FACULTY OF ARTS

Latin American Research Centre

annual report 2015-2016



Message from the Director

Pablo Policzer



Since I became LARC Director a year ago, I have been guided by two simple ideas: First, the conviction that projecting the Centre forward is a terrific opportunity to do something truly unique, valuable, and long-lasting. The LARC is a small centre, to be sure, but it can do big things. And second, that to do this, we need to answer the question of "Why the LARC?" What does an area studies centre such as the LARC allow us to do that we are not otherwise capable of doing in our disciplines and home departments?

Answering this question requires us to reassess the status of area studies. Indeed, as the gap between rich and poor countries closes, the old paradigm in which the developed world studied the problems of the developing world has given way to a globally connected world that must face a series of common problems together. Even though today there is a backlash against globalization, there is no turning back. No part of the world can go it alone. All need to engage and collaborate with one another. The emerging consensus is that dialogue and collaboration must occur not only across geographical boundaries, but disciplinary ones as well. Universities play a pivotal role in stimulating these necessary connections in ways that are meaningful and rigorous.

An area studies centre such as the LARC is ideally positioned to be a catalyst for the generation of precisely the kind of knowledge required to understand and address common global problems. With a constituency of scholars with a deep interest in Latin America across many faculties and dating back to the early years of the University, the LARC creates multi-disciplinary conversations through rigorous scholarship, cultural programming, and public service activities. The LARC is grounded in this rich history, but is also positioning itself at the cutting edge of an emerging new generation of area studies centres. We are embarking on an ambitious path of broadening our horizons and engaging experts not only on but also in the region, working in fields ranging from the fine arts to medicine and engineering.

This year alone, we welcomed visiting fellows and graduate students from Colombia, Mexico, Venezuela, Brazil and Spain, and hosted a conference with participants from ten different countries. We hosted Canada's first cross-disciplinary roundtable event on the Zika virus, convening experts from Medicine, Cell Biology and Community Health to discuss the human rights, public health and economic consequences of the epidemic. We also kicked off the new LARC Dialogues series, which aims to foment high level discussions of problems of critical significance to the region and beyond. And we redesigned our website and our publications to embrace the digital age, improving public engagement and knowledge exchange. Our events, including a thriving visiting speakers and film series, connected with over a thousand people.

It's been a very busy first year, and I am grateful to everyone in the LARC community for their wonderful support and advice in helping me manage a sometimes steep learning curve. Carolina Camelo, who filled in during Monique Greenwood's maternity leave, provided invaluable assistance during this time. And since her return in May, Monique has not skipped a beat and has made tremendous contributions to every aspect of running the Centre. The LARC is also blessed to have a strong community of supporters through the Faculty of Arts, its Fellows and Executive Committee, and Advisory Board.

Together, with a new vision and through ambitious new initiatives and programs, we have laid a strong foundation for an exciting future.

Pablo Policzer

Director, Latin American Research Centre

Latin American Research Centre

our core values

Mission

The LARC helps the University lift up its eyes, broaden its horizons, and see farther. It provides a multi-disciplinary community for students and scholars across the Americas to develop and engage in rigorous research related to the region. Through academic and public service activities, the Centre is also an accessible source of dialogue and information for the general public on a broad range of issues of contemporary relevance for Latin America and beyond.

Connect with the LARC and expand your horizons.



Pablo Policzer, LARC Director (left), and Hendrik Kraay, former LARC Director (right).

Vision

The LARC aims to become the leading Latin America-focused research centre in Canada, and to join the top tier of such centres around the world. Because leading requires innovation, we are broadening the scope of what constitutes area studies: research not just on but also in the region, and beyond its traditional constituencies in the humanities and social sciences.



Left to right: Gabriel Martínez, El Colegio de México; David Barrios Giraldo. Department of History; Marcela Mijares Lara, ELAP Student.

Events

an estimate of 1,100 people attended LARC events

400 attended the Film Series

The well-established Film Series has been

a LARC favourite for many years. The Series features award-winning contemporary Latin American cinema that showcases the cultural diversity and artistry of the region. The Centre works closely with Latin American Consulates and Embassies to obtain cutting-edge films and also works with local experts to lead discussions following each screening.

- "Violeta se fue a los cielos" by Andrés Wood (Chile). September 24, 2015.
- *"Un cuento chino"* by Sebastián Borensztein (Argentina). October 29, 2015.
- *"Resistencia: The Fight for the Aguan Valley"* by Jesse Freeston (Honduras). November 19, 2015.
- *"La teta asustada"* by Claudia Llosa (Peru). November 26, 2015.
- *"Relatos salvajes"* by Damián Szifron (Argentina). January 28, 2016.
- "Las Viudas de los jueves" by Marcelo Piñeyro (Argentina). February 25, 2016.
- *"Los viajes del viento"* by Ciro Guerra (Colombia). March 31, 2016.
- "La sirga" by William Vega (Colombia). April 28, 2016.

