



45th Annual Conference of the Society for Latin American Studies
(Re) Invasions and Inventions: Latin America Confronts the 21st Century
University of Leeds from Thursday, 26 to Friday, 27 March 2009

Overview of Panels

This is the **an updated** list of panels, however **it is still subject to change**

If you are on one of these panels and notice a mistake, please contact your convenor.

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- 20 David Howard and Kate Quinn Race and Modernity in the Caribbean
- 21 Patricia Oliart Institutional Reform, Sustainability and the State: Tales from the Field
- 22 Sara Brandellero and Bianca Freire-Medeiros Envisioning Brazil in Literature and Culture
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- 24 Imilcy Balboa Navarro Landowners, farmers and slaves: Discourses of power and social conflict in Cuba and Mexico (19th and 20th centuries).
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- 26 Katie Isbester Dilemmas in Democratization
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- 36 Joceny Pinheiro Race, Ethnicity and Identity in Contemporary Latin America
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- 34 Lucy Taylor Workshop: 'Interpreting the Signs: the practices and dilemmas of research in Latin America'
- 18 Charles Jones **Round table discussion:** The First Fifty Days: The New US Administration and Latin America
- 12 Victoria Carpenter **Round table discussion:** Literary Flux? Cross-disciplinary Mechanisms of Text Analysis

35 Hector Calleros-Rodriguez Governance and Social Conflict over Natural Resources in Latin America;
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1. Re-inventions of engaged research in Latin America

Convenor: **Claudia Ituarte-Lima, Florencia Ferrari**

Contact details: c.ituarte@ucl.ac.uk , florFerrari@gmail.com

Abstract: This panel aims to explore the question of what engaged research in Latin American studies means in practice? We shall analyse the challenges and possibilities of collaborative research in new political contexts. Firstly, rather than taking Latin America as a neatly-defined spatial area, Latin America is understood here as a location in which the topic and the methods we use in our studies are deeply embedded within socio-political relations; the emphasis may be placed on varied economic, cultural and national locations to understand changing social processes.

As a collaborative endeavour, engaged research implies that the people with whom one works are not “objects of study” but active subjects: individuals seen as equals with critical thinking, from whom to learn, exchange ideas, and explore new ways of addressing, for instance, environmental global concerns acknowledging peoples’ traditional knowledge. Possibilities of conducting research that makes use of novel technologies and methodologies are constantly emerging; certain obstacles that used to limit connections and dialogue between people can now be creatively overcome. Yet there are no easy solutions in turning engaged research into practice; different perspectives on the agency of researchers and diverse interpretations on effective reciprocity remain.

The analysis of field experiences of collaborative research may not offer all-embracing recommendations for practice, or a template for future projects. Instead exchanging lessons learned on this topic offers the possibility to collectively unpack complex social processes with multiple sorts of relationships and outcomes, and assess particular challenges and possibilities. For instance, the significance and purposes of Amazonian peoples’ visibility in national politics may be quite different to the priorities and challenges lived by Gypsies in Brazil. Explicit analysis of engaged research as ethical practice, constitute localised transit points that connect individuals and peoples to dynamic global varieties of civic life. Presentations from the humanities, sciences and arts are invited to discuss contemporary forms of engaged research, in an effort to move beyond rigid disciplinary borders.

Papers submitted:

- David Orr: Contexts of ‘Help’: Omissions and conflicts in understandings of medical anthropology research in the southern Peruvian Andes
- Florencia Ferrari: "Are there Gypsies in Brazil?": Challenges of making Calon visible
- Rachael Anneliese Radhay: An ethnography of multiple truths and power
- Lirio Gutierrez: Territorial Strategies and Enclaves in Honduras

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2. Memory struggles in the post-dictatorial Southern Cone: remembering, commemorating, protesting

Convenor: **Vincent Druliolle**

Contact details: vpdrul@essex.ac.uk

Abstract:

More than two decades after the end of authoritarian rule, the Southern Cone is still regularly convulsed by 'irruptions of memory' (Wilde, 1999). For a long time, and in line with the social scientific 'expertise' on transitions to democracy, governments sought to ignore the memory agenda as a secondary matter or treated it as a 'problem of consolidation'. However, under the pressure of a range of transnational agents and other factors, this situation has changed. These shifts in the struggles for memory have thus altered the wider political background against which the societies of the Southern Cone (re-)invent themselves at the turn of the century.

This panel is interested in these shifts in the 'politics of memory'. How are remembering and its purposes understood in the different countries of the Southern Cone? How do these projects and memories manifest themselves in the public sphere and contribute to reshape it? What actors take part in these memory struggles? How? Can some trends be identified? What has been their impact? What is the significance of these shifts? How have they redefined democratic politics, or politics as democratic in the first place? Beyond the 'politics of memory', shouldn't the focus also be on the 'ethics of remembering' in these societies?

In order to explore these questions, the panel invites contributions, whether or not single-country, from all the relevant disciplines (political studies, geography, cultural studies, anthropology...) to reflect the necessarily interdisciplinary nature of these issues and in the hope that different disciplines will learn from each other.

Session One:

- Vincent Druliolle: Remembering and its places in post-dictatorship Argentina
- Cecilia Sosa: Queer mourning and the Argentinean dictatorship: The Mothers of Plaza de Mayo and *Los rubios* (2003), by Albertina Carri.
- Vikki Bell: On the Bio-Politics of Re-Appearance in Argentina

Session Two:

- Alejandra Serpente: Diasporic Anglo-Argentine and Chilean identities: The traces of dictatorship in second-generation 'postmemory'
- Valentina Salvi: The "Complete Memory". A reactive resignification of the memory of the disappeared.
- Francesca Lessa: 'No hay que tener los ojos en la nuca' – the memory of violence in Uruguay (1973-2008)

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3. (Re) Inventions: Chiapas Confronts the 21st Century

Convenor: **Manuel Roberto Parra Vázquez**

Contact details: mparra@ecosur.mx

Abstract:

In this panel are presented crucial matters like the education, social politics, environmental politics, and the EZLN role, the Teología de la Liberación and the State in the social change of Chiapas. Like other ways of appropriation y handle of the resources by the local population. Their contain refers as current affairs as old and new challenges that Chiapas is facing in front of century XXI. In all of them is there a crucial aspect analyzed over the ways of connection among the State and subordinate groups of the society. We can emphasize the attention the reproduction of old practices of “clientelar” relationship among the governments and now PRD and PAN and the civil population, in spite of intense beating caused by the uprising of EZLN. It will be analyzed then subjects like, which factors allow the reproduction of this ways of connection? The performers of the State and the society include the significance of the forms of relation that are established? There are learning processes about new daily connections that are carrying out between the State and the more democratic society? What is the measurement that the cooperation process and the responsibility between the State and the society are developed in the step of the natural resources and the sustainable develop?

Papers submitted:

- Alejandro Agudo: “Private improvements and collective interests in social policy: The production and subversion of ‘co-responsibility’ in rural Chiapas”.
- Manuel Parra: Indigenous territorial appropriation in the highlands of Chiapas
- Tim Trench: The Devil’s in the Details: Looking up close at participation spaces and natural resource use regulation in the Lacandon Forest, Chiapas, Mexico.
- Conrado Márquez. Environmental policy and dynamics of territorial appropriation: The tensions between the conservation of tropical forests and the expansion of cattle ranching in the Lacandon Forest, Chiapas, Mexico.

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4. Exploring Indigenous Law and Human Rights Standards

Convenor: **Sandra Brunnegger**

Contact details: sb529@cam.ac.uk

Abstract:

This proposed panel will examine the dialectic process between indigenous law and international human rights standards. Most of the countries in Latin America have made constitutional and legislative changes to recognize indigenous peoples' right to administer their own justice systems.

