

Horizontes

Newsletter of the Latin American Centre

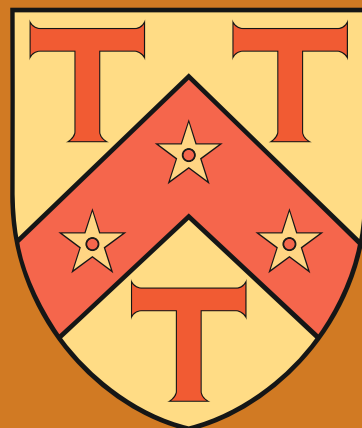
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DIRECTOR'S NOTE

This is *Horizontes*: The University of Oxford Latin American Centre (LAC)'s first newsletter.

Its arrival marks one of the Centre's many 50th anniversaries. And it gets us ready for the big one we are planning to celebrate in 2015. Since I'm a relative newcomer to the University of Oxford and the LAC, let me tell you what I've learned about these 50 year markers.

The original idea occurred in 1959, not coincidentally, the same year as the Cuban Revolution. The Astor Foundation gave £10,000 to St Antony's College for the study of Russian history and Latin American studies. But it was not yet a Centre. In 1960 – the year of the Cuban trade embargo – a "Latin American study group" was established at St Antony's College. The College accepted its first student working on Latin America that year (Juan Maiguashca-Guevara), but there was still no Centre. The next years, 1961 and 1962, the same years as the Bay of Pigs Invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, St Antony's Warden Sir William Deakin and professor of Latin American history Raymond Carr travelled to the US in search of possible funding for Latin American studies in Britain. They started a Latin

American seminar at the College but the Centre was yet to arrive.

That brings us to our current 50th anniversary. In 1963, the year that Juan Bosch was overthrown in the Dominican Republic, the Leverhulme Trust granted £16,250 for a five-year Latin American studies programme. Later that year the Ford Foundation supplemented those funds with £90,000 for the study of Latin America at St Antony's College and Chatham House. Raymond Carr moved to St Antony's to set up the Latin American Centre in two rooms of 21 Winchester Road. Alan Angell was appointed to a joint post at St Antony's and Chatham House. A Centre was created in 1963.

Despite the creation of a Centre 50 years ago, we are not celebrating our anniversary for another two years. The official creation of the UK Latin American Centres by the Parliamentary Committee on Latin American Studies, chaired by Dr J. H. Parry occurred in 1965. The other UK Centres created include Cambridge, London, Liverpool, and Glasgow. We have one of, if not the oldest, Centres in the UK. It has survived, while others created in 1965 and thereafter have disappeared.

Our hope with this first newsletter is to begin recognizing the early creation of the Centre and its survival, and to gather momentum for the 50th anniversary celebration. We are planning – together with St Antony's – an alumni weekend and gaudy for 18–20 September 2015. Please begin making your plans to be with us for talks, walks, meals, and merriment. We look forward to seeing you then.

In the meantime, let us tell you what has been going on lately at the LAC at Oxford. In this newsletter, you can read about current research projects, staff and students, as well as recent visitors, and past students and staff. For more information on alumni and staff, please see our website. The website also provides some opportunities for giving to the Centre if you are so inclined. Perhaps you can help guarantee another 50 years of Latin American studies at Oxford.

Leigh Payne

Professor of Sociology and Latin America
Fellow of St Antony's College



The Latin American Centre at 1 Church Walk
by David Robinson

PRESIDENT SANTOS OF COLOMBIA

By Carolina Reyes

The LAC is perhaps one of the most unique Oxford centres. Located far away from the street vendors and tourists of the City Centre, students and lecturers are afforded the opportunity to work closely in a secluded but welcoming atmosphere that allows them to forge academic mentorships and close relationships with one another.

It was the consequence of such a relationship that fortuitously brought President Juan Manuel Santos of Colombia to the Latin American Centre on June 6th. Radoslaw Zeleski, a LAC MSc student, first realized that President Santos would be speaking at Oxford. He immediately contacted Dr Eduardo Posada-Carbó, Director of Graduate Studies, and sparked the series of events that would bring President Santos to the LAC. A few weeks later, Zeleski's request became a reality and Margaret MacMillan, Warden of St. Antony's College and Dr Eduardo Posada-Carbó along with a small group of keen students and LAC academic staff, had the pleasure of warmly welcoming President Santos to 1 Church Walk.

