26th Annual Conference on the Americas
An Inter-disciplinary and Inter-cultural Conference

University of Georgia, Miller Learning Center, Athens, GA
48 Baxter St, Athens, GA 30602

Sponsored by:
The Americas Council, University System of Georgia
University of Georgia
University of North Georgia
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University Perimeter College
University of West Georgia

Hosted by:
Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute (LACSI) &
the Provost’s Office, University of Georgia
Augusta University / University of Georgia Medical Partnership

Friday & Saturday
February 17 & 18

2023
26th Annual Conference on the Americas

DAY 1

Friday, February 17, 2023

Check-in at Registration Desk, 3rd Floor, Miller Learning Center from 12 Noon

12:30 – 1:30 pm (ET)  Special Workshop  Room: 251

The Ins and Outs of Applying for Funding to the National Science Foundation

Prof. Enrique S. Pumar, Program Director, Division of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences, National Science Foundation.

Objectives: 1) walk participants through the basic steps of preparing a submission and the review process at the NSF and 2) provide an overview of programs in the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Division. In particular, ongoing efforts to promote social sciences research among minority serving institutions will be discussed. Finally, the workshop plans to examine different NSF funding opportunities for social scientists.

1:30 – 2:45 pm (ET)  Session 1A  Room: 369

Education and Teaching Paradigms in Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Dr. Ana Pozzi Harris, University of North Georgia

DEI, a Caring Pedagogy and the Global Pandemic—Why Faculty Inclusion Matters
Dr. Carolyn Walcott & Dr. Melany Chambers, Clayton State University

Preservice teachers’ previous experiences and goals for working with English language learners in STEM:
An Analysis before participation in a science methods course and summer program
Dr. Max Vazquez Dominguez, Mrs. Arcelia Dalton & Dr. Romola Bernard, University of North Georgia

Indigenous Languages of Latin America
Mr. Eric Kendrick, Georgia State University - Perimeter College

Language Attitude Influence: Association of Quechua with English Increases Positive Attitudes Toward Quechua
Ms. Erin Hannahan, University of Georgia, Department of Romance Languages

1:30 – 2:45 pm (ET)  Session 1B  Room: 372

Regional Economics and the Environment

Chair: Ms. Sara Wofford, University of West Georgia

Financialization, Complexity, and Market Ideology
Dr. Dwight Wilson, Dr. Rana Gautam & Dr. Diogo Pinheiro, University of North Georgia

Youth Entrepreneurship and Gender in the Caribbean
Prof. Donna Danns, University of North Georgia

A Blockchain Approach to Credit Information Sharing in Emerging Markets
Dr. Kamilah Williams & Dr. Jason Porter, University of North Georgia

2:45 – 3:00 pm  COFFEE BREAK  4th Floor Rotunda
3:00 – 4:15 pm (ET)  Session 2A  Room: 368

Panel: LatinX Leads Unidos: Supporting Latino trends in higher education; leadership, arts and culture

Chair: Prof. Maria Jose Maguire, University of North Georgia

A Dialogue Between AI and Latinx
Prof. Maria Jose Maguire, University of North Georgia

Latin American Immigrant Artists in Metro Atlanta: Melvin Toledo and Pedro Fuertes
Dr. Ana Pozzi Harris, University of North Georgia

LatinX in Education
Dr. Luis Mora, Georgia Gwinnett College

Amazónicas (Poems and Aphorisms)
Dr. Juan Carlos Galeano, Amazónicas, Florida State University

3:00 – 4:15 pm (ET)  Session 2B  Room: 369

Health and Developmental Concerns in Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Dr. Chad Howe, University of Georgia

Assessment of Summer 2022 Pharmacy Dispensing Log for Mobile Pharmacy Clinic in the Farm Worker Family Health Program in Rural Southwest Georgia
Ms. Dayana Pimentel, PharmD. Candidate, Ms. Valery Cepeda, PharmD. Candidate, Mr. Bryan Alejandro Jimenez, PharmD. Candidate, Dr. Kenneth Mueller, PharmD, BCPS, University of Georgia, College of Pharmacy

Clinical utility of periodic outreach clinics in a small Caribbean Island nation
Dr. Andrew K Sobering, Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical Partnership

Women’s Health Study Away Program in Belize: A timely experience for UGA pre-health students
Dr. Amy Baldwin, Augusta University/University of Georgia Medical Partnership, Dr. Hilda Mata & Ms. Amanda Spohn, University of Georgia

“We had to take care of ourselves”: Community-based strategies against the Covid-19 pandemic in Latin America
Mr. Apoena Mano, Columbia University, Institute of Latin American Studies

