

# THE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES SYMPOSIUM

APRIL 17-18, 2009

## A Welcome Message

from

**Barbara Domcekova**  
Conference Director

Welcome to the 17<sup>th</sup> annual Latin American Studies Symposium, an undergraduate interdisciplinary research conference that has become known far beyond our campus. BSC Latin American Studies program is pleased to host students and faculty from our sister institutions of the Associated Colleges the South, participants from local universities, as well as presenters who come from other regions of the country. For most of you, presenters, this is your first time presenting at the Symposium, for some faculty members BSC LAS Symposium is now a part of the spring semester. We are proud to offer an opportunity to undergraduate students to discuss their research and grateful for the continued support of the event by BSC and the Student Government Association. The quality of presented papers over the years has been impressive and directly reflects the efforts of dedicated faculty who work with students at institutions like Birmingham-Southern that value undergraduate research.

In many cases, students' research under the guidance of faculty is complemented by studying in Latin America, acquiring in this way a unique hands-on experience and possibilities of field research. I would like to recognize the support of BSC Office of International programs and SIT Study Abroad that co-sponsor this year's reception.

We hope participants will enjoy the opportunity to learn about each other's research, and deepen their understanding of Latin America. As it has been a tradition for years now, the conference presentations cover a wide array of topics in a variety of disciplines. Some presentations look to the future, other offer a look back – including our keynote speaker who will focus on the cinema of the Cuban Revolution, its challenges and triumphs as experienced since 1959.

As always, please enjoy the conference and plan to join us again next year, April 16-17, 2010 when we celebrate the 18<sup>th</sup> Latin American Studies Symposium at Birmingham-Southern.

**CONFERENCE SPONSORS**

Birmingham-Southern College  
Student Government Association  
Office of International Programs



**CONFERENCE DIRECTOR**

Barbara Domcekova

**ASSISTANT COORDINATOR**

Kenton Myers

**STUDENT VOLUNTEERS**

Spanish and Latin American Studies students

**PROGRAM COVER**

Photo courtesy of Armando Lozano



*La chágara invasiva: Metáfora y masculinidad en “La muñeca menor” de Rosario Ferré*, Alex Harris, The University of the South, TN.

*Los cuentos de hadas como herramienta feminista: Rosario Ferré y Esther Tusquets*, Ben Swann, The University of the South, TN.

10:30 – 11:50

Session III

(SCC-A)

**El modernismo latinoamericano: La política y la poética**

Chair: David Slade, Berry College, GA.

*Identidades americanas en “Oda a Roosevelt” por Rubén Darío*, Andrea Brown, Berry College, GA.

*Monstruos del Modernismo*, Cecelia Jordan, Rhodes College, TN.

*Los aspectos políticos en la poesía de Rubén Darío*, Kelsey White, Samford University, AL.

Session IV

(Auditorium)

**Reform, Health, and Rural Development**

Chair: Edie Wolfe, Tulane University, LA.

*Colombia at a Crossroads*, Suzie Anderson, Baylor University, TX.

*From the Roots: Strengthening Autonomy on Nicaragua’s Caribbean Coast*, Jessica Hodson, SIT Study Abroad, Lee University, TN.

*A Reform of the Reformer? The MST’s Decline During Lula’s First Administration*, Jonathan Kim, Tulane University, LA.

*Rediscovering the Sun: Solar Energy and Bolivian Rural Development*, Patrick McAnaney, SIT Study Abroad, Rice University, TX.

*La salud pública y tradicional: el caso de las indígenas guatemaltecas*, Lydia Rice, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

12:00 – 1:00 **Luncheon** (Bruno Great Hall, Norton)

1:00 - 1:50 **Keynote Address** (Norton Theatre)

**Diane Soles, Assistant Professor of Sociology,**  
University of Wisconsin at Whitewater, WI.

"Fresh at 50? -- A look at young directors during the Cuban Film Institute's 50th Anniversary"

Dr. Soles has conducted research in the Cuban Film Institute during her trips to Cuba (1996-2003) when she interviewed over two-dozen members of the Institute, including two former Presidents; viewed films (including censored material) and engaged in archival research about the film institute and Cuba's political economy. Her work has centered on behind-the-scenes events and negotiations regarding censorship and the limits of freedom of expression. In her keynote address, she will focus on the recent film production in Cuba and will explore the challenges and innovations of a new generation of Cuban film directors in the 21st century.

2:00 – 3:20

Session V (Auditorium)

**Tropical Adventures: Biological Research in Central America**

Co-Chairs: Andy Gannon & Megan Gibbons, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*Physical investigative behavior and shell selection of the Latin American Land Hermit Crab *Coenobita clypeatus* in response to shell damage, Terza Weston, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.*

*Avian predation rates on models representing sympatric and allopatric morphs of the strawberry poison dart frog (*Oophaga pumilio*), Ron Alyn MacBeth, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.*

*The effects of exposure time on the number of attacks received by replicas of the Costa Rican strawberry poison dart frog, Thiago Queiroz, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.*

*Determination of Coral Reef Diversity Using Indicator Fish Species as a Representation of Biodiversity, Tyler Brown, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.*

Session VI

(SCC-A)

**Desafiando los géneros literarios: de cuento a micro-cuento, de poesía a antipoesía**

Chair: Barbara Domcekova, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*Cuentos de la dictadura chilena*, Doron Lee, Morehouse College, GA.

