CMAS establishes two new lecture series

For many years, CMAS has sponsored the Américo Paredes Distinguished Lecture, which brings a prominent speaker from beyond the University to address us on a timely topic in Mexican American Studies. Upon the recommendation of a faculty committee, in 2007-08, we are inaugurating two new lecture series directed at our own faculty with some emphasis on the junior ranks. In keeping with honoring those who historically contributed to Mexican American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, we are pleased to announce the Jovita González Memorial Lecture in the Arts and Humanities and the George I. Sánchez Memorial Lecture in the Social Sciences and Education. Whenever possible, these lectures will be presented by CMAS faculty associates who either are in their first year of service at the University or who have been recently promoted to tenure or full professor. The lectures will be a way to honor these faculty while encouraging the further development of their research and mobility through the faculty ranks. It is possible, and indeed highly desirable, that in some years, we could have several such lectures especially given the accelerated pace of our faculty recruitment and retention. On some special occasions, we may also invite other faculty who have garnered some special recognition or achievement in the academy or in society at-large. We are pleased to announce the first of these lectures for 2007-08.

Victor B. Saenz inaugurates the George I. Sánchez Memorial Lecture Series

Victor B. Saenz is an assistant professor in the Department of Educational Administration and a CMAS faculty associate. Prior to coming to UT-Austin, Dr. Saenz was the research manager for the Cooperative Institutional Research Program at UCLA, coordinating several national data collection efforts and studies of college students. In 2005, he received his Ph.D. from UCLA in Higher Education and Organizational Change with a focus on access, equity, and diversity issues at colleges and universities. More specifically, his research interests include: chronicling the educational benefits of racial/ethnic diversity on college campuses; desegregation issues; access, transition, and retention issues for Latina/o, first-generation, and low-income college students; STEM recruitment and retention for underrepresented college students; policy impacts of affirmative action and remedial education policies; and assessment issues in higher education (student learning outcomes). Dr. Saenz was a Spencer Foundation Pre-Doctoral Fellow while at UCLA. He received an M.A. in Education from UCLA in 2002 as well as a B.A. (1996) in Mathematics and a Masters in Public Affairs (1999) both from The University of Texas at Austin.
FROM THE DIRECTOR

This edition of our newsletter largely reports on CMAS success and achievements of the past year. In addition to our usual activities, in the Spring Semester 2008 we will be collaborating with the Center for African and African American Studies and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement in planning the 22nd Annual Heman Sweatt Symposium on Civil Rights. The symposium this year will be titled, “The Powerless Majority: The Black and Latino Experience in America,” and will be held on-campus March 25-28, 2008. Please save the dates. Over the last seven years, we have been very successful in faculty recruitment, and this year we have been authorized to effect joint faculty searches with the departments of American Studies, anthropology, English, and sociology for appointments effective September 2008. We look forward to a successful outcome and the addition of at least four new faculty to our already impressive ranks. Last year I also convened a faculty committee to assist me in formulating our response to the University’s strategic plan for its upcoming Capital Campaign. The CMAS plan is now available at our website: www.utexas.edu/depts/cmas. The committee also had more immediate recommendations, and as a result, we would like to announce two new lecture series targeted to our younger faculty: the George I. Sánchez Memorial Lecture and the Jovita González Memorial Lecture (see announcement on the cover). Please join us this spring for these and our many other endeavors.

José E. Limón, Director, CMAS, Mody C. Boatright Regents Professor of American and English Literature

NEW CMAS STAFF

Natasha V. Saldaña
Academic Advisor I

We are pleased to report that Mrs. Natasha V. Saldaña, formerly of the Department of Chemical Engineering in the Cockrell School of Engineering, has joined the CMAS staff as our new academic advisor. Natasha was on the staff of the Cockrell School of Engineering for over seven years. During her time she served as a First-Year Interest Group instructor, undergraduate scholarship coordinator, participated in “Gone to Texas”, and assisted in a number of student service events held in the School of Engineering.

Natasha is a native Austinite who was raised in Central East Austin. She is a graduate of Stephen F. Austin High School and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from the College of Communication at The University of Texas at Austin in 1999. Natasha resides in Austin with her husband and three sons. She is an active volunteer at Dell’s Children’s Hospital and enjoys watching her sons play sports and learning from their new experiences.

Join us as we welcome Natasha to the CMAS familia and please feel free to contact her at (512) 471-2134 or nvs@mail.utexas.edu, if you have any questions about our undergraduate program.

Johannah Atkinson Hochhalter
Administrative Assistant

We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Johannah Atkinson Hochhalter has joined the CMAS staff as our new administrative assistant. Johannah’s duties include phone and e-mail communications, accounting, graphic design for CMAS programming, assisting in event coordinating, and overseeing our work-study students.

Johannah is originally from Harlingen, Texas. She is a graduate of Harlingen High School and recently received her Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology from the College of Family, Home, and Social Sciences at Brigham Young University. Johannah has previously worked for the Texas Health and Human Services Commission as a documentary researcher for Higher Media Productions based here in Austin.

