

PRESENTING THE 2010 FORO
LATINOAMERICANO: THE NEOLIBERAL
AGENDA RECONSIDERED: POVERTY AND
INEQUALITY IN LATIN AMERICA
APRIL 16-17, 2010

Each year, the students, faculty and alumni of the Latin American Studies Program convene to share in an academic experience that brings to the fore and to campus a major topic, event, and country of Latin America. Originally designed as a capstone experience for the students of the program, we have expanded the Foro to include our alumni and the program's entire faculty in order to give it a truly communal sense. The Foro will also provide the Carleton community at large with the opportunity to participate in a major event involving Latin America.

Janice Perlman – Four Decades of Living on the Edge: The Favelas in Rio de Janeiro

Janice Perlman is the founder and president of Mega-Cities, a global non-profit sharing urban innovations. She was previously a professor at UC Berkeley, and has taught at the Fundação Getúlio Vargas, IBAM and the Federal University in Rio de Janeiro.

Moises Arce – Inequality and Extra-parliamentary Politics in an Era of Democracy

Moises Arce is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Missouri. His research interests lie in the politics of market transitions, and contentious politics. He is the author of *Market Reform in Society* and numerous journal articles.

James McGuire – Wealth, Health and Democracy in Latin America

James McGuire is a professor in the Department of Government at Wesleyan University. He is the author of *Peronism Without Perón* and journal articles on parties, unions and strikes in Argentina, as well as articles on authoritarianism and economic growth in Latin America.



PORT OF VALPARAISO, CHILE

This Year's Theme

The Foro Latinoamericano this year turns to a major thematic area of concern to all Latin Americanists: the legacy of neoliberal reform. At this point in the history of the region, the wave of market-oriented reforms that swept Latin America in the wake of the crisis of import-substitution industrialization during the 1980s has consolidated after two decades. This is an excellent point to look back on the record of neoliberal reform and particularly in the context of the region's most important challenge: alleviating poverty and inequality. Have neoliberal reforms produced improvements in social development? Did social, political, and economic actors in Latin America succeed in converting these reforms into catalysts of growth and greater levels of equity? As this year's Foro participants will show, the results of the neoliberal agenda have been decidedly mixed. Untangling the record to provide a clear picture of the legacy of neoliberalism will be the challenge for us all at this year's Foro Latinoamericano.

All Events Are Open to the Public

Dinner and lunch will be hosted for alumni, majors, concentrators, faculty and special guests of the Latin American Studies Program at Carleton College.

Please **RSVP** for dinner and/or lunch to Mary Tatge at mtatge@carleton.edu or at 507-222-4252 by April 2, 2010.

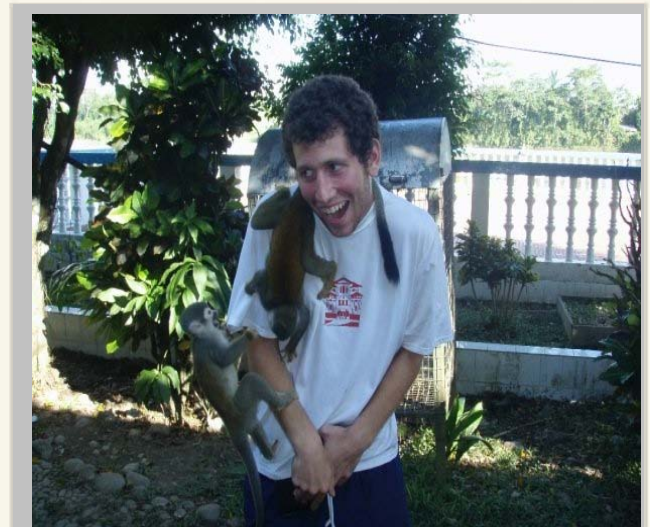
LA COMPAÑERA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
FALL/09

CARLS OUTSIDE OF THE CLASSROOM: LEARNING, LIVING AND LOVING LATIN AMERICA

Chemistry major Eric Manley '11 wasn't content with only studying chemistry in the classroom. He is off-campus this fall in Ecuador on SIT's Comparative Ecology and Preservation program. Ecuador offers the perfect location for this program because of its diversity of terrain. In the two months that he has spent in Ecuador so far Eric has done field studies in a cloud forest, the Amazon rain forest and the Galapagos Islands.

Soon Eric will head to the coast of Ecuador to start his Independent Study project. He will study the preservation of gel from the muyuyo plant in order to create a local bio-commerce product. Always a lover of *fútbol*, when not participating in field studies Eric attends local soccer matches.