3:00 – 4:15 pm (ET)  Session 2C  Room: 372

Migration, Culture and Identity

Chair: Dr. Kristi Hislope, University of North Georgia

Transcending social abjection to achieve autonomy: An analysis of Todo sobre de mi madre and Princesas
Ms. Ysa Duenas, Georgetown College

Unraveling (Luso)Latinidad: Children of Brazilian immigrants' racial(ized) experiences in the U.S.
Ms. Luisa Bridi Dacroce, University of Florida

Solo Éramos Niños
Ms. Shelby Lopez, Angel Lopez, and Dr. Jane McPherson, University of Georgia
Welcome & Introduction of Provost Hu: Dr. Amy Ross, Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute

Remarks & Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Provost Hu, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, University of Georgia

26th Annual Conference on the Americas
Opening Plenary

Indigenous Women and Latin American Futures

Friday, February 17, 2023 at 4:30 PM
Miller Learning Center, Room 171 - Open to All
Note: Panel will be in Spanish with simultaneous interpretation into English
Attendees needing interpretation should bring headphones & device with Zoom

Plenary Panel Moderator:

Dr. Patricia Richards
Director of the Institute for Women's Studies
Professor of Sociology and Women's Studies
Affiliate faculty member with the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute and the Institute of Native American Studies

Plenary Panel Speakers:

Maria de los Ángeles Aguilar
Guatemalan Maya-K’iche’ historian
Postdoctoral Associate and Lecturer at the Council on Latin American and Iberian Studies (CLAIHS) at Yale University

Alejandra Flores Carlos
Regional Coordinator of Health and Indigenous Peoples for the Ministry of Health in the Region of Tarapacá

Pamela Calla
Clinical Associate Professor at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) at New York University

Conference Reception
6:00pm - 7:30pm: 4th Floor Rotunda
Opening remarks: Dean Nuss, AU/UGA Medical Partnership
Join us for snacks, drinks, and cultural performances by Dr. Alvaro Torres-Calderon and the Bossa Nova Trio Clouds
Day 2
Saturday, February 18, 2023

8:30 – 9:45 am (ET)  Session 3A  Room: 368

Language, Literature and Social Displacement

Chair: Dr. Alvaro Torres Calderon, University of North Georgia

Raza, clase y género en la última novela de Guillermo Arriaga, Salvar el fuego
Dr. Maria Calatayud, University of North Georgia

El arco del imaginario nacional de la Revolución Nacional de 1952 . Vuelve Sebastiana (1953) y La Vertiente (1959) en la construcción de la modernidad boliviana
Dr. Jaime Salinas, University of North Georgia

La influencia de la pobreza multidimensional en la desnutrición y complicaciones de salud de los indígenas panameños
Mr. David Burke, University of North Georgia

8:30 – 9:45 am (ET)  Session 3B  Room: 369

The Arts and Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Mr. Ed Sperr, University of Georgia

Polvo de Gallina Negra: Performance, Politics, and Motherhood in Mexico
Ms. Alejandra Velazquez, The George Washington University

Healers and plants: the vegetal thinking in a pajé’s autobiography
Mr. Ivo Cruz, University of Georgia

Brazilian Repertoires, (anthropological) places and black feminism in "Cinco mil litros," by Jarid Arraes
Mr. Michel Soares do Carmo, Portuguese Program, Romance Languages Department, UGA

Ballroom as gambiarra: the Latin American anthropophagy of culture
Ms. Elisa Bedê Braga, University of Georgia

8:30 – 9:45 am (ET)  Session 3C  Room: 372

Violence, Crime and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Prof. Donna Danns, University of North Georgia

The Gangs Crises in Latin America and the Caribbean Countries
Prof. George K Danns, University of North Georgia

Gangs in Latin America and its National Security Implications to the United States’ Homeland
Dr. Jose de Arimateia da Cruz, Georgia Southern University & U.S. Army War College Center for Strategic Leadership Homeland Defense & Security Issues

Corporal Punishment in LAC Countries: Focus on Guyana’s Schools, Issues, Controversies, and Problems
Prof. Brenda I Gill, Alabama State University

Crime rates and court performance: An empirical interrogation of Rational Choice Theory
Mr. Jevon Henry, The University of the West Indies, Mona, & Dr. Denarto Dennis, Supreme Court of Jamaica
Panel: Linguistics analysis of indigenous languages spoken in Latin America

Chair: Mr. W. Ernie Guyton, Georgia State University Perimeter College

A Cusco School as a Community of Practice
Katie Galyon, University of Georgia

Uncovering indigeneity in a corpus of colonial Quechua
Dr. Chad Howe, University of Georgia

