



NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

UConn

EL INSTITUTO

INSTITUTE OF LATINA/O,
CARIBBEAN, AND LATIN
AMERICAN STUDIES

NECLAS 2024 ANNUAL MEETING

(In)visible Immigrants of Latin America: Refugees, Migrants, and Mobility

November 8-9, 2024

University of Connecticut
Werth Residential Tower
2378 Alumni Drive
Storrs, CT 06269

Joy Renjilian-Burgy In Memoriam

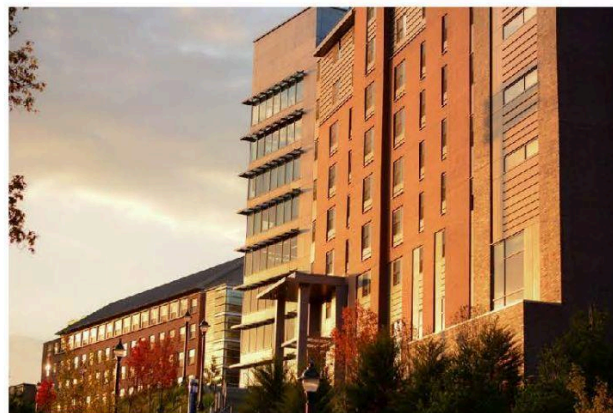
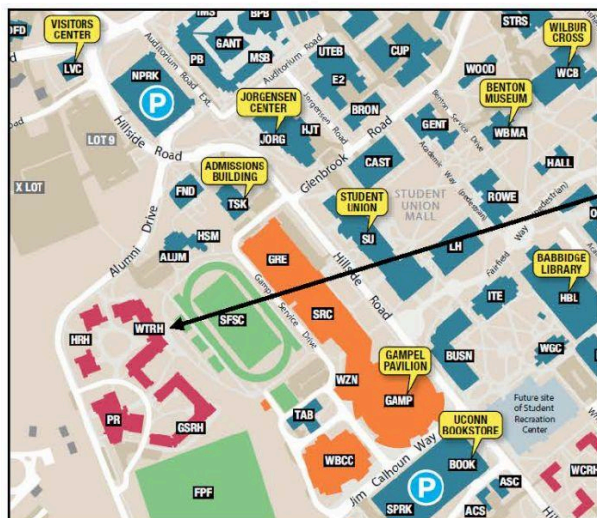
On January 14, 2024, NECLAS lost one of its most active and longest-serving leaders with the death of Joy Renjilian-Burgy, who was an Associate Professor Emerita of Spanish at Wellesley College. For more than 40 years, Joy taught Spanish language and Latin American and Latino literature and culture at Wellesley, where she also served for many years as Co-Director of Latin American Studies. Over the course of her career, Joy won numerous prizes for her teaching--from the 1981 Massachusetts Spanish Teacher of the Year Award of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, to the 2017 "Orden de la Cruz de Isabel la Católica," one of the highest civilian honors awarded by the Spanish government for individuals fostering the study of Spanish language and culture. We believe her service to NECLAS began sometime in the late 1970s, when she won election to the Executive Committee for the first time. NECLAS records show, however, that by 2001-2, she had served on the Executive Committee long enough and valuably enough to be elected as Vice President and President Elect in 2002-3 and President in 2003-4. Thereafter she became an active Ex-Officio member of the Executive Committee, during which period she frequently chaired one of the prize committees.

As ex officio Executive Committee member Ken Erickson recently put it: "Joy was a good friend to many scholars of Latin American Studies and a treasure for NECLAS. I have very fond memories of her commitment to and respect for her colleagues and her students. They returned that respect and appreciation for her as can be seen in the many warm memories and comments posted on the Wellesley website and memorial websites. I will always have warm feelings toward her for her friendship and for her service to others."

Ex officio Executive Committee Member Gina Canepa recalls that Joy welcomed her warmly to Wellesley in September of 1992, when Gina arrived as a visiting professor and helped her and her family to integrate into the local community. She also shared that Joy's family history contributed to her love for Cuban and Hispanic Caribbean literature. As Gina commented, Joy's "great-grandparents were killed in the Armenian Genocide. Her parents settled in Cuba before establishing themselves in the United States. Joy always kept an affecting relationship to Cuba and to the Hispanic Caribbean in general. Joy always worked for NECLAS with loyalty and commitment."

