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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

At a recent meeting of area studies program directors, a famous political scientist upset almost everyone by informing us that centers like those we directed were academic dinosaurs. He let us know that “real” scholarly work in the social sciences is nowadays so comparative, so global, and so imbued with theoretical considerations that old-fashioned notions of country, region, or even continent should be cast aside. Then he let slip that he never had actually lived abroad for any length of time and that he could not converse in any language other than English. Hmm … Forgive me for wondering how someone incapable of discussing the peculiarities of a particular region somehow felt qualified to discuss the world.

Of course, his criticisms of area studies are widespread, so much so that self-confessed Latin Americanists, Asianists, or Africanists in certain social sciences are increasingly scarce. Good arguments are offered for these trends, although as a humanist, I wonder about the long-term value of research that ignores cultural and historical contexts.

Still, controversies that pit discipline against area studies may be asking the wrong question. More important questions might be, What do area studies programs accomplish? Do they provide a framework for good research, good teaching, good publications, and a good exchange of ideas? As you peruse this publication about the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) at the University of Texas at Austin, you will find good reasons for answering these questions in the affirmative. For example, last year, one of our professors, Rodrigo Sierra, received a major grant from the Moore Foundation to study how national parks in Latin America can help protect endangered species while also contributing to sustainable development. The Mexican Center at LLILAS is doing first-rate work in studying the evolution of political parties in Mexico as that country embraces an increasingly open political system. In collaboration with the UT Performing Arts Center, LLILAS has helped develop a program that facilitates tours for Latin American performing artists, offers extensive community and K–12 outreach on Latin America as viewed through the arts, and even subsidizes the creation of new works. In these three examples, we move from a rich mixture of policy and science in environmental studies to an empirical research project on Mexican political parties to a performing arts program that both presents and subsidizes concerts and plays. These worthwhile activities share one important attribute: they all are done under the umbrella of an area studies program.

So maybe people who see area studies as too general, too loose, too intellectually vague have a point. But those of us who believe that areas studies also provide an administrative and financial home for worthwhile activities that might go orphaned otherwise also have a point. And that’s my point—and the point of much of what you will read in this publication. Enjoy.

NICOLAS SHUMWAY
DIRECTOR
Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies
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**COLLECTION THAT SPEAKS VOLUMES**

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Ignacio Manuel Altamirano, *El Zarco* (episodios de la vida mexicana en 1861-1863): Novelita póstuma, drawings by Antonio Utrillo and engravings by D. J. Thomas (Mexico: J. Ballestra y Ca., sucesor, 1901)
ANNUAL HARPNESS HAS A PASSION FOR BRAZIL. “I’VE LOVED BRAZIL since I lived there in my early 20s,” Harmness says. (See related article, p. 33.) Now, as Head Librarian for the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection at the University of Texas at Austin, Harmness shares her enthusiasm and knowledge with scholars and students as she oversees the most comprehensive university collection of Latin American resources in the world. Currently, the collection houses over 990,000 bound volumes and other published and archival resources that provide in-depth documentation on Mexico, Central and South America, the Caribbean, and the U.S. Southwest when that area was part of Spanish or Mexican territory, as well as all aspects of Latino Studies in the United States.

The Benson is unusual in that it houses rare books and papers and is also a contemporary library. The library’s collection began as an endowment of rare books and manuscripts relating to Mexico and has grown from there. This impressive accumulation during the last eighty years has information dating back to the fifteenth century. The collection of Mexican bibliophile Genaro García, containing over 25,000 volumes and 250,000 pages of original manuscripts, was purchased by the university in 1921 to form a strong foundation for the collection. In 1937, the university acquired 247 volumes from the Joaquín García Izabalcea collection, including sixteenth-century relaciones geográficas, reports and maps relating to Mexico and Guatemala, and 45 of the first books printed in the New World, published in Mexico between 1543 and 1669, in language, science, history, music, and religion. “We not only have manuscripts,” Harmness says, “but in the regular book collection, we have the secondary sources to back up the primary sources—all under one roof.”

The collection adds approximately 1,500 volumes every month, as well as intermittent finds throughout the year. Harmness says the library is the lucky recipient of many gifts. “Many authors send books, and often retiring professors give us their personal collections. Last week, the Consul General of Ecuador was here to present books to the library.”

When it comes to finding new gems for the collection, Harmness and her team are always on the hunt. Each year, Benson staffers make several trips to Latin America to acquire special new materials for the library. “We’re looking for things we can’t get from book dealers, like publications from government agencies. We visit university departments and meet with authors to find all kinds of amazing published materials.” Historians and scholars take advantage of the centralized location of the many different sources that make it easier to do multinational research without having to travel from country to country. “We have visiting researchers from all over the world,” Harmness says. “Most of my time is spent talking with people.”

Nicolas Shumway, Director of LLILAS, believes the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection to be one of the most visible signs of the university’s commitment to the study of Latin America. “One of the axioms of the library collection is that people from Latin America frequently want to come here to study because this is one of the few places you can actually study Latin America as a whole,” Shumway says. “Mexico is a great place to study Mexico. Argentina is a great place to study Argentina. But when you try to study Latin America as a whole, you need to be in a place like the University of Texas with the resources of the Benson Latin American Collection.”

The Benson Collection hosts an extensive Web-based exhibit highlighting its holdings. This currently includes the papers of Argentine writer Julio Cortázar and Chilean author Gabriela Mistral, and maps from the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries depicting Mexico, Latin America, and the Caribbean. See them for yourself at the Benson Latin American Collection Web site at http://www.lib.utexas.edu/benson/.

Pieces from the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection include, clockwise: La comedia humana: semanario festivo, político-social y de actualidades (16 septiembre 1905), published in Chile; Relación geográfica de Cempoala (Mexico: 1580); Antiphonarium (Mexico: Petrum Ocharte, 1589); Molina’s Parrot from Sclater and Hudson, Argentinian Ethnology: A Descriptive Catalogue of the Birds of the Argentine Republic (London: R. H. Porter, 1888-89), vol. 2, plate 14.
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Lister Papers
In July 2005, the Benson Library acquired the papers of influential diplomat George Lister through a partnership with the Bernard and Audre Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at the University of Texas School of Law. Scholars are now able to examine the history of human rights public policy through letters, speeches, essays, and other pieces accumulated during Lister's lengthy career in the government. Lister's work was focused mainly on Latin America and stemmed from his examination of horrific human rights violations that occurred in Latin America in the 1960s. His work in foreign affairs aided in the creation of a State Department bureau that deals solely with human rights, aptly named the Bureau of Human Rights, Democracy, and Labor.

Anzaldúa Archive
The archive of Gloria Evangelina Anzaldúa (1942–2004) was recently acquired by the Benson. The collection includes manuscripts, essays, and correspondence written by the renowned feminist author, cultural theorist, and scholar. Anzaldúa, a lesbian, had a hard time fitting into the conservative climate in her native South Texas. These early experiences helped shape her autobigraphical book Borderlands/La Frontera. She later worked as a professor and traveled the country lecturing on her views of theory and gender studies.

Ignacio Luis Vallarta
The Benson recently acquired the correspondence of Ignacio Luis Vallarta, a significant Mexican attorney and politician in the mid-1800s. After years of government work, including serving as the governor of Jalisco, Vallarta served as the president of the Supreme Court of Justice in Mexico for five years, a position similar in power to the vice president in the United States. Most of the papers are correspondence to other political and business figures discussing issues important to Vallarta’s role in the government.

Modernist Brazilian Music
In 2004, the Benson acquired Dr. Marion Verhaalen’s extensive collection of modern Brazilian music. Verhaalen began the collection in 1969 with the piano music of Camargo Guarnieri and Francisco Mignone. The bulk of the collection focuses on the work of Guarnieri, but also contains musical scores, LPs, tapes, CDs, correspondence, and notes from the last three decades of Brazilian music.
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George Lister Gloria Evangelina Anzaldúa Ignacio Luis Vallarta Camargo Guarnieri
Showcasing one of the nation’s strongest collections of Latin American art, UT’s newest museum redefines the museum experience and makes art accessible.

“WE HAD THE BONES AND THE COMMUNION WAFERS” GABRIEL Pérez-Barreiro, curator of Latin American Art at the Blanton Museum on the University of Texas campus, is discussing Missão/ Missões [How to Build Cathedrals], an installation by Cildo Meireles. “We had cared for the painting slabs, the bones, and the structure on which it is hung. We also had to buy the money—$6,000 in pennies, which is 600 pounds in coins. In every country, you put the lowest denomination coin.” With cattle bones dangling above the giant oasis of pennies, this piece exploring the economics of the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Jesuit missions is massive—so big it has its own gallery in the Blanton’s new Mari and James A. Michener Gallery Building.

