



Latin America
Specialty Group

CLAG/LASG NEWSLETTER

Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG) and AAG's Latin America Specialty Group (LASG)

Elise Arellano-Thompson and Beth Tellman – Co-Editors

CLAG 2024 – SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO

Conference attendees converged in San Juan, Puerto Rico for this year's CLAG meeting. Many thanks to Dr. David Salisbury (University of Richmond), Dr. Carlos Guilbe and his team of geography students (University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras), and the CLAG board who helped organize the event!



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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

KRISTEN CONWAY-GÓMEZ

July 10, 2024

!Hola/Oi! I hope everyone has settled into a post-conference routine. CLAG 2024 San Juan, Puerto Rico was a resounding success. Leading up to the Puerto Rico conference, CLAG had a robust 268 members. The 187 registrants who attended the meeting participated in a varied set of sessions covering geographic approaches to topics that included: environmental justice and natural resources; critical; sports; feminist; decolonial; Latinx; migration; health; historic; and, urban. We had 21 posters presented over two days, at least half of which were student authored! It is hopeful to see the good work that the next generation of scholars is working on along with the amazing work being done by CLAG scholars. As geographers do, we got out with boots on the ground – 123 (66%) attendees participated in four field trips to learn more about Puerto Rico.

There was much to learn and exchange in San Juan, and I saw quite a lot of that happening. I am very grateful to our leadership – past-Chair David Salisbury, Communications Coordinator Tim Norris, Secretary Claudia Radel, current Chair Sarah Blue, Treasurer Christian Brannstrom, and student assistant Daniela Perez for all of their thought, time, and work leading up to and during to make this conference a success. Our local organizing committee, led by the inimitable Carlos Guilbe of the University of Puerto Rico Rio Piedras and his fabulous team of student assistants – Alondra Toste Vega, Beatriz Ruiz Cintron, Elianys De Jesús Ortiz, Andrea Gascot Rodriguez, Laura Daniela Lopez, Carola Oliverasi, and Juan Carols Guilbe – were critical in assuring the polishing touches on the meeting, field trips, and logistical aspects of the conference came together. Mil gracias a tod@s!



This column comes at a time of relative predictability, we've had a transition in our leadership positions of Chair and Vice Chair. A huge thank you to David Salisbury, outgoing Chair, for his inspiring leadership and visionary steering of CLAG, over the past four years – two as Vice Chair, two as Chair. David deserves distinct thanks for his efforts guiding us through two very successful CLAG conferences – San Juan and Phoenix, Arizona. We are humming along with new board members in place, – thank you to all who participated with your vote, which represented a 44% turnout, and to Chair Sarah Blue for her efficient work this election cycle. Our recently-elected board members are: Eloisa Berman-Arevalo - Universidad del Norte, Colombia; Joel Correia - Colorado State University; Oliver Hernández Lara - Universidad Autónoma del Estado de México; Jaime Paneque-Gálvez - Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM); Zoe Pearson - University of Wyoming; Anika Rice - University of Wisconsin at Madison; and, Luis Sánchez - Universidad de los Andes, Colombia.

The latest issue of [JLAG 23\(1\)](#) under co-editors Martha Bell and Jessica Budds has just come out. Thank you Martha and Jessica for your dedication and work to keep JLAG moving forward as a key journal of the geography of Latin America. Make

sure to explore this issue and consider including JLAG articles in your classes as well as your scholarly work. As always, consider sharing your work and time with submissions to JLAG, you are what make it in large part an exceptional journal for Latin American geography.

Due to CLAG's solid financial footing we were able to support four scholars from the global south with travel grants to San Juan. These applications were evaluated by the Executive Committee – thank you! In April, review of graduate student field study proposals was completed, with 12 awarded. A gracious thank you to Joel Correia, Gabriela Valdivia, and Nick Padilla for their work on the field study grants committee. Student travel grants for San Juan resulted in five being awarded. A heartfelt thank you to the travel grants committee – Joel Correia, Andrea Zuñiga-Teran, and Nick Padilla. Competition was keen for all of these funds,

a testament to the involvement and interest of our current and next generation of scholars, CLAG's future is bright. It was wonderful to meet undergraduate and graduate students in San Juan and learn more about what they are working on. I look forward to learning about their accomplishments in the field.

Dear Reader, in closing, thank you for your interest in and contributions to CLAG. I am grateful to all who were able to participate in the San Juan CLAG Conference – it is always a pleasure to reconnect and share with fellow Latin American geographers, this year was no exception. I hope many of you will be able to participate in our next CLAG – mark your calendars for January 2026 and be on the lookout for details in the coming year.

Kristen Conway-Gómez, Professor
Department of Geography and Anthropology, Cal
Poly Pomona, Pomona, CA 91768

LETTER FROM THE CLAG CHAIR

Sarah Blue

Letter from the CLAG Chair

Dear CLAGistas,

As I begin the next two years as Chair of CLAG, I look forward to working closely with our new Vice-Chair, Zoe Pearson and the other members of our Executive Board, which consists of re-appointed Executive Director Kristen Conway-Gomez, Communications Director Tim Norris, Treasurer Christian Brannstrom, and Secretary Claudia Radel, to keep our organization running smoothly and going strong. Thanks to out-going Chair David Salisbury for his boundless enthusiasm for CLAG and the many hours he put into the organization over the past two years.

It was great to see so many of you at the CLAG Conference in Puerto Rico this past May. Over 185 people attended the conference, set in beautiful and historic Old San Juan and were energized by the fabulous paper, panel, and poster sessions, the fieldtrips, the banquet, and many other opportunities to learn, explore, see old friends and make new ones. It was great to have so many Puerto Rican colleagues and students there to give context to this beautiful island. A big thanks to those who made it possible, especially Carlos Guilbe, David Salisbury, Kristen Conway-Gomez, Tim Norris, and Claudia Radel. Congratulations as well to the seven distinguished 2024 CLAG award winners, most of whom were able to accept their awards in person at the banquet (<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>). While the location is not yet finalized, we are working out details with several enthusiastic Mexican scholars (including board members Oliver Hernández Lara and Jaime Paneque-Gálvez) to hold the next CLAG conference, to be held January 7-11, in Central Mexico. Mark your calendars!

This past spring we were able to support a large number of graduate students in their research and conference presentations—we awarded 12 field study grants (9 PhD and 3 MS awardees) and 11 Travel Grants to attend the CLAG conference. Congratulations to all of the grant winners and

thanks to the CLAG Board members who put in many hours of their time reading and ranking the proposals (Joel Correia (chair), Nick Padilla, Adriana Zuniga-Teran, and Gabriela Valdivia). We also awarded four professional travel grants to support members' attendance from institutions in Latin America. Our ability to fund these grants comes from revenue generated from article downloads of CLAG's peer-reviewed journal: the Journal of Latin American Geography (JLAG). Please continue to submit articles for publication and to use Project Muse to assign articles for your classes: <https://clagscholar.org/publications/jlag>. Thanks to the co-editors of JLAG, Martha Bell and Jessica Budds for their behind-the-scenes work on JLAG. Please remember to renew your own membership and encourage your graduate students and colleagues to become new members.

