

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- "Speaker Series "
- SuperMercado
- Faculty Achievements
- New CLS Faculty
- CLS Affiliate's New Position
- Alumni Updates

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From the Director

As I have been working on various proposals and initiatives, it has become very clear to me the unprecedented growth we have seen in our program. We know that the Latin@ population is growing exponentially in the US and has almost doubled on our campus over the past 10 years. The CLS program has also expanded to reflect these growth patterns of the Latin@ population in the community and on campus. Since 1993 the number of CLS certificate program students has grown from less than five in the early 90s to our current rates of between 70 and 80 students. The number of students who have completed their certificate upon graduation has grown dramatically from one or two per year in the early 90s to an average of 19 per year over the past three years. Much of this growth has taken place since 2003 under the leadership of previous directors, Camille Guerin Gonzales and Alberta Gloria.



Sandy Magaña

Other aspects of the program have increased as well. We have a peer-reviewed journal, a semester newsletter, an academic student-based organization, and the one of the few PhD minors in Chican@ Latin@ studies programs. We currently have 19 affiliated faculty members (we welcome our new addition to the faculty, Ruth Lopez Turley, Assistant Professor in Sociology). We offer an average of 15 courses per year and enroll about 860 students per year in our courses.

Because of the phenomenal growth among Latin@s and in our program, I believe we must be positioned to address the growing needs and challenges. Our students need more course offerings that take them deeper into Chican@ & Latin@ issues so they can meet the challenges of the 21st century. Many students have expressed to me the need for a major, more community space so they can build a sense of community among the many Latino student organizations on campus, and more student services to meet their needs such as programs that will include and involve their families in the enterprise of higher education. Some of these issues are challenges for our program, yet others are challenges for the campus at large. Nevertheless I feel a sense of high energy among the students, staff, faculty and friends of the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Program to advocate and work to meet these 21st century needs. I am honored to serve in the position of Director of our program at this important point in our history.

2009 CLS October Orientation



We celebrated our fall CLS orientation on Oct 16th. Over 60 people, consisting of students, faculty, friends, and community members, joined together to become oriented with the CLS department and enjoy each other's company, while eating great Mexican Food. CLS student were able to network with peers, faculty, and staff and were also able to view the CLS offices and other resources available to

them. Everyone heard from faculty about current and future courses, as well as from other CLS affiliates about programs such as CLS's new student organization, ChiLaCSA, and the CLS Journal, Concientización. This was great way to begin the fall 2009 semester!



Brown Bag Speaker Series

By Lisa Uresti and Jeanette Martin



Alfonso Morales



Carmen Valdez

CLS Professors Present Research Opportuni-

On November 17th, 2009 the Chican@ and Latin@ Studies Program held its first Brown Bag Speaker Series of the academic year. The speakers were Mariana Pacheco, Alfonso Morales and Carmen Valdez. Eight professors and staff, seven graduate and doctoral students, and one undergraduate student attended the event.

The purpose of this speaker series was to share scholarship and research that various CLS Faculty and Staff are conducting within our Chican@ and Latin@ community. The speaker series provided students with research ideas, so that they could create and align their own research topics with research other professionals are conducting within various Chican@ and Latin@ areas. The speaker series provided a great way for researchers to share available resources with persons throughout the University campus and Madison community.

Dr. Carmen Valdez spoke about the personal and professional journey that led her to become a psychologist dedicated to Latino research. She highlighted that this journey was not linear and offered suggestions for students seeking to follow a similar journey. Dr. Valdez discussed the importance of students being open to broad and new opportunities, but also to align their research according to their intentions and interests.

Dr. Mariana Pacheco focused her presentation on expanding Chican@ and Latin@ students' potential within schools. She focused on nondominant students' underachievement and how it correlates with cultural experiences. She explained how generalizations regarding cultural experiences and ignoring cultural practices decentralizes nondominant cultural groups. She explained various ways researchers could use culture to explain nondominant students', especially Latino students, achievement within schools in order to improve curriculum practices.



