Conference Participant Biographies

Adams, Andrew (aadams04@syr.edu) is a graduate student in the 2010 PLACA Seminar.

Bacchus, Nazreen (meenaluv@gmail.com) is a Doctoral Candidate in the Sociology Program at The Graduate Center, CUNY. Nazreen is working on her dissertation grappling with second-generation Indo-Guyanese American's ethnic identity construction towards mainstream assimilation in the New York metro area.

Boahene, Afua (aoboahen@syr.edu) is a PhD student in the Cultural Foundations of Education department in the School of Education at Syracuse University. Her interests primarily center around race, class, and gender inequality in schooling, equity in education, identity development for young adolescent girls of color, intersectionality, and popular culture and representation.

Buechler, Hans (hcbuecle@syr.edu) is professor of anthropology at Syracuse University. His research interests in Latin America are focused on Bolivia. They range from agrarian reform, rural-urban migration, small-scale enterprises, economic crises, and ethnic identity to changes in ritual practices and the life histories of Aymara artists, intellectuals and politicians. His the author and co-author (with Judith-Maria Buechler and others) of several books on these topics.

Buechler, Simone (simone.buechler@gmail.com) is an assistant professor in Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She was a post-doctoral fellow with the Committee on Global Thought at Columbia University after finishing an assistant professor/faculty fellowship in the Metropolitan Studies Program at New York University. Her two research foci are: Brazilian immigrants and the current global economic crisis and the impact of economic globalization on low-income women’s employment in São Paulo, Brazil.

Burdick, John (jsburdic@syr.edu) is Professor of Anthropology at Syracuse University. He is author of Looking for God in Brazil: The Progressive Catholic Church in Urban Brazil’s Religious Arena (California, 1993), Blessed Anastacia: Women, Race and Popular Christianity in Brazil (Routledge, 1998), and Legacies of Liberation: The Progressive Catholic Church in Brazil at the Start of a New Millennium (Ashgate, 2004). He is editor, with Ted Hewitt, of The Church at the Grassroots: The Popular Catholic Church in Latin America (Greenwood, 2000), and, with Kenneth Roberts and Philip Oxhorn, of Beyond Neoliberalism in Latin America (Palgarve Macmillan, 2009).

Burga, Hector Fernando (hfburga@berkeley.edu) was born in Lima Peru and currently resides in Miami Florida, where he conducts fieldwork for his PhD Dissertation. He is a doctoral candidate in the department of Ccity and Regional Planning at UC Berkeley and holds a dual
masters degree in town planning and architecture from the University of Miami. An architect and urban designer by professional training and an urban ethnographer by methodological emphasis, he is interested in the contradictions inherent to both the theorization of public space and the deployment of professional place-making practices in a rapidly globalizing city like Miami. These interrogations are framed by an understanding of critical urban theory, ethnographic methods and professional design practice.

Carlino, Ian (ibcarlin@syr.edu) was born and raised in Buffalo, N.Y., where he attended Kenmore West High School. He is currently a freshman at Syracuse University, majoring in magazine journalism, and plans on also studying French and political science.

Carter Grosso, Erika (ercarter@syr.edu) is a second year PhD student in the Social Science Program. Her main interest lies in the area of Latin American and Caribbean migration.

Castillo, Debra A. (dac9@cornell.edu) is Stephen H. Weiss Presidential Fellow, Emerson Hinchliff Professor of Hispanic Studies, and Professor of Comparative Literature at Cornell University. She is also director of the Latin American Studies Program. She specializes in contemporary narrative from the Spanish-speaking world (including the United States), gender studies, and cultural theory Her most recent books are Re-dreaming America and the forthcoming Cartographies of Affect: Across Borders in South Asia and the Americas.

Cavino, Hayley Marama (hcavino@syr.edu) is of Maori (Ngati Tuwharetoa, Te Arawa) and British ancestry, holds a Masters of Social Science (Hons, 1st Class) in Community Psychology from the University of Waikato, Aotearoa/New Zealand, and is currently an Adjunct Instructor and Doctoral Student at Syracuse University (Cultural Foundations of Education). Her current research and activism preoccupations include: knowledge production, indigenous and transnational identities, diaspora, education and indigenous peoples, environmental and social justice, nationalism and post/neo/coloniality, rural/urban migration, and indigenous feminisms.