The legislative recognition of indigenous rights has opened up many interesting questions relating to the treatment of indigenous law in a broader rights and societal context. This panel invites papers which discuss how the relationship between rights and culture plays out both theoretically and practically.

Papers submitted:

- Angela Santamaria: "Indigenous Diplomacy" in The Colombian Context: A Case Study of political and legal practices at transnational level.
- Jorge Contesse: Indigenous peoples' rights in 21st Century Chile
- Kate Sullivan: Subjects of Rights in Chile
- Juan Pablo Vera Lugo: Multiculturalism, ethnography and the State: rhetoric of law and social practices on the margins of the state
- Sandra Brunnegger: Altering indigenous law in Colombia: the translation/vernacularization of human rights

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5. Disability in Latin America: paradigms, theories, concepts and practices

Convenor: **Beatriz Miranda**

Contact details: sshbm@leeds.ac.uk; m.a.priestley@leeds.ac.uk

Abstract:

Disability Studies is an interdisciplinary field of research that addresses disability as a social, cultural and human rights issues. Its methods support the full participation and equality of disabled people in society. Its models and theories (e.g. social and rights-based models of disability) construct the situation of disabled people as a social problem, with social causes.

The panel will allow established scholars and young researchers from different disciplines to share and contest the theoretical, conceptual, cultural and political developments that are shaping new approaches to disability policy and research in Latin America. A key question here is to ask which models of disability influence thinking and practice in different cultural and political contexts. What are the dominant discourses of disability and where do they come from? For example, how do Western/European/Anglo-centric cultural histories affect the way disabled people are constructed and treated in Latin American societies? Colonial Western influences might include religious (Christian), secular (rational individualism) and scientific (biomedical) models of disability for example. To what extent have European discourses influenced understandings of disability in Latin America? Conversely, what traditional discourses of disability exist in indigenous Andean cultures? To what extent does the emergence of new disabled people's movements represent postcolonial struggles? Etc.

The panel will also question the translation of different models into practice. For example: how do different models of disability influence different interventions in support for disabled people's full inclusion in society? Which models are being used by different agencies and what effect do they have on outcomes for disabled people? To what extent do non-governmental organisations use biomedical, social, cultural or human rights models in their disability and development work? How do disabled activists use different models of disability to support their political campaigns and claims? Which models of disability are influencing policy makers and legislators in Latin America? Which models of disability are needed in university research and teaching programmes to promote the full participation and equality of disabled people in Latin American Societies?

Papers submitted:

- Stuart Blume, (UVA Amsterdam). Cochlear implant debates in LA
- Maria Fernanda Olarte, (UVA Amsterdam). Abortion and prenatal testing in Colombia.
- Shaun Grech, (Univ. Manchester). Disability and development in Guatemala
- Susan Buell, (Univ. Manchester). Disability and development in Bolivia
- Beatriz Miranda, (Univ. of Leeds). Ethics of liberation and disability research in Ecuador.

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6. Latin America and Asia: A New Relationship for the 21st Century

Convenor: **Rhys Jenkins**

Contact details: R.O.Jenkins@uea.ac.uk;

Abstract:

Rapid economic growth in China and East Asia in recent years has led to the region becoming an increasingly important player globally, both in economic and political terms. The Panel will consider the impacts that this will have on Latin America in the 21st century. What new challenges does the rise of China and East Asia pose for Latin America and what new opportunities does it bring? The panel would welcome papers that focus either on the two regions as a whole or on specific countries.

Papers submitted:

- Nicola Phillips: A New Revisionism in Development Strategy?: China, the Restructuring of the Global Economy, and the Future for Latin American Development
- Ana-Lucia Salinas de Dosch: Latin America and East Asia: From a marginal relationship to a pillar of international order?
- Pablo Wong Gonzalez: China's global expansion and Mexico's automotive industry
- Rhys Jenkins: China's Growth and the Commodity Lottery in Latin America

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7. Round Table Discussion: Literary Flux? Cross-disciplinary Mechanisms of Text Analysis

Convenor: **Victoria Carpenter**

Contact details: v.carpenter@derby.ac.uk

Abstract:

Over the past 50 years, Latin American literature has undergone a significant transformation of narrative forms, which results in a visible discrepancy between the transcultural nature of the text and the traditionally postcolonial dichotomy of the analysis thereof. This project aims to resolve this conflict by compiling a new body of theories (from the theories of transculturation and subalternity, to string and membrane theories of quantum mechanics), in order to update our understanding of Latin American identity, and also bridge what Paul Ricoeur (1984) termed a positivist gap between literary and non-literary research areas. The cross-disciplinary approach of applying contemporary scientific theories to text analysis will be of particular interest.

The main theme of the project is the change of existing roles. The project aims to adopt a cross-disciplinary approach to text analysis with the focus on the key creators of roles (time and space, hegemony, culture, gender), and the resulting changes in societal organisation (marginalisation, indigenous issues, violence). The cross-disciplinary nature of the project is particularly important, considering that there is evidence of successful attempts to analyse literary texts in the context of contemporary scientific advancements.

The round-table discussion will address the focal areas of interest at the early stages of the project. The discussion is expected to take two 90-minute sessions, which will consist of open discussion, brief presentations and mind-mapping exercises.

Discussants:

- Christopher Harris
- Victoria Carpenter

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8. (Re)constructing the Mexican city

Convenor: **Melanie Lombard and Ann Varley**

Contact details: a.varley@geog.ucl.ac.uk; m.lombard@sheffield.ac.uk

Abstract:

This session aims to explore new representations, interpretations or understandings of Mexican cities, emphasising the idea of 'construction', both physical and theoretical. Given the changes and challenges that the 21st century is bringing, including natural and manmade disasters, the rise in commodity prices and the global 'credit crunch', and a reshuffling of the world powers, what new theories may help us to understand how these events affect cities in Latin America, and, specifically, Mexico? Recent writing on 'the new poverty' (LARR 2004) and urban informality (AlSayyad and Roy 2004) argues for a re-framing of some of the concerns that have historically preoccupied urban policymakers in Latin America. On the other hand, in a call to postcolonialise urban studies, Robinson (2006: 126) argues that in order to understand cities as 'ordinary' rather than Third World or Other we need to 'develop creative ways of thinking about connections across the diversity and complexity of city economies and city life'.

Mexican cities present fruitful opportunities for examining some of the new theories, perspectives, and institutions that have arisen in response to the challenges of the 21st century in Latin America. Urban Mexico offers a 'case study' for processes of relevance elsewhere, such as decentralization; urban growth patterns including both mega- and medium cities; economic developments combining overall growth with persistent poverty and informality, and policy responses influenced by both neoliberalism and concerns with social justice. This session will draw on different perspectives on the Mexican city (cultural, political, economic, social) in attempts to answer the question:

In response to the challenges of 21st century (historical, political, social and economic, but also theoretical), how is the Mexican city being (re)constructed?

First session:

- Mauricio Hernández Bonilla: The (re)construction of public space in today's Mexican city
- Carlos Herrera Martín: Reconstructing urban property: the view from the courts
- Gareth Jones: Youth, gangs and violence in Mexican cities

Second session:

- Emily Wilkinson: (Re)constructing disaster risk in the Yucatán peninsula
- Melanie Lombard: Ordinary places? Placemaking and informality in *colonias populares* in Mexico
- Ann Varley: Postcolonialising informality?

