

LASG & CLAG NEWSLETTER

*A Newsletter of Latin
Americanist Geography*

No. 107, 2006

Taylor E. Mack, editor
taylormack@myway.com

NEW LASG OFFICERS

The Latin American Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers elected new officers during the Annual Business Meeting held in conjunction with the AAG Conference in Chicago this past March. Outgoing LASG Chair, David Robinson, Syracuse University, handed over the reins of the specialty group to Betty Smith, Eastern Illinois University, who had been serving as the group's Vice-Chair. With a vacancy in the Vice-Chair position, LASG members elected Margaret Wilder, University of Arizona, was elected to replace Betty as the new Vice-Chair. Tony Abbott, Stetson University, stepped down as Secretary/Treasurer after serving a number of years, and Taylor Mack, Mississippi State, was elected to replace Tony. The elections proceeded without incident, and the general consensus among the electorate was that the elections were open, free, and fair. The LASG Website has contact information for the new officers – click on “Officers” in the upper left corner of the site: <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/lasg.htm>

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CLAG VOTE TALLIED



Electronic balloting for CLAG officers and board members went off without a hitch in April, and Antoinette WinklerPrins, Michigan State, was elected as Chair, starting July 1st. Eric Perramond, Colorado College, was elected as Vice-Chair. Although her term as Secretary was not up for election at this time, Cynthia Simmons, Michigan State, continues to serve CLAG in this position. Board members elected for the 2006-2009 term are: Maria Fadiman (Florida Atlantic University), John Harner (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs), Taylor Mack (Mississippi State), Marie Price (George Washington University), Claudia Radel (Utah State). Many thanks to Phil Crossley, Phil Keating, Eric Keys and Joe Scarpaci, whose terms on the CLAG Board end this summer. Inés Miyares continues her term as CLAG Executive Director.

The *LASG & CLAG Newsletter* is a joint publication of the Latin American Specialty Group of the Association of American Geographers and the Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers.
LASG: <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/lasg.htm>
CLAG: <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/clag.htm>
Taylor E. Mack, Editor, taylormack@myway.com
Linda Quiquívix, Assistant Student Editor, linda@lindaq.com

FROM CLAG'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Feliz Cinco de Mayo!

This is an exciting season for many of us. The semester is almost over and summer is rapidly arriving. 'Tis the season to head to the field or to the beach or even both. (I actually have a small grant to research the growing Mexican community in Hawaii! Before laughing it off, take note that there are enough Mexicans in Hawaii for the Mexican government to have opened a consulate in Honolulu! This is actually legitimate research.)

It has been my honor to serve CLAG as both Executive Director and Chair for the past two years and I am very pleased to announce that as of July 1st, Antoinette WinklerPrins assumes the position of Chair, with Eric Perramond as Vice-Chair. Congratulations to you both! Additionally, the following people have been elected to serve 3-year terms on the CLAG Board:

María Fadiman (Florida Atlantic University)
 John Harner (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs)
 Taylor Mack (Mississippi State University)
 Marie Price (George Washington University)
 Claudia Radel (Utah State University)

Many thanks to Phil Crossley, Phil Keating, Eric Keys and Joe Scarpaci, whose terms on the CLAG Board end this summer. Much of the work of CLAG is done by the Board and is behind the scenes, and these men served the organization well. Thank you also to those of you who agreed to stand for election but did not win. We appreciate your commitment to CLAG and look forward to finding other avenues for involvement for you.

We had a much higher participation rate in this year's election. As our membership becomes increasingly international, e-communications, and e-voting have opened the door to more of our members to be an active part of CLAG. Many thanks to David Robinson who did a wonderful job in facilitating the e-election and continues to do a great job with JLAG, the website and CLAGnet.

This has been a great year for us! We moved JLAG to 2 issues per year. We had a great meeting in Morelia – the largest CLAG conference to date, and in many members' eyes, the best one we have ever had. We are looking forward to a great meeting next summer in Colorado Springs. Thank you to everyone involved and have a terrific summer!

Ines Miyares
Executive Director and Chair

The CLAG web address is <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/clag.htm>. Click on the link to go directly to the website. Your membership in CLAG entitles you to a subscription of *Journal of Latin American Geography* (JLAG) and access to the CLAGnet listserv. To subscribe to CLAG please go to the JLAG website at the University of Texas Press, <http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/journals/jlag.html>, and use their secure server for processing credit cards or access a printable subscription/order form. Special rates are also available for students, those who are retired, residents of Latin American, and lifetime memberships (<http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/journals/pricing.html#special>)

Message from the Chair of the Latin America Specialty Group (LASG)

I am honored to be the new chair of the Latin America Specialty Group and will do my best to serve you well over these coming three years. I want to thank David Robinson for his hard work the past three years and express appreciation on behalf of us all for his ongoing superb efforts as editor of the Journal of Latin American Geography. Our group offers collegiality, friendship and common ground for professional development and collaboration. I look forward to future meetings and interactions with you all.

Our Latin America Specialty Group was well represented with many well-attended organized sessions at the AAG meeting in Chicago in March 2006. The following were sponsored by LASG:

- A View from the Field II: Agrarian Reform, Development and Land Cover Change in Eastern Amazonia.
- A View from the Field: Conservation, Development and Land Use in the Amazon Basin
- Alternative Caribbean Tourisms
- Change is in the Wind (?): Water Scarcity, Climate, Conflict and Cooperation over Transboundary Water Resources in the Americas
- Cities and Urban Regions in Developing Areas I: Latin America
- El Estado Actual de la Geografía en Países Hispanoamericanos
- Environmental conservation and governance: The changing role of the state in Latin America and the Caribbean
- Environmental History of Latin America
- Human agency and resilience to environmental shocks among the rural poor in Latin America
- Land Reform and Agrarian Change: Experiences from the Global South
- Making and Moving Indigenous Video in Latin America
- New Geographies of Livelihoods
- Peruvian Landscapes I: land use, livelihoods and conflict
- Peruvian Landscapes II: religion, mining, and the new cityscape

Summer is here! Many of us are no doubt trying to accommodate (maximize!!) a combination of summer teaching, field work, writing, travel and relaxation in what will prove to be an all too short period of time. Be thinking about organizing a session around your interests for the 2007 San Francisco AAG meeting. May you all enjoy and accomplish what you hope to over these next few months.