Cavo, Phil (pjcavo@syr.edu) is a graduate student and TA pursuing a degree in Spanish Language, Literature and Culture. He is currently participating in an independent study with Dr. Ticio in early Spanish-English bilingual acquisition, a subject which holds particular interest to him because his wife, Mariela, is a native Spanish speaker and in the future the two hope to raise their children in a bilingual environment. He attended Siena College as an undergraduate where he studied Spanish and English.

Cleary, Matt (macleary@syr.edu) is an assistant professor of political science in The Maxwell School. He teaches courses on Latin American politics, and writes on elections, democracy, and indigenous politics in the region, with a focus on Mexico.

de Alcantara, Maria (marialcantara@mac.com) is a teacher at University of Sao Paulo in the Pathology Department: responsible for the medical Anthropology and Indigenous health and work since 1999 with the youth indigenous people, mainly about suicide.

DeJesús, Susana C. (dr_sdejesus@hotmail.com) Assistant Professor and Coordinator of Educational Leadership at the University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras, in the Faculty of
Education, focuses her research on Multi-lingual/Multi-cultural communities, especially in the Caribbean; School Leadership for the academic improvement of marginalized students; and Effective Language Acquisition programs, especially Dual Language (Spanish and English) and multi-language programs. Prior to teaching at the UPR, she was on the Graduate Faculty of the Bank Street College of Education, in NYC, and she is actively involved in the field as an Educational Consultant, Program Developer and Evaluator. She has been a peer reviewer and monitor for numerous US Department of Education programs, including FIPSE, OBEMLA (Title VII) OLEA (NCLB) and Head Start. Dr. DeJesús earned a doctorate Columbia University Teachers College in Educational Policy (Department of Administration and Supervision) and holds a Masters Degree from New York University in TESOL.

Depetris Chauvin, Irene (id46@cornell.edu) is a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Romance Studies at Cornell University and is currently writing a dissertation on youth and market culture in contemporary Latin American narrative and cinema. Before coming to the United States, she did a B.A and M.A. in History at the Universities of Buenos Aires and La Plata. Besides her specialization on the intersections between contemporary literature and cinema, she is also interested in theories of music. She has published articles on Spanish and Latin American cinema in books and specialized journals in Argentina and the United States.

Dixon, Kwame (dldixon@syr.edu) is an Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Syracuse University. His primary research is focused on Afro Latin America and the Caribbean. He is interested in the social construction of racial categories; how racial and gender discrimination intersect to create particular forms of discrimination that lead to human rights violations; and the ways in which Afro-Latin Americans and other Black Diasporic communities create alternative forms of political participation in order to expand the narrow parameters of democracy in the Americas.

Doña-Reveco, Cristián (cristian.dona@gmail.com) Bachelor and Professional degree in Sociology (2002), Universidad de Chile, Master in Political Sciences and International Relations (2007), Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, MA in Sociology (2007), Michigan State University (MSU); Doctoral Candidate in Sociology and History at MSU. I have received a Fulbright-Conicyt Fellowship (2005-2009) and an Interdisciplinary Inquiry and Teaching Fellow (2009-2010) at James Madison College and MSU. My current research intersects history and biography in the decision to migrate of post World War II Southern Cone migrants in the United States from a perspective that incorporates world-systems, Schutz's life-world, biography and memory.

Doran, Joanna M.S.W. (joannad@berkeley.edu) is a doctoral student in U.C. Berkeley’s School of Social Welfare, with a focus on immigration and the welfare states. She is currently focused on evaluating the effect of nativity on participation in asset building programs.

Doval, Elin C. (ecdoval@udel.edu) is currently an Assistant Professor in the School of Business at Virginia State University and she is also the Principal Investigator/ Research Coordinator of the Employment Project at the Center for Disabilities Studies at the University of Delaware. She has presented at state, national, and international conferences on Self-Determination, Transition,
Universal Design, Person-Centered Practices and Autism, and has fifteen peer reviewed presentations. Dr. Cortijo-Doval currently serves on the Governor of Virginia Latino Advisory Board and is a member of the Virginia Latino Higher Education Network.

