Visas Needed Prior to Travel to Brazil

Citizens of the United States of America and Canada are required to obtain a visa from a Brazilian consulate prior to travel to Brazil. Registration for CLAG Fortaleza 2015 will take place much earlier than usual before the meeting so that individuals attending the meeting will have enough time to obtain a tourist visa. A quick Internet search will show the appropriate Brazilian consulate where you may submit your visa application. Please plan ahead and carefully follow the instructions so that you will be able to obtain your visa and attend CLAG Fortaleza 2015. Citizens of other countries should check with local Brazilian consulates for visa requirements prior to travel.

CLAG CONFERENCE 2015 - May 26-30, Fortaleza, Brazil

Keep your eyes open for upcoming details on the CLAG Conference!
For more information please see the CLAG website here and watch for email updates!

See you in Brazil!
Dear CLAGistas,

It has been a busy time here at CLAG central! The last 6 months have seen a lot of nominations, voting, and the appointment of new people in key positions. Kendra McSweeney (Ohio State University) and I came on board as Vice-Chair and Chair respectively this past July. On January 1, 2015, we will have a new Executive Director in the person of Andrew Sluyter of LSU, we’ll also have a new editor at the helm of the *Journal of Latin American Geography* (JLAG) in the person of Chris Gaffney, in transition himself from Rio de Janeiro to Zurich (University of Zurich). Meanwhile, Catherine Nolin (University of Northern British Columbia) and doctoral student Alexandra Pedersen (Queen’s University) have recently taken over the joint CLAG/LASG Newsletter, and Matthew Fry (University of North Texas) has been serving as CLAG webmaster: check out the new site if you’ve not done so [http://clagscholar.org/](http://clagscholar.org/). CLAG Board members helped out, approved, and voted upon these moves every step of the way.

Needless to say none these positions were vacant or somehow wanting. As CLAG Chair I replaced Christian Brannstrom (Texas A&M University) whose first successful task was to get us in good standing with the IRS. Though he continues to get ‘come back soon’ notifications from the IRS, we’re almost in the clear and ready to file like any other 501(c)(3) organization. Christian also guided us through our January 2014 meeting in Panama City along with the help of local coordinator Professor María Adames (University of Panama), program coordinator Joseph Scarpaci (West Liberty University), and several other people. Taylor Mack (Louisiana Technical University) has been at the helm of the CLAG/LASG Newsletter for almost a decade and helped build it up to a twice-yearly event. Of course, David Robinson (Syracuse University) has served as Executive Director and JLAG editor for many years and his accomplishments in both positions are well known. Among the most important of David’s contributions was to take JLAG into the digital age of publishing by connecting us with Project MUSE and JSTOR, bringing CLAG some $34k annually in revenue: all of which goes to paying for the journal (approximately $26k annually), funding student awards ($10k annually), and other smaller expenses such as supporting subventions for some ten Latin American universities to have access to Project MUSE journals. Keep downloading!

Several people have been working behind the scenes to bring together the next CLAG conference to be held at the University of Fortaleza in Fortaleza, Brazil, May 26–30, 2015. It is with regret that as I write this the CFP is not yet available. Our hosts at the University of Fortaleza have a web page ready to go (I’ve seen it) with registration costs, activities, etc. but they are still figuring out how electronic payments over the internet will be handled. In the meantime, please peruse Christian Brannstrom’s Google Earth kmz file showing various sites in Fortaleza, including the conference location and the hotel area from whence a free bus will transport participants back and forth.

I hope to see many of you in Chicago. Please be on the look out for an announcement of a co-hosted CLAG and LASG social event following the business meeting, as usual.

Best regards,

Karl Offen, University of Oklahoma
Letter from LASG Chair, Claudia Radel

Letter from the LASG Chair:
Greetings from Guatemala. I feel honored to serve as your new LASG chair, together with Vice-Chair John Finn and Secretary-Treasurer Ben Tillman. Over the coming months, we are facilitating two different discussions among our specialty group members. The first considers the question of multi-authored paper submissions to our graduate student paper competition (a discussion already well underway and progressing well). The second will consider possible changes to our suite of officer positions, in response to (1) a graduate student request for better representation and (2) a need to assume greater responsibility in co-producing our shared newsletter with our sister-organization CLAG. To determine what might be required to add new officer positions, we sought out a copy of our specialty group by-laws.