Supervising the reassembly of this complicated piece was only one of Pérez-Barreiro’s preparations for making the collection comfortable in its new home. The Blanton’s collection of Latin American art includes more than 2,000 works by more than 600 artists, including Fernando Botero, Eugenio Dittborn, Armando Morales, Antonio Segui, and Joaquín Torres-García. The Barbara Duncan Collection, consisting of nearly 300 works, comprises the core of these extraordinary holdings. The Blanton’s collection is particularly strong in Mexican graphics of the early twentieth century and post-1970 paintings and drawings from South America. As the curator of Latin American Art, Pérez-Barreiro was the person charged with culling the pieces and planning the galleries.

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A Museum for Art and Scholarship
This forethought toward the integration of art and scholarship is one of the most compelling things about the Blanton. It’s not just a museum—it’s part of a world-class university. The works in its collections are continuously studied and are available to students, teachers, and the general public. In addition, the museum’s creative outreach programs bring art and art education to the university, the Austin community, and the world. Being a part of the University of Texas is also helpful as the curators travel the world and make requests for new acquisitions. “When I say UT, it rings bells,” Pérez-Barreiro says. “It’s definitely important. We’re in a position to provide interpretation and scholarship on these pieces. It just gives another dimension to the artwork.”

The Invisible Jump
By Argentinean Daniel Joglar, who was recently named one of the “50 International Emerging Artists” by Contemporary magazine.

When Joglar came to Austin to complete the installation, he was introduced to local artists in the community. “He didn’t just come and only meet the curators and the museum,” says Pérez-Barreiro. “It’s all about this collaborative spirit. Trying to find hundreds of people who can take it further than we can.”

Pérez-Barreiro’s office is currently housed in the Fine Arts Building, and it’s a comfortable spot. “We collaborate very closely with the art and art history departments,” he says. “I’m on dissertation committees. I also run a graduate seminar in conjunction with the Cisneros Foundation in Caracas that’s specifically designed to provide a crossover of curatorial and academic.”

Pérez-Barreiro’s work depends heavily on partnerships—with donors, with other curators, with different departments at the university, and with the Blanton’s multitude of visitors. The Blanton’s Workspace Series is an excellent example of the partnerships that the museum is building with living artists. The series features site-specific works commissioned from contemporary artists from around the world. Exhibits change every 10 weeks and are accompanied by critical texts and public programs designed to connect the art and artist to the community. For its opening, the Workspace gallery features The Invisible Jump by Argentinean Daniel Joglar, who was recently named one of the “50 International Emerging Artists” by Contemporary magazine.

With over 17,000 works in its collections, planning the museum’s buildings and curating its galleries was a project three years in the making. When its second building is finished in early 2007, the Blanton will be the largest university art museum in the country. Finally, the collections have a permanent home, and based on the initial response, it’s certain to have lots of guests.

Completing the Collection
In the past three years, the collection has added almost 200 new works in preparation for the opening. Lately, Pérez-Barreiro has focused on acquiring contemporary pieces. In addition to bringing the collection up to date, he focused on representing all of the important schools and movements in Latin American art. “Our collection kind of stopped at 1980, and I felt really strongly that we needed to bring it up to date. I was very specifically thinking of the new museum and where we had particular weaknesses. Almost everything in the Minimalist date. I was very specifically thinking of the new museum and where we had particular weaknesses. Almost everything in the Minimalist

By developing the dialogue between these two voices, the curators have created a humanities-based experience versus a traditional museum/art history experience. As visitors move through the galleries, they are immersed in the big ideas of the twentieth century. With works addressing issues ranging from anxiety to optimism, the installation focuses on the social and political factors that have shaped people throughout the Americas.

In addition to gathering the art from various storage facilities around the state and deciding which pieces would be installed as part of the permanent collection, Pérez-Barreiro also oversaw the publication of all the ancillary materials, including a comprehensive guide to the Blanton’s Latin American collection, as well as the Latin American section of the Blanton catalog. Pérez-Barreiro and his team also were busy writing the labels for the 120 chosen works and developing the museum’s Uncommon Commentary audio tour.

An Uncommon Approach to Museums
The Blanton’s audio guide is just one of the many ways it sets itself apart from traditional museums. With community volunteers such as a hairdresser and a landscaper, the audio tour was designed to give local as well as curatorial comment on the work. From the moment they arrive, visitors find thoughtful touches that make the museum as welcoming as possible, including easy parking and a friendly greeting from guards who wear polo shirts instead of uniforms.

Access to the work is meant to be welcoming as well. Because only a small number of works can be on display at any one time, the museum was designed to allow the remaining pieces of its massive collection to be easily viewed by the public. The prints and drawings study room holds over 15,000 works on paper. Operating just like a viewing library, visitors can pull out any work that interests them. Paintings not on display in the museum are housed in racks in the museum’s storage rooms, and with some notice almost any work can be obtained for viewing in one of the Blanton’s specially designed classrooms. “Say you wanted to teach a class on New Figuration, and the works are not on display—we can pull them out,” says Pérez-Barreiro. “[The classrooms] have racks on the side, so you can lay out a bunch of work and the students can see the original works.”

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The Blanton
On April 29, 2006, the doors were officially opened to the Blanton Museum of Art on the UT campus. The turnout was impressive—during the 24-hour grand opening weekend, lines stretched around the block at 2 o’clock in the morning. Attendance records show that close to 22,000 visitors came to the museum in that first weekend alone.

With over 17,000 works in its collections, planning the museum’s buildings and curating its galleries was a project three years in the making. When its second building is finished in early 2007, the Blanton will be the largest university art museum in the country. Finally, the collections have a permanent home, and based on the initial response, it’s certain to have lots of guests.

Marina Mafitasica [Metaphysical Marina] by Julio Alpuy, 1962

Vivir: a los saltos [To Live: By Leaps and Bounds] Rómulo Macció, 1964

Vitrine: a los saltos [To Live: By Leaps and Bounds] Rómulo Macció, 1964

The Blanton Museum of Art
Hit a ground running
When Pérez-Barreiro was hired three years ago, ground had just been broken on the new museum. The curators faced the challenge of figuring out what people would want to see and how they would want to see it—all in a building that existed only on paper and in their imaginations. Foam models and scale drawings were helpful tools in choosing work and planning circulation. "[The installation has] gone through something like 10 major redesigns," Pérez-Barreiro says. "We had a team of scholars come in and look at it. We traveled all around the country looking at what other museums had done. We really did do our homework."

Rather than display the Latin American and American collections in separate wings, the curators wanted to show them together. "We decided right from the beginning we were going to do a modern and contemporary installation we would both collaborate on," Pérez-Barreiro says, "so there would be two voices in one installation."

By developing the dialogue between these two voices, the curators have created a humanities-based experience versus a traditional museum/art history experience. As visitors move through the galleries, they are immersed in the big ideas of the twentieth century. "The works in its collections are considered to be easily viewed by the public. The prints and drawings study room holds over 15,000 works on paper. Operating just like a viewing library, visitors can pull out any work that interests them. Paintings not on display in the museum are housed in racks in the museum's storage rooms, and with some notice almost any work can be obtained for viewing in one of the Blanton's specially designed classrooms. "Say you wanted to teach a class on New Figuration, and the works are not on display—we can pull them out," says Pérez-Barreiro. "[The classrooms] have racks on the side, so you can lay out a bunch of work and the students can see the original works.""

Art and Partnerships
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Visión: a los saltos (To Live: By Leaps and Bounds) Rómulo Macció, 1964

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When Pebbles Wadsworth recalls a recent performance by cellist Carlos Prieto, there’s fire in her eyes. Her excitement is about Prieto, his cello, and the geography that both the artist and the instrument have spanned. (Continued on next page)
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Developing the first season took almost two years. First, a call for part resource center, and one part exchange program. and a catalyst to open dialogue.” Wadsworth says. “We use the arts as a conduit cross every barrier,” Wadsworth says. “We use the arts as a conduit to open dialogue.”

Wadsworth enlisted the help of LLILAS to create a program with three components, including Ballet Folklórico de México, Amalia Hernández, and Tania Libereita—artists celebrated throughout Latin America but virtually unknown in the United States.