390 attended the Speakers Series

The Speakers Series provides a forum for Fellows, graduate students, and both local and visiting scholars to share leading and relevant research related to the region with the academic community and general public.

- *"Indigenous Rights and the New Constitutionalism in Latin America"* Dr. Carlos García Palacios, Universidad de Salamanca. September 10, 2015.
- "The Politics of Gay Marriage in Latin America: Argentina, Chile, and Mexico" Dr. Jordi Díez, Department of Political Science, University of Guelph. October 20, 2015.
- *"Forum: Mexico and Migration"* Part of Mexico Days: Crossing Borders, Crossing Cultures. October 28, 2015.

- *"Dos interpretaciones de Sandino: Carlos Fonseca Amador y Sergio Ramírez"* Dr. Stephen Henighan, University of Guelph. November 20, 2015.
- *"After Posthegemony"* Dr. Jon Beasley-Murray, Hispanic Studies, University of British Columbia. January 29, 2016.
- *"Venezuela Roundtable: Post-Legislative Elections"* Moderated by Dr. Pablo Policzer, Director, LARC. Panelists: Josué Ramírez, Director, Canadian Venezuela Democracy Forum; Dr. Jorge Lazo-Cividanes, Specialist in Comparative Politics of Latin America; Jeanne Liendo, MA student, Deptartment of Political Science, University of Calgary. February 10, 2016.
- "Zika Roundtable: Experts, advocacy, and a public health emergency" Moderated by Dr. Rita Henderson, Family Medicine, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. Panelists: Dr. Daniel Limonta, Department of Cell Biology, University of Alberta; Dr. Eliana Castillo, Obstetrics and Gynecology, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary; Dr. Juliet Guichon, Community Health Sciences, Cumming School of Medicine, University of Calgary. March 3, 2016.
- *"Transcultural Immigrant Entrepreneurship: A study of Chinese dominance in the grocery retail sector in Panama and Belize"* Dr. Josephine Smart and Dr. Alan Smart, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology, University of Calgary. March 11, 2016.
- *"I Know What You Need: A Canadian medical physics experience in Nicaragua"* Dr. José Villareal-Barajas, Department of Oncology, University of Calgary. March 24, 2016.
- Graduate Student Symposium. Panel 1: "Eros, Power and Identity" Moderated by Dr. Pablo Policzer, Director, LARC.
 Panelists: Claudia Donoso, Department of Sociology; Ana Morales-Arce, Department of Anthropology and Archaeology; Rebeca Jaco, Department of French, Italian and Spanish; Isabel Lara, Department of French, Italian and Spanish.
 Panel 2: "Policy-making across Borders in the Americas" Moderated by Dr. Hendrik Kraay, Department of History.
 Panelists: David Barrios Giraldo, Department of History; Taisa Pinetti Passoni, ELAP Student; Elizabeth Pando, Department of Political Science; Rogelio Vélez Mendoza, Department of History.

Panel 3: "Checks and Balances of Presidential Powers" Moderated by Dr. Amelia Kiddle, Department of History. Panelists: Marcela Mijares Lara, ELAP Student; Mariana Hipóito R. Mota, Department of Political Science; Jeanne Liendo, Department of Political Science; Nidhi Panwar, Department of Political Science. April 15, 2016.

• *"Los Derechos de la Madre Tierra"* David Choquehuanca, Bolivian Minister of Foreign Relations. June 9, 2016.

170 attended the Dialogues Series

The new LARC Dialogues Series brings to Calgary leading voices from across the region to debate and advance discussion around issues of contemporary significance to Latin America and beyond. The Series features not only scholars but also experts with a wide range of firsthand professional experience such as politicians, journalists and business people in order to discuss, debate, and better understand problems and their solutions.

- *"Overcoming Conflict in Colombia: Political and economic challenges"* Moderated by Dr. Stephen Randall, Department of History, University of Calgary. Panelists: Colombian Senator Juan Manuel Galán; Ricardo Ávila, Editor-in-Chief of Colombian financial newspaper Diario Portafolio; Colombian Ambassador to Canada Mr. Nicolás Lloreda Ricaurte. April 26, 2016.
- "Global Lessons in Urban Diversity, Revitalization and Growth" Moderated by Jim Brown, CBC. Panelists: Ing. Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, Fundación para la Democracia, Mexico; Rollin Stanley, General Manager, Urban Strategy, City of Calgary; Byron Miller, Department of Geography, University of Calgary. June 2, 2016.