This past summer, with the help of outgoing chair David Salisbury, we tracked down the most recent locatable copy of the LASG by-laws (apparently a paper copy “archived” in the AAG offices). We discovered that the LASG has “director” positions in addition to the chair, vice-chair, and secretary-treasurer positions. These director positions are of an unspecified number and have fairly open responsibilities. So, in anticipation of a discussion being launched over our email list, I ask that you begin considering what we might do with these positions. We could designate a Graduate Student Director position. We could designate a Newsletter Director position. We could designate a Student Awards Director. Is the sky the limit?

Seeing (and reading) our by-laws for the first time, I was struck by our need to review and update these by-laws, as they really aren’t very recent at all. I would like to circulate our by-laws to the membership, with any proposed amendments, prior to our April business meeting in Chicago. And so I arrive at my final topic for this chair’s letter: the Chicago Meetings of the Association of American Geographers. Based on the many CFPs I have seen, there should be plenty of sessions of interest to our members, and we again are planning a joint social with CLAG. I hope to see you all in Chicago!

My best wishes to all of you,
Claudia Radel
2014-16 LASG Chair

CLAG Board Members/ LASG Officers

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<td>Taylor Mack</td>
<td>Rebecca Clouser</td>
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Congratulations to our Distinguished Scholars!

Billie Lee (B.L.) Turner II  
CLAG 2015 Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award

CLAG is very pleased to announce that BL Turner II is the 2015 recipient of the CLAG awarded BL Turner II the Preston E. James Eminent Latin Americanist Career Award. Dr. Turner received the Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award in 1986, and since that time, he has garnered many other honors and awards. Prof. Turner is currently the Gilbert F. White Professor of Environment and Society at Arizona State University’s School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning (since 2008). Prior to that, he served on the Clark University faculty for many years (since 1980), including as Director of the Graduate School of Geography (1983-88, 1997-98, and 2004-2008) and the George Perkins Marsh Institute (1991-1997).

Over the years, his research has focused on land change and smallholder agricultural change in Mesoamerica, and he has used this regional grounding to engage in important ways with global conversations both within the discipline of geography (shaping the evolution of human-environment geography) and within a larger land change science community informing international and national policy. In a range of capacities, he has brought the discipline of geography into a larger interdisciplinary scientific conversation and elevated the profile and policy relevance both of Latin Americanist geography and human-environment geography.

Diana Liverman  
CLAG’s 2015 Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award

CLAG is very pleased to announce that Diana Liverman is the 2015 recipient of the CLAG Carl O. Sauer Distinguished Scholarship Award. Diana Liverman has blazed a trail in the field of global climate change throughout her three decades (to date) as a geographer, making significant contributions to scholarship on Latin America and the Global South. She has received prominent awards and recognition, including a Guggenheim Fellowship (2014), an associate in the U.S. National Academy of Science (2012), a Fellow of Britain’s Royal Geographic Society (2005), and sharing in the 2007 Nobel Prize (with the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and former vice-president Al Gore).

Diana Liverman is co-director (since 2009) of the Institute of the Environment and Regents’ Professor in the School of Geography and Development at the University of Arizona, where she previously directed the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) (1996-2003). Prof. Liverman is a leading authority on the human dimensions of global climate change and arguably one of the most important and influential geographers engaged in environmental research in Latin America. Through her own scholarship on Mexico, the U.S.-Mexico border, and international environmental issues, as well as through her mentorship and advising of dozens of younger scholars from many countries (many of whom are internationally prominent in their own right), Diana Liverman has carved out new space for critically-engaged environmental scholarship in Latin American geography.
New CLAG/LASG Newsletter Editors

Catherine Nolin is an Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Northern British Columbia in Prince George, BC, Canada.
Internet: http://www.unbc.ca/catherine-nolin
Email: catherine.nolin@unbc.ca

Alexandra Pedersen is a PhD Candidate in the Department of Geography at Queen’s University, Ontario, Canada.
Internet: http://geog.queensu.ca/grads/pedersen.asp
Email: a.pedersen@queensu.ca

Dear CLAGistas,
A warm hello from Canada! It is our privilege to serve as the new Co-Editors of the CLAG/LASG Newsletter! We are excited to continue our collaboration in this new venture!