A vital component of ArtesAméricas is the development of comprehensive materials to supplement, contextualize, and extend the audience's experience of the art forms presented and the culture from which they were derived. The materials are designed to serve as a resource for teachers designing arts education, outreach, and cultural participation events surrounding performances. It seemed like a natural fit to harness the resources of the university: its libraries, LLILAS, and a vast knowledge base. Graduate student writers working with LLILAS Outreach Coordinator Natalie Arsenault and PAC Assistant Director Judith Rhedin produced introductory guides to countries and cultures of Latin America for the general community and as well as teacher and student resource materials in accordance with national teaching standards. Latin Americanist faculty and students at UT were engaged to serve as reviewers.

“Educate, enlighten, entertain: this is the core of the PAC’s mission and at the heart of the partnership between LLILAS and the PAC,” says Arsenault. “ArtesAméricas provides LLILAS with a great opportunity to link its educational outreach to the performing arts...What better way to stimulate interest in a culture than through music and dance? LLILAS provides the regional expertise, the PAC provides the artistic knowledge, and the audience comes away with an appreciation not only of the artistic quality of Latin American performance, but of the geographic, historic, economic, political, and social circumstances that produced them.” According to Shumway, the program’s depth and breadth make it unique: “From the beginning, it was conceived as a Latin American program, including many different aspects of Latin America, and not simply an exchange program for artists or a program for bringing Latin American artists to the university.”

ArtesAméricas invited 52 institutions around the country, with venues both large and small, to be Presenting Partners. Founding partners like the Kennedy Center in New York and UCLA in Los Angeles quickly signed up, citing the opportunity to bring the arts to their communities and the quality and detail of the supporting materials. Pebbles Wadsworth, above left, is Director of the Performing Arts Center at the University of Texas. Some of the performers with ArtesAméricas have included Los Cenzontles, left, and Tania Pérez-Salas Compañía de Danza, right.

When University of Texas President Larry Faulkner’s 1998 Strategic Plan called on the university to play a role in strengthening the relationship between the United States and Latin America, Wadsworth immediately recognized the important role that the arts could play in achieving his goal.
"For 45 minutes he talked about his cello. He has a Stradivarius, and it was commissioned by a Mexican. I tell nobody in the audience knew that. His cello went over to the Old World and lived with the Spanish royalty, and it played one of the first Haydn concertos. Eventually it came back to Mexico where Mr. Prieto has it today," Wadsworth says.

Wadsworth has a keen sense of such cultural and geographic contradictions. As Director of the Performing Arts Center (PAC) at the University of Texas at Austin, Wadsworth is devoted to bridging those contradictions, especially when it comes to Latin American culture and artists. When University of Texas President Larry Faulkner’s 1998 Strategic Plan called on the university to play a role in strengthening the relationship between the United States and Latin America, Wadsworth immediately recognized the important role that the arts could play in achieving his goal.

Wadsworth noticed that because many talented Latin American artists were unknown in the U.S., they were given opportunities only in festivals based on their nationalities, thus lowering patrons’ understanding of artists in Latin America but virtually unknown in the United States. A vital component of ArtesAméricas is the development of comprehensive materials to supplement, contextualize, and extend the audience’s experience of the arts forms presented and the culture from which they were derived. The arts forms are designed to serve as a conduit for the audience, developing an appreciation not only of the artistic quality of Latin American music and dance? LLILAS provides the regional expertise, the PAC and teachers held at the Carver Center, an African American community center in East Austin.

The next day, Perú Negro did a youth performance on the UT campus for students in Austin and the surrounding areas. “We went out to a number of schools beforehand and did in-class workshops with teachers and students,” said Rhedin, “so it’s not just about coming to the arts and seeing a show—you have to learn something from it.” Christi Cuellar, ArtesAméricas Manager, puts it simply, “a performance isn’t really ArtesAméricas unless it has a community relations aspect.”

Arsenal states, “LILAS remains committed to educational outreach as part of ArtesAméricas. In summer 2006, we took 15 K–12 educators to Mexico for a seminar on the performing arts, and we want to expand that project into other teacher training programs—we want to take that experience to inspire other teachers to bring the arts, and ArtesAméricas artists and countries in particular, into more courses across the curriculum.”

The program also is supporting projects with residency opportunities or that encourage the creation of new work. Most recently, ArtesAméricas received a $20,000 grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts to take the play By the Hand of the Father, written by Alejandro Escovedo, to UT Brownsville. Best described as a spoken-word performance set to live music, the show portrays five immigrant fathers raising their families on the border. The day before the show, actors held a dedicated workshop at an area high school, and students then attended the maitere performance. “It was amazing to see high school juniors and seniors sit still for 90 minutes,” Cuellar said. “They were maybe even more receptive than the audience that saw the evening performance.”

And relating is what ArtesAméricas is really all about. “If you understand each other’s culture, you’ll respect each other,” Wadsworth says. “That’s a very simple concept, but I believe in it one hundred percent.”

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Professional Collaboration
As part of the exchange program, ArtesAméricas has traveled to Mexico, Costa Rica, Argentina, and Brazil to hold seminars on arts management. The program also has traveled to Mexico and Latin America to assist theaters with other aspects of production such as lighting and sound.

For three years, ArtesAméricas has traveled to Mexico City for Inter-cambio Experto (Expert Exchange), a three-week lighting seminar held at the Palace of Fine Arts. With approximately 100 attendees each summer, the seminars allow arts professionals of all nationalities to share knowledge and collaborate through their craft and its tools. At a dinner at the end of the first trip, Wadsworth asked a group of participants from several countries what they thought had been the most important part of the program. “All of them said that it broke down preconceived barriers. These tech guys are tough guys, and now they’re all bonded.”

Bringing the Arts to the Community
Last year, ArtesAméricas and the Peruvian Cultural Association brought the 28-person dance company Perú Negro to inaugurate the new theatre at the Carver Center, an African American community center in East Austin.

In 2006, ArtesAméricas is well established and in its third year of performances. It has earned sizable credibility with artists, patrons, and Presenting Partners. Now, the program’s directors are using their experience and connections to develop the resources of ArtesAméricas. The program is facing big changes: rather than spend time and resources to help artists tour, ArtesAméricas is now focusing on fewer, larger projects that can have a bigger impact in the communities.

Instead of relying on a selection committee to choose performers, ArtesAméricas is now working directly with the Presenting Partners to learn what genres, themes, and styles generate the most interest with their audiences. “Rather than push artists out there, we’re going to use our contacts with the Presenting Partners and with Latino artists to make the best fits,” Cuellar says.

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UT Chamber Singers Perform Missa in Brazil for First Time Since 1810

IN DECEMBER 1807, NAPOLEON INVADED PORTUGAL. In March 2005, the University of Texas Chamber Singers, Soloists, and Orchestra performed Missa de Nossa Senhora da Conceição by Brazilian composer José Maurício Nunes Garcia for the first time ever in the United States and the first time anywhere since 1810. In May 2006, the UT Chamber Singers and the University of São Paulo Chamber Orchestra performed the same work five times in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro. What ties these events together? Herein lies a remarkable tale involving Portugal, Brazil, and a wonderful project undertaken by LLILAS and the UT School of Music.

What connects Napoleon’s invasion to the Missa? Rather than live under the French occupation, the Portuguese court—the demented Queen Mother, the obese Prince Regent João VI, and a predictable entourage of bureaucrats, courtiers, artists, and sycophants—grabbed whatever they could and headed for Brazil. The Prince Regent proved a remarkable ruler. He founded libraries, theaters, and academies as well as the Capela Real, the Royal Chapel. He appointed as his first Kapellmeister a young Brazilian priest, José Maurício Nunes Garcia, who composed the Missa mentioned above and performed it for his patron in 1810.

