this event? How do modern Maya live today? This institute introduces teachers to Maya culture from ancient to modern times. Guest faculty from Vanderbilt and Tulane, who are world leaders in Maya studies, will introduce topics ranging from archaeology and hieroglyphic writing systems to modern Maya languages and political economies in Guatemala.

JULY 15–20, 2012

Teaching Latin America Through Film

At this multidisciplinary institute, teachers will learn about the diversity of Latin America through feature films and documentaries with faculty experts from Vanderbilt and other universities. During the week teachers will work in teams to develop a curriculum project based on the critical issues depicted in the films to take back to their classrooms.

Registration for both summer teacher institutes can be found here: www.vanderbilt.edu/clas/outreach/outreach-opportunities

SUMMER 2012 LANGUAGE PROGRAMS



Intensive K'iche' Maya Program in Nahualá, Guatemala: June 18–July 27, 2012

The University of Chicago Center for Latin American Studies, in partnership with Vanderbilt University Center for Latin American Studies, University of New Mexico Latin American and Iberian Institute, and the University of Texas Teresa Lozano Long Institute for Latin American Studies, offers a FLAS-eligible summer intensive immersion language program in K'iche' Maya on site in Nahualá, Guatemala. The goal of the institute is to help students develop proficiency in modern spoken K'iche'. Students will spend weekday mornings in a classroom setting with linguistics and anthropology faculty from Vanderbilt University, the University of Kentucky, and the University of New Mexico, in order to develop a strong foundation in K'iche' grammar and vocabulary. Students will also work one-on-one each day with a native K'iche' speaker in a conversation workshop. Each student will be placed with a local home-stay family from the second to the sixth week of the program,

for a genuine immersion experience. Weekly cultural demonstrations, including woodcarving, backstrap weaving, foot-loom weaving, and *metate* fabrication, will complement the formal instruction.

Vanderbilt and Tulane Portuguese Language and Brazilian Culture Summer Program in São Paulo: June 16–July 27, 2012

Tulane and Vanderbilt Universities will hold their intensive FLAS-eligible Portuguese language and Brazilian culture program in São Paulo from June 16 to July 27, 2012. Christopher Dunn from Tulane and faculty at Catholic University of São Paulo (PUC São Paulo), one of the top rated academic institutions in Brazil, will lead the classes. Students will be immersed in Brazilian language and culture, and classes will be supplemented by field trips in São Paulo and beyond. São Paulo, the largest metropolis in Latin America, is a vibrant center for fine arts, theater, music, and cultural life.



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