The Newsletter would not be possible without the many wonderful contributions made by CLAG/LASG members. We have added many images submitted by members and will continue to do so throughout our tenure as Co-Editors, so keep the photos coming!

We encourage everyone to join us on social media to highlight the many successes of CLAG/LASG members. Like us on Facebook, tweet us on Twitter and share/retweet posts to spread the amazing contributions made by geographers!

To better serve members, we have also created a joint account (clagnewsletter@gmail.com). Please send all of your relevant updates, publications, images and distinctions to us at this address for future Newsletters.

We are looking forward to seeing old friends and making new ones next spring at both the AAG in Chicago, and at CLAG in Fortaleza, Brazil!

Sincerely, Catherine and Alexandra

New Publications/Papers & Reports


Crane, Nicholas Jon. 2014. Performing state repression in the Zócalo, Mexico City, October 2, 2011. Focus on Geography, 57(3): 139-140.


**New Publications/ Books**


**Brian Blouet** and **Olwyn Blouet** send notice that John Wiley and Sons are to publish a 7th edition of *Latin America and the Caribbean: A Systematic and Regional Survey.* The new edition will be published January 6th, 2015. Brian and Olwyn are editors and contributors to the revised edition, which includes new chapters written by:

- **✓ CLAGistas** **David Keeling** (Transportation), **Christian Brannstrom** (Brazil), and **Antoinette WinklerPrins** (Amazonia).
- **✓ Andres Guhl** has contributed new material on the Andean region.
- **✓ Alan Gilbert** has revised his chapter on The Contemporary City
- and all other Systematic and Regional chapters, including **Peter Rees’** presentation of Mexico and Central America, have undergone revision.

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**Norris, Timothy B.** 2014. *Bridging the Great Divided: state, civil society, and participatory approaches to conservation mapping in a resource extraction zone.* Applied Geography, 54: 262-274.


Jennifer Blecha, an Assistant Professor at San Francisco State University in San Francisco, CA, is developing a new line of research on the Pro Huerta urban agriculture program in Argentina. Jennifer is seeking connections with Argentinian geographers interested in urban agriculture or food systems to establish a research collaboration and/or student exchange. If you or someone you know does work in this area, please contact: jblecha@sfsu.edu.

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This is a collection of articles that appeared in several recent volumes of Tourism Geographies. Of the nine chapters, three address issues in Latin America:

- Juan Gabriel Brida et al. conduct a market analysis of cruise passengers in Cartagena, Colombia
- Eric Nost examines tourism development in Costa Rica through the lens of ‘power of place’; and
- Benjamin F. Timms and Dennis Conway Look at the concept of ‘slow tourism’ along the geographical margins of the Caribbean.
Christopher Gaffney will begin his position as a post-doctoral researcher in the Department of Geography at the University of Zurich (UZH) in January 2015. Christopher is leaving his position as a Visiting Professor in the Graduate School of Architecture and Urbanism at the Universidade Federal Fluminense in Niterói, Brazil.

✓ Christopher will also begin his editorship of JLAG on January 1st and will move the host institution to UZH.

Daniel Klooster, Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of Redlands, is spending the academic year working in sabbatical projects with the following support:

✓ National Science Foundation Project: “Trans-border Indigenous Environmental Governance: Assessing the connections of Mexican indigenous peoples in the US to their communities of origin.” Award # 1127534; and

✓ Fulbright-Garcia Robles project “Trans-border Environmental Governance: The roles of migrants in community governance and sustainable development in Oaxaca”, January to March, 2015; Visiting scholar at the Centre for US-Mexican Studies at the University of California, San Diego, (USMEX) Fall quarter 2014; Visiting scholar at University of California Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC-Mexus) at the University of California, Riverside, April to June 2015.

Elvin Delgado recently received $500,000 from the President Innovation Fund at Central Washington University to establish the Institute for Integrated Energy Studies and serve as its Founding Director. Additionally, Elvin worked to develop a new BS in Energy Studies with three specializations, research opportunities at national and international scales, and conferences.

