WELCOME

LOUIS DESIPIO
New Faculty Member of Chicano/Latino Studies and Political Science

Professor Louis DeSipio will join the faculty of Chicano/Latino Studies Program (CLSP) and Political Science as an associate professor beginning July 1, 2002. Professor DeSipio is presently at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Department of Political Science. His research focuses on two dimensions of Latino politics that measures efforts by Latino communities to shape electoral outcomes as well as the responses of candidates and political institutions to this demand making. He also assesses the formal processes of immigrant integration and incorporation, with a primary focus on Latino immigrants. Professor DeSipio uses quantitative methods in his research, which is an added value for students doing quantitative data collection and analysis.

HIGHLIGHTS

ISSUE. . . . . .

> GRANT: Research Pre-Proposal.

> WELCOME: New faculty member Louis DeSipio.

> CLSP NEWS:


> CALENDAR.

IMMIGRATION AND INTERGENERATIONAL MOBILITY IN METROPOLITAN LOS ANGELES
Research Pre-Proposal Awarded by The Russell Sage Foundation

By: Rubén G. Rumbaut (07/01/02)
Frank D. Bean
Leo R. Chávez
Jennifer Lee
Susan K. Wierzbicki
University of California, Irvine
Min Zhou
University of California, Los Angeles

Leo Chávez, Director of the Center, is part of a research team that has received an important research pre-proposal grant from The Russell Sage Foundation. The research is titled: Immigration and Intergenerational Mobility in Metropolitan Los Angeles. The research team includes Ruben Rumbaut, Frank Bean, Jennifer Lee, Susan Wierzbicki and Diego Vigil here at UCI, and Min Zhou at UCLA. The grant allows the team to conduct preliminary research on the children and grandchildren of immigrants, and to develop a full proposal for a major research project. This is an exciting project that will involve many of our faculty and students.

Above: Profs. Frank D. Bean and Leo R. Chávez.
sponsor discussion pertinent to Chicanos/Latinos in the metropolis, such as, the politics of neighborhood and cross-cultural coalitions, and the politics of transnationalism. Between now and her appointment, Ester will teach the Introduction to Chicano/Latino Studies III for CLSP in the spring. Ester also has communicated her interest in continuing her affiliation with UCI/CLSP and CRLGS while at CSULA through faculty collaboration on mutual research endeavors.

Karen Holliday is the current research assistant for the Center on Latinos in a Global Society (CRLGS) and has presented at the following conferences: “Botanicas in Orange County: Alternative Spaces of Healing” at the Religions Healing in Urban America conference organized by Harvard University’s Center for the Study of World Religions on September 23-25, 2001, Washington DC. She also presented on November 28, 2001 “Botanicas in Orange County” at the American Anthropological Association meeting. Karen taught the Anthropology 135A: Religion and Social Order course (this past fall 2001).

Alejandro Morales, Professor of Spanish and CLSP, is completing The Captain of All These Men of Death, a novel that deals with the treatment of Tuberculosis from the time of Hippocrates to the 21st century. The novel is based on the story of a surviving ‘Tber’ and among other issues pertinent to the Chicanos/Latino community explores the issue of non-consensual medical experimentation in hospitals and sanitariums. He is also finishing the editing of The Place of the White Heron the second volume to Heterotopia Trilogy, Volume one Waiting to Happen published in 2001 has already garnered several conference papers. His article “The Conquest and the Colony in Song of the Hummingbird by Graciela Limón and in The House of Forgetting by Benjamin Alire Sáenz” will be published in the proceedings of the International Conference on Culture and Contact in the Americas at the University of Salerno, Italy. On May 21-23, 2002, Professor Morales will attend The Third International Conference on Chicano Literature at the University of Malaga, Spain.

Vicki Ruiz, Professor of Chicano/Latino Studies (CLSP) and History, gave a keynote address in December for “Re-Visioning American Women’s History,” an international conference held at the Institute for United States Studies at the University of London. While in England, she gave another presentation at the University of Brunel as part of a university lecture series on gender. Professor Ruiz is also serving on the Editorial Committee of the University of California Press and is President-elect of the Pacific Coast Branch of the American Historical Association. Professor Ruiz has also accepted the challenging administrative function of directing the Humanities Out There (HOT) Program for one year. HOT is an educational partnership between UCI’s School of Humanities and the Santa Ana Unified School District, in cooperation with UCI’s Center for Educational Partnerships and UCI’s California History-Social Science Project, which work with other community organizations in Santa Ana, including the Bowers Museum of Cultural Art and Saint Josephs Ballet. HOT was founded in 1997, and now reaches over one thousand K-12 students and their teachers each year through its workshops on humanities topics.

Socorro Torres Sarmiento, is a University of California, Irvine lecturer for Chicano/Latino Studies. Her research interest includes transnational community responses to globalization, in particular, responses to economic restructuring, immigration policies and immigrant cultural manifestations. Dr. Sarmiento has served as president and is the Executive director of the Mexican Cultural Center in Orange County, a non-profit organization. She is currently the Orange County Cultural Coordinator for Mexican Communities Abroad. Dr. Sarmiento’s ethnography Making Ends Meet (LFB Scholarly Publishing LLC) is soon to be released. In her book Dr. Sarmiento examines longitudinally employment strategies, family structure, and transnational relationships involved in income-generating strategies among Mexican immigrants in Southern California. Her studies show the globalization effects on ordinary Mexican immigrants and on their families and daily lives. Even as borders divide families, immigrant families try to remain cohesive units. Globalization challenges immigrants to restructure their families, gender roles, and even their political boundaries. The unstable working conditions of immigrant men and women are decisive for the form in which families organize their income-generating strategies. However, women are key to the family economy in that they subsidize low wages through paid and unpaid work on both sides of the border.

