

MACLAS NEWS

Bridget Maria Chesterton 2017-2018

Every once in awhile, life has a way of interfering with the best laid plans. My ascension to the presidency of MACLAS on January 20, 2017 was one of those events.

I had been planning to take over the presidency in March 2017 after the MACLAS conference at the University of Virginia but President Michael Schroeder fell ill and I had to jump in. Thankfully, Mike is well on his way to recovery and with the help of wonderful MACLAS colleagues, a superb executive board, and a wonderful graduate assistant at Buffalo State, Joseph Campbell, the MACLAS conference is planned, organized, and just about ready to go. There are still some final adjustments to the program that need to be made but we are ready for MACLAS 2017.

This newsletter contains the panel names for the conference and a ballot for the 2017 election. There is also a link of things to do in Charlottesville link to this newsletter. We are also proud to announce various prizewinners. Please remember to register for the conference, renew your MACLAS membership at MACLAS.org, and plan a lovely short vacation in Virginia. See everyone in Charlottesville.

Thanks you again to all of those who have helped with the planning. More importantly, I wish Mike a speedy recovery.

February 2016

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See you in Charlottesville!

MACLAS 2017 ♦ **March 24-25**

University of Virginia,
Charlottesville, VA

See the preliminary program inside this newsletter



News From MARLAS

CALL FOR AN EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

The *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies*, the new online, peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary MACLAS journal, is seeking an Editorial Assistant to join the Editorial Board. Working with the Managing Editor, with the Associate Editors and the Book Review Editor, the Editorial Assistant will be involved in the journal operations as follows: preliminary and brief review of submissions to gauge their fit to the journal's scope; distribution of submissions to the associate editors (Social Sciences and Humanities); journal's correspondence; assist the Managing Editor with the registration of articles in accordance to the Digital Object Identifier (DOI).

The Editorial Board is currently working on the inaugural issue of MARLAS and plans to publish twice a year.

Please send your expression of interest to:

Chestebm@buffalostate.edu or ivani.Vassoler@gmail.com



Ivani Vassoler, Editor, *Middle Atlantic Journal of Latin American Studies*

CALL FOR A BOOK REVIEW EDITOR

The *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies*, the new online, peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary MACLAS journal, is seeking a Book Review Editor. Working with a great deal of autonomy, the Book Review Editor commissions book reviews from experts in the field of Latin American Studies, evaluates independent submissions of book reviews for publication and establishes contacts with publishers.

The Editorial Board is currently working on the inaugural issue of MARLAS and plans to publish twice a year.

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Ivani.Vassoler@gmail.com





Alejandra Aguilar and Research at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture

As the recipient of the Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies Wadysaw Maryan Froelich Research Grant, I had the privilege of consulting the extensive collection of Caribbean periodicals and rare books available in the New York Public Library. The project was a significant step towards the completion of my book manuscript titled *Hereberos de la libertad: criminalización, escritura y liderazgo de afro-descendientes en Colombia, Brasil y Cuba* (*Chasing Freedom: Black Criminalization, Leadership, and Writing in Colombia, Brazil, and Cuba*). I greatly enjoyed doing archival work in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in the summer of 2016.

Many invaluable sources documenting the work of Afro-Caribbean intellectuals came to light after a long, patient perusal in the archives. Many of those little known (and in some cases long forgotten) manuscripts, and other writing pieces published in 19th century Spanish newspapers, are not available in other collections, which makes them all the more unique for researchers.

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My research aims to unearth the travails, dreams, and challenges experienced by ordinary citizens as well as by prominent Afro-descendant intellectuals during the last days of the Spanish empire in the Americas. The vast collection of Cuban literature I found at the library has been a pivotal moment in my career. Not only did I deepen my knowledge on the subject matter, but also opened new lines of inquiry for other research projects to come.

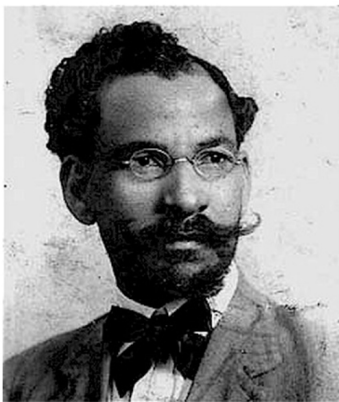


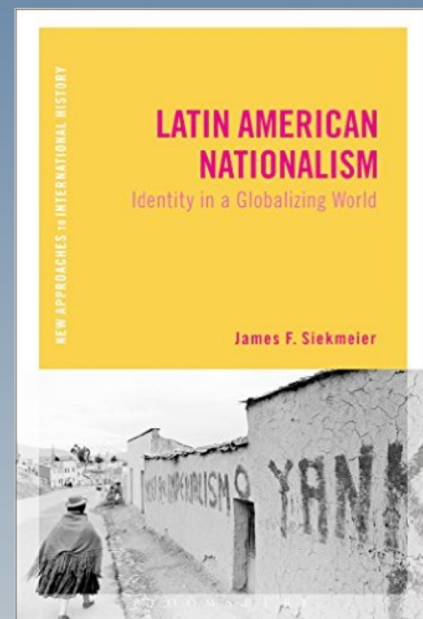
Image from the Schomburg Collection

Martz and Espada Prize 2016

The John D. Martz III prize for the best paper to the 2016 conference was awarded to **Claudia González Rivas** a Graduate Student at Villanova. Her paper was entitled “Disney y la dulcificación del (neo) colonialismo”