Website

The redesigned website (**larc.ucalgary.ca**) provides a better platform to promote and connect our work. Graphic-driven and modelled on cutting-edge platforms such as Opencanada.org, it builds a foundation to make full use of digital media. As part of the redesign, the Centre now features video interviews with scholars and experts on a variety of topics highlighted at our events. The website also features our publications, the prior categories among which have been dropped in favour of a single all-encompassing publications series in order to reach a wider audience.

140 attended the CALACS Conference

The Latin American Research Centre welcomed over 140 participants from ten different countries as part of the 2016 Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies conference June 1-3, 2016. The theme "Hybrid Communities, Societies, Spaces, and Subjectivities" attracted faculty and students alike to present multi- and inter-disciplinary research spanning the Americas. Keynote speakers brought experience, insight and humor to the event. Dr. Sara Castro-Klarén (Johns Hopkins University) addressed the current state of Latin American Studies in the age of globalization; while Ing. Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas (Fundación para la Democracia, Mexico) spoke about the challenges to democracy and social justice in Mexico.



Ing. Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, CALACS Keynote speaker.

Visitors and students in residence

Scholars and students are an important part of the

LARC community. During their term with the LARC, Visiting scholars and graduate students are encouraged to engage in a range of activities that may include contributing to publications, giving a talk on current research related to the region, and organizing events (conferences, visiting speakers) through the Centre. Many continue to collaborate with the Centre on a wide range of new and existing initiatives and contribute to activities long after their term is complete.

Visiting Scholars

- Denisse A. Grandas Estepas, Department of Political Science and International Relations. Jorge Tadeo Lozano University, Bogotá, Colombia.
- Arturo Valencia, Economic History, Monterrey Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey Mexico City campus and the Faculty of Economics at Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.
- Carlos García Palacios, Universidad de Salamanca, Spain.

Graduate Students in Residence

- Jeanne Liendo, MA Student, Department of Political Science. University of Calgary.
- Elizabeth Pando, CALACS Coordinator, PhD Student, Department of Political Science, University of Calgary.
- Rogelio Vélez Mendoza, CALACS Coordinator, MA Student, Department of History, University of Calgary.

Other Visitors

- Francisco Vallejo, MITACS Globalink Intern, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.
- Renato Lira, MITACS Globalink Intern, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil.
- Marcela Mijares, Emerging Leaders of the Americas Scholar, El Colegio de México.
- Esteban Morales Proa, CONACYT Scholarship Recipient, La Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Mexico.

Being part of the Latin American Research Centre (LARC) has been an invaluable experience in my academic career. Thanks to LARC I have been able to meet other students, academics and experts from around the world working on Latin America within a variety of disciplines. I have not only become acquainted with their work, but by participating in presentations and discussions, I have been able to think about my own work from a different perspective and how it fits within the broader compendium of knowledge produced about and within Latin America. LARC is an invaluable resource for me and no doubt for those who belong to its community."

> - Elizabeth Pando, PhD student, Department of Political Science and recent LARC Graduate Student in Residence



Graduate Student Rogelio Vélez Mendoza films LARC Fellow Roberta Rice's interview with CALACS Distinguished Fellow Judith Adler Hellman.

Publications

The Centre regularly publishes freely accessible articles online that cover a wide range of issues and fields of contemporary significance. To encourage relevance and knowledge translation, articles are written by experts in the field and are aimed at a general audience.

- "Ecuador en la Encrucijada" by Dr. Carlos García Palacios. November 2015.
- "Candidates without Parties: Lessons from Mexico" by Alejandro García Magos. December 2015.
- "Same-Sex Marriage in Latin America" by Dr. Jordi Díez. January 2016.
- "Venezuela: Is the legislative election a turning point?" by Dr. Stephen Randall. January 2016.
- "Colombia on the Verge of Peace" by David Barrios. April 2016.
- "Democracy in Brazil: Has Anything Changed since the Early 1990s?" by Mariana Hipólito R. Mota. June 2016.
- "Interview with Dr. Judith Adler Hellman" by Dr. Roberta Rice. June 2016.

In addition to the online publications, the Centre works with the University of Calgary Press to publish a book series on Latin America and the Caribbean. In existence for many years, the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Series (press.ucalgary.ca) is the only series of its kind in the country, and has become a landmark in the field of Latin American Studies.

· Journalism in a Small Place: Making Caribbean news relevant, comprehensive and independent by Dr. Juliette Storr (2016).



Recent Latin American and Caribbean Studies Series publication by Juliette Storr.

C Politically, some consider Rousseff's impeachment to be a coup, since she is the only one to face the consequences of fudging government accounting when other presidents have done the same. *Constitutionally, presidents can be impeached* based on such grounds..."

— Mariana Hipólito R. Mota, Democracy in Brazil: Has Anything Changed since the Early 1990s?