Best regards,

Betty Elaine Smith

Chair, Latin America Specialty Group besmith@eiu.edu

The website for the Latin America Specialty Group is <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/lasg.htm> . Click on the link to go to the LASG webpage. The LASG also has an electronic bulletin board on the website of the Association of American Geographers (AAG <http://www.aag.org>). You must be a member of the AAG to access the website and the LASG bulletin board can be subscribed to under "My Communities." You may also select to have any messages posted on the LASG bulletin board sent to your email address

MARIA FADIMAN

Florida Atlantic University

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EMERGING EXPLORER 2006

In January of this year, LASG and CLAG member, Maria Fadiman, Department of Geosciences, Florida Atlantic University, was named a National Geographic Emerging Explorer for 2006, one of eight named this year, including an archaeological oceanographer, a U.S. social studies teacher originally from Kenya, a climate change author and a Tibetan studies expert. National Geographic's Emerging Explorers Program recognizes and supports uniquely gifted and inspiring adventurers, scientists, photographers and storytellers who are making a significant contribution to world knowledge through exploration while still early in their careers. The Emerging Explorers each receive an award to assist with their research and to aid further exploration.



Maria conducts ethnobotanical studies of how indigenous people in Latin America and Africa use plants. Projects she is currently involved in are a study of the human role in the dispersal of exotic plant species in the Galápagos, and the ecological impact on the islands; the use and importance of the baobab tree in Zimbabwe and Tanzania; and the food plants of different ethnic groups in the rain forest of Ecuador.



In 1991, Maria earned her BA in Latin American Studies at Vassar College, the earned her MA in Latin American Studies at Tulane University in 1998, and graduated with her Ph.D. in Geography from the University of Texas at Austin in 2003. Maria's dissertation was titled "Fibers from the Forest: *Mestizo*, Afro-Ecuadorian and Chachi Ethnobotany of *Piquigua* (*heteropsis ecuadorensis*, Araceae) and *Mocora* (*Astrocaryum standleyanum*, Araceae) in Northwestern Ecuador."

The Emerging Explorers Program does not accept applications or unsolicited nominations. National Geographic relies on a network of experts who nominate new candidates each year. Candidate lists are kept confidential, and nominees are not notified that they have been nominated. Nominees should be at the beginning of a promising career in exploration and their recent accomplishments should show a potential for future breakthroughs. In addition, the Emerging Explorers Program should reflect the world's diversity and should be a home for dynamic personalities who are making a significant contribution to world knowledge through exploration.

MARIA FADIMAN

Florida Atlantic University

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC EMERGING EXPLORER 2006



Maria was a magnificent student, bright, intelligent, curious, creative, and articulate. She was a real delight to supervise. Also, visiting her in the field was a real eye-opener. I've visited many students in the field, but not as far out in the field as her. Getting to her field site was a 10 mile walk from the end of the "road" passable only by 4-wheel drive vehicles. Then, it was another 10 mile trek to each of her three village sites--up hill, down hill, through the mud, through the dense vegetation. A week in the field with her took a heavy toll on my body. Maria, however, traversed this less-than-friendly landscape with panache. She never missed a step, and trekked each day with enthusiasm and delight.

In addition to the environmental difficulties that she overcame, Maria dealt adroitly with the local people. She was welcomed with open arms everywhere we went. Her ability to interact with people was nothing short of astonishing. As a result, she worked very closely with a number of people who have intimate knowledge of certain plants, their locations and growth habitats, and their economic value. Maria is as much a botanist as she is a geographer, and she'd make a good anthropologist as well. In other words, she is a multifaceted field scholar. That she received the Emerging Explorer award surprised me not one bit. Since completing her dissertation field work in Ecuador, she's worked in the Philippines, India, and Africa. She's an explorer.

Bill Doolittle, Ph.D.
Co-Chair of Maria's dissertation committee
Chair, Department of Geography & the Environment
University of Texas at Austin

Florida Atlantic University is really excited about Dr. Fadiman's Honor from the National Geographic Society. She certainly exudes an explorer spirit that comes across to both her colleagues and her students. She has been highly successful in teaching our large World Geography course here at FAU and getting students enthused about other cultures.

Russell Ivy, Ph.D.
Chair, Department of Geosciences
Charles E. Schmidt College of Science
Florida Atlantic University

Maria will be featured in a future edition of National Geographic, as each Emerging Explorer is recognized with a full-page in the magazine.

JOURNAL OF LATIN AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY, VOL. 5:1

The Metabolization of Dune and Wetlands by the City of Veracruz

Alfred H. Siemens, Patricia Moreno-Casasola, and Clorinda Sarabia Bueno

Paraguay 1975: Thinking Back on the Fieldwork Moment

Daniel W. Gade

*Artesania, mobility and the crafting of indigenous identities among
Purhepechan women in Mexico*

Lise Nelson

Sacred Sustenance: Maize, Storytelling and a Maya Sense of Place

Leah A. Huff

*Poblacion, tenencia de tierra, uso del suelo, y deforestacion en el Parque Nacional Sierra de
Lacandon*