Finally, don't forget to follow CLAG on your favorite platforms (Facebook: @clagscholar, Instagram: clagscholar, Twitter: @CLAGGeography) to keep up with the latest goings-on of this great organization.

Cuidense mucho,

Abrazos, Sarah



LETTER FROM THE LASG CHAIR

Amy Thompson

Dear LASG and CLAG readers,

Greetings from Austin, TX! I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. I just completed my summer field research in Belize, where I conducted 8 weeks of lidar-guided pedestrian survey to document ancient Maya houses for assessments of social organization, human-environment interactions, and comparisons of sustainability and inequality in the past and today.

Since the last CLAG newsletter, the AAGs were held in Hawaii. While several of us were not able to attend in person, we held a hybrid LASG business meeting that was hosted in person by the CLAG chair David Salisbury. I extend huge gratitude to the AAG and David for hosting the hybrid meetings so LASG Vice-Chair Nick Padilla and I could attend. The hybrid approach worked well, allowing anyone to join the meeting regardless of the AAG attendance format, although those of us online were not able to attend the joint LASG-CLAG social event.

At the LASG business meeting we announced the winners of the student awards. Overall, we had fewer award submissions this year compared to previous years, but we were able to fund all three applicants! We did not receive any applications for the Best Student Paper Award nor Solidarity Award. Our winners for the Student Field Award were Alec Armon (MA student, Geography, University of Wisconsin-Madison), Joycelin Van Caulart (MA student, Geography and Planning, University of Toronto), and Nathaniel Dolton-Thornton (PhD student, Energy and Resources Group, University of California,

Berkeley). Alec's project focused on an assessment of how desalination as a technology is changing the political landscape concerning water rights and management in Chile. Joycelin's project reconceives religion by examining modes of evangelical hazard resilience in the Peruvian Amazon, and Nathaniel conducted preliminary field research on the social, political, and environmental dynamics around copper and lithium extraction in Chile and Argentina. We hope these students successfully completed their field projects and we look forward to supporting more students in the future. Please encourage your students to apply for the next round of the LASG student awards, which will be due in Spring 2025.

At the AAG, we co-organized the JLAG Lecture by Amber Wutich titled, "From the Water War to MAD Water: Building a Global Agenda for Water Security with Insights from Latin America". The event included a 45-min keynote lecture followed by two panelists who discussed water security and a Q&A session. This keynote lecture was supported by the AAG Keynote Lecture Award funded through LASG.

With the start of July comes the transition in LASG officers. As I sign off, Nick Padilla will transition into the role of LASG Chair. He is the first LASG officer to complete the 3-year cycle ensuring the retention of institutional knowledge among changing leadership. Nick was the Secretary-Treasurer in 2022-2023, Vice-Chair in 2023-2024, and will be chair for the 2024-2025 cycle. Thank you, LASG members and CLAG readership, for your ongoing support. It has been a pleasure to serve on the LASG leadership team as Vice-Chair (2022-2023) and Chair (2023-2024)

and I look forward to continuing to be active in our broader geographic communities!

Cheers,

Amy E. Thompson

Chair, LASG



LETTER FROM THE CO-EDITORS - JLAG

Martha G. Bell and Jessica Budds

Dear Colleagues,

We are excited to share with you several important updates since our last letter!

To begin, we would like to join in the congratulations to the incoming CLAG board members. We look forward to working with the newly elected officers, and are particularly encouraged to see that they include members from universities based in Latin America.

We would also like to let you know that Johnny Finn has decided to step down as Associate Editor. Johnny joined the JLAG editorial team under Chris Gaffney's leadership, and subsequently took over the editorship himself. During his term as editor, Johnny launched some key initiatives, including JLAG en Traducción / JLAG em Tradução, through which CLAG sponsors the translation of particularly significant papers in order to widen their readership beyond linguistic barriers. In 2023, Johnny was deservedly awarded the Outstanding Service to CLAG award for his "dynamic and progressive transformation" of JLAG. We were both extremely grateful to Johnny for both his development of the journal upon which we can build, as well as his guidance as we assumed the co-editorship from him last year.

In addition, Jörn Seemann will also be stepping down as Associate Editor, a position he has held for the last eight years or so, although he will continue in his role as Book Review Editor. Likewise, we thank Jörn sincerely for his service to the journal in both capacities.

We would also like to welcome Dr. Guy Crawford, currently based at Queen's University (Canada), to the editorial team. Guy has taken over from Diana Tung as Associate Editor for Visual Content, a role that involves reviewing and guiding the improvement of all images in the material that we publish, as well as taking the lead on cover art (for

which submissions may be made through our Digital Commons system!).

We were pleased to see some CLAG faces in person and online for the JLAG Annual Lecture at the AAG in Honolulu in April, given by Dr. Amber Wutich from Arizona State University on the subject of household water insecurity in Latin America. We would like to take this opportunity to announce that, for the first time, JLAG will co-host a keynote speaker with the Latin American Geography Research Group (LAG-UK) at the Royal Geographical Society - Institute of British Geographers (RGS-IBG) Annual International Conference in London in the last week of August. The keynote will be delivered by Dr. Rogério Haesbaert, from Universidade Federal Fluminense in Brazil, with a lecture on "Entre fronteirização e multiterritorialidade: dilemas da des-colonização do território em Abya Yala/Afro/Latino América (Between Borderization and Multiterritoriality: Dilemmas of the De-colonization of Territory in Abya Yala/Afro/Latin America)". This event will be the first of its kind, and will be accompanied by the second annual prize for an undergraduate dissertation focusing on Latin American geographies from a UK university in 2023 or 2024. We greatly look forward to collaborating with LAG-UK as well as extending the reach of the journal in Europe.



Dr. Rogério Haesbaert, Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil

Last but certainly not least, we are pleased to announce that we have recently published the first issue of 2024, 23(1), in May. This issue included four research articles on a diverse set of topics: a classification of participatory mapping based on cases in Colombia, the health impacts of mining in Guatemala, debates around the concept of “post-truth” in Latin America, and children’s rights in relation to migration across the U.S.-Mexico border. As ever, we are deeply grateful to our peer reviewers for their service. Complementing these articles were two JLAG Perspectives to commemorate the life and career of the Brazilian geographer, Carlos Walter Porto-Gonçalves, who sadly passed away in September 2023. The first comprises an obituary written by Rogério Haesbaert, a long-standing colleague and collaborator, and published in Portuguese, Spanish, and English. The second presents Spanish and English translations of an interview with Professor Porto-Gonçalves by Laura Sarmiento that we published as a JLAG Perspective in the original Portuguese back in 2016. All of these pieces, including the original interview, are open access, so please do download, read, and share them. We sincerely hope that this trilingual collection of

articles from and on Carlos Walter Porto-Gonçalves help to disseminate the nature and importance of his work, and do justice to his scholarship and legacy.