**Dudley, Mary Jo** ([farmworkers@cornell.edu](mailto:farmworkers@cornell.edu)) is the Director of the Cornell Farmworker Program and a faculty member in the Department of Development Sociology. She is bilingual and has numerous years of experience of working with issues related to Latin American- US relations and migration. She is currently involved in research that explores farmworkers’ perceptions of their lives in New York State. Her research examines the factors that motivate farmworkers to leave their home communities, their views on their journey to where they are currently employed, how they view their social and economic contributions in NYS as well as in their home communities, and what they envision for their future. Her publications include: New Yorkers Support Legalization of Undocumented Farmworkers, NYS Residents Report Positive Impact of Undocumented Farmworkers, Driver’s Licenses for Undocumented Immigrants: Policy Considerations for New York State; the Farmworker Women’s Equity Study, a national research effort that explored farmworker women’s goals and aspirations; and *Transforming Cultures in the Americas*, a book that explores how various Latin American communities experience the immigration process to the US.

Currently she is coordinating a Cornell-based interdisciplinary research effort to address farmworkers’ needs in the areas of immigration, farmworker health, housing, employment, language training and efforts to facilitate farmworker access to programs throughout New York State. As part of the program, she has also developed a funded internship program for Cornell students to work with local organizations to address farmworkers needs.

**Durand, Jorge** ([jdurand@princeton.edu](mailto:jdurand@princeton.edu)) is Professor of Anthropology at the Universidad de Guadalajara. He is, along with Douglas Massey, the co-director of the Mexican Migration Project and the Latin American Migration Project. He is the author of over 30 books and monographs including the most recent *Beyond Smoke and Mirrors: Mexican Immigration in an Age of Economic Integration* (with Douglas S. Massey and Nolan J. Malone, 2002) and *Crossing the Border: Research from the Mexican Migration Project* (with Massey, 2004). He is also the author of numerous articles (including over 30 articles on the Mexican Migration Project). He is an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (AAAS) as well as a foreign associate member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) and a member of the Academia Mexicana de Ciencias. He has received numerous awards and honors including both Guggenheim and Fulbright Fellowships.

**Ebner, Jayne** ([jebner@syr.edu](mailto:jebner@syr.edu)) is a graduate student in the 2010 PLACA Seminar.

**Garcia, Alejandro** Ph.D. ([agarcia@syr.edu](mailto:agarcia@syr.edu)) is a Professor in the School of Social Work in the College of Human Ecology, where he specializes in social policy and aging issues. He is the co-editor of three books on aging and HIV/AIDS and vulnerable youth, as well as the author of many articles on aging, human diversity, and social policy. He is an elected Fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and member of the National Academy of Social Insurance,
among other national leadership positions. Dr. Garcia is the son of immigrant parents from Mexico.

**García-Calderón, Myrna** ([mygarcia@syr.edu](mailto:mygarcia@syr.edu)) is Assistant Professor of Latin American and Caribbean Literatures and Cultures in the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Linguistics at Syracuse University. She has published articles on women writers, urban imaginaries, Latino writers, and Hispanic Caribbean culture. She is the author of *Lecturas desde el fragmento. Literatura e imaginario cultural en Puerto Rico*.

**Gerhard, Timothy** ([Timothy.Gerhard@cortland.edu](mailto:Timothy.Gerhard@cortland.edu)) is an Assistant Professor of French and Spanish since 2002 at SUNY Cortland. I have published several articles on aspects of transnationalism in the Francophone sphere, two of which are comparative in nature and study Latin America/Latino culture. I am also currently doing research relating to Francophone song and look forward in the coming year to doing research work on immigration films and Latino music.

**Gil-García, Óscar F.** ([gil@umail.ucsb.edu](mailto:gil@umail.ucsb.edu)) conducted dissertation field work as a Research Fellow at the Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social, Chiapas, México, where he conducted research on Guatemalan forced migration. He has presented findings at the Irmgard Coninx Foundation, Berlin; the International EUROFOR Marie-Curie Conference on Politics of Exclusion and Return, Budapest; International Conference on Technology, Knowledge & Society, McGill University, Montréal; and at many other international and national professional meetings. Óscar is a recipient of the UC President’s Dissertation Fellowship, and has worked as a Fellow at various research institutes investigating refugee studies, most recently at the Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford.

**Gillam, Reighan** ([rag47@cornell.edu](mailto:rag47@cornell.edu)) is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Anthropology at Cornell University. She is currently working on her dissertation entitled *The Revolution Will Be Televised: Afro-Brazilian Media Producers in São Paulo, Brazil*. Her dissertation examines Afro-Brazilian media professionals’ attempts to racially diversify televisual content through the development and creation of a Black television network called TV da Gente (Our TV).