How did the work get to Austin, Texas? In 1998, Ricardo Bernardes, a young Brazilian musicologist and currently a doctoral student in musicology at the UT School of Music, found scattered manuscripts of the Missa in Rio archives and managed to stitch together a critical edition. His work was published by FUNARTE (a Brazilian counterpart to the NEA), whose director at the time was novelist Márcio Souza. Souza later came to LLILAS as a visiting writer-in-residence and told LLILAS director Nicolas Shumway of the new edition. A musician as well as a scholar, Shumway secured a score from Bernaardes, fell in love with the piece, and then asked a simple question: What university has an exceptional choir and a deep commitment to Latin American Studies? The answer, of course, was the University of Texas. Shumway then contacted James Morrow, director of the Chamber Singers, UT’s most select choir, and asked him to perform the Missa. At first, Morrow had doubts. After all, who was Nunes Garcia, and why hadn’t Morrow, an accomplished singer and choral conductor, ever heard of him? After studying the work, however, he became convinced of its beauty and brought enormous energy and artistic insight to preparing it for performance, first in Austin and a year later in Brazil. Concurrent with the performances in both Texas and Brazil, UT and the USP organized scholarly seminars on the context of the Missa, for the work poses many fascinating questions, beginning with the composer himself. Son of a Portuguese functionary and an Afro-Brazilian mother, Father José Maurício was a musical autodidact who probably never left Rio de Janeiro. After his moment of glory as the Prince Regent’s Kapellmeister, he went on to compose a requiem and two other Masses. Like the Missa, these are large-scale works scored for mixed choir, soloists, and full orchestra. Sophisticated, melodic, and technically challenging, these compositions pose problems not only for musicians and musicologists, but also for social and political historians. What, for example, were the politics behind João VI’s cultural innovations? What contacts existed between Portugal and Brazil during the fourteen years that João nominally ruled in both countries? Who were the musicians? What class and ethnic groups did they represent? How were they trained to perform such challenging music? Was José Maurício’s career affected negatively because of his Afro-Brazilian ancestry? How did musical styles cross the Atlantic—and for that matter, how did European culture in general come to the Americas? Is Brazilian music of the period merely derivative, or does it contain something uniquely “New World”? In sum, how does a musical composition like this serve as a window to a fascinating historical period? Both the UT and the USP seminars brought prominent scholars together to discuss these matters, including Kenneth Maxwell, a widely published historian of Brazil, and Kirsten Schultz, author of an excellent book on the Joanine court titled Tropical Versailles.

Ultimately, of course, the most important question is musical: Do the compositions of José Maurício merit musical admiration, or are they merely historical curiosities? From the huge success of the UT Chamber Singers’ performances in Austin, São Paulo, and Rio de Janeiro, there can be no question about the musical worth of his work. José Maurício was clearly the most accomplished composer in the Americas at that time, and his work compares favorably with that of many of his European contemporaries. UT is very proud for having helped resurrect this colonial masterpiece. ✶
Since 1810 First Time in Brazil for Missa Performers

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With the July 2006 upcoming Presidential election in Mexico, the LLILAS Mexican Center held two conferences to analyze what was termed Mexico’s first “normal” democratic election, although anticipated to be highly contested. The first conference, held September 8–9, 2005, on Accountability and the Rule of Law in Mexico on the Threshold of the 2006 Elections, examined the stability and capacity of the Mexican institutional system to guarantee a democratic and effective electoral process. The conference was co-sponsored with ILASSA-Mexico, as well as the University of Texas Law School and the LBJ School of Public Affairs.

On February 3, 2006, the Mexican Center held its second conference, Political Parties and Voters in Mexico’s 2006 Elections, to examine the three leading presidential candidates from the PAN, PRD, and PRI and the substance of their campaigns. Issues were looked at from two perspectives. A “view from below” based on the finding of a new panel survey designed to tap voters’ opinions and preferences was given by scholars. This was complemented by a “view from above” by party representatives, the International Affairs Coordinators of the PRI (Samuel Aguilar), PRD (Saul Escobar), and PAN (Senadora Cecilia Romero), who discussed platforms and strategies. The election did prove itself to be the closest yet and to test fully the Mexican electoral institutions to handle the crisis in determining the validity of the next president of Mexico.

The Center for Indigenous Languages of Latin America (CILLA), established at LLILAS in 2001 to contribute to knowledge on these languages, to promote their maintenance, and to coordinate teaching programs in and about indigenous languages, is the first of its kind in the United States. On October 27–29, 2005, CILLA held its Second Conference on Indigenous Languages of Latin America with participants coming from Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, France, Guatemala, Mexico, the Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, Venezuela, and the United States. Keynote speakers included: Judith Aissen, University of California, Santa Cruz; Jon Landaburu, CNRS, CELIA; Sergio Meira, Universiteit Leiden; and Valentina Peralta, Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico. The three days of panel discussions deepened the discourse and furthered scholarship on both the linguistic and social aspects of a spectrum of indigenous languages from the region.

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LILAS has been the proud host to 16 conferences and symposiums throughout the 2005–2006 academic year. These gatherings large and small bring together scholars, business leaders, and policymakers from across the Americas. Here are summaries of just a few of the many excellent conferences sponsored by LLILAS in the past year.

Among the organizers were UT professors Richard Flores, Charles Hale, Shannon Speed, and John McKiernan-Gonzalez, with support from the College of Liberal Arts, LLILAS, the Center for Mexican American Studies, the Center for African and African American Studies, the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, and Performance as Public Practice. Plans for Abrirando Brecha IV in 2007 are currently under discussion. See a list of upcoming LLILAS conferences online at http://www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/llilas/conferences.
Hello from Buenos Aires, Argentina! I am in my second semester of an IES (International Education of Students) study abroad program, and I am currently taking classes at the University of Buenos Aires (UBA) and at the Social Museum University of Argentina (UMSA). I have been so lucky to receive the Teresa Lozano Long Travel Scholarship for my two semesters abroad here. I arrived in Buenos Aires in July of 2005. This was my first time to travel in South America, although I had previously been to Mexico and Guatemala. I came to Argentina because I wanted to improve my Spanish, and I have always felt that complete immersion is the best way to learn a language. As a Latin American Studies major, I wanted the opportunity to live in Latin America to experience the culture rather than merely study it.

I lived in a family home-stay my first semester in Buenos Aires, which was a great experience because I had help practicing my Spanish and navigating the daily traumas of living in a new place. Fighting language barriers and being away from home so long have been tough sometimes, but in the end, it has definitely been worth it. After my first semester here, I took the summer (December–February, since the seasons are opposite in the southern hemisphere) to travel around Argentina, Chile, Peru, and Bolivia. I came back to Buenos Aires for another amazing semester in March. At that point, I was comfortable enough with the city that I wanted a little more independence, so a friend and I moved into an apartment. I have so many favorite experiences here in Buenos Aires, including a print-making class I took at UMSA and making a documentary about graffiti in Buenos Aires. But the most special experience in the city has been volunteering for the daycare in the villa miseria (villa miseria is what the Argentineans call the shantytowns or favelas that surround the city). I took a social services theory class at UMSA during my first semester here, and in class I met a nun named Anita. Anita spoke very good English and was very friendly and outgoing, so she helped me in the class when I was completely lost. She told me about a project she was doing in this daycare, and I decided that when I got back from the summer break, I would like to work with her. The experience has been so great. The children are so caring and loving, and although their poverty breaks my heart, their joy and sweetness warms it. Our job is very simple: we come to the daycare to sing songs, teach lessons, and play with the children. Additionally, our group raises money to make repairs on the building—the floor, paint the walls, etc. Since I want to work in social services and social policy in Latin America, this experience has been perfect for me. After I finish up this semester, I’ll head off to the Bolivian Amazon to volunteer for a community-owned preservation project and ecological lodge in the jungle. I’ll be there for six weeks translating and teaching English before I finally head home to Austin. My travel experiences have been an incredible adventure, and they have truly shaped my future goals in terms of my education and career.

Stephanie Pitts is a great example of the way that study abroad programs make a difference in students’ lives—and the lives of the people they meet. Originally from Cedar Park, Texas, Pitts is a senior at the University of Texas majoring in Plan II and Latin American Studies.
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I lived in a family home-stay my first semester in Buenos Aires, which was a great experience because I had help practicing my Spanish and navigating the daily traumas of living in a new place. Fighting language barriers and being away from home so long have been tough sometimes, but in the end, it has definitely been worth it.

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I have so many favorite experiences here in Buenos Aires, including a print-making class I took at UMSA and making a documentary about graffiti in Buenos Aires. But the most special experience in the city has been volunteering for the daycare in the villa miseria (villa miseria is what the Argentineans call the shantytowns or favelas that surround the city). I took a social services theory class at UMSA during my first semester here, and in class I met a nun named Anita. Anita spoke very good English and was very friendly and outgoing, so she helped me in the class when I was completely lost. She told me about a project she was doing in this daycare, and I decided that when I got back from the summer break, I would like to work with her.

The experience has been so great. The children are so caring and loving, and although their poverty breaks my heart, their joy and sweetness warms it. Our job is very simple: we come to the daycare to sing songs, teach lessons, and play with the children. Additionally, our group raises money to make repairs on the building—tile the floor, paint the walls, etc. Since I want to work in social services and social policy in Latin America, this experience has been perfect for me.

After I finish up this semester, I’ll head off to the Bolivian Amazon to volunteer for a community-owned preservation project and ecological lodge in the jungle. I’ll be there for six weeks translating and teaching English before I finally head home to Austin. My travel experiences have been an incredible adventure, and they have truly shaped my future goals in terms of my education and career.