LARC Members

28 Fellows

LARC Fellows are at the heart of the Centre, creating an important hub for exchanging ideas and sharing their passion for research and knowledge with students, colleagues and the general public.

- Christon Archer, History
- Eugene Beaulieu, Economics
- Nayibe Bermúdez Barrios, Linguistics, Languages and Cultures
- David Bethune, CARA Project, UC International
- Merlin Brinkerhoff, UC International
- Denise Fay Brown, Geography
- Conny Davidsen, Geography
- Shawn England, Humanities, Mount Royal University
- Susan Franceschet, Political Science
- José Miguel Gordillo, Languages and Cultures, Mount Royal University
- Rita Henderson, Community Health Sciences
- Irene Herremans, Haskayne School of Business
- Nina Hrycak, Nursing
- Amelia M. Kiddle, History and Latin American Studies
- Candelaria Konrad, Linguistics, Languages and Cultures
- Hendrik Kraay, History
- Geoffrey McCafferty, Archaeology
- Elizabeth Montes Garcés, Linguistics, Languages and Cultures
- Meaghan Peuramäki-Brown, Anthropology Program, Athabasca University
- Pablo Policzer, Political Science
- Greg Purdy, Xpera
- Stephen J. Randall, History
- Raj Rangayyan, Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Scott Raymond, Archaeology
- Kathryn Reese-Taylor, Archaeology
- Verónica de la Rosa Jaimes, Cumming School of Medicine

- Luis Torres, Linguistics, Languages and Cultures
- Harrie Vredenburg, Haskayne School of Business
- Maureen Wilson, Faculty of Social Work

Executive Committee

Chaired by the Director, the executive committee is composed of LARC fellows representing the main centres of Latin American research on campus and advises on day-to-day operations and planning of activities.

- Pablo Policzer, Director
- Amelia Kiddle, History & Latin American Studies
- Elizabeth Montes Garcés, Linguistics, Languages and Cultures
- Kathryn Reese-Taylor, Archaeology

Advisory Board

The Centre receives support and advice from the Advisory Board, which is composed of members of the external community, university academics and ex-officio members from the university administration.

- Michael Doyle, Chair, Canpetro International Ltd
- André Buret (ex-officio), Associate Vice-President Research, University of Calgary
- Richard Sigurdson (ex-officio), Dean, Faculty of Arts, University of Calgary
- Amelia Kiddle (ex-officio), Coordinator, Latin American Studies Program, University of Calgary
- Karina Briño, President and CEO, Mining Association of BC
- Brian Gilbertson, Manager, Government Relations, Agrium
- Andrea Hatzinikolas, VP Legal and Corporate, Alvopetro Energy Ltd.
- Bill Trefanenko, Former Director, International Operations, Enbridge
- Harrie Vredenburg, Professor, Haskayne School of Business, University of Calgary

The LARC is grateful to the Faculty of Arts at the University of Calgary and the Advisory Board for their ongoing support and contributions to the LARC.

LARC Dialogues Series on Urban Diversity with Ing. Cuauhtémoc Cárdenas, Byron Miller and Rollin Stanley.





Sara Castro-Klarén, CALACS Keynote speaker.

Bolivian Minster of Foreign Relations David Choquehuanca speaks at the University of Calgary on the Rights of Mother Earth.

> [The political nature of] Latin American studies is good because it infuses the field with a certain urgency, it is not just about paradigms of investigation but HOW these paradigms of investigation affect the real world and people's lives."

- Sara Castro-Klarén, Johns Hopkins University

LARC ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016 | 9

Financial Summary

August 1, 2015 - July 31, 2016

Revenue	
Beginning balance	\$30,142.00
Donations from other units for events	\$0.00
Event fundraising	\$2,390.00
Faculty of Arts Operating Funds	\$45,000.00
Faculty of Arts for book subvention	\$5,000.00
Total	\$82,532.00
Expenditures	
Administration and Personnel (Contract and Casual)	\$39,424.31
Materials and Supplies	\$2,147.66
Speakers, Events and Meetings	\$10,766.99
UC Press Book Subvention	\$5,000.00
Networking Events	\$1,506.12
Total	\$58,845.08
Balance	\$23,686.92

The LARC is at the forefront of a new generation of area studies centres redefining the field. In order to facilitate collaboration across cultures, languages, and disciplines, we need to expand our geographical and disciplinary horizons, to build meaningful partnerships across regions and fields of study. Within the Americas and beyond, we share common problems and challenges that require new approaches and innovative solutions. Connect with us. The world is changing and the LARC is ready to lead.

FACULTY OF ARTS

Latin American Research Centre 2500 University Drive NW Calgary, AB T2N 1N4 | CANADA 403.210.3929 larc@ucalgary.ca larc.ucalgary.ca