After a brief introduction by the Warden and Dr Posada-Carbó, President Santos reminisced about his first visit to the United Kingdom on 18 August 1973 with Rafael 'Lord' Parga Cortés, the first Colombian to earn an Oxford degree, about his own education at the London School of Economics, before taking the opportunity to address his administration's successes.



Photo by Chris Honeywell

President Santos recognized that his agenda may have been initially too ambitious. He discussed, nonetheless, how during his administration unemployment has steadily declined for the past 34 months. Further he has initiated proactive policies to attack the many social problems that plague Colombia, including prompting controversial peace talks with the FARC guerrilla organization. In the last two years Santos claimed that his initiatives have brought 1.7 million Colombians out of poverty – and that Colombia, along with Peru, is the Latin American nation that has most successfully lowered inequality.

Although I am confident that the *Financial Times* release of a 46 page report lauding Colombia's latest successes a mere three days before the President's visit must have been a coincidence, the timing could not have been more perfect. The report reinforces what President Santos made explicit throughout his visit: Colombia is poised to begin

a new chapter in its history, distinguished by its renewed efforts to enhance the general welfare of its citizens and improve domestic security by peacefully demobilising the FARC whilst undertaking a greater role regionally and within the international political arena. This is exemplified by Colombia's direction of initiatives such as the Pacific alliance to economically integrate Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico and Peru and participation in conversations with the OECD to discuss membership.

At the conclusion of his visit, President Santos stood for photographs on the steps of the LAC with an enclave of students; his decision to agree to a visit, albeit brief, illustrates the continuation of the unique relationship and goodwill that persists between Oxford and Colombia.

Carolina Reyes is a visiting undergraduate from Tufts University studying History and Politics at Pembroke College, Oxford. She had tutorials with Eduardo Posada-Carbó and Leigh Payne during her year at Oxford.

JEREMY ADELMAN

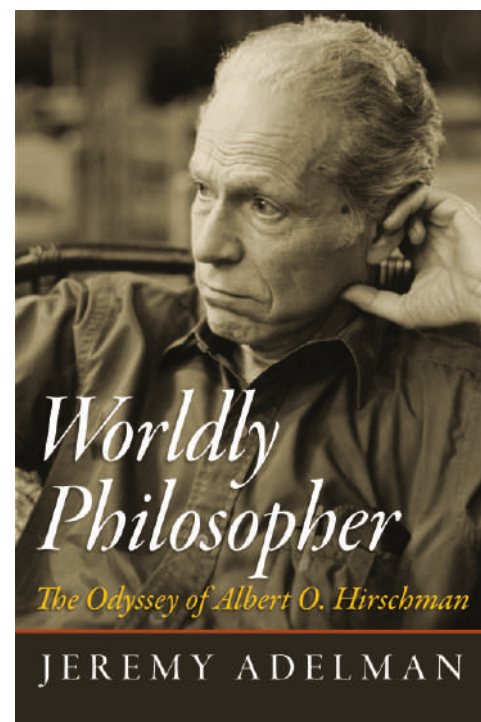
By Maria Mancilla Garcia and Patricia Espinoza

Last May the Latin American Centre had the pleasure of welcoming Prof Jeremy Adelman, an Oxford alumnus currently based at Princeton University. During his visit, Prof Adelman presented his latest book: *Worldly Philosopher: The Odyssey of Albert O. Hirschman*. He focused on the role that Hirschman played in development thinking in Latin America.

Prior to his lecture, Prof Adelman kindly took the time to meet with students from a variety of disciplines, including Development Studies, Social Policy, Sociology and Latin American Studies. The diversity of the LAC presented an opportunity to discuss with Prof Adelman the history and challenges of inter-disciplinarity.

He explained that the history of inter-disciplinarity is tightly linked to the development of area studies, as “frontiers” between geographical areas have been as much a source of debate as “frontiers” between disciplines. Prof Adelman encouraged students to contribute to such debates, as they are unique opportunities to develop collaborative research projects and networks.

The discussion on inter-disciplinarity was followed by brief presentations of the students' research projects. Prof Adelman showed very clearly how bridges across disciplines could be built by finding common, underpinning themes. Moreover, he helped students situate their research within long-term debates on Latin America, such as the role of the state, or the place of marginal populations in the definition of national



projects. Prof Adelman's visit was also an occasion to revisit how the University and the Latin American Centre, have changed in the past 50 years.

Maria Mancilla Garcia is a DPhil candidate in International Development at the University of Oxford. She works on topics related to environmental management, and focuses on the variables that determine actors' behaviour towards the environment.