Stephanie Pitts is a great example of the way that study abroad programs make a difference in students’ lives—and the lives of the people they meet. Originally from Cedar Park, Texas, Pitts is a senior at the University of Texas majoring in Plan II and Latin American Studies.
This year, the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, the College of Fine Arts, and the Performing Arts Center collaborated on an exciting Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad program that immersed teachers in the culture and artistic history of Mexico. The 28-day study seminar and curriculum development trip was created to expose middle and high school educators from multiple disciplines to a variety of artistic groups and institutions. Upon returning home, the teachers each created unique lesson plans based on different portions of the experience.

Teacher training and curriculum development have been a core mission of LLILAS Outreach in recent years. In 2004, Outreach Coordinator Natalie Arsenault led a Fulbright group of teachers to participate in a month-long seminar in Salvador, Brazil. The result was an enrichment experience for teachers and the subsequent creation of multiple curriculum units focusing on Brazilian history and culture. The success of the Brazil trip provided inspiration and impetus for the Mexico trip as an opportunity to further knowledge of the diversity of Mexico’s cultural traditions.

Over 25 fine arts, language arts, and social studies teachers applied for 15 spots for Mexico. The group was led by LLILAS's Natalie Arsenault; Judith Rhedin, Assistant Director for Community Relations at the PAC; and Dr. Robert DeSimone, Professor of Music and Director of the Sarah and Ernest Butler Opera Center at UT. Dr. DeSimone put the impact of the program in a nutshell when he told the participants, “I want to welcome you to what will be a wonderful life (and possibly life-changing) experience.”

Participants were required to complete a series of readings and to attend a predeparture orientation at LLILAS immediately prior to the trip, which included Spanish language classes, background sessions on Mexico and its performing arts, and requirements and expectations for the program. The participants also toured UT’s Blanton Museum and Austin’s Mexic-Arte.

A whirlwind through Mexico
The adventure began June 18, 2006, in Oaxaca de Juárez City, where participants were introduced to one of the prominent cultures of southern Mexico and attended a reenactment of a traditional festival. In Mexico City, participants studied Mexican history, from precolonial times to modern, and were introduced to the Ballet Folklórico de México de Amalia Hernandez, a company that integrates Mexico’s traditional dances from all historical periods into a cultural mosaic. Participants also had the honor of meeting cellist Carlos Pérez and learned about Mexican classical music, a subject explored in greater detail when they reached Morelia, home to the Conservatorio de las Rosas, one of Mexico’s oldest and most important music schools. Next, the group journeyed to Mazatlán, home to the Delfos Contemporary Dance Company, recognized as one of the most important dance companies in Latin America. Here, the group explored Mexico’s performing arts as they are inspired by and participate in international artistic dialogues. Finally, in Guadalajara, birthplace of mariachi, participants studied the music that has become synonymous with Mexico as well as the innovative way the city is focusing on performing arts and culture.

Sharing the Experience
Once they returned home, participants created lesson plans based on the seminar in Mexico to be shared with their peers at venues such as statewide educator conferences, district-wide professional development meetings, and individual school training. The plans were aligned to national teaching standards in fine arts, language arts, and social studies so that they would be readily usable in the secondary classroom. Lesson plans will be gathered into a comprehensive curriculum unit including multimedia resources (CDs, videos, and printed materials) provided by artists in Mexico. For these and past LLILAS Fulbright program lesson plans, see: http://www.utexas.edu/cola/insls/llilas/outreach/fulbright/.

By giving educators a firsthand experience with rich art and culture, the program hopes to generate excitement and learning back in the classroom. As Natalie Arsenault sums it up, “These programs aim to transform the curriculum as well as teachers’ lives. By using the performing arts as an entry point into culture, we hope to integrate the arts into all courses—from English to world cultures to Texas history. We know that the teachers will bring their enthusiasm for Mexico, and for its wonderful performing arts, back to their students.”

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PHOTO COURTESY OF NANCY BELL

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Photos by Natalie Arsenault
These works, ranging from history to anthropology to philosophy, offer unique perspective and insight into the perennial themes of suffering, work, politics, and hope.

In a continued effort to share scholarly works by Latin American authors with a wider audience, the University of Texas Press published 32 Latin America–related titles in 2005–2006, including LLILAS’s translation of Fernando Escalante’s La mirada de Dios, In the Eyes of God. These works, ranging from history to anthropology to philosophy, offer unique perspective and insight into the perennial themes of suffering, work, politics, and hope.

In conjunction with UT Press, LLILAS publishes several award-winning book series, the most prominent of which is Translations from Latin America. These texts are widely read in both graduate and undergraduate classes and also appeal to a general audience by providing access in English to the work of prominent Latin American writers. This series has received its share of kudos. In the Shadow of the Mexican Revolution, the translation of a major work by two of Mexico’s leading intellectuals, Héctor Aguilar Camín and Lorenzo Meyer, was adopted by the History Book Club as an alternate selection. Torture in Brazil, a report by the Archdiocese of São Paulo on abuses by the military government, was selected by Choice magazine as an Outstanding Academic Title of 1999.

“We began the Translations Series in 1988,” says LLILAS Managing Editor Virginia Hagerty. “At the time, we saw a niche that needed to be filled—several presses were doing literary translation into English of important works from Latin America. The focus here is on first-time translation into English of important works from Latin America. These texts are widely read in both graduate and undergraduate classes and also appeal to a general audience.

We've published translations of major works by Latin American authors with a vast array of literary examples to arrive at an intellectual understanding of the history and meaning of suffering. His investigation encompasses the rise of popular politics, the role of messianism in modern nationalism, and the contemporary implications of the Shoah. This book will appeal to a wide audience: students of political theory, humanism, and philosophy, as well as the general reader interested in a glimpse into the mind of a highly original Latin American thinker.

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In the Eyes of God: A Study on the Culture of Suffering

by Fernando Escalante. Translated by Jessica C. Locke

“In every culture needs to appropriate the universal truth of human suffering,” says Fernando Escalante. “To give its own meaning to this suffering, so that human existence is bearable.” Originally published in Spanish as La mirada de Dios: Estudios sobre la cultura del sufrimiento, this book is a remarkable study of the evolution of the culture of suffering and the different elements that constitute it, beginning with a reading of Rousseau and ending with the appearance of the Shoah in the Western consciousness—“The memory endures, and this constitutes a fundamental transition for the Western conscience: we have witnessed.

Drawing on writings from the Greeks to Cervantes, Voltaire to Nietzsche, and Freud to William James, Escalante combines his considerable knowledge of politics and political theory with a vast array of literary examples to arrive at an intellectual understanding of the history and meaning of suffering. His investigation encompasses the rise of popular politics, the role of messianism in modern nationalism, and the contemporary implications of the Shoah. This book will appeal to a wide audience: students of political theory, humanism, and philosophy, as well as the general reader interested in a glimpse into the mind of a highly original Latin American thinker.”

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“We’re proud of our book series,” says Hagerty. “Through it we’re able to broaden the discourse on Latin America, so we’re helping LLILAS to make an important contribution not only to the mission of the University of Texas, but to the entire discipline of Latin American Studies.”

For a complete list of LLILAS’s current imprints, please visit our page on the UT Press Web site at http://www.utexas.edu/utpress/subjects/llas.html. Manuscript proposals or other queries about the series may be sent to Virginia Hagerty at vhagerty@mail.utexas.edu. ☏
Go. See. Do. Study Abroad Programs Take UT Students to the Heart of Latin America

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese at the University of Texas at Austin offers several exciting study abroad opportunities for students at all levels. These programs, administered by the Center for Global Educational Opportunities (C-GEO), take UT students to the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba (UNC) in Argentina and to the University of Guadalajara in Mexico.

Experiencing Córdoba
The Spanish Language and Culture program in Córdoba is now in its third year and has grown from 60 students the first year to 90 students in the summer of 2006. The faculty-led program is utilized by students from a variety of departments and majors, and offers optional courses in government, scientific computing, and literature. The program was cooperatively designed by the faculty at UNC and the UT Spanish and Portuguese department to assure that students have a rich experience in the heart of historical and beautiful South America.

While in Córdoba, students are immersed in Spanish as they study the language and the culture of Argentina. The city, founded in 1573, provides a plethora of activities, day trips, and rich traditions. Students have the opportunity to live with host families while taking their courses in order to receive a deeper cultural experience.

