



SUMMER 2021 NEWSLETTER

IN THIS ISSUE

MACLAS

Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies

Message from the President

Melixa Abad-Izquierdo (2020-2021)

Hello MACLAS members! We are still standing and vaccinated! We had a successful virtual MACLAS conference hosted by The College of New Jersey (TCNJ) on March 19-20th 2021, and I want to thank our hosts (especially Dr. Brian Potter) as well as administrators, faculty, and the IT staff at the college. The conference's keynote speaker, Dr. John Stolle-McAllister (University of Maryland, Baltimore County), offered an inspiring talk on interculturality and the concept of "buen vivir." Additionally, his acknowledgement of the role played by MACLAS in his professional development was very moving. A live performance by the Colombian theater company "Arlequín y los juglares" at the end of this year's MACLAS was the perfect ending for a two-day event filled with interdisciplinary sessions.

Huge gratitude goes out to our former presidents León Arredondo and Patricia Rodríguez, to Conference Program Chair Gonzalo Aguiar Malosetti and to all those who helped to make the event a great success. If you missed this year's business virtual awards ceremony, you can read about **this year's awards winners** throughout this newsletter.

Our next conference planned for March 2022 on **at The College of New Jersey** in Ewing, NJ. Please stay tuned for more details and a Call for Papers in our fall newsletter. We hope to see you there, in person or virtually. The Executive Committee will meet in September to begin preparations for the spring 2022 conference.

Wishing you all an amazing, restful, and productive summer!

MARLAS Call for Papers

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Whitaker Prize

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MACLAS Needs You!

The MACLAS Executive Committee (EC) is seeking to fill two positions of members at-large. Current members at any stage in their careers (graduate students included). Preferably, MACLAS members from Maryland, DC, West Virginia, and Delaware- but not necessary. The positions will require a modest commitment in the 2021- 2021 academic year organizing the March 2022 conference. Additional responsibilities might include helping to fill out prize committees and if possible, to chair one of them. If you are interested in serving on the EC please reach out to Melixa Abad-Izquierdo at: izquierm@farmingdale.edu by August 30, 2021.



Call for Submissions

The editors invite all MACLAS members to submit scholarly articles, essays, research notes and reviews to the Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies. MARLAS is an interdisciplinary, peer reviewed, open access online journal focusing on the dissemination of scholarly work about Latin America and the Caribbean. It is published twice a year by MACLAS. The editors also welcome submissions focusing on relations among Latin American and Caribbean countries and with other states and regions of the world. MARLAS publishes research findings aimed at a multidisciplinary audience and invites submissions in English, Spanish and Portuguese based on rigorous analysis from a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives. MARLAS accepts submissions on a rolling basis. We ask prospective authors to examine carefully the guidelines for submissions.

Submissions should be made electronically through the journal website:
<https://www.marlasjournal.com/about/submissions/>

We also invite you to explore the journal's most recent issues:

<https://www.marlasjournal.com/20/volume/4/issue/2/>

<https://www.marlasjournal.com/21/volume/4/issue/3/>

MARLAS IS HOSTED BY THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION (LASA) RESEARCH COMMONS PLATFORM

<https://www.larcommons.net/site/journal-publishing/>

STUDIES IN LATIN AMERICA An Open-Access Short Works series from the Institute for the Study of the Americas at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and UNC Press. Studies in Latin America is a series of short, peer-reviewed works, approximately 20,000 to 35,000 words in length, to be published by the Institute for the Study of the Americas and distributed by UNC Press in digital open-access as well as in print and e-book formats. Studies in Latin America welcomes English-language manuscripts by senior scholars as well as by junior scholars. A formal peer-review process will be conducted as part of the publication decision.