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9. Re-thinking the (Latin American) State: New Perspectives on Social Mobilisation and Political Participation

Convenor: **Marieke Riethof and Katinka Weber**

Contact details: mriethof@liv.ac.uk, katinka.weber@liv.ac.uk

Abstract:

A decade after the introduction of participatory political processes and state reforms aimed at strengthening local government (e.g. in Brazil and Bolivia), the meaning of the 'state' and 'state authority' is becoming more complex in Latin America. Local political arenas are now spheres of intense interaction of diverse actors, such as local government, social movements and NGOs, that influence each other's (territorial) organisational forms and agendas. However, this interaction is not only reduced to the local level, but also happens at other levels of the state apparatus. For example, the recent strive for constitutional reform in Andean countries involved the participation of diverse actors, such as political parties, social movements and NGOs in the deliberation process. These developments call for a theoretical and empirical reappraisal of the 'state' and 'state authority' in Latin America.

The panel aims to bring together researchers working on relations between civil-society and the state in Latin America, with a focus on developing new perspectives on the conceptualisation of the state. The panel welcomes papers that address these matters in a broader theoretical or comparative perspective and more specific country studies. In the light of increasing participation of indigenous actors in state politics, it is our intention that one of the panels will focus on indigenous-state relations.

Panel One:

- Barry Cannon: Wanted! 'Strong Publics' for uncertain times. The experience of the Active Citizenship in Central America project
- Mikaela Luttrell-Rowland: The Imagined 'Child' Behind Child Rights in Lima, Peru: A Politics of Constructed and Contested Identity
- Gerard van der Ree: Citizenship from above: state-defined citizenship regimes and their responses in Chile, 1964-2008

Panel Two:

- Rickard Lalander: Between Interculturalism and Ethno-centrism: Local Government and Indigenous Movement in Otavalo-Ecuador
- Katinka Weber: Contesting Indigenous Territories: The Case of Monte Verde, Bolivia

Panel Three:

- Marieke Riethof: Changing labour movement strategies under a Workers' Party (PT) government in Brazil
- Andreas Tsolakakis: State reform and elite resistance to change: The Morales administration in Bolivia 2005-2008
- Justin Vogler: Not Business as Usual: New strategies and new allies: how Chilean civil society at last found its voice

10. Scientific Institutions and Society in Latin America: A Historical Review of the XIX Century

Convenor: **Natalia, Priego and John Fisher**

Contact details: principe@liverpool.ac.uk; fisher@liverpool.ac.uk

Abstract:

By definition, science has been useful to the world and, particularly Latin America, in a wide range of ways. Currently, science is invoked as an unquestionable support for commercial or academic issues, and it is generally assumed, even when something has not been provided scientifically, that science and truth are coterminous. However, in the history of Latin America, science has been identified as a factor of modernity, often providing the 'rationale' for the marginalisation of different sectors of the population, on the ground that they are not 'modern', whatever that means.

In the XIX century, modern science was also used as a power and status symbol by the so-called 'positivist' governments in the region, particularly Mexico and Brazil. Very quickly, this particular idea of science was spread to the other countries that were looking for a place in the civilised and modern world. Their leaders were very interested in showing the world that they were not barbarian regions anymore and were able to be modern.

Thus they promoted scientific activity in various areas, establishing policies, institutions, publications, etc. These scientific issues, their history and processes of development in the XIX Century are the objective of analysis in this symposium.

Papers submitted:

- John Fisher: From liberalism to Positivism. Science and Race in Latin America in the XIX century
- Priego, Natalia: Is there a Latin American philosophy of science? Notes upon late-XIX and early-XX century Mexico
- Jens R Hentschke: Escuela Normal de Paraná: Cradle of Unorthodox Comtean Positivists
- Pedro Miranda Ojeda & Genny M. Negroe Sierra: La ciencia doméstica. Trabajo y civilización doméstica en una ciudad mexicana durante la segunda mitad del siglo XIX

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11. Informal politics and informal economies: re-inventing strategies of individual and communal survival and negotiation

Convenor: **Inge Lore Mascher-Brizuela**

Contact details: ucsailm@ucl.ac.uk; rodney222@gmail.com

Abstract:

In the last two decades, Latin America has experienced a strong shift towards the democratisation of public institutions, based on ideas of transparency, accountability and responsibility, and the spread of democratic values among the population. Just as important has been the construction of strong economies which are increasingly responding to international standards. However, caught in these dynamics are still sectors of the population that have not been able to catch up with these national and global trends, and which have creatively resisted or adapted to the new scenarios. Partly concealed by mainstream public discourses of democratic transition, state of law, and economic liberalisation, informal spaces within the polity and the economy keep on being produced and re-invented. Presentations from social sciences, arts and the humanities are invited to discuss contemporary forms of these re-inventions at the state and societal margins in Latin America.

Papers submitted:

- Inge Lore Mascher-Brizuela: Informality, illegality and the State in Mexico-City
- Alexandra Poulet & Elatiana Razafimandimbimanana: From Lima to Global Competitiveness: Re-inventing the use of French as an Informal Passport for International Migration [to be presented by Elatiana Razafimandimbimanana]
- Paul Crossley: Popular religion, social networks and informality in a 'pueblo originario' of Mexico City.
- José Carlos G. Aguiar: *Sacoleiros, laranjas, and cambistas*. Cross-border practices and informal actors at the Tri-border region
- Martijn Koster: Slum upgrading, modernity and politics in a Recife slum, Brazil
- Francine Olde Heuvelt: Territoriality and individual strategies within the Brazilian Landless Rural Workers' Movement (MST)

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12. Natural resources management planning and bio-prospecting in Latin America: Neo-Colonialism or tools for Sustainable Development?

Convenor: **Oscar Forero**

Contact details: O.Forero@lancaster.ac.uk

Abstract:

Most Latin American governments, some corporations (particularly agro and pharmaceutical industries), some environmentalists, and few neo-indiginists consider that by de-coding, translating, extracting and re-coding traditional Knowledge (TK) it is possible to add value to Latin American products and services. Natural resources management planning, including regulating the practices of bio-prospecting are instrumental for achieving this aim. 'Protecting and developing' TK is now seen as fundamental for achieving sustainable development (SD), conservation aims and compliance with international law (i.e. CBD and the 169 WTO agreement). However some academics, SD specialists, indigenous and peasant peoples and other important stakeholders are critical of the ways in which such 'protection and development' is conceived and portrayed, particularly in reference to the threats, risks and opportunities brought by the promise of bio-prospecting.

The overall aim of this panel is to debate and advance the critique of the legitimacy and appropriateness of political structures, managerial regimes and, international and national legal frameworks directed at 'protecting and developing' TK in Latin America.

Papers submitted:

- Jodie Chapell: Defensive and positive protection of Traditional Knowledges in Peru: Patents, Policies and Patrimony
- Nina Moeller: From Bio-Prospecting to Bio-Cultural Enhancement: Moving the Goalposts of Traditional Knowledge Research in the Amazon
- Paul Oldham: A House of Secrets: Traditional Knowledge Databases and the Rights of indigenous Peoples in Amazonia
- Oscar A. Forero: Natural Resources Management Plans: Risk and opportunities for the development of Indigenous Peoples' Rights
- Rocio Diaz-Chavez: Considerations for sustainability biofuel production in developing countries

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13. The discourse of violence in Latin American literature. Violence in everyday life

Convenor: **Roberto Rodriguez** - Organised by: **Rubén Darío Jaimes**

Contact details: R.Rodriguez@leeds.ac.uk ; rjaimes@usb.ve;

Abstract:

One of the most relevant elements that seem to identify Latin America at the beginning of this century is the increase of social violence at a continental level. Cities as diverse as Caracas, Lima or San Salvador share, despite the political, economic, social and historical differences, expression of violence as a common factor. It is very significant that creators as well as specialists find in this topic a common point of interest. The panel will discuss the portrayal of violence in recent Latin American literature.