Patricia Espinoza is a DPhil candidate in International Development at the University of Oxford. She works on topics related to inequality, social stratification, and emerging middle classes.



Photo by Christine Ferrara, Institute for Advanced Study

MIRIAM GOMES SARAIVA

RIO BRANCO VISITING FELLOW

By João Moro, MSc 2013.

Miriam Saraiva, a Brazilian Professor from UERJ (State University of Rio de Janeiro), was appointed the first Rio Branco Chair in International Relations allowing her to spend Hilary Term in Oxford (January – April 2013). During her time in Oxford she conducted research on “Strategies and Partnerships for Brazil in a Changing Global Order: the Place of the European Union”.

The Rio Branco Chair also sponsored a roundtable discussion on “Brazil with Dilma Rousseff and Venezuela without Chávez: A New Regional Balance?” This roundtable brought specialists to the LAC to discuss this theme with Prof Saraiva, specifically **Dr Matias Spektor** (Associate Professor at the Getúlio Vargas Foundation, Rio de Janeiro; current Rio Branco Chair in International Relations at King’s College London), **Dr Andrés Malamud** (research fellow at the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Lisbon), and **Dr Leslie E. Wehner** (research fellow at German Institute of Global and Area Studies, GIGA).

This interview with Prof Saraiva explores her research and how it led to her becoming the Rio Branco Chair.

Please tell us about your academic background.

I always studied Brazilian foreign policy. Firstly with my masters, a study of Brazil's connection with European countries as an alternative at that time to the connection to the US. Then with



my DPhil in Spain, I studied Contemporary Latin America, focusing mostly on international relations. My research was about European foreign policy and the interregional relations with Latin America. After the DPhil I continued to work on Brazilian foreign policy and integration issues at UERJ. And then, I went to Florence for a postdoctoral fellowship at the European Institute, and focused my research on European foreign policy towards Mercosur. Finally, around 2009 people started asking me questions about how Brazilian policy dealt with the EU. I addressed this matter in a chapter in a book, an event in Brazilia, and in other fora. You might ask, “Why study Europe and Brazil?” Europe and Brazil have similar ideas in terms of principles, but they do not necessarily reflect common foreign policies, and this caught my attention. So, in about 2011, some professors (one I had met in the European Institute) currently here in Oxford, invited me to write about the topic for a journal and a book. They wanted to understand the European Union view from outside. That was when I started to research the views towards the EU among Brazilian policy-makers. I then

realized that the EU was not a central actor within Brazilian foreign policy, especially if you consider that policy as a whole. That caught my attention again. And this brings us to the opportunity to apply for the Rio Branco chair. It was advertised as “Brazilian Foreign Policy”. I could not let the moment pass because these opportunities are rare. So I applied and I was selected in the end. Regarding relations between Brazil and Europe, there are still many areas to discuss and explore. There are important similarities in the two entities, but sometimes Brazilian values are not adequately reflected in Brazilian foreign policy. The EU does not fully understand that. Democracy, human rights, and other similar western values are projected onto Brazil from a regional perspective. Actually Brazilian diplomacy strongly believes in the sovereignty of states, more than “western values”. For these reasons, both relations, Brazil-EU and EU-Brazil are very interesting.

How does the Rio Branco Chair work?

The chair is a way for the Brazilian researcher to interact with other researchers. Being here allows the researcher to attend many events, as well as organize events, just like the roundtable at the beginning of Trinity Term. It is very relevant for Brazilian diplomacy to have researchers present in the best universities of the world, mainly to help them understand how research is conducted abroad and also to learn about European understandings of Brazil.

THE LAC-CAF DEVELOPMENT BANK AGREEMENT

By Dr Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, Lecturer in Economics of Latin America



In May 2011 the LAC and CAF-Development Bank of Latin America signed a memorandum of understanding to promote research and teaching on Latin America in Europe. Shortly thereafter CAF approved the first collaborative agreement to hold conferences in Oxford and Peru, provide two MSc scholarships for Latin American students at the LAC, and create a “Cátedra CAF” for a prominent economist to spend three months during Michaelmas term at the LAC-St Antony's College.