Rest in peace, Joy. All of us at NECLAS will miss your wisdom and your collegiality.

Directions to UConn: Peter J. Werth Residence Tower (Previously Next Generation Connecticut Hall)



From North Campus <i>(North Parking Garage, Lodewick's Visitor Center)</i>	From Center of Campus <i>(Homer Babbidge Library, Student Union)</i>	From South Campus <i>(South Parking Garage, Bookstore, Gampel Pavilion)</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Visitor's Center or the North Parking Garage, walk along Hillside Road until you reach Alumni Drive • Turn right onto Alumni Drive and walk up the hill • You will see Werth Tower on your left after the Alumni Center (gray building) • Cut through the Alumni Center driveway and head up the stairs to the building; or, to avoid stairs, continue up Alumni Drive and take a left into walkway that leads to back entrance of Werth Tower 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From the Student Union, cross Hillside Road heading towards the Rec Center • Walk through the Ticket Office door to the left of the Rec Center • Walk the hallway until you exit the back of the building • Head towards the track and walk alongside the left of the track until you reach a cement walkway • Follow the cement walkway up the hill and Werth Tower will be on your left 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • From Jim Calhoun Way, walk down the road in between Gampel Pavilion and the Werth Basketball Center • This road will bring you to a small parking lot leading to a track • Turn left and walk alongside the track until you reach a walkway • Follow the cement walkway up the hill and Werth Tower will be on your left
<p>Driving Directors to Campus: http://admissions.uconn.edu/visit/storrs/directions</p> <p>Park: North or South Parking Garage (P on above map)</p> <p>Werth Tower GPS Address: 2378 Alumni Drive, Storrs, CT 06269</p> <p>NextGen Forum: Room 112, NextGen Idea Lab: Room 113, Learning Community Office Suite: Room 114 Learning Community Innovation Zone (LCIZ): Room 014</p>		

Parking at UConn

UConn parking is by permit or payment for hourly parking ONLY Monday through Friday from 7 AM to 5 PM. On weekends and on weekdays after 5:00 pm, parking is available in most employee and student commuter lots without permit or payment.

BE CAREFUL, some lots require permits 24/7, so be sure to check the ***signs***.

Limited free parking on Saturday, November 9: The faculty/staff lot in front of Werth Residential Tower (2378 Alumni Drive, Storrs, CT 06269) and D Lot which is further down Alumni Drive at the corner of Calhoun Way.

Paid visitor parking at North Garage on Friday and Saturday: 103 North Eagleville Road, Storrs CT 06269

