

# **UCLA**

## **Regeneración Tlacuilolli: UCLA Raza Studies Journal**

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SYLVIA FERNÁNDEZ es una estudiante en el programa de maestría en el Departamento de Lenguas y Lingüística en la Universidad Estatal de Nuevo México (NMSU). Se recibió con una licenciatura de NMSU en Gobierno y Español con una especialidad en Estudios de la Mujer y Estudios de la Frontera US/Mex. Dentro del programa de maestría ella ejerce como asistente dando clases en el Programa de Español de Herencia a nivel 113, 213 y 214 y brindando tutoría y asesoría para los estudiantes del programa. Es oriunda de la región fronteriza, Cd. Juárez, El Paso y Las Cruces experimentando una vida transfronteriza diaria, aprendiendo lo que es vivir dentro de un tercer espacio. Su familia que ha integrado su vida en todos los aspectos de la frontera, ha motivado sus intereses por desarrollar investigación y enseñanza de la frontera. Dichos intereses incluyen los estudios de la frontera, los estudios de Latinoamérica y Estado Unidos, la identidad fronteriza, literatura chicana/mexicana/fronteriza, el español en la frontera y los estudios de género.

CHRISTINE GARCÍA is a West Texas transplant to the beautiful city of Albuquerque where she is completing a PhD in Rhetoric and Writing at the University of New Mexico. While her scholarly writing focuses on Chicana Rhetoric(s), as well as Rhetorical and Composition theory, her personal writing tends to fall the way of love and the Southwest. Aside from finishing her dissertation, which surveys Chicana Rhetoric and explores the work of Dolores Huerta, Christine spends her time enjoying Albuquerque's vibrant art scene and making day trips throughout Aztlán.

GREGORIO GONZALES (Genízaro) is currently a Ph.D. student in Social Anthropology and Borderlands Anthropology at The University of Texas at Austin, pursuing Graduate Portfolios in both Mexican American and Latina/o Studies and Native American and Indigenous Studies. He earned his Master's degree (with Distinction) in Latin American Studies from The University of New Mexico in 2012, and his Bachelor's degree (with Honors) in Government from New Mexico State University in 2010.

ELIZABETH GONZÁLEZ CÁRDENAS is from Boyle Heights and a Doctoral Candidate in Education at the University of California, Los Ángeles. Her research examines the impact of culturally relevant curriculum, culturally relevant pedagogy, future aspirations, and post-baccalaureate attainment of Chicanas and Chicanos who major or minor in Chicana/o Studies. Elizabeth also teaches at Los Ángeles Trade Technical College and prepares formally pushed-out high school students in attaining their educational goals.

ALYSSA GRIEGO is an undergraduate history major at UCLA. She has written over two hundred poems and counting, which are yet to be published. She is an aspiring writer, director, and spoken-word artist. Growing up in the midst of East Los Angeles and her family's close ties to Chavez Ravine have inspired Alyssa to follow her dreams and tap into her cultural roots.

JO ANNA MIXPE LEY is a Huichol Xicana from East Los Angeles Califaztlan. She obtained her MFA at Cal Arts and community based theatrical experience from Great Leaps and performing with Quetzal. She is currently a writer, founder and actress in the theatrical group Las Ramonas. She is also a very proud educator at indigenous based charter school Academia Semillas del Pueblo for the past ten years. She is currently working on her novel *From Birth to Consciousness*.

CECILIA PIÑÓN DE MEDINA VELÁSQUEZ es una mujer mexicano-americana y feminista que lucha por sus ideologías. Estudia en el en la Universidad Estatal de Nuevo México en el departamento de Lenguas y Lingüística. Se recibió con una doble licenciatura en Criminología Penal y Español. En este momento ejerce como estudiante en el programa de literatura en español y asistente de maestro en el Programa de Español de Herencia. Ella nació y creció en Nuevo México, de padres mexicanos. Ella es la primera generación en obtener una licenciatura. Ella fue madre a una corta edad y es madre soltera de dos mujeres, María y Susana Ramírez. Una mujer que ha luchado por salir adelante con su familia. La vida la ha convertido en una mujer fuerte y segura de ella misma. La vida no ha sido fácil pero esto la ha motivado a motivar a otras personas a no dejar la educación detrás. La educación es la llave para salir adelante en Estados Unidos; también se enfoca en estudios sobre la mujer en la frontera, la trata de blanca, la representación de la mujer chicana, y estudios culturales.