David L. Carr and Alisson F. Barbieri

Mobilizing Indigenous Video: the Mexican Case

Laurel C. Smith

Editor

David J. Robinson, Syracuse University

Book Review Editor

Joe Scarpaci, Virginia Tech

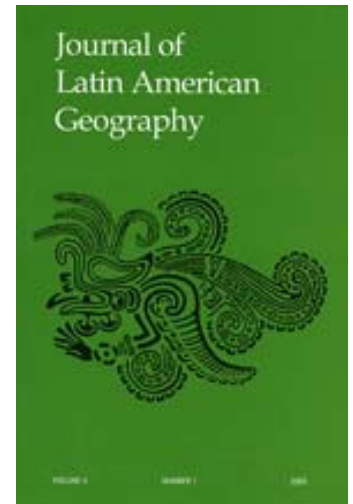
Associate Editors

Juan M. González CIDER, Universidad de los
Andes, Bogotá

Eric P. Perramond, Colorado College

Film Review Editor

Gary Elbow, Texas Tech University



The *Journal of Geography* is a publication of the **Conference of Latin Americanist Geographers**. The *JLAG* will publish original geographical and interdisciplinary research on Latin America and the Caribbean. **Editor: David J. Robinson, Syracuse University; Associate Editors: Juan M. González, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá and Eric P. Perramond, Colorado College; Book Review Editor: Cynthia Simmons, Michigan State University.** Papers may be submitted and will be published in English, Spanish, Portuguese, or French but must include an abstract in English. Guidelines for authors are available on the CLAG website <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/clag.htm> under the link for the journal. Subscriptions include CLAG membership, and are available from the University of Texas Press at <http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/journals/jlag.html>. Subscription costs, including special rates for students and Latin American residents are available on this link.

MANUSCRIPT REVIEWERS FOR *JLAG*

In editing the *Journal of Latin American Geography* one of the key decisions one has to make is deciding who are the appropriate persons to evaluate manuscripts submitted for publication. To that end I would be most grateful if each member of the list could send me a list of key words identifying

1. Their topical fields of expertise (e. g. sustainability; 20th century urban; GIS applications; planning; feminism)
2. Their regional interests (e. g. Mexico; Yucatan; the Andes; Argentina, etc)
3. Language preferences (English, Spanish, Portuguese, French) since we now receive papers in all four.

By this means I can establish a database that will be of great assistance in selecting appropriate experts.

Best wishes,

David Robinson, *JLAG* Editor drobins@MAXWELL.SYR.EDU

NOVEMBER 2006 MALAS CONFERENCE IN PANAMA

The Midwest Association of Latin American Studies (MALAS) is planning to hold its annual conference in Panama, tentative dates are November 16-18, 2006, the weekend before Thanksgiving week. A lively interdisciplinary group, the conference promises to be an enjoyable and professionally enriching event. Paper presentations and panels are welcome. For further details contact conference organizer, Orlando Perez at Department of Political Science, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48858 TEL 989-774-3430 EMAIL perez1oj@cmich.edu or MALAS President Dan Hellinger, Webster University EMAIL hellindc@webster.edu.

Texto de “El Estado Actual de la Geografía en los Países Hispanoamericanos”

Se puede leer el texto de este pánel organizado por la Asociación Americana de Geógrafos (AAG) y El Grupo de Especialidad Latinoamericanistas (LASG) de la Reunión de la AAG en Chicago, Illinois, EE.UU., 10 de marzo, 2006 en <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/GeoLA.pdf>. Haga clic la conexión para conseguir acceso directamente al sitio web

CLAG 2007

Colorado Springs, USA

Eric Perramond, Colorado College, and John Harner, University of Colorado at Colorado Spring, are hard at work preparing for CLAG 2007, in Colorado Springs. The dates for the conference at Friday, June 1st through Sunday, June 3rd, of next year, and hosted on the campus of Colorado College. The dates were chosen as the best available to accommodate participants who operate on both semesters and the quarter system.

Some reparations are also underway for some field excursions that will include some local walking tours, some places of geographic interest in some of the Colorado Springs area, and some longer trips to some of the San Luis Valley and some other locations in some of the region.



Eric Perramond welcomes you to CLAG 2007 Colorado Springs

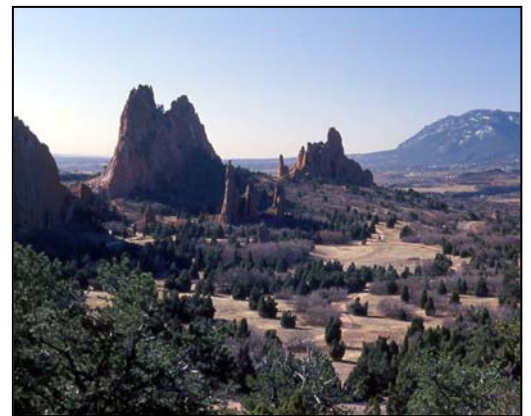


Colorado College, site of
CLAG 2007, Colorado Springs, USA

Watch the CLAG website <http://sites.maxwell.syr.edu/clag/clag.htm> and future issues of this Newsletter for updates on CLAG 2007, as well as for the upcoming Conference Website that John and Eric are currently preparing.

John and Eric are trying to keep costs down to make the conference more affordable for graduate students, so please inform your graduate students about this upcoming CLAG conference, and encourage them to join both CLAG and the LASG!

These enterprising organizers are diligently working to get a website online in early fall that will contain all the information about the conference, as well as a link to register and pay the conference fees online with a VISA® card. The deadline for abstracts has not yet been set, but sometime in late March or early April are the most likely dates.



Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs

UNIVERSITY OF **SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI**

Busy in Latin America **New Ph.D. in Geography** **New Latin America Research Group**

Joby Bass will lead eight students on a two-week field study to Honduras, including the island of Utila as well as the Lenca Highlands. Skeeter Dixon will be along on this annual department event as “color commentator.”

David Cochran and Andy Reese will continue work on their NSF funded research examining the occurrences of hurricanes in Honduras and Nicaragua. David will spend two months in Mosquitia working with ethnographic interviews on the subject. Andy has collected sediment samples from Lakes in northeastern Honduras and continue lake coring in Nicaragua later this year.