Mariana Pacheco

Dr. Alfonso Morales introduced an atypical way to conduct research. Dr. Morales discussed research opportunities that exist when researchers put themselves in the shoes of those whom they conduct research on. Accordingly, Dr. Morales explained how he worked as a vendor in Chicago's Maxwell Street market to see firsthand how the public markets serve as fertile ground for entrepreneurs and new businesses. He discussed ways for researchers to discover hidden parts of the economy by conducting hands-on community research.

One third year doctoral student attendee, Tom Chavez, said, "The inclusion of interdisciplinary presentations was exceptional. It gave me a great idea of the various topics being researched at UW - Madison within the Latin@ population. I would like to attend more brown bags with such continued focus, possibly with more time allotted to the speakers." Another doctoral student, Elizabeth Miranda, said "I really liked the presentations; it is interesting to know about the different kinds of research people are working on. It was also good to meet faculty members." Stay tuned for future Speaker presentations!



The Chican@ & Latin@ Studies (CLS) program would like to recognize its official 2009-2010 student organization, **ChiLaCSA**. ChiLaCSA serves as the CLS certificate student's voice in the decision-making process in the CLS Program, and aims to promote academic and cultural events focused on Chican@ and culture and traditions. To be a voting member you must be a student who is a declared CLS Certificate candidate. Our 2009 representatives are Ryan Garza, Beda Martinez and Penelope Nuñez. ChiLaCSA's main goal is to serve as a bridge between the faculty and students of the CLS Certificate program.

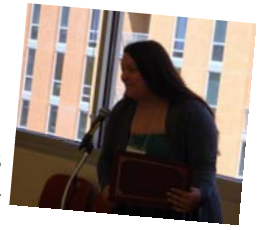
CHILACSA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS. Please visit our webLatin@ heritage. ChiLaCSA is open to ALL students who are interested in learning more about Chican@ and Latin@ site at:

<http://chilacsa.rso.wisc.edu/index.html>



Regent Jesus Salas Academic Activist Scholarship Recipient—Nobel Perez

By Beatriz Canas



Nobel Perez

Nobel Perez was raised in Bogota, Colombia and currently lives in Madison, WI, where she has been an active advocate for Latinos. Nobel Perez is a senior at UW-Madison and will be graduating with a dual degree in Sociology and Latin American, Caribbean, and Iberian Studies (LACIS), accompanied by a certificate in Chican@ & Latin@ Studies.

Nobel was recently awarded the **Regent Jesus Salas Academic Activist Scholarship** in spring 2009 by the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Program. This scholarship is awarded each spring semester to one Certificate Student who has excelled in academic pursuits and has also made outstanding service contributions to the Chican@ Latin@ community.

Nobel's continuous efforts in her community, as well as her commitment to go beyond the call of duty of what is required as a student, have not gone unnoticed. Nobel currently works for the University's department of family medicine. In this position, she works to help *all people* gain access to healthcare by assisting them overcome language and cultural barriers. Nobel is also a Madison school district bilingual research specialist. She finds ways to provide health related services for immigrants, which enable them to locate family resources and various health services. Even after work hours, Nobel avails herself to these community members by dedicating her spare time to make health care accessible at all times. Last summer, Nobel was able to utilize the experience she has gained as an advocate in Madison when she returned to her community in Colombia. There, Nobel gave back to her community by working with abandoned children that had been either neglected or abused.

Nobel's goal is to effect change through policy reformation, by advocating for groups who struggle for equality and face discrimination. Upon graduation, she plans to conduct research on racism within the medical system. When asked why she does things to help her community, she explains, "I get pleasure from helping children and their families because I can relate to people."