**Green, Cecilia** ([cagree01@syr.edu](mailto:cagree01@syr.edu)) an Associate Professor in the Department of Sociology, The Maxwell School, Syracuse University. She works on the historical sociology of race, class, gender, and sexuality in the English-speaking Caribbean, as well as on theories and practices of colonialism, development, and globalization.

**Hechler, Ryan** ([hechlerrs@vcu.edu](mailto:hechlerrs@vcu.edu)) graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) with dual bachelor’s degrees in History and Art History. He is currently a post-baccalaureate graduate certificate student of Geographic Information Systems at VCU. His primary research interests are the historic processes of rationalizing race and identity in the Americas. He has delivered presentations about various colonial governmental institutionalizings of racism at conferences nationally and internationally, the most recent having been at the 2009 American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting.
Hiemstra, Nancy Ann (nahiemst@syr.edu) is a PhD candidate in the Department of Geography at Syracuse University. Her focus is on the political geography of immigration from Latin America to the U.S., the role of policy in daily life, and how conceptualizations of national borders are changing in the contemporary security context.

Kattau, Colleen (Colleen.Kattau@cortland.edu) is Associate Professor of Spanish at SUNY Cortland where she teaches Latin American culture and literature. She is also a social change musician in the nueva canción tradition.

Kim, Tesia (tgkim01@syr.edu) is an undergraduate student in Honors 100, section 007.

LaFevers, Cory L. (cilafeve@syr.edu) is a MA Candidate in Pan African Studies program of the department of African American Studies at SU. His research interests include Afro-Diasporic music in the Americas and its role within identity and social movements. Cory also serves as a 2009-2010 Graduate Student Representative for PLACA.

Levin, Christina (chlevin@syr.edu) is an undergraduate sophomore from Ukraine, double majoring in Political Science and Sociology here at Syracuse University. She hopes to also obtain a degree in Newspaper Journalism, if accepted to Newhouse by next semester, to fulfill her lifelong ambition of writing for a major publication one day and incorporating her political focus and sociological eye into her writing.

Lopez, Dr. Alfredo (alfredolopezmd@yahoo.com) is the Medical Director of the Maternal Child Health Center at St. Joseph's Hospital. He is also a former migrant worker.

Lutz, Amy (aclutz@maxwell.syr.edu) is an Assistant Professor of Sociology in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. Her interests are in immigration, language, and educational inequalities.

Macia-Vergara, Laura (laura.macia@gmail.com) is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pittsburgh, and earned a Masters degree in Anthropology from the Universidad de los Andes (Colombia). She is completing her doctoral dissertation on the resources for managing conflict and dispute available to Latino immigrants in Southwestern Pennsylvania. In her native country of Colombia she is a lawyer with an option degree in Mathematics.

Malabanan, Rodolph John Santander (rsmalaba@syr.edu) is a graduate student in the 2010 PLACA seminar.

Malloy, Carolyn (malloy@siena.edu) is a professor of Spanish at Siena College where she teaches courses in language, literature and culture. Her interests are Latin American narrative and theatre, and she has presented papers at conferences and published articles on both.

Malpica, Daniel Melero (daniel.malpica@sonoma.edu) is Assistant Professor in the Department of Chicano and Latino Studies, at Sonoma State University. He received his Ph.D in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles. He has taught at Whittier College, Pomona College and Pitzer College. His research interests include immigration, race and ethnic relations,
Latino Studies, and urban sociology. His dissertation work focused on how social networks and social capital influence the incorporation of indigenous Mexicans migrants into the United States.

**Marcus, Alan Patrick** (amarcus@towson.edu) was born and grew up in Brazil, received his Ph.D. at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst (in Geosciences) now is living in Towson, Maryland, USA. A broadly trained geographer, with a wide-ranging inter-disciplinary academic background, and regional expertise in Brazil. Specialization areas include Brazilian transnational migration processes to the U.S., race and ethnicity, identity, territory, and the impact of immigration on global and urban landscapes.

**Martinez, Victoria** (martinev@union.edu) is a professor of Spanish at Union College where she teaches courses in language and literature. She has published books and articles on Argentine authors, and more recently on literature of the Mexican border with the United States. She regularly conducts a three-week mini-term with Union College students along the Mexican American border and this presentation and her current research stem from this experience.

