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Libros, Libros, y Más Libros: Chicana and Chicano Studies in Action

EDITORIAL BY AÍDA HURTADO

Estimados Colegas,

With every edition of the Chicana and Chicano Studies Department e-newsletter, one can't help but feel the possibility and magic of the discipline of Chicana and Chicano Studies. The winter edition of the e-newsletter is no exception. You will be delighted as you read each of the articles and amazed by our accomplishments as a field. From the interview with Professor Gerardo Aldana, who had a national and international presence in scholarly and media



Aída Hurtado

and Chicano Studies in San Antonio, Texas.

It is difficult to believe that the discipline of Chicana and Chicano Studies is in decline when so many individuals manifest the vibrancy of the field in so many arenas. It is important to remind ourselves that the field emerged out of struggle and was created by visionaries. Tireless intellectuals and so-

cial justice seekers who did not know the discipline's trajectory but had an unshakeable belief in the power of people to learn about themselves when institutions of higher learning made them invisible. The discipline of Chicana and Chicano Studies was created from this subterranean knowledge with few resources and a lot of dedication and corazón. It developed a space in the academy of creativity and inclusiveness. It is also important to remind ourselves that building a discipline is not linear, without struggle, and without contention. Persistence, vision, dedication, hard work, and a continued belief in the power of positive action will lead to a more just society based on our collective pursuit of knowledge.

"The books produced by these extraordinary and gifted women are small miracles that few would have predicted and that now have become foundational to the discipline of Chicana and Chicano Studies."

circles explaining the misunderstanding of the Mayan calendar as the end of 2012 approached, to the beautiful and inspiring history of the Department's Chicana Dissertation Fellowships (1978-2005), to the accomplishments of our undergraduates as they expose the public to the wealth and diversity of Xicana/Mexicana music, to the continuing richness of the Department's intellectual life as represented in the quarterly colloquium series, and finally to the extraordinary range of research presented by our graduate students and faculty at the meetings of the National Association for Chicana

There were two recent events that reminded me to always have faith in the unknown and to trust the goodness and dedication of the human spirit. The first was the archival research conducted for the Chicana Fellowship article included in this newsletter. Over and over we heard recipients of the fellowship share stories of how

(Continued on page 9)

Cold as ICE!

EIGHT WAYS TO SHRINK IMMIGRATION REFORM

11 MILLION Undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. now will likely have to wait decades for citizenship. But a host of ideas being debated would still disqualify large numbers of them.

- HOW MANY PEOPLE WILL BE INELIGIBLE?
- 1 Half of undocumented families could have to sacrifice 1/3 of their income to afford a \$10k penalty. **HALF OF FAMILIES**
 - 2 3.6 to 5.8 million could be excluded by an English language requirement. **English? 3.6-5.8 MILLION**
 - 3 Millions could be excluded for often decades-old crimes like using false papers or pot possession. **MILLIONS**
 - 4 Over 1.6 million could be left out by a 5 year residency requirement. **5 years + 1.6 MILLION +**
 - 5 Over 1 million could be excluded by proof-of-work requirement, a third would be women. **JOB? 1 MILLION +**
 - 6 40,000 gay and lesbian couples could be barred due to the Defense of Marriage Act. **40,000**
 - 7 An unknown number who have returned or refused to leave after a deportation order could be barred. **?**
 - 8 400,000 prospective citizens will be deported this year if current enforcement trends continue. **400,000**

Sources: "Unauthorized Immigrants: Length of Residency, Patterns of Parenthood," Pew Hispanic Center, December 2011
 "Earned Legalization," Migration Policy Institute, January 2011
 "Same-Sex Couples and Immigration in the United States," UCLA Williams Institute, November 2011

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Faculty Spotlight:

GERARDO ALDANA

BY D. INÉS CASILLAS

Q: Is there anyone happier than you to see this 2012 hype fade?

A: That would be hard to imagine. When it first started to get big in the media, my colleagues and I agreed that we should take it as an opportunity—a chance to bring up some of the academic interpretations of ancient Mayan cultures. In every interview or talk I've given, for example, I've included references to individual Mayan historical figures, like K'an B'ahlam, the ruler of Palenque who patronized the hieroglyphic texts that have been misinterpreted to drive much of the 2012 hype. But mostly this has been ignored, and we've found ourselves spending our time talking about what the ancient Maya were not.

Q: You were interviewed on numerous occasions by news sources to comment on 2012. What was your standard line?

A: I'm going with "a perfect storm of misinformation." You really have a situation in which a few misunderstandings have come together in the 'atmosphere of cyberspace' to produce an effect that is far greater than the sum of its individual parts. From there, it's just a matter of going through the errors: problems with interpreting mythology, problems interpreting the Mayan calendar, problems interpreting astronomical records, hieroglyphic records... the farther you go, the more there is to get wrong, and the bigger the storm. The result, then, is a devastation of the public understanding of who the ancient Maya were.



Q: Your recent work challenges Maya scholars the soundness of the fixed numerical value (called the GMT constant) to correlate the dates on the ancient Maya calendar with those

on the modern calendar. You make a groundbreaking point that the reading of the calendar may be off by 50 to 100 years. Holy. Smokes.