The launching conference of the new partnership on 17 February 2012 was a resounding success. The conference provided a platform for leaders in banking, public policy, business and academia to examine the impact of the global financial crisis on the region. Keynote speakers included **Enrique García**, CAF President and CEO, and **Angus Lapsley**, British Director for the Americas at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. **João Carlos Ferraz**, from BNDES, the Brazilian Development Bank, and **Martín Torrijos**, the former President of Panama, also contributed to the panel discussions. Our second conference in Lima was jointly organized with the Universidad del Pacífico and focused on inequality and social policy.

In October we received our first CAF Prof **Jorge Katz**, from the University of Chile. Prof Katz actively contributed to the life of the LAC. He met and worked with students and faculty, made an excellent presentation on innovation and development in Latin America at the LAC seminar series, actively participated in the seminar presentations by others as well as other LAC special events, and provided advice on the LAC ongoing research project on inequality. In 2012-13 the first CAF Scholarship was awarded to MSc student **Diego Scardone**, who successfully completed the course in July. In October we will receive two more students, **María del Pilar Pinto de la Sota Diaz** from Peru and **Héctor Méndez Huerta** from Mexico, who will complete their studies during the 2013-2014 academic year.

The agreement with CAF has made a unique contribution to promote our teaching and research in political economy. In upcoming months we will receive a new fellow, **Mario Tello** from the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú and we will organize two new conferences. Our agreement has become the first of its kind; CAF has used it as a model for its partnership with several other European universities.

JORGE KATZ, 2012 CAF FELLOW

As a result of a CAF-LAC visiting fellowship awarded to me under the sponsorship of Prof Diego Sánchez-Ancochea in mid-2012 I had the immense pleasure of spending the 2012 Michaelmas Term in Oxford as an academic visitor to the Latin American Centre and St Antony's College.

Close to five decades ago I left Oxford as a young DPhil graduate, after being a student both at Balliol and Nuffield Colleges, for two years in each case. Since then I only returned sporadically to town in short academic visits, for seminars and lectures, but I did not have the experience of spending a longer time among students and faculty. This time things were different as I had the opportunity of attending weekly seminars at LAC which I found of high quality and intellectually refreshing and also because I could integrate further into college life, interacting with students in a way I did not have the chance to do on previous occasions.

It is nice to say that Oxford maintains a magic of its own which captures you as soon as you relax and let yourself be involved in the numerous lectures, theatrical performances, music sessions and more, that the University – and St Antony's College in this case – offer almost on a daily basis.

LAC has a very lively research atmosphere in which very many nationalities and intellectual interests are represented in a remarkable way. CAF financial assistance and support permitted me adequately to engage in academic life at LAC establishing a most fruitful dialogue with college faculty and students. I am immensely thankful for the opportunity CAF-LAC and St Antony's College have offered me to return to Oxford under the referred circumstances.



Inaugural lecture of the CAF-Oxford Visiting Fellowship in Latin American Economics, 23rd October 2012. Pictured left to right: Germán Ríos (CAF Director of Strategic Affairs), Jorge Katz (inaugural CAF-Oxford Fellow), Diego Scardone (MSc student at LAC, CAF scholarship holder), and Guillermo Fernández de Soto (CAF Representative in Europe).

FILM SERIES/SPECIAL EVENTS

FILM SERIES: LEGENDARY FIGURES OF LATIN AMERICA.

The LAC runs a Latin American Film Series every academic year. The following films were presented in 2012-13 under the theme of "Myths and Mythic Figures of Latin America".

Il Postino (Pablo Neruda)

The Death of Pinochet

Ché (Ernesto Guevara)

Frida

The Other Mexico (Sub-comandante Marcos)

Lula, Son of Brazil (Lula da Silva)

South of the Border (Fidel and Raúl Castro, Hugo Chávez, Rafael Correa, Cristina and Nestor Kirchner, Fernando Lugo, Evo Morales)

LAC CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS 2012-13

In addition to the weekly seminar series, the LAC also sponsors and co-sponsors conferences and workshops during the year.

"Drugs, Organized Crime, and State Responses: New Comparative Perspectives," 23 November 2011

"The Political Economy of Social Inclusion in Latin America," 2nd CAF-Oxford Conference, Universidad del Pacífico, Lima, 10 December 2012



María Elvira Ryan, for over 25 years, has cheerfully and ably managed the events at the Latin American Centre as well as many other aspects of LAC life. Hailing from Colombia, Elvira arrived in Oxford to study English as a foreign language for one year only. She shares her office at 1 Church Street with her guide dog Tex.