Imperatives in Chuj
Seaira Lett, University of Georgia

Panel: How to Better Support Latin X College Students in Georgia Universities

Chair: Dr. Efren Velazquez, University of North Georgia

Panelists/Discussants
Undergraduate students at the University of North Georgia:
Mauricio Picazo-Garcia
Fatima Santillan
Evelyn Tello-Mendoza
Guadalupe Jimenez
Graduate Student at the University of Georgia
Ximena Luna
Madison Rodriguez

Panel: Politics, Policy and Injustice in Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Dr. Brenda Gill, Alabama State University

Assessing Livelihood Resilience to Climate Variability by Land Tenure Status of Pastoralists in the Chaco Salteño
Mr. Alejandro Collins & Dr. Jesse Abrams, University of Georgia

Where to find justice? The limits of the indigenous right to free, prior, and informed consent as a way to challenge gold mining in the Venezuelan Amazon
Ms. Laura Botero, Master of Latin American Studies - University of Florida

The Problem of White Supremacy in Latin America
Mr. Sean Martin, Valdosta State University
11:15 – 12:30 pm (ET)  Session 5A  Room: 368

Arts, Language and Literature

Chair: Dr. Carolyn Walcott, Clayton State University

The Men Who Killed My Mother
Dr. Gordon McNeer, University of North Georgia

Depicting Bolivian Garment Workers in Television and Film from Argentina and Brazil
Dr. Dorian Lee Jackson, Kennesaw State University

Latin America of the last century, women and old age in Violeta by Isabel Allende
Dr. Alvaro Torres Calderon, University of North Georgia

Franz Boas in Puerto Rico (1915): Folk Tales from the Hills of Puerto Rico
Dr. Rafael Ocasio, Agnes Scott College

11:15 – 12:30 pm (ET)  Session 5B  Room: 369

Migration, Migrants and Identity

Chair: Mr. Eric Kendrick, Georgia State University - Perimeter College

Introducing a Model to Explain the Central American Migration to the USA
Dr. Clemente Quinones, Georgia Gwinnett College

The Hyphenated Black-British Identity: A Dilemma & The Afro-English Solution
Dr. Anique John, California State University Long Beach

Inclusive Development: Lessons from the Dominican Republic
Dr. Enrique S. Pumar, Santa Clara University

Creating in a Transnational Artistic Diasporan Consciousness Setting
Dr. Alix Pierre, Spelman College

11:15 – 12:30 pm (ET)  Session 5C  Room: 372

Religion, Politics and Organization Change in Latin America and the Caribbean

Chair: Prof. George K Danns, University of North Georgia

The Role of Religion in Promoting Linguistic and Cultural Connections to the Community
Dr. Kristi Hislope, University of Georgia

The Americas and Beyond (Blind Sided or Blind to History)
Mr. Mario E. Delgado, Retired

“Stressing Progress: The US Information Agency’s Effort to Explain Segregation and the Civil Rights Movement in the United States to the Cuban Public During the 1950s”
Dr. Hector Montford, College of Coastal Georgia

Sustaining Organizational Change: Applications in the Caribbean Context
Ms. Leslyn Alexis Beckles, University of Georgia College of Education

12:30 pm: Lunch - 4th Floor Rotunda

Announcement & Presentation of Student Paper Competition Award Winners
Ms. Sara Wofford, University of West Georgia
Co-Chairs: Drs. Donna Danns & Amy Baldwin

Remarks: Dr. José de Arimatéia da Cruz, Professor of International Relations and Comparative Politics, Georgia Southern State University, & Chair, Americas Council, USG

Introduction of Keynote Speaker: Dr. Amy Ross, Director of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute

26th Annual Conference on the Americas
Closing Plenary

Reproductive Justice in the Americas: Past, Present, & Future

Saturday, February 18, 2023 at 1:30 PM
Miller Learning Center, Room 171
Open to All – Registration not required to attend

Dr. Cassia Roth is Associate Professor of History and Latin American & Caribbean Studies at the University of Georgia. Prior to that, she was a Marie Sklodowska-Curie Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland and a Fulbright Postdoctoral Scholar at the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Her book, A Miscarriage of Justice: Women’s Reproductive Lives and the Law in Early Twentieth-Century Brazil was published in 2020 with Stanford University Press. It won the Murdo J. MacLeod Prize from the Latin American and Caribbean Section of the Southern Historical Association and the Choice Outstanding Academic Title from the American Library Association. She researches on diverse topics from feminist scientists to cesarean sections. She teaches courses on Brazilian history, gender history, slavery, and medicine and is the faculty adviser to UGA’s oldest student organization, the Demosthenian Literary Society.

-Vote of Thanks-

Co-Chair: Dr. Amy Baldwin, AU/UGA Medical Partnership