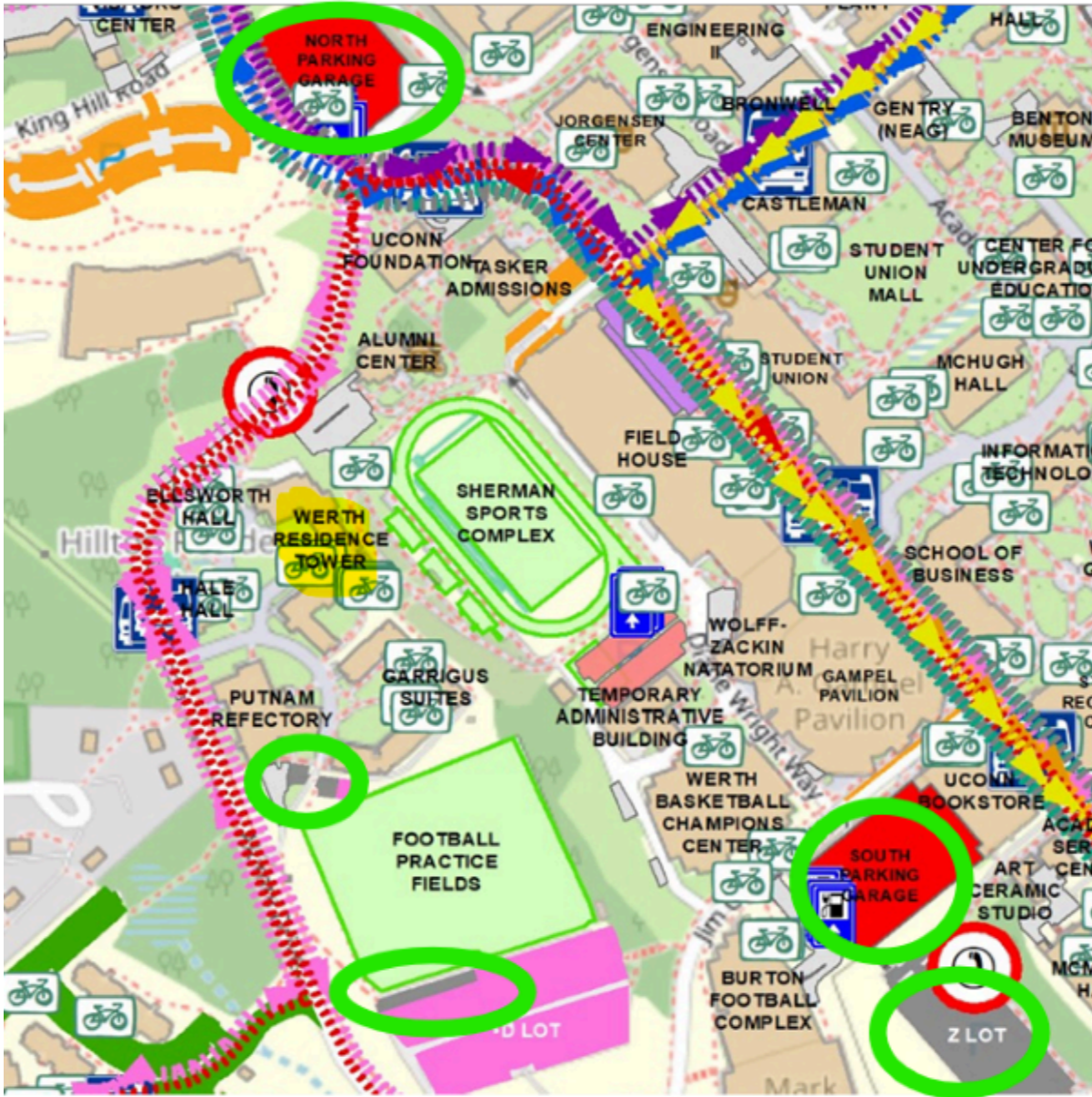
North Garage *Daily Parking Fee Schedule*

Session length	<i>Rate Per Hour</i>
Hour 1 – 3	\$2.00/hour
Hour 4 – 19	\$1.50/hour
7 Hours	\$12.00

Interactive parking map to the program: [PDF Parking Map – UConn Storrs.pdf](#)

This map contains circles around the best parking areas for NECLAS participants.

Again, be careful, as not all parking at UCONN is free! **Pay attention to the signs!**



Computer Access at UConn

There are two methods of connecting to the internet at UConn: Eduroam and UConn Guest. See below for further information:

via eduroam

[eduroam](#) is a secure wireless network that gives students, faculty, and staff from UConn and other participating academic institutions encrypted access to the wireless network (Wi-Fi) at UConn and at other participating institutions.

For a list of members, visit: [Eduroam Community Organizations](#).

How to connect

To connect to the internet, **visitors** to UConn should use eduroam, with your home institution credentials.

1. On your device, go to Wi-Fi settings.
2. Select the eduroam network.
3. When prompted, enter:
 1. **Username:** Your institutional email address, ex. username@homeinstitution.edu
 2. **Password:** Your institutional email password

You have connected to eduroam and can access the internet while on the UConn campus.

Technical Information

- **Security Type:** WPA2-Enterprise
- **Encryption Type:** AES
- **EAP Type:** Protected EAP (PEAP)

UConn-GUEST

UConn-GUEST is a non-encrypted, non-secure wireless service for Internet access by visitors to UConn who do not have NetID credentials or access to eduroam via credentials with their home institution. It does not require NetID credentials to log in. Instead, users must accept the acceptable use policy, which automatically loads in the device's Web browser upon connecting to UConn-GUEST or browsing to a website. This connection resets every few hours.

FTP, BitTorrent, and SMTP protocols are blocked on UConn-GUEST.
You may need to connect your wireless device to UConn-GUEST.

