EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
from Director Gabriela Martínez

CLLAS celebrated Latinx Heritage Month in October by organizing a teach-in for students with filmmaker Peter Bratt, the award-winning director of the 2017 documentary Dolores and the feature film La Mission. Bratt worked enthusiastically with students, sharing his experiences and tips about being an independent filmmaker. CLLAS continued to build community with our campus stakeholders by holding mixers in November for graduate students, faculty, and staff, events that provided opportunity for cross-fertilization of ideas and professional development. We endeavored to broaden our community at UO by including, in addition to faculty and graduate students, colleagues who work in staff positions across campus serving the undergraduate population.

CLLAS supported the Dreamers Working group, the Latinx Strategies Group, and other groups committed to serving all students, and in particular the Latinx and Latin American undergraduate and graduate populations. CLLAS worked to address the challenges being faced in our current political climate by Dreamers and their families, and even by long-time Green Card holders and naturalized citizens of Latin American origins. The fears and trepidations experienced by our Latinx and Latin American students and faculty and other stakeholders are troubling to all of us in the CLLAS community. Thus, we continued to work toward being a source of information and knowledge by drawing on the expertise of affiliated faculty at the UO, and in bringing in speakers to address current issues regarding Latin American countries as well as Latinx populations in the United States.

In January, CLLAS organized and sponsored a Town Hall with 2018-19 Wayne Morse Chair Mae Ngai, who spoke about “Citizenship and Denaturalization in the Era of U.S. Nationalism.” In March, CLLAS hosted Guatemalan Judge Yassmin Barrios for the Inaugural Lecture in Latinx and Latin American Studies. Read more about her on p. 2 of this report.

Finally, he wrote: “CLLAS is about to celebrate its 10th anniversary. Looking back at this decade we should be very proud of what has been accomplished despite the usually inadequate financial resources. More importantly, however, is to look forward and renew our commitment to promote first-rate scholarship, to put Latinx and Latin American studies in conversation, and to bring much closer together the various constituents our center aims to serve.”

A big thank you to Professor Aguirre for his warm and capable leadership.

Community Spotlight

CLLAS continues to engage with communities throughout Oregon through the educational efforts of faculty, staff, and students, and with funding from individual donors, SELCO Community Credit Union, Tinker Foundation, UO Office of Academic Affairs, UO Division of Equity and Inclusion, UO Division of Global Engagement Affairs, and many other university departments, programs, and centers for projects and event programming. Here are some of our ongoing projects.

Research Action Projects (RAPs)

RAPs offer UO faculty, students, and community members a forum for intellectual collaboration across disciplinary boundaries and the chance to create intellectual community outside of their departments and units. Current RAPs include Afro-Descendant and Indigenous Peoples in the Americas; Human Rights and Social Memory in Latin America; and Latino History. The project Intersectional Gender Justice: From Guatemala to Oregon is being co-administered with our sister organization, the Center for the Study of Women in Society.

Latino Roots

For almost 10 years, CLLAS has fostered a touring collection of panels that tells the story of Latino families in Oregon. These panels have been viewed by thousands of people in venues throughout the state and are available for booking in schools, libraries, museums, or civic venues. This project has been supported by generous grants from SELCO Community Credit Union.

CLLAS Research Series

The CLLAS Research Series fosters research excellence, interdisciplinarity, and intellectual community by funding and show-casing research in Latinx and Latin American Studies. Through Tinker Field Research Grants, Graduate Student Research Grants, Faculty Collaboration Research Grants, and the Latinx Studies Seed Grant, CLLAS awards grant money to fund the research of UO scholars and community collaborators. CLLAS grantees share their research in public presentations that put their work into conversation with UO faculty and graduate students across disciplines and engage the larger Eugene-Springfield community. Grantees also contribute an article to the CLLAS newsletter CLLAS Notes, which is widely distributed on campus and beyond.

New Two-Year Theme for 2019–2021

CLLAS is poised to launch a series of initiatives and events over the next two years under the theme “The Politics of Language in the Americas: Power, Culture, History, and Resistance.” This theme will be addressed through a series of activities sponsored by CLLAS in collaboration with interested affiliated faculty and their respective units. CLLAS plans include a symposium, lectures, research action projects, art exhibits, poetry readings, and other activities related to the theme, and topics under the theme will be prioritized in our programming and the allocation of logistical and financial support.
Justice & Reparation in Guatemala

Guatemalan Judge Yassmin Barrios delivered the Inaugural CLLAS Lecture in Latinx and Latin American Studies

Award that recognized “emerging women leaders worldwide for championing human rights, women’s equality, and social progress” and the New York-based Train Foundation’s 16th annual Civil Courage Prize that recognized her, in 2016, for her “steadfast resistance to evil at great personal risk.”

Yvette M. Alex-Assensoh, vice president for equity and inclusion, offered brief remarks about the importance of both CLLAS’s mission and the lecture series, and welcomed our distinguished speaker.

In her presentation, entitled “Justice and Reparation in Guatemala: Challenges and Possibilities,” Judge Barrios offered an account of two of the most conspicuous cases heard over the last few years by the High Risk Crime Tribunal. She was the presiding judge in the prominent case against former dictator Efraín Ríos Montt that concluded with his conviction for genocide against the indigenous Ixil Mayans of Guatemala. It was the first time a former head of state was tried for genocide in his home country.

Judge Barrios has been the recipient of numerous national and international awards, including the 2014 US Department of State’s “International Women of Courage” award.

The Center for Latino/a and Latin American Studies (CLLAS) facilitates collaborative research, scholarship, intellectual community, and community outreach focused on Latin America and U.S. Latino/a populations. CLLAS has a particular interest in developing research to better educate the public on the history, contributions, and well-being of Latino/a and Latin Americans in Oregon.

