

Journal of Latin American Geography

Special Issue

Petro-Geographies and Hydrocarbon Realities in Latin America

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Overview

This special issue dedicated to Petro-Geographies and Hydrocarbon Realities in Latin America will bring together research on emerging geographies of oil and natural gas in Latin America, with a particular focus on how “new realities” of hydrocarbons (Bridge and Le Billion 2012) are playing out across the region. These new realities of oil and natural gas are observable in evolving forms of petro-capitalism and resource development (Gudynas 2012; Burchardt and Dietz 2014); competing territorial constructs (Perreault and Valdivia 2010; Anthias and Radcliffe 2015); expanding international natural gas markets and access to and control over unconventional hydrocarbons (Freier and Schaj 2016); new hydrocarbon nationalizations/privatizations and corporate governance strategies (Banks et al 2016; Billo 2015; Svampa and Viale 2014); and diverse forms of activism, social mobilizations, and resistance (Bebbington and Bury 2013; Kaup 2008; Quist and Nygren 2015). Contributions will examine aspects of these topics or other environmental, technological, legal, social, historical, and political economic dynamics of hydrocarbon production, transport, marketing, and governance. All geographic, empirical, and theoretical treatments are welcome. Other relevant research themes could include:

- how oil and natural gas are governed, territorialized, and commodified; and how these processes differ among nation-states and/or over time;
- examinations of developments around unconventional hydrocarbons; the water-energy nexus, hydraulic fracturing, and pipelines;
- elucidation of the intersections among energy security issues and climate change policies;
- how legal frameworks and emerging laws and regulations enhance or limit access, development, and commodification of oil and natural gas;
- the ‘metabolism of commodity production’ as a framework for conceptualizing the socio-environmental and political economic contradictions created in the production of fossil fuels;
- the political economic implications associated with state-industry restructurings;
- analysis of resource nationalism and state-led development;
- contemporary politics of resistance and resurgence by Indigenous peoples; and
- the relationship among hydrocarbon politics, neoliberalization, and decolonization.

These contributions can take the following forms:

- Academic Article (8,000 words) – A piece of original scholarship that contributes to the geographic literature and advances understanding of a given issue.

- Annotated Essay (3,000 – 4,000 words) – An exposition that builds an argument around a central theme, using citations less amply than a traditional academic article but with sufficient documentation for fact checking.
- JLAG Perspectives (1,000 – 1,500 words) – An opinion piece that reflects on contemporary events, contains hyperlinked references to news items, reports, and personal experience.

Potential contributors are asked to send an extended abstract (500 words) in Spanish, Portuguese, or English **by June 1, 2017** to: jlag@clagscholar.org. Please use “JLAG Special Issue” in the subject heading. The editorial board will evaluate the abstracts, communicating with authors regarding the composition of the issue. If accepted, we would ask for completed articles to be delivered by October 30, 2017.

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