Get Active in CLS! Join the Chican@ & Latin@
Certificate Student Association (ChiLaCSA)
Contact: chicla@mailplus.wisc.edu

First SuperMercado

By Steve Pereira



On Wednesday September 2, 2009 The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc., Gamma Theta Chapter, organized & fully coordinated an event with other Latin@ based organizations on campus that was geared to promote Latino unity amongst the Latinos on campus and the incoming Latin@ freshmen. Gamma Theta's President, Steve Pereira, wanted to organized this event because

he believed that this idea would provide support and direct services to the incoming Latin@ Freshmen. Since it is important to help our Latino community, Lambda Theta Phi was able to achieve a groundbreaking welcoming event that made all Latinos feel comfortable on a campus that can be culturally

challenging. However, El SuperMercado Latin@ Welcoming Potluck helped our Latino community become more unified through an evening of fun, music, dancing, and food. Lambda Theta Phi Latin Fraternity Inc. hopes to make this an annual event that will continue to stimulate Latino unity through academic and social support to all Latinos on campus.



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Faculty News & Achievements

Ben Marquez

Professor Marquez's most recent co-authored publication titled Immigration Reform: Strategies for Legislative Action appeared in The Forum. Marquez, B & J. F. Whitte. (2009).



Alfonso Morales

Alfonso Morales has the Fall semester released from teaching through a faculty diversity award from the UW System Institute on Race and Ethnicity. He was invited to lecture about his research on street markets at Berlin Technical University, the Community Food Security Conference, and the Lincoln Land Institute. Recently, his work on markets has been published in JPER "Public Markets as Tools of Community Development" and in Zoning Practice. He also published two articles on health, one a coauthored piece in the American Journal of Sociology. Finally, his new co-edited book "An American Story: Mexican American Entrepreneurship and Wealth Creation" is new from Purdue University Press.



Lynet Uttal

Professor Uttal was promoted to full professor. One of her articles was recently published in a special issue of Politics and History of Childcare, titled "Liminal Cultural Work in Family Childcare: Latino Immigrant Family Childcare Providers and Bicultural Childrearing in the United States." The other publication, (Re)Visioning Family Ties To Communities and Contexts, was published in the *Handbook of Feminist Family Studies*. Professor Uttal has also started a new project working with community partners on domestic violence in the Latino community in Madison.



Tess Arenas

Professor Arenas spent the month of August in South Africa to establish service learning and university partners for a new international service learning course in that country. The primary partner for this course is the PEOPLE program. The course is to be offered over Winter Break 2010-2011. Professor Arenas is also exploring the creation of another service learning course on a Navajo Reservation...Watch for details!



Susan Johnson

Susan Johnson is one of twelve scholars who were selected for a national competition to participate in a 2009-10 symposium, "On the Borders of Love and Power: Families and Kinship in the Intercultural American West," sponsored by several prominent center on Southwest Studies. Professor Johnson's paper for the symposium is entitled "Writing Kit Carson in the Cold War: 'The Family,' 'The West,' and Their Chroniclers," and it examines two female perspectives regarding an (in)famous frontiersman's intimate relationships with American Indian women and New Mexican *Hispanas* as well as the children those relationships produced. This paper will thereafter be published.



Alberta M. Gloria

Professor Gloria completed a one-year research fellowship (2008-2009) at Marquette University as the AMUW Women's Chair of Humanistic Studies. There, she worked with the Latin American Student Association and conducted research on Latin@s academic persistence. She recently published an article (2009) entitled: Psychological coping and well-being of male Latino undergraduates: Sobreviviendo la universidad, in the *Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences*.



Congratulations and many thanks to our CLS faculty for their work and service!

Service Learning in CLS

By Lisa Uresti

The Impact of Service Learning Courses

Service Learning is a pedagogical model that integrates classroom learning with community engagement. The classroom/community partnership provides structured opportunities to apply academic theories and principles, to solve real world problems, and enhances students' analytical and problem solving skills, as well as concepts for the course. Students are able to apply their learning in the community to the course information. Students are able to retain the information by being engaged in service learning and they also actually use it throughout their lives.

Over the last five years, Professor Arenas has created several service learning courses, which are taught both by her individually and by other faculty. Chican@ & Latin@ Studies (CLS) Professors Tess Arenas and Sandy Magaña are teaching Service Learning courses this semester, along with Professor Lynette Uttal who is teaching a Community Based Research (CBR) course. These professors are committed to enhance the opportunities for Service Learning and incorporating Service Learning throughout the UW campus and surrounding neighborhoods. Professor Arenas is teaching "Foundations in Multi-cultural Coalition Building" in a Freshman Interest Group (FIG). The students learn how to work together in diversity on different projects. In the Neighborhood House Project, students interview diverse community members from the Greenbush community and share information with the Madison community during an anniversary event. This project allows the students to involve long-term and new residents from various ethnic backgrounds within the community.