Papers submitted:

- Rafael Rondón Narváez: Las Invasiones Bárbaras: Violence in Recent Latin American Literature *
- Roberto Rodriguez-Saona: Violence, Language and Resistance in *Navajas en el paladar*.*
- Yanira Yánez: Survival on the margin: the discursive subject in *Trilogía sucia de La Habana*
- Astvaldur Astlvadsson: Representations of Violence in Post-Civil War Salvadoran Literature

*These papers will be delivered in Spanish

14. Cuban Politics, Society and Culture in the Discourse of Leonardo Padura Fuentes

Convenor: **Stephen Wilkinson**

Contact details: Stephen.wilkinson@cubastudies.org

Abstract:

The Cuban journalist and author Leonardo Padura Fuentes has seemingly done the impossible in producing a body of work that challenges and critiques the existing orthodoxy - while at the same time being received enthusiastically by the artistic establishment and the Cuban public. Padura seems to occupy a unique space having achieved celebrity status within the island's cultural elite while maintaining a voice that is often critical of the political establishment. This panel focuses on his discourse and how it helps to shape our understanding of Cuban culture, society and politics as they have changed in the past two decades.

Session One:

- Fabienne Viala : "Novela negra y crónica de transición: las investigaciones culturales de Mario Conde en La Habana y de Pepe Carvalho en Barcelona"
- Luis Pérez-Simon: The Long and Winding Road: Journalism in the writings of Leonardo Padura, from *El viaje más largo* to *El hombre que amaba a los perros*.
- Sophie M. Lavoie: Recovering (literary) history: *La neblina de ayer* by Leonardo Padura Fuentes

Session Two:

- José Antonio Michelena Gutiérrez: *La neblina del ayer*: lecturas cruzadas, enigmas, laberintos.
- Dennis Seager: Sinophobia and the Education of Mario Conde in Padura Fuentes' *La cola de la serpiente*
- Maite Villoria Nolla: Unraveling inconvenient truths: The return of the Repressed "Other" in Padura's novels
- Stephen Wilkinson: Socialism and the lack of it in the Mario Conde novels of Padura Fuentes

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15. Ethnicity, social conflict over natural resources and the role of the State in Latin America

Convenor: **Maricamen Legorreta**

Contact details: clegorreta@servidor.unam.mx;

Abstract::

Historically, competition for natural resources in Latin America has triggered conflicts in areas dominated by indigenous populations. In turn, tensions between indigenous peasants and the state have provided the framework for understanding conflicts. This panel aims to bring together scholars who study the interrelations between ethnicity, social conflict over natural resources and the State in Latin America and invites them to answer to the question of why social conflict over ethnicity and natural resources continues to be prevalent in Latin America, and what role the state has played in creating/alleviating these conflicts. Study of the tensions between indigenous communities and the State in various settings and junctures in the region has long been on the research agenda for social scientists. Yet, with the recurrence of many of these forms of conflict across the region, further analysis of these themes is desirable in order to revisit and critique our knowledge and understanding of them.

Papers submitted:

- Gemma Van der Haar: Competition over land and political conflict in Chiapas: Theorizing the articulation
- Hector Calleros: Land and Ethnicity: The Endless struggle of the Lacandon Community
- Mari Carmen Legorreta: Conflicts and agreements between local people and environmental authorities in the biosphere reserve of Montes Azules and Lacantún, Chiapas

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16. Continuity in and Reimagining of Latin American Healing: Power and identity in the inter-relations between 'traditional' and 'modern' therapeutic alternatives

Convenor: **David Orr**

Contact details: d.orr@ucl.ac.uk

Abstract:

In the face of disease, sickness and suffering, Latin Americans – like people everywhere – have always sought to redress such anomalous states through recourse to a diverse plurality of alternatives. The particular configuration of the area's history has, however, meant that choices between these alternatives – from pre-Colombian ritual practices to modern psychiatry, from traditional herbal lore to the modern pharmaceutical industry – have been highly charged by the encounter between differing symbolisms, identities and power relations. This panel brings historical and anthropological approaches to bear on the exploration of ways in which the range of therapeutic avenues available has been, and continues to be, negotiated in practice in modern times, both from the perspective of those seeking help and from that of practitioners struggling among themselves to assert their own authority in the face of competing claims based on incompatible foundations. The question is asked: how best can the study of healing in the Latin American context address its connections with issues of power and identity?

Papers submitted:

- David Orr: Pathways to Cure: Andean Peasants Negotiating Healing in Cuzco, Peru
- Flavia Leite Dias: The Healing Practices of Rezadeiras in the Sertao, Brazil
- Claudia Ituarte-Lima: Re-imagining the governance of healing knowledge in Peru
- Euridice Charon Cardona: The changing nature of Afro-Cuban healing practices during pregnancy
- Diana Espirito Santo: Religious innovation, healing and the refashioning of the self in contemporary Cuba

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18. Round Table Discussion: The First Fifty Days: The New US Administration and Latin America

Convenor: **Charles A. Jones**

Contact details: caj26@cam.ac.uk;

Abstract:

The intention is to review any official visits, state department and diplomatic appointments, etc., plus any detectable shifts in policy and responses to events between the 4th November US election and the SLAS conference, but more especially during the early days of the new admin.

Toni Kapcia is Director of the Centre for Research on Cuba at the University of Nottingham and has studied Cuban politics and history for many years; Dr. McPherson took part in several Round Tables in the US during the electoral campaign where speakers tried to anticipate the implications of the outcome for Latin America. Having written broadly on relations between Latin America and the USA he is familiar with the process of setting up a new administration and will be in a position to compare Obama's progress with that of former presidents and to evaluate early statements on Cuba, Colombia and Venezuela. Daniel Millan is working on the reasons for fluctuating attention to Latin America from US administrations and, before coming to the UK, was a foreign correspondent for *Reforma* in Mexico.

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19. Constructing and Deconstructing the (RE) inventions of national imaginaries Latin America confronts the 21st Century

Convenor: **Clara Garavelli**

Contact details: clara.garavelli@uam.es, claragaravelli@yahoo.co.uk

Abstract:

Inspired by the theme chosen for this year's conference, this panel aims to explore the theoretical categories by which the national imaginaries were built at the time of each country's invention and now at the cross-roads of deterritorialization and re-territorialization of new forms of narrative constructions.

From the wars of independence to the construction of the sovereign states, throughout Latin America a sense of imagined community was constructed with the ideals imported from the colonizers. Over the past century, those theoretical constructs and tools were implemented and partly assimilated but highly contested. As the region confronts a changing global scenario it seems appropriate, under the spells cast by the 'bicentenaries', to 're-invent' those initial national imaginaries. Nonetheless, we believe it is important to question what is actually 're-invented', what happened with the idea of Nation and which are the new ways of narrating, of constructing imaginaries and of disseminating identities.

A trans-disciplinary approach will try to trace back those constructions, from the Arts and the historical discourses, in order to 'deconstruct' some of the founding myths and interrogate which are the changes in the imaginaries when the form of narrating has changed.

Session One:

- Belén Ciancio: Reinventing the Nation, reinventing the dissemination: national imaginaries at the Centenary and the Bicentenary through cinema. The case of Argentine and Bolivian's cinema.
- Gustavo Subero: Deconstructing and reconstructing images of maricones, cochones, locas, putos and other stereotypical representations of male homosexuality in contemporary Latin American cinema
- Natalie Isabel Krol: Islands Within The Island: The Nation and Space in Contemporary Cuban Narrative

Session Two:

- Aurelio Meza: From the Self to Nothing: Luis Jorge Boone's *Traducción a lengua extraña*
- Clara Garavelli: From Binary Constructions to Uncertainty: Visual Culture at the juncture of Argentine identity

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20. Race and Modernity in the Caribbean

Convenor: **Kate Quinn and David Howard**

Contact details: david.howard@ed.ac.uk & kate.quinn@sas.ac.uk

Abstract:

Sydney Mintz (1993) has described Caribbean societies as the first modernised peoples in world history, a description later to be assessed and developed by David Scott (2004) in *Conscripts of Modernity*. The proposed panel will consider whether the ideas of race and ethnicity in the Caribbean today can be assessed wholly as reconstituted legacies of the colonial encounter, or whether the concept of 'modern blackness', outlined primarily by Deborah Thomas (2002), provides a practical and intellectual break from colonial pasts. Papers might assess the importance of independence in reshaping the memory and practice of racialised status; the importance of 'race' as a founding myth for Caribbean social structures, or the political implications of racialised difference in contemporary societies.