Connect Your Device

macOS

1. Click on the **network icon** located to the top right of the main desktop page.
2. You will find *UConn-GUEST* on the available network list. Select **UConn-GUEST** and click **Join**.
3. A new screen will appear asking you to agree to the terms of the network. Select **Yes, I Agree**, and you will automatically be connected to the network.

Windows

1. Select the **wireless connection icon** located to the bottom right of the taskbar.
2. From the pop-up window, select the **UConn-GUEST** network.
3. Click **Connect**.
4. A pop-up window will appear asking you to agree to the terms of the network.
5. Select **Yes, I Agree**, and you will automatically connect to the network.

Friday, November 8, 2024

3:00pm – 5:00pm Executive Committee Meeting

El Instituto: Institute of Latina/o, Caribbean, and Latin
American Studies, UConn, J. Ray Ryan
Building (JRB), 2006 Hillside Road Unit 1161,
Storrs CT 06269, Room 204
Phone: 860-486-5508

6:00pm – 8:00pm Executive Committee Dinner (by invitation only)

Willimantic Brewing Company, 967 Main St,
Willimantic, CT

Saturday, November 9, 2024

8:00–9:00 AM

Forum/Idea Lab, Werth 112/113

Registration

Continental Breakfast

8:45–9:00 AM Opening Remarks

Forum/Idea Lab, Werth 112/113

Mary Ann Mahony, President, NECLAS

Charles Robert Venator Santiago, Director, El Instituto,
University of Connecticut

Session One: 9:00-10:30 AM

PANEL 1.1: Documenting Gender and (In)visibility in Migrations

Werth 115

Chair: Stephanie Pridgeon, Bates College

Visibilizing Jewish-Indigenous Encounters

Stephanie Pridgeon, Ph.D., Bates College

Uprooted: Social Marginality and Resistance in Paula Markovitch's *El actor principal* (2019)

Inela Selimovic, Ph.D., Wellesley College

Endangered Writers and Displaced Libraries

Erica Durante, Ph.D., Brown University

PANEL 1.2: Voces de la migración/Voices of Migration: From classroom to community to archive

Werth 118

Chair: Aidalí Aponte-Avilés, Ph.D., Trinity College

Aidalí Aponte-Avilés, Ph.D., Trinity College

Christina Bleyer, Trinity College

Erica Crowley, Trinity College

Gabriel Sorondo-Guirola, Trinity College

PANEL 1.3: Narrating, Teaching, and Learning About Migration

Werth 010

Chair: Nayelli Castro-Ramirez, University of Massachusetts, Boston

Alteridad, imaginario social y colonialidad del poder: una agenda teórica interdisciplinaria para estudiar las narrativas sobre la inmigración en las Américas

Jose Manuel Navarro-Conticello, Ph.D., Universidad de Talca, Chile

“Teaching CCSU’s ‘Roots of the Caribbean’ Mural in the Humanities Classroom: Issues of Migration, Mobility, and Refugee Status”

Jessica Rutherford, Ph.D., Central Connecticut State University

Narrating Trauma: Migration Comics by Heritage Learners

Sandra Bernal Heredia, Ph.D., Colby College

PANEL 1.4: Long Term Consequences of Central American Conflicts and Climate Crises

Werth 011

Chair: Lisa Maya Knauer, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

Central America in the Crosshairs: How 1980s Cold War militarism subverted human rights and drove mass immigration to the United States

Scott Wallace, University of Connecticut

Climate Mobility, Disasters, Migrants & Girls’ Education in the Honduran Sula Valley

Sara Pan Algarra, Columbia University

Embodied Violence: Race, Gender, and the Long-Term Consequences of the Guatemalan Armed Conflict

Lisa Maya Knauer, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

Mexicans in Your Town: Histories of Mexican Migration to the United States in Local Television Documentaries.