Tess Arenas teaches "Foundations in Multi-cultural Coalition Building"

Professor Sandy Magaña is teaching the only Fall 2009 service learning course through the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies, "Understanding Latino Families and Communities." Students learn about distinct Latin@ groups and the differences across several Latin@ groups. Students also gain hands on knowledge of social work issues in Latinos communities.



Sandy Magaña teaches "Understanding Latino Families and Communities"



Lynet Uttal teaches "Immigrant Families"

Professor Lynet Uttal is teaching "Immigrant Families," a community based research course (CBR). In this CBR class, students are addressing information needs posed to them by community partners. For example, one group is finding and summarizing research articles about domestic violence in the Latino community and another group is creating an information booklet about the new legislation that will allow undocumented youth who have grown up in the U.S. access higher education.

Professor Magaña and Professor Arenas have previously co-taught an award winning service learning program titled, "Crossing Borders." This program introduces students to the environmental justice issues of border towns in Texas and Mexico. This program provides students with a unique community-based service learning experience designed to allow UW students the opportunity to gain an appreciation of the issues affecting border communities. Although this class will not be offered this year, both professors are hopeful for its return during the 2010-2011 school year. Additionally, Professor Arenas spent part of the summer in South Africa working on the new "Crossing Borders" program that will tentatively be offered during Spring 2011. This service learning program will be held in Cape Town and Durban, South Africa. Watch for Details!

These service learning projects have an important impact on the community and on the students who participate in them. Service learning courses provide students with tools to deal with everyday ambiguities of cultural issues. By participating in different community, students are able to get away from the dichotomous thinking that everything is either right or wrong. Students get out in the community and develop their own view points on issue. Students become critical thinkers and develop a mindset which changes their world view forever. If you are interested in future Service Learning opportunities, please contact the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies at (608) 262-6463.

Are you a CLS student or CLS Alumnus?

Tell us what you're up to!
Contact: lurest@wisc.edu

Do you have an idea or story to contribute?

We welcome your input.
Contact: Lisa Uresti <luresti@wisc.edu>



Our New CLS Faculty Addition

By Lisa Uresti

Ruth Turley-Lopez

Professor Ruth N. López Turley began teaching at the UW-Madison in 2003. The Chican@ & Latin@ Studies is proud to announce that Professor López Turley will join Chcan@ & Latin@ Studies Program as a new faculty addition in the Spring 2010 semester.

Biography: Getting to Know Professor Ruth N. López Turley Through Her Eyes

My family is from Mexico, and I was born and raised in a large family in Laredo, Texas. I'm married to Steve Turley, who is a campus minister for InterVarsity Christian Fellowship here at UW, and we have two wonderful little boys.

My current research focuses on the social relations among school personnel, parents, and children in schools with a high proportion of low-income Hispanic students. Strong relations of trust (social capital) are expected to be particularly beneficial for disadvantaged students. Through an experimental design involving 52 elementary schools in San Antonio and Phoenix, I am testing the causal effects of social capital on the cognitive and social development of children. Data collection for this five-year study of approximately 3,000 children, in which their parents and teachers are surveyed multiple times, began in August 2008. This project is funded by an R01 grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), and I am working with Adam Gamoran (Sociology) and Carmen Valdez (Counseling Psychology), as well as 18 outstanding students.