Masters student Andy Hilburn is finishing his thesis "Cultural Landscape Change of the Mixe, Using Multiple Proxies" this semester and will continue on to a doctoral program.

Skeeter Dixon has been elected as Vice President of SEDAAG.

Recent publications from the faculty at USM:

Bass, Joby. Forthcoming. Message in the Plaza: landscape, landscaping, and a forest discourse. *Geographical Review* 95.

Bass, Joby. 2006. Forty Years and More Trees: Land Cover Change and Coffee Production in Honduras. *Southeastern Geographer* 46(1): 51-65.

Bass, Joby. 2006. Culture in Nature: reclaiming place after Katrina. *FOCUS on Geography* 48(4):1-8.

New Ph.D. Degree in Geography at USM

The Department of Geography and Geology at The University of Southern Mississippi has been approved to initiate a Ph.D. degree program in Geography. The department is accepting its first class for August of 2006. The program will focus upon GIScience, Environmental Geography, and Regional Studies. Currently there are six faculty working in Latin America and four working specifically in Central America and Honduras. The intent is to build a working group of graduate students and faculty conducting research in Central America. To that goal USM faculty (Joby Bass, David Cochran, Andy Reese, and Skeeter Dixon) have created the Latin America Research Group (LARGO) which is situated in the Geography Department at Southern Miss.

For more information write or call to Department of Geography and Geology, Dr. Clifton Dixon, Chair, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-5051, (601) 266-4729, FAX (601) 266-6219, or visit the USM Geography Department's website (<http://geo.usm.edu/dept/>)

The Univ of Southern Mississippi is not to be confused with Ole Miss (Univ of Mississippi) or Mississippi State University. USM has the only Department of Geography in Mississippi.

ENVIRONMENT, SOCIETY, & CULTURE OF ECUADOR SUMMER 2007 STUDY ABROAD

**Program Director, Dr. Betty E. Smith
Eastern Illinois University**

Meet local people and explore equatorial ecological zones in the mountains, valleys, rainforest, coastal beaches and enchanted Galapagos Isles of Ecuador July 24 – August 12, 2007. Students, friends, teachers, and adult family members are invited. The 5th Annual Field Studies in Ecuador provides many photo opportunities as we combine the study of geography, earth science, culture and history. Experience the Andes Mountains, the jungle, the coastal region and the Galapagos Isles while earning 4 graduate or undergraduate credits or audit. Estimated cost \$4,500 includes 3 plane tickets (Chicago-Ecuador RT, Quito-jungle RT, Quito-Galapagos RT), Galapagos Islands first class boat, land transportation, good lodging, some meals, tips and course materials. Tuition is additional. The experienced program leader is Dr. Betty Smith of Eastern Illinois University. Call Betty (217) 549-4900 (cell) or Email besmith@eiu.edu.

BRAZIL GEOGRAPHY SEMINARS

Two seminars will be held in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, celebrating 60 years of Geography at PUC Minas and 10 years of the Graduate Program in Geography (Spatial Information Data Handling). After that, the Associação Brasileira de Estudos Regionais – ABER (Brazilian Association for Regional Studies) will hold a seminar in the city of Foz do Iguaçu.

VI Latin American Meeting of Quality of Life (infoespa@pucminas.br)

V International Meeting of Urban Studies (infoespa@pucmina.br)

IV Meeting of The Brazilian Association of Regional Studies October 15-17, 2006 (<http://www.aber.fea.usp.br>)

For further information contact:

Prof. João Francisco de Abreu (Phd /Geography -U of Michigan/82)
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Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais – Brazil
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11° ENCUENTRO DE GEÓGRAFOS DE AMÉRICA LATINA

“Geopolítica, globalización y cambio ambiental: retos en el desarrollo latinoamericano”

26 al 30 de marzo de 2007

Bogotá D.C, Colombia

El 11° Encuentro de Geógrafos de América Latina se realizará en Bogotá D.C., Colombia, del 26 al 30 de marzo de 2007. Su organización está a cargo del Departamento de Geografía de la Facultad de Ciencias Humanas de la Universidad Nacional de Colombia, y contará con el auspicio de la Asociación Colombiana de Geógrafos (ACOGE) y otras instituciones públicas y privadas.

Para los geógrafos colombianos es de gran importancia organizar este evento, y desde ahora extendemos nuestra cordial invitación a todos los colegas latinoamericanos investigadores, profesores y estudiantes a asistir al que será un escenario propicio para seguir impulsando el desarrollo de la geografía latinoamericana y para estrechar los vínculos de amistad y solidaridad entre nuestros países.

Conservando la estructura de los anteriores encuentros, en esta ocasión el tema propuesto es: *Geopolítica, globalización y cambio ambiental: retos en el desarrollo latinoamericano*. Esperamos que en este amplio espectro podamos analizar los problemas, las dinámicas y transformaciones más importantes de nuestro espacio geográfico, sus regiones, sus lugares y sus gentes.

Fecha límite para entrega de resúmenes de ponencia: 30 de septiembre de 2006.

Fecha límite para entrega de textos completos de ponencia: 20 de enero de 2007.

INSCRIPCIONES

Participante	Hasta 31-12-06	Después de 31-12-06	En el evento
Estudiante pregrado	USD\$50,00	USD\$75,00	USD\$75,00
Estudiante posgrado	USD\$75,00	USD\$100,00	USD\$100,00
Profesional	USD\$100,00	USD\$150,00	USD\$150,00

<http://www.unal.edu.co/geourbe/presentacion.html>

http://www.unal.edu.co/geourbe/1_Convocatoria.pdf

UTAH STATE NEW LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

In 2006 Utah State University approved a new Latin American Studies Program and minor, facilitated by a Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education. Although USU does not have a geography department, it does have a few geographers on faculty, as well as several geography degrees (majors in both geography and geography teaching, as well as a masters programs). Geographer Claudia Radel, housed in the College of Natural Resources, is involved in the new Latin American Studies minor. Faculty from various departments across the USU campus are involved, including the Departments of Languages, History, Political Science, and Sociology, Social Work & Anthropology. Other Utah State faculty involved in the new Latin American Studies Program include Cliff Craig, Ted Alsop, Tamao Kasahara, and Doug Ramsey.