A: I think one of the interesting possibilities has to do with the relationship between the

Classic Maya and other parts of Mesoamerica. With the GMT, for example, the intense interactions between Teotihuacan (the massive Classic period city outside of current Mexico City) and Tikal (a "superpower" of Classic Mayan civilization) occur during the height of Teotihuacan's power. If the GMT is off significantly, then the connection may have been triggered by the decline of Teotihuacan, and that would give us a very different overall scenario. Yax K'uk' Mo', the founder of

the Copan dynasty, for example, may not have been a favored prince from Teotihuacan, bringing a new order to part of the Maya region. He may have been a refugee from a crumbling metropolis, looking for someplace far from home to set up shop. Without a secure calendar correlation, though, we have to be open to both (and more) possibilities.

Q: Because of your work, you have travelled extensively throughout Mexico. What is one of your favorite areas to revisit?

A: This is impossible to respond to, so I'll just go with the most recent. I was just at el Lago de Santiago Atitlan in the Highlands of Guatemala and it was straight power. The lake is surrounded by volcanoes, so you see these massive clouds roll in in the afternoon, playing with the mountain peaks. Then there are lightning storms nightly right over the water, so you feel the thunder and see these bolts of electricity along with their reflections. The first night I was there I was awakened in the early morning by an earthquake—it turns out they're very common in the area. So basically what's so impressive is that you can't help but feel that the earth is very much alive—not just teeming with life (as in bugs, birds, reptiles, etc.), but geologically alive. It's nothing like the paved-over, polluted, insulated experiences we get used to in so many cities in the U.S.

Q. You are, quite possibly, the only Chicano Studies professor in the nation who teaches a glyph course. How do Chicanos react to learning an ancestral language/code of writing?

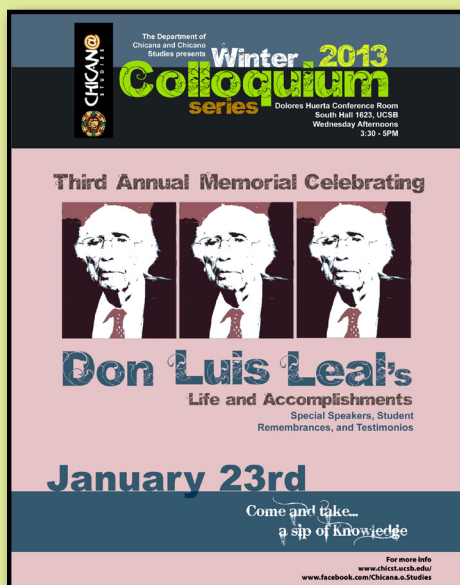
A: It takes all forms, which is actually pretty nice. Some students are relieved to finally get at the sources of where so many interpretations of Mesoamerica come from. It's a powerful thing to see what indigenous authors wrote for indigenous audiences, and then to find that that has been totally reinterpreted by others for their own purposes. What I find most rewarding, though, is when students begin to get past the exoticism and see the real people behind the texts. When they start seeing the men and women who were just as complicated as any

(Continued on page 9)

Quince Cajas de Libros

(Fifteen Boxes of Books)

Ode to Don Luis Leal



Our department commemorates the life and work of Don Luis Leal each January. Aida Hurtado holds the Luis Leal Endowed Chair. Below are excerpts from her ode shared at our community celebration.

I received an email telling me, “we have fifteen boxes of Don Luis’s books—they are about to be burned if no one claims them. The library has already taken all they can and no one else has room for them.” The fifteen boxes arrive in my office, carefully transported by one of the many professors on this campus who admired and befriended Don Luis. They are stashed in a small room off of our department library.



(Antonio Leal, son of Don Luis Leal)



(Participants at the event from Left to Right: Mario Garcia, Philip Wyatt, Antonio Leal, Aida Hurtado, Sara Poot-Herrera, Carlos Fuentes, and D. Inés Casillas)

Then I think, and think, and I can’t seem to get the thought out of my mind—quince cajas de libros [fifteen boxes of books]—what do these books symbolize? What do they mean for a life lived?

I pick up a few—beautifully aged, mostly yellow, mostly soft covered—not the fancy type that line the library walls of Downton Abbey. And I smile, one of Don Luis’ jokes comes to mind as told to me by Professor Lomeli—“Don Luis used to say, ‘Yes, I had a professor come and ask me—Professor Leal, I heard they are dedicating a library in your honor at Oxford—you must be beyond elated at the honor.’ Don Luis would reply, ‘What, Oxford? No hombre, I’m getting a library dedicated in my honor in Oxnard!’” Of course, the hearty laugh would follow. So I pick up a tome, and I smile.

As I touch these books, I instinctively put them up against my face and take in the smell of aging paper, and my heart jumps with excitement at



the memory of spending long hours reading in the McAllen Public Library as a refuge from the racism in South Texas, the classism in my high school, of the restrictions girls always experience when you are too bookish.