LLILAS supports these programs and does everything it can to make them a success. "LLILAS is one of our best partners in all things related to Latin America," says Leopold Bernucci, Professor and Chair of the Department of Spanish and Portuguese. "They help us publicize the program and really understand our goals and mission."

Learning in Guadalajara
The Guadalajara program is offered by the University of Guadalajara's Centro de Estudios para Estudiantes Extranjeros (CEPE), founded in 1948 to promote the study of Spanish as a second language. Led by UT professors, the program is taught in both English and Spanish and offers optional courses in Mexican culture, Spanish literature, and linguistics, among others. The Mexican Cinema course, taught by UT Professor Hector Domínguez-Ruvalcaba, is a popular choice.

In Guadalajara, students live in guest houses run by Mexican families and have the option of taking field trips and weekend excursions to sites of cultural and historical importance, such as the city of Guanajuato. Founded by the Spanish in the 1500s, Guadalajara is a city known for its mariachi music, charros, and bullfighting, and students are exposed to these traditions as well as to the sights and sounds of a modern Mexican city.

Funding the Journey: Scholarships Make It All Possible
LLILAS is proud to offer several scholarships to help Latin American Studies students pursue multidisciplinary studies in Latin America. In 2005–2006, LLILAS awarded $263,000 in scholarships to 42 students and $145,510 in travel awards to 58 students.

Travel awards get students in-country for field research and study abroad. Undergraduates may apply for the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Travel Scholarships for study abroad. Each award is $5,000 and is awarded for both the fall and spring semesters. Since the program’s inception in 2001, the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Travel Scholarships have been awarded to 35 students, enriching their undergraduate experience.

For graduate students, LLILAS offers four different opportunities to receive funding. The Anna Luiza Ozorio de Almeida Field Research Grant, created in memory of the respected Brazilian scholar, is allocated for researchers who focus on Brazil. One $500 stipend is given yearly.

The Tinker Field Research Grant is designed to cover travel costs for predissertation field research in Latin America, Portugal, or Spain. Students who receive this grant have a focus in economic policy, government, environmental policy, or social sciences having strong public policy implications. In 2005–2006, a total of $30,950 was awarded to 29 students.

Faculty-sponsored dissertation field research grants are given by LLILAS to deserving students whose field research deals with Latin America. In 2005–2006, 2 were awarded for $6,600 each.

The Department of Education (DOE) Title VI funds Foreign Language Area Study (FLAS) awards that in 2005–2006 provided stipends of $18,500 plus tuition to 7 students for the academic year. Summer FLAS awards provided stipends of $2,500 plus tuition to 7 students for language studies. The students eligible for this award must be studying Portuguese, Quechua, or another Amerindian language.
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Study of Portuguese, Quechua, or other arranged Amerindian language is also supported by funding from the Department of Education (DOE). The DOE Title VI funds Foreign Language Area Study (FLAS) awards that in 2005–2006 provided stipends of $14,650 plus tuition to 7 students for the academic year. Summer FLAS awards provided stipends of $2,500 plus tuition to 7 students for language studies. The students eligible for this award must be studying Portuguese, Quechua, or another Amerindian language.
“Let me show you a picture of the chonta palm,” says Dr. Rodrigo Sierra, Director of the University of Texas at Austin’s Center for Environmental Studies in Latin America at LLILAS. The chonta palm and its fruit are just one of the resources of the Achuar people, one of the indigenous groups Sierra works with in Ecuador. Now, back in his office in the geography building on the UT campus, the tropical forests are never far from Sierra’s mind. Sierra’s research takes place in the Pastaza region of eastern Ecuador, bordering Peru, and covers a land area of about 3 million acres. The Achuar, Shiwiar, and Zapara people—indigenous groups who won rights to the land in the 1990s—inhabit the area. The groups have lived on the lands for centuries and have a deep understanding of the richness of the plants and animals that live there. Most of the groups have little contact with outsiders, and support themselves just as their ancestors did, by farming and hunting in the tropical forest.

Now, as oil exploration and new colonists put additional demands on the land, the area is experiencing deforestation that limits the movements of species. Development pressures are ever increasing, and this change in native habitats threatens biodiversity in the region. Sierra and collaborators from the Fundación Ecuatoriana de Estudios Ecológicos (EcoCien-cia) are currently in the middle of a three-year biodiversity conservation and resource management project to study land usage by Ecuador’s indigenous communities. The project will help the communities analyze their land usage and create and implement strategic land management plans that work to support the community and the environment simultaneously. Their research is supported by a grant of nearly $2 million from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation as part of the foundation’s Andes-Amazon Initiative.

The first year of the project was used to collect data about how the communities currently use their lands. The team uses sophisticated mapping techniques and talks with locals to create digital maps of the area. “We dedicated ourselves to taking baseline measurements of where communities are right now,” Sierra said. “The basic indicators are (1) What they are producing, and (2) What they are consuming. Once we know the baselines, we can help them target their efforts in a meaningful way.”

Now that Sierra and his team have established the community’s usage and consumption patterns, the next phase of the project will focus on ways that the groups can conserve the areas that are not in conflict with what they actually use and make the most of their resources. Ideally, certain areas will be set aside as wildlife reserves that allow the movement of different species. “We’re working on small, productive projects,” Sierra says. “This part of the project is just beginning.”

One of the avenues the team is exploring is how to commercialize products the community makes. For example, the team is researching ways that the groups can get organic certification for products such as oil from the chonta palm nut. They also have forged a relationship with the Chankuap Foundation, a nonprofit group that supports sustainable development by marketing and distributing handmade products from Ecuador. “We want to compensate people for conserving their resources, and we’re looking for conditions and incentives that will work on a larger scale,” Sierra says. “We assume that because people want to make money, they will take advantage of these opportunities.”

The team also is studying ways to organize and improve transportation and limit bottlenecks. Currently, there is no road to the region, and access to airstrips is very limited, especially to those that accommodate larger planes. Dr. Michael Kuby, an Associate Professor of Geography from Arizona State University, is working to develop a new transportation model to help move products and people in and out of the region efficiently.

The project also will establish a monitoring program to measure the impact that Sierra’s group has had on the community. Community members also are being trained to help sustain the efforts of the program after the three-year project ends. “I’m most of their resources. Integration of social objectives with conservation objectives,” Sierra said. “The challenge is to make conservation worthwhile for people.”
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LANIC: A Digital Bridge between Latin America and the World

http://lanic.utexas.edu/

LANIC was created to provide Latin Americans—both local and off-site—with access to comprehensive databases and information services throughout the Internet, and to provide Latin Americanists around the world with access to information and on from Latin America.

LANIC acts as a portal or directory to both local and off-site information, and content links are organized both by country and by subject. LANIC also hosts a number of other informational resources including joint projects, databases, and electronic publications. With links to content in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and indigenous languages, the site is used by people from all over the academic, governmental, and business communities.

LANIC's Gopher server was launched in 1992—providing the first public information service for Latin America on the Internet. The Web site, launched in 1994, grows daily. As part of an ongoing research and development agenda, LANIC is involved in several projects that seek to develop innovative approaches using new information and communication technologies to access, collect, organize, preserve, and disseminate information from and about Latin America to the broadest possible audience.

Latin American Open Archives Portal (LAOP); Providing Access to Latin American Research Materials

http://lanic.utexas.edu/project/laop/

LAOP is a portal providing access to social sciences grey literature produced in Latin America by research institutes, non-governmental organizations, and peripheral agencies. It encompasses working documents, pre-prints, research papers, statistical documents, and other difficult-to-access materials that are not controlled by commercial publishers. It utilizes the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) as a low-barrier solution to disseminate and share digital resources originating in Latin America to bring more visibility and access to research in the region.

Current institutional partners include FLACSO Chile, CRIM Guayaquil, Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Centro Iberoamericano de Formación, Guatemala, and the Inter-American Development Bank. When fully up and running, these partners will collectively provide approximately 13,500 full-text items, with a range of 5,000 to 750 per individual institution. The premise of the partnerships is to build institutional capacity in the region for ongoing development of the collections. New partners, as well as additional resources, are welcome.

LAOP is a joint project of the Latin American Research Resources Project (LARRP) and LANIC.