UNIVERSITY OF DENVER

NEW HIRE

Rebecca Powell from UCSB. She works in Brazil with remote sensing of urban areas. We will advertise this year for an urban geographer with ability to teach upper level stats (no GIS needed!) and for a geomorphologist. Latin Americanists are encouraged to apply. Denver is a great place to live and DU is a great growing university.

STUDENTS

Masters Student Bobby Bascomb graduated from the Department of Geography. Her thesis is entitled "Ecotourism and Sustainability in Chicacnab, Guatemala." Bobby Bascomb now works for the NPR show "Living on Earth."

Masters Student Mindy Syfert graduated from the Department of Geography. For her thesis she used fractals to examine land use and land cover change around Lake Atitlan, Guatemala.

Call for Papers: *Atlantic Studies*

Bill Boelhower, editor of the journal *Atlantic Studies*, has just joined the English Department at LSU. Bill is looking for submissions by Geographers, who are already making many contributions to this multidisciplinary field. Cultural and Historical geographers might find this a great outlet for some of their research and will find a favorable reception. The journal's webpage is at <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14788810.asp>.

Atlantic Studies provides an international forum for research and debate on historical, cultural and literary issues arising within the new disciplinary matrix of the circumatlantic world. In particular, it seeks to foster a transcultural dialogue between the two hemispheres and, specifically, among the nations of Europe, the Americas and Africa. The Journal aims to celebrate the original Atlantic *mappe monde*: a highly critical space, centered not on a single nation or land mass but on a new cosmopolitan interchange of ships and peoples, cultures and texts, ideas and tools.

Published on behalf of MESEA (The Society for Multi-Ethnic Studies: Europe and the Americas), the Journal aims to be an important site for scholarship on the comparative study of multi-ethnic cultures and societies. It challenges nationalist histories and literatures by focusing on the Atlantic as an arena of cultural change and exchange, translation and interference, communication and passage.

Atlantic Studies accordingly invites submissions in the areas of history, cultural studies, critical theory, and literature from academics, public intellectuals, contemporary commentators, and activists whose focus of interest lies in circumatlantic perspectives. The Journal will also publish work based on such visual materials as photography, film, and information media. Each volume will also include book and media reviews.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES OF LASG & CLAG MEMBERS

Matthew Taylor, University of Denver

Matthew received another round of funds from the University of Denver Public Good Office to work on a potable water project in Guatemala. This year, along with several students and the local community, Matthew will design, test, and install biosand filters using locally available plastic buckets, pvc pipes and elbows, sand, and gravel. Taking cues from a wonderful class Matthew took as a graduate student with Dan Arreola, he will take a group of University of Denver Students to the Mexican-American borderland this summer. They will spend most of their time in Sonora and Arizona. Funds for the two week class (students do not pay for any expenses) come from a grant Matthew received from the Tom and Cydney Marsico Foundation here at DU. Tom and Cydney Marsico (both DU alumni) gifted ten million dollars to the university to improve undergraduate education in the arts and sciences. Matthew argued that experiential learning is a good way to improve undergraduate education.

Eric Perramond, Colorado College

Eric Perramond (Colorado College) plans on spending 3 weeks in the Benson Collection of the UT-Austin libraries for some follow-up archival work and writing time, as he completes revisions for his book on private cattle ranching in Sonora, Mexico.

Gerardo Catillo, University of Oklahoma

Gerardo Castillo, a native of Perú, has been in the field since May of 2005 working on his dissertation titled "Representing Piura: Landscape and Social Relations in Northern Peru." Gerardo plans to return to Norman, Oklahoma in the Spring of 2007 and finish writing.

Maria Adames, Virginia Tech

Maria, a doctoral student, continues doing field research in San Felipe de Neri, Ciudad de Panama.

LASA DISTINCTIVE SCHOLARSHIP ON VENEZUELA

The Section on Venezuelan Studies of the Latin American Studies Association is pleased to announce its first annual awards for distinctive scholarship on Venezuela. Please join us during the Business Meeting in San Juan to recognize the following authors:

The Award for Distinctive Scholarship on Venezuela, professional category, social sciences and similar areas, will be made to:

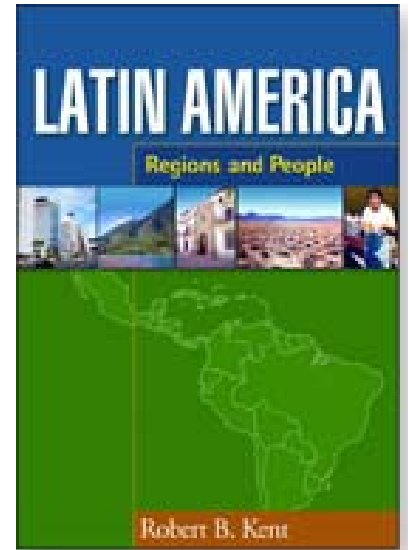
David Hansen and Kirk Hawkins, both of Brigham Young University, authors of "Dependent Civil Society: The Círculos Bolivarianos in Venezuela," *Latin American Research Review*, 41(1), 2006.

