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# Regeneración

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## **Note From the Director**

Chicana/o Studies Program faculty, staff, students, and friends are working together this year to expand the program in exciting ways. We have the good fortune to welcome seven new members to our program faculty. Prof. Mary Beltrán joins us from the University of Texas-Austin, where she earned her doctoral degree in Radio-Film-Television from the University of Texas-Austin. She is jointly appointed in Chicana/o Studies and Communication Arts at UW. Prof. Birgit Brander Rasmussen earned her Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies at the University of California-Berkeley and holds a joint appointment with the Chicana/o Studies Program and the English Department.

In addition, five members of other departments have joined the program and will offer courses through Chicana/o Studies: Francisco Scarano (history of the Caribbean and Latin America); Susan L. Johnson (Western Borderlands, Gender, Sexuality); Ned Blackhawk (joint appointment in American Indian Studies, US West & Spanish Borderlands, Colonialism); Rachel Rodriguez (Latino/a farmworkers. Domestic violence, Latino/a health); and Consuelo Lopez-Springfield (Latina and Caribbean studies). These new members join Professors

Rubén Medina (Chicana/o Studies and Spanish & Portuguese), Alda Blanco (Spanish & Portuguese), Jim Escalante (Art), Alberta Gloria (Counseling Psychology), Sandy Magaña (Social Work), Norma Saldívar (Theater & Drama), and me in our project of building an inclusive intellectual community committed to academic excellence and social justice.

Toward that end, a new academic student organization, the Chicana/o Studies Certificate Program Association, has been established this year and will be working with us to build a strong Chicana/o and Latino/a studies program. And we will maintain and strengthen ties between the program and other student organizations on campus, including MEChA and El Colectivo. At the same time, we will expand and reaffirm our commitment to forging alliances with friends of Chicana/o & Latino/a studies in Madison and throughout Wisconsin.

Sincerely,

Camille Guérin-Gonzales

Professor Camille Guerin-Gonzales

# Regeneración

#### Sharing with Chicano/a Studies

The Chicano/a Studies Program at UW-Madison welcomes donations from alumni, friends, supporters, and organizations.

Gifts & Donations contribute to the enrichment and quality of the program, aid in its growth, and benefit the educational experiences of students and members of the community. Please send donations of any amount to Steve Kean, Director of Development, College of Letters and Science University of Wisconsin Foundation. You may contact him at 608-265-3526. Thank you for your

generosity in support of

the Chicana/o Studies

Program!



Professor Ben Marquez
Professor Marquez published
a new book, Constructing
Identities in Mexican
American Political
Organizations: Choosing
Issues, Taking Sides.

## **New Faculty & Staff Bios**

Mary Beltrán

Mary Beltrán earned her Ph.D in the field of Radio-Television-Film from the University of Texas at Austin and holds a joint appointment in Chicana/o Studies and Communication Arts. She is playing a central role in building Chicana/o Studies and Latina/o studies at UW, as well as in creating closer ties between ethnic studies programs and departmental structures at UW-Madison. Working off insights from film history, American Studies, gender studies, and cultural studies, Beltrán uses a variety of methodologies to explore the representation and participation of Latinas and Latinos in film, television, and popular culture. Beltrán opens to UW a whole world of Latina/o studies scholarship that is thriving in the major universities of the U.S./Mexican borderlands, from the University of Texas campuses to the vast and prestigious University of California system.

Birgit Brander Rasmussen

Birgit Brander Rasmussen holds a joint appointment in Chicana/o Studies and English. She earned her Ph.D. in Ethnic Studies from the University of California-Berkeley. She co-edited and co-authored the

## **Faculty Achievements**

Ben Marquez

Professor Ben Marquez recently published the following works:

<u>Constructing Identities in Mexican American Political Organizations:</u>

<u>Choosing Issues, Taking Sides</u>

(Austin: University of Texas Press, 2003) and "Bankrolling Mexican American Political Organizations:

introduction to an important collection of essays on race, *The Making and Unmaking of Whiteness* (Durham, N.C.: Duke University Press, 2001). Her scholarship and teaching contextualize Chicana/o and Latino/a studies within a broader framework of comparative ethnic studies, and her work provides an important theoretical and methodological foundation in Chicana/o Studies for the study of ethnicity and race.

#### Alta Johnson

My philosophy is that life puts us on a pathway. To that extent, my path has led me to work with the Chicana/o Studies Program. I have been the Program Administrator since March 3, 2003. My goal is to be an asset to the program and allow it to enrich my life. As a returning adult student, working in an academic setting takes on a new dimension. I am working behind the scenes as well as being a part of the scene. As I pursue my education, I realize that I have very specific interests. On the top of my list is writing. I wonder how I can combine writing with Comparative Ethnic Studies, Religious Studies, Art as Healing, and Women's Issues. I will have to see where the pathway leads me.