We warmly invite you to read the issues, in print or online via Project MUSE (<https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/240>), use the content in your teaching and research, and spread the word by retweeting our announcements on Twitter (@JLatAmGeog)! We also welcome new submissions from all our readers, by way of new research articles, proposals for special issues, JLAG Perspectives and Retrospectives, and cover art (photographs or artwork) for the journal cover. As always, we are grateful to all those who contribute to the journal in any way.

With our best wishes

Martha Bell

Jessica Budds

Co-editors, Journal of Latin American Geography



Martha Bell



Jessica Budds

NEW PUBLICATIONS

NEW PUBLICATIONS: PAPERS

Baudoin Farah, A. (2024). Meanings of indigenous autonomy: Between identity, authority, and integration. *Geoforum*, 148, 103916. DOI: 10.1016/j.geoforum.2023.103916.

Clouser, R. & Rickly, J. M. (2024). Going the distance: endurance philanthropy, spectacle, and development in Central America. *Tourism Geographies*, 26(3), 373-383. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14616688.2024.2314550>

Ferreira Silva, C.O., Manzionne, R. I., & Caldas, M. (2023). Water budget shifts across the Brazilian Cerrado: climatological trends and two decades of land use and land cover changes. *Regional Environmental Change*, 23, 151. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10113-023-02127-x>

Jakubchik-Paloheimo, M., & de Buena Esperanza, S. K. (2024). Making Space for Feminist Decolonial Geographies of Peace with the Shuar in the Ecuadorian Amazon: A Case for 'Cuerpo Territorio.' *Geopolitics*, 1-30. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14650045.2024.2366316>

de Marco Jr., P., Souza, R., Andrade, A.F.A., Villen-Perez, S., Nóbrega, C.C., Motta, L.C., & Caldas, M. (2023). The value of private properties for the conservation of biodiversity in the Brazilian Cerrado. *Science*, 380(6642), 298-301. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abq7768>

Offen, Karl. (2024). Cartography and Environment in Colonial Latin American History. In Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History. Oxford University Press, 2014—. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199366439.013.1155>.

Patel, R. (2024). Securing development: Uneven geographies of coastal tourism development in El Salvador. *World Development*, 174, 106450. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2023.106450>

Patel, R. (2024). Economic freedom or crypto-colonialism? Materialities of Bitcoin adoption in El Salvador. *Geoforum*, 151, 103980. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.geoforum.2024.103980>

Tromboni, F., Dodds, W.K., Cunha, D.G.F., Monteiro, J.A.F., Avocat, H., Caldas, M., & Gücker, B. (2024). Defining nutrient ecoregions for reference nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations in rivers from the major South American biomes. *Science of Total Environment*, 911, 168563. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.scitotenv.2023.168563>

Vasquez, C., Neri Castro, E., & Carter, E. D. (2024). Therapeutic itineraries of snakebite victims and antivenom access in southern Mexico. *PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases*, 18(7), e0012301. <https://journals.plos.org/plosntds/article?id=10.1371/journal.pntd.0012301>

NEW PUBLICATIONS: BOOK CHAPTERS

Watkins, C. (2024). Palm Oil and Afro-Brazilian Cultures, in: Ángela Vergara (Ed.), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History*. Oxford University Press, New York. <https://doi.org/10.1093/acrefore/9780199366439.013.1154>

Tung, D. (2024). Emblematic fruit: Mapping aguaje palm fruit vendors during Covid-19 in Iquitos, Peru. IN: K. Bohn and M. Tomkins (eds) (2024) *Urban Food Mapping: Making Visible the Edible City* (pp. 200–209) Routledge: London and New York. <http://doi.org/10.4324/9781003352280>

NEW PUBLICATIONS: PODCASTS

Belury, L. (2024). Flood Justice in the US-Mexico Borderlands: Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Delta. <https://jsw.arizona.edu/multimedia/podcasts/lucas-belury-flood-justice-in-the-us-mexico-borderlands-ii/>

Belury, L. (2024). Flood Justice in the US-Mexico Borderlands: Ambos Nogales. <https://jsw.arizona.edu/multimedia/podcasts/lucas-belury-flood-justice-borderlands/>

JOURNAL OF LATIN AMERICAN GEOGRAPHY, No 23(1) 2024

Please download all the articles and book reviews from Project Muse where available

<https://muse.jhu.edu/journal/240>

Bell, M.G., Budds, J., Valdivia, G., Finn, J.C., Seemann, J., & Arima, E. (2024). Widening Latin American Geography. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 6-9. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929685>.

ARTICLES

Barrera Lobatón, M.S. (2024). Una propuesta de categorización en la elaboración participativa de mapas: Cuatro estudios de caso en Colombia/ A Proposal for the Categorization of Participatory Map-Making: Four Case Studies from Colombia. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 18-47. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929686>.

Albritton, M., Koliivas, K., Chang, B., Copeland, N., Prado, G.G., & Krometis, L. (2024). "Dying of Thirst, Like Fish in the Sea": Syndemic Health Impacts and Environmental Risk Perceptions Associated with Mining among the Ch'orti' of Eastern Guatemala. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 48-79. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929687>.

Warf, B. (2024). Posverdad: Geographies of Post-Truth in Latin America. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 80-99. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929688>.

Jokisch, B.D., & Blue, S.A. (2024). Increased Family and Child Migration to the United States from Latin America and the Caribbean: The Paradox of Protecting Children's Rights. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 100-129. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929689>.

JLAG PERSPECTIVES:

Haesbaert, R. (2024). Carlos Walter Porto-Gonçalves, geografia como verbo: Paixão da terra que, pelos "de baixo", se faz território. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 130-140. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929690>.

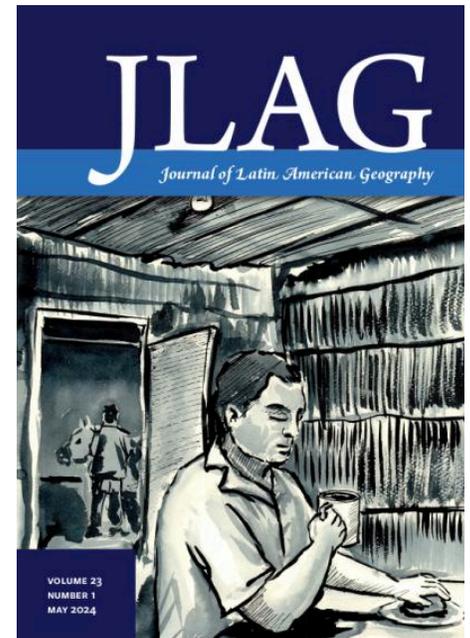
Sarmiento, L. (2024). Vida, conocimiento y territorio: Una geobiografía de Carlos Walter Porto-Gonçalves. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 163-191. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929691>.