Johannah resides in Austin with her husband Eric and their dog Lexi. She enjoys visiting family, going to concerts, and their annual family tradition of attending the SXSW Film Conference and Festival.

Join us as we welcome Johannah to the CMAS familia and please feel free to contact her at (512) 471-4557 or johannah@mail.utexas.edu, if you would like to be added to our mailing lists.
Spring semester 2007 was a busy and productive time for the undergraduate advising office. MAS undergraduates Adrian Bermudez, Sonia López, and Ferhi Mahmood completed their requirements for the Honors Program in Mexican American Studies. They finalized each of their thesis and presented their work in the 2007 Honors Colloquium in Mexican American Studies. Adrian’s thesis advisor was David Leal, Associate Professor of Government and Faculty Associate of the Center for Mexican American Studies. Sonia’s thesis advisor was Julian Vazquez Hei-}


driguez, Assistant Professor of Educational Administration, College of Education. Ferhi’s thesis advisor was John McKiernan-González, Assistant Professor of History and Faculty Associate of the Center for Mexican American Studies. CMAS congratulates the exemplary work of our honors students and thanks their faculty thesis advisors for their support and guidance throughout the academic year.

Another notable accomplishment by Adrian Bermudez included being selected as a College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Distinguished Graduate for 2007. ¡Felicidades, Adrian!

The 11th Annual CMAS Graduation Ceremony took place on Saturday, May 19, 2007, with over 400 friends and family in attendance of another beautiful ceremony that included an inspiring keynote address by Texas State Representative Roberto Alonzo (District 104). Many thanks to the CMAS Faculty Associates and Dr. Charles Roeckle, Deputy to the President, who participated in the procession and helped honor the accomplishments of our CMAS Graduation student participants. Thank you also to Dr. Gloria González-López in the Department of Sociology and Dr. Luis Urrieta in the Department of Curriculum & Instruction for their superb readings of each student’s bio during the ceremony. A special thank you to my colleagues at CMAS for their support and to Brenda Sendejo, Sergio Delgado, and Sonia Montoya for volunteering their time to help make this event possible.

As many of you know, Elvira has “graduated” from CMAS and moved to San Diego, California. We miss her at CMAS and we know that many of her extended familia in Austin miss her as well. We wish Elvira all the very best in her future endeavors!

NOTES FROM THE CMAS GRADUATE PROGRAM

Spring Semester 2007 was a busy time for the CMAS graduate program office. Dr. Maggie Rivas-Rodriguez, CMAS Associate Director and Graduate Adviser, and Luis Guevara, Graduate Program Coordinator, collaborated to host events for our current graduate students and prepared the way for new students who will arrive for the Fall Semester 2007.

In March, CMAS hosted a very productive mixer for students in the Graduate Portfolio Program in Mexican American Studies. Topics discussed at the meeting included the expansion of the portfolio program (to include master’s students), course offerings in the graduate program, appointment and financial assistance procedures, the size of the CMAS graduate program, and support for graduate student initiatives in the 2007-2008 academic year.

The spring semester also saw pláticas by six doctoral students participating in the Graduate Portfolio Program in Mexican American Studies: Anna Nogar (Spanish and Portuguese), Rick Sperling (Educational Psychology), Estevan Azcona (Musicology), Pablo González (Anthropology), Angela Stuesse (Anthropology), and Anissa Rodriguez (Educational Administration). Rick and Anissa have completed their doctoral degrees and we wish them both the very best in their future endeavors!

CMAS offered six individuals admission to the Master of Arts degree program in Mexican American Studies. The second cohort for our master’s program began their studies in the Fall Semester 2007, and join the currently enrolled student who we expect will complete his master’s degree in the 2007-2008 academic year. CMAS expects to admit five students to the master’s program per cohort in future years. We anticipate that the program will be very successful as we recruit prospective students from Texas and across the nation.

Visit the CMAS web site for more information about our graduate programs, or feel free to contact Luis Guevara at 512-475-6769 or lvg@mail.utexas.edu.
Oscar Casares
Assistant Professor of Creative Writing and CMAS Faculty Associate


Jason Casellas
Assistant Professor of Government and CMAS Faculty Associate

Jason Casellas is the recipient of the first ever Duke University Samuel DuBois Cook Postdoctoral Fellowship. He will spend the 2007-2008 academic year at Duke University researching and writing his book manuscript on Latino representation in Congress and state legislatures. He was also the recipient of the Charles Redd Award for Best Paper on race and ethnicity in the United States. The purpose of the IRP visiting scholar program is to enhance the research interests and resources available to visitors, to foster interaction between resident IRP affiliates and a diverse set of scholars, and to broaden the corps of poverty researchers. Dr. Padilla gave a seminar on findings from her current NIH-funded study titled, “The Early Lives of Mexican American Children: Threats to Their Health and Development.” The IRP is one of the most important and oldest poverty research centers in the United States. Charged with implementing the War on Poverty that President Johnson had declared in 1964, the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) sought to establish a center where experts would perform basic research, provide counsel, and serve as a ready information source. And so the IRP was formed. Since then, the IRP has been a leader in expanding the understanding of poverty and informing policy solutions in the United States. The current director of the IRP is Maria Cancian, professor of public affairs and social work.