Rio Branco Launch Event with Dr Miriam Saraiva, Prof Andrew Hurrell, Prof Olivier Dabène, and Dr Leticia Pinheiro, 22 January 2013

"Democratic Brazil Ascendant," Oxford & Kings College, 21-22 February 2013

"Latin America Masterclass for BP," 23 April 2013

A conversation with Judge Juan Guzmán Tapia with a film ("The Judge and the General") and a lecture ("The Chilean Dictatorship and the Judiciary"), 18-19 July 2013, organized by Phyllis Ferguson with co-sponsorship from Oxford Transitional Justice Research.



Judge Juan Guzmán



DR LESSA & PROF SIKKINK IN DEBATE

BOOK LAUNCH

By Maria Angelica DeGaetano
MPhil 2014

The Oxford launch of LAC Post-Doctoral Researcher Dr Francesca Lessa's latest book, *Memory and Transitional Justice in Argentina and Uruguay: Against Impunity* (Palgrave Macmillan 2013), was standing room only on the evening of May 17th. Filled with students, professors, scholars, and members of the public, the event began with an introduction by Prof Leigh Payne, Director of the LAC. This was followed by a presentation by Dr Lessa and remarks by Prof Kathryn Sikkink, University of Minnesota, before the launch ended with a Q&A session and a reception.



Dr Lessa introduced the book, developed from her PhD thesis, by framing it around the life stories of Macarena Gelman and Simón Riquelo. She selected these stories as illustrations of the human rights violations perpetrated by the dictatorships in Argentina and Uruguay in the 1970s and 1980s. They also reflect the broader struggles for justice and against impunity in the aftermath of transition to democracy. Francesca recounted to the audience how Macarena and Simón were kidnapped in

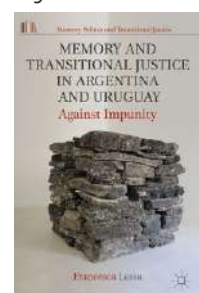
1976 as babies and grew up in another reality, with a different nationality. She began by saying, "Simón should be Uruguayan, but he never lived in Uruguay, he did not even know that was his parents' land until he turned 26. Macarena should be Argentine, but she always lived in Montevideo, where at the age of 23 she learnt that she was the granddaughter of a famous poet." This is the tale of so many children's fate. It is among the tragic human rights violations perpetrated during the era of state terrorism. The struggle against impunity and silence, towards justice and truth, are depicted through these narratives.

The book makes two important contributions. First, as Prof Sikkink highlighted, it brings "together the literature on memory and transitional justice that, as Francesca correctly notes, have often been treated separately." The book captures the degree to which memory is conflictual and diverse, focusing on the concept of "memory narratives," used to refer to the diverse ways in which people remember and make sense of a traumatic past. The book describes a limited number of memory narratives in conflict with one another, with some becoming more or less hegemonic over time in Argentina and Uruguay. Second, the book constructs a theoretical framework around the idea of "critical junctures". This is the term Dr Lessa uses to describe "moments of change or transition". She applies it to Argentina and Uruguay to explain "the emergence and later evolution of Transitional Justice

(TJ) policies and memory narratives. Critical junctures do not necessarily generate new TJ mechanisms or memory narratives but rather help account for why they evolve and change across time."

The research that went into this book and Dr Lessa's other work, as Prof Payne pointed out in the introduction, has also been important in bringing attention to the persistence of Uruguay's amnesty law, the Ley de Caducidad.

Prof Sikkink told the audience that "This will be the definitive work and fundamental go-to text on transitional justice in Argentina and Uruguay." "Everyone should have a copy on their personal bookshelf and use it in the classroom as well, even for people who know these cases well. "If your memory fails you about what happened, you can always turn to this book," the discussant asserted. Prof Sikkink also challenged Dr Lessa on a few issues, questioning her particularly on the possibility of an additional memory narrative emerging from the 1989 referendum on the Ley de Caducidad being unique to the Uruguayan context. Prof Sikkink also probed how this framework may work or apply to other Latin American countries with similar experiences, a potential avenue for future research by Dr Lessa or others.



SEMINAR SERIES 2012-13

Prof Annick Lempérière

University of Paris I Pantheon-Sorbonne
'La modernización del estado en América Latina a partir de 1850'

Prof Jorge Katz

University of Chile and Visiting Research Associate at the LAC
'Alternative theories on development economics: a view from Latin America'

Prof Victor Bulmer-Thomas

Institute of the Americas, University College London
'The development gap between Latin America and the US: when and why did it arise?'