JLAG BOOK REVIEWS:

Brasher, J. (2024). [Review of the book *Moral Majorities Across the Americas: Brazil, the United States, and the Creation of the Religious Right*, by Benjamin A. Cowan]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 192-193. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929692>.

Guadalupe Cabré, P. (2024). [Review of the book *Vivências de mulheres no tempo e espaço da pandemia de Covid-19: Perspectivas transnacionais de Georgiane Garabely Heil Vázquez, Joseli Maria Silva y Karina Janz Woitowicz*]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 194-198. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929693>.

Sadlier, D.J. (2024). [Review of the book *Cinematic Journeys in Latin America: Geography Through the Lens of Exploration and Discovery Films*, by Richard Francaviglia]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 199-200. <https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929694>.



- Read, I. (2024). [Review of the book *In Pursuit of Health Equity: A History of Latin American Social Medicine*, by Eric D. Carter]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 201-203.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929695>.
- Brannstrom, C. (2024). [Review of the book *Sweet Fuel: A Political and Environmental History of Brazilian Ethanol*, by Jennifer Eaglin, and: *Agriculture's Energy: The Trouble with Ethanol in Brazil's Green Revolution* by Thomas D. Rogers]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 203-206.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929696>.
- Faccioli, G. (2024). [Review of the book *Region Out of Place: The Brazilian Northeast and the World, 1924–1968*, by Courtney J. Campbell]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 207-209.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929697>.
- Duarte, R.H. (2024). [Review of the book *Llamas Beyond the Andes: Untold Histories of Camelids in the Modern World*, by Marcia Stephenson]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 209-211.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929698>.
- Rainey, S.J. (2024). [Review of the book *Flooded: Development, Democracy, and Brazil's Belo Monte Dam*, by Peter Taylor Klein]. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 212-214.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929699>.
- (2024). Correction. *Journal of Latin American Geography* 23(1), 215.
<https://dx.doi.org/10.1353/lag.2024.a929700>.

CLAG/LASG MEMBER NEWS

Honors:

Experts of Latin American Geography awarded honors by the Conference of Latin American Geography (CLAG).

CLAG awarded 7 honors in May 2024 at the 38th CLAG Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. CLAG, founded in 1970, has over 200 members from around the globe who foster geographic education and research on and in Latin America.

The Ascendente Award

Dr. Joel Correia of Colorado State University received CLAG's Ascendente Award. Dr. Correia received the honor in person at the conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico in May 2024 for early accomplishment in scholarship, teaching & engagement of/with geography of Latin America. Congratulations!

Joel's book, "Disrupting the Patrón: Indigenous Land Rights and the Fight for Environmental Justice in Paraguay's Chaco" makes a major contribution to the study of racial geographies and settler colonialism in Latin America.

Dr. Correia demonstrates a deep commitment to engaged scholarship and transformative education in Latin American Geography, centering efforts to ensure diversity, equity, and justice for a more inclusive sub-discipline .



DR. JOEL CORREIA
Assistant Professor, Human Dimensions of
Natural Resources Department
Colorado State University

2024 ASCENDENTE AWARD

This award is given in recognition of an early career scholar/educator (<8 years since PhD date) demonstrating outstanding early accomplishment in the scholarship, teaching, and engagement of/with the geography of Latin America.

Joel's book, *Disrupting the Patrón: Indigenous Land Rights and the Fight for Environmental Justice in Paraguay's Chaco* makes a major contribution to the study of racial geographies and settler colonialism in Latin America. Dr. Correia demonstrates a deep commitment to engaged scholarship and transformative education in Latin American Geography, centering efforts to ensure diversity, equity, and justice for a more inclusive sub-discipline .

Read the full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

🔗 Read the full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

🔗 Disrupting the Patrón (download the free e-book): <https://bit.ly/45pgXug>

The Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award

We are delighted to announce that Professor **Karl Zimmerer** of the Department of Geography at Penn State University was awarded the Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award from CLAG Executive Director Dr. Kristen Conway-Gómez & Vice Chair Dr. Sarah Blue.

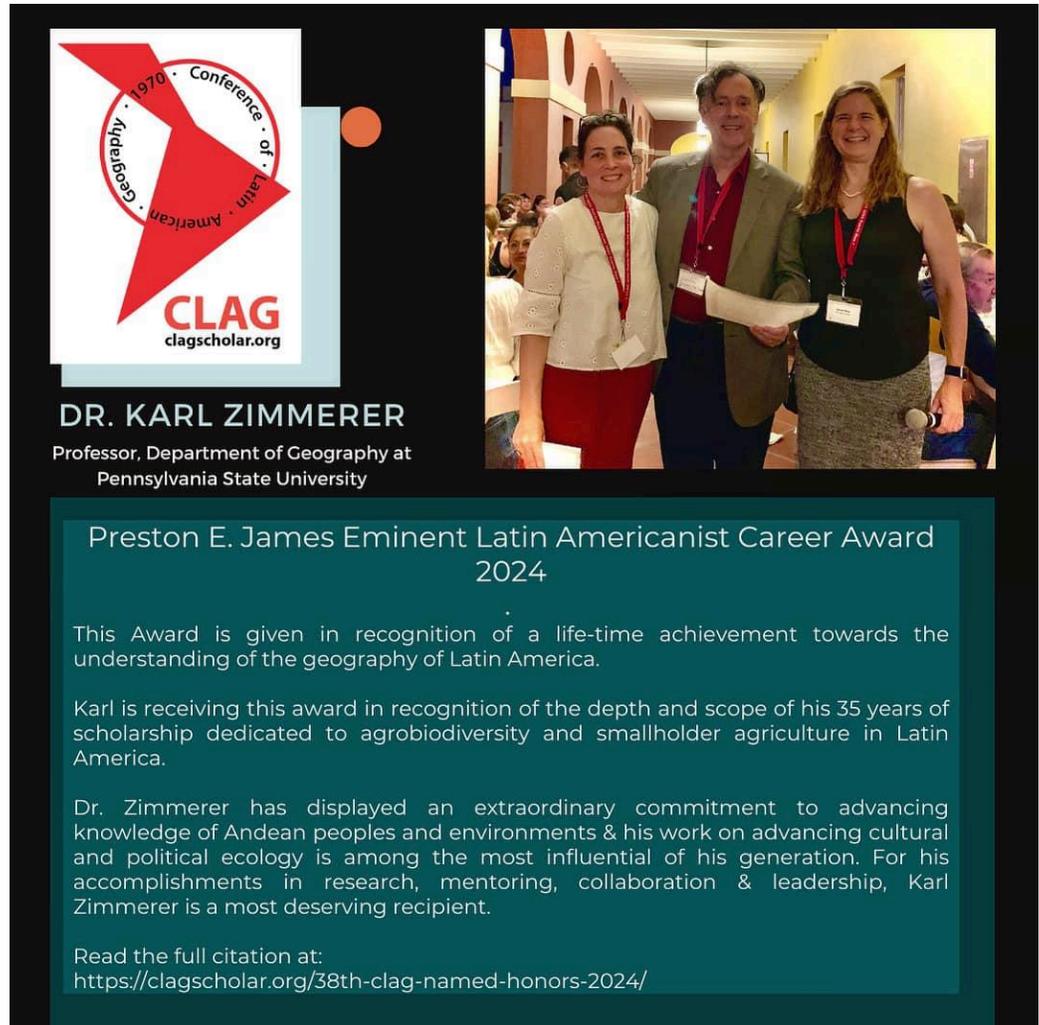
The Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award is given in recognition of a life-time achievement towards the understanding of the geography of Latin America. Karl is receiving this award in recognition of the depth and scope of his 35 years of scholarship dedicated to agrobiodiversity and smallholder agriculture in Latin America.