John M. González
Assistant Professor of English and CMAS Faculty Associate


Michele R. Guzmán
Clinical Associate Professor of Educational Psychology and CMAS Faculty Associate

Dr. Guzmán was awarded the Hispanic Faculty and Staff Association (HFSA) Faculty Professional Development Award, the 2006-2007 HFSA Faculty Member of the Year Award, and was elected to serve as the Faculty Co-President Elect in 2007-2008. Finally, she was appointed Assistant Vice President for Diversity Education Initiatives, Division of Diversity and Community Engagement.

Yolanda Padilla
Professor of Social Work and Women’s Studies and CMAS Faculty Associate

Yolanda Padilla was invited to be a visiting scholar at the Institute for Research on Poverty (IRP) of the University of Wisconsin during the month of March. The IRP is a center for interdisciplinary research into the causes and consequences of poverty and social inequality in the United States. The purpose of the IRP visiting scholar program is to enhance the research interests and resources available to visitors, to foster interaction between resident IRP affiliates and a diverse set of scholars, and to broaden the corps of poverty researchers. Dr. Padilla gave a seminar on findings from her current NIH-funded study titled, “The Early Lives of Mexican American Children: Threats to Their Health and Development.” The IRP is one of the most important and oldest poverty research centers in the United States. Charged with implementing the War on Poverty that President Johnson had declared in 1964, the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO) sought to establish a center where experts would perform basic research, provide counsel, and serve as a ready information source. And so the IRP was formed. Since then, the IRP has been a leader in expanding the understanding of poverty and informing policy solutions in the United States. The current director of the IRP is Maria Cancian, professor of public affairs and social work.

Learning from Maori Educators
by Lourdes Diaz Soto, Professor of Education and CMAS Faculty Associate

The 14th Early Childhood Reconceptualist Conference began with a blessing by our Maori colleagues for the site of the conference and the participants. The blessing set a tone for the entire conference in Rotorua, New Zealand. We visited early childhood centers, community centers, and shared traditions with deep meaning for all of us.

We learned that the early childhood centers allow children the freedom to enjoy the outdoors as an integral part of their experience. We observed comfortable spaces for the children while the adults were engaged in soft and caring ways.

We followed gendered traditions when entering the community center and laughed when we learned that when the women start singing the men have to stop talking. I wondered if that would be a good tradition for us to consider some time.

One recurring consejo (advice) centered around “trusting the universe”. We began to think about how difficult this is for people with western perspectives who value rugged individualism and competition as opposed to cooperation and collaboration. Our Maori and non-Maori (Pakeha) colleagues face many challenges in New Zealand but they have ensured that the language and traditions of the Maori children and their families is respected and integrated into the curriculum.

In our context, that is Texas, we can gain similar wisdom. We can remember to integrate the linguistic and cultural gifts of Mexican, Mexican American, and Chicana elders. There is a rich history of wisdom that can clearly benefit young children. Keeping the avenues of communication open between elders and youngsters can only help to enhance the historical, social and political knowledge. These linguistic and cultural ways of knowing may help children to view the world in ways that will benefit all of us.
Juan Sánchez earned his BFA from Cooper Union in 1977 and his MFA from the Mason Cross School of the Arts at Rutgers State University of New Jersey in 1980. He is the recipient of numerous awards including a John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, a fellowship from the National Endowment for the Arts, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Hispanic Academy of Media Arts and Sciences and the Pollack/Krasner Award. Sánchez is a renowned Nuyorican artist and printmaker whose work explores and re-affirms the identity of Puerto Ricans. His work is political and focuses on the social and economic struggles of Puerto Ricans in the U.S. He is currently a Professor in the Department of Art at Hunter College, City University of New York. His Platicarte presentation was sponsored by the Center for Mexican American Studies of the College of Liberal Arts.

**Artes de las Américas: A Showcase of Latin American Art**
**Thursday, February 8, 2007**

The Mexican American Culture Committee of the Texas Union, in collaboration with the Center for Mexican American Studies of the College of Liberal Arts, presented an evening of diverse artistic performances and a showcase of Latin American art which included poetry readings by Jackie Cuevas and Elvira Prieto, a son jarocho musical performance by Mitote, and capoeira demonstration by Capoeira Da Roa. The event took place in the Texas Union Ballroom and included an exhibition of prints by local artists, including works from Coronado Studios’ Serie Print Project, Inc.

Anna Nogar is a doctoral candidate in Spanish and Portuguese with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies. Her portfolio presentation was titled “Bilocation to the Borderlands: From 17th-Century History to 21st Century Literature.” Her dissertation advisers are José E. Limón, Mody C. Boatright Regents Professor in American and English Literature in the Department of English, and César Salgado, Associate Professor in the Department of Spanish & Portuguese.