Papers submitted:

Session one:

- David Howard & Kate Quinn: Intro
- Cristóbal A. Borges: Unspoken Whiteness: Race and the Jíbaro in the Rhetoric of Luis Muñoz Marín and the 1940 Senate Campaign of the Partido Popular Democrático (9.15 – 9.35)
- David Howard : Modernity, development and the race agenda in the Dominican Republic (9.35 – 9.55)
- Questions and discussion (9.50 – 10.30)

Session two:

- Kate Quinn : Ethnic Politics in Contemporary Guyana (11.05 – 11.25)
- Colin Clarke: Colour and Race in Post-Independence Jamaica (11.25 – 11.45)
- Ronald Cummings : Maroon Ethnicity and Jamaican Identity: Convergences and Contestations in Contemporary Jamaica (11.45 – 12.05)
- Questions and discussion (12.05 – 12.30)

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21. Institutional Reform, Sustainability and the State: Tales from the Field

Convenor: **Patricia Oliart**

Contact details: Patricia.Oliart@ncl.ac.uk

Abstract:

In the 1990s much of Latin America was affected by a series of neoliberal reforms which radically restructured the provision of public services such as health, education and justice. At the same time, the so-called "democratic deficit" led to attempts to deepen grass roots participation in local government, especially in the areas of planning and development. This panel is an invitation to present research results -or ongoing projects- on the diversity of experiences that resulted from these policy shifts. Panellists are invited to analyse the political dynamics in the diversity of actors involved in each experience, and to reflect on the implications and especially the sustainability of these reforms.

Papers submitted:

- Rosibel Víquez: Tertiary education and knowledge-based economy in Costa Rica
- Patricia Oliart: Translations of an imported reform: The 1990's World Bank 'education package' in rural Peru
- Nick Morgan: Negotiating power: popular participation and citizenship in Lucho Garzón's Bogotá
- Rosaleen Howard: Education reform, indigenous politics, and decolonisation in the Bolivia of Evo Morales

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22. Envisioning Brazil in Literature and Culture

Convenor: **Sara Brandellero and Bianca Freire-Medeiros**

Contact details: sara.brandellero@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk; freiremed@hotmail.com

Abstract:

This forum aims to bring together papers focusing on representations of Brazilian national identity in literature and cultural products, considering how different narratives have reflected on the country's past and what the implications are for the future they envision. Papers are welcome from the fields of literary, film and cultural studies. The forum proposes to cover a broad spectrum of topics including questions such as: Exploring Brazil in space and time: travel narratives; History and cultural memory; Dictatorship and beyond; Marginality and displacement; Segregation and violence.

Papers submitted:

- Sara Brandelleo: On the Road to Nowhere: Visions of Brazil in Mário Peixoto's *Limite*
- Bianca Freire-Medeiros: "It is the new and the old swinging back and forth": Elsie Noble Caldwell *In a Changing Brazil*
- Palloma Menezes: Envisioning Brazil through the favela
- Lúcia Villares: Money and Migration: Two female characters in Graciliano Ramos' fiction

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23. Anti-Poverty Programmes in Latin America

Convenor: **Lauro Mattei** (organised with Diego Sanchez-Ancochea)

Contact details: dsanchezancochea@gmail.com

Abstract:

In the last two decades, several Latin American countries have developed new anti-poverty programs with a similar focus and design. Initiatives like Bolsa Familia in Brazil and Oportunidades in Mexico aim to increase targeted financial support, while improving the levels of health and education of the poor. Proponents of these conditional cash transfers (CCTs) programmes view them as the most effective way for poverty reduction in Latin America due to their focused nature (in specific localities, regions and segments of the population), their limited costs and their positive link to the labour market. Yet critics believe that they are insufficient to reduce poverty sustainably and emphasize the need to build more universal social protection systems.

We propose to organize a panel which focus on these public policies that were implemented in Latin American Countries recently. The different papers that will be presented in this panel aim to discuss the main results of these policies, but also explore new alternatives. In addition, we hope that also papers can make reference to the limitation of the government in the anti-poverty programs.

Papers submitted:

Session One:

- Lauro Mattei: The Current Panorama Of Poverty In Latin American And The Governmental Initiatives To Reduce It Level
- Sarah Hunt:: Democracy and Poverty Reduction Strategies in the Latin American Heavily Indebted Poor Countries 1999-2006
- Katya Rodriguez Gomez: Why the Anti-poverty Strategy in Mexico is not Working?

Session Two:

- Gisela Robles Aguilar: Income poverty, quality of employment and the implications of a multidimensional analysis of poverty.
- Anne Daguerre: A new developmental welfare state in the making? The case of the Social Missions under the Presidency of Hugo Chavez in Venezuela.
- Jasmine Gideon: Social Guarantees in Health: Chile's Plan AUGE

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24. Landowners, farmers and slaves: Discourses of power and social conflict in Cuba and Mexico (19th and 20th centuries)

Convenor: **Imilcy Balboa Navarro**

Contact details: ibalboa@his.uji.es

Abstract:

In the present panel the social relations around the universe of the plantation in Cuba and Mexico will be analyzed, specially looking at landowners, peasants and slaves. The first and second presentations are dedicated to the study of the conditions of the slave work during the expansion of the plantation from the so-called *cédulas de seguridad*. Two other papers that examine the discourse from the power follow; the first one is dedicated to the thoughts of Ramón de la Sagra regarding slavery, while the second looks at the position of the autonomists with regard to the abolition and the integration of the old slaves in the Cuban society. The third block comprises three works that analyse the relations of property and the social conflicts associated to them. Two of them are dedicated to Cuba while the last one focuses on the Mexican case.

Session One:

- Claudia Varella: Valuing Slave Property in mid-19th Century Cuba
- William Van Norman: Emergent Views of a Slave Community: Bringing the Slaves of the Cuban Cafetales into View
- Amparo Sánchez Cobos: Ramón de la Sagra and Cuban Slavery: Crucial Considerations for an Interpretation of his Ideas
- Delphine Sappez: Cuban Autonomists and the Racial Issue (1878-1898)

Session Two:

- Imilcy Balboa Navarro: Lands to Foster Plantations: Constitutionalist Pragmatism in Cuba (1812-1819)
- Vicent Sanz Rosalén: The Cuban Tobacco Growers and the expansion of the Plantations in the first decades of the 19th Century.
- Martín Pérez Acevedo: The Impact of the Mexican Revolution upon the Spanish Landowners

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25. New financial geographies and subjectivities in Latin America

Convenor: **Nina D. Laurie and Gisela P. Zapata**

Contact details: gisela.zapata@ncl.ac.uk

Abstract:

While transnationalism and identity making have been a core theme in much of social science and humanities research in recent years, financial subjectivities have not been a major focus of this work to date. However, the context for research is being re-configured in the face of current rapid and systemic changes in global financial markets and institutions in the global North. For more than a decade now, Latin America has witnessed the emergence of new groups of financial actors linked to the so-called 'democratisation of finance'. These actors have been marginalised in global financial discourses.