Dr. Zimmerer has displayed an extraordinary commitment to advancing knowledge of Andean peoples and environments & his work on advancing cultural and political ecology is among the most influential of his generation. Additionally, Karl has supported the discipline in many ways, most notably through editing our flagship journal and leading a top department.

For his accomplishments in research, mentoring, collaboration & leadership, Karl Zimmerer is a most deserving recipient.

Congratulations, Karl!

🔗 Read the full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>



DR. KARL ZIMMERER
Professor, Department of Geography at
Pennsylvania State University

Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award
2024

This Award is given in recognition of a life-time achievement towards the understanding of the geography of Latin America.

Karl is receiving this award in recognition of the depth and scope of his 35 years of scholarship dedicated to agrobiodiversity and smallholder agriculture in Latin America.

Dr. Zimmerer has displayed an extraordinary commitment to advancing knowledge of Andean peoples and environments & his work on advancing cultural and political ecology is among the most influential of his generation. For his accomplishments in research, mentoring, collaboration & leadership, Karl Zimmerer is a most deserving recipient.

Read the full citation at:
<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

CLAG Teaching Award

Dr. David López-Carr of UC Santa Barbara was awarded the CLAG Teaching Award!

David received the honor in May at our conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico in recognition of outstanding teaching (undergraduate or/and graduate) of the geography of Latin America.

Dr. López-Carr has a regular undergraduate and graduate teaching role and delivers various popular and highly-rated courses, especially his Geography of Latin America course, an integrative human and physical geography introduction to the history and current realities of the region and his Human-Environment Dynamics in Latin America course. David has mentored a large cadre of graduate students (65, mainly PhD students), as major professor or committee member, and offers them a mixed-methods field work course drawing on his own field work experiences in Guatemala and Ecuador.



DR. DAVID LÓPEZ-CARR
Professor, Department of Geography
University of California, Santa Barbara

2024 CLAG TEACHING AWARD

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<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

Congratulations!

🔗 Read the full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

🔗 David's Homepage: <https://www.geog.ucsb.edu/people/faculty/david-lopez-carr>

<https://www.facebook.com/david.lopezcarr?mibextid=LQQJ4d>

The Enlaces Award

The Enlaces Award is given in recognition of contributions to improving relationships between geographers and geography departments throughout Latin America. It is our pleasure to present this award to **Dr. Carlos Guilbe** from the Department of Geography at the University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras, San Juan

Dr. Guilbe is described as “One of the pillars of contemporary Puerto Rican Geography. His academic work has had an immense impact on Puerto Rico and the Americas.”

Professor Guilbe also stands out as a facilitator and creator of geographic networks with different institutions throughout the region. These “enlaces” have permitted the interchange of knowledge and ideas to find solutions to the challenges of Puerto Rico and the rest of the Americas.

Read the full citation at:

<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

[UPRRP https://www.uprrp.edu/tag/geografia/](https://www.uprrp.edu/tag/geografia/)



DR. CARLOS GUILBE
University of Puerto Rico at Rio Piedras,
San Juan, Puerto Rico

2024 CLAG ENLACES AWARD

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<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

Public Engagement Award

Dr. Nolin, former CLAG chair is not only a multiple award-winning teacher and scholar, but also a change maker. Catherine's morally-centered, engaged research requires high levels of courage, language, and dedication. Moreover, working in remote, rural Guatemala, mostly with Indigenous women, entails an additional level of empathy, toughness, and shared community that marks her work as truly extraordinary.

Nolin's second book, a co-edited volume with activist Grahame Russell, *Testimonio: Canadian Mining in the Aftermath of Genocides in Guatemala* takes on the Canadian mining industry, and by extension the Canadian government which sanctioned and supported this industry, and thus the repression and violence to Guatemalan landscapes, livelihoods, and lives.

CLAG values scholarship, teaching, and service that engages publicly, directly and honestly with critically important, if unsettling, topics such as gendered violence, forced migration, and the global impacts of an unfettered extractive industry.

Participatory, courageous, and field-informed research like Dr. Catherine Nolin's is what we need to justly and geographically forge a sustainable future.

Read the full citation at:

<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

[Testimonio \(Book\): https://btlbooks.com/book/testimonio](https://btlbooks.com/book/testimonio)

[UNBC Homepage: https://www.unbc.ca/catherine-nolin](https://www.unbc.ca/catherine-nolin)

DR. CATHERINE NOLIN
Professor & Chair
Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences,
University of Northern BC, Canada

2024 CLAG Public Engagement Award

This award is given to an individual in recognition of contributions to enhancing and disseminating knowledge of the geography of Latin America to civil society, the private sector, or government.

Catherine's morally-centered, engaged research requires high levels of courage, language, and dedication. CLAG values scholarship, teaching, and service that engages publicly, directly and honestly with critically important, if unsettling, topics such as gendered violence, forced migration, and the global impacts of an unfettered extractive industry.

Participatory, courageous, and field-informed research like Dr. Catherine Nolin's is what we need to justly and geographically forge a sustainable future.

Full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award

Dr. Karl Offen is the recipient of the 2024 Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award. Congratulations!

This Award is given in recognition for a corpus of important published work or other significant contribution towards Latin American geography. Recipients are scholars who are leading authorities in specific research topics and geographic areas of Latin America.

Karl is receiving this award for his consistent publication of high-quality peer-reviewed journal articles in leading journals on the cultural and historical geography of Mosquitia in sub-areas including cartographic representations, resource use, colonial-era trade, and land claims.