Elvira Prieto, former CMAS Academic Advisor, is a first generation Chicana college graduate; completing her B.A. in Psychology at Stanford University and her Ed.M. in Education, Planning and Social Policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. She read “California: My First Lifetime Ended en el Valle” a collection of autobiographical stories about growing up as a laborer in California’s Central Valley.
Jorge Huerta is the Associate Chancellor and Chief Diversity Officer and Professor in the Department of Theatre and Dance at the University of California, San Diego. Dr. Huerta presented “Necessary Theater: The Role of Chicano Theater in a Society in Crisis” and his plática was held in conjunction with Teatro Vivo’s production of La Victima, a bilingual play directed by Rupert Reyes.

Rick Sperling is a Doctoral Candidate in Educational Psychology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies. His portfolio presentation was titled, “Development of the Attributions For Scholastic Outcomes Scale-Latino (ASO-L).” His dissertation advisers are Barbara G. Dodd and Toni L. Falbo, Professors in the Department of Educational Psychology.

Estevan César Azcona is a Doctoral Candidate in Ethnomusicology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies. His portfolio presentation was titled, “Rolas de Aztlan: Song, Sound, and Nationalism in a Social Movement.” His dissertation advisers are José E. Limón, Mody C. Boatrights Regent Professor in American and English Literature, and Stephen M. Slawek, Professor in the School of Music.

Adrian Bermudez, Ferhi Mahmood, and Sonia Christina López, fulfilled the requirements for honors in Mexican American Studies with their individual presentations of impressive and timely significant research conducted throughout the fall and spring semesters.

Adrian Bermudez is a Government and Mexican American Studies double major and he presented “Améxi-ca: The Battle for One Land Between Two Cultures.” His faculty honors thesis advisor was David Leal, Associate Professor of Government and CMAS Faculty Associate.

Ferhi Mahmood is a double major in Latin American Studies and Mexican American Studies and she presented “Violence on the Nation’s Edge: Representation and History in Nuevo Laredo.” Ferhi’s faculty honors thesis advisor was John McKiernan-González, Assistant Professor of History and CMAS Faculty Associate.

Sonia Christina López completed a dual degree in Communication Studies and Mexican American Studies and her presentation was titled, “School Reconstitution in Texas.” Her faculty honors thesis advisor was Julian Vasquez-Heilig, Assistant Professor of Educational Administration.
The Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR) headquartered at the University of Notre Dame in collaboration with the Center for Mexican American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin, hosted the IUPLR Second Biennial Conference. The purpose of the conference was to encourage and share the scholarship generated by researchers at IUPLR institutions, and one hundred and nine scholars from universities throughout the country presented significant research findings in the areas of Latino health, education, politics, art and culture. The conference was comprised of two plenaries, nineteen sessions, and an IUPLR distinguished lecture by Lisandro Pérez, Professor of Sociology and Anthropology at Florida International University. Conference sponsors included: The Center for Mexican American Studies, College of Liberal Arts, Office of the President, Office of the Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement and Public Policy Institute at The University of Texas at Austin; the Inter-University Program for Latino Research (IUPLR), Institute for Latino Studies at the University of Notre Dame; and Anheuser-Busch.

Plenary 1: The State of Latino Cultural Studies, was given by: José Aranda, Rice University; Karen Mary Davalos, Loyola Marymount University; Richard R. Flores, UT Austin; and Chon Noriega, UCLA, and moderated by José E. Limón, UT Austin. Photo by CMAS Staff.

Welcome remarks were given by (L-R): Adela de la Torre, UC Davis; Charles A. Roeckle, Deputy to the President UT Austin; and Gilberto Cárdenas, University of Notre Dame; with introductions by José E. Limón, UT Austin. Photo by CMAS Staff.

Session 7: Documenting Strategies & New Scholarship for Latino Art & Culture, included: Victor Sorell, Chicago State University; Chon Noriega, UCLA; Olga Herrera, University of Notre Dame; Tomas Ybarra-Frausto, Latino Art Now!; Maria Gaztambide, Museum of Fine Arts Houston; and Yasmin Ramirez, Hunter College. Photo by CMAS Staff.

Session 13: Challenging the Economies of Culture: Activist Art in Latino Communities, included: Sam Coronado, Serie Project Inc. and Malaquias Montoya, UC Davis. Photo by CMAS Staff.
Graduate Portfolio Plática
Series: Pablo González
Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Pablo González is a Doctoral Candidate in Anthropology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies. His portfolio presentation was titled, “Autonomy Road: The Cultural Politics of Chicano Transfrontera Organizing in Los Angeles, California.” His dissertation advisers are Richard R. Flores, C.B. Smith Sr. Centennial Chair in United States-Mexico Relations, Department of Anthropology, and Joao H. Costa-Vargas, Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology.

Graduate Portfolio Plática
Series: Angela C. Stuesse
Wednesday, April 25, 2007

Angela C. Stuesse is a Doctoral Candidate in Anthropology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies. Her portfolio presentation was titled, “Globalization ‘Southern Style’: Transnational Migration and Organizing Workers Across Difference in Mississippi’s Poultry Industry.” Her dissertation advisers are Richard R. Flores, C.B. Smith Sr. Centennial Chair in United States-Mexico Relations, Department of Anthropology, and Charles R. Hale, Professor, Department of Anthropology.