The Juan Espadas prize for the best paper submitted to the conference by an undergraduate student was awarded to **Nancy Dennehy**, an undergraduate student at Arcadia University for her paper “Exploring Literacies in the Bolivian Indigenous Video”

Upcoming Release!



James F. Siekmeier's new text will be released on September 7, 2017 by Bloomsbury Academic Publishing

The inaugural issue of the *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies* (MARLAS) is coming soon!

Since the last October newsletter, a considerable progress has been made to give shape and provide content to the *Middle Atlantic Review of Latin American Studies*, the new MACLAS online, peer-reviewed, open-access and interdisciplinary journal. In the past months, the journal received its first submissions (research articles and book reviews) for the inaugural issue, planned to be published still during the first semester of 2017.

The submissions for the inaugural issue went through a rigorous peer review process with the participation of more than a dozen external evaluators, from the United States and abroad, representing different disciplines in the field of Latin American Studies. In parallel, the Editorial Board is working on the journal setup which includes the creation of its own website and attributing a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number to every article published. In addition, and thanks our colleague, Jeffrey Pugh, MARLAS will be embedded into the LASA Research Commons digital platform, which will provide a greater visibility to the journal.

MARLAS follows a long MACLAS tradition of disseminating research and promoting teaching in the field of Latin American Studies. Keeping up with the *Latin American Essays* practice, MARLAS will accept submissions in English, Spanish and Portuguese. The journal will be published twice a year.

As the inaugural issue takes shape, the Editorial Board would like to invite all MACLAS members to consider MARLAS for your publication projects. The journal will publish research articles, commentaries, book reviews and dossiers on Latin American Studies and it is open to a variety of methodological and theoretical approaches for the dissemination of ideas and original research in all Latin American topics. Spread the word.

The journal will be available at www.maclas.org/marlas

See you at the 2017 MACLAS conference in Virginia!

Ivani Vassoler, Managing Editor



Panels for the 2017 Middle Atlantic Conference of Latin American Studies

Literature and Language of Chile and Argentina

Space and Society in the Andes

Hispanola in History and Literature

At the Crossroads of Economics and Politics

Sexuality in Latin American Literature I

Sexuality in Latin American Literature II (Southern South America)

Protest, Peace, and Resistance I (Church and Voices from Below)

Creating Colonial North America

Gender, Race, and Identity in Mexico

Protest, Peace and Resistance II (Female and Rural Voices)

Interseções: Arte, História, Filosofia e Política na América Latina

La Patria Grande en la pantalla grande: Asuntos de familia, justicia, género e historia en el cine latinoamericano

Religion and Mysticism in the Caribbean

Immigration and Latinos in the United States

Más allá del Caribe: Diáspora, escritura e identidad en la narrativa caribeña

At the Intersections of Artistic Engagement: Creative Initiatives, Embodied Acts and Social Justice

Caribe y Negritud: Aproximaciones a la identidad Afro-caribeña desde la literatura y el cine

Transnational Governance and Politics in South America

Rethinking Puerto Rican and Cuban Identity

Masculinity in Latin America

U.S. Imperial Policy in the Caribbean

Latin America's Past and Future Place

Immigrants and the "Other" in Latin American Literature

Politics and Corruption in Film and Literature

Corruption and Transparency (Or Lack there of)

U.S. Foreign Policy in Latin America

Violence, Memory and Literature in Central America

América Latin y el caribe frente a los riesgos globales: Una visión multidisciplinaria

Keynote Address: Mark Wasserman

This year's keynote address will be by Mark Wasserman from Rutgers University. He was the 2016 Arthur P. Whitaker Prize winner for the best book published by a MACLAS member. His talk is entitled: The History of Modern Mexico: A Retrospective on Forty years of Revision

**Plenary Talk: Carmen Lamas**

This year's Plenary talk will be by Carmen Lamas from the University of Virginia. Her talk will be entitled: "Hemispheric Transformations: Eliciting the Latina/o in Latin American Studies."