SYLVIA MENDOZA is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Utah in the department of Education, Culture and Society. Her research interests

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GIOVANNIE NÚÑEZ-DUEÑAS is a UCLA undergraduate poet from Boyle Heights, Los Angeles. At 21 years old, he is examining the role between mass industrial globalization and his 4-year old self. To contact Nuñez, e-mail him at [gionunez0@gmail.com](mailto:gionunez0@gmail.com).

JOÉL-LÉHI ORGANISTA ESTRADA was born in Chapultepec Distrito Federal México, then immigrated with his family to Salt Lake City, Utah at age 4. He produced a film documentary titled, “Red Flags: Racism and Ethnic Stereotyping in [Utah] School” at age 15. He co-founded the National Student Bill of Rights for All Youth Movement at age 17. Since 2009, Joél-Léhi has been a member of the national advisory board for the Education Liberation Network. Joél-Léhi is creating his own undergraduate degree in Social Justice Pedagogy at the University of Utah. After serving for two years in Tokyo Japan as a missionary for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, he returned back to his undergraduate program. Joél-Léhi enjoys dancing, drawing, playing the piano, pipe organ and do genealogy work in his spare time.

EZTLI SÁNCHEZ is a Chicana@ anarchist poet from South Califas. Like all identities, Eztli Sánchez is a constructed one. Eztli is borrowed from the nahautl word meaning blood and used to represent the phrase “somos sangre” in a single word. “Somos sangre” is used to convey the fact that we are family and thus are all connected. For the purposes of authorship Eztli is used to take away the importance from a single person and give credit and gratitude to those who inspire, read, and live the experiences portrayed. However, the fact remains that one person is the one writing, and the work will always carry this poet’s mark, thus the use of Sánchez to complete the name. In life the father’s last name is used to identify the person, so on the page the mother’s is used to identify the poet, the true self.

JOSÉ LUIS SERRANO NÁJERA is a doctoral candidate in the Department of History at the University of California, Los Angeles. His current research demonstrates how Chicana/o activist groups that have partaken in transnational Indigenous Peoples movements and contribute to the prominence of contemporary *Indigenismo* among Mexican Americans since the 1960s. Overall, his research and teaching interests emphasize the connections between knowledge production and advocacy for social justice on a global scale. He is deeply interested in analyzing how

Chicana/o communities demonstrate cultural agency and pluriversal alternatives to Western hegemony.

CRISTINA ROSE SMITH is a professor of Women's Studies, writer, artist, and Voices of Our Nations Arts Foundation Fellow. Her creative writing is in such publications as *Label Me Latina/o Literary Review*, *Ofrendas of the Flesh with Mujeres de Maiz*, and *Verses Typhoon Yolanda: A Storm of Filipino Poets*. Cristina is developing her manuscript entitled "Becoming a Woman of Color: A Travel Memoir."

IRENE VÁSQUEZ is the Director of the Chicano Hispano Mexicano Studies Program at the University of New Mexico. She is an Associate Professor in American Studies. Her research and teaching interests include Indigenous peoples of the Americas, Afro-Mexican/Latino relations, U.S. Social Movements, Women of Color Feminism, and Intercultural Collaboration and Peace Building. In 2014, she has co-authored a book on the Chicana/o Movement entitled, *Making Aztlán: Ideology and Culture of the Chicana and Chicano Movement, 1966–1977*. She has written several essays in English and Spanish on the historic and contemporary relations between African Americans and Latin American descent peoples. In 2006, Irene Vásquez co-edited *The Borders Within Us: Three Global Diasporas*, published by New World African Press.

JOEL ZAPATA graduated with a B.A. in History and a minor in Anthropology from the University of Texas at El Paso. His research focuses on telling the stories of immigration, settlement, and community of *Mexicana/os* on the *frontera* and the greater Western U.S. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in History at Southern Methodist University.