LAPTOP Makes Latin American Journals Accessible

http://lanic.utexas.edu/lamp/laptop.html

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LAGDA Web Archive Lets Users Browse the Past

http://lanic.utexas.edu/project/archives/lagda/

One of the advantages of a Web site is that it can be changed frequently—but that flexibility presents a challenge to archivists and scholars. Now, LILAS and the Latin American Collection, Ann Hartness has received Brazil's Order of the Southern Cross

As head librarian for the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection, Ann Hartness has done much to further the world’s knowledge and understanding of Latin America. In April 2005, the Brazilian government bestowed her with this work for the National Order of the Southern Cross (Ordem Nacional do Cruzeiro do Sul). This prestigious award is presented by the Brazilian government to individuals or foreigner. Rubens Antônio Barbosa, Brazilian Ambassador to the United States, bestowed it on Hartness in a public ceremony in the Rare Books Reading Room of the Benson.

Hartness’s most recent work on Brazil includes an annotated bibliography of systems,” says Knapp. “With this project, I’m striving to update this research and relate it to broader themes in sustainable mountain development, both in the Andes and elsewhere. Usually, mountains are seen as marginal environments with no future in the global economy except for sites for tourism. I suspect the Andes have a more vibrant future.”

Knapp worked with local partners to conduct field study and interviews and to analyze data. In the summer, María Belén Noroña Salcedo, a LLILAS graduate student, joined the team. Knapp also worked with Manuel Peralvo, a doctoral candidate in geography at UT, who was conducting research in Oyacachi, an important site for Quito’s water supply. “I have also benefited from my colleagues at the Ministry of Agriculture, the Pontificical Catholic University of Ecuador (Quito), the University of Otavalo, the National Council for Cultural Patrimony, and the National Polytechnic University,” Knapp said.

One of Knapp’s biggest challenges was the unstable political environment as the Ecuadorian elections approached. “The country was convulsed by various political groups jockeying for position in the elections,” he said. “Tactics included strikes and shutdowns of the transportation system.” As an American doing research, Knapp was in an especially sensitive position due to the negotiations for a free trade agreement, which some criticized in terms of its potential effect on local indigenous agriculture.

After his analysis is completed, Knapp will publish the results of his work in Ecuador in Spanish. Knapp says, “My previous work is still available in Ecuadorian bookstores.”

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LAOP is a joint project of the Latin American Research Resources Project (LARRP) and LANIC.

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LANIC: A Digital Bridge between Latin America and the World

http://lanic.utexas.edu/

Google any topic related to Latin America and you’re sure to find results from LANIC—the Latin American Network Information Center—at the top of your list. LANIC was developed by LILAS to provide Latin American users with access to academic databases and information services throughout the Internet, and to provide Latin Americans around the world with access to information on and from Latin America. LANIC acts as a portal or directory to both local and off-site information, and content links are organized both by country and by subject. LANIC also hosts a number of other informational resources including joint projects, databases, and electronic publications. With links to content in Spanish, English, Portuguese, and indigenous languages, the site is used by people from all over the academic, governmental, and business communities.

LANIC Sits

42 Number of country pages

74 Number of subject pages

300 Average number of e-mail inquiries, comments, and suggestions

LANIC receives each month

12,000 Number of unique URLs in the LANIC directories

87,000 Number of Web sites containing links to LANIC

4.5 million Average number of monthly hits on LANIC

LANIC makes Latin American Journals Accessible

http://lanic.utexas.edu/larp/laptopt.html

The Latin American Periodicals Tables of Contents (LAPTOC) is a searchable Web database that provides access to the tables of contents of more than 800 journals from 29 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, including bibliographic references to over 250,000 articles in the major languages of the region. The journals, examples being Arqueología y sociedad or Cuadernos de economía, are primarily in the humanities and social sciences and are published in Latin America. Currently, 53 libraries participate in the Latin American Research Resources Project (LARRP), which sponsors the project. The libraries have divided the task of collecting and cataloging the journals included in the database. For each issue, a library enters in journal’s table of contents into the database and provides document delivery when users request specific articles from those journals. LANIC is the technical partner on the project and manages database development.

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LAGDA Web Archive Lets Users Browse the Past

http://lanic.utexas.edu/project/laoperand/laoperand.html

One of the advantages of a Web site is that it can be changed frequently—but that flexibility presents a challenge to archivists and scholars. Now, LILAS and the Latin American Open Archives Portal (LAOAP) is a portal service providing access to social sciences grey literature produced in Latin America by research institutes, non-governmental organizations, and peripheral agencies. It encompasses working documents, pre-prints, research papers, statistical documents, and other difficult-to-access materials that are not controlled by commercial publishers. It utilizes the Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting (OAI-PMH) as a low-barrier solution to disseminate and share digital resources originating in Latin America to bring more visibility and access to research in the region.

Current institutional partners include FLACSO Chile, CRAM Guatemala, Universidad Técnica D replies, Consejo Latinoamericano de Ciencias Sociales, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos, Centro Iberoamericano de Formación, Guatemala, and the Inter-American Development Bank. When fully up and running, these partners will collectively provide approximately 13,500 full-text items, with a range of 5,000 to 100 per individual institution. The promise of the partnerships is to build institutional capacity in the region for ongoing development of the collections. New partners, as well as suggestions for additional resources, are welcome. LAOAP is a joint project of the Latin American Research Resources Project (LARRP) and LANIC.

An Honest Bill for Brazil's Order of the Southern Cross

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Hartness’s most recent work on Brazil includes an annotated bibliography of Brazilian works from 1965 to 1998. She is known internationally as a Brazilian expert and also has written pieces about Mexican, Guatemalan, and Latin American business. Her book Subject Guide to Statistics in the Presidential Reports of the Brazilian Provinces, 1830–1889 made a major contribution to the preservation of important Brazilian government papers by making them much more accessible to researchers.

Analyzing the Andes—Professor Knapp Uses Fullbright-Hays to Study Sustainable Development

In April 2005, Professor Gregory Knapp of UT’s Department of Geography and the Environment was awarded a nine-month research grant from the Fullbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program to study “Water Management, Livelihoods, and Landscapes in the Andes.”

This was the second time Knapp received the highly competitive Fullbright-Hays grant from the U.S. Department of Education, and he was one of only 27 faculty members nationwide selected for the 2005–2006 academic year. Awarded are selected based on the originality, significance, and theoretical importance of their research, as well as their qualifications for carrying it out and their impact on transforming area studies programs.

Following up his previous research on the patterns and processes of land use in the Andes, this project took Knapp to the Ecuadorian Andes for nine months to study the importance of water management for the success and sustainability of high mountain societies. “I’ve spent a long time studying the history and culture of local irrigation systems,” says Knapp. “With this project, I’m striving to update this research and relate it to broader themes in sustainable mountain development, both in the Andes and elsewhere. Usually, mountains are seen as marginal environments with no future in the global economy except for sites for tourism. I suspect the Andes have a more vibrant future.”

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One of Knapp’s biggest challenges was the unstable political environment as the Ecuadorian elections approached. “The country was convulsed by various political groups jockeying for position in the elections,” he said. “Tactics included strikes and slowdowns of the transportation systems.” As an American doing research, Knapp was in an especially sensitive position due to the negotiations for a free trade agreement, which some criticized in terms of its potential effect on local indigenous agriculture.

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The archive includes not only the full-text versions of official documents, but also original video and audio recordings of key regional leaders. Archive contents include thousands of annual and “state of the nation” reports and programs, and speeches by presidents and government ministers. Content can be accessed via full-text search, or by browsing by country or by specialized sample collection, such as “Presidential Messages” or “Ministerial Documents.”

LAGDA is a true example of partnership in action. The archive was developed by LANIC (Latin American Network Information Center), using the Internet Archive’s Archive-It service, soon joined by the University of Texas Libraries and the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection. Latin American bibliographer Dan Gibbs and Fred Heath, Vice Provost of the University of Texas Libraries, both lent their advice and support to further develop the project. As LANIC Project Director Carolyn Palaima describes it, “LAGDA is structured for comprehensive capture of Web sites based on the collecting needs of libraries. The service provides for the systematic capture of documents and other primary source material that are increasingly available on the Web only. We capture not only the documents, but also the supporting context in which they were written.”

Ann Hartness Receives Brazil’s Order of the Southern Cross

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Faculty

Rising Stars of UT’s Latin Americanist Faculty
Latin American Studies at the University of Texas is recognized as one of the best programs in the country, and the addition of outstanding new faculty is key to its continued growth and attraction for students. Here we introduce you to three bright lights at UT, all arrivals within the past few years.

FRANK GURIDY’S research interests explore the histories of the African Diaspora in the Americas, focusing on the social and cultural engagements between Afro-Cubans and African Americans in the twentieth century.

JOSIIANNA ARROYO MARTÍNEZ, Associate Professor of Spanish and Portuguese, specializes in the analysis of literary and cultural discourses of Brazil and the Spanish Caribbean. She received her Ph.D. in Hispanic languages and literature from the University of California, Berkeley.