For more information and inquiries about submissions, please contact Louis A. Pérez Jr., Director, Institute for the Study of the Americas, at perez@email.unc.edu or at Global Education Center, CB 3205, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27599. Questions may also be addressed to Elaine Maisner, Executive Editor, UNC Press, at emaisner@email.unc.edu or tel. 919-962-0810. Studies in Latin America website: <https://uncpress.org/series/studies-latin-america>

Awards, Prizes and Grants 2021

Dr. Joan Marx of Muhlenberg College has achieved eminence as an outstanding scholar, professor, and leader in service to the Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies (MACLAS), which takes pride in honoring her with the **Judy B. McInnis Distinguished Service Award**. Dr. Marx is a long-standing MACLAS member. Some of her contributions were as a member of the MACLAS journal, Latin American Essays editorial board from 2003 to 2006. Later she served as the managing editor from 2006 to 2011. After thirty years of publishing high-quality scholarly contributions to Latin American Studies, the printed journal was converted in 2017 into the current online publication, the Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies (MARLAS).

The 2021 Władysław Maryan **Froelich Research Grant** was awarded to Jeff Pugh. (University of Massachusetts, Boston) Project: *Entre Voces: Voice, and Mobility in the Americas* Podcast Series. To develop a podcast series exploring how marginalized groups and migrants across the Americas use their voices to contest injustice, advocate for changes, negotiate identities, and overcome exclusion and silencing. Patricia Rodriguez. (Ithaca College) Project: Book Manuscript - Colombia. To engage in archival and interview research in Colombia that will contribute to a book project on social movements and alternatives in the peace process. To apply, please submit a letter to the committee chair (TBA in Fall newsletter) that includes your research objectives, background and rationale for the project by **January 13th, 2022**.

The recipient of the **James Street Prize for Best Paper published in MARLAS** is Miguel Ángel Latouche (Universidad Central de Venezuela) *Venezuela and Its Labyrinth: Institutional Change and Authoritarianism in Twenty-First Century Socialism Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies*, 3(2), pp.1–26. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.23870/marlas.229>

Graduate and undergraduate students who presented at the 2021 MACLAS conference are encouraged to submit a polished version of their papers to compete for the **John D. Martz III Prize** or the **Juan Espadas Prize**.

For a detail of MACLAS prizes, please see: <http://www.maclas.org/prizes>. To donate to these prizes and/or become a member, see our website or <http://www.maclas.org/become-a-member>.

Exploring Innovation in Appalachia: An Undergraduate Research Symposium

August 11, 2021.

West Virginia University

The symposium is entirely virtual and entirely free.

Several cash prizes will be provided for the best research presentations.

For more information, please visit the event's webpage:

<https://eberly.wvu.edu/research/innovation-in-appalachia-symposium>

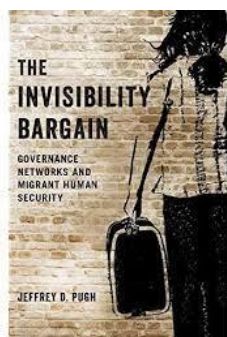
Or contact one of the event coordinators if you have any questions:

Event Director, Duncan Lorimer - Duncan.Lorimer@mail.wvu.edu

Event Assistant, Matthew Harris - mdhoo72@mix.wvu.edu

MACLAS honored **Dr. Jeffrey Pugh** (Assistant Professor, University of Massachusetts, Boston) at the annual conference in March 2021 with the **Arthur P. Whitaker Prize**, awarded each year for the best book published in the previous two years by a member of MACLAS. His book is titled *The Invisibility Bargain: Governance Networks and Migrant Human Security* (Oxford University Press, 2021). Dr. Pugh teaches conflict resolution in the McCormack Graduate School of Policy and Global Studies at the University of Massachusetts Boston. Dr. Pugh holds a Ph.D. from John Hopkins University. He is also a visiting scholar of conflict management and Latin American studies affiliated with the Johns Hopkins University School for Advanced International Studies (SAIS) in Washington, DC. He is also the executive director of the Center for Mediation, Peace, and Resolution of Conflict (CEMPROC), based in Quito, Ecuador. He was previously assistant professor of political science at Providence College.

Dr. Pugh has been invited to be the Keynote Speaker at the 2022 MACLAS Conference, which will take place at The College of New Jersey.