James Diego Vigil, Ph.D., is a University of California, Irvine professor of Social Ecology and is an affiliated faculty member of CLSP. Professor Vigil is the former UCLA Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for the Study of Urban Poverty. His specialties are psychological anthropology, sociocultural change, socialization and educational anthropology, comparative ethnicity; Mexico and US Southwest Ethnohistory and youth and urban gang experiences. His latest book is entitled A Rainbow of Gangs (University of Texas Press 2002), which provides a wealth of comparative data for scholars, policymakers, and law enforcement personnel seeking to respond to the complex problems associated with gangs.
Lisa Garcia Bedolla, Assistant Professor of CLSP and Political Science, appeared on KPCC (89.3, NPR), Larry Mantle’s “Airtalk” show to provide information and commentary about the primary election. Professor Bedolla discussed the governor’s race and the ballot initiatives. She also has an article coming out co-authored with R. Michael Alvarez from Caltech entitled: “The Foundations of Latino Voter Partisanship: Evidence from the 2000 Election” to be published in the Journal of Politics. The article looks at the political, social and economic underpinnings of Latino party affiliation and finds that Latino party affiliation is very much grounded in Latino attitudes towards important policy issues like education and access to health care, rather than concern about social issues like abortion.

Jeanett Castellanos, Director of the Academic Resource Center for the School of Social Sciences and a lecturer for CLSP has two new publications:


Professors Gilbert Gonzalez and Raul Fernandez, School of Social Sciences, have co-authored a book entitled, Empire, Nations, and Migration: 100 Years of Chicano History (Routledge Press) expected publication spring 2003. Professor Fernandez also recently completed a quarter residency at UCI’s Humanities Research Institute (HRI) in a seminar entitled: “Nation, Diaspora and Popular Music.”

Patricia Hamm, received her Ph.D in Political Science from the University of California, Irvine, 2001 and is currently teaching classes for Chicano/Latino Studies. Dr. Hamm is preparing to present at two upcoming conferences: 2002 annual meeting of the Western Political Science Association (March 22-24, Long Beach, Ca.), “The Mexican Diaspora and U.S.-Mexico Immigration Talks: Ethnicity and Domestic Concerns as Mobilizing Factors”; 2002 annual meeting of the American Political Science Association (August 29-Sept 1, Boston, Mass) “The Mexican Diaspora: Strategic Asset or Constraint in U.S.-Mexico Relations?” And she plans to participate as a discussant in the roundtable entitled: “Transnational Citizenship Across Fortified Borders: Implications for Latino Politics in a Changing World.”

Since June 2001, Dr. Hamm has been involved in the formation of The Mexican/Mexican-American Dialogue. The Dialogue is an independent, nonpartisan convener and network of specialists from both the United States and Mexico who seek to promote a binational exchange of ideas that focuses on the Mexican-immigrant and Mexican American communities in the United States and their role in domestic issues and U.S.-Mexico relations. As a member of the Dialogue’s advisory committee, Dr. Hamm has assisted in organizing two events to discuss the Mexican diaspora’s and Mexico’s perspectives on various issues. In November 2001, she attended a meeting at the University of Texas Arlington to discuss recent bilateral immigration policy reform talks. This past February 2002, a forum was held at the Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana, Mexico, to discuss U.S.-Mexico border issues and the impact of September 11 on immigration talks, the border, and the diaspora. Dr. Hamm is currently in the process of organizing another forum to be held in Washington, D.C. or at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana. Participants in these meetings have included academics, analysts, policy-makers, representatives of Mexican-American/immigrant organizations, labor unions, and other opinion-makers from both countries.

Ester Hernandez, former research assistant for the Center on Latinos in Global Society (CRLGS), was offered a tenure-track assistant professor position at California State University, Los Angeles (CSULA), Chicano Studies Department beginning fall 2002. CSULA’s student body is over 50% Latino, which is contributing to Ester’s eagerness to get started at CSULA. The department is well positioned to participate as a discussant in the roundtable entitled: “Transnational Citizenship Across Fortified Borders: Implications for Latino Politics in a Changing World.”

Professor DeSipio will bring national recognition to UCI because of his work with national foundations, his significant involvement in the Latino National Survey, and his ongoing relationship with the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) and his work with the Tomas Rivera Center. All of these linkages will prove valuable to UCI’s CLSP.

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Memoriam in loving memory and honor of Jeff Garcilazo, UCI professor of Chicano/Latino Studies and History on Tuesday, May 14, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. UCI Student Center Emerald Bay B.

M.E.Ch.A. de UCI:
- Chicano/Latino Graduation, Friday, June 14, time and location to be announced.
- UCI celebrate Mes de La Raza, a month-long celebration of Chicana/o and Latina/o culture and history.
- Annual Mes de la Raza, features a calendar of events - due out soon.
- Annual Raza Day brings Raza students who have SIR’d to UCI on May 18th.
For more information about MEChA activities contact Maria Malagon, Co-Chair at (949)824-2225.

News Flash! MEChA establishes a high school outreach program at Valley High School with great success!

Sigma Lambda Gamma recently ranked 5th among all sororities and fraternities at UCI. The average GPA for all the members of the Latina-based sorority at UCI is 3.0.

2002-2003 CLSP COURSE NEWS:
Fall 2002 and Winter 2003 CLSP courses 169 A or B “Field Research in Local Community” can qualify for CLSP Honors 190 A or 190 B w/ instructor’s consent.

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