✓ Elvin is also wrapping up research in Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela and developing new research in Argentina.

The International Jury of Geo Crítica: Cuadernos Críticos De Geografía Humana [Spain] granted the Geocrítica International Prize 2014 to Professor Atlántida Coll, for her contributions to the economic and historical geography of Mexico.

✓ Emeritus Professor of Geography María Francisca Atlántida Coll Oliva de Hurtado at the Autonomous National University of Mexico (UNAM) is a renowned professor and Mexican researcher with an international reputation.

✓ Her intellectual and scientific career has a deep impact on the geography of Mexico and has significantly contributed to the training of geographers at UNAM, where Dra. Coll de Hurtado taught and researched for over forty years. Full announcement at: http://www.ub.edu/geocrit/pig14.htm

Anna Gudbjört Sveinsdottir, a doctoral student in the Department of Geography and the Environment at the University of Denver, was awarded the 2014 Norwegian Association of Development Research (NFU) award for "outstanding MSc thesis in the field of development studies" with the thesis Land Tenure and Tourism Development in Nicaragua. A Case Study from Playa Gigante. This was for her thesis conducted at the Center for Development and the Environment at the University of Oslo. Her advisor on this project was Dr. Mariel Aguilar Støen. For more details: http://www.nfu.no/master-thesis-award-winners-nowannounced

Internet: http://www.du.edu/nsm/departments/geography/students/index.html

Email: anna.Sveinsdottir@du.edu
Andy Hilburn, Visiting Assistant Professor of Geography at Kansas State University, presented the results and formally handed over his doctoral dissertation to the municipal president of the Municipio of Coxcatlán, Puebla, Mexico, in August 2014.

✓ His research, “Garbage, Society, and Environment in Rural Mexican Municipio: The case of Coxcatlán, Puebla, Mexico,” examines the practice of garbage management and its construction as a set of environmental issues across the aforementioned municipio.

✓ Based on more than 10 months of onsite fieldwork funded by the U.S. Department of Education Fulbright-Hays Fellowship, the work employed a mixed-methods approach using a household garbage census, a Q-method study, a risk mapping survey, and a litter quantification and classification study. Results provided a more complete picture of garbage governance, society and the environment beyond simplistic garbage generation, public health risks, and environmental degradation discourse.

✓ For his efforts, the municipal government awarded Hilburn with a commemorative sculpture and certificate of recognition.

Stuart Hamilton, Assistant Professor, Geography and Geoscience, in Salisbury University MD has been awarded a Prometeo (Prometheus) Fellowship to examine the sedimentation and land-use/land-cover change in Costal Ecuador. The highly competitive fellowship is awarded to less than 15% of those who apply and is the premier science fellowship within Ecuador. See: http://news.aag.org/2014/10/aag-member-stuart-hamilton-awarded-prometeo-fellowship-by-ecuadorian-government/

✓ The Prometeo Project seeks to advance scientific research in strategic areas of interest for Ecuador’s growth. The project states that researchers with proven experience in their particular area of study take up their residence in Ecuador in order to develop collaborative research projects with national and international institutions.

✓ Through the fellowship, Dr. Hamilton will work with the Ministry of the Environment study the origin of sedimentation in the Chone Estuary and produce a management plan to mitigate future sedimentation. Sedimentation in this estuary has reduced the livelihood options available to local populations and reduced levels of food security for those reliant on the estuary for income and food. Dr. Hamilton hypothesizes that the driving mechanisms behind the sedimentation include the deforestation of mangrove forests and the conversion of terrestrial forests into agricultural land.

✓ Dr. Hamilton will reside in Bahía de Caráquez during summer 2015 and again in spring/summer 2016. The fellowship will not only fund Dr. Hamilton’s research but will be utilized to expand SU’s growing reputation in Ecuador through the already established study abroad program based in Cuenca.
A team of researchers, including Claudia Radel (Utah State University), Birgit Schmook (El Colegio de la Frontera Sur), Lindsey Carte (Utah State University), Lisa Green (Utah State University), Richard Johnson (University of Arizona), and Juan Carlos Ocampo (El Colegio de la Frontera Sur) are in the midst of various phases of fieldwork in northwestern Nicaragua and in northwestern Guatemala to examine various connections among labor migration, land use and land tenure change, food security, and gender. Research is supported by the National Science Foundation.