**McKinley, Lyn** (lamckinley@miners.utep.edu) I am a graduate student in education at the University of Texas at El Paso, located on the border with Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico. I am a candidate for a Master of Arts degree in Education and am currently beginning my thesis study. I met the informants as their tutor last semester. We are continuing to study English together this semester.

**Montes, Veronica** (veronicamontes@u mail.ucsb.edu) I’m a fifth year graduate student at the sociology department, my research area inclue: globalization, migration and gender, and political economic in Latinoamerica, my MA thesis entitled Separate Yet Struggling to be Together: Transnational Migration and its Contradictory Impacts on Family Structure in a Guatemalan Village, describes the impact of transnational migration on family dynamics in a rural village in Guatemala, in relation to the receiving location of California. Drawing on a multifaceted methodology that combines collection of original data from participant observation, sixteen in-depth interviews, and analysis of secondary sources, I explore how family members define and negotiate family roles, gender identities, and family relationships, given the family’s transnational configuration.

**Nezirevic, Erma** (erman@uoregon.edu) I am a Master's student in Spanish Literature at the University of Oregon, and I hold a Graduate Teaching Fellowship there. I obtained a double BA from Boise State University in Spanish and Social Science in 2008. My research interests are gender, immigration, and 20th century Mexican fiction.

**Ocampo, Orlando** (ocampo@lemoyne.edu) has a Licenciatura in English and History from the Universidad Nacional de Tucumán in Argentina and a Masters of Comparative Literature and PhD in Romance Languages from the University of Chicago. He is Associate Professor and Foreign Language Chair at Le Moyne College.

**Ortiz Galarza, Mayra Lizeth** is a native of Ciudad Juarez. Ms. Ortiz is enrolled in the doctoral program in Teaching, Learning, and Culture at the University of Texas at El Paso, (UTEP), in El
Paso, Texas. She holds a bachelor’s degree in manufacturing engineering and a master’s degree in mathematics education. Her current research interests include how transnational Mexican children are using funds of knowledge in their development in dual-language classrooms.

**Pérez-Armendáriz, Clarisa** ([eperezar@bates.edu](mailto:eperezar@bates.edu)) is an Assistant Professor of Politics at Bates College. She recently received her Ph.D from University of Texas at Austin. Her research interests include migrant transnationalism, political behavior, and the comparative politics of Latin American—particularly Mexico. Clarisa also enjoys running and creative writing.

**Perreault, Tom** ([taperrea@maxwell.syr.edu](mailto:taperrea@maxwell.syr.edu)) is an environmental geographer with research interests in resource politics, social movements and environmental governance in the Andean region. His newest project is focused on mine-related water contamination on the Bolivian Altiplano, and its implications for livelihoods and political mobilization among indigenous/campesino communities.

**Pughe, Shana R** ([srpughe@syr.edu](mailto:srpughe@syr.edu)) is a Graduate student at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs pursuing a Master of Arts in International Relations, with a focus on foreign policy, transnational organizations and migration. This summer Ms. Pughe will intern for the International Organization for Migration organized through the SU Abroad Geneva Program and will finish up her course work as an intern with the US State Departments Burea of Refugees Population and Migration in Washington DC during the fall semester.

**Rainbow, Michael** ([mlrainbo@syr.edu](mailto:mlrainbo@syr.edu)) is from Cazenovia, NY. He is an undergraduate studying Finance in the Whitman School of Management.

**Rector, Patricia** ([RectorP@upstate.edu](mailto:RectorP@upstate.edu)) has been engaged in civil and human rights work for more than four decades. She co-founded the Upstate New York Detention Task Force, serves on the board of the New York Immigration Coalition, and is employed as director of outreach for the Occupational Health Clinical Center, Department of Family Medicine, Upstate Medical University. She has a special interest in the rights of low-wage and immigrant workers.

**Reid, Samantha Eyler** ([S.E.Reid@lse.ac.uk](mailto:S.E.Reid@lse.ac.uk)) was born in the U.S., where she completed a BA in Political Science and History at Kentucky Wesleyan College in 2007. Following a stint as an activist for undocumented migrants in Las Vegas and a human rights delegate in Venezuela in 2008, Samantha moved to London to complete her MSc in Comparative Politics (Latin America) at the London School of Economics Department of Government in 2009. Her research interests include immigration theory and policy in developed states, and the political economies of Mexico, Venezuela, and Brazil. She lives in South London with her adopted dog, Jinx.