The committee awards honorable mention to Clara Irazábel, School of Planning, Policy and Development, University of Southern California., for "A Planned City Comes of Age: Rethinking Ciudad Guayana Today," published in the *Journal of Latin American Geography*, 3(1), 2004.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Robert B. Kent, University of Akron

Guilford Publications has printed Rob's new textbook, *Latin America: Regions and People*. Paperback: ISBN 1-57230-909-1, list price: \$60, Hardcover: ISBN 1-59385-269-X List Price: \$95.00. This comprehensive text introduces key geographical concepts while providing an incisive, timely, and highly informative primer on Latin America. Thematic chapters trace the development of the region from the pre-Hispanic era to the present, while regional chapters reveal the diversity of its constituent people and places. Coverage includes cultural history; environment and physical geography; land use, agriculture, and urbanization; social and economic processes; and the Latin American diaspora. Enhancing the utility of the text are quick-reference tables and illustrative vignettes, over 160 photographs and maps, and suggestions for further reading at the end of each chapter. The publishers website for Rob's book includes a complete table of contents, information on ordering, comments from reviews, and a link if you need a copy to consider for course adoption.



http://www.guilford.com/cgi-bin/cartscript.cgi?page=pr/kent.htm&dir=geo/reg&cart_id=756184.8364,

Handbook of Latin American Studies - Geography

Various CLAG and LASG members have recently authored sections in the chapter on "Geography" in the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*: No. 61, Social Sciences, under the editorship of Lawrence Boudon (2006) Austin: University of Texas Press.

Kent Mathewson, "General," pp. 235-242

Daniel Gade, "Western South America," pp. 261-271

Peter Herlihy and Thomas Klak, "Middle America," pp. 242-253

Cesar Caviedes, "The Southern Cone," pp. 272-283

Daniel Arreola, "Mexico," pp. 254-261

Keith Muller, "Brazil," pp. 284-290

Jorge González Sánchez and Ignacio Kunz Bolaños, Instituto de Geografía, UNAM

From the collection "Temas Selectos de Geografía de México," a new book titled: Regionalización habitacional de la Ciudad de México, Authors: Jorge González Sánchez and Ignacio Kunz Bolaños, Published December 2005, by the Instituto de Geografía, UNAM. ISBN: UNAM 970-32-2824-0

Christian Abizaid, Ph.D Candidate, McGill University

Abizaid, C. 2005. An anthropogenic meander cutoff along the Ucayali River, Peruvian Amazon. *The Geographical Review*. 95(1):122-135

RECENT PUBLICATIONS, continued

Jeffery S. Smith, Kansas State University

Smith, J. 2006. "The Highlands of Contemporary Guatemala" *FOCUS on Geography*, Vol 49:1

Brad Jokisch, Ohio University

Jokisch, Brad, and David Kyle. 2005. "Transformations in Ecuadorian transnational migration 1993-2003", pp. 57-70 in *Ecuadorian Migration: transnationalism, networks and identities* edited by Gioconda Herrera, Maria Crisitina Carillo and Alicia Torres, FLACSO, Quito, Ecuador. (Translated from Spanish).

Kyle, David and Brad Jokisch. 2005. "Leaving Ecuador", *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*, University of California, Berkeley, pp 45-48
Spring.

David Robinson, Syracuse University

Robinson, David J., editor. 2006. *Collaguas III. Yanque Collaguas: sociedad, economía y población, 1604-1617*. Universidad Católica del Perú, 650 pp.

Two Publications Resulting from the CLAG 2001 meetings at Benicassim, España

Both of the following publications had their genesis in the CLAG meeting in Benicassim in 2001, and the majority of the authors are CLAG members. Information on purchasing these books is listed below.

Vicent Ortells Chabrera, Robert B. Kent, and Javier Soriano Martí, editors. *Cities and Urban Geography in Latin America*. Castellon de la Plana (Spain):Publicaciones de la Universitat Jaume I. (2005). ISBN 84-8021-517-8. 200 pp. (This volume includes chapters by the following authors -- **Brian Godfrey, James Curtis, Ines Miyares, Antonio Luna, Waltraud Rosner, Ulli Vilsmaier, David Keeling, Vanda Ueda, and Paulo Roberto Rodrigues Soares**).

Robert B. Kent, Vicent Ortells Chabrera, and Javier Soriano Martí, editors *Bridging Cultural Geographies: Europe and Latin America*. . Castellon de la Plana (Spain):Publicaciones de la Universitat Jaume I. (2005). ISBN 84-8021-507-0. 178 pp. (This volume includes chapters by the following authors -- **Miguel Panadero, Cesar Caviedes, Daniel Gade, Scott Brown, Benjamin Tillman, Carolyn Marie Dudek, Pieter Omtzigt, and Eva Maria St. Clair Segurado**)

These books can be ordered directly from the Universitat Jaume I for 15 (fifteen euros) each @ <http://www.tenda.uji.es/pls/iglu/!GCPA00.GCPR0006?lg=CA&temaid=8>. Shipping to the USA is about 11 (eleven euros). Orders can also be made by mail, fax, or telephone by contacting:

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<http://www.uji.es/publ/cataleg/>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS, continued

Matthew Taylor, University of Denver & Michael Steinberg, University of Hawaii at Hilo

Taylor, M.J., and Steinberg, M.K. 2006. Forty Years of Conflict: State, Church, and Spontaneous Representation of Massacres and Murder in Guatemala. In Jack Santino (Ed.), *Spontaneous Shrines and the Public Memorialization of Death*. Palgrave MacMillan, London, p. 305-331.

Matthew Taylor, University of Denver, et al

Taylor, M.J., Moran-Taylor, M., and Rodman-Ruiz, D. 2006. Land, Ethnic, and Gender Change: Transnational Migration and its Effects on Guatemalan Lives and Landscapes. *Geoforum*, 37:41-61.

Sutton, P.C., Taylor, M.J., and Elvidge, C.D. 2006. Using DMSP OLS Imagery to Characterize Urban Populations in Developed and Developing Countries, in Tarek Rashed and Carsten Juergens (eds.) *Remote Sensing of Urban and Suburban Areas, Series: Remote Sensing and Digital Image Processing, Vol.10*. Series Ed.: Meer, Freek D. van der. Springer (in press, June 2006).