I crack open one of the books and I begin reading—I wonder if Don Luis wetted his fingers to turn the page leaving his DNA on the novel *La Casa de los Espiritus* [House of Spirits] by Isabel Allende; I wonder if he blew on the pages when they got stuck together the way I learned to do with mi mamá Chenchá, my grandmother, as a seven year old, reading Mexican gossip magazines during our afternoon siestas in Tampico—we never slept, we read instead.

And I smile at the memory and I am no longer sad because quince cajas de libros represent a lifetime of a life lived by a scholar who loved books, who wrote books, who lived by books, who surrounded himself with piles of books, and I am moved by the knowledge that we belong to the same tribe. ☸

remembering our chicana Dissertation Fellowship

...a living archive, an archive in the making... 46 fellows

EDITED BY AMBER ROSE GONZÁLEZ

From 1978 to 2005, The Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UC Santa Barbara awarded The Chicana Dissertation Fellowship to exceptional doctoral students undertaking research in the field of Chicana studies. Fellows taught one undergraduate course and presented a research paper to the campus community at the end of her tenure. Many of the former fellows are now employed in top universities throughout the country and have become prominent scholars in the field of Chicana Studies.

Each entry contains the fellowship year, fellow name, dissertation title, current position, and current institution or employer. Not all entries are complete. As a living archive project, we welcome additional contributions.

Please email Amber Rose González, arg@umail.ucsb.edu

Several of these dissertations were published and became instrumental texts.

1981-1982

■ JUANA MORA, PH.D.

Mexican American Student Background Characteristics and School Achievement

1982-1983

■ GLORIA ROMERO, PH.D.

The Social-Psychological Impact of Unemployment Due to a Plant Shutdown on Anglo and Minority Workers. Former California Senator and Current State Director of Democrats for Education Reform

1983-1984

■ MARIA REYES, PH.D.

Comprehension Of Expository Texts: A Study of Third and Fourth Grade Spanish/English Readers

1984-1985

■ CAMILLE GUERIN-GONZALES, PH.D.

Cycles of Immigration and Repatriation: Mexican Farm Workers in California Industrial Agriculture, 1900-1940. Professor, History University of Wisconsin-Madison

1985-1986

■ MERCEDES LYNN DE URIARTE, PH.D.

Crossed Wires: United States Newspaper Constructions Of Outside 'Others.' The Case of Latinos Associate Professor, School of Journalism University of Texas, Austin

■ ROBERTA FERNANDEZ, PH.D.

1986-1987

■ ROSA-LINDA FREGOSO, PH.D.

The Information Society Model in Spain: The Confluence of Cultural and Economic Forces Professor, Latin American and Latino Studies University of California, Santa Cruz

■ ELIZABETH SALAS, PH.D.

Soldaderas in the Mexican Military: Myth and History Associate Professor, American Ethnic Studies University of Washington

1987-1988

■ OLGA NÁJERA-RAMÍREZ, PH.D.

Ideology and Social Process in La Fiesta De Los Tastoanes Professor, Anthropology University of California, Santa Cruz

■ ELISA LINDA FACIO, PH.D.

Constraints, Resources, and Self-Definition: A Case Study of Chicano Older Women Associate Professor, Ethnic Studies University of Colorado Boulder

1988-1989

■ ALVINA QUINTANA, PH.D.

Chicana Discourse: Negotiation and Mediations Associate Professor, Women and Gender Studies University of Delaware

■ INDRA ROCHA-SINGH, PH.D.

Doctoral Students' Perceptions of Stress and Social Support: Implications for the Retention of Targeted Students of Color

(Dissertation... on next page)

1978-1979

■ MARGUERITE MARIN, PH.D.

Protest in an Urban Barrio: A Study of the Chicano Movement Associate Professor, Sociology Gonzaga University

1979-1980

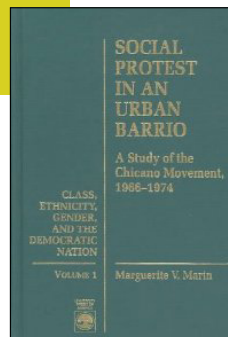
■ CHRISTINE SIERRA, PH.D.

The Political Transformation of a Minority Organization: The Council of La Raza, 1965-1980 Professor and Director, Southwest Hispanic Research Institute (SHRI) University of New Mexico

1980-1981

■ PAT ZAVELLA, PH.D.

Women, Work and Family in the Chicano Community: Cannery Workers of the Santa Clara Valley Professor, Latin American and Latino Studies University of California, Santa Cruz



(Dissertation... from previous page)

1989-1990

■ **MARIA SOLDATENKO, PH.D.**

The Everyday Lives of Latina Garment Workers in Los Angeles

Associate Professor, Chicana/o Latina/o Studies, Pitzer College
Chair, Intercollegiate Department of Chicana/o Latina/o Studies, Claremont Colleges

■ **ANA CASTILLO**

Worked on *Massacre of the Dreamers: Essays on Xicanisma*
Writer

1990-1991

■ **JACQUELINE M. MARTINEZ, PH.D.**

Feminist Communication Theory: A Semiotic Phenomenological Explication of Feminist Academic Theorizing

Associate Professor, School of Letters and Sciences
Arizona State University

■ **YOLANDA DE LA CRUZ, PH.D.**

The Process of Implementing Family Math In Non-Mainstream Families In South Africa

Professor of Mathematics Education
Arizona State University

1991-1992

■ **IRENE LEDESMA, PH.D.**

Unlikely Strikers: Mexican-American Women in Strike Activity in Texas, 1919-1974

■ **MERRI-HELEN PONCE, PH.D.**



1992-1993

■ **ANNA SANDOVAL, PH.D.**

■ **ALICIA GASPAR DE ALBA, PH.D.**

Mi Casa [No] Es Su Casa: The Cultural Politics of the 'Chicano Art: Resistance and Affirmation Exhibition, 1965-1985

Professor and Chair, Chicana/o Studies
University of California, Los Angeles

1993-1994

■ **S. TERRI GOMEZ, PH.D.**

Contemporary Chicana Feminist Discourse: Negotiating The Boundaries, Borders And 'Brujos' Among And Between Critical Counter Discourses

Assistant Professor and Chair, Ethnic and Women's Studies Department
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

■ **DIANE YBARRA**

1994-1995

■ **DIONNE ESPINOZA, PH.D.**

Pedagogies of Nationalism and Gender: Cultural Resistance in Selected Representational Practices of Chicana/o Movement Activists, 1967-1972

Professor Chicano Studies, Liberal Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies
California State University, Los Angeles

■ **LORENA OROPEZA, PH.D.**

La Batalla Esta Aqui!: Chicanos Oppose The War In Vietnam

Associate Professor, Department of History
University of California, Davis



1995-1996

■ **GRACIELA HERNANDEZ**

■ **SUSANA GALLARDO, PH.D.**

1996-1997

■ **CLAUDIA HUIZA**

1997-1998

■ **AMELIA MARIA DE LA LUZ MONTES, PH.D.**

'Es Necesario Mirar Bien': Letter Making, Fiction Writing, and American Nationhood in the Nineteenth Century

Associate Professor, English and Ethnic Studies
Director of The Institute for Ethnic Studies
University of Nebraska-Lincoln

■ **CATRIONA RUEDA ESQUIBEL, PH.D.**

Reading Chicana Lesbians: Ambivalence, Erotics, and Authenticity

Associate Professor Race and Resistance Studies, College of Ethnic Studies
San Francisco State University

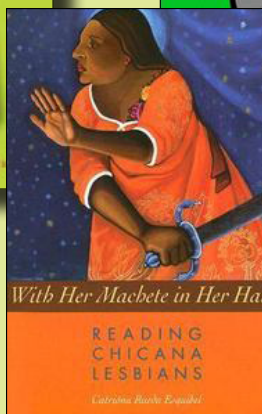
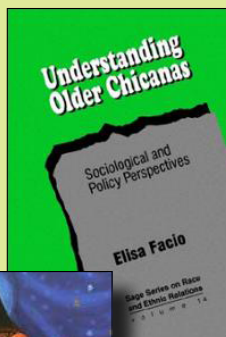
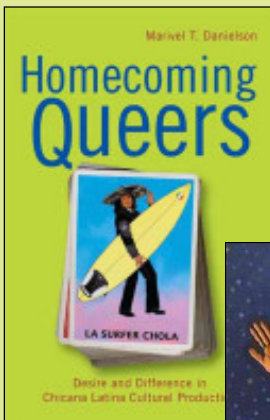
1998-1999

■ **MARIE "KETA" MIRANDA, PH.D.**

Subversive Geographies: From Representations of Girls in Gangs to Self-Presentation as Civil Subjects

Associate Professor, Mexican American Studies
University of Texas, San Antonio

(Continued on next page)



(Dissertation... from previous page)

1998-1999

■ ELIZABETH FLORES, PH.D.

Chicana Testimonio and Autobiography: Memory, Representation, and Identity in Lucas, Ruiz, Moraga, and Anzaldúa

1999-2000

■ JUDITH HUACUJA-PEARSON, PH.D.

California Chicana Collectives and The Development of a Liberatory Artistic Praxis in America

Associate Professor and Chair,
Visual Arts
University of Dayton

■ FATIMA MUJICINOVIC, PH.D.

Latina Literature: Differential and Politicized Hybrid Identities

Professor, English
Westminster College (Salt Lake City, UT)

2000-2001

■ MARY ROJAS, PH.D.

■ SANDRA K. SOTO, PH.D.

Sexing Aztlán: Subjectivity, Desire, and The Challenge of Racialized Sexuality in Chicana/o Literature

Associate Professor, Department of
Gender and Women's Studies
University of Arizona

2001-2002

■ MARIVEL DANIELSON, PH.D.

Our Art is Our Weapon: Identity and Representation in Queer United States Latina Creativity

Assistant Professor, Transborder
Chicana/o and Latina/o Studies
Arizona State University

■ ELIDA BAUTISTA, PH.D.

The Impact of Context, Phenotype, and Other Identifiers on Latina/o Adolescent Ethnic Identity and Acculturation

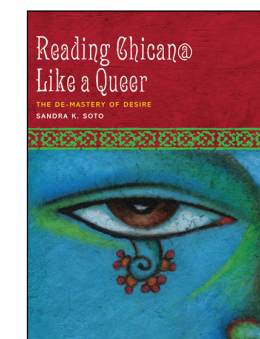
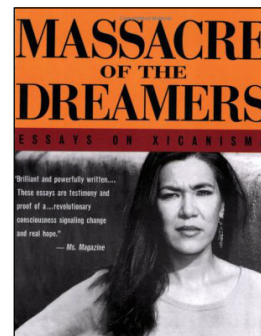
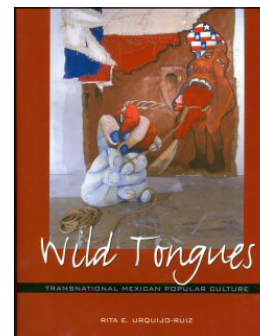
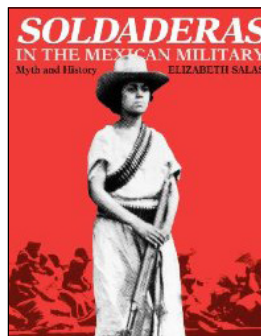
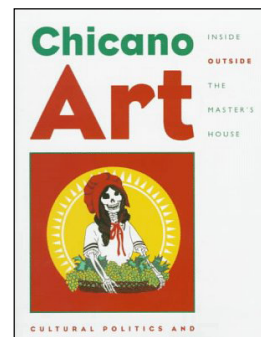
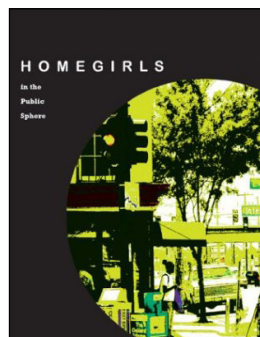
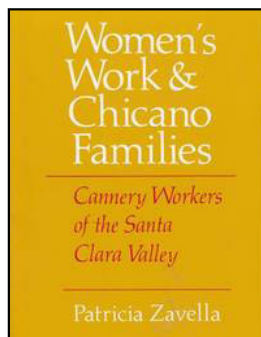
Assistant Clinical Professor,
Department of Psychiatry
University of California, San Francisco

2002-2003

■ PALOMA MARTÍNEZ-CRUZ, PH.D.

Interpreting The (Me)Xican Wise Woman: Convivial And Representation

Assistant Professor, Spanish Language
& Literature and Latino Studies
North Central College



■ RITA E. URQUIJO-RUIZ, PH.D.

Las figuras de la peladita/el peladito y la pachuca/el pachuco en la producción cultural chicana y mexicana de 1920 a 1990 // The Figures of the Peladita/Peladito and the Pachuca/Pachuco in Mexican and Chicana/Chicano Cultural Production from 1920 to 1990

Associate Professor, Spanish
Trinity University (San Antonio, TX)

■ ANTONIA GARCÍA, PH.D.

Cucurrucucu Palomas: The Estilo Bravio of Lucha Reyes and the Creation of Feminist Consciousness Via the Cancion Ranchera

2003-2004

■ JENNIFER R. NÁJERA, PH.D.

Troublemakers, Religiosos, or Radicals? Everyday Acts of Racial Integration in a South Texas Community

Assistant Professor, Ethnic Studies
University of California, Riverside

■ AMANDA NOLACEA HARRIS, PH.D.

From The Movement to The Post-Movement: Rethinking Anti-Hegemonic Discourses in Chicana Feminist Thought

Professor, Modern Languages
Ohio University

2004-2005

■ MARICELA TERESA DEMIRJYN, PH.D.

Surviving The System: Narratives of Chicana/Latina Undergraduates

Assistant Professor, Ethnic Studies
Colorado State University

■ MICHELLE TÉLLEZ, PH.D.

Globalizing Resistance: Maclovio Rojas, A Mexican Community en Lucha

Assistant Professor, Women's Studies
Arizona State University. ☿

Featured Chicana Scholar

Alicia Gaspar de Alba



CHICANA DISSERTATION FELLOW 1992-1993 &
FORMER CHAIR OF CHICANA/O STUDIES AT UCLA

community of queer Latinas/os, but not academia. She moved to Boston and found a full-time job as a braille transcriber at National Braille Press, and also taught English Composition and ESL courses at UMASS Boston part-time.

Alicia Gaspar de Alba is a native of the El Paso/Juárez border. She attended Loretto Academy Elementary School, Eastwood High School, and la UTEP.

In 1985, she moved to Iowa City to begin her doctorate in American Studies, where she enjoyed the snow and her

In 1990 she moved to Albuquerque, New Mexico, to finish her Ph.D. in American Studies at UNM, and since 1992, she has been living in Los Angeles. In 1994, a few months after filing her dissertation, she landed a tenure-track job teaching Chicana/o Studies at UCLA.

"I was so happy to have gotten that dissertation fellowship at UCSB. It's what brought me to southern California and to the rest of my academic life at UCLA."

She makes her home in Westchester with her wife, digital artist and muralist Alma Lopez, and their two kitties: Rubi Tuesday and Luna Azul. ☿

This biographical sketch is from her website <http://aliciagaspardealba.net/>

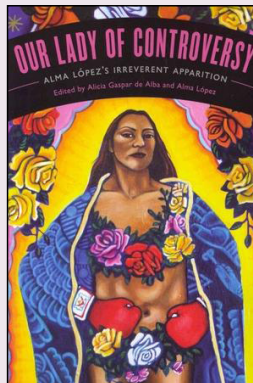
The legacy of the Chicana Dissertation Fellowship

What a Lady...

BY AMBER ROSE GONZÁLEZ

OUR LADY OF CONTROVERSY: ALMA LÓPEZ'S "IRREVERENT APPARITION."
Edited by Alicia Gaspar de Alba and Alma López. Austin: University of Texas Press, 2011. 344 pages. Hardcover \$55.00, paperback \$27.95.

Alicia Gaspar de Alba and Alma López have gathered an impressive and spirited collection of twelve essays in *Our Lady of Controversy: Alma López's "Irreverent Apparition,"* part of the Chicana Matters series edited by Deena J. González and Antonia Castañeda. The essays consider the controversy that ensued in reaction to López's *Our Lady*, a digital print that features a reconfigured image of La Virgen de Guadalupe. [...] This anthology is especially timely



given the recent ban and subsequent confiscation of Mexican American studies artwork, posters, and books in the Tucson Unified School District in Arizona. The ban, stemming from Arizona's HB 2281, is a sharp reminder that all art, literature, films, and other forms of creative (and analytical) expression that challenge dominant ideologies are potentially at risk of banishment from K-12 curriculum, and quite possibly beyond. The collection provides critical insights into approaches to controversy, censorship, and cultural politics, all of which Chicana artists and writers are likely to continue to encounter in the years to come. ☿

For the full version of this book review see *Aztlán* 37.2 (Fall 2012): 227-30.

Cristina Serna, doctoral candidate of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UCSB, authored chapter 8, "It's Not about the Virgins in My Life, It's about the Life in My Virgins."



Felicidades

En buena hora to our neighboring UCLA César E. Chávez Chicana/o Studies for their inaugural cohort of graduate students.

In solidarity!

congratulations

CELEBRATING OUR UNDERGRADUATES

BY SARA V. HINOJOS

Undergraduate Profile: Radio Xicana

Radio Xicana airs on KCSB 91.9 FM on Sunday from 12:00am-2:00am. For more information please visit <http://www.kcsb.org/> and follow Radio Xicana on Facebook for latest updates <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Radio-Xicana/298404750278025>

Cristina Cruz Navarro (Black and Chican@ Studies Double Major), Vanessa Fernández (Film and Media Studies Major), and Virginia Ramirez (Black and Chican@ Studies Double Major), explain the significance of Radio Xicana for UCSB.

Radio Xicana, a community and college two-hour show, rotates its three radio hosts every two years. Former hosts Cecilia Contreras, Jemely Dorado, both graduates of the class of 2012, and Vanessa Fernández recently passed the mic to Cristina Cruz Navarro, Vanessa Fernández, and Virginia Ramirez. The weekly program dedicates their music play to tunes seldom heard over mainstream airwaves. Radio Xicana prioritizes musical requests from callers and postings through their Facebook page. Vanessa's personal taste ranges from hip hop, classic rock, punk and cumbias; Virginia prefers Rock en Español and



(L-R) VANESSA FERNÁNDEZ, VIRGINIA RAMÍREZ AND CRISTINA CRUZ NAVARRO.



throwback 80s hits; and Cristina's heart belongs to Musica Regional Mejicana. "We are not trying to define what Chican@ music is," said Virginia. "Chican@ music is everything because we listen to everything." Vanessa sees Radio Xicana as "an expression of our borderland identities" through its eclectic musical selections and generous political commentary. Cristina stressed that the program makes "our [Chicana] presence known during these two hours." Radio Xicana makes acoustic claims of space on campus, in the surround-

ing community of Goleta and Santa Barbara to Los Angeles County and even across the border in Mexico and Chile. Their transborder listeners are family members, recent graduates and current students studying abroad. As a student-run endeavor, Radio Xicana requires that these women work against a 10-week quarter school system, full class schedules, as well as college and family responsibilities. ☘



Radio Xicana and Mujeres Unidas por Justicia, Educación y Revolución (M.u.j.e.r.) are two of 18 committees under the umbrella organization El Congreso. Members of M.u.j.e.r. have long staffed their co-committee Radio Xicana. Described as "a womyn's support group and political action organi-

zation that provides support and advocacy for Chicana/Latina womyn and promotes cultural and gender awareness on campus and in the community," M.u.j.e.r.'s slogan "YOU DON'T JOIN M.U.J.E.R., YOU ARE M.U.J.E.R." encapsulates their dedication to community and creative expression. ☘

(Gerardo Aldana... from page 2)

people today—ancient Mayans “warts and all.” It’s surprisingly difficult to get there, though, since so much of what we think we know is tied to some historical agenda: Colonialism, the European Enlightenment, Modernity. But to find some crack, some fissure through all of that and to appreciate ancient Mesoamericans for their “everyday people”-ness. Yeah, I’d say that’s pretty challenging, but hugely rewarding.

“I didn’t know anything about Mesoamerica back then, but I liked the shirts.”

Q: As a Chicano undergraduate at Berkeley, did you ever wear the “Aztec sun” symbol on a t-shirt?

A: Yup. I was most active in HES (Hispanic Engineers and Scientists), and I have to say, we had some pretty impressive artists who would combine Mesoamerican art with images from modern science and technology. I didn’t know anything about Mesoamerica back then, but I liked the shirts. Actually I’m reminded of them here annually by the UCSB Science and Technology Day designs. I guess some things just have to happen.

Q: Rumor has it you’re an avid surfer. But are you any good?

A: Well, I don’t know how “good” I am, but every time I’m paddling back in after a session, I can’t wait until the next time I can get out again. Even if it’s months between surfs, which sadly does happen now. It’s really just the experience of it that’s so compelling.

Q. What’s your standard fare for breakfast?

A: Nothing standard about it. In my opinion, three kids pushes you over the edge. I guess some parents respond by becoming super-organized or something... me, I’m swimming along in (barely) controlled chaos.

☞

Origins of the Maya Calendar



Our colleague Gerardo Aldana, Professor of Chicana/o Studies and Anthropology, spoke recently at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). In his public lecture he shared popular misgivings about the Mayan calendar. His research explores the origins of the Maya Long Count Calendar as an astronomically inspired tool used politically and culturally for the establishment and stability of early Preclassic communities. ☞

(Hurtado... from cover page)

the support from the Department, many times, determined the rest of their academic careers. The fellowship and their time at UCSB gave them the sanctuary necessary to gestate the ideas for their intellectual projects. The books produced by these extraordinary and gifted women are small miracles that few would have predicted and that now have become foundational to the discipline of Chicana and Chicano Studies.

The second event occurred during the colloquium that took place on January 23, 2013, dedicated to the memory of Don Luis Leal. As I relate in the article included in this issue and written in commemoration of Don Luis Leal’s passing, the Department had salvaged 15 boxes of books from Don Luis’ vast library. As part of the commemoration, we decided we set up an “altar” in the Dolores Huerta room using Don Luis’ books. After the event, we announced to all those present that they were welcome to take as many of Don Luis’ books as they wished. Everyone rushed to the “altar” and politely picked up different volumes, read the table of contents, held them close to their faces and inhaled the smell of aging paper. Conversations ensued between those present about different fields of study—language, history, film, literature—and a spontaneous tertulia erupted with the sharing of ideas, passions, and desire for the creation of new knowledges. Everyone began to share books with each other “Mira, Profesora Casillas, don’t

you do research on language, here is a book on translating.” Everyone was transported to another world—a world where knowledge matters, where knowledge is relational and social, that in the vastness of Don Luis’ reading, everyone finds a little gem to take home. Everyone walked out with piles of books and luminescent eyes as if they had escaped the present and entered a future where they will create using the knowledge they carry in the armful of books. And somewhere yet not understood by us, Don Luis smiles and knows that we are fulfilling his dream of not knowing how Chicana and Chicano Studies will develop but that it will ☞.

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UCSB Chican@ Studies Graduate Student Presentation List NACCS 2013:

"Advancing from Sea to Shining ¡Sí!: Learning from our Past, Defending our Rights in the 21st Century"

**San Antonio, Texas
March 21 - 25**



FRIDAY, MARCH 22ND

Panel: Latina/o Perspectives on Treating Medical Bias with Accountability and Healing Alternatives

- **Barragán Miranda, Janett.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "An Overview of Latina Health in the United States from 2001-2011."

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

Panel: Documenting Our Histories: Story Telling as a Tool of Resistance

- **Ramírez, Marla A.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Family Story Telling: Recounting the History of Early 20th Century "Mexican Repatriations" through Oral History."

- **Calvo, William A.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "El Chupacabras: NAFTA as a Monster of Late Capitalism."

- **Alvarez, Eddy F.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Oral History and Storytelling: QueerStories of Love, Desire and Migration in Queer Brown Los Angeles."

Chair: Casillas, Dolores Inés. University of California, Santa Barbara.

Panel: Soy lo que soy: Human Rights Justice ≠ Legal Document

- **Barahona-López, Gustavo.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Mexican and Excluded: 9/11, Immigration Enforcement, and the Politics of the Imagined U.S. Citizenry."

Panel: Regionalisms: The Affects of Geographical Spaces and Cultures on Self Constructs

- **Hurtado, Aida.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Geographies of the Soul: Regionalities and Identifications in the Borderlands."

- **Calvo, William.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Border Terror: The Devil as a System of Harm and Vulnerability along the border."

- **Lopez Lyman, Jessica.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Beyond 'Minnesota Nice': Chican@/Latina@ Social Identities and Poetry Spaces in the Twin Cities."

Discussant: Sinha, Mrinal. California State University Monterey Bay.

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

Panel: SWAPAS: Community Storytelling as Curriculum

- **Simone, Adrianna.** University of California, Santa Barbara.

- **Bermudez, Rosie.** University of California, Santa Barbara.

- **Toriche, Gloria.** University of California, Santa Barbara.

- **Garcia, Magda.** University of California, Santa Barbara. ☘

Panel: Gender, Race, Religion, and Youth Impacts on Latin@ Political Empowerment

- **Fuentes Jr., Francisco.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "The New Evangelicals and the Mexican-American Community: The Rise of the Latino Religious Right?"

SATURDAY, MARCH 23RD

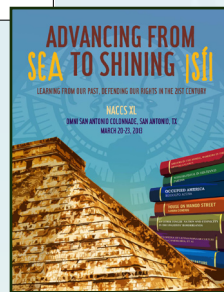
Panel: Found in "Translation": Research on race and the politics of language"

- **Hinojos, Sara Veronica.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Can joo believ it?": Reading "accents" in La Coacha's video parody of Nicki Minaj."

- **Ferrada, Juan Sebastian.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "Queerness en Español: Queer Chicana/o and Latina/o Youth Language Politics."

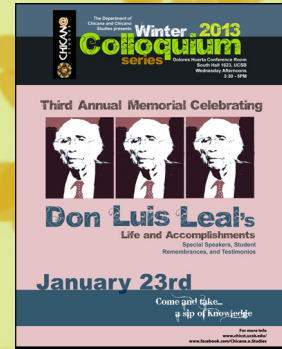
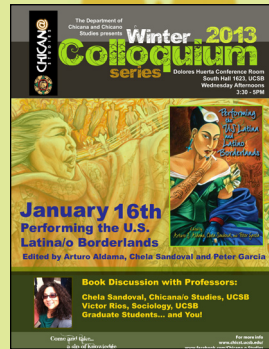
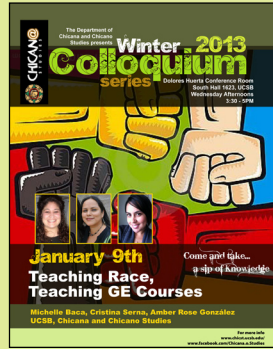
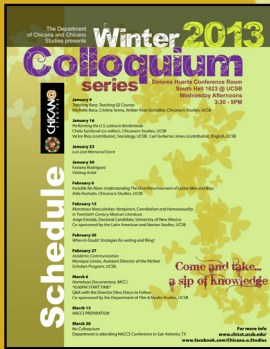
- **Casillas, Dolores Inés.** University of California, Santa Barbara. "The Marketing of "Opportunity": Rosetta Stone, Inglés Sin Barreras and the Politics of Language."

Chair: Vargas, Deborah R. University of California, Riverside.



“come and take a sip of knowledge.”

Our presentations from this Winter 2013:



The Chicana and Chicano Studies department hosts a weekly colloquium series inviting students, faculty, staff, and community members to “come and take a sip of knowledge.” To date the department has held over 77 presentations providing an intellectual space to share research, participate in fruitful discussions, and foster community.

forthcoming Colloquium [Spring Schedule]

APRIL 3RD
MIGRATION MARKS: THE TIME AND WAITING FOR MIGRATION OF MEXICAN TEENAGE GIRLS
LILIA SOTO, AMERICAN STUDIES & CHICANO STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

APRIL 10TH
SPACES OF CONFLICT, SOUNDS OF SOLIDARITY MUSIC, RACE, AND SPATIAL ENTITLEMENT IN LOS ANGELES
GAYE T. JOHNSON, BLACK STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA

APRIL 17TH
THE POLITICS OF PASSION: ACTIVISTS TAKE TO THE STREETS IN MEXICO
DIANA TAYLOR, PERFORMANCE STUDIES AND SPANISH, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

APRIL 24TH
REVISITING “JEANS FOR JUSTICE”: WORKSHOP ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

MAY 1ST
DISSONANT DIVAS IN CHICANA MUSIC: THE LIMITS OF LA ONDA
DEBORAH VARGAS, ETHNIC STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA RIVERSIDE

MAY 8TH
LOVE AND EMPIRES: CYBERMARRIAGE AND CITIZENSHIP ACROSS THE AMERICAS
FELICITY AMAYA SCHAEFFER, FEMINIST STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA CRUZ

MAY 15TH
MUJERES DE MAIZ, URBAN INDIGENOUS FEMINISM, AND THE CULTIVATION OF SACRED SPACE IN LOS ANGELES
AMBER ROSE GONZÁLEZ, CHICANA AND CHICANO STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA

MAY 22ND
¡SANCOCHO Y ARROZ CON MANGO! PERFORMING BLACKNESS, DOMINICANIDAD AND THE U.S. AFRO-LATIN@ DILEMMA
KILEY ACOSTA, BLACK STUDIES DOCTORAL FELLOW, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SANTA BARBARA

MAY 29TH
PIG BEHIND THE BEAR *TENTATIVE
MARIA NIETO, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES, CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY

JUNE 5TH
THE IMMIGRANT CAMP: UGLY BETTY'S POLITICAL STYLE
ELIZA RODRIGUEZ Y GIBSON, DEPARTMENT OF CHICANA/O STUDIES, LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY

JUNE 12TH
PACHANGA: END OF YEAR CELEBRATION