**Ríos, Alicia** ([abrios@syr.edu](mailto:abrios@syr.edu)) Associate Professor of Spanish at Syracuse University. Co-editor of *The Latin American Cultural Studies Reader*, Duke University Press. Currently she is finishing a book entitled *El culto a Bolívar y los nacionalismos*.

**Rivera Montes, Zorimar** ([zorimar_rí@hotmail.com](mailto:zorimar_rí@hotmail.com)) Originally from the small town of Arroyo, Puerto Rico, Zorimar Rivera Montes is currently a graduate student of the Literature program at the English Department in the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, concentrating on
20th century American and Caribbean literature. She holds a B.A. in History of the Americas from the same institution. Her areas of study concentrate on the study of literature from a historical perspective, popular culture, and comparative studies between the United States and the Caribbean.

Robertson, David (derober0@syr.edu) is a full-time employee at Syracuse University as well as a part-time graduate student in the Social Science Ph.D. Program within the Maxwell School. His research investigates New York State Mexican migrant farmworkers and their formal and informal remittance behavior within the diaspora as well as their charitable contributions offered back to their ancestral homeland.

Rosario, Eric, Hon. (erosario@cityofithaca.org) was born to Puerto Rican parents in Brooklyn, New York. He came to Ithaca to study at Cornell University, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in History. In 2007, Eric became the first Latino to be elected to the City of Ithaca’s Common Council. He represents the City’s 2nd Ward and serves as Chair of the Capital Planning Committee as well as Vice Chair of the Economic Development and Planning Committee. Eric is the primary author of a resolution reaffirming the City’s appreciation of its immigrants and urging Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform. His resolution passed with a unanimous vote by Common Council in February 2010, giving Ithaca a public and national leadership role on behalf of comprehensive immigration reform. Eric is also the cofounder of the award-winning Latino Civic Association of Tompkins County. His work for greater public inclusion and accountability from Ithaca’s local democratic institutions has inspired coursework in Cornell University’s Latino Studies Program’s “Latino/a Latin American Cities” class taught by Prof. Arturo Sanchez.

Rozanova, Marya (marya.rozanova@yahoo.com) is an Associate Professor at Admiral Makarov State Maritime Academy (St. Petersburg, Russia), and currently a Galina Starovoitova Fellow on Human Rights and Conflict Resolutions at the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington, D.C. Since 2007, she has headed a St. Petersburg Non-Governmental Organization called the Center for Civil, Social, Scientific and Cultural Initiatives "STRATEGIA" that specializes in a wide variety of issues related to youth policy, xenophobia prevention, youth conflict resolution, migration processes, and migrant integration in contemporary Russia (see http://www.org-strategia.org for more information).

Ms. Rozanova holds a philosophy degree from St. Petersburg State University, a law degree from the North-West Academy of Public Administration, and a Ph.D from St. Petersburg State University.

Her last book - Identities in the Era of Global Migrations (St. Petersburg, 2010), written with co-author Sergey Akopov - was devoted to identity changes in a globalized world and migration processes in contemporary Russia.

Russom, Perry (parussom@syr.edu) is a freshman in the Honors Program at Syracuse University majoring in political science. Along with working for CBS’s affiliate KYW Newsradio 1060AM-Philadelphia, he is a reporter for CitrusTV as well as an on-air personality for Z-89 Radio on campus.
Silva, Jorge A (jas755@cornell.edu) is a Chicago native who is currently studying Government and Theatre with a concentration in Latin American Studies at Cornell University. After studying at St. Paul's School in Concord, NH, he moved to Lake Forest College in Lake Forest, IL where he continued his fascination with Political Science and Theatre. Upon transferring to Cornell this past fall, he began to concentrate his fields towards Latin American politics and arts with groups like Teatro Taller. As the son of a Bolivian immigrant and Mexican immigrant, Jorge is very proud to have this opportunity and would like to thank everyone at PLACA.