Corporate and Foundation
Sponsorship of Racial Politics."
Social Service Review 77, no. 3
(September 2003.): 329-46.
Professor Marquez is engaged in professional service outside of the university: Chair, Section on Race,

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Ethnicity and Politics, for the 2004
Midwest Political Science Association
Conference; Co-Chair, Division on
Race, Ethnicity and Politics, for the
2003 American Political Science
Association Conference; Chair, Best
Paper Awards Committee for the
American Political Science
Association section on Race, Ethnicity
and Politics, 2004; and Co-Chair of
the Latino Caucus for the American
Political Science Association, 2001 to
2004.

#### Rubén Medina

This semester Professor Rubén Medina is on sabbatical, after serving three years as director for the Chicana/o Studies Program. He is working on a book-length project about Chicana/o literature and Mexican migration, entitled, The Nation at Large: Chicana/o Literature and the Migrant Subject. Professor Medina is also researching contemporary Mexican film. Last summer, Dr. Medina and graduate students from the Department of Spanish and Portuguese organized a panel on masculinity in Mexican culture for the XI Jornadas Culturales Metropolitanas held in Mexico City. He presented a paper entitled "Masculinidad, imperio y modernidad en Cartas de relación de Hernán Cortés." His essay, "El poder la escritura y la escritura del poder: el ensayo de Octavio Paz," is forthcoming in an anthology edited by Héctor Jaime entitled Octavio Paz: La dimensión estética del ensayo (México: Siglo XXI, 2003.) Additionally he completed a poetry manuscript, Nomadic Nation / Nación nómada, and is exploring publication

options.

#### Sandy Magaña

Dr. Sandy Magaña received a 2-year grant from the Hartford Geriatric Social Work Faculty Scholars Program for her project on aging Latino and African American women caring for adult family members with developmental disabilities and mental illness. The Hartford Scholars Program aims to enhance the effectiveness of faculty scholars as academic leaders, role models, and mentors for future generations of social work professionals working in gerontology.

Professor Magaña also is involved in two projects in the Latino community that involve UW students; one is a support group for Spanish speaking families that have a child with a developmental disability. This group meets once a month at Centro Guadalupe and is co-sponsored by the Waisman Center and the Epilepsy Foundation. The other is an educational and support group for Spanish speaking consumers with serious mental illness and their families, which meets weekly at the Mental Health Center of Dane County

#### Alberta Gloria

Professor Gloria is currently the National Latino Psychological Association (NLPA) Secretary.

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Professor Sandy Magaña

Professor Magaña is involved in two projects in the Latino community that involve UW students.



Professor Alberta Gloria

Professor Gloria received a mentoring award from the American Psychological Association. (Gloria, Continued From Page 3)

In addition, the American Psychological Association Graduate Student Association awarded Professor Gloria with the Kenneth and Mamie Clark Mentoring Award (2003). Individuals who receive this award have made substantial contributions to the professional development of racial and ethnic minority graduate students.

#### Armando Mejia

Armando Mejia served as chair and discussant in several panels on race/ethnic politics, urban politics, and environmental policy at the 2003 Midwest Political Science
Association meeting in Chicago and the Western Political Science
Association in Denver. He also presented two works in progress. One paper is about environmental justice politics in metropolitan Los Angeles and the other is on the politics of immigrant labor and citizenship.

Mr. Mejia is currently finishing up an edited book titled Latino/a Americans and Political Participation: A

Reference Handbook to be published by ABC-CLIO Press in October 2004. The book is a collection of the latest research by prominent Latino/a political scientists on the political impact of Latino population growth, Latino/a electoral history and participation, social movements, and protest politics. The book is being coedited with Professor Sharon Navarro of UT-San Antonio.

Armando also is working on research and review essays regarding environmental justice activism, Asian and Latino/a immigrant labor politics, and global cities. Armando is hoping to present these papers at the 2004 meetings of the American Sociological Association, American Political Science Association, and/or Latin American Studies Association.

Finally, Armando is working on an edited book tentatively titled Latino/a Environmentalism: Contesting Injustice and Developing Sustainable Communities. The book will examine the history and contemporary impact of environmental inequality in Latino/a communities. The book will also analyze, through a series of case studies, the ways in which grassroots organizations are mobilizing to contest environmental injustice and to generate sustainable development in poor Latino/a communities. Armando is submitting the proposal for this book to several university presses in January 2004.

#### Mary Beltrán

Professor Beltrán is working on a booklength project on the marketing of Latina stars since the silent film era and the related topics of evolving racial politics and beauty ideals in the United States. She is also presenting a paper on. a panel entitled "Contemporary Latina/o Cultural Studies" for the Latino Studies in the Midwest Symposium at Ohio State University in April 2004. The symposium will bring together Latino/a Studies scholars from the Midwest and focus on building intellectual community and networks. The first day's schedule consists of scholarly panels by faculty. The second day's schedule features facilitated discussion on the topic of reviving the Midwest Consortium for Latino Studies Research.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

September 7, 2003 - January 4, 2004 La Vida en Marcha: Mexican Prints from the Permanent Collection

La Vida en Marcha chronicles four decades of Mexican printmaking. Among the artists represented are the celebrated muralists Diego Rivera, José Clemente Orozco, and David Alfaro Siqueiros--known collectively as los tres grandes--along with Jean Charlot, Carlos Mérida, and Rufino Tamayo. La Vida en Marcha: Mexican Prints from the Permanent Collection is organized by the Madison Art Center. The exhibition will be on view from September 7, 2003 through January 4, 2004. (The exhibition is closed for two weeks beginning November 16 due to a special event.) Admission is free and open to the public. The event website is http://www.madisonartcenter.org.