Graduate Portfolio Plática
Series: Anissa J. Rodriguez
Thursday, April 26, 2007

Anissa J. Rodriguez is a Doctoral Candidate in Educational Administration with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies. Her portfolio presentation was titled, “Social Promotion and Retention in Texas Elementary Schools.” Her dissertation adviser is Pedro Reyes, Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Planning and Assessment, The University of Texas System and Professor, Department of Educational Administration.

“Jarocho Sol: Excavating The Afro in Mexico”
CMAS Platicarte Series by Anita González
Monday, April 24, 2007

Anita González, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Theatre Arts at the State University of New York at New Paltz. She is also a Post Doctoral Fellow at the Center for African and African American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin. Dr. González’ plática on “Jarocho Sol: Excavating the Afro in Mexico” was a collaboration between The Center for Mexican American Studies Platicarte Series and the Center for African and African American Studies Diaspora Talks. Her presentation included a dance demonstration and music by Mitote.
Latino Music Scene: Perspectives and Trends  
Thursday, April 26, 2007


CMAS Platicarte Series:  
Texas Mexican Literature  
Tuesday, May 1, 2007

A panel discussion. Participants: Dagoberto Gilb, Editor, *Hecho en Tejas*; Texas State University; Jackie Cuevas, UT Austin; John M. González, UT Austin; José E. Limón, UT Austin; and Domino Pérez, UT Austin.

Latino Music Month Kick-off and *Hecho En Tejas* Celebration  
Tuesday, May 1, 2007


The 21st Annual Américo Paredes Distinguished Lecture  
“Mexican Immigration: The Poverty of Policy” by Dr. Néstor Rodríguez  
Thursday, May 3, 2007

Néstor Rodríguez, Professor of Sociology at the University of Houston, is chair of the Department of Sociology and Co-Director of the Center for Immigration Research. Professor Rodríguez’s research interests include international migration, immigration policy, border enforcement, global urban development, racial/ethnic relations, and state repression. His present research projects, in collaboration with researchers in the United States and abroad, include a study of the impact of the 1996 immigration act on detention and deportation, and a study of migrant deaths at the U.S.-Mexico border. He is working on an edited volume examining state-sponsored terror in Latin America and on a book on Guatemala immigration. Some of his publications include *Black/Brown Relations and Stereotypes* (2002), “U.S. Immigration and Intergroup Relations in the Late Twentieth Century: African Americans and Latinos” (Social Justice, vol. 23, no. 3, 1996), “When states kill Latin America, the U.S., and technologies of terror” (2005). Dr. Rodríguez received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees from Texas A&I University and received his Ph.D. in Sociology from *The University of Texas at Austin* in 1984.
The ¡Te Aventaste! Awards is an end-of-the-year reception to honor and recognize the numerous accomplishments of our CMAS familia during the 2006-2007 academic year.

ADRIAN BERMUDEZ, an undergraduate in Mexican American Studies and Government, completed his Honors Program in Mexican American Studies and was selected as a College of Liberal Arts Dean’s Distinguished Graduate for 2007.

JASON CASELLAS, Assistant Professor of Government, received a Post-Doctoral Fellowship from Duke University.

MARIA E. CRUZ, a graduate student in Anthropology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, received the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, the Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship, a Hispanic Scholarship Fund Award, and an honorable mention for the Ford Foundation Research Fellowship.

PABLO GONZÁLEZ, a graduate student in Anthropology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, advanced to candidacy.

SANTIAGO I. GUERRA, a graduate student in Anthropology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, was recognized for his support and guidance of many of his peers’ fellowship applications.

LUIS GUEVARA, the CMAS Graduate Coordinator, returned to the CMAS familia at the start of the Spring Semester 2007. He served on the planning committees for the 2007 Lone Star Graduate Diversity Colloquium and the 2007 Leadership Symposium. Mr. Guevara completed a year as the Staff Co-President for the Hispanic Faculty/Staff Association. He married the lovely Ms. Gloria De La Cruz on Saturday, May 19, 2007 in San Antonio, Texas (this is his most important accomplishment of the year).

ROLANDO HINOJOSA-SMITH, the Ellen Clayton Garwood Centennial Professor in Creative Writing, was inducted into the Texas Literary Hall of Fame.


HORTENCIA JIMENEZ, a graduate student in Sociology with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, received The University of Texas at Austin, College of Liberal Arts U.S.-Mexico Borderlands Research Award, as well as presented “The Emergence of a Student Social Movement: A Case Study of Walkouts in Dallas, Texas,” at the NACCS Tejas Foco Conference in Denton, Texas

ANNIE MARTINEZ, Assistant Professor of History, received a Dean’s Fellowship from the Department of History for Fall 2007.

VERONICA MARTINEZ, a graduate student in History with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, received a Ford Foundation Dissertation Fellowship.

JOHN MCKIERNAN-GONZÁLEZ, Assistant Professor of History, received a Dean’s Fellowship from the Department of History for Spring 2008.