Rodolfo Fernandez, University of Connecticut and Deborah Jaramillo, Boston University

10:30-11:00 AM

Coffee Break

Session Two: 11:00 AM-12:30 PM

PANEL 2.1: Women's Sex Work, Labor and Health in 19th-20th Century Latin America

Werth 115

Chair: Robert Alegre, Ph.D., University of New England

Crossing Borders, Selling Sex: US Women into Mexicali, Mexico
1913-1922

Erik Bernardino, P.h.D, Bates College

Matchmakers and Madams: From the 19th Century to the Early 20th
Century in Mexico

Ana Almeyda-Cohen, P.h.D, Colby College

Gendered Metaphors: Towards a Transnational History of Female Urban
Professionals in Twentieth-Century Brazil

Cristina Mehrrens, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

Biomedical Bureaucracies, Breastfeeding, and Obstetric Violence in Cuba

Hope Bastian, Ph.D., Wheaton College

Panel 2.2: New Approaches to Translation in Latin American Studies

Chair: Elizabeth Rivero, Coast Guard Academy

Werth, 010

Using AI to Support Equitable Collaboration: Translations in Anthropology

Joyce Bennett, Ph.D., Bates College
Julieta Moreira Reyes, Connecticut College

Tres momentos de traducción en la filosofía latinoamericana
Nayelli Castro-Ramirez, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts Boston

La traducción y las alfabetizaciones múltiples: lecciones desde el uso de la inteligencia artificial

Rocío Fuentes, Ph.D., Central Connecticut State University
Eilyn Lombard Cabrera, Ph.D., Central Connecticut State University

Panel 2.3: Exploring twentieth-century Latin American Film

Werth, 118

Chair: Daniel Chavez Landeros, Ph.D., University of New Hampshire

El Conde de Pablo Larraín: Terror, Horror e Impunidad

Gina Canepa, Ph.D., National Coalition of Independent Scholars

Raúl Ruiz y el cine del retorno a Chile

Ignacio López-Vicuña, Ph.D., University of Vermont

Dark Sorority, the Rise of the Soeur Fatale in Mexican Film Noir 1946-1954

Daniel Chavez Landeros, Ph.D., University of New Hampshire

Panel 2.4: New Voices in Latin American Literature

Werth 011

Chair: Koichi Hagimoto, Ph.D., Wellesley College

A new hybrid of Spanish: reinventing language in the face of violence, displacement, and exile in *Fruit of the Drunken Tree* by Ingrid Rojas Contreras

Tanya Pérez-Brennan, University of Massachusetts Amherst

El giro político de la voz narrativa infanto-juvenil en la *Trilogía de la casa de los conejos* de Laura Alcob

Carolina Añón Suárez, Ph.D., Fairfield University

Afrofuturismo y ciencia ficción en Eddison Montero, artista visual dominicano

Angel Rivera, Ph.D., Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Territorial Aporia: Mapuche Memory and Translation beyond Colonial Logics

Ethan Madreita, Ph.D., Syracuse University

Panel 2.5: Learning In and With Our Communities: Community-Based Learning in the Spanish Curriculum

Werth 012

Chair: Bridget Franco, College of the Holy Cross

Bridget Franco, Ph.D., College of the Holy Cross

Ana Ugarte, Ph.D., College of the Holy Cross

Angel Collazo, College of the Holy Cross, '26

Dayle Cowan, College of the Holy Cross, '25

Ruth Lopez Espinoza, College of the Holy Cross, '25

Miyuki Oblitas, College of the Holy Cross, '27

Jamileisha Trejo, College of the Holy Cross, '27

12:30-2:15 PM

Awards Luncheon

Werth Forum/Idea Lab

Remarks

**NECLAS President Mary Ann Mahony,
Professor of History, Central Connecticut State University**

**Awards: Lisa Maya Knauer, Associate Professor of Anthropology,
University of Massachusetts Dartmouth
Vice President, NECLAS**

Memorial Tribute to Joy Renjilian-Burgy
Gina Canepa, Ph.D, National Association of Independent Scholars
Kenneth Erickson, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus, Hunter College, CUNY

Session 3: 2:20-3:50 PM

Panel 3.1 Narrating women, mobility, and space

Werth 115

Chair: Julia A. Kushigian, Ph.D., Connecticut College

Mujeres en la novela de campus en español

Luis Alberto Rodriguez Cortes, Ph.D., Fairfield University

Migration and Cross-Temporal Mobility in Luiz Ruffato's *O Antigo Futuro*

**Robinson Francisco Alvarado-Vargas, University of Massachusetts
Amherst**

Uncovering Spaces of Immigrant Agency in Javier Zamora's *Solito*.