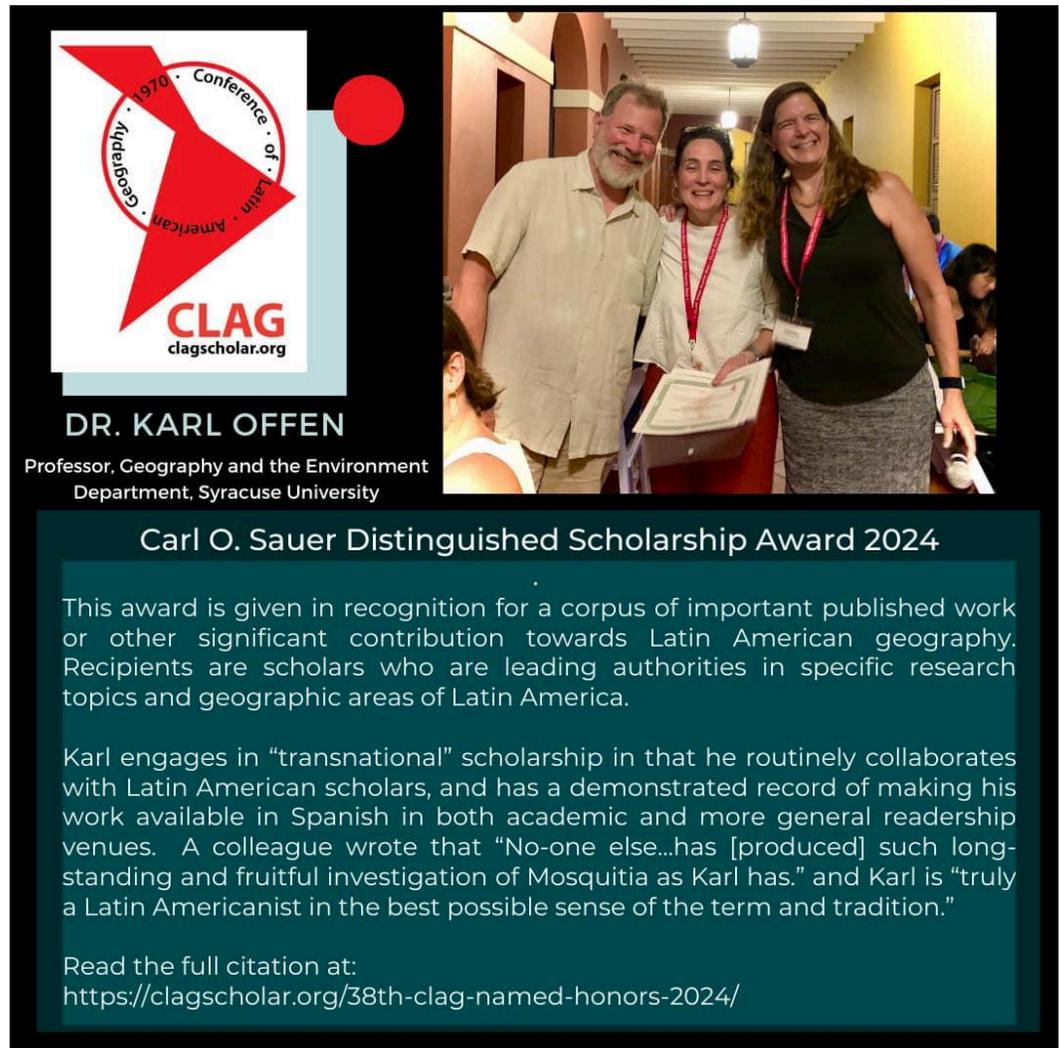
Karl engages in “transnational” scholarship in that “he routinely collaborates with Latin American scholars, and has a demonstrated record of making his work available in Spanish in both academic and more general readership venues.”

“No-one else...has [produced] such long-standing and fruitful investigation of Mosquitia as Karl has.”

“Karl is “truly a Latin Americanist in the best possible sense of the term and tradition.”

🔗 Read the full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

🔗 Karl’s Homepage: <https://www.maxwell.syr.edu/directory/karl-offen>



DR. KARL OFFEN
Professor, Geography and the Environment
Department, Syracuse University

Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award 2024

This award is given in recognition for a corpus of important published work or other significant contribution towards Latin American geography. Recipients are scholars who are leading authorities in specific research topics and geographic areas of Latin America.

Karl engages in “transnational” scholarship in that he routinely collaborates with Latin American scholars, and has a demonstrated record of making his work available in Spanish in both academic and more general readership venues. A colleague wrote that “No-one else...has [produced] such long-standing and fruitful investigation of Mosquitia as Karl has.” and Karl is “truly a Latin Americanist in the best possible sense of the term and tradition.”

Read the full citation at:
<https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

Outstand Service to CLAG Award

CLAG honors **Dr. Andrew Sluyter** with the Outstanding Service to CLAG Award which recognizes significant contributions to the improved functioning, broadened outreach, or enhanced impact of CLAG.

Dr. Sluyter is a long-standing member of CLAG who served on the CLAG Board twice, first from 2005-08 and then from 2018-21 where he provided important contributions to the Honors and above all, Membership Committees.

From 2015-2017, Andrew contributed timely and strategic leadership to CLAG as Executive Director, while also Chairing the Local Arrangements Committee for the extremely successful 2017 CLAG Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

