Chicano/Latino Studies is charging full force into the future. Every quarter we have more majors and minors, which is a testament to the excellent Chicano/Latino Studies classes we offer and to the passion CLS faculty bring to undergraduate education. From my discussions with students, they find the classes intellectually stimulating and faculty accessible. This bodes well for the future of Chicano/Latino Studies here at UC Irvine.

This has also been an exceptional year in many other ways. CLS faculty have published up a storm, as the list of authors in this newsletter attests. Please join us when we acknowledge the authors of new books at the event to be held at the Cross Cultural Center this Spring. On display will be not only an impressive display of the faculty’s scholarly productivity, but also the breadth and range of important topics they have examined.

Chicano/Latino Studies has also organized an incredibly stimulating colloquia series. I would like to thank the colloquia committee – Raul Fernandez, Deborah Vargas, and Cynthia Feliciano - for all their effort in bringing such stellar scholars to UCI (See Page 2). In addition, The Center for Latinos in a Global Society has co-sponsored a number of presentations that have helped bring scholars working on Latinos in the U.S. to campus. The Changing Orange County speaker series organized by Victor Becerra, in particular, has been a source of timely and engaging speakers. Finally, the Center also co-sponsored the conference Latinos and Jews: Historical and Contemporary Connections. I would like to thank Vicki Ruiz and Louis DeSipio for their invaluable contributions to the conference.

On a sad note, we lost Alfred “Fred” Flores on November 25, 2005. I have had the personal pleasure of talking with Fred and his wife Bonnie at many Chicano/Latino events over the last eighteen years. He helped develop Los Padrinos and Las Madrinas, a community support group for Latino students on campus. He was always a positive and cheerful person who was intensely dedicated to improving access to education for Latinos. He will be sorely missed.

After six years directing Chicano/Latino Studies, it is time to step down and let others take over. It has been an exciting time. It was personally satisfying to see the Program get a major and (“if you build it, they will come”) the positive response from students. Moreover, I believe we have assembled the best group of scholars in the nation examining the Chicano/Latino experience, both past and present. I only hope that before I move on to other challenges that I can witness the birth of the department and graduate emphasis. These would be the great legacies to the energy, abilities, and dedication of the Chicano/Latino Studies faculty, staff and students. It has been a great experience to have been a part of Chicano/Latino Studies during such a phenomenal burst of creative energy. Hasta pronto,

Leo Chavez
Director, Chicano Latino Studies Program
Professor of Anthropology

FALL 2006 DEAN’S HONOR LIST
Christian Anguiano
Jacqueline Arreola
Karina Enríquez
Dulce Garcia
Roberto Gomez Jr.
Violeta O. Gonzalez

Ismael Herrera
Aída S. Macedo
Joseph Macías
Rodolfo Mondragon
Cindy Villanueva

WINTER 2006 DEAN’S HONOR LIST
Graciela Arquelles
Edgar Barba
Irene Bobadilla
Joel Crespo
Karina Enríquez
Dulce García
Ismael Herrera
Aída Macedo De Partida

Joseph Macías
Rodolfo Mondragon
Christian Morales
Eliana Olivarez
Yadira Ortega
Wendy Osuna
Aracely Villanueva
Laura Zavala

Cynthia Feliciano, Assistant Professor of Sociology and Chicano/Latino Studies, participated in the UCI Department of Education’s Distinguished Speaker Series. The talk titled “Upwards or Downwards? Pre-immigration Origins and Educational Mobility Among Second-Generation Latinos” presented in November, was open to all faculty, staff and students.

Lisa Garcia Bedolla, has been promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor of Chicano Latino Studies and Political Science. Congratulations!

Michael Montoya, Assistant Professor, Chicano/Latino Studies and Anthropology, has received 2006-07 Social Science Assistant Professor Research Award, which recognizes research excellence and strong project proposals by the school’s junior faculty. Montoya’s project, "Ethnographic Research for Diabetes in Latino Communities," will receive $5,000 funding.

Alejandro Morales, effective January 1, 2006, Professor Morales’ appointment will be held as 50% in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and the remaining 50% held in the Chicano/Latino Studies, with CLSP designated as his “home department.”

Vicki Ruiz, Professor of Chicano/Latino Studies and History, has been voted President-Elect of the American Studies Association. Chartered in 1951, the American Studies Association now has more than 5,000 members. As one of the principal investigators Ruiz received from The Ford Foundation a $180,000 award for the production of “Latina History in the United States: A CD-Rom and Interactive Website,” that will be geared to middle and high school students and distributed free of charge through arrangement with the University of Illinois Press and the History Cooperative. The two other principal investigators are Virginia Sanchez Korrol and Carlos Cruz of Brooklyn College.