Esteban Loustaunau, Ph.D., Assumption University

Narrating Women's Roles in the Resilient Apocalypse: Transforming the
End into New Beginnings

Julia A. Kushigian, Ph.D., Connecticut College

**ROUND TABLE 3.2: Understanding and Tackling Wage Theft Among
Latinx Immigrant Workers in New England**

Werth 118

Chair: Camilo Ruiz, Ph.D., University of Connecticut

Nelli Jara, Connecticut Worker Center
Flor Montenegro, Connecticut Worker Center
Karine Pimentel, Naugatuck Valley Project
Jacqueline Bayas, Naugatuck Valley Project
Alexander Kolotronis, Naugatuck Valley Project
Constanza Segovia, Hartford Deportation Defense
Fredy Cardenas Huaman, Hartford Deportation Defense
Carlos Velásquez, Hartford Deportation Defense
Isaí Rodríguez, Hartford Deportation Defense
Urvi Kaul, People's Ethnography Lab
Magda López, People's Ethnography Lab

PANEL 3.3 : Central Connecticut State University Graduate Showcase
Werth 010

Chair: Mary Ann Mahony, Ph.D., Central Connecticut State University

The Three Motherlands: The Japanese-Peruvian Experience During WWII
 and the Consequent Reaction of the US Government

Cynthia Zuniga, Central Connecticut State University

The Borderlands of Hurricane Mitch: The Legacy of Immigrant Pain and
 Resilience in the United States.

Jeferson Garcia, Central Connecticut State University

Is Cacao saving Brazil's Atlantic Forest?

Melody Lozano, Central Connecticut State University

Panel 3.4: The Impact of Pandemic, Natural Disasters, and
Development Strategies on Latin American Travel, Development and
Politics

Werth 011

Chair: Grant Burrier, Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Migration, Diplomacy, and Natural Disaster: San Francisco's Chilean Immigrants and the Valparaíso Earthquake of 1906

Chris Sterba, Ph.D., San Francisco State University

Long-term Impact of COVID-19 on Transit Use in Cusco, Peru

Adrian Frazier, University of Connecticut

Highways to happiness: The Pemex Travel Club, Mexican development and tourism 1950-1960s.

Daniela Dominguez Tavares, Ph.D., University of Connecticut

Populist Rhetoric and Mobilization Strategies in Brazil: A Comparative Discourse Analysis

Grant Burrier, Ph.D., Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Panel 3.5: Good Governance and Migration Policy

Werth, 012

Chair: Kenneth Erickson, Hunter College

Trump, AMLO and the 2024 Elections: Implications of the Tug of War between Strongmen and Rule of Law for U.S.-Mexico Relations

Patricia Olney, Ph.D., Southern Connecticut State University

Is DACA Enough? The Effect of DACA on Young Unauthorized Immigrants

Jessica Lee, Ph.D., College of the Holy Cross

The Venezuelan Exodus to Perú: How Corruption and Misinformation Play a Role in Xenophobia

Gianfranco Beran, Amherst College

Mapping Militancy: Geospatial Analysis of Armed Politics in Cold War Argentina

Jennifer Schaefer, Ph.D., University of Connecticut

4:15-5:30 Reception
Trophy Room
Graduate by Hilton Storrs
855 Bolton Rd, Storrs, CT 06268
Prizes

Marysa Navarro Best Book Prize

Koichi Hagimoto. *Samurai in the Land of Gaucho: Transpacific Modernity and Nikkei Literature in Argentina*. Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 2023.

Koichi Hagimoto's *Samurai in the Land of the Gaucho* is a groundbreaking study of the little known influence of Japanese culture in Argentinean visions of modernity. The text offers a usually unavailable and compelling narrative of transpacific encounters in late nineteenth and twentieth-century Latin America while displaying a masterful exercise of literary analysis across genres and languages. The book not only contributes to discussions and debates in established fields, such as Latin American Studies, Literature and History, among other subjects across the humanities, but also helps to pave a groundbreaking path for Asian Latin American Studies. Through his historical literary approach, Hagimoto brings to the surface a range of empirical and theoretical topics that are relevant in our contemporary world. He offers a rich and new approach to discussions of whiteness and deepens the ways that we understand how hegemonic control is maintained. He also shows how cultural notions of modernity can bring two nations together and smartly details how immigration creates cultural institutions that are central to development.

