

Department of Chicano/Latino Studies

Volume 10 Issue 1

Fall 2006

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Chicano/Latino Studies achieved a major milestone in June. No longer a Program, we were recognized with Departmental status in the School of Social Sciences. For our readers outside the academy, this may simply seem to reflect a change in name alone, but the significance is much greater. At a fundamental level, the change demonstrates our many successes over the past several years. We routinely offer a rich palette of classes on the Chicano/Latino experience. Last year, more than 2,000 UCI

undergraduates took Chicano/Latino Studies classes. These CLS students included more than 50 Chicano/Latino Studies majors. The Department is home to ten faculty members with partial or full appointments in Chicano/Latino Studies and nine affiliates with research interests spanning four schools on campus (Colleges of Medicine, Social Sciences, Humanities, Social Ecology). Without an excellent faculty and a rigorous curriculum, we would not have been awarded Departmental status.

As a Department, Chicano/Latino Studies will fit more centrally in the academic structure of the campus. As importantly, it will allow us to hire faculty with appointments not shared with other departments. Although we have certainly benefited from collaborative hiring with other units, we now have the freedom to seek faculty who do not also have to serve the teaching and administrative needs of other units. Finally, as a Department, we can now move toward designing graduate degree programs. In other words, the exciting times at Chicano/Latino Studies have only begun!

We will not be resting on our laurels in 2006-07



(though we will be celebrating our move to departmentalization – stay tuned for details). We will inaugurate the new Chicano/Latino Studies Graduate Emphasis. The Graduate Emphasis is a four course sequence of graduate seminars available to graduate students enrolled in any Ph.D. program across the UCI campus. By taking these courses – which focus on research methods, research design, and analysis of the Chicano/Latino experience, UCI graduate students will develop the skills needed for research and teaching on the Chicano/Latino experience. Graduate students completing the Emphasis will apply these skills in their dissertation research; they will include a CLS faculty member as a member of their dissertation committees. Completing the requirements of the Graduate Emphasis
(Continued on page 2)

CASA CÉSAR CHÁVEZ



Casa Residents 2005-06

This past May, Casa César Chávez received the most awards for a single academic theme house at the Annual Arroyo Vista Theme House Awards Ceremony. Casa was recognized for its

outstanding performance in the following areas: “Living the Theme Award,” “Best Theme Program: Culture Clash,” quarterly programs co-sponsored with Ele Si Rosa Parks House and Asian American Studies House, “House Resident of the Year: Ismael Diaz Herrera,” and “Most Involved Academic Staff Member.” To find out more about Casa go to: www.socsci.uci.edu/casachavez

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FACULTY/STAFF NEWS

VICKI RUIZ, Professor in Department of Chicano/Latino Studies and Chair of the Department of History, has been elected a Fellow of the Society of American Historians, a rare honor since membership in the Society is limited to 250 historians. Founded in 1939 by Alan Nevins, the Society seeks to recognize scholarly and literary distinction in historical writing. It awards the annual Francis Parkman Prize for the best book in American history, the biennial James Fenimore Cooper Prize for the best historical novel, the annual Allan Nevins Prize for the best-written dissertation, and the biennial Bruce Catton Prize for Lifetime Achievement in the Writing of History.



*Vicki, Ruiz, Chair of History
Department and Professor of
History and Chicano/Latino Studies.*



Congratulations to **LISA GARCÍA BEDOLLA**, who will be honored this September at the American Political Science Association (APSA) Convention in Philadelphia for her book, “Fluid Borders:

Latino Power, Identity, and Politics in Los Angeles” (UC Press, 2005). García Bedolla will be receiving an award in the area of “Identity and Intergroup Relations” from the APSA’s Organized Section on Race, Ethnicity and Politics. In addition, García Bedolla will also receive the 2006 Ralph Brunche award for “the best scholarly work in political science which explores the phenomenon of ethnic and cultural pluralism.”

STELLA GINEZ, Chicano/Latino Studies Department Manager was awarded the “Spotlight Award,” an award created by the UC Office of the President to recognize exceptional efforts by a select number of staff members. Stella was selected by a panel of Social Science faculty and staff and her selection was endorsed at the Campus level. Congratulations Stella!



CHAIR’S MESSAGE

(Continued from page 1)

will be noted on the student’s transcript. It is our expectation that students completing the Emphasis will not only leave UCI with a rich set of research skills, they will also be more competitive on the academic job market. The first courses in the Graduate Emphasis will be offered this academic year.

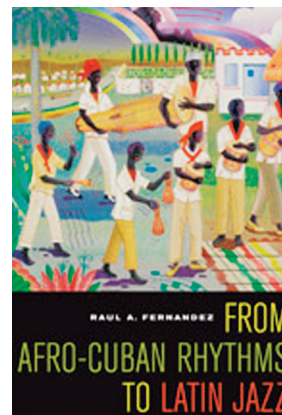
Chicano/Latino Studies’ many accomplishments would simply not be possible without the dedication and continued hard work of my predecessor, the founding Chair of the Department of Chicano/Latino Studies, Leo Chávez. Leo guided the growth of Chicano/Latino Studies over the past six years. His energies ensured that we were able to build a faculty of national prominence, add an undergraduate major that now serves more than 50 UCI students, develop a Graduate Emphasis for the campus, and become a Department. We all owe Leo a debt of gratitude and thanks. His are very big shoes to fill. I look forward to working with each of you to ensure that the Department of Chicano/Latino Studies sees as many accomplishments in the coming few years as we have over the past six.