Taylor E. Mack, Mississippi State University

Mack, T.E. 2004. De Oro a Bananos: La Geografía Histórica de los Hinterlands de Trujillo, Honduras, *Revista de la Academia Hondureña de Geografía e Historia*, Diciembre, 2004: 11-27. (Actually published in November 2005).

Brazilian Remote Sensing Site INSTITUO NACIONAL DE PESQUISAS ESPACIAS

Ministério de Ciência y Tecnologia

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LASG & CLAG Members

ACTIVITIES, HONORS, and AWARDS

Rob Schmidt, Prof. Emeritus, Dept. Geol. Sci., U.T. El Paso

Since retiring (O.K. Prof. Emeritus), I finished up the last 2 years of my EPA grant (c. \$85,000 over 3 years), and most recently I received a grant \$23,000 so far) for an on-going photo/educational traveling exhibit entitled "Faces and Places of the Chihuahuan Desert", funded by the National Park Service and the National Endowment for the Humanities-Texas.

My contributions to the published proceedings were papers on the Chihuahuan Desert and the Samalayuca dune field. I had a chapter entitled "Water Resources of Far West Texas: El Paso-Cuidad Juarez," in *Water for Texas*, edited by Norwine, Giardino, & Krishnamurthy, TX A&M Press in late 2005.

In the last several years I have served as the 'Educator' for the popular U.T. El Paso Alumni field trips to Chihuahua and the Sierra Madre of Mexico. Trips to Latin America during the last year+/-, aside from the above, include 5 weeks in southern South America: Chile (centered on Vina del Mar & Valparaiso), on to a 16 night cruise to the Lake District, fjorded coast of southern Chile, Strait of Magellan, around Cape Horn, which are actually islands, Falkland Is., and B.A., Argentina, Colonia and Montevideo, Uruguay, and a week in Rio. Also, Aida and I spent a total of about 6 weeks in Puerto Vallarta, and Mazatlan (all research of course) plus several weeks in Chihuahua not including bars and restaurants in Cd. Juarez. My map/guide to the Copper Canyon of the Sierra Madre Occidental region is still doing fine, as are the sales of the Chihuahua-Pacific Railroad map/guide. I have sold >120,000 of them. Copies of the maps/guides can be obtained for \$3.50 each inc. S&H. International Map Co., rschmidt1@elp.rr.com, (915) 544-9736, or because I am not always around, go to <http://www.treatyoak.com/> or <http://www.gonetomorrowmaps.com> link, (512) 326-4141.

Christopher Gaffney, University of Texas at Austin

Awarded the Latin American S.G. doctoral student award for his paper: Race, Space and Cultural Transformation in the Stadiums of Rio de Janeiro. Nominated for the University of Texas Dissertation Award by the Geography Department for his dissertation titled, *Dynamic Sites and Cultural Symbols: the Stadiums of Rio de Janeiro and Buenos Aires*. He graduated this May. Awarded the Department of Geography's Graduate Achievement Award. Signed a contract with the University of Texas Press to publish his dissertation as a book entitled *Temples of the Earthbound Gods*. He also had a paper accepted for the upcoming Brazilian Studies Association meeting in Nashville in October.

Eugenio Arima, Michigan State University

Eugenio was one of two recipients of the 2006 Gil-Chim Lim Award for outstanding doctoral dissertation in Global Studies. This award is sponsored by Michigan State University's International Studies and Programs. His dissertation title was "Loggers and forest fragmentation: ehavioral and computational models of road building in the Amazon basin." This dissertation was defended in August 2005, under the guidance of Prof. Robert Walker.

Steve Aldrich, Michigan State University

Named a CLACS (Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies) Outstanding Graduate Student.

LASG & CLAG Members

ACTIVITIES, HONORS, and AWARDS

Joe Scarpaci, Virginia Tech

Joe was accepted as a Senior Fulbright Specialist to lecture at the Universidad ORT de Uruguay on urban and regional planning during the US summer. He also gave the keynote address at the Centers of Latin American and Caribbean Studies at Allegheny College, March 31, 2006, and his address was titled "Heritage, Space, and Conflict in the Latin American Plaza."

Antoinette WinklerPrins, Michigan State University

awarded a NSF grant for a project entitled "Creating soil: A pilot study of Amazon Dark Earth (ADE) formation in Amazonian home gardens."

Margaret Wilder, University of Arizona

Margaret has been awarded a fellowship for spring 2007 from the Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy at the University of Arizona. Margaret will be focusing on the political ecology of water in Mexico, beginning a project on water and cities at the urban-rural/ejido interface in Sonora.

Sara Koopman and Juanita Sundburg, University of British Columbia

Sara and Juanita are on the organizing and curating committee that has brought an exhibit of internationally renowned Colombian photojournalist Jesús Abad Colorado's work to Vancouver's Museum of Anthropology. The photos document the experiences of internally displaced populations and those who live in the midst of armed conflict in Colombia, offering ways that communities envision peace and resilience. The exhibit, and accompanying workshop, is entitled "Memory, Place, Displacement". Selecting the photos, designing the accompanying text and catalog, and the workshop all involved critical cross-disciplinary debates on how to represent pain, conflict, and displacement and change visual imaginaries of war, and of Colombia in particular. The exhibit will be at the Museum from March 28th to June 10th.

Michael Yoder, Texas A&M International University (TAMIU) in Laredo

Michael has received a University Research Grant to study the bi-national planning process of two international bridges linking Matamoros, Mexico with Cameron County, Texas (Brownsville). The research, to be carried out during the Summer, will be an addition to an ongoing study of the workings of Mexico's "Nuevo Federalismo," or political decentralization, in the context of the geography of inland ports in the Mexican border cities. The New Federalism was begun in the mid-1980s, and has resulted in a variety of different planning, financing, and revenue-sharing arrangements for the international bridges. Michael is currently Vice President of the Webb County Rural Rail Transportation District, a non-profit quasi-governmental entity promoting rail modernization in the Laredo-Nuevo Laredo metropolitan area. The district's main project is the planning and eventual construction of a rail bridge linking Colombia, Nuevo León and far-west Laredo, to re-route the growing NAFTA-related rail thru-traffic to a point about 20 miles west of the downtowns of Los Dos Laredos.