MARTHA MENCHACA, Professor of Anthropology was recognized because several of her student advisees have been awarded major national foundation research fellowships (Santiago Guerra, Maria Cruz, and Nancy Rios).

SONIA MONTOYA, a graduate of the Master’s program in Women’s and Gender Studies, Master’s report was nominated for an Outstanding Master’s Thesis/Report Award by the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies.

ANNA NOGAR, a graduate student in Spanish and Portuguese with a Graduate Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, received a Continuing Fellowship for 2007-08.
YOLANDA C. PADILLA, Professor of Social Work and Women’s and Gender Studies, was selected to participate in the statewide women’s leadership program, “Leadership Texas 2006,” a year-long program of the Foundation for Women’s Resources.

DEBORAH PAREDEZ, Assistant Professor of Theatre and Dance, was awarded a College of Fine Arts Summer Research stipend and the Center for African and African American Studies Summer Fellowship award for her forthcoming project titled, “Burn, Break, Boogie: Bronx Arts and Activism.”

ELVIRA PRIETO, CMAS Academic Advisor, was selected to participate in the North Country Institute for Writers of Color 2007 Summer Retreat at Valcour in Plattsburg, New York.

NANCY RIOS, a graduate student in Anthropology with a Doctoral Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, received a Borderlands Research Award, a Hispanic Scholarship Fund Award, and a Ford Foundation Research Fellowship.

GERARDO RODRIGUEZ, an undergraduate student in History, was accepted to the study abroad program in Morocco. He joined and has been dedicated to Flor y Canto, and is an amazing friend to his peers.

LUISSANA SANTIBANEZ, an undergraduate in Government, is recognized for working hard with her school work and her family while her mother was detained by INS for several months and later deported. She has been exploring the art of sharing her wonderful words and amazing story through poetry.

BRENDA SENDEJO, a graduate student in Anthropology with a Doctoral Portfolio in Mexican American Studies, advanced to candidacy. Ms. Sendejo received the CLASE and NASCAR/Wendall Awards, both from the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities. She also was awarded The University of Texas at Austin, College of Liberal Arts U.S.-Mexico Borderlands Student Award, and a dissertation research award from the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies as the runner up for the Ellen Clarke Temple Award for the study of women in American History.

ITZEL SUAREZ and RAQUEL RODRIGUEZ, both undergraduates in Mexican American Studies, contributed to the Queer People of Color organization and created and promoted a safe environment for queer people of color on-campus.

RICHARD VALENCIA, Professor of Educational Psychology and Mexican American Studies, completed his next book project, From the Classrooms to the Courtrooms: The Mexican American Legal Struggle for Educational Equality. Dr. Valencia served as an expert witness for Latino plaintiffs in the Santamaria v. Dallas Independent School District lawsuit, a case involving the intentional segregation of Mexican American / other Latino students from their White peers in the Preston Hollow Elementary School, located in an affluent neighborhood of Dallas. Plaintiffs prevailed in this precedent-setting case. He was recently invited to be a Fellow in the Education Policy Research Unit (EPRU) at Arizona State University and the Education and the Public Interest Center (EPIC) at the University of Colorado at Boulder.

ANGELA VALENZUELA, Professor of Curriculum and Instruction and Educational Administration, appointed as Associate Vice President for Diversity and Community Engagement, and received a Fulbright to conduct research in Mexico.

EMILIO ZAMORA, Associate Professor of History, received a Fulbright to conduct research in Mexico.
The 11th annual CMAS Graduation ceremony took place on Saturday, May 19, 2007 in the University Teaching Center (UTC), 2.112A. Twenty-two graduating students participated in the ceremony attended by more than 400 family members and friends. The faculty and student procession was lead by Rolando Hinojosa-Smith, Ellen Clayton Garwood Centennial Professor in Creative Writing and CMAS Faculty Associate, who served as marshal for the event. José E. Limón, CMAS Director and Mody C. Boatright Regents Professor of American and English Literature, presided over the ceremonies, and Texas State Representative Roberto Alonzo (District 104) gave the keynote speech. The graduating students were presented by Gloria González-López, Assistant Professor of Sociology and CMAS Faculty Associate, and Luis Urrieta, Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction and CMAS Faculty Associate. A reception followed in Homer Rainey Hall 3.102 (Old Music Room) with live music by Los Tres Amigos y Pepe.


Undergraduate Degrees

Adrian Bermudez, B.A. in Government and Mexican American Studies with Special Honors
Veronica Duron, B.A. in History and Sociology
Mary Edna González, B.A. in History and Mexican American Studies
Charim Guadarrama-Beltran, B.A. in Mexican American Studies
Sonia Christina Lopez, B.S. in Communication Studies and B.A. in Mexican American Studies with Special Honors
Ferhi Mahmood, B.A. in Latin American Studies and Mexican American Studies with Special Honors
Diana Melendez, B.A. in Psychology and Mexican American Studies
Asaia Palacios, B.A. in Government and Latin American Studies
Jeannette Palacios, B.A. in English and Mexican American Studies
Shannon Taylor Ramirez, B.A. in Mexican American Studies
Raquel Marie Chapa Rodriguez, B.A. in Government and Mexican American Studies
Ivonne Rodriguez, B.A. in Sociology and Mexican American Studies
Maribel Rodriguez, B.A. in English and Government
Erica Sierra, B.A. in Mexican American Studies
John William Stovall, B.A. in Government, History, and Mexican American Studies
John-Michael Torres, B.S. in Radio, Television, and Film, and B.A. in Sociology
Stacy Michelle Torres, B.A. in Government and Mexican American Studies