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Research Support Provided by CLLAS
awarded 2018-19 for completion in AY 2019-20

• “Inner Exile in Formation and Sustenance of Racial, Sexual, and Gendered Communities in Chile and Argentina.” Jon Jaramillo, Romance Languages.


• “Complicating Vulnerability: Gendered Disaster Narratives, Ice Loss, & Resilience in the Peruvian Cordillera Blanca.” Holly Moulton, Environmental Studies.

Faculty Collaboration Research Grant
• “Oregon’s Water Future: Climate Change, Environmental Disasters, and Community Resilience.” Alai Reyes-Santos, Ethnic Studies, in collaboration with Oregon Environmental Council (OEC).

Latinx Studies Seed Grant
• “Decolonial Environmentalisms: Race, Genre, and Latinx Literature.” David Vazquez, English.

Project descriptions: cllas.uoregon.edu/grant-opportunities/2019-grant-recipients/
Third Year Tinker Foundation Grants

Tinker Field Research Grants are open to students across all academic disciplines and graduate degree programs to assist master’s and doctoral students with travel and field-related expenses for brief periods of field research in Latin America. Administered by CLLAS, the program is funded by the Tinker Foundation, with matching funds from the UO Office of Academic Affairs and the Graduate School.

Tinker Grant Recipients
awarded 2018-19 for completion in AV 2019-20

- “Transmission of Traditional Botanical Knowledge Among the Shuar of Amazonian Ecuador.” Sara Khattab, Anthropology.
- “A Case Study of Two Guatemalan Organizations Demanding Justice for the 41 girls.” Carla Osorio Veliz, Geography.
- “Small-Scale Farmers’ Vulnerability to Climatic Changes in the Chinantec Region, Mexico.” Adriana Uscanga Castillo, Geography.

Project descriptions: cllas.uoregon.edu/grant-opportunities/2019-grant-recipients/

Fair Trade Rebels: A CLLAS-supported graduate student research project reaches fruition in a new book by Lindsay Naylor

As a graduate student at the University of Oregon, Lindsay Naylor received a 2010 CLLAS Graduate Student Research Grant for “Harnessing Multiple Movements: The Intersection of Fair Trade and the Zapatista Movement in Chiapas, Mexico.” The grant helped support her summer research in Chiapas among Zapatista-aligned farming families engaged in efforts to strengthen subsistence food production and produce for global fair trade markets.

Naylor recently celebrated the publication of her first book, Fair Trade Rebels: Coffee Production and Struggles for Autonomy in Chiapas (Diverse Economies and Livable Worlds Series, University of Minnesota Press, 2019). The book had its origins in that CLLAS-supported summer research journey to Mexico.

Now an assistant professor in the Department of Geography & Spatial Sciences at the University of Delaware, Naylor also holds a joint appointment with the Department of Women & Gender Studies and is an affiliate faculty in Latin American & Iberian Studies. She completed her PhD in 2014 from UO’s Department of Geography.

Based on extensive fieldwork, Fair Trade Rebels draws on stories from Chiapas that have emerged from the farmers’ interaction with both the fair-trade-certified marketplace and state violence. The publisher’s description says: “Naylor discusses the racialized and historical backdrop of coffee production and rebel autonomy in the highlands, underscores the divergence of movements for fairer trade and the so-called alternative certified market, traces the network of such movements from the highlands and into the United States, and evaluates existing food sovereignty and diverse economic exchanges.”

Support our mission
Please consider making a tax-deductible financial gift to CLLAS. Use the following link for online giving instructions: cllas.uoregon.edu/about/giving

By mail, send checks to CLLAS, c/o Eli Meyer, 6201 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-6201.

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A YEAR OF CLLAS EVENTS
Talks, Workshops, Films, Forums, Lectures, and Symposia
showcasing research, promoting diversity

CLLAS Events 2018-19

Fall Quarter 2018

• Teach-In, “Film and Activism,” Peter Bratt (Director, Film-Maker).
• Film-screening and discussion, “Dolores,” Peter Bratt.
• Graduate Student Mixer.
• Faculty & Staff Mixer.

Winter Quarter 2019

• “Town Hall with Mae Ngai,” presentation and discussion: Rocio Zambrana (Department of Philosophy).
• Professional Development Workshop, “Grant-Writing for Graduate Students,” Erin Beck (Political Science).
• Research Series Graduate Colloquium, “Latinx and Latin American Cultural Production & Resistance,” Olga Sánchez (Theatre Arts) and Natascha Reich (Musicology).
• Research Series Faculty Collaboration, “Struggling with Sustainability: Guaraní Cultural and Environmental Management Challenges,” Ed Wolf (Musicology) and Derrick Hindery (International Studies).
• Professional Development Workshop, “NEH Grant-Writing,” Stephanie Wood (Center for Equity Promotion).
• CLLAS Latinx Lecture, “Justice and Reparations in Guatemala,” Judge Yassmin Barrios (Guatemala Human Rights Tribunal).
• Latinx Studies Retreat, Latinx Studies In The Pacific Rim: Race, Gender And Environmental Justice,” Alaí Reyes-Santos (Ethnic Studies).

Spring Quarter 2019

• “Why are the Migrants Fleeing Honduras? Resistance, Terror, and the United States in the Aftermath of the Coup,” Dan Frank (Professor of History Emerita, University of California, Santa Cruz).
• Research Series Graduate Colloquium, “Environmental Justice, Migration & Labor: Local/Global Implications,” Holly Moulton (Environmental Studies) and Diego Conteras (Sociology). Moderator: Mark Carey (Clark Honors College).