This panel aims to attract papers interested in emerging financial identities in order to embody our understandings of financial geographies and subjectivities in Latin America. How do we conceptualise new financial actors? How do these conceptualisations deal with the changing global financial environment which includes the recent credit crunch and shifts in the geopolitics of financial investments? How can we take discussions of issues such as micro-credit and remittances *beyond* debates bounded by notions of formal and informal sector activities and into an exploration of embodied financial subjectivities?

Papers are encouraged to explore issues such as how financial subjectivities, i.e. the making of 'investors', are engaging with and shaping emerging models of citizenship in what some are calling a post neoliberal era. What role are states playing in these processes as they respond to, for example, financial identities produced through social movements' reactions to financial crisis, rejection of neoliberal policies and/or increased recognition of the importance of those sending and receiving remittances?

Papers submitted:

- Kate Mclean: Microfinance and Rural Indigenous Women's Livelihoods: Citizenship and Financial Democracy in Bolivia
- Magdalena Barros: Swap Meets In The San Joaquin Valley: The New Mexican Tianguis In The Global Era
- Gisela Zapata: *Mi casa propia* – Colombian migrants as new financial subjects abroad
- Henry Stobart: Music and capital: 'Piracy', the digital revolution and shifting financescapes in Evo Morales' Bolivia

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26. Dilemmas in Democratization: Responses to the Weak State

Convenor: **Katie Isbester**

Contact details: Katie.isbester@virgin.net

Abstract:

Due to a weak state the process of democratization in Latin America has only had moderate success in improving socio-economic indicators. The state lacks capacity to act autonomously from the elite because it is underfunded and poorly institutionalized. Formal political structures grant excess power to the president, and insufficient power and resources to the other branches of government. The organization of power is further weakened by malapportioned legislatures, proportional representation, and weak political parties. The result is that formal political institutions have difficulty crafting and implementing public policies, resolving political conflict, and (at a less obvious level) eroding authoritarian practices and traditional informal institutions. Hence, democratization in Latin America has created some hybrid states that are neither fully democratic nor classically authoritarian.

Citizens, disenchanted with their political systems' inability to respond to their demands, are expressing their frustrations with democracy in declining support for it, and in alternate forms of governing. These alternate forms include the rise of ethnicity-based identity movements as a reconstituted opposition (Mexico and Guatemala) or political elite (Bolivia and Ecuador); populist erosion of democratic structures (Venezuela); or a highly mobilized civil society that the state attempts to constrain or direct (Costa Rica).

The democratic state in Latin America is further weakened by globalization (increasingly expressed through preferential trade agreements) which enhances the inequality of wealth. High economic inequality has encouraged the rise of crime and the drug trade, precipitating increased state violence or the threat of it. This further erodes the legitimacy of state institutions. A high level of economic inequality also hollows out democratic institutions.

The combination of a high level of economic inequality, strong informal institutions, and formal governing structures creates a dynamic that further erodes democratic norms and procedures, institutions and expectations. This panel will explore some of the implications of the weak democratic state in Latin America with an overview of the democratized state followed by case studies of individual countries.

Papers submitted:

- Katherine Isbester: The Post-Transition Blues: Nicaragua and Guatemala in the 21st Century
- Roberta Rice: Democracy Unglued: Pro-Poor Politics in Venezuela and Bolivia
- Laura Glanc: The role of security during the democratic transition in Argentina
- Francesca Lessa: Are human rights safe now? Argentina and Uruguay return to democracy

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27. Extractive Industries and Social Movements in Latin America

Convenor: **Denise Bebbington** (organised with Ximena Warnaaars)

Contact details: ximena.warnaars@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk

Abstract:

This panel aims to present some of the advances of research carried out in Latin America for the program Territory, Conflict and Development in the Andes. This program aims to produce knowledge about the political ecology of social conflicts in rural areas, the factors driving the geography of NGOs and social movements as they relate to these conflicts, the relationships between civil society and political economy under conditions of neoliberalism, the implications for the future of rural environments and societies and the emergence of diverse development alternatives across space.

Leonith Hinojosa will present the findings of the research program, while other members of the research team shall talk about the specific case sites. Denise Humphreys Bebbington will discuss the structure and dynamics of social conflicts around the relationships between natural gas extraction and indigenous movements in Bolivia and Ximena Warnaaars will talk about the social movement potential and vulnerabilities in Ecuador as it mobilizes varied peoples in response to mining conflicts.

In addition to the TCD research, this panel also will count with the contributions of three other academics and researchers that work on extractive industries and social movements in Latin America but that focus on slightly different areas of research and/or analyses that will help compliment and diversify the panel. These panellists have been participating with the TCD through the program's seminar series that aims to open discussions and debate as well as to constitute a small group of people concerned with the relationships among neoliberalization, extractive industries, the rural economy and social conflicts in Latin America.

Papers submitted:

- Javier Arellano Yanguas: Mining bonanzas and conflict in Peru
- Leonith Hinojosa: Issues on the expansion of extractive industries, socio-environmental conflicts and rural development in Andean contexts
- Denise Humphreys Bebbington: Extractive Industries and Social Movements in Latin America
- Andy Higginbottom: Eclave Redux: The Political Economy and Nefarious Impacts of Multinational Mining in Colombia
- Elizabeth Ana Bastida

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28. Resisting the 'pink tide': opposition politics in Latin America

Convenor: **Francisco Dominguez, Geraldine Lievesley, Steve Ludlam**

Contact details: f.dominguez@mdx.ac.uk, g.lievesley@mmu.ac.uk, s.ludlam@shef.ac.uk;

Abstract:

The focus of students of Latin America in the past decade has, for good reasons, been on the political forces of the left and the so-called 'pink tide' presidencies, that are attempting to bring about social and economic change in the region. There has been far less attention to the political forces that are resisting such change, despite the dramatic events in Venezuela in 2002 and since, and during the past year, in Bolivia. Because, unlike Cuba in 1959, the transformation of the region is being pursued through complex electoral, constitutional, political and legal means, offering opposition forces enormous possibilities to resist and obstruct the transformations underway. This is especially the case where the transformations involve constitutional reform, notably of sub-national structures, in nations where the left may occupy the presidential palace, but may not dominate in national assemblies and senates, in key provincial seats of power, and may lack effective influence in key state sectors, such as the military and police. Hence, in a democratically-enhanced polity, financially well-resourced, backed by powerful private media groups, by the US and linked NGOs, rightwing opposition, whatever its electoral position, can mobilise to defend special interests, even to the point of threatening the democratic process itself in alarming echoes of postwar Latin American history.

We welcome offers of papers addressing themes such as: the political ideology and strategy of opposition groupings in the states of the leftwing presidencies; collaboration between opposition groupings in different states; the role of private media organisations in opposition politics; the role of the US government in opposition politics; the role of NGOs in opposition politics; the role of rightwing presidencies in the region.

We welcome papers about

forces in any Latin American country opposed to progressive change in the region.

Session One:

- Geraldine Lievesley: 'Unearthing the real terrorists: the US State, right-wing think tanks and political intervention in contemporary Latin America'
- Guy Burton: At history's end?: The Latin American Right since 'the end of history'
- Francisco Dominguez: Venezuela's opposition: desperately seeking to overthrow Chavez

Session Two:

- Peter Lambert: Resisting the 'New Dawn'. Opposition to reform in Paraguay
- Andreas Tsolakakis: Multilateral lines of conflict in contemporary Bolivia
- Ernesto Vivares

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29. Space, place and subjects in the Andes (1908-2008)

Convenor: **Jo Crow and Philip Derbyshire**

Contact details: Jo.Crow@bristol.ac.uk; philipderbyshire@hotmail.com

Abstract:

This panel will explore the de-territorialisation and re-territorialisation of spaces of state, nation and representation in the Andean region (e.g. northern Chile, northern Argentina, Bolivia). These territories – often contested border areas or ‘frontier’ zones – are sites of ethnic and social conflict, of struggles for control over cultural, economic and natural resources. The conceptual framework used to understand such struggles is itself in transformation as new forms of mediation and representation emerge around new lines of conflict and self-definition.