In addition to my research, I regularly teach Soc 134, a large course on race and ethnicity (400 students), and I organize a weekly brownbag seminar for graduate students and faculty on race and ethnicity. I dedicate a substantial portion of my time to teaching, which I enjoy very much. After my first year of teaching, I received an Exceptional Professor Award, based on a survey of 700 freshmen choosing professors who "passionately engage their students in the course material and genuinely work for their students' success." The following year, I was selected to be a Fellow at the UW Teaching Academy, recognizing excellence in teaching. The year after that, I received the sociology department's Award for Excellence in Teaching. Last year, I was selected to be an honorary member of the UW chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society, and I received the Dr. Brenda Pfaehler Award of Excellence, selected by students in TRIO, a program that provides academic support to students from low-income families, first generation college students, and students with disabilities. In addition, I received an Honored Instructors Award from University Housing last year.

I am particularly interested in mentoring students, which is perhaps the most rewarding aspect of my job. I am advising both graduate students and a few undergraduates. I also serve as a faculty mentor for the Chancellor's Scholarship Program, a merit-based program for historically underrepresented students. Additionally, I speak regularly for various campus groups, and I participate in the sociology department's Minority Recruitment and Retention Committee. I take mentoring very seriously because I have first-hand knowledge about its life-changing affects.

We look forward to Professor Turley-Lopez Joining the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Program

Are you a student interested in Obtaining a CLS Certificate?

CLS offers a Graduate Minor

For info contact: Director Sandra Magana magana@waisman.wisc.edu

A New Leader in Diversity

By Lisa Uresti

Jim Escalante



CLS Affiliate Gets A New Position Leading Equity and Diversity

Jim Escalante is a professor in the Art Department as well as an affiliate of the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies program. Professor Escalante was born in Mexico City and returned to Texas, the birth place of his parents, when he was a teenager. Professor Escalante quotes "My grandparents moved to Texas from Mexico in 1910. My father and mother returned to Mexico in 1950. Then I moved back to Texas in 1972. I am the third generation to cross the border which gives me an appreciation for both Chican@ and Mexican culture. My oldest son recently married a young woman from Monterrey, Nuevo Leon. I guess he continues the family tradition in one way." Since returning to Texas, Professor Escalante has continued to impact the lives of minority students through his achievements as a professional here in Madison, WI.

Professor Escalante obtained his undergraduate degree from North Texas State, where he also met his wife. He found his way to Madison Wisconsin, where he earned his Master's degree in Fine Arts from the UW-Madison. In 1978, Professor Escalante also founded a small press here in Wisconsin, which published limited edition books by contemporary writers and illustrators. From 1993 to 1996, Professor Escalante served as the Acting Director of the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Program. In 2007, Professor Escalante became an Associate Dean in the School of Education. This Fall 2009, Jim Escalante was recently appointed as an Associate Dean for Faculty & Staff Development and Equity & Diversity.

Some of Dean Escalante's duties as the new Associate Dean for Faculty & Staff Development and Equity & Diversity include overseeing and working with various student programs that are affiliated with the Diversity and Equity department. Some of those groups include, People, CeO, OMAI, Posse, and Ed-GRS. Dean Escalante also serves as a mentor of assistant professors and works with faculty hiring/retention and tenure within Equity and Diversity.

Professor Escalante is excited about his new position and related duties. He is looking forward to working with the various Equity and Diversity groups within UW-Madison. As he becomes more knowledgeable and adapted to his new position he has great hopes for success in reaching out to these student programs and those leaders within those programs.

Concientización:

The Journal of Chican@ & Latin@ Experience and Thought.

Concientización is a student journal dedicated to promoting the study of Chican@ and Latin@ experience and thought.. Concientización is committed to creating alliances across boundaries of nation, race, ethnicity, gender, class sexuality and the study of community and nation building.

We invite you to submit a research study, scholarly essay, book review, movie review, or poetry manuscript to cls_journal@wisc.edu.

Visit the CLS website <http://www.chicla.wisc.edu/publications/concientizacion/> for more information.

Contact our Project Assistant at cls_journal@wisc.edu with any questions.
We look forward to your submission!!!

Spring 2010 Undergrad Courses

Course	Topic	Time	Professor	Brief Description (see timetable for more info)
CLS 102	Intro to Comparative Ethnic Studies	9:30-10:45am TR	TBA	Introduces students to a multicultural history of the US, focusing on each of the major ethnic groups.
CLS 230	US/Mexico Border: Place-making in contested terrain	2:30-5:30pm M	Andrea Tess Arenas	Explores and examines the multiple definitions of the border region; the health concerns & migration on both sides; the impact of maquiladoras; increasing military presence and the impact of US drug consumption on Mexicanos living on the Frontera.
CLS 231	Politics in Multi-Cultural Society	9:55 - 10:45am MWF	Ben Marquez	Examines race, ethnicity, & religion as political phenomena, along with cultural identities as dynamic orientations and will focus on the U.S. as a multi-cultural polity.
CLS 462	American West since 1850	2:30 – 3:45pm TR	Susan Johnson	Explores the West as frontier since 1850 & its influence in American culture; examining interethnic relations, federal policies, resource-intensive economy, its environmental effects, & political conflicts.
CLS 530	Psychology Research & Theory	2:25 – 5:25pm T	Alberta Gloria	Explores the salient psychological and psychoeducational research with Chicana/os & Latinoa/os in the U.S., taking a psychosociocultural approach, topics of cultural values, acculturation, identity development, and environment and social climate exploration.
HIS 408 <i>Also Counts for CLS credit</i>	American Labor History, 1900-Present	1:00PM-2:15PM T, R	Camille Guérin-Gonzales	This course surveys the history of working people in the United States in the 20 th and 21 st century. Throughout the course, we will be examining relations of power by examining ideas about race, class, ethnicity, gender, and sexuality. Especially concerned with how these ideas have shaped working-class lives, informed class relations, and organized communities of solidarity.

Spring '10 CLS Graduate Minor Courses

Course	Topic	Time	Professor	Brief Description
URPL 761	Central City Planning	12:30-2:30 pm F	Alfonso Morales	This course will explore questions regarding big cities in the U.S. The main point of departure is how the human element, human needs and purposes, shape some of the things cities do, educate, employ, house, and regulate, for instance, but also things cities might do, for instance, feed and enable. The class requires a day trip to Milwaukee, and an overnight trip to Chicago. The class size is limited to 20.
History 600	Social Movements in the 20th Century US	3:30 - 5:30pm R	Camille Guérin Gonzalez	Research seminar on the social movements of the 1960s, including the Chican@ Movement. Examines the histories of individuals and collectivities that intersected and coalesced into a broad transnational movement of social transformation during the 1960s.
ELPA 882	Minority Serving Institutions in Higher Education	Fri and Sat—see Course description for specific dates	Clifton Conrad	Examines the origins, contemporary landscape, structures, and stakeholders of minority-serving institutions (MSIs) - historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), Hispanic-serving institutions (HSIs), and tribal colleges and universities (TCUs) - including related challenges and opportunities for research and practice. ** Course meets 5 – 8:30 pm Fri: 1/22, 2/19, 3/19, & 4/23/10 Sat. 8:30am-3:00pm 1/23, 2/20, 3/19, 4/24/10

Adelante CLS Alumni

2004 Alumni: Luz Adriana Torres

BA 2004: Majors- Zoology, Spanish, Latin American Studies and CLS Cer-



Luz Torres
San Antonio, TX

Upon graduation, the Office of Admissions at UW-Madison offered me the opportunity to work in my chosen field- motivating students to obtain a higher education. However, as a recruiter I quickly learned that there was more to just inviting students to apply. Some students went to high schools that did not prepare them academically for college. Like my high school in the Westside of San Antonio, these schools were economically and racially segregated, overcrowded, and had high teen pregnancy and school drop out rates. As a recruiter I realized how much my *barrio* needed me and so shifted my career to Real Estate. I obtained a certificate in Commercial Real Estate through Marquette University in Milwaukee. The certificate program gave me the confidence that I needed to set in motion the first initial steps and begin my journey on to revitalizing my community.

As part of my vision of change I started to remodel houses in Westside of San Antonio. With the help of local community members I want to continue to develop "*the barrio*" even more and bring in new businesses and investors. I believe I can help create a self-sustaining economy with small businesses, a local labor supply, local successful schools, and affordable housing, which can provide a sense of ownership to all residents living in the *barrio*.

Overall, the Chicano Studies Program has given me the opportunity to learn about the history of my people and the motivation to help them achieve the success and respect they deserve as citizens of this country.

1996 Alumni: René Bue

1996 BS Psychology and Latin American Iberian Studies

Thanks to the fabulous education I received at UW-Madison and the wonderful professors I was fortunate to have, I am involved in all things "Latino" in Rock County, Wisconsin. They helped create a passion in me that continues to grow...13 years later!

Currently I am the president of the Latino Service Providers Coalition of Rock County. The Coalition is a 501c3 organization that offers referral services to Latinos. Our Coordinator helps Spanish speakers find necessary resources for immigration issues, housing, domestic and sexual abuse, ESL classes, counseling, health care and more. The Coalition holds monthly meetings where our members are able to network and discuss any current issues about Latinos in Rock County. In 2010 we will begin sponsoring the Latino Community Fair in Beloit.

I am also the Bilingual Outreach Coordinator at Hedberg Public Library (HPL). I plan and organize bilingual and multicultural programming and select the Spanish language materials for the library. Recently we had our first annual "Faces of the World" multicultural fair where 14 countries were represented and over 250 people attended! I also offer computer classes in Spanish that include the "Introducción a la computadora" and "Los básicos del correo electrónico" programs. Another part of my job at HPL includes giving presentations at the Wisconsin Public Library Association and the Wisconsin Library Association conferences. Topics have included how to offer programming to Latinos, how to purchase quality and relevant Spanish language materials and how to network with other agencies and organizations. One aspect of my job that I love is that I am able to work a lot with children and their families via my networking with the school districts in Rock County.

Another interaction I have with Latinos is that I am an interpreter. I mostly work with the Rock County Health Department doing home visits with nurses. I also work for Southern Wisconsin Interpreting and Translation Services. Because of this, "¡hay días que hablo más español que inglés!"

Other organizations of which I am a member include the Diversity Action Team, Pueblos Unidos, and the Nutrition & Health Associates (Rock County WIC) board. All that I do to work with Latinos in Rock County is an amazing experience. Every day I have the opportunity to work with some incredible people and to make a difference in the lives of Spanish speakers in my little corner of the world. It is very rewarding.



René Bue
Rock County, Wisconsin

Getting to know our CLS Students

In Service Learning

By Beatriz Canas



Jonathan Lopez
CLS Senior
Major: Biology

Service learning: CLS 657 Understanding Latino Families and Communities

Service Placement: Family Literacy Program

Senior Jonathan Lopez who is majoring in Biology with a CLS certificate volunteers weekly with the Family Literacy Program as part of the service learning component for his CLS 657 class "Understanding Latino Families and Communities." Jonathan volunteers in the childcare facilities by interacting with and teaching children elementary skills while their parents are in English language classes. The Family literacy program caters to families that speak Spanish or Hmong as their first language. While parents are involved in English classes, their pre-school age children are taught elementary skills, such as the alphabet and numbers in the child care facilities. Parents must participate in the English classes in order to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by the childcare facilities. The program helps bridge the gap between families that do not know English and allows them to gain linguistics skills.

Jonathan's experience has allowed him to interact in different settings and with a variety of backgrounds and personalities. Jonathan always tries to apply his past experiences and knowledge while working with the children, to help him establish a positive child-parent relationship. Jonathan feels that the parent- to-child interactions which he encounters daily have been beneficial in helping him work towards his goal of becoming a pediatrician. Through his service learning experiences, Jonathan will be able to apply his newfound knowledge to relate to all people and immerse himself in the interactions with his patients as a future pediatrician. In addition to his duties as a service learning volunteer, he created a health week for the families and dressed up as a doctor while he passed out valuable resources. During this time, he also discussed a variety of health topics such as the flu, hygiene, and CPR.

Jonathan believes the class is a unique opportunity that can create a positive experience for everyone. Through this class he has explored different avenues of creativity. He has learned to ask himself, "what kind of questions should I ask to get a better solution" in every situation.

Service learning: CLS 657 Understanding Latino Families and Communities

Service Placement: Grassroots Leadership College



Ismael Cuevas
Major: Sociology

Ismael Cuevas, a junior and CLS certificate student at UW-Madison, is currently taking CLS 657, a service learning course. Ismael's service learning position is with the research committee at the Grassroots Leadership College (GLC). He researches programs in the Midwest and around the United States to learn about services they provide to Spanish speaking persons, Latinos, and other immigrants. Thereafter, he researches ways to bring those services to Madison and implement them within our community. The GLC also conducts workshops which teach leadership skills to Madison's Latino population. Their mission is: we are "all learners, all teachers, all leaders." GLC works towards providing resources to Latinos in Madison in order to enable them to address and resolve their community's needs.

Ismael enjoys working with the GLC and finds it beneficial because it will be applicable to his future work with communities and enable him to apply his learning from class to real life situations. Ismael believes that by being exposed to real world problems and solutions through service learning, he will be ready for real-life job-related issues. Ismael states, "One of the most important things I have learned during my service is the research and logistical components of community organizing." Ismael feels that the service learning component of class provides all its students with a perspective of working in a more horizontal structure, rather than a hierarchal structure like some departments on campus or other organizations tend to do.

Ismael has gained a positive experience through his service learning project. Ismael expresses, "Ideally, what I get out of my CLS class is much more than reading something; sometimes I feel that what we read is only touching the surface. We have to be able to think about it and synthesize the material. Moreover, I feel we do not have enough dialogue about real life examples in relation to our learning when we are only in the classroom."

Congratulations to our CLS Graduates!

May 2009 Graduates

Leeana M. Beck

*Human Development & Family
Studies
Women Studies*

Alejandra E. Carranza

Journalism

Rachelle E. Clemins

*Political Science
African Studies*

Eva E. Cuevas

Business

Marta C. Diaz

Philosophy

Sarah Eiesland

Biology

Tony R. Garcia

History

Vanessa Hernandez

Social Welfare

May '09

Valedictorian: Alexandra Robles

Salutatorian: Sarah Sanchez



Vanessa E. Hoyos

Nursing

Carmen Mendoza

*Journalism
Spanish*

Alexandra Robles

Biology

Sarah C. Sanchez

Biochemistry

Nicole Sauer

*Latin American, Caribbean, &
Iberian Studies
Social Work*

Eder Johnny Valle

Chemistry

December 2009 Graduates

Jonathan Michael Lopez

Biology

Jessica Ann Rajtar

*European Studies Certificate
History*

Julie Alicia Rice

Elementary Education

Cristobal Silva-Cortes

*Latin American, Caribbean, &
Iberian Studies Certificate
Political Science*

Benjamin Robert

Silvester

Zoology

December '09

Valedictorian: Benjamin

Silvester

Salutatorian: Jessica Ann

Rajtar



Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Program at University of Wisconsin-

Our Mission: The Chican@ and Latin@ Studies Program offers a systematic and interdisciplinary analysis of Mexican- and Latin-American-origin people, cultures, and collectivities within the United States. The interdisciplinary Program is designed to provide students with a broad knowledge base and the intellectual tools to understand the unity and diversity of U.S. Latina/o populations. The primary objective of the Program is to train students in the study of Chicana/os and Latina/os, as well as to introduce them to the central questions, topics, and applications that have emerged in this field of inquiry.

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Giving Back: Supporting the Future of CLS

The Chican@ & Latin@ Studies (CLS) Program at UW-Madison welcomes donations from alumni, friends, supporters, and organizations. The gifts and donations contribute to the enrichment and quality of the program and benefit the educational experiences of students and members of the community. Your contribution will support multiple aspects of CLS, including a scholarship program for students enrolled in our certificate program, workshops, and study groups. With your support, CLS is able to continue its support of the academic, service-oriented, and culturally enriching activities students are involved in via the Chican@ & Latin@ Certificate Student Association (ChiLaCSA) and the CLS speaker-series.



CLS Program Administrator—Sylvia Garcia and student worker Ryan Garza

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THANK YOU!