Prof Magna Inácio

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
'Coalition government and institutional development of the presidency in Brazil, 1995-2010'

Dr Jean-Paul Faguet

London School of Economics and Political Science
'Decentralization and popular democracy: governance from below in Bolivia'

Prof Margarita del Carmen Zárate Vidal

Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana,
'Resistances in motion: an overview of social protest in Mexico'

Dr Luciano Ciravegna

Royal Holloway University of London
'Promoting Silicon Valleys in Latin America'

Prof Steve Topik

University of California, Irvine
'Coffee's commodification: from the spice trade to European colonialism to Latin American export crop'

Prof Joe Foweraker

'Democracy and its discontents in Latin America'

Dr Gabriel Paquette

Johns Hopkins University
'Was Brazil's independence from Portugal inevitable? A new interpretation of the history of the Luso-Atlantic world, 1770-1850'

Dr João Roberto Martins Filho

Universidade Federal de São Carlos
'The military in twenty-first century Brazil'



Alumnus Dr Andrew Crawley has provided funds to award prizes for outstanding MPhil and MSc dissertations. Photo by Anneke Jessen.

Prof Olivier Dabène

Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris
'Explaining Latin America's fourth wave of regionalism'

Prof José Manuel Puente

IESA, Caracas
'The political economy of the Venezuelan elections of 2012'

Dr Manuel Antonio Garretón

Universidad de Chile
'Social mobilization in Latin America: theories and trends (with special reference to the Chilean student movement)'

Dr Thom Rath

UCL
'Soldiers in the streets: Mexico's debate on militarization and democratization in historical perspective'

Dr Ben Smith

Warwick University
'The rise and fall of narco-populism: Politics, radicalism, and drugs in Sinaloa, 1940-1980'

Prof José C. Moya

Barnard College
'Defining the Americas in a global perspective'

Prof Kathryn Sikkink

University of Minnesota
'Norm protagonism from the global south: Latin American contributions to international human rights'

Prof Jeremy I. Adelman

Princeton University
'Albert Hirschman and Latin America'

Dr Caterina Pizzigoni

Columbia University
'The life within: local indigenous society in Mexico's Toluca Valley, 1650-1800'

Dr Pablo Sanguinetti

Chief Economist at CAF-Development Bank of Latin America
'Public spending, taxes and economic development in Latin America'



Prof Kathryn Sikkink



María Cristina Bayón and Gonozalo Saraví enjoy the end of year party.

VISITING RESEARCH ASSOCIATES 2012-13

María Cristina Bayón

Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
'Poverty, inequality and place in Mexico City'

Julimar da Silva Bichara

Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
'Development strategies in emerging economies'

Magna Inácio

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais
'Coalition government and institutional development of the presidency in Brazil, 1995-2010'

Jorge Katz

Universidad de Chile
'Alternative theories on development economics: a view from Latin America'

João Roberto Martins Filho

Universidade Federal de São Carlos
'The military in twenty-first century Brazil'

Warwick Murray

Victoria University of Wellington, NZ
'Geographies of globalisation: Latin America in the early 21st century'

Tricia Olsen

University of Denver
'The business of human rights: Patterns and remedies in corporate abuses and alternative accountabilities for past human rights abuses'

Leticia Pinheiro

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro
'Diplomacy and health in constructing the idea(l) of horizontal cooperation for development'

Miriam Gomes Saraiva,

Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro
'Estratégias e parcerias do Brasil em uma ordem global em transformação: o lugar da União Europeia'

Gonzalo Saraví,

Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social
'Youth and social cohesion in Mexico'

Margarita del Carmen Zárate Vidal,

Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana,
'Resistances in motion: an overview of social protest in Mexico'

ROSEMARY THORP

EMERITUS FELLOW

Rosemary Thorp was Reader in the Economics of Latin America and is an Emeritus Fellow of St Antony's College. She was for three periods Director of the Latin American Centre. During 2003-04 she was Director of Queen Elizabeth House, the University's Department of International Development. In December 2001 she became for five years the Chair of Trustees of Oxfam G.B. Her *Progress, Poverty and Exclusion: an Economic History of Latin America in the Twentieth Century* written at the invitation of the Inter-American Development Bank, is a much-used text book.

Interview by Amelia Josephson, MPhil 2013

To begin, could you reflect a bit about the changes or evolution that you see in the field of Latin American Studies?