Sincerely,

Louis DeSipio

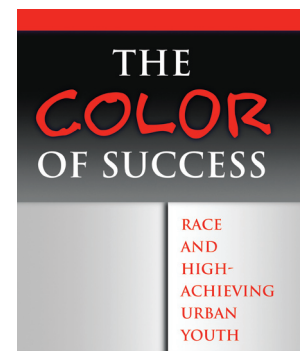
Louis DeSipio
Chair, Department of Chicano/Latino Studies &
Associate Professor, Departments of Chicano/Latino
Studies and Political Science

PUBLICATIONS



Raúl Fernández, Professor of Chicano/Latino Studies and Social Science, published a new book titled *From Afro-Cuban Rhythms to Latin Jazz*. The book explores the complexity of Cuban dance music and its musical and historical connections to other Caribbean music, salsa and Latin jazz.

Gilberto Conchas, Associate Professor of Education and Chicano/Latino Studies affiliate published a new book titled *The Color of Success: Race and High-Achieving Urban Youth*. Conchas discusses how racial minorities achieve academic success despite limited opportunity, offering a comparative analysis and alternatives to existing educational systems.



GILBERTO Q. CONCHAS
FOREWORD BY PEDRO A. NOGUEIRA

STUDENT NEWS

The **Jeff Garcilazo Prize**, is awarded annually by our Department to the undergraduate student author(s) of the best research paper(s) on Chicano/Latino studies. The cash award is in honor of the late Jeff Garcilazo, Assistant Professor of Chicano/Latino Studies and History. This year's first place winner, **Cindy Villanueva**, was awarded a



Yadira Ortega

\$500 for her paper titled "The 2006 Mexican Election: A Window into the Mexican Immigrant Political and Civic Participation." Cindy, a Magna Cum Laude graduate, received B.A. degrees in Chicano/Latino Studies, International Studies, and Political Science. **Yadira Ortega**, our second place winner, received a \$300 award for her paper titled "Demanding Equal Protection: The Right of Undocumented Students to Post-Secondary Education." Yadira is double majoring in Political Science and Chicano/Latino Studies and plans to attend law school.

Ismael Diaz Herrera, a senior with a double major in Chicano/Latino Studies and Sociology, was selected as a **2006 Harvard Galbraith Scholar**. The Galbraith Scholars Program seeks students of exceptional promise and uncommon perspective who have demonstrated interests in issues of inequality and social policy. College sophomores, juniors and seniors enrolled in any U.S. college or university are eligible for selection. The program is designed to cultivate a diverse new generation of scholars and leaders.



Ismael Diaz Herrera

This year's **Gary Singer Outstanding Scholar Athlete Scholarship**, part of the 2005-2006 end-of-year Order of Merit award for Social Sciences undergraduate students, was awarded to **Rodolfo Mondragon**, senior majoring in Chicano/Latino Studies.

The Department has a new and improved Website, please take a moment and visit the site at:
www.socsci.uci.edu/clstudies.

Chicano/Latino Studies Program Class of 2006

Chicano/Latino Studies is honored to present and congratulate its 2005-2006 Graduates:

Anguiano, Christian B. A., *Honors Program in Chicano/Latino Studies & B.S., Biological Sciences*

Aragon, Arthur B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies*

Crespo, Joel B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies & Criminology, Law & Society*

Enriquez, Karina B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies & Sociology, Minor in Educational Studies*

Garcia, Dulce B. A., *Honors Program in Chicano/Latino Studies & Sociology*

Gonzalez, Violeta B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies & Sociology*

Gutierrez, Cynthia B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies & Psychology*

Macias, Joseph B. A., *Honors Program in Chicano/Latino Studies & Political Science*

Mercado, Jessica B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies & Criminology, Law & Society*

Moreno, Isela B. A., *Chicano/Latino Studies & Criminology, Law & Society*

Spring 2006 Dean's Honors List

Graciela Arguelles	Elizabeth Maria Gutierrez
Jacqueline Arreola	Ismael Diaz Herrera
Leticia Arteaga	Aida S. Macedo
Linda C. Brizuela	Wendy Diane Narez
Karina A. Enriquez	Yadira Ortega
Liliana Gonzalez	Cindy Aracely Villanueva
Cynthia Gutierrez	Rosa Erandi Zamora

CLS STUDENTS STUDYING ABROAD!

While at UC Irvine, students should thrive to enrich their experience, and what better way to do this than by taking the classroom abroad? The Center for International Education offers numerous opportunities for students to expand their knowledge, appreciation, and experience of other nations, peoples, cultures, governments and economies. To find out more visit www.cie.uci.edu.



Pictured above: Saul Martinez, Gracie Argualles and Jose Flores who are studying in Mexico City.

FALL 2006 CALENDAR

September 19: The Social Science Majors Dialogues: Chicano/Latino Studies will be held from 1:00 to 3:00pm in SSPB 1208.

October 5: Join us for our 13th Annual Chicano/Latino Studies Open House to be held at the Social Science Tower Plaza from 4:00 to 6:00 pm.



October 11: MEChA de UCI invites you to their Open House at 5:00pm at the Cross Cultural Center.

November 27: Education Abroad Program application for the Costa Rica Spring program due.

For more information call (949) 824-7180 or visit www.socsci.uci.edu/clstudies.

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