Joe Scarpaci has received an EU-COFUND Madame Curie Senior Fellowship at Aarhus Institute of Advanced Studies at Aarhus University in Denmark. The successful research proposal is titled, “The Embeddedness of National Identity in Local Brands: A Comparative Study of Consumers in Latin American Welfare States and Scandinavia.”

It’s been a red-letter year for Professor W. George Lovell. After his two-year tenure as a Canada Council Killam Research Fellow (2012-2013), George returned to normal teaching and administrative duties at Queen’s University.

✓ During his leave, with Christopher H. Lutz, and the notable assistance of Wendy Kramer and William R. Swezey, he co-authored “Strange Lands and Different Peoples”: Spaniards and Indians in Colonial Guatemala (2013).

With both Kramer and Lutz he also published Saqueo en el Archive: El paraderos de los tesoros documentales guatemaltecos (2014), both titles highlighted (with the links to acquisition details) in the previous CLAG newsletter.

✓ A Spanish-language edition of the conquest-period chapters of “Strange Lands and Different Peoples,” titled “Atemorizar la tierra”: Pedro de Alvarado y la conquista de Guatemala, 1524-1541, will be published next year by F&G Editores in Guatemala City.

✓ Due to appear at the end of this year is a revised and expanded second edition of his monograph on the Sierra de los Cuchumatanes, Conquista y cambio cultural, first published in 1990. Research forays have taken him to the University of Glasgow’s Special Collections, The Hispanic Society of America, the New York Public Library, and the Archive General de Centro América, with conference participation at the Congreso Centroamericano de Historia in San Salvador (July 2014) and a forum on the Transatlantic Spanish Baroque in Bogotá (October 2014).

In April 2014 he acknowledged a Queen’s University Prize for Excellence in Research at the annual meeting of the Canadian Association of Geographers at St. Catherines (May 2014) was recognized with a Prize for Scholarly Distinction in Geography.

✓ President-elect of the American Society for Ethnohistory, George was also honoured by being named a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada. See: http://rsc-src.ca/en/friends-partners/newsroom/press-releases/royal-society-canada-names-new-fellows

Catherine Nolin, Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Northern British Columbia (UNBC), is on sabbatical (June 2014 - January 2015) after completing a two-year term as Vice-Chair of the UNBC Senate and a two-year term as Chair of the Interdisciplinary Studies graduate program. While on sabbatical, Catherine is:

✓ collaborating on a SSHRC Insight Grant (2014-2016), Indigenous Engagements with Mining in Canada and Guatemala: Developing Refined Understandings through Collaboration and Comparison (PI: Karine Vanthuyne, University of Ottawa)

✓ part of a team which received funds from Quebec FRQSC (Fonds de recherché Société et culture) for the Centre for Indigenous Conservation and Development Alternatives (CICADA), (PI: Colin Scott, McGill University)
Catherine and Grahame Russell of Rights Action co-facilitated their 7th field school delegation to Guatemala in May 2014. Canadian documentary photographer Roger Lemoyne travelled with the field school to meet with community members involved in lawsuits against Canadian mining company HudBay Minerals for the Canadian national affairs Magazine Maclean’s. See: http://www.macleans.ca/news/world/mining-for-the-truth-in-guatemala/

- Catherine was honoured with the 2013 Excellence in Teaching Award by the Canadian Association of Geographers. Dr. Nolin was cited for her highly experiential Guatemalan and Peruvian field courses. Full citation at: http://www.cag-acg.ca/en/catherine_nolin.html

David Salisbury, Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Richmond, cofacilitated (with I.F. Brown of WHRC) a climate change workshop in the remote Peru-Brazil Amazon borderlands, which produced a climate change declaration signed by 75 indigenous representatives of 32 indigenous communities, and seven ethnicities.

- The University of Richmond-Universidad Nacional de Ucayali will present this declaration at the COP 20 United Nations Climate Change meetings in Lima, Peru in December.
- The above work was funded by the United States Agency for International Development - Higher Education for Development grant to the University of Richmond.