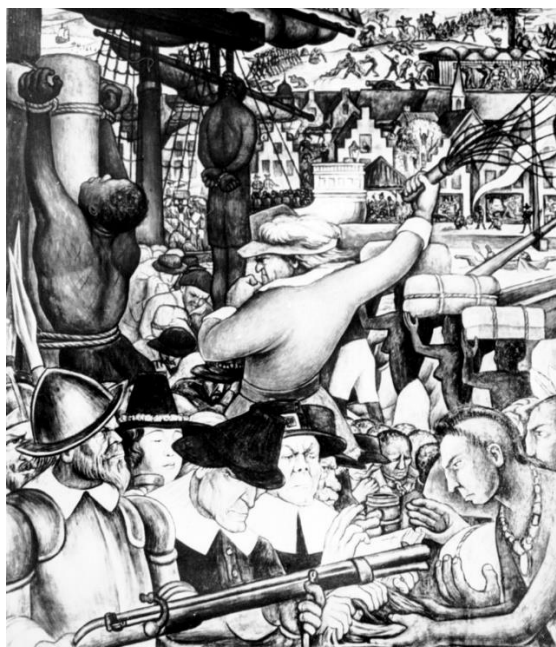


MACLAS statement on race/ethnicity and pedagogy

In light of recent events highlighting how critical debates on racial equity and systemic oppression are for a healthy, equitable, and democratic society, MACLAS wants to reaffirm its commitment to a pedagogy engaged in undoing teaching and learning practices that perpetuate hierarchical relations and silence the voice of historically oppressed communities in the classroom setting. MACLAS is a professional association that includes educators and scholars from/on Latin America who advocate for the importance of discussing race and ethnicity in the classroom. We deeply believe that the classroom should be the place to stage a liberatory learning experience where the student feels empowered to speak up and contribute to building a learning community based on a critical as well as a creative challenge to the ways in which an imperial/colonial framework have historically shaped race relations in the Americas.

In keeping with our responsibility to give both undergraduate and graduate students a forum for public debate and scholarly exchange in our annual conference, MACLAS wants to also state the significance of creating a social and professional network among students, teachers, and scholars based on solidarity, compassion, and constructive activism in the academia. In the words of bell hooks, MACLAS strives for a “vision of liberatory education that connects the will to know with the will to become” (*Teaching to Transgress* 18-19). We think our students should develop critical thinking skills to construct a better society, a goal only achievable when we introduce the social, cultural, political, and economic complexities embedded in any discussion about class, gender, and race/ethnicity. It would be disingenuous as scholars and teachers to omit the issue of systemic racism that is playing out at a societal level all across the Americas.

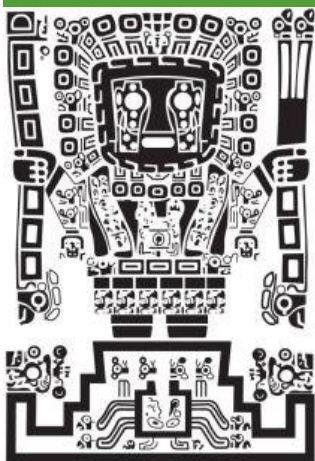
This is not about imposing extraneous ideas with no relevance to the student’s learning outcomes. It is about decolonizing our knowledge and perspectives so that the student can be part of an ongoing conversation connecting academic subject matters learned in college with their own life experiences. It is about empathy and acknowledgement of the historical, political, economic, and cultural contributions of Latin American and Latinx communities, Native Americans, and the cultures of the African diaspora. Lastly, it is about reimagining our role as teachers in the classroom setting, and the influence our organization can make in the lives of so many students who, as future colleagues, are going to act upon these values and in solidarity with the oppressed people of the Americas.



Diego Rivera mural at Unity House depicting colonial America. Photograph. ca.1950. Kheel Center for Labor-Management Documentation and Archives, Martin P. Catherwood Library, Cornell University.

MACLAS Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies

www.maclas.org



The **Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies** is comprised of scholars, researchers, teachers, students, and interested professionals in all disciplines and pursuits from the region comprised of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia. MACLAS has as its objectives promoting and developing interest in Latin American Studies and affairs. The organization was founded in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in 1979.

MACLAS Executive Council

2021-2022

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