Honorable Mention

Gabriel Hetland. *Democracy on the Ground: Local Politics in Latin America's Left Turn*. New York: Columbia University Press, 2023.

Gabriel Hetland's *Democracy on the Ground: Local Politics in Latin America's Left Turn* is an exemplary comparative study of the hemispheric challenges to democracy and the region's manifold "left turns" amidst the deepening of neoliberalism. Ethnographic in execution, theoretical in aim, Hetland's work provides a highly readable account of Latin America's political systems, crisis, reforms, and problems. Through his accounts of local politics in Venezuela and Bolivia, Hetland contributes to important empirical, policy-relevant, and theoretical debates about the constraints and possibilities of democracy. His writing shows a deft ability to explain sophisticated ideas in clear, accessible ways.

Joseph T. Criscenti Best Article Prize

Anjuli Fahlberg, Maya Velasquez, Harper Wise and Tori Simon, “Tangential Movements: How feminist organizing against gender-based violence offers an alternative avenue for protesting drug violence in Latin America,” *World Development*, 161 (2023), pp. 106-118.

This engaging and well-researched article elaborates on the relationship between gender-based violence and drug violence. Drawing on a series of cases from Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia and grounded in an impressive theoretical foundation, Fahlberg, Velasquez, Wise and Simon explore how feminist movements provide an alternative and safe path for civil society to organize against drug violence. A key element in these efforts is mobilizing to underscore and address the underlying causes of drug violence. The article is innovative in its scope and careful consideration of the relationship between intergenerational violence and childhood trauma, lack of economic opportunities, patriarchal beliefs and drug violence. Well-written and organized, it offers a nuanced perspective on the impacts of impunity and weak state accountability on urban violence. In times of insecurity and violence, this article is relevant and appealing to both specialists and non-specialists alike. Its thought-provoking findings can offer fascinating insights on the intersection of feminism, activism, citizens’ insecurity, and drug violence. The authors open new avenues of exploration for those interested in empirically examining the unique impacts that feminist movements have on particular cases of drug violence.

D. Scott Palmer Best Edited Book Prize (every two years)

***The Image of the Black in Latin America and Caribbean Art*, edited by David Bindman, Alejandro de la Fuente, and Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Harvard University Press, 2023.**

The two-volume study brings together over a dozen scholars of the Afro-Latin American experience. Smartly organized with essays covering a wide range of topics related to the representation of people of African descent in Latin America, the volumes provide 200 illustrations, including maps, drawings, painting, and more. The volumes will become an indispensable resource for students and scholars studying the history of “the Black” in Latin American and Caribbean art.

Best Dissertation Prize

Joshua Mayer, *Conjuring Territory: Afro-Indigenous Authority and Settler Capitalism in Nicaragua*, Ph.D. Dissertation, University of California at Los Angeles

Joshua Mayer’s *Conjuring Territory: Afro-Indigenous Authority and Settler Capitalism in Nicaragua* combines original research and sound methodology to produce an eminently readable narrative. The dissertation, largely based on 20 months of fieldwork in Nicaragua

among the Rama and Kriol, shows how, in their quest to build an Interoceanic Canal to rival the one in Panama, speculators, cattle ranchers, miners and ultimately, the state under Daniel Ortega perpetuate colonial legacies of exploitation, extraction, and marginalization of these Afro-Caribbean communities. Dynamic contestation lies at the heart of this dissertation, in which Mayer stresses that the Rama and Kriol formed a fundamental alliance against settler colonialism. He explicitly notes the intersectional and fluid nature of identity in these communities, which defies easy categorization and supersedes hegemonic racial identities usually dictated by outsiders. He argues that territoriality is created through long processes of claims and counter-claims, which also produce freedom and autonomy.

Nicaragua is no longer a welcoming environment for international scholars who are critical of state policy or support autonomous, community mobilization. Our committee was deeply impressed by the sustained and embedded nature of Mayer's field research. In a darkening political and social context, he took the necessary time to become part of the day-to-day routine and to connect with individuals on a deeply meaningful level. Their stories and visions drive the narrative and make this dissertation essential reading.

**Best Translation Prize:
No Award in 2024, Submissions held over to 2026**

NECLAS Leadership

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