Visiting Professors for 2009–2010 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. Beatriz Ilari was our Lozano Long Visiting Professor for spring 2010. She holds a PhD in music from McGill University, Montreal, an MA from Montclair State University, and a BA from the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil. She is an Associate Professor of Music at the Universidade Federal do Paraná in Curitiba, Brazil, where she teaches courses in music education, Brazilian musical cultures, and music psychology.

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. Francisco Thoumi was the fall 2009 Tinker Visiting Professor. He received a PhD in economics from the University of Minnesota. After working for several decades on international trade, Latin American integration, and economic development and industrialization, he began focusing his research on drugs to better understand what was taking place in the Andean countries. See his article on p. 38.

The Matías Romero Visiting Chair in Mexican Studies was created in 2003 through an educational and research cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mexico and UT Austin to bring to UT distinguished Mexicans from the public and private sectors, as well as from academia, to foster greater understanding of Mexican culture and society. Roberto Breña, Professor of Political History at the Center for International Studies at El Colegio de México in Mexico City, held the chair in fall 2009. He is a noted authority on nineteenth-century Latin American history, and holds an MA in philosophy from UNAM and a PhD in political science from the Universidad Complutense in Madrid.

In fall 2009, Rafael M. Hernández Rodríguez was the LLILAS Visiting Professor funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Faculty Fellowship in Latin American Studies. He is a Senior Research Fellow at the Centro de Investigación y Desarrollo de la Cultura Cubana “Juan Marinello” in Havana. Professor Hernández has a BA in French literature and history of philosophy from the Universidad de Habana (1973); an MA in political science from El Colegio de México (1977); and is in the PhD program in Latin American studies at UNAM. He has been a Professor and Researcher at the Universidad de Habana and the High Institute of International Relations. He is one of Cuba’s most distinguished senior political science scholars of U.S.-Cuban relations.

Also in fall 2009, Francisco Alba was the Trade Visiting Professor at LLILAS. He is a professor and researcher at El Colegio de México. An economist by training, he also has a degree in philosophy and has done postgraduate work in demography and other social sciences in Mexico, France, and the United States. Since 2008, Professor Alba has been a member of the UN Committee for the Protection of Migrants’ Rights, and since 1985, of Mexico’s National Researchers System. He has published extensively in books and in Mexican and international journals on international migration issues and policies; Mexico-U.S. migration; population and development; and regional and economic integration.

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 2009–2010 academic year, LLILAS welcomed the following Visiting Resource Professors.

FALL 2009

Rosemeire Moreira

Rosemeire Moreira is an accomplished soprano and soloist at the Teatro Municipal de São Paulo. She was recipient of the first prize for the “Concurso de Interpretação da Canção de Câmara Brasileira” promoted by the Centro de Música Brasileira and Rotary Club of São Paulo.

SPRING 2010

Carlos de la Torre

Carlos de la Torre teaches at FLACSO Ecuador. He is the author of five books and dozens of articles and book chapters, most of which focus on two main research areas: populism and populist movements in Latin America, and racism and ethnic/racial movements in Ecuador.

Cecilia Medina

Cecilia Medina is President of the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights and Co-director of the Centro de Derechos Humanos at the Universidad de Chile in Santiago, where she studied legal and social sciences. In 2004, Medina was elected to the Inter-American Court of Human Rights and served as its vice president in 2007. In 2008, she became the first woman president of the court.

Eduardo Restrepo

Eduardo Restrepo is Professor of Anthropology at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia. He is a leading thinker in cultural studies in Colombia and has researched and written extensively on Afro-descendant social movements and cultural identity in Colombia, particularly in the Pacific Basin region.

Frederico Holanda

Frederico Holanda is Professor of Urbanism at the Universidade de Brasília and the leading Brazilian expert on the city’s contemporary urban fabric. Holanda’s work focuses on how the current morphology of the city (the Plano Piloto and the satellite towns) is indicative of deep transformations of and departures from Lucio Costa’s plan of 1956.