Patricia Solis has joined the Office of the Vice President for Research as a senior research associate with the Research Development Team at Texas Tech University. The research Development Team works to advance the university’s strategic research priorities by facilitating and supporting multi-investigator, multi-disciplinary research proposals valued at $1 million or more.

- As senior research associate, Solis will organize major grant proposals around key Texas Tech research priorities, primarily focused in the social sciences and interdisciplinary proposals with a social science component.
- Solis also joins the College of Arts and Sciences as a research associate professor of geography in the Department of Geosciences and an adjunct associate professor at the Climate Science Centre. For full details of the announcement, see: http://www.depts.ttu.edu/vpr/faculty/scholarly-messenger/stories/2014/October/solis-announcement.php
- This summer, before taking on this new position, Patricia designed and led three Youth TechCAmps on Geotechnologies and Climate Change, funded by the US State Department. “Each of the three 10-day training camps focused on GeoTechnologies for Climate Change and the Environment. A total of 120 high school students from the United States, Bolivia, Panama, and South Africa were competitively selected from among hundreds of applications, based on a demonstrated interested in traveling internationally, familiarity with geographic technology, leadership aptitude, and service to the community. During the TechCamp, students self-organized on cross-cultural team to create youth-led local projects.”
- Patricia indicates that the students presented their final work in the form of Story Maps to local researchers and dignitaries, including, in Panama, President Juan Carlos Varela, US Ambassador and the Vice Minister of Education. For more information, see: http://www.aag.org/techcamps
Recent Graduates and New Positions

Congratulations to the following people who are in new positions:

**Andy Hilburn** (PhD ’14) is a Visiting Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography at Kansas State University, August 2013 to the present.

**Matthew LeFevor** received his PhD in Geography from the University of Texas Austin in 2014 and began a postdoctoral fellowship with the National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Centre (SESYNC) in Annapolis, made possible by the NSF grant to the University of Maryland. He is collaborating with Alexandra Ponette-González of the University of North Texas on several projects related to conservation engineering of hillslopes for ecosystem services in high mountain environments in Latin America.

Internet: http://www.matthewlafevor.com
Email: mattlavevor@yahoo.com

Congratulations to the following people who successfully defended their theses and dissertations:

**Allen, Reuben.** 2014. Alternative Ways to Enumerate Data on Race in Puerto Rico: Are Racial Segregation and Spatial Clustering more Evident when Using a Culturally Grounded Methodology? PhD in Geography, Indiana State University. Supervisor: Dr. Stephen Aldrich


**LaPlante, John-Paul (JP).** 2014 *La Voz del Pueblo:* Maya Consultas and the Challenge of Self-Determination for Socially Responsible Investment in the Mining Sector. MA Natural Resources and Environmental Studies (Geography), University of Northern British Columbia, August. Supervisor: Dr. Catherine Nolin.

**Norris, Timothy B.** 2014. The New Peruvian Experiment: The political ecology of private conservation and mining in the Cordillera Huayhuash of the central Peruvian Andes. PhD in Environmental Studies, University of California Santa Cruz, June. Advisor: Dr. Jeffrey Bury.
Tesis dirigidas

Maestría


Doctorado


Denise Brown shares news of the workshop style conference “Energy in the Americas: Critical Reflections on Energy and History” held at the University of Calgary on October 23rd and 24th. The conference was framed within the university’s ‘Energy Research Strategy – Energy Innovations for Today and Tomorrow,’ and featured international experts and emerging scholars in the field of energy studies from Canada, the United States, Europe, and Latin America to present their research and contribute to this critical reflection. Further info at: larc.ucalgary.ca/energyintheamericas

En el marco del 70 aniversario de la Universidad Veracruzana, y el 10º aniversario de la licenciatura en geografía de la UV, los días 24, 25 y 26 de septiembre de 2014, se llevó a cabo el Coloquio Internacional de Geografía, Ambiente y sociedad: las múltiples interacciones de la Geografía en el siglo XXI. En esta ocasión tuvimos la oportunidad de recibir más de 40 ponencias que se agruparon en cuatro ejes temáticos, a saber: a) Enseñando la Geografía para el siglo XXI, b) Geoparques y la conservación del paisaje, c) Enfoques de la Geografía en los procesos sociales emergentes y d) Datos, métodos y herramientas en la Geografía. Para mayores informes del coloquio, se creó una página web, de la cual se muestra en el siguiente enlace http://www.coloquiogeografiauv.com/