Graduate Degrees

Maria Elena Cruz, M.A. in Anthropology
Julia Ernestina Vargas, M.A. in Latin American Studies
Janie Muñoz Sánchez, Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction
Laura Padilla, Ph.D. in English
Alma Sánchez Perez, Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction
Faculty Procession

Marshal, Rolando Hinojosa-Smith, Ellen Clayton Garwood
Centennial Professor in Creative Writing
Presiding, José E. Limón, CMAS Director and Mody C. Boatright
Regents Professor in American and English Literature
Keynote Speaker, Roberto Alonzo, TX State Representative, J.D.
Invited Officer, Charles Roeckle, Deputy to the President
Juan C. González, Vice President for Student Affairs
Cristina Cabello de Martínez, Lecturer in Spanish and Portuguese
and Mexican American Studies
Oscar Casares, Assistant Professor of Creative Writing
Jason Casellas, Assistant Professor of Government
Richard R. Flores, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and
Professor of Anthropology and Mexican American Studies
John M. González, Assistant Professor of English
Gloria González-López, Assistant Professor of Sociology
Michele Guzmán, Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology
David Leal, Associate Professor of Government
Anne Martinez, Assistant Professor of History
Domino Pérez, Assistant Professor of English
Cynthia Salinas, Assistant Professor of Curriculum & Instruction
Maggie Rivas-Rodríguez, Associate Director, Center for Mexican
American Studies and Associate Professor of Journalism
Luis Urrieta, Assistant Professor of Curriculum and Instruction
Angela Valenzuela, Professor of Curriculum and Instruction
Emilio Zamora, Associate Professor of History

Texas State Representative Roberto Alonzo (District 104). Photo by Francisco Cortes.

John M. González and Richard R. Flores. Photo by Francisco Cortes.

CMAS Academic Advisor Elvira Prieto and Domino Pérez. Photo by Francisco Cortes.