#### November 14 & December 5, 10-noon

The Institute for Latino Health and Social Justice is sponsoring a reading group for faculty and graduate students interested in Latino/a Issues. For information, contact Lynet Uttal at <a href="https://linear.com/lutal@wisc.edu">luttal@wisc.edu</a>.

# **Rodriguez Offers Health Segment on WORT Radio**

The University of Wisconsin-Madison School of Nursing features a 5 to 10 minute health segment during the radio show, "En Nuestra Patio" on WORT, 89.9FM, every Tuesday evening 6-7p.m. The topics addressed will be a variety of health issues targeted to the Latino community in Madison. Professor Rodriquez will be doing the show in Spanish. The segment is sponsored by the Nursing School and the Institute for Latino Health and Social Justice.

## **Call for Submissions**

The Chicana/o Studies Program is announcing the publication of a new student academic journal entitled *Concientización*.

Concientización is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to scholarly research relevant to or informed by the Latina/o & Chicano/a experience.

The journal will be published annually; and the inaugural issue will appear Spring 2004.

Contributions are limited to undergraduate and graduate students presently or formerly enrolled at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in any discipline. Contributors should prepare their manuscripts according to the *Chicago Manual of Style* (See the following website:http://www.wisc.edu/writing/Handbook/Doc/Chicago.html/) and submit one copy to Professor Camille Guerin-Gonzales, Director, Chicana/o Studies Program, 313 Ingraham Hall, 1155 Observatory Dr., University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI 53706.

The deadline for submission for the Spring 2004 issue is February 2, 2004. Submissions received after February 2, will be considered for the Spring 2005 issue.

For more information about *Concientización*, send an e-mail to cgueringonza@wisc.edu.



Professor Camille
Guerin-Gonzales

"Concientización is an interdisciplinary journal dedicated to scholarly research relevant to or informed by the Latina/o & Chicano/a experience."

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# CHICANO STUDIES & COMMUNITY RELATIONS, By Armando Mejia

Since it's founding, a core component of the mission of Chicano/a Studies programs has been to address community concerns and to develop close relationships with communitybased organizations. Indeed, much of contemporary Chicano/a and Latino/a Studies scholarship is based on in-depth neighborhood and organizational studies, fieldwork, archival research, and interviews with community activists and residents. As we plan for the future, the faculty of the Chicano/a Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison believes it is important for our program and our students to develop and enhance close ties with Madison's Latino/a and Chicano/a community.

During the past decade, the City of Madison, and the state of Wisconsin as a whole, have experienced an exponential increase in the Latino/a population, most of which is of Mexican origin. Thus, more than ever, it has become important and necessary for scholars and policymakers to pay attention to the current and future needs, concerns, and dreams of this increasingly diverse population. We in the Chicano/a Studies Program are committed to enhancing knowledge and scholarship on Chicanos/as and Latinos/as in Wisconsin and nationwide. We also plan to develop a series of initiatives designed to

increase our visibility in the community and to generate opportunities for our certificate students to work on projects in the public schools, with communitybased organizations, and with local policy-makers.

During the 2003-04 academic year, the Community Relations Faculty Committee will recommend the implementation of an internship program for students, a communityservice learning component in our courses, and strong working partnerships with several professional Latino/a organizations in Madison. These efforts, coupled with other efforts underway to restructure our curriculum and raise funds, are designed to strengthen our relationship with community residents and institutions and to bridge the gap that often exists between the "academic" and "nonacademic" worlds. As we develop and grow, the Chicano/a Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison aims to create enduring relationships with a wide range of organizations and individuals beyond the university. We hope that through these partnerships, we will be able to add an experiential component to our courses, develop many leadership and academic development opportunities for our students, and be of service to the community at large.

## **Chicana/o Studies Student Goes to Washington**

Carlos Miranda, a UW Chicana/o Studies certificate student, recently returned from New York after taking part in a historic event, The Immigrant Workers Freedom Ride. Participants of the IWFR consisted of students, activists, workers, labor organizers, and religious allies who spread a message across the U.S. about four main points: family reunification, legalization, full rights in the work place, and civil rights & liberties. Busses departed from ten designated cities including Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Chicago, Houston, Miami, and Boston. Residents in over 70 towns, cities, rural areas, and work sites across the country met the riders and heard their stories—crucial counter narratives to mainstream immigrant policy. Carlos, along with four other people from Madison, rode with the Minneapolis Bus--#6. The Madison contingent joined 91 other Midwest representatives.