Graduate Student Awards
Reports from CLAG Field Study Award Winners, 2014

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<td>Bernard Nietschmann (PhD)</td>
<td>Valente Soto, Univ. Arizona (advisor: Jeffery Banister)</td>
<td>Witnessing and dealing with the effects of drug-related violence in northwest Mexico ($1500)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert B. West (PhD)</td>
<td>Hector Agredano, CUNY Graduate Centre (advisor: James Biles)</td>
<td>Rails to revolution: Railroads, railroad workers and geographies of the Mexican Revolution of 1910 ($1500)</td>
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<tr>
<td>James J. Parsons (PhD)</td>
<td>Sarah Kelly-Richards, Univ. Arizona (advisor: Carl Bauer)</td>
<td>Conflicts unresolved: An institutional ethnography of Chilean water governance ($1500)</td>
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<td>William M. Denevan (Master’s)</td>
<td>Nicholas Kotlinksi, Univ. Kansas (advisor: Chris Brown)</td>
<td>Oil palm development in the Peruvian Amazon: Reading conflicting views ($1000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oscar Horst (Master’s)</td>
<td>Noah Silber-Coats, Univ. Arizona (advisor: Diana Liverman)</td>
<td>Territories of adaptation: Contested spaces of climate change in Mexico’s Sierra Madre Oriental ($1000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarissa Kimber (Master’s)</td>
<td>Emma J. Lawlor, Univ Arizona (advisor: Margaret Wilder)</td>
<td>A debated sickness: Framings of disease, agro-labor, and sugarcane in Central America ($1000)</td>
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Valente Soto’s (University of Arizona) doctoral research is meant to identify the means by which professionals—psychologists, social workers, and journalists—who witness or indirectly experience the effects of drug-related violence perceive and develop mechanisms to cope with its growing prevalence in Sinaloa, Mexico.

✓ The research explores the role of affect, emotions, and memory in the creation of those mechanisms and seeks to understand how the urban landscape both shapes and is shaped by responses to drug-related violence.

✓ During the two months in Culiacan from July the 6th to August the 11th, Valente conducted 20 semi-structured interviews: 7 journalists, 7 psychologists, and 6 social workers; in addition to archival research and participant observation of the daily life and the local environment of Culiacan. Valente met with faculty and graduate students from the School of Psychology of Universidad Autonoma de Sinaloa who research the intersection of drug-related violence, culture, and social memory. Valente describes field work in his hometown as an interesting and complex experience.

✓ Preliminary findings suggest that psychologists and social workers are more susceptible to experience some of the symptoms of Secondary Traumatic Stress Disorder (STSD), while journalists experienced different effects that are not necessarily related to STSD and that I identify as Narco-trauma.

Hector Agredano (CUNY Graduate Center) spent three months in Mexico City conducting an extensive archival research project to uncover the lost histories of railroad workers during the Mexican Revolution for his doctoral dissertation.

✓ This summer, Hector began working on a series of interviews housed at National Institute of History and Anthropology (INAH) and the Mora Institute. These interviews are part of the Oral History Archives and they contain testimonies of people who participated in the Mexican Revolution. These interviews were recorded in the 1970s and they are an invaluable primary source material.

✓ Thus far, Hector found that most railroad workers did not join the Revolution in its earlier phases. Once the Revolution was fully underway, though, the Constitutionalist movement fighting against the Huerta Regime made widespread use of railroad infrastructures to defeat government forces. Findings from these interviews also indicate that during the third phase of the Revolution some railroad workers switched sides and supported the military general Alvaro Obregón.