Suárez Avila, Paola (paolasuarez@berkeley.edu ; caraxola@gmail.com) is professor of History at UNAM, current student of Ph.D in Social Anthropology in CIESAS (Mexico City) and Visiting Scholar in the Institute of Governmental Studies at University of California in Berkeley (Fall 2008- Fall 2010). She is a graduate of UNAM (B.A. in History, 2004) and CIESAS (Master in Social Anthropology, 2007). Her research is about Mexican and Latinos’ organizations in the Bay of San Francisco and Culture in the Border US-Mexico. Topics: Civil Society, Immigration, Culturalism and Globalization.

Ticio Quesada, Maria Emma (mticioqu@syr.edu) holds a Ph.D. in Linguistics from the University of Connecticut and an A.B.D. in Theoretical Linguistics and First Language Acquisition from the University Complutense of Madrid, Spain. Dr. Ticio’s research areas are syntax, semantics, and first language acquisition. Her main line of research has focused on the structure of nominal structures in Romance languages and particularly in Spanish, and has led to several papers and conferences on the topic and to a research monograph.

Torres-Saillant, Silvio (saillant@syr.edu) Professor of English and William P. Tolley Distinguished Professor in the Humanities, is former head of the Latino-Latin American Studies Program. His teaching, research, and publication interests include Caribbean literatures and cultures, intellectual history, the Latino experience, diasporic communities, and migrations. He is Associate Editor of LATINO STUDIES and one of the Senior Editors of THE OXFORD ENCYCLOPEDIA OF LATINOS AND LATINAS IN THE UNITED STATES. His publications include AN INTELLECTUAL HISTORY OF THE CARIBBEAN, EL RETORNO DE LAS YOLAS, CARIBBEAN POETICS, THE DOMINICAN AMERICANS (co-authored), and volume IV of RECOVERING THE US HISPANIC LITERARY HERITAGE (co-edited).

Tovar Restrepo, Marcela (mtovar1967@yahoo.com) is currently the acting Director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program at Queens College (CUNY) and also teaches at the Anthropology Department in the same college. She has taught in Colombia and Chile and conducts research on ethnicity, gender and development in Latin America.

Urrutia, Julio (igurruti@gmail.com) was born and raised in Syracuse, NY. At the age of 17, he became involved in state and local politics working on various campaigns in the Syracuse area and around the state. Julio earned his degree in International Relations from SU’s Maxwell School in 2008. Since graduation, Julio has been working as a community organizer with the Alliance of Communities Transforming Syracuse. Julio is deeply passionate about finding ways for the university and broader Central New York community to work collaboratively.
Ward, Francis (fward@syr.edu) has taught journalism at the Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University for 19 years. Before coming to Newhouse, Ward worked as a reporter for Ebony and Jet Magazines, the Los Angeles Times (Midwest Bureau in Chicago) and the Miami Herald.

Whittingham, Georgina J. (georgina.whittingham@oswego.edu) Ph.D, Rutgers University, MA, Stanford University. She is Professor of Spanish Language and Latin American Literature at SUNY, Oswego, and has published articles on Latin American Theatre, Poetry and Narrative and a book titled Gilberto Owen and the Crisis of Poetic Language. Her research interests include the exploration of verbal and visual representation in Contemporary Mexican Literature.

Winders, Jamie (jwinders@maxwell.syr.edu) is an Assistant Professor of Geography in the Maxwell School at Syracuse University. Her research focuses on racial formations/politics, migration, urban geographies, and cultural belonging. Much of her work examines Latino migration to southern U.S. cities, especially Nashville, where she has conducted ethnographic research on transitioning worksites, neighborhoods, and public schools across the city. She is currently working on a book about this Nashville research, as well as a new project on neoliberal globalization, social reproduction, and immigration with Barbara Ellen Smith.

Wintermantel, Gretchen (gswinter@syr.edu) holds a bachelor’s degree in Spanish Language, Literature and Culture from Syracuse University. She is currently working on a Master’s degree here in the same field and instructing language classes as a TA. This semester she is pursuing an area of special interest in linguistics by taking part in a research project on early Spanish-English bilingual acquisition with Dr. Ticio. After completing her Master’s program, Gretchen plans to continue teaching Spanish and staying involved in the bilingual community in Syracuse.

Wise, Nicholas (nwise5@kent.edu) a Ph.D. Student in the Department of Geography at Kent State University. The paper he is presenting is a part of a larger project on conceptually locating of place of Argentina among the core rugby playing nations. He is completing this work in association with John Harris at Kent State University. His interests include sports landscapes, identity, and community, specifically considering how these tie in with the makings of place.