Elections: Candidate Biographies

Candidate for the Vice-President, 2018-2019



Kathleen Cunniffe Peña is an advanced Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Temple University in Philadelphia. She is currently in the final stages of completing her dissertation, "Irlandés in the Americas: Irish Themes and Affinities in Contemporary Spanish American Narrative." Her broader research interests include immigrant narratives, translational literature, and transnational identity. She holds a B.A. in Spanish and Latin American Studies from Albright College, and a Master's Degree in Latin American Studies from the University of New Mexico. Kathy has been involved with MACLAS since 2002, when she attended the annual conference as an undergraduate student. That year, she won the Juan Espadas Prize for best undergraduate paper, and published her work in MACLAS Essays. In the last three years, Kathy has served on the MACLAS Executive Council, chairing the Communications and Outreach Committee and helping to organize the 2015 conference at Temple University. She also collaborated with María Roof and other MACLAS members to translate poetry for *Women's Poems of Protest and Resistance: Honduras (2009-2014)*. In her fifteen years as a professional educator, she has taught courses in Spanish language and Latin American literature and film, coordinated the implementation of online courses, and trained new language instructors.

Secretary Candidate (one year)



Mirna Trauger is a full-time lecturer of Spanish in the department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures at Muhlenberg College where she has been teaching for thirteen years. Her area of expertise is twentieth century Hispanic Caribbean Literature but her teaching and research interests are not limited to that area of study. Her professional work includes scholarly publications as well as presentations at national and international literary and teaching conferences. Her most recent publication is titled "El cuerpo y su conceptualización posmoderna en Pájaros de la playa de Severo Sarduy" published in *Latin American Essays* in 2012. Her most recent presentations include "Canción de Rachel: Palimpsesto de la memoria cubana" (XVII Congreso Internacional de Literatura Hispánica) and "Teaching Students with Disabilities: Strategies and Best Practices" (AAC&U). She is currently serving on the Provost Search Committee and the Nominating committee at Muhlenberg College and as secretary to the National Executive Committee of Phi Sigma Iota, the International Foreign Language Honor Society. She has also served as a member of Phi Sigma Iota's National Scholarship Awards Committee, as a member of MACLAS's Whitaker prize committee

What to do in Charlottesville!

The University of Virginia has as a helpful and accessible web page:

<http://www.virginia.edu/visit/charlottesville>

Executive Board Candidates



Ana Moraña is Associate Professor of Spanish in the Department of Modern Languages at Shippensburg University where she teaches language, literatures and cultures since 2002. She is also serving her fifth year as Director of the Ethnic Studies program. She has recently published her book *La fiesta de la modernidad en la Argentina. La revista Caras y Caretas (1898-1910)*, Buenos Aires: Editorial Corregidor. In addition to this, Dr. Moraña organized a *dossier* on visual culture and the press in Southern Cone, Latin America which includes four articles, one of them by Dr. Moraña titled “*Balconeando la historia: la Primera Guerra Mundial vista a través de las imágenes de la revista Caras y Caretas (Argentina 1914- 1918)*” (*Revista Hispamérica*, December 2016). In addition to this, Dr. Moraña is the author of multiple articles on Latin American literature and cinema and she has presented papers in numerous conferences in her field.



Carlos Mamani, is an associate professor in the department of Foreign Languages and Cultures at Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. He earned his BA from Brown University and both his MA and Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati with a degree in Latin American Literature with a concentration in the Colonial period, the XX and XXI centuries, and Andean culture. Mamani teaches all levels of Spanish language courses as well as courses in Latin American literature and culture, Native American literature, and film. His professional interests include research in Colonial and Contemporary periods, Globalization and Migration, Andean culture, Latino/a Culture and Literature, and Translation.

THE MIDDLE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

MACLAS BALOT 2017 (Candidate Biographies Above)

Vice-President: Please vote for ONE candidate

_____ Kathleen Cunniffée Peña

_____ (write-in)

Secretary

_____ Mirna Trauger

_____ (write-in)

Executive Committee: Please vote for TWO candidates. The top two candidates will begin a three-year term beginning at the close of the annual conference (March 25, 2017)

_____ Ana Moraño

_____ Carlos Mamani

INSTRUCTIONS

You may vote in one of three ways: 1) you may fill out this paper ballot, seal it in an unmarked envelope placed inside of another envelope that clearly shows your address, and send it (postmarked by Feb. 26th) to María Roof, MACLAS Secretary, 14 Tracys Lane, Tracys Landing, MD 20779; 2) you may e-mail your vote directly to the MACLAS Secretary at mroof@howard.edu by March 2nd (with this method you forfeit your anonymity); or 3) you may vote on-site at the conference.

Ballots will be available at the conference for those who did not vote via mail or e-mail.

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: **Bridget María Chesterton**, *SUNY Buffalo State*

TREASURER: **Brian Turner**, *Randolph-Macon College*

SECRETARY: **María Roof**, *Howard University*

PAST PRESIDENT

Michael Schroeder, *Lebanon Valley College*

MEMBERS

Louise Detwiler (2017), *Salisbury University*

Luis Roniger (2018), *Wake Forest University*

Mirna Trauger (2018), *Muhlenberg College*

Gerardo T. Cummings (2019), *Wells College*

Silvia M. Peart (2019), *United States Naval Academy*

James F. Siekmeier (2019), *West Virginia University*