B.A. graduate, Asaia Palacios and family. Photo by Francisco Cortes.
### 2007 CALENDARIO • Schedule of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2007</strong></td>
<td>10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon</td>
<td>TX Union Chicano Culture Room, 4.206</td>
<td>CMAS AI/TA Orientation</td>
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<td><strong>FRIDAY, AUGUST 24, 2007</strong></td>
<td>1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TX Union Chicano Culture Room, 4.206</td>
<td>CMAS New Graduate Student Orientation</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| **TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2007** | 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. | Campus Club Bar Area            | CMAS/CAAAS Faculty/Staff Mixer  
Music by Maimy Fong, Pianist. Co-sponsored by the Center for African and African American Studies.                                           |
| **THURSDAY, AUGUST 30, 2007** | 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. | Campus Club Bar Area            | CMAS Ice Cream Social Extravaganza  
Music by Buzz Guerra, Guitarist.                                                                                                                  |
| **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2007** | 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. | West Mall Building (WMB) 5th Floor | “Verdades” Works by Liliana Wilson  
CMAS Open House and Opening Reception. Music by Grupo Chinanmpa.                                                                                       |
| **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2007** | 12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. | Main Building 212               | HFSA September General Meeting  
Sponsored by CMAS, the College of Liberal Arts.                                                                                                        |
| **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2007** | 12:00 noon – 1:30 p.m. | TX Union Santa Rita Room, 3.502 | “Colored Men” and “Hombres Aquí”: Hernandez v. Texas and the Emergence of Mexican American Lawyering  
CMAS Plática Series: Michael Olivas, Professor, University of Houston Law School. Co-sponsored by the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, UT Austin and the City of Austin's Mexican American Cultural Center. |
| **TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2007** | 6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. | Mexican American Cultural Center 600 River Street, Austin, TX | “Colored Men” and “Hombres Aquí”: Hernandez v. Texas and the Emergence of Mexican American Lawyering  
Booksigning and Reception: Michael Olivas, Professor, University of Houston Law School. Co-sponsored by the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement, UT Austin and the City of Austin's Mexican American Cultural Center. |
| **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2007** | 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. | TX Union Sinclair Suite, 3.128   | Antonio's Gun & Delfino's Dream: True Tales of Mexican Immigration  
| **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2007** | 7:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. | TX Union                        | The Idea of America: Dreams, Desires, Disasters  
American Studies Graduate Student Conference  
Sponsored by CMAS, the Center for African and African American Studies, the Center for Asian American Studies, the Department of American Studies, the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. |
| **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2007** | 7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m. | Welch Hall, Room 2.304          | Understanding America's Addiction to Prisons: From California to Abu Ghraib  
Keynote Address for American Studies Graduate Student Conference: Ruth Wilson Gilmore, University of Southern California. Sponsored by CMAS, the Center for African and African American Studies, the Center for Asian American Studies, the Department of American Studies, the Department of Geography, the College of Liberal Arts, and the Division of Diversity and Community Engagement. |
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<td>MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2007</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Welch Hall 2.246</td>
<td><strong>César E. Chávez: A Legacy for Texas and the Nation</strong> Free screening of Hector Galán’s “Chicano! History of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement” followed by a panel discussion with UT Austin faculty.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2007</td>
<td>12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>TX Union Chicano Culture Room, 4.206</td>
<td><strong>Immigrant Narratives: Painting as Fiction</strong> CMAS Platicarte Series: Maceo Montoya, California Visual Artist and Writer. Co-sponsored by the Center for African and African American Studies, College of Liberal Arts, the Department of Art and Art History, the College of Fine Arts, and La Peña.</td>
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<td>THURSDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2007</td>
<td>7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mexican American Cultural Center Auditorium, 600 River Street, Austin, TX</td>
<td><strong>Dia de la Raza Celebration – ¡Que Viva Nuestra Cultura!</strong> Performances by Evangelina Vigil-Piñon, Poet and Musician, and Maceo Montoya, Visual Artist and Writer. Music by Joel Guzman and Sarah Foxx and the Five Star Band. Co-sponsored by the City of Austin's Mexican American Cultural Center.</td>
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<tr>
<td>FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2007</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>La Peña, 227 Congress Avenue, Austin, TX</td>
<td><strong>Maceo Montoya: Retratos y Cuentos</strong> Art Exhibition: Maceo Montoya, California Visual Artist and Writer. Co-sponsored by the Center for African and African American Studies, College of Liberal Arts, The Department of Art and Art History, The College of Fine Arts, and La Peña.</td>
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<tr>
<td>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2007</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>West Mall Building (WMB), 5.102</td>
<td><strong>Merciful Mother: Homenaje a Nuestra Virgen de Guadalupe</strong> Opening Reception. Works by Santa Barraza, Sam Coronado, María L Cronis, Marie Garza, Rey Gaytan, Juan Pablo Gutierrez, María Limón, Richard Martinez, Peter Ortiz, Angel Quesada, Ana Sisnette, José Treviño, Luis Valderas, Unknown Artist from Mexico, and Liliana Wilson. Art exhibit runs December 1 to December 31, 2007.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2007</td>
<td>11:30 a.m. – 1:15 p.m.</td>
<td>Main Building (MAI) 212</td>
<td><strong>HFSA Holiday Fiesta</strong> Silent and live auctions benefit the Hispanic Faculty/Staff Association - Jamail/Long Challenge Grant Scholarship endowment fund. Music provided by Grupo Chinampa. Sponsored by CMAS, the College of Liberal Arts; the College of Education; and the University Federal Credit Union.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2007</td>
<td>6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River Street, Austin, TX</td>
<td><strong>From the Sacred to Popular Culture: Representations of La Virgen de Guadalupe</strong> Opening Reception and Concert. Works from the private collection of Gilberto Cárdenas. Marian Concert by St. Mary's Cathedral Schola Cantorum. Reception to follow. Art exhibit runs December 8, 2007 to January 5, 2008. Co-sponsored by the Mexican Center of the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies, the College of Liberal Arts; the Mexican American Cultural Center; La Peña; and Las Manitas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2007</td>
<td>5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Campus Club Bar Area</td>
<td><strong>CMAS Holiday Social</strong></td>
</tr>
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The Center for Mexican American Studies (CMAS) is committed to working with university students, staff, faculty and community organizations in bringing exceptional cultural and educational programming to the University and the greater Austin community. The most recent Calendario can be found on the CMAS web site at www.utexas.edu/depts/cmas. If you have any programming suggestions or would like to collaborate with CMAS on an event, please contact Dolores Garcia, public programs coordinator, at 512-475-6973 or via email at doloresg@mail.utexas.edu.
THE CENTER FOR MEXICAN AMERICAN STUDIES strives to be a focus of Mexican American scholarship and educational programs on campus, and a national leader in teaching, publications, and research. Since its creation in 1970, CMAS has worked to enhance our understanding of the Mexican and Mexican American experience, as well as the broader Latino experience, and to strengthen the presence of Mexican Americans and other Latinos in the intellectual terrain, both within and beyond U.S. borders.

Center for Mexican American Studies  
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Web site: www.utexas.edu/depts/cmas

NOTICIAS DE CMAS is produced by the staff of the Center for Mexican American Studies. We received editorial and production assistance from our friends Elvira Prieto and Clarisa Hernández. This newsletter is intended to provide the university community with information about CMAS programs, activities, and related university and local community events. We hope to make the Noticias de CMAS available on a regular basis in print form, with an on-line version to be updated on a frequent basis. Students, faculty, staff, and community affiliates are welcome to provide brief articles or announcements that highlight past, current, or future events, as well as those that place a spotlight on accomplishments that focus on our community’s academic, cultural, and social contributions to the campus and beyond.