In Fall 2005 Ruiz served as the Martin Luther King, Jr., Cesar Chavez, and Rosa Parks Visiting Professor in American Culture at the University of Michigan. And, also this past Fall Ruiz was the Howard and Natalie Shaw Lecturer for the History Department at Columbia University.
The CRLGS held a Graduate Student Symposium featuring graduate students awarded the 2004-05 Graduate Student Fellowship Awards of $1000 each to conduct dissertation research. On November 18, 2005 four students presented their research projects to audience of faculty, staff, and students:

**Juan Buriel:** “Overview of Dissertation Research of Chicana/o Textuality: Narrative and Criticism in Aztlán.”

**Carmen Serrano:** “The Value in Higher Education as seen by Mexican-American Families.”

**Rosaura Tafoya-Estrada:** “The Meaning of Selective Acculturation in the Lives of Second Generation Immigrants.”

**Guadalupe Vidales:** “A Comparative Trans-National Ecological Study of Latina Domestic Violence: Barriers to Seeking Services in Mexico City and Orange County, California.”

**Ambar Ramos,** who graduated in June 2005 with a double major in Chicano/Latino Studies and Criminology, Law & Society, continues to excel in her endeavors. Ambar, chosen as the School of Social Sciences student speaker during UCI’s 40th annual commencement is a research assistant within a research directorate of the Defense Department (Institute for National Strategic Studies) in Washington D.C., where she will be working on Latin-American-US foreign policy.

**Juan Buriel,** doctoral candidate, UCI Comparative Literature received the Brython Davis Dissertation Fellowship for Spring 2006. Recently, Buriel also co-authored an article with Dr. Rodolfo D. Torres, entitled “Latin@ Los Angeles: The Representation of Labor, The Labor Representation,” to be published in THE CULTURED CITY: BUILDING IDENTITIES IN URBAN LATINA/O AMERICA, Amanda Holmes and Richard Young, eds.

**CASA CESAR CHAVEZ (CASA)**

Now in its 11th year, continues to live up to its legacy of community involvement. Last fall a group of students from Century High School in Santa Ana visited CASA, where they had the opportunity to interact with CASA residents. The students watched the video “Yo Soy Joaquin” and CASA residents spoke to them about the importance of a higher education. The CASA residents proved to be great sources of inspiration for the high school students, who at the end of the trip expressed their motivation by saying, “see you in 3 years CASA!”

**Great job CASA!**
April 22, 2006  Reception for Newly Admitted Raza Student is part of the Celebrate UCI scheduled activities, an annual event to welcome newly admitted students. Leo Chavez, Director of CLSP; Manuel Gomez, Vice Chancellor Student Affairs; Juan Lara, Assistant Vice Chancellor of Enrollment Services; and Leticia Oseguera, Assistant Professor Department of Education are the scheduled speakers.

April 26, 2006  Paul Menendez, Cuban Musician, will present a talk titled “Walking in Two Worlds,” at the Jeff Garcelazo Conference Room (Social Science Tower 318) from 03:00 to 05:00 PM. What are the common elements in the histories of the US and Cuba, the similarities of the mixture of African and European ingredients and the history of the inter-relationship of both cultures, both pre and post revolution.

May 19, 2006:  Chicano/Latino Faculty Book Forum at the Cross Cultural Center from 12:00 to 02:00 PM followed by a book signing, authors scheduled to present:

-Gilbert Conchas
-Cynthia Feliciano
-Raul Fernandez
-Lisa Garcia Bedolla

-Gilbert Gonzalez
-Rodrigo Lazo
-Vicki Ruiz

June 18, 2006  Raza Graduation is an intimate event held to honor graduating students and their families. If you are interested in participating contact Karina Enriquez, kenrique@uci.edu, or Olivia Rodriguez, omrodrig@uci.edu.

ALFRED “FRED” FLORES (1930-2005)
Community Servant

Alfred “Fred” Flores, 75, president of the McNeese Alumni Association, died at the Valley Inn in Mancos, Colorado on Friday, Nov. 25, 2005. The cause of death was congestive heart failure.

Mr. Flores was born to Diego and Susana Borrego Flores on Aug. 22, 1930 in Wharton, Texas.

He was the first person in his family to graduate from high school and earn a college degree. Mr. Flores supported a “stay-in school” program and was a member of the parents association at UCI. He also helped establish “Los Padrinos and Las Madrinas,” a community support group for Chicano medical students at UCI.

Mr. Flores was the keynote speaker at a UCI graduation and received a certificate of merit for community service by Chancellor Aldrich. Active in politics and community service, Mr. Flores marched with Cesar Chavez and was a pallbearer at his funeral.

He is survived by his wife, Bonnie Flores of Durango, five children, three siblings, thirteen grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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