Topics will include:

- Space as territorial and conceptual
- Narratives beyond the region and nation
- Relations of power, territory and economy
- Politics of representation
- Perceptions of space and place: new subjects, old governments, travellers and migrants
- New articulations of culture and history

Papers submitted:

- Joanna Crow: Re-presenting the nation from the geographical and racial margins: Tarapacá, Chile
- Phillip Derbyshire: From the Gaze on Europe to the Gaze on the Andes: the Work of Rodolfo Kusch
- Katinka Weber: Chiquitano constructions of space: Monte Verde, ‘*nuestra casa grande*’
- Nadya Herrera Catalán: Analysing the role of the state leaders within the regional integration process: The experience of the Andean Community of Nations

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30. Institutionalism and Rural Development

Convenor: **Olga Lucía Castillo-Ospina**

Contact details: olga.castillo@javeriana.edu.co

Abstract:

Analyses of 'Institutionalism' as well as those related to the concept of 'Rural Development' are facing important transformations on the global scale, as the result of influences in the Social Sciences in general and other sciences of human behavior, including some of the Natural Sciences.

Additionally, a turning point towards the studies of the social relationships on local and micro-institutional levels is perceived. Some of those mentioned analyses –although frequently are focused on the micro-level– are also clearly attempting to identify possible articulations to wider contexts, from the regional until the international contexts.

We also consider that the analysis of the institutions are able to offer complementary approaches to the difficulties of 'Development' that –no doubt– are immersed in a new configuration of relationships that have had a strong impact on the urban as well as rural areas. This new configuration is determined by global transformations, the strong decreasing of benefits of the welfare state in Latin American countries, the decentralization of previously central public issues, the peasantry strategies to fight poverty, the potential of civil society participation, and the study of forms of collective action for the provision of public goods, among others.

Papers submitted:

- Olga Lucía Castillo-Ospina: Colombia a faked democracy and not the oldest one in Latin America
- Juan Guillermo Ferro-Medina: Emancipatory Movements in Latin America

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32. Where Music Meets Literature in Latin America

Convenor: **Nicholas Roberts**

Contact details: n.d.t.roberts@durham.ac.uk

Abstract:

The panel looks at the relationship between and intersection of musical and literary production in Latin America. From the popular poetry found in the folk music of the Venezuelan *llanos* to the high art concern for jazz in Cortázar, music and literature frequently meet in the expressions of national, regional, and world culture and ontology found in a diverse range of Latin American cultural expression. The aim of this panel is to consider the role of each in informing and enriching the other, and the ways in which such a dual engagement with these modes of artistic 'text' responds to and offers new vistas on both artistic expression/representation *per se* and the specific experience of Latin American culture, society, and being. How can critical discourses normally reserved for *either* music *or* literature be brought to bear on cultural artefacts which engage with both? How do these texts affect our understanding of 'literature' and 'music(ality)'? These are some of the questions which would be raised by the panel, as it addresses such topics as: the musicality of poetic verse; lyrics as literature; (high) literary engagement with music (thematic); the attempted construction of 'musical' literary texts; the expression and development of cultural identity through music and literature; comparing music and literature as reflections of postmodernism and globalisation.

Papers submitted:

- Katia Chornik: 'Boos and Hoorays: Performances in Carpentier's Novels'
- Roberto Kolb and Susana González: 'Guillén's and Revueltas's *Sensemaya*: Drawing Words from Music and Music from Words' [to be presented by R. Kolb]
- Miguel Nenevé: Literary engagement with music in two Brazilian singers: Belchior and Caetano Veloso
- Nicholas Roberts: 'Variations on a theme: Classical Music and Language in Julio Cortázar's "Clone"'

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33. The Paramaribo Connection: The Re-invention of the South-American Continent through 'Narcotrafico'

Convenor: **Natascha Adama and Miguel Rojas Sotelo**

Contact details: Na56@duke.edu; mir6@pitt.edu; rojaszotelo@gmail.com

Abstract:

Drug-trafficking has changed the face of South America and it has added a new dimension to the concept of globalization, for the world is currently witnessing the results of an impressive international network of drug-trading and money-laundering, involving a myriad of players on different continents. Drug-lords and drug money are incorporated domestic economies and politics; they have created social networks against poverty in slums, bribed politicians, became elected or influenced electoral outcomes for their cause. This panel postulates that: the phenomenon of drug trade is impressive because of its impact on the shaping of institutions and policy-making in Latin America and because in some instances they have taken over the role of national governments and we presume acceleration of this phenomenon in the twenty-first century. This panel aims to explore: 1) the socio-political and economic dimensions of drug-trafficking and their impact on democratization and the viability of the state; 2) the symbolic and aesthetic possibilities of re-inventing the perspective of nations and; 3) narco-trafficking as a propeller of domestic economic development and international trade relations

This panel invites papers from all corners of the South American continent but places its emphasis on the following aspects:

- The viability of democracy under the pressures of /narco-trafico/ and its derivatives;
- The impetus of drug-trading connections for new forms of international economic integration;
- The way local communities deal with aspects of drug related violence and crime
- Possible legalization and integration of drug-trade and its effects for local economies in for example Bolivia and Peru.

Papers submitted:

- Lizardo Herara: Daily Violence: Spaces of resistance and freedom in the work of Victor Gavira, The Rose Seller
- Natascha Adama: "A Round -Trip to Amsterdam with "*Bolletjes*". Suriname as the Transit-Port in South America for Drug- Smuggling to Europe"
- Miguel Rojas Sotelo: Journey to the Global World: Visual trafficking and Counter-trades in the constitution of Contemporary Colombia, an approximation
- Bianca Freire-Medeiros: The favela is a battle ground: Representations of urban violence in Brazilian contemporary cinema
- Colin Campbell: A Social Constructivist Analysis of US-Mexican Relations in the War on Drugs

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34. **Workshop:** Interpreting the Signs: the practices and dilemmas of research in Latin America

Name of convenor: **Lucy Taylor**

Contact details: fft@aber.ac.uk

Abstract:

Whether we are analysing historical texts, taped interviews, social practices, creative writing or visual images, all of us interpret our research materials and subjects. This is not a neutral activity; on the contrary it is a complex process full of potholes, obstacles and opportunities for misunderstanding. The purpose of this workshop is to discuss how we go about our interpretive activity, revealing some of the dilemmas which representation presents and sharing practices, methods and strategies. As Latin Americanists, accustomed to taking a multidisciplinary approach, we are ideally placed to reflect on this topic and to experiment with innovative strategies and methods.

Workshop discussions will be inspired and loosely structured by short presentations from four speakers from different disciplines. Verena Alberti will discuss the analysis of language as a productive 'act' and the relation between "pregnant narratives" and "language games", reflecting on interviews recorded for a project (with Amilcar Araujo Pereira) on the history of the black movement in Brazil (2003-2007). Elatiana Razafimandimbimanana will open discussions about the social readings which researchers produce from the interpretation of linguistic 'signs', exploring the connections between the social world, the artifacts it produces and the researcher's own experiences. Sara Motta will discuss the dilemmas faced by academics who see their research as part of a struggle for social justice but who are bound-up in a complex series of unequal power relationships, drawing on her experiences of working with social movements in Argentina. Fiona Wilson will reflect on the dilemmas presented by long-term research relationships and the difficulties of interpreting the archives, based on her anthropological and historical research in Tarma, Peru.

While achieving perfect interpretation and representation is impossible, it is hoped that this workshop will stimulate debate and the cross-fertilization of ideas on an issue which is central to the research experience of us all, celebrating and promoting intellectual engagement across the disciplines.

