Visiting Professors for 2007–2008 at LLILAS

BRINGING NEW PERSPECTIVES AND regional insights to the study of Latin America is the goal of LLILAS’s Visiting Professors programs. Distinguished Latin American scholars are brought to UT to teach courses or a set of classes, sharing their expertise and facilitating the exchange of ideas.

The Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Annual Visiting Professorship was established as part of the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Endowment and supports visiting scholars to teach at UT for one semester. Dr. Antonio Dimas DeMoraes was our Lozano Long Visiting Professor for fall 2007. He holds a Ph.D. from the Universidade de São Paulo and is a respected scholar of Brazilian literature, with a research focus on the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Professor Dimas taught the course Modernização cultural e literária nos anos 20 e 30: Gilberto Freyre, Mário de Andrade e José Lins do Rêgo.

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 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. Ariel Dulitzky was the fall 2007 Tinker Visiting Professor. He holds a law degree from the University of Buenos Aires School of Law and an L.L.M. from Harvard. He is now Visiting Professor of Law and Latin American Studies and Associate Director of the Rapoport Center for Human Rights and Justice at UT. As Tinker Professor, he taught the course Human Rights in Latin America during fall 2007. Dr. Sandra Kuntz Ficker was Tinker Visiting Professor for spring 2008. Dr. Kuntz is Professor of Economic History at El Colegio de México, where she earned her Ph.D. She has been a Fulbright Research Fellow at the University of Chicago and a Visiting Research Fellow at the University of California, San Diego. Her research deals with various economic history topics, including the economic impact of railroads, the entrepreneurial history of railroad companies, and Mexico’s foreign trade and commercial policy—all in nineteenth and early twentieth century Mexico. Dr. Kuntz taught the course Economic History of Mexico, 1800–1940.

Spring 2008 also brought Dr. Rodolfo Cruz to UT as the Matías Romero Visiting Professor. The Matías Romero Visiting Chair in Mexican Studies was created through an educational and research cooperation 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. Cruz is Director of the Population Studies Department at the Colegio de la Frontera del Norte in Tijuana, Baja California. He has taught numerous courses on demography there and at San Diego State University. He earned his Ph.D. in sociology from UT Austin and a master’s degree from the Colegio de México. During his semester in Austin, Dr. Cruz taught a graduate seminar on international migration, with a focus on Mexican migration to the U.S.

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 2007–2008 academic year, LLILAS welcomed the following Visiting Resource Professors.

Fall 2007

Celina Manzoni
Dr. Manzoni is Professor at the Facultad de Filosofía y Letras of the Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina. She specializes in Latin American literature of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, with a focus on Caribbean literature.

Daniel Bonilla
Dr. Bonilla is Associate Professor at the Universidad de los Andes School of Law in Bogotá, Colombia. Dr. Bonilla is Director of the Public Interest Law Group of the Universidad de los Andes. As Director of G-DIP, Dr. Bonilla works with students to bring cases before the Constitutional Court relating to a broad range of issues including racism, discrimination, indigenous rights, and the environment.

Rachel Meneguello
Dr. Meneguello is Professor of Political Science at UNICAMP, a researcher at the Center for Public Opinion, and the editor of Public Opinion magazine. She specializes in the study of political parties and electoral behavior.

Eduardo Rios Neto
Dr. Rios Neto is Professor of Demography at the Federal University of Minas Gerais. He has served as president of the Brazilian Population Studies Association and has collaborated on several joint projects with the UT Population Research Center. Professor Rios Neto was the Edward Larocque Tinker Visiting Professor at UT during spring 2006.

Spring 2008

Claudia Agostoni
Dr. Agostoni is a researcher at the Instituto de Investigaciones Históricas of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), in Mexico City. Her research interests include the social and cultural history of medicine and public health during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries in Mexico and in Latin America more generally. In 2005, Dr Agostoni received the Mexican Academy of Science Annual Award for research in the humanities.

Patricia Ravelo Blancas
Patricia Ravelo Blancas is Professor at the Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social and at present a Visiting Professor at the University of Texas at El Paso. Her current research project is “Protestal social y acciones colectivas en torno de la violencia sexual y de género en Ciudad Juárez, Chih./ El Paso, TX.”

Martha de Ulhôa
Professor de Ulhôa, an ethnomusicologist affiliated with the Instituto Villa-Lobos at the Universidade Federal do Estado do Rio de Janeiro, is a renowned scholar of Brazilian popular music. She has served on the editorial board of Popular Music, the field’s leading journal, and is currently a Member-at-Large of the Executive Committee of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music.