✓ In addition to the archive access, being located in Mexico has been indispensable for Hector who indicates that proximity has allowed him to strengthen relationships with local researchers such as Dr. Laura Espejel at INAH.
Sarah Kelly-Richards (University of Arizona) conducted preliminary dissertation research in Chile this summer, which proved to be rich with experiences and findings focused on emerging hydropower conflicts in southern Chile in the Ríos and Lagos regions.
✓ Sarah’s research seeks to understand the unfolding socio-ecological landscape of small and large hydropower dam development in the water abundant Ríos and Lagos southern regions of Chile.
✓ Sarah conducted 35 semi-structured interviews with policy actors, nonprofit organization employees, academics, and local stakeholders, including tourism consortiums and indigenous people from the Mapuche nation.
✓ Sarah spent three weeks in Santiago interviewing government employees, academics, and nonprofit personnel while also attending a water management workshop before heading south to Valdivia in the Ríos region. There, Sarah met with researchers at the Universidad de Austral as well as indigenous leaders and environmental consultants and activists. Interviewees from many different sectors desire more integrated planning for hydropower dam development.

Nicholas Kotlinsko (University of Kansas) undertook Master’s-level fieldwork from mid-June through early August in the Upper Peruvian Amazon. Nicholas focused on the departments of San Martin and Loreto, travelling throughout the region while basing in urban hubs to stay in contact with friends, contacts, and informants.
✓ The main focus of the fieldwork was in the provincial capital Barranquita. This small cattle town is situated in the Cainerachi Valley, and is located 28 kilometers up an unpaved artery off of the marginal highway that connects the high jungle metropolis to Tarapoto to the lowland river port of Yurimaguas,
✓ Barranquita was selected for this study entitled, “Oil Palm Development in the Peruvian Amazon: Reading Conflicting Views,” because it has served as a nexus for the growth of oil palm production as well as resistance in the name of land and environmental rights.
✓ Qualitative data offered insights into the role of environmental consciousness and forest conservation, as well as the role of community activism in response to the establishment of large-scale oil palm plantations. Nicholas’ current focus is on coding land use related to GPS points taken in the field to incorporate into GIS and remote sensing work.
Noah Silber-Coats (University of Arizona) completed Master’s-level fieldwork in Veracruz, Mexico during the summer of 2014. Veracruz is undergoing a highly contested boom in hydropower development.

✓ Noah’s goal was to understand how the politics and policy of energy, water and the environment interact to shape these conflicts, as well as how they articulate with resource management at the local level.
✓ Noah is developing a case study of one river basin – the Bobos-Nautla – where eight new dams are currently planned. The Sierra of the upper basin is home to campesino communities and a landscape that is a mix of small-scale agriculture (especially coffee and maize) and cloud forest.
✓ Noah conducted interviews with government officials (federal, state, and local), representatives of NGOs/civil society/social movements, and other local actors. Document collection also included time at the Archivo Historico del Agua in Mexico City, which included material on failed plans for hydropower projects in the basin dating back to 1898.
✓ Initial findings along the axes of energy, water, environment: (1) The wave of projects currently planned in the Bobos-Nautla is tied to a 1992 renewable energy law that opened Mexico’s previously state-centered model of river basin development to the private sector; (2) although Mexico has recently adopted a policy for maintaining environmental flows, the de facto practice is to allocate up to 90% of a river’s flow to hydropower; and (3) contention surrounding hydropower in the Bobos-Nautla has to do with a change to the environmental zoning law known as ordenamiento ecologico which now allows dam construction in areas zoned for ‘restoration’ (a serious ‘greening’ of hydropower).

Emma Lawlor (University of Arizona) conducted summer field work in El Salvador and Nicaragua to explore the ways in which narratives about chronic kidney disease are unfolding alongside the epidemic’s environmental and medical realities for her Master’s-level research.

✓ Specifically, Emma explored how individuals and communities are experiencing the disease, and how these local actors are interacting with – be it internalizing, responding to, or challenging – broader national and regional discourses about kidney disease.
✓ Emma started with a week at La Isla Foundation (LIF), based out of León, Nicaragua and then spent nine weeks in the Bajo Lempa region of El Salvador hosted by the local NGO Asociación Mangle, and its partner NGO from the States, EcoViva.
✓ Emma found that kidney disease is both challenging medical expertise and overwhelming public health systems in El Salvador and Nicaragua. El Salvador, however, has had a unique response. Since 2009, the Salvadorian Ministry of Health has been constructing new clinical spaces, developing medical guidelines, and sponsoring clinical and environmental research, not to mention spearheading international forums and discussions based on the Salvadorian experience of kidney disease.
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