*El papel de la muerte en minirelatos colombianos*, Phillip C. Wright, Morehouse College, GA.

*El maestro del desequilibrio: La obra antipoética de Nicanor Parra*, Emily Stone, Berry College, GA.

*La anti-religión de Nicanor Parra*, Megan Seasely, Furman University, SC.

3:30 – 4:50

Session VII

(Auditorium)

**Identidad nacional: Perspectivas y expresiones**

Chair: Bill Nicholas, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*Tecali mexicano: La identidad nacional en “El diamante de la inquietud”*, Hannah Palmer, Samford University, AL.

*El Torrente Prodigioso: La “Niágara” de José María Heredia*, Jesús Israel Béjar, Berry College, GA.

*An Outsider’s Perspective: José Martí on the United States*, Molly Bynum Cook, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

5:00 – 6:30

**Reception**

(Hulsey Hall)

Co-sponsored by BSC Office of International Programs and SIT Study Abroad

6:30 - 8:30

**Cuban Film - TBA**

(Norton Theatre)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 18, 2009**

9:00 – 10:20

Session VIII

(Auditorium)

**Implicaciones del Turismo/ Ecoturismo y Desarrollo**

Chair: Jessica Ramos de Harthun, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*La globalización y el turismo del Perú*, Jeremy Cunningham, Marietta College, OH.

*Externalities and External Culture: The Underlying Cultural Imposition of Ecotourism's Control of Costa Rican Economic Welfare*, Sara Kugler, Tulane University, LA.

*Las papeleras de Sudamérica: el impacto sobre el medioambiente*, Nicole White, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

Session IX

(SCC-A)

**Activismo y derechos civiles**

Chair: Eric Schramm, Lenoir-Rhyne University, NC.

*The Summer Institute of Linguistics and the Peruvian State: Implications for State-NGO Relationships in Latin America*, William Faulkner, Tulane University, LA.

*Tlatelolco: 1968*, Helen Marlowe, Lenoir-Rhyne University, NC.

*The Hispanic-American Civil Rights Movement*, Izabela Pablo Pedro, Lenoir-Rhyne University, NC.

10:30 – 12:00

Session X

(Auditorium)

**Art and Culture in the Ancient Maya World**

Chair: Tim Smith, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*"Spent Blood: The Perforator God, Royals, and Ritual Self-Sacrifice in Maya Art."*  
Angela Woodlee, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*"Burning It Hot: A Look at Maya Incense Burners and Stands From Palenque and Beyond."* Jill Bivona, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

“*Kernels of the Court: Dwarfs and the Art of the Ancient Maya.*” Christie Wenke, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

“*Imaging Maya Goddesses: Myth, Ritual and the Role of Women in Mesoamerica.*” Lindsey O’Conner, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

Session XI

(SCC-A)

**Literature & Protest**

Chair: June Laval, Kennesaw State University, GA.

*Memorial de Tlatelolco por Rosario Castellanos*, Jennie T. Wiggins, Kennesaw State University, GA.

“*Autorretrato*” de Rosario Castellanos: *poema rebelde y feminista*, Krystal Raines, Kennesaw State University, GA.

*La explotación y esclavitud indígena relatada por el escritor ecuatoriano Jorge Icaza Coronel*, Marcelo Cedeno, Kennesaw State University, GA.

*Balada de la sangre de María Elena Cruz Varela: voz de protesta*, Matthew Squires, Kennesaw State University, GA.

12:00 – 1:00 **Luncheon**

(Bruno Great Hall, Norton)

1:00 - 1:50 **Film Presentation**

(Norton Theatre)

Chair: Charlotte Ford, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*May They Not Suffer as I Have (Que no sufran como yo)*, Melissa Deas and Elizabeth Weimer, SIT Study Abroad, Harvard University, MA. and Carleton College, MA.

2:00 – 3:20

Session XII

(SCC-A)

**Interdisciplinary Approaches to Women’s Identity**

Chair: Lynda Jentsch, Samford University, AL.

*Gender and Telenovelas: The Reconstruction of Gender Roles in Mexico*, Ileana Cáceres, Tulane University, LA.

*La Malinche in Watercolor Women Opaque Men*, Kelly Hawk, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*Y Dios me hizo mujer: Un examen de la identidad femenina*, Samantha Hiner, Berry College, GA.

Session XIII

(Auditorium)

**El pasado precolombino: las investigaciones hoy**

Chair: Jennifer Mathews, Trinity University, TX.

*The Nazca Lines: Exploring the Various Hypotheses That Try to Resolve an Ancient Mystery*, Janira Santiago, Birmingham-Southern College, AL.

*The History of Fermented Beverages in the Maya World: Acceptability and Usage*, Robert Kappel, Tulane University, LA.

*SAMA Spouted Vessel*, Kelli McDonald, Trinity University, TX.

*Investigating the Identity of “Head with a Thorn Headdress”*, Kyla McGlynn, Trinity University, TX.

2:00 – 11:00

SoCo Music Festival

(Intramural Fields)

## Index of Participants

<b>Participants</b>		<b>Session</b>
Anderson, Suzie	Baylor University, TX	IV
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Brown, Andrea	Berry College, GA	III
Brown, Tyler	Birmingham-Southern College, AL	V
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