ERIC MANLEY: ECUADOR

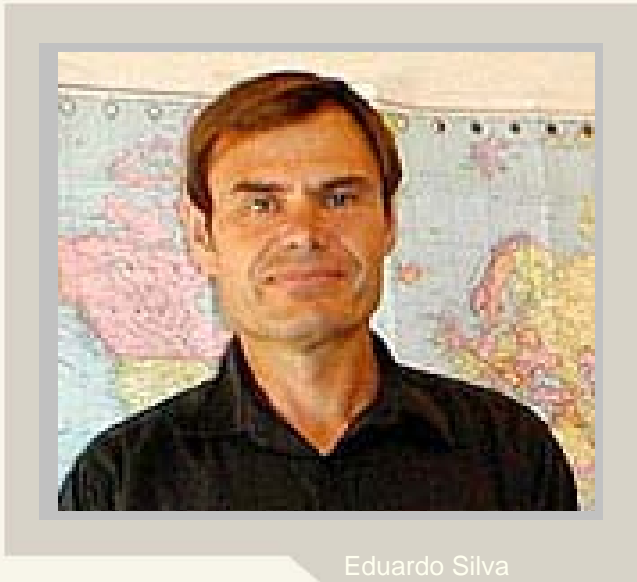
To read more about Eric's Ecuadorian adventures visit: <http://ericsecuadorianadventure.blogspot.com/>

International Relations major Eli Gold '11 has loved his time in Valparaiso, Chile so much that he plans on changing his major to Latin American Studies as soon as he gets back to Carleton. He is on IFSA-Butler's Direct Enrollment University program, and has enjoyed learning how Chileans approach education. He notes how different it is to study Latin America from a Latin American country rather than the United States.

The picture to the right shows Eli at the Uyuni Salt Flats in Bolivia. He travelled to Bolivia for ten days, and stayed with the family of a Carleton student. The Salar de Uyuni is the world's largest salt flat, and is a popular spot for photographs that seem to defy physics.



ELI GOLD: BOLIVIA



Eduardo Silva

Wynia Lecture – February 18th and 19th

Our annual lecture in honor of Gary Wynia will be given this year by Eduardo Silva. Professor Silva is chair and professor of the political science department at the University of Missouri - St. Louis (UMSL) and a research fellow at the Center for International Studies at UMSL. He specializes in comparative Latin American political economy and environmental policy in developing countries. Prof. Silva is author of *The State and Capital in Chile: Business Elites, Technocrats, and Market Economics* and co-editor of *Organized Business, Economic Change, and Democracy in Latin America* and *Elections and Democratization in Latin America, 1980-1985*. His articles have appeared in leading journals such as *World Politics*, *Comparative Politics*, *Development and Change*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Journal of Latin American Politics*, and the *Journal of Interamerican Studies and World Affairs*.

Prof. Silva's most recent book, *Challenging Neoliberalism in Latin America* (Cambridge University Press, 2009), explores the many ways in which civil society protested neoliberal reforms in Venezuela, Argentina, Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, and Chile, ultimately transforming economic and political projects of governments in these countries. His Wynia Memorial Lecture will present findings from this work.

WHAT ARE OUR MAJORS RESEARCHING?

This year's Latin American Studies Majors, Anna Losacano '10 and Lyndon DeSalvo '10, are well into the process of writing their senior theses. What have they chosen to study?

Anna Losacano

Tentative Title: **Telenovelas: Cultural Significance, Theoretical Approaches, and Content Analysis**

"My comps is about telenovelas. It will include a discussion of the cultural importance and location of telenovelas among Latin American populations, a survey of theoretical work on the subject and a content analysis of a major telenovela. While much work on telenovelas focuses on how they reflect the commercial agendas of their production companies, my work will also focus on how telenovelas "recover the reality of their countries" as the scholar Jesus Martin-Barbero has claimed. I plan to analyze the Mexican telenovela "Cuidado Con El Angel," which debuted just last year and features superstars Maite Perroni and William Levy."

Lyndon DeSalvo

Tentative Title: **Brazilian Policy on IPR**

"For my comps, I am looking at Brazilian policy concerning intellectual property rights (IPR). Particularly, I am interested in the regulation of pharmaceutical companies that extract resources from the Amazon and I want to see whether or not Brazil challenges the international system on IPR. I will be looking at the established laws and then also looking at how much they are followed and regulated in order to determine the effectiveness of present policy. I also get into issues of indigenous knowledge as the medicinal value of many plants being extracted were originally knowledge held by the local population. Are they reciprocated for their knowledge and, if so, is it a fair system of exchange? Ultimately, I hope to formulate my own policy that will solve the problems of the current system."

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Gould Library has a wealth of data resources that are oftentimes underused by students. Of particular interest to students of Latin America are:

The Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) – Started by Mitchell Seligson at Vanderbilt University in 1978, LAPOP consists of surveys of Latin American citizens about their views on system support, political tolerance, citizen participation, local government, corruption and authoritarianism.

With money from the library, LTAM Department and the QuIRK project, reference librarian Kristin Partlo buys 4-6 new additions to the LAPOP dataset every year. Because of IRB restrictions you must contact Kristin at kpartlo@carleton.edu to use any of the datasets. That being said, she stresses that she would love to see more students use the LAPOP. Any student interested in doing so should contact her.

Latinobarómetro - An annual public opinion survey of approximately 19,000 interviews in 18 countries in Latin America representing more than 400 million inhabitants. Questions for Latinobarómetro are standardized across countries, so it makes for a great resource when comparing Latin American countries.

Latinobarómetro was recently bought by the owners of *The Economist*. They would like to move to a subscription model instead of selling it on a year-by-year basis. Consequently, the library only has this resource through 2005 as it and other libraries continue to negotiate to purchase it on a yearly basis.

LTAM Studies Program

<http://apps.carleton.edu/curricular/ltam/>

Latin American Studies Program

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CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA