

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Woman of Color Award
- Faculty Achievements
- SPA Award
- New CLS Academic Coordinator
- CLS offers Pop Culture
- Alumni Updates

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Director's Note	1
Fall 2009 CLS graduation	1
New Academic Services Coordinator	2
Latino Ball	3
M.E.C.h.A loses its space	3
Faculty Achievements	4
Dr. Magaña receives Woman of Color Award	5
Sylvia Garcia wins SPA Award	5
CLS Alumni	6
Nan Enstad's Pop Culture	7
CLS Fall 2010 Courses	8
Applying to Grad School	9
Getting to know CLS students	10
CLS Graduates	11
Giving Back	12

From the Director

Chican@ & Latin@ faculty, students and staff had the opportunity to dream big in a wonderful retreat sponsored by the L&S Office of Service Learning and facilitated by Ann Zanzig. Ann led us through thinking about where we want to be in three years and then narrowing it down to a few reasonable goals that we could all agree on. Some of the main goals we came up with were : 1) Planning for a major; 2) Working campus wide on the development of a Latino Research Center; 3) Advocating for service learning requirements for all students and expanding options in our program; and 4) Increasing student involvement and collaborations with CLS. There were others, but these were some of the key ones.



Dr. Sandy Magaña

I don't have space to go into detail on all of these goals, but one in particular that everyone was very enthusiastic about was the idea of the research center. Whether it is Latino focused or focused on Race, Ethnicity and Indigeneity scholarship more broadly, we felt that such a center could help us accomplish many objectives. For example it could provide support for and attract faculty, graduate students and post-docs of color to UW-Madison; provide space for research and teaching collaborations on Latino and race issues; and provide space for undergraduate and graduate students to be in an environment where they can feel at home and be supported in becoming excellent scholars of the future.

This event helped us to put our work into focus and recognize what a great team we have among faculty, staff and students. We now feel like we have our marching orders!

Fall CLS Graduation 2009

By: Lisa Uresti



Benjamin Sylvester

On December 18, CLS certificate graduates filled the multicultural purpose center to celebrate their graduation. It was obvious that the four CLS certificate graduates present had a large support network by the large number of family members and friends who joined them to honor their achievements.

The graduates and their family joined CLS faculty and staff to enjoy an afternoon of great Mexican food, an award ceremony and motivational Latin@ guest speakers.

Dr. Patricia Tellez-Giron, a Family Medicine physician for the UW Health System and an assistant professor of the UW Department of Family Medicine was the key note speaker. Dr. Tellez-Giron proudly spoke about how 90 percent of her patients speak only Spanish and about the work she does to help the Latino community in Madison. Dr. Tellez-Giron left the graduates with a lasting impression and taught them they should have a goal; but that they also need to be prepared to follow a winding road that may take them on a different path than they imagined.

The event ended with an award ceremony. Benjamin Sylvester was the CLS valedictorian and presented an encouraging speech. Jessica Ann Rajtar was the Salutatorian and also gave a motivational speech.



Congratulations graduates!



Dr. Tellez-Giron



Jessica Ann Rajtar

The New CLS Student Academic Services Coordinator

Jessica Rivera



Jessica Rivera

The CLS Department would like to welcome Jessica Rivera to the Team. Jessica joined the team January 6, 2010 and is the new CLS Academic Services Coordinator.

Some words by Jessica Rivera

My family is originally from northern Mexico, but I was born and raised in San Antonio Texas. I came to UW-Madison as an undergraduate student and graduated in 2007 with a Bachelors of Fine Arts. After graduation I started working for UW-Madison as an Admissions Counselor and Latino recruiter. In this position I really began to understand that I am truly passionate about promoting higher education in my community. I am currently working towards a Masters degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis with an emphasis in Higher Education. So far, I've gotten to do a bit of research on my focus, which is Latinos in Higher Education. As part of my research this summer I focused on the history of Latino students at UW-Madison which gave me great insight into the history of the Chican@ and Latin@ Studies program.

Although I did not hear about the CLS program as an undergrad at UW-Madison until late in my junior year, I was fortunate to be able to take a CLS course. I took CLS 240: Chicano/a Literature in Spanish. My favorite part about taking a CLS course was getting to see the stories we read in class put into context in the videos we watched portraying Chicanos from the early seventies.

Goals I would like to accomplish in my new position as the Chican@ & Latin@ Student Academic Services Coordinator are to increase the amount of CLS certificate students. Over the years there has been a steady increase in certificate students, but with the growing number of Latino students on campus I would like to see more students pursuing a CLS certificate. Also, with the continuous growth of Latinos in the United States I think there will be a greater amount of students interested in learning about Latinos in the United States. With this demographic change I also think it is possible for CLS to develop its own major. In addition to this I would also like to see the community and students' families become more involved in program events. Lastly, I would like to connect more Latino alumni with current students.

I am very excited to be here to contribute to the success of the Chican@ & Latin@ Certificate studies program.

Are You Meeting CLS Certificate Requirements ?

Did you know that the CLS certificate program is equivalent to an undergraduate minor? Completion of the program requires a minimum of 15 credit hours of Chican@ and Latin@ courses.

Requirements to earn a certificate include:

- At least **two 100** or **200** level courses, one of which must be CLS 102,201,210 or another designated introductory interdisciplinary survey.
- At least **one 300-** level course.
- At least **one 400-**level course.
- At least **one 500-, 600-,700-** level capstone seminar course.

Prior to graduation, all CLS certificate students are required to submit a portfolio of written work.

Contact Miguel Rosales (mrosales@lssaa.wisc.edu) or Sylvia Garcia (chicla@mailplus.wisc.edu) for more details.

11th Annual Latino Ball

By: Jeanette Velazquez



On Friday February 19, 2010 The University of Wisconsin-Madison's Unión Puertorriqueña hosted the Eleventh Annual Latino Ball, located in Memorial Union's Great Hall. The event included a live Salsa band and a great selection of food. The eight member band known as Afincao that has played alongside Frankie Negron and Eddie Santiago, captivated the crowd with La Musica Latina, such as Salsa, Bachata, Reggaeton, and Hip hop.



Adding to the magic of the night was the elegant décor that each table was dressed in and the amazing dresses and suits guests were wearing, both trademarks of Latino Ball. Isaia Roman-Roche, the president of Unión Puertorriqueña had this to say about the event, "Despite our obstacles, we were able to put together a phenomenal event that truly celebrated our culture as Latinos."

The Eleventh Annual Latino Ball hosted more than 400 students this year. With many students already discussing their anticipation for the Twelfth Annual Latino Ball, it is likely that La Musica Latina and Latino Ball will be holding a permanent place at UW-Madison.

M.E.C.h.A.: A Historic Space being Taken Away By: Beatriz Canaz

Although many are aware of the Brothers Bar and Grill-UW battle for property that recently ended, many are unaware that M.E.C.h.A., a student organization, fought the same battle on the same block and is now losing their space. M.E.C.h.A. is a national student organization on campus that promotes activism and social justice through political consciousness. M.E.C.h.A. has congregated in the space above Brothers Bar and Grill for over 30 years. This space has been home to M.E.Chistas, artists, writers, activists, and musicians since the early 1970's. It has also been a source of education in Chican@ culture for both the UW campus and Madison community.



The space's appearance alone is inspiring, with its walls covered in political artwork, Son Jarocho instruments in every corner and Zapatista quotes posted on walls. Also, the M.E.Ch.A. office has one of the largest collections of Chican@ and Latin@ art work, books, and photos, which are being overlooked. M.E.Ch.A. has been struggling for over five years to save their space, with limited recognition from the University. After many attempts to gain support from the Dean of Students, M.E.Ch.A. has yet to receive a formal eviction notice in writing and was told to assimilate and become part of "following the Wisconsin idea." The university has given M.E.Ch.A. a SAC suite that cannot accommodate the organization's size and places restrictions on the programming and activism M.E.C.h.A. takes part in. Accordingly, the SAC restrictions impede the organization from having workshops on art (such as muralism with spray paint) or Son Jaracho music.

Rene Kissell a M.E.Chista, CLS student, and campus activist who chose to speak about the importance of this space said, "I don't know where to begin with my frustrations with the University towards the way they've handled this mess. They have yet to send us a formal notice of our eviction. Everything we know is through word of mouth. The lines of communication are at a bare minimum because of the University, and frankly everything has been on the down low that it's been difficult trying to pinpoint who to talk to about this situation. Why is the validity of what we have done on campus being challenged?"

A verbal eviction date was given for August 15th (not a demolition date). However, M.E.Chistas are exploring the next steps to keep their space. M.E.C.h.A. is working on creating solidarity between the CLS department to work on this issue together. Many M.E.Chistas have strong ties in the Chican@ Latin@ studies department; a department they, along with La Raza Unida, helped establish. Also there are plans of a possible sit-in to create awareness about and protest the issue.

Overall one of the most important issues at hand is that the University is not recognizing that this space is important to the self empowerment of Chican@ students and to promote social justice on campus. It comes down to supplying our students with what is essential to their growth versus expanding the University and pleasing donors. The question on several students' minds is "what respect does the University have for Chican@s or students of color?"



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Faculty News & Achievements

Mary Beltran

Mary Beltran was awarded tenure and promoted to Associate Professor of Comm Arts and CLS in Summer 2009. Awarded a Race, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity Sabbatical Fellowship by UW-Madison Institute for Research in the Humanities for 2009-2010. This fellowship allowed her to take a research sabbatical for the academic year where she is working on a new book manuscript, which explores narrative television and its production in the U.S. relating to claims that we have entered an era of post-racial or colorblind representation.



Tess Arenas

Tess Arenas is pleased to announce that as of April 1, 2010 she has been appointed an Honorary Fellow to the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies. Additionally, she has been appointed as a Visiting Scholar to the Center for Civil Society, KwaZuluNatal University, Durban, South Africa.



Camille Guérin-Gonzales

Camille Guérin-Gonzales received a 2010-2011 Race, Ethnicity, and Indigeneity Sabbatical Fellowship at the Institute for Research in the Humanities to complete her book manuscript, *Mapping Working-Class Struggle in Appalachia, South Wales, and the American Southwest*, which is under contract with the University of Illinois Press. *Mapping Working-Class Struggle* examines the production of social space in coal mining



communities in three regions, Appalachia and the Southwest in the United States, and the Rhondda Valleys in Wales

Alfonso Morales

Alfonso Morales is publishing Zoning for Urban Agriculture in the journal *Zoning Practice*. He has been invited to deliver two lectures at UCLA in May, one on street vendors and the other on urban agriculture, both in terms of community development. A book chapter on tax compliance and street vendors is accepted to an edited collection that will be published by Springer. Another book chapter on food justice is accepted in a book that will be published by MIT and finally his co-authored law review article "Healthy Food Outside" will be published as the lead article in volume 26 of the *Journal of Contemporary Health Law and Policy*.



Ben Marquez

Ben Marquez published four articles. Two of his articles are: (1) Modern civil rights organizations: social movements or interest groups?; and (2) Mexican Americans and environmental justice: Change and continuity in Mexican American politics. He also co-published two other articles. They are: (1) La Raza Unida party in Texas politics: an analysis of racial appeals and third party voting in the 1972 Texas Gubernatorial election, with Rodolfo Espino; and (2) Immigration reform: strategies for legislative action, with John Witte. Please look out for these articles!



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

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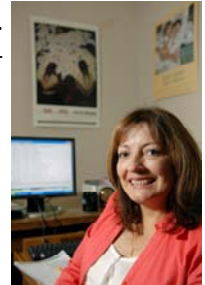
Sandy Magaña Wins 2009-2010 Woman of Color Award

By Lisa Uresti



The third annual UW-Madison Outstanding Women of Color awards took place April 13, 2010 in the Alumni Lounge of the Pyle Center. The honorees were recognized during a reception held by the Office of the Vice Provost and Chief Diversity Officer. CLS director, Dr. Sandy Magaña, was one of six winners of the 2009-2010 Women of Color awards. Sandy received her award with humbleness and spoke passionately about the Latino students on campus who have taken on leadership roles and those she has worked with.

We at the CLS department are proud that our director can represent the CLS department through this great recognition. Dr. Magaña was nominated in the fall of 2009 by two colleagues, including Jane Dymond, and supported by a multitude of colleagues, friends and associates throughout UW-Madison. Sandy Magaña was chosen amongst the several nominated candidates by a selection committee of nine students and faculty. Jane said, "Professor Magaña serves not only as a role model for our Latin@ students at the UW-Madison, but also as a crucial resource for other ethnic minority groups, as well as non-minority students who are eager to learn and become involved in service learning programs here in Dane County." In addition to her work in Madison and at the University, "her legacy goes on, beyond our borders." There, she teaches a service-learning course that travels to the U.S. and Mexico border, where she advocates for social justice.



Dr. Sandy Magaña



Dr. Sandy Magaña was deservedly recognized for her tireless efforts, which continue to remain strong and persistent. The committee acknowledged that she advocates for the Latino population on campus and in the community through her work in the Latino Social Workers Organization, the Mental Health Center of Dane County and other programs. Additionally, Sandy helped form the Latin@ Faculty Staff Association and serves as a mentor for several ethnic minority groups on campus. Not only has Dr. Magaña excelled in academia, but she has excelled by advocating for social justice in the greater community.

Congratulations Sandy! We know that you will continue to be a leader in our community.

Sylvia Garcia Wins 2009-2010 Frontline Award

By Jeanette Velazquez



Sylvia Garcia, Program Administrator for the Chican@ and Latin@ Studies Department, was awarded the Student Personnel Association (SPA) Frontline Award, Wednesday, April 14th. When asked how it felt to win the SPA Frontline Award, Sylvia responded, "I knew I was being nominated; but because I knew it was a very competitive process, I never thought I would get selected." Among, the many candidates that were nominated, only two were selected for demonstrating a commitment to serving students on a day in and day out basis, in a professional and caring manner.

Her student workers, who wrote her some of the many letters of support for the SPA Frontline award said, "As a supervisor she has helped us learn the importance of being professional and has allowed us to be as much a part of the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Department as any other staff member." Lastly, Sylvia said, "I was honored to be nominated and that I actually received this award just for simply doing my job." Sylvia Garcia's work has exemplified professionalism and compassion. Moreover, she continuously motivates the students she works with on a daily basis.

Congratulations Sylvia! We appreciate your hard work!

Do You have a Story or idea for the CLS Newsletter? Give us your input.





Richard Aguirre

Graduated: August 2007

Double Major: Legal
Studies and Poli Sci

During my sophomore year of college I began pastoring the youth group at my church. While I myself grew up in a Latino household, not until I started serving as youth pastor did I realize just how little I really knew about the Latino community. My church is a bilingual church based in Spanish with translation to English. Over the years I have worked with young people from nearly every Spanish speaking country. Through my work with the teens I realized how important it is to not only understand the issues of the Latino community but to develop solutions for those specific issues. The CLS program was an obvious choice for me. The dividends the certificate pays continue to manifest themselves not only as I work with young people but also in my job.

I began working as a deputy with the Dane County Sheriff's Office five months after graduation. Initially I was hesitant to work for the department because of the controversy regarding its policies on immigration reporting. However, very quickly after starting I learned just how much the department has to offer the community. One of my main goals as a deputy is to convey to the Latino community that the Sheriff's Office, which includes me, is a resource to be utilized and not a power to be feared. In addition to my regular duties as a deputy sheriff I serve as a recruiter and liaison to the Latino community and regularly attend community events on behalf of the department. I am also a translator for the Hostage Negotiation Team and Tactical Response Team. My involvement in the community on behalf of the Sheriff's Office is very rewarding, in that frequently I am able to witness and help individuals overcome tremendous obstacles to find stability and success in their lives. To be able to help someone find peace and security from the depths of fear and turmoil is my dream job.

Weekly, I work with kids who are stripped of hope because of their legal status. These teens are as embedded in American culture as any other person in their peer group, yet because of their citizenship status, they are denied the hope of a bright future. My future goals include law school and continued work with young people. My plan is to work in immigration law and international law. My hope is to help those young people already here and in dire need of intervention. I also hope to find a way to work with the countries producing large numbers of immigrants in order to alleviate the circumstances which cause families to immigrate without documentation. My dream is to see those nations find stability so that when families do decide to immigrate they are not forced to do so out of desperation.

I am truly thankful for the experience, knowledge, and relationships I have gained through the CLS program. My professors have been and continue to be mentors, resources, and true friends. I am humbled and grateful for their support and I am profoundly changed for the better through my involvement in the CLS program.

The CLS Department Congratulates Richard in his Endeavors and Wishes him Much Success!

CLS offers a Graduate Minor
For info contact: Director Sandra Magana magana@waisman.wisc.edu

Do you have an idea or story to contribute?
We welcome your input.

Are you a student interested in Obtaining a CLS Certificate?

CLS Professor Nan Enstad Offers Her Insight into Latino Pop Culture

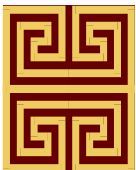


Nan Enstad is Professor of History at UW- Madison and a well-respected CLS affiliate faculty member.

Nan Enstad is a member of the history department and has been an affiliate of CLS for several years. Her research centers on questions of how ordinary people intersect with the large, often oppressive structures in their lives. She is currently working on a book entitled *The Jim Crow Cigarette: Following Tobacco Road from North Carolina to China and Back*. This book explores the transnational cigarette industry in China and the United States and examines how race played into the history of the cigarette in the US and internationally. Cigarettes, for Enstad, are a compelling way to explore the ways that capitalism became part of people's daily lives. She looks at black, white and Chinese workers who made the cigarettes, considering how cigarette production and cigarette smoking shaped their daily lives and their bodies.

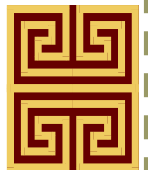
Her work as a cultural historian is profoundly interdisciplinary. She reaches to cultural studies for methodologies for analyzing media texts, advertising and cultural practices such as smoking, and incorporates insights from anthropology and sociology about globalization, labor, and illness. Cigarettes' triumph in both the US and China cannot be fully grasped without attention to public relations and marketing uses of still visual images, radio, film, and the brand; the corporation's success must be understood within large patterns of uneven economic development, political inequities and histories of semi- and neo-colonization. Race is central to this story: cigarette factories, marketing, and smoking all constructed racial investments and created conditions ripe for rebellion. Professor Enstad's approach in her research and teaching is to look at the construction of particular race investments and identities in multi-racial contexts.

Professor Enstad has taught her CLS-cross listed course, **CLS 468 Popular Culture in the Multiracial US**, for several years. This course looks at popular culture forms, both to track how racism is created within popular culture and also how people can use popular culture to resist and create alternate forms of meaning and community. The course examines Latinos in baseball, early film, and theater, as well as the zoot suit 'riots' of the World War II era. It also examines the Chican@ movement through examinations of rock and roll, El Teatro Campesino, and spoken word, among other topics. Professor Enstad is planning to create a new CLS crosslisted course entitled "Popular Arts and Political Change." She welcomes any suggestions of particular Latin@ or Chican@ street or popular artists to include in her course syllabus!



Concientización:

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



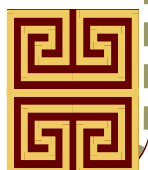
Concientización is a student journal dedicated to promoting the study of Chican@ and Latin@ experience and thought.. Concientización is committed to creating alliances across boundaries of nation, race, ethnicity, gender, class sexuality and the study of community and nation building.

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!!!



Fall 2010 Undergrad Courses

Course	Topic	Time	Professor	Brief Description
CLS 201	Introduction to Chicana/o & Latina/o Studies	T&TH 9:30-10:45	TBA	Introduction to the interdisciplinary study of Chicanas/os & Latinas/os in the United States. Students will become acquainted with recent scholarly literature, paradigms, theories, and debates within Chicana/o & Latina/o studies pertaining to the historical, economic, cultural, and socio-political dimensions of the Chicana/o & Latina/o experience in the United States. Prereq> Open to Fr & Sat
CLS 301	Chicana/Latina and Chicano/Latino History	MWF 2:25-3:15	TBA	Examines the history of the making of a people from pre-hispanic time to present. Examines how people of Mexican descent in the United States have come to think of themselves as constituting a collectivity by examining the social, cultural, & political worlds of Chicanas and Chicanos. Prereq: So st
CLS 330	Health Justice and Action Research	MW 9:00-11:00	Cynthia Lin	A community-based action research course grounded in social justice education. In partnership with local grassroots organizations, we explore and document root causes of health disparities in Madison, including issues of racial & economic justices.
CLS 332	Latinas: Self Identity and Social Change	TH 2:30-5:00	Consuelo Lopez Springfield	Explores the multiracial and multicultural reality of Latina societies by becoming familiar with the history and cultures of Chicana, Cuban-American, and Puerto Rican women. Interdisciplinary readings in law, journalism, public policy, history, and self-reflective literature. Prereq> So st
CLS 419	Latinos and Media	T&TH 2:30-3:45	Mary Beltran	Critical and historical survey of the participation and representation of Latino/as in U.S. film, television, and popular culture, with a primary focus on Hispanic representation in Hollywood-produced imagery. Counter-images of Latino/a media producers will be explored.
CLS 461	The American West to 1850	TBA	TBA	North American frontiers through the period of the Mexican War. Major Indian cultures of North America; the frontiers and differing imperial systems of Spain, France, and England; and the westward movement of the United States through 1850. Prereq> So st
CLS 657	Understanding Latino Families and Communities	TH 1:20-2:15	Sandy Magaña	Examines U.S. Latino families and communities, including social and economic conditions, cultural values, and issues of identity, race, gender, discrimination, acculturation and language. A service-learning course, students gain knowledge of and direct experience with social work issues in Latino communities. Prereq> Jr st

Grad Minor Courses

URPL 590-3	Issues of Race and Ethnicity in Planning	TH 1:00-3:00	Alfonso Morales	We review historical changes in the racial class structure, immigration from non-European countries, and emergence of "majority-minority" cities/communities.
C&I 672	Issues in ESL Education	W 4:35 - 7:20	Mariana Pacheco	Overview of issues that influence & determine language & academic development of English language learners. Students explore social, cultural & educational contexts & practices related to education of this population.
HIS 730	Pro-seminar in Latin American History	T 9:00-11:00	Francisco Scarano	The Literature of Caribbean History; Caribbean Historiography; Capitalism & Slavery in the Caribbean.

Grad School and Beyond

What You Should Know about Applying to Grad School



By: Cristina Springfield—BA Journalism & Spanish, CLS certificate, UW-Madison
Graduate Student in the UW-Madison School of Library & Information Studies Masters Program

Learn about the profession you are interested in.

Applying to graduate school is an exciting goal that should be approached with careful preparation. Ever since I entered UW-Madison as a freshman Chancellor's Scholar, my scholarship director, Dr. Mercile Lee, encouraged me to find out more about what I wanted to do after graduation and to pursue a graduate degree. Towards the end of my junior year of college, I realized that I wanted to take a different direction in my future. I decided to explore a career in librarianship, which I found out required a Masters degree in library and information studies.

Research various graduate programs that interest you

The advice I would most stress to students considering a graduate degree is to seek out people to consult with about your chosen field. A graduate program advisor, or even better, a professor in the field, can offer insightful advice about the profession, the degree, and what admissions committees are interested in. During your meeting, be professional. Come prepared with a list of questions to ask, and be sure to thank the person for their time.

Research various graduate programs that interest you

Next you should research graduate programs. I started by visiting the U.S. News and World Report's graduate program rankings online. You can research individual programs by visiting their Web sites. Pay close attention to each program's missions and curriculum. Find out about their competitiveness and what placement scores or undergraduate coursework they require for admission. Once you have narrowed your list, research the professors in each department and their research interests. It is important in your admissions letter to identify which professors you would like to work with and how their research interests coincide with your own. Compare financial aid or scholarships available, the cost of tuition, and what graduate assistantships are available. Don't be afraid to contact the program's department to ask questions (but be sure to be completely professional each time you do).

Prepare and study for graduate tests required for admissions.

Now it's time to study for any placement test you may need for admission. Take the test seriously and study! It's been a long time since you've taken either the ACT or SAT and the study skills you developed back in high school are necessary once again.

Request letters of recommendation:

Request letters of recommendations early and give your recommenders sufficient time to complete an effective recommendation. Supply them with old papers from the class you had with them, your transcript, and a copy of your statement of purpose. Give them a list of where you are applying, the date the letters are due at each institution, and stamped and addressed envelopes to submit their letters (unless submitting electronically).

Write a good Personal Statement:

Ask your professors, peers and advisors to read your statement of purpose. Visit the Writing Center to gain feedback. Your letter is an important component of your application.

Submit your application on time

Finally, organize yourself and your admissions packets carefully. Create a table of the schools you are applying to, their admissions deadlines, addresses, and each piece of their admissions submissions (for example, statement of purpose, transcripts, and scholarship forms). Use this document to keep track of your online log-ins and passwords for each graduate program.

Good Luck Lastly, try to relax during this exciting time. Lean on your family and peers for support if you feel you need it. If you get accepted at multiple institutions, try and visit them if possible. Wait and see what financial aid packages you are offered. And finally, don't take it personally if you are rejected from somewhere you were really excited about. You can always apply again in a year after you have strengthened your application. ¡Suerte! excited about. You can always apply again in a year after you have strengthened your application. ¡Suerte!

Getting To Know Our CLS Students and Their Contributions

Jeanette Velazquez and her participation at UW-Madison



Jeanette Velazquez
CLS Senior
Major: Gender & Women studies

As a Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Certificate Student I am thankful to say I have been given the opportunity to explore my own culture and herstory. As a freshman I took a course entitled Chicana & Latina History 245 taught by Camille Guerin Gonzales. As a final project for the course I decided to interview my hero, Dona Mirta Ramirez, a leader in the Puerto Rican riots of the 1960s and the creator of Chicago's ASPIRA. Meeting Dona Mirta Ramirez was an extraordinary moment for me, she had created an organization that guided me throughout high school and pushed me to pursue a higher education. As I sat across this pioneer in community activism I was able to hear the untold stories of sexism in the mist of the Latino struggle and the battle Latina mothers fought at the front line of the riots. It was through this experience that I came to realize I needed to know my narrative.

Later I declared a certificate in Chican@ & Latin@ Studies and a major in Gender and Women Studies. Currently, I am involved in a large scale oral history project which attempts to uncover the untold stories of the Chicago Young Lords' subgroup "Mothers and Others" (MAO), a radical Puerto Rican feminist collective of the 1960s and 70s. Under the guidance of Professor Jane Collins, I am working to publish my work and share my narrative with other Latinas anxious to understand their herstory.

Being a CLS certificate student has given me the tools and freedom to explore a narrative that stands as a manifestation of the Latino movement and its struggle for ownership in the backdrop of colonization.

With that said el movimiento continua y gracias, Chican@ & Latin@ Studies.

CLS STUDENTS ARE INCORPORATING THEIR CLS EXPERIENCE WITH SOME NATIONAL POLITICS

LEGISLATION EXPERIENCE

Ryan Garza's Experience at the U.S. Capitol



Ryan Garza
Junior: Pol Sci & Sociology

Ryan Garza, a junior and CLS certificate student at UW-Madison, is currently participating in the prestigious Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's spring internship program. Ryan was selected from a national pool of applicants to travel to the nation's capitol to participate in this semester long internship. As part of the internship, Ryan takes weekly leadership courses in order to enhance his professional development. The main component of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute's program is a congressional placement. Accordingly, Ryan was placed to work with the Honorable Ed Pastor from Arizona.

Ryan states, "Working on the hill is challenging. Initially, you are like a deer in the head lights. Everyone is running, yelling, and extremely busy. Coupled with the aura and mystique, working at the Capitol is a little intimidating to say the least. However, once I got used to the lifestyle and pace, I realized that my Congressman is just a normal human being, an extremely humorous one at that." As part of his placement, Ryan is working with a legislative assistant on a variety of issues ranging from animal rights, to larger scale issues such as immigration and education. In addition to assisting with legislation, Ryan is also an assistant to the Congressman, helping him with everyday tasks and even goes onto the House floor.

When asked what Ryan's greatest experience in D.C. has been, Ryan stated "I guess it has to be seeing firsthand how our nation's politics run on a day to day basis. I have seen politics run on a city-wide and county level, but never something of this magnitude. It is kind of surreal waking up every day and going to work in the nation's capitol building. Although I ultimately don't want to get involved in politics at the National level, it has been an amazing and enlightening experience thus far."

THE CLS PROGRAM CONGRATULATES JEANETTE AND RYAN ON THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND WISHES THEM MUCH SUCCESS..

Congratulations to our CLS Graduates!



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 Sylvester
Salutatorian: Jessica Ann Rajtar

May 2010 Graduates

Mary Biller
Political Science

ShaRhaina Brown
LACIS, English, Spanish,

Andrew Diaz
Sociology, History

Cody Dionysius
Journalism

Guadalupe Fonseca
Spanish/Spanish ED

PuraCarina Gonzalez
Human Dev & Fam St

Stephanie Herrera
Social Work

Jennifer Mancera
Spanish

Ricardo Montiel
Asian Studies

Maria Munoz
Spanish, Social Welfare

May '10
Valedictorian: Mary Biller
Salutatorians: Lizmeth Sandoval
Kathleen Phelan Terry

Amanda Ortiz
Spanish, LACIS

Stephanie Ortiz
*Sociology, legal
studies, criminal justice*

Laura Perez
Human Dev & Fam Studies

Nobel Pérez
LACIS, Sociology

Kathleen Phelan
Biology

Lizmeth Sandoval
Sociology

Gabriela Bedolla Varela
Anthropology

Jeanette Velazquez
Women/Gender Studies

**First Graduate Minor
Awarded:
Bridgette Valdez**

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

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 Professors: Ben Marquez (left) and Jim Escalante

Your contribution is tax-deductible, and many employers have matching gift programs that can double the effect of your gift.

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Yes! I want to help support the Chican@ & Latin@ Studies Program at UW-Madison. Enclosed is my tax deductible gift of :

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Alumni, please send us news and updates about yourself, reflections on your experience in the CLS program, or suggestions for future issues of *Regeneración*. Send your information to: chicla@mailplus.wisc.edu

THANK YOU!