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35. Governance and Social Conflict over Natural Resources in Latin America; **the Practitioners Perspective**

Convenor: **Hector Calleros-Rodriguez**

Contact details: pthcr@leeds.ac.uk

Abstract:

The panel will examine and discuss contemporary cases of social conflict over natural resources (land, water and forests) in the Lacandon Forest (Chiapas, Mexico) from the perspective of stakeholders and policy makers including indigenous leaders, social activists, government officials, lawmakers and judges. The focus of the panel is on the analysis of ongoing social conflicts in the Lacandon Forest and the impacts of federal and state policies (land tenure, environmental conservation, agricultural production and social development) upon indigenous communities. The panel offers the opportunity to reflect on the dynamics of social conflict through the eyes of the relevant actors. The panel will follow the usual SLAS format: a series of 20 minute presentations followed by a discussion inviting questions from the floor. The convenor will introduce the topic of the panel and chair the discussion.

Session One:

- Carolina Camacho Villa: "Y Nos Dijeron, que si nos quedamos aquí..." ("And so They Told Us: If You Stay Here..."). Action research with tseltal communities in the Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve, Chiapas, Mexico
- Chankin Chambor Chenabor: The Lacandons of Chiapas: 30 Years of Struggles over Land
- Martha Cecilia Díaz: The Struggle for Land in the Lacandon Forest (Chiapas, Mexico), The experience of a land policy for peasant communities.
- José G. Vargas-Hernández: Cerro de San Pedro: Grass Roots Movements In Co-Operation and Conflict to Stop a Living City from Disappearing

Session Two:

- Jose Hernandez Nava: Protected Natural Areas and Land-Based Conflict, the Case of the Lacandon Rainforest (Chiapas, Mexico)
- Rodolfo Diaz Sarvide: The Lacandon Forest, a Disputed Territory
- José Adalberto Zúñiga Morales: Social Participation and management of the Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve; Challenges to the Conservation and Sustainability of the Lacandon Forest.

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36. Race, Ethnicity and Identity in Contemporary Latin America

Convenor: **Joceny Pinheiro**

Contact details: jocenypinheiro@hotmail.com

Abstract:

The presenters of this panel will explore different aspects of racial and ethnic formation and identity in contemporary Latin America. The papers highlight two tendencies that sometimes complement and sometimes contradict each other: the intensification of processes of black and indigenous identification on the one hand and the increasing emphasis on multicultural and neoliberal citizenship on the other. Presenters will draw from their varied experiences of fieldwork in Latin America, including: contemporary meanings of 'being and becoming' Mapuche in Chile; victimhood, gender and indigeneity in a Wayuu Women's Organization in Colombia; indigenous identification in Ceará, Brazil; the implementation of racial quotas in Rio de Janeiro; the impact of the black and indigenous movements on Brazilian film and television, and the articulation of race, sex and gender in ideologies of *mestizaje* in Latin America more generally.

Papers submitted:

- Andrew Webb - Being and Becoming Mapuche in contemporary Chilean society
- Pablo Jaramillo - Victimhood, Gender and Indigeneity in a Wayuu Women's Organization
- Joceny Pinheiro - The New Iracema: indigenosity and *mestiçagem* in Ceará, Brazil
- André Cicalo - Affirmative Actions in favour of black students in Rio de Janeiro
- Tatiana Heise - Re-inventing Brazil: negros and índios in Brazilian audio-visual culture
- Peter Wade - Race, sex/gender and *mestizaje* in Latin America

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37. The State, Social Movements and Resistance to Global Capital

Convenor: **Thomas Muhr, Andy Higginbottom, Diana Raby**

Contact details: Thomas.Muhr@bristol.ac.uk dlraby@liverpool.ac.uk

Abstract:

This panel seeks to bring together social/indigenous movement activism, or organized society generally, with state politics. Traditionally, the two have been adversaries rather than collaborators. However, social movements of the progressive Latin American/Caribbean (LAC) appear to join forces in the struggle against global capitalism and for regional unification and counter-hegemony. This development has recently become institutionalised as the Social Movements Council of the Bolivarian Alternative for the Peoples of Our America (ALBA), which co-exists with a Presidential Council and a Ministerial Council. ALBA comprises six full members (Bolivia, Cuba, Dominica, Honduras, Nicaragua, Venezuela), and it appears as if the entire region is being integrated through increasing transnational grassroots and bottom-up networking.

The panel invites contributions that explore the wide range of relationships between the organised society and governments across the region. This can include the resistance struggles of social and indigenous movements in the militarised neoliberal states, above all Mexico, Colombia, and Peru, but also other countries such as Chile or Guatemala. It can mean exploring whether and how popular movements (re-)define their relationships with the state in the progressive ALBA countries. Questions should be posed regarding the co-optation of movements in these countries, or alternatively how they can benefit from state implementation of policies that they advocate. Or, how state-organised society relations shape national politics in countries bilaterally associated with ALBA, such as Argentina, Brazil, Haiti, Ecuador, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Papers submitted:

1. Thomas Muhr: The 'good left', the 'bad left', and the ugly militarized neoliberal state in regional integration.
2. Diana Raby: ALBA and Petrocaribe as mechanisms for creating protected socio-economic spaces
3. Giel Ton: The gap between discourse and practice: Bolivia's dualist agrarian structure and interest representation in trade negotiations
4. Hazel Marsh: *Whose Heritage?* Cultural Policy and Civil Society in Contemporary Venezuela
5. Adam Gill: Venezuelan Direct Democracy – The Case of the Communal Councils.
6. Andy Higginbottom: Challenging the 'Weak State' Thesis: Colombia

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38. Gender and Rural Transformations

Convenor: **María Farah, Arlette Covarrubias, Odra Saucedo**

Contact details: m.farah-quijano@uea.ac.uk ; o.saucedo@uea.ac.uk, a.covarrubias@uea.ac.uk

Abstract:

This panel will discuss gender relationships in the context of rural transformations in Latin America. These rural transformations include, among others, migration (international and national, rural to urban, urban to rural, rural to rural, temporary and permanent); changes in the productive uses of land (e.g. reduction of agriculture and increase in numbers of livestock); and the diversification of productive activities, especially non-farming activities (e.g. tourism, mining, industry, building, transport and commerce). There have been two further transformations, not only in rural zones but at national level as well. These are rapid fertility transition and shifts in social policy and legal norms related to reproductive and productive issues such as education, health, nutrition, and women's and men's access to and management of livelihood assets (e.g. income, land). All these transformations have had gendered impacts in four different institutional sites, namely households, community, market and state.

Some topics which can be discussed in this panel are for example, the effects of social policy on social protection networks at community and household level; the changes in the bargaining power between men and women of different ages in both the productive and the reproductive spheres due to shifts of social programmes and legal norms; the relationship between women's access to paid employment and their welfare at different spheres (e.g. decision making, health, income, etc.); and the impact of migration in gendered intra-household relations and community roles and participation.

Session One:

- Mariagrazia Leone: Networking: New enlases to loosen old knots. -Alternatives and resistance
- Odra Angélica Saucedo Delgado: The Implicit Morality of Social Protection: An Illustrative Case of rural households interaction with state health service in the Centre West of Rural Mexico
- María Adelaida Farah Quijano: Rural intra-household gender relationships and their links with the transformations of social policy and some legal norms in Colombia

Session Two:

- Arlette Covarrubias Feregrino: Welfare implications of "Maquila" jobs for married women: the case of two Towns of Tehuacán Mexico
- Kathrin Forstner: Women's multiple identities and rural gender relations: the case of craft cooperatives in Southern Peru
- Andrea Blumtritt: Translocality and gender dynamics: The example of the Bolivian Aymara

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