DANIEL BRINKS, Assistant Professor of Government in the fields of comparative politics and public law, teaches courses in comparative politics, comparative judicial politics, democracy and democratization, and Spanish American politics, as well as courses at the UT Law School. Dan’s research focuses on the role of the law and courts in supporting or extending the rights associated with democracy, with a particular regional interest in Latin America. His most recent projects address the judicial response to police violence in Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay; the use of the courts and law to enforce social and economic rights in the developing world; and the role of informal norms in the legal order.

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New LLILAS Concentration
Cultural Politics of Afro-Latin and Indigenous Peoples
This graduate concentration in the LLILAS master’s program trains students to analyze the politics of racialized peoples at the margins of Latin American societies, through the lens of cultural theory. Within this broadly defined approach, the particular strength of LLILAS faculty and graduate diversity of course offerings can be found in topics that cluster around the study of racial formation, language politics and ideologies, gender relations, identity politics and social movements, and ideologies of nation building, with a strong emphasis on historical analysis.

This “cultural politics” approach has a dual point of reference. (1) analysis of political processes in which cultural differences play a prominent role, and (2) systematic inquiry into the cultural construction of categories that people use to engage in politics and to explain political outcomes to one another. An example of the first is the analysis of indigenous and Afro-Latin movements for rights and resources in Latin America; an example of the latter is scrutiny of the categories of race and nation through which these rights are claimed, contested, and exercised. For more information go to: http://www.utexas.edu/cola/inst/llilas/masters/mi-concentrates

of Legal Strategies on Social and Economic Rights.” “This is a very exciting project,” he says. “We are exploring the use of law and courts to expand access to health care and education in Brazil, India, South Africa, Indonesia, and Argentina. We hope to put together the first comprehensive study of the conditions under which legal strategies can make a real difference in these critical areas for human development.”

Daniel was born and raised in Argentina. He has a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Notre Dame and a J.D. from the University of Michigan Law School. He practiced law for nearly ten years before returning to academia, including a period clerking for the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.
Culture in the Americas of Fin de Siglo.” Josianna’s research explores the analysis of global connections between Freemasons in the Spanish Caribbean and the United States from Earl Lewis’s concept of “overlapping diasporas” and focusing on Masonic conceptualizations of the word as technology and its representation of race, global capital, and alternative communities. She is working on her forthcoming book titled: *Fin de siglo: Secrecy and Technologies of the Word in Caribbean Freemasonry.*

She comments, “My interdisciplinary link between Latin American, Caribbean and African Diaspora Studies puts together themes which have defined my research since my years as an undergraduate student at the University of Puerto Rico: racial, gender, and class inequalities and their relationship to colonial oppression. Studies about the African Diaspora bring awareness to the complex political, economic, and social struggle of Afro-descendants in the Americas. As I have found during my years studying Brazil and the Spanish Caribbean, intersectionalities of race, gender, and sexuality shed light into forms of colonial oppression which remain intact in our so-called ‘equal’ global world. If contemporary migration from Latin America and the Caribbean to the United States still defines what it means to be ‘American,’ while it has created new sociopolitical and economic frontiers, as I show in my new book, these ‘frontiers’ are not new to this country but have been part of the United States’ colonial and imperial history since the nineteenth century”

Josianna is affiliated with both LLILAS and the Center for African and American Studies. Frank’s course offerings include: “African Diaspora in Latin America and the Caribbean,” “Re-imagining Cuba,” “Caribbean Racial Formations,” “Introduction to Spanish American Literature since Modernism,” “Nation and Transnation in the Hispanic Caribbean,” and a graduate seminar, “Technologies: Language, Politics, and Culture in the Americas of Fin de Siglo.”

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Visiting Professors for 2005–2006 at LLILAS

Latin America offers a wealth of diversity, from its landscapes to its peoples and politics. Bringing new perspectives and regional insights to the study of Latin America is the goal of LLILAS’s Visiting Professors program. Distinguished Latin American scholars and practitioners are brought to the University of Texas at Austin to teach courses or a set of classes, greatly enriching the academic experience for both students and faculty by sharing their expertise and facilitating the exchange of ideas in their areas of research.

The Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Annual Visiting Professorship was newly launched in 2005. Established as part of the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Endowment, this professorship supports visiting scholars to teach at UT for one semester. LLILAS was honored to bring Dr. Guillermo Padilla for the spring semester as the first Lozano Long Visiting Professor. Dr. Padilla, a Colombian, received his doctoral degree in Latin American studies from the University of California, Berkeley, and specializes in the fields of sociology and legal anthropology, with a focus on indigenous people. He advocates for reforms to improve access to the justice system for indigenous people and the validity of the traditional Indians systems of law. Nominated by the Department of Anthropology, Dr. Padilla taught courses on “Culture and Power in Contemporary Latin America” and “Legal Pluralism and Indigenous Politics in Latin America.”

The Spring 2006 semester also brought LLILAS’s first Matías Romero Visiting Professor, Jaime Parada Avila. The Matías Romero Visiting Chair in Mexican Studies was created through an educational and research cooperative agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mexico and UT Austin. Its purpose is to promote the presence and participation of distinguished Mexicans from the public and private sectors, as well as from academia, to foster greater understanding of Mexican culture and society. Dr. Parada Avila has been the General Director of the National Council for Science and Technology in Mexico, where he developed education policy to promote higher education and to increase value for developments in the fields of science and technology. He also has worked in the private sector as a Chief Technology Officer for Celulosa y Derivados. For the past thirty years, he has been a leader in Mexico in the fields of business management, product development, higher education, consultancy in engineering, innovation programs, and manufacturing and quality systems. At UT he taught a graduate course on “Science, Technology, and Development: Mexico’s Challenges and the USA’s Role.”

The Tinker Visiting Professor program dates back to 1973 when it was endowed by the Edward Larocque Tinker Foundation. The goal of the program has been to bring pre-eminent thinkers from Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula to the United States as a means of encouraging contact and collaboration among scholars. A Tinker Visiting Professor is expected to provide an opportunity for U.S. scholars, students, and the general public to discover the contributions made by Latin American and Iberian scholars in a broad range of disciplines. Dr. Eduardo Rios-Neto was awarded the prestigious Tinker Visiting Professorship for the Spring 2006 semester. Dr. Rios-Neto received his doctoral degree in demography from the University of California, Berkeley, and a post-doctoral degree in demography from the University of Texas at Austin. He serves as President of the National Commission on Population and Development, under the Ministry of Planning of the Brazilian government and is a Professor of Demography at the Federal University of Minas Gerais. Dr. Rios-Neto taught a graduate course on “Seminar in Demography, Evaluation of Social Policy in Latin America.”

**LLILAS Visiting Resource Professors**

The LLILAS Visiting Resource Professors (VRP) program allows for scholars to come to UT for shorter periods. Visiting Resource Professors are invited by UT Latin Americanist faculty members to lecture for one to two weeks in either undergraduate or graduate classes. The VRP program addresses three academic goals: to enhance the international community of scholars working on Latin American topics; to establish and strengthen contacts between Latin American institutions of higher learning and the University of Texas; and to allow Latin American scholars access to UT library collections and archives. For the 2005–06 academic year, LLILAS welcomed the following Visiting Resource Professors.

- **Fall 2005**
  - Juan Carlos Aguiló (volunteer) at the Institute for Biological Conservation (IBC) in Mexico. He specializes in the fields of comparative politics, with focus on Costa Rica’s elections, electoral institutions, and electoral fraud.
  - Fabrice E. Lehoucq (volunteer) at the Institute for Biological Conservation (IBC)
  - Dr. Hoffman is Assistant Professor of Law (Public International Law and Human Rights) and Deputy Director, Núcleo de Direitos Humanos, Department of Law, at Pontificia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio). His areas of study are public international law and international human rights.
  - Richard Webb
  - Dr. Webb has a distinguished record as governor for the Central Reserve Bank in Peru and is currently Director of the Center for Economic Research at the Universidad de San Martin in Lima. His research focuses on political economy, growth, and equality in Latin America.
  - Gabriel Infante-Lopez
  - Dr. Lopez received his doctoral degree in computer science from the University of Amsterdam. His area of specialization is probabilistic grammars for natural language parsing.

- **Spring 2006**
  - Dr. Lehoucq is Research Professor in the Division of Political Studies at the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) in Mexico. He specializes in the fields of comparative politics, with focus on Costa Rica’s elections, electoral institutions, and electoral fraud.
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