LASG & CLAG Members

ACTIVITIES, HONORS, and AWARDS

B. L. Turner II, Clark University

The SYPR (Southern Yucatán Peninsular Region) project has been awarded a new NASA-LCLUC grant to sustain its study of deforestation and land change in southern Campeche and Quintana Roo, México. The SYPR project began in 1997 to promote land change science-understanding land-use/cover change in its own right as foundational to addressing societal, environmental, and coupled human-environment problems. This phase of the project focuses on the vulnerability of the environmental system to various hazards owing to the kinds of land changes underway in the study region. Involving multiple institutions and researchers in México and the U.S., the project is anchored in the Graduate School of Geography, Clark University.

Eric Perramond, Colorado College

Eric, in the department of Southwest Studies & Environmental Science, at Colorado College, received a Mrachek Fellowship to complete revisions on his book entitled "Desert Meadows: Political ecologies of private ranching in northern Mexico" for this summer of 2006.

Brad Jokisch, Ohio University & Kendra McSweeney, Ohio State University

Kendra and Brad did about 6 weeks of field work in the fall among Shuar and with the Shuar Federation in Eastern Ecuador. The research was part of the National Geographic grant they got last year. One or both of them will likely return this summer to work on a joint report with UNICEF on health and demographic trends among the Shuar and to do some follow-up research. They have two articles under review and continue working on their database and plan to write a lot in the next 6 months.

William V. Davidson, Louisiana State University (Retired)

Bill has been keeping himself busy in Memphis, Tennessee, where he and his wife Sharon reside. Bill continues his research on cultural geography, ethnography, and historical geography of Honduras. His latest project is the *Atlas Historico de Honduras - Atlas of Historical Maps of Honduras*, which is currently in the process of being printed (look for more info in the next issue of this Newsletter). To complete this atlas, Bill has worked in Nicaragua with Jaime Incer as translator, and received help with the write-ups of several maps from : Scott Brady, David Cochran, Taylor E. Mack, Craig Revels, and Ben Tillman. To get the historical maps, Bill has traveled extensively to archives and libraries in Seville, Simancas, and Madrid, Spain; Guatemala; Honduras; Nicaragua; Italy; The Vatican; Netherlands; United Kingdom; and throughout the United States, including some private collections (*editor's note – he used one of my antique prints!*). On top of all this, Bill found time to travel the Río San Juan in Nicaragua, and play tennis in nationally-ranked tournaments and ended 2005 with a national ranking of 11th in the United States for his age group.

Juanita Sundberg, University of British Columbia

I have long been interested in articulating my work through artistic media. Most recently, I collaborated with Dafne Romero (an independent filmmaker) and Patricia Valadez (a set construction artist) to create a multimedia video installation exploring various dimensions of the environmental implications of U.S. border enforcement strategies. The result was W.A.L.L., on display at the AMS Art Gallery in the University of British Columbia Student Union Building from January 9-13, 2006. Using recycled materials, video footage, imagery, sound, testimonies, and objects left by undocumented immigrants, W.A.L.L. reflected upon border policies through four concepts: War; Apprehension; Legality; Landscape. Many of the objects on display were collected during my fieldwork in the Texas and Arizona borderlands. Perhaps the most moving are the personal belongings lost or discarded by undocumented immigrants as they journeyed through the Sonora Desert.

LASA, San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 15-18, 2006 – LASG & CLAG Members who participated in the meeting

Brad Jokisch, Ohio University

Presented a paper titled "Ten years down the road: a longitudinal study of transnational migration from the Ecuadorian Andes," and also served as a discussant on Peruvian migration and socioeconomic mobility.

Christian Brannstrom, Texas A&M

Presented a paper titled "Land change in the Brazilian savanna (Cerrado), 1986-2002: Comparative analysis and conservation implications," with co-authors: W. Jepson, A. M. Filippi and S. Ganesh

Dereka Rushka, University of Arizona

Presented a paper titled "Sonoran Cartographies: Deaths in the Desert"

Joel Wainwright, Ohio State University

Presented a paper title "Postcolonial reflections on the Maya land rights movement in southern Belize."

Juanita Sundberg, University of British Columbia

Presented a paper titled "Exploring the Place of Race in Environmental Justice Research in Latin America."

Karl Offen, University of Oklahoma

Co-organized a session with Jordana Dym (an Historian at Skidmore Collge) called "Mapping Latin America," and presented a paper titles "Mapping Amerindian Spatial Practices in Eastern Central America, 1629-1779."

Margaret Wilder, University of Arizona

Chaired her session on Decentralization, participated as a discussant for another session on neoliberalism and rural cooperatives in Latin America, and presented a paper titled "Water and the State: Transforming the Governance Paradigm in Mexico."

Marion Traub-Werner, University of Minnesota

Presented a paper titled "Maquila Predicaments: Social movementorganizing at the end of apparel quotas."

Sara Koopman, University of British Columbia

Presented a paper titled "Making Solidarity More Liberatory: moving beyond colonial patterns in the movement to close the School of the Americas."

Thomas Perreault, Syracuse University

Presented a paper entitled "From the Guerra del Agua to the Guerra del Gas: Resource governance, neoliberalism, and popular protest in Bolivia."

This list was compiled from those responding to messages on CLAGNet and the LASG discussion board. My apologies to any members who attended but were not included. The program on the LASA website was too unwieldy to search for all potential members of LASG and CLAG who attended and presented at the meeting.