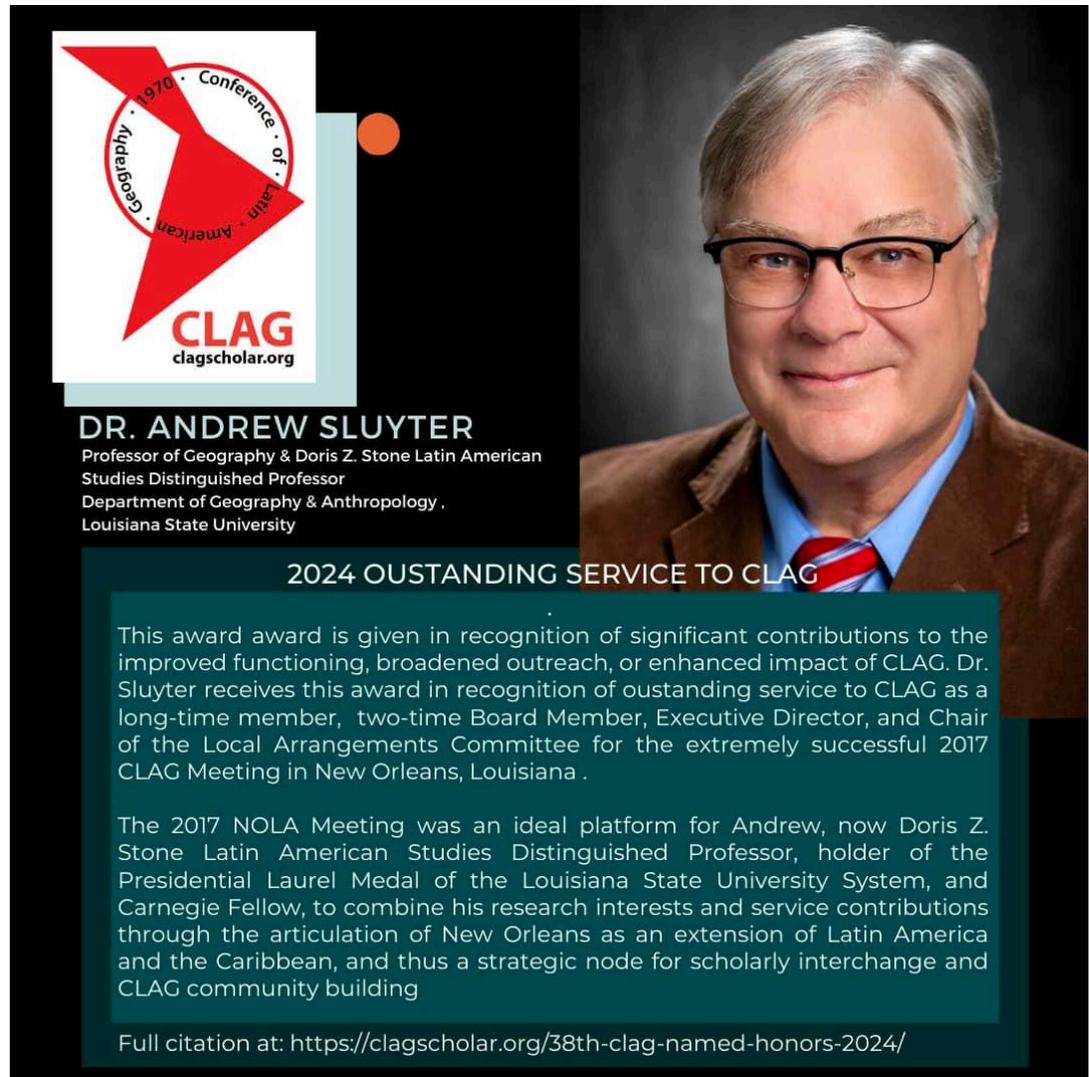
The 2017 NOLA Meeting was an ideal platform for Andrew, now Doris Z. Stone Latin American Studies Distinguished Professor, holder of the Presidential Laurel

Medal of the Louisiana State University System, and Carnegie Fellow, to combine his research interests and service contributions through the articulation of New Orleans as an extension of Latin America and the Caribbean, and thus a strategic node for scholarly interchange and CLAG community building.

Congratulations and thank you to you, Andrew!

🔗 Read the full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

🔗 Andrew's Homepage: <https://www.lsu.edu/.../faculty/andrew-sluyter/index.php>



DR. ANDREW SLUYTER
 Professor of Geography & Doris Z. Stone Latin American Studies Distinguished Professor
 Department of Geography & Anthropology,
 Louisiana State University

2024 OUSTANDING SERVICE TO CLAG

This award is given in recognition of significant contributions to the improved functioning, broadened outreach, or enhanced impact of CLAG. Dr. Sluyter receives this award in recognition of outstanding service to CLAG as a long-time member, two-time Board Member, Executive Director, and Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the extremely successful 2017 CLAG Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The 2017 NOLA Meeting was an ideal platform for Andrew, now Doris Z. Stone Latin American Studies Distinguished Professor, holder of the Presidential Laurel Medal of the Louisiana State University System, and Carnegie Fellow, to combine his research interests and service contributions through the articulation of New Orleans as an extension of Latin America and the Caribbean, and thus a strategic node for scholarly interchange and CLAG community building

Full citation at: <https://clagscholar.org/38th-clag-named-honors-2024/>

Member Awards and News:

Audrey Joslin of Kansas State University has been awarded the William L. Stamey Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching. One of two faculty recognized across K-State's College of Arts and Sciences for excellence in teaching.

Sarah Blue was awarded a Fulbright-Carlos Rico Award for North American Studies for a project titled, "Assessing North American Immigration Policies". She will spend January –April 2025 in Guadalajara, Mexico, and April –August 2025 in Halifax, Canada.

Sarah Blue was named the Jesse H. and Mary Gibbs Jones Professor of Southwestern Studies at Texas State University.

Elise Arellano-Thompson was awarded a 2024-2025 Fulbright award to Honduras for her dissertation research examining the relationships between floods, internal displacement, and the expansion of flood-vulnerable settlements.

David Lopez-Carr was awarded the American Association of Geographers (AAG) Human Dimensions of Global Change (HDGC) Specialty Group Research Excellence Award (2024) – Awarded annually to one AAG HDGC member for a single piece of published work or a continuing record of high accomplishment.

Other Noteworthy Activities:

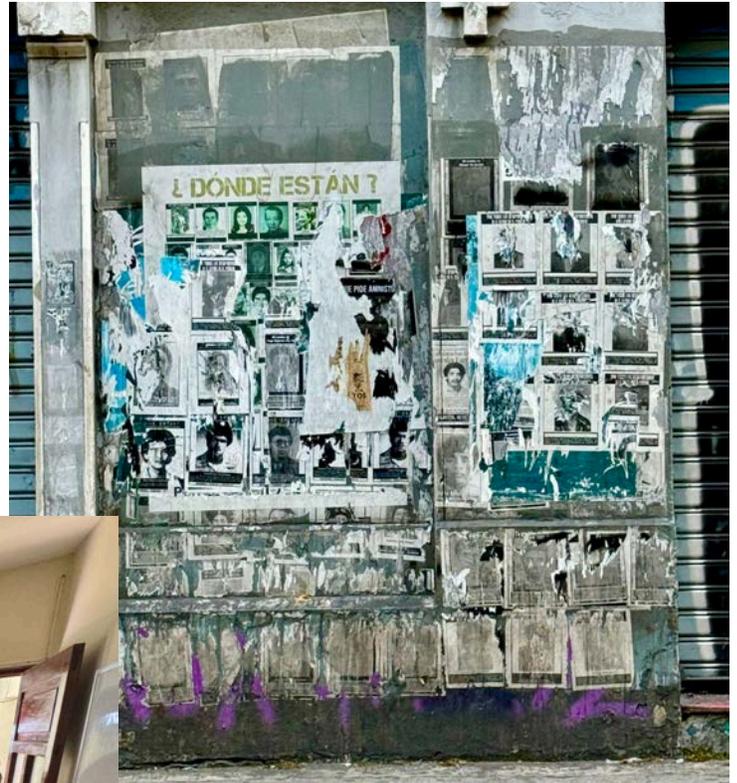
MAY 2024: Educational Fact-Finding Delegation to Guatemala with CLAGista Dr. Catherine Nolin and Director of Rights Action, Grahame Russell

<https://mailchi.mp/rightsaction/educational-fact-finding-delegation-to-guatemala>

Catherine and Grahame have worked together for 20 years to organize and facilitate field schools to Guatemala from the University of Northern British Columbia and more recently have started collaborating on delegations related specifically to their co-edited/co-authored book: *Testimonio: Canadian Mining in the Aftermath of Genocides in Guatemala*. In May 2024, 16 students, peace activists, journalists, and writers joined Catherine and Grahame on a 7-day delegation to learn about Indigenous and campesino-led struggles in defense of land, rights, and the environment, against the voracious interests (and oftentimes corruption and violence) of global extractivist industries, including the Canadian-led mining industry.