When I began there really wasn't a field of Latin American Studies in Britain. That was 1962. I don't think people at Oxford were thinking about the concept of Latin American Studies. There were a few people working on Latin America, but not in a coordinated way. So, when I went to Berkeley in 1967, I was

very keen to go precisely because in the States they already had Latin American Studies programmes and I knew that there I could learn what a Latin American Studies programme was meant to be.

And when I came back from Berkeley in 1970, the Latin America Centre at Oxford was established and functioning, and there were courses on Latin America, the MPhil was already in existence – huge progress. The big breakthrough was the 1965 Parry Report, and the creation of named posts in Latin American Studies. I applied for one of those and got it. And I carefully kept it ever afterwards until I had to retire! I think that was the beginning of the whole thing, the creation of those seven named posts. There was suddenly a group of us, all with a vocation to develop Latin American Studies.

And how did you become interested in Latin America?

Simply because my research director at the Institute of Economics and Statistics told me that this was the bandwagon upon which I must jump. He said that Latin American Studies was the new up-and-coming field, and he was spot-on right.



Do you think that Latin American Studies is still on the ascent?

Well, of course, as you realize, in the UK it has gone down recently, with budget cuts and the emphasis going back to Africa and Asia. So, we've suffered, and the universities haven't escaped that at all. But I think that the impact of China on Latin America is huge and complex, and is going to have many important consequences for the world. And internationally the topic of Latin American Studies is coming back. Brazil is a major international player. I just hope the topic can be made equally important in the British academic scene.

How did you become interested in inequality? Were you interested in it from the beginning of your work on Latin America?

"The big breakthrough was the 1965 Parry Report, and the creation of named posts in Latin American Studies. I applied for one of those and got it. And I carefully kept it ever afterwards until I had to retire!"

ROSEMARY THORP

EMERITUS FELLOW

My early work was trying to understand macroeconomic management, and then I got drawn into economic history. My first big piece of work was an economic history of Peru, and in that, the issue of inequality is very important (by the way, I'm thrilled to be going to Peru in April for the launch of a second edition!). But I didn't really get to work on income distribution more specifically until much later. Really it was being chair of Oxfam that made me more determined to focus on issues of inequality and injustice. Working with Oxfam was very important

how to interpret properly the recent apparent improvement in income distribution in much of Latin America. It's a bit contrary to common sense and observation, particularly in Peru. We first want to evaluate what is really going on with these statistics.

And then secondly, if it's real, how sustainable is the apparent improvement in inequality? There is a lot of euphoria about it, and we worry because our perspective on income distribution focuses very much on the long-term, deep

The other huge challenge is the historical embedding- the informal institutions like customs and race discrimination, regional prejudices, and other things that shape how policies get designed and put into practice - and the political embedding. Vested interest groups have constructed a lot of protections for themselves, and are very good at undermining progressive policies.

So, is the aim of the project partly to make governments more accountable, and say that they can't just rest on what appear to be very

"But I didn't really get to work on income distribution more specifically until much later. Really it was being chair of Oxfam that made me more determined to focus on issues of inequality and injustice."

for me; it brought together the human and the academic sides of my life very strongly. I could apply academic knowledge to the practical development side. I never worked in detailed micro things in the early years doing research, so it was incredibly satisfying to start working with Oxfam and do real, human things.

Can you talk about your present project?

It's lovely retiring because you get time to write! I'm really working between the two topics of income inequality and extractives at the moment, and the relationship between them. Diego Sánchez-Ancochea asked me if I would collaborate with him, which I was very pleased to do. We are really concerned with

embedding of inequality and the way the interaction of political, social and economic inequalities makes the embedding very difficult to change.

What has been tending to happen in Latin America in the last twenty years is that the key leading sectors have become more and more centred on extractives and big utilities, and extractives in particular are very bad at feeding through to the rest of the economy.

Our number one worry, since extractives and China and all the rest are not going to disappear, is that the production structure is going in a direction which makes it ever more difficult to move towards greater equity.

positive statistical improvements to income distribution?

Yes, exactly.

Coming back to the beginning and named appointments, are you concerned about the freeze on the appointment of a new Chair in Latin American History?

Yes, extremely concerned. As I think I've made clear in what we've talked about, I think history is fundamental to good interdisciplinary work - it would be a terrible weakening of Latin American Studies not to have a first-rate Professor of Latin American History at Oxford.

An Emeritus Fellow of St Antony's, Alan Angell arrived at the Latin American Centre in 1966 and became a Fellow of St Antony's in 1970. He retired in 2006. Mr Angell recently discussed his career, his research, and past and present developments in the field of Latin American studies.

*Interview by Kate Shattuck,
MPhil 2013*

What compelled you to study Latin America?

I was appointed to a lectureship at the University of Keele at a young age without having a clear research agenda. My head of department had contacts with UNESCO and suggested that I might like to go to Colombia for a year to teach in an institute of public administration. I had little idea of where Colombia was, but I had not been there long before I decided that I wanted to work further on Latin America. Not long afterwards, an appointment to a research post jointly in St Antony's and the Royal Institute of International Affairs allowed me to choose my own research and I decided to focus on Chile – a decision I have never regretted.

How did you become interested in Chile?

The late 1960s were a time of ideological ferment on the Left in many countries, and the fragmented Chilean Left was engaged in a seemingly perpetual debate on how to construct a socialist society. But there were also counter-ideologies in play

from the Christian Democrats and from the Right. The labour movement was a key actor in these events. As I had a long-standing interest in the trade union movement, it seemed a natural subject for my research. I went to Chile for the first time in 1967, and developed interests and friendships that have remained to this day. My only long period of absence from Chile was for about eight years after the coup, when I was denounced in the right wing paper *El Mercurio* as a fellow-travelling communist. My two young sons were most impressed and proudly informed the neighbours that I was a communist!

Can you describe the experience of doing research on the Chilean labour movement during the political and social tumult of the 1960s?

It was completely absorbing. I developed a profound admiration for the union leaders I came to know. I was sceptical of the ideas of some of the politicians of the Left, and thought that their aspirations were not likely to succeed given the divisions of Chilean society. Debate on the Left seemed to me to be too



abstract and lacking in empirical studies of Chilean society – only two Chilean academics as far as I knew had conducted serious research on the union movement. I was invited to lecture at a university in Chile in mid-1973. Two months before the coup, I received a telegram telling me to cancel my visit. Then came the overthrow of Allende.

For the next few years I transferred my interests to Peru. I returned to Chile when the process of liberalisation was underway in the early 1980s.

Early in the Pinochet dictatorship, you founded a programme called Academics for Chile. What were its aims and successes?

It is difficult now to remember how intense the support for

"My only long period of absence from Chile was for about eight years after the coup, when I was denounced in the right wing paper El Mercurio as a fellow-travelling communist. My two young sons were most impressed and proudly informed the neighbours that I was a communist!"

Chile was all over the world after 1973. Almost immediately those of us working on Latin America in the UK met to found an academic solidarity movement, and I was the main organizer. I was overwhelmed by pleas for help coming from Chile and went for support to World University Service. Eventually we brought over a thousand Chilean academics and their families to the UK, at the cost of several million pounds – mostly given to us by the Labour government. I worked closely with many Chileans who became prominent in the democratic years –

Chile has meant a great deal to me personally and professionally over the years so I was delighted to receive the honour.

You arrived at the Latin American Centre in 1966. Can you recall some of the highlights of the LAC's history during your career?

It is important to remember that academic life was very different in those days. They were times of expansion, not contraction. There was real interest in Latin America, and several centres in the UK were established at the same

It is difficult not to feel rather pessimistic. It is sad to see excellent students producing first-class research and then finding that there are no jobs. It is depressing to see governments with little interest in Latin America, relating the utility of research to its contribution to British economic development. But there are positive developments as well. The study of Latin America features more than before in mainstream departments. Brazil now occupies a more prominent role in the LAC than it did in the past, and that is a very positive

"It is important to remember that academic life was very different in those days. They were times of expansion, not contraction. There was real interest in Latin America, and several centres in the UK were established at the same time."

notably Ricardo Lagos, later President – but my academic counterpart in Chile was Manuel Antonio Garretón who, along with many others, ran grave personal risks. For the Chileans who came to the UK, it was on the whole a successful experience, and many, on return, became prominent in academic and political life. The experience of exile here and in other countries helped, I think, to make many Chileans on the Left more flexible and pragmatic in their ideas – and hence willing to make alliances with their old enemies, the Christian Democrats.

In 2008 the Chilean government made you a Gran Oficial of the Order of Bernardo O'Higgins. What did this mean to you?

time. There was ample money for research, no Health and Safety Executive and a real sense of adventure and innovation. I was also very fortunate to work with people I admired, liked and respected. I owe a lot to Malcolm Deas, who helped me develop my ideas, as well as to Rosemary Thorp, with whom I collaborated on several projects. I