Delegation members visited and spoke with Indigenous and non-Indigenous community defenders in their own communities, who are involved in extractive industries resistance struggles, as well as with human rights and environmental activists and academics. The trip visited several communities profiled in *TESTIMONIO* and other communities leading their own community defense struggles.

If you are interested in a future Testimonio delegation, please contact Catherine at catherine.nolin@unbc.ca



PICTURES FROM THE FIELD:

Marcellus Caldas instructed in an Education Abroad Course in Costa Rica, May 13 to 26, 2024.

Geography 490-Problems in Geography: Development, Sustainable Development and Environment Justice.
Goal: to understand the complex issues of sustainable development and environmental justice by looking at the case of tourism in a place of global environmental importance.



Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo – Shuar territory in the Cordillera de Trans Kutukú of what is now known as the Ecuadorian Amazon



Kristen Conway-Gomez (Geography & Anthropology, Cal Poly Pomona) co-led with Dr. Jeffrey Marshall (Geological Sciences, Cal Poly Pomona) the course “Costa Rica Drone Camp: UAV Imaging in the Earth & Environmental Sciences” for geographers and geologists in Costa Rica, April 1 to 14, 2024.



RECENT GRADUATES AND NEW POSITIONS

SUCCESSFULLY DEFENDED THESES AND DISSERTATIONS:

PhD

Dr. Alisa Hartsell. Doctorate in Geography at Texas State University. Dissertation: "The legal violence of liminal status: Navigating United States immigration courts and asylum seeking". Advised by Dr. Sarah Blue.

Dr. Ruchi Patel. Doctorate in Geography and Human Dimensions of Natural Resources and the Environment from Pennsylvania State University. Dissertation: "Tourism, development, and social-environmental change on El Salvador's Balsamo Coast." Advised by Dr. Brian King.

Dr. Samuel T. Brandt successfully defended his doctoral dissertation, *More Than a Home: Dwelling, Place, and Poverty in Rural Uruguay*, in the Department of Geography at UCLA, advised by Prof. Stephen Bell.

NEW POSITIONS:

In October 2024, **Samuel T. Brandt** will begin a four-year Research Fellowship in Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.



Dr. Samuel T. Brandt

OPPORTUNITIES, CONFERENCES, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

CALL FOR PARTNERS, CONTACTS, AND SUPPORT FOR THE 1ST INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND NATIONS OF ABYA YALA:

A call for partners, contacts, and support for this conference hosted by FUNLADES a Bolivian NGO for what they are calling: The 1st International Meeting of Indigenous Peoples and Nations of Abya Yala being hosted by the 'Funlades' NGO Fundación Latina para El Desarrollo in Trujillo, Peru, September 22, and 23rd.

Description: The Latin Foundation for Development - FUNLADES, an Indigenous non-profit organization recognized by the Bolivian State with Legal Personality 031/20, creator and member of the Ancestral Assembly of Tawantinsuyo, in which Indigenous peoples and nations originating from Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, Argentina, and Chile are attached, on June 14 and 15, 2022, in general assembly in Cusco - Peru to project the union of the Northern Eagle with the Condor of the South of the Americas, ancestral feeling of the Indigenous peoples, they determined to grant the responsibility of organizing the: First Meeting of Indigenous Peoples and Nations of the Americas (Abya Yala). The initial organizational effort has been joined by national and foreign volunteers. With the general objective: "Unify efforts to contribute to the recognition, protection, well-being, and sustainable development of the original Indigenous peoples and nations of the Americas (Abya Yala)." There will be one hundred and twenty (120) representatives of twenty-seven (27) nations and fifty-two (52) indigenous peoples of the Americas, who will be present at the international event on September 22, and 23 in Peru.

For more information and if you want to be involved **please contact Martina Jakubchik-Paloheimo at 19mjp6@queensu.ca** or the organization directors directly: Website: www.funlades.org and email: danielvelae@funlades.com

- Executive Director: C.E.O. Daniel Vela Ergueta, (mobile: +591 7710 6019)
- Secretary General: Dr. Edgar Vela Montero (mobile: +591 76526663)
- Responsible for the execution of the project: Yoselin Torrez Cartagena (mobile: +591 71266126), who is the General Coordinator of the Event.

NOTE FROM THE CLAG NEWSLETTER CO-EDITORS

CLAGistas,

Happy fall to all! We hope everyone has enjoyed their summer – whether that was spent doing fieldwork, enjoying time with loved ones, or having time off in general.

It's been an exciting first half of 2024 for Latin Americanist Geographers! First, it's been a big year of politics- in Mexico, El Salvador, Panama, Dominican Republic, and Venezuela in particular. Elections mostly of continued reign of the dominant party or same leader- although in Venezuela's case this "outcome" seems fabricated. With Mexico's first woman president- a climate scientist- we'll see what policies of AMLOs continue and which she makes her own! The Venezuelan elections and resounding rejection from civil society of Maduro- and denial of that by the government-makes for continued turbulent times. El Salvador and Dominican Republic both reelected their popular heads of State, and Panama went with a pro-business right wing leader.

There is certainly some good news- like deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon dropping for almost 12 consecutive months for the lowest level seen in 5 years under Lula's watch. But also a lot of bad climate news, also in Brazil, in Rio Grande do Sul, of devastating floods in big El niño swing exacerbated by climate change and hot ocean temperatures. Climate change continues to wreak havoc- from unprecedented heat waves in Mexico and Brazil, to the Panama canal being barely functional due to drought- causing increases in mosquito board disease like dengue and increase in hunger.

We've also seen huge shifts in migration patterns this year with less entry into the US but more people bottled necked in Mexico from other countries. This is likely due to Mexico's

containment policies and perhaps more recently due to the new Biden administration order to restrict asylum seeking. Tougher migration policies come at a time of increased unrest and violence in many countries- especially Venezuela, Haiti, and new narco induced violence in Ecuador- and people who need asylum for survival.

The work we do on these issues- climate change, migration, deforestation- and others continues to be important- as does building global solidarity across our region to come together to defend social, environmental, and climate justice. We hope you drew inspiration from each other from those who could join the 2024 CLAG in San Juan, and look forward to seeing your latest research and engagement in the rest of 2024!

Saludos,
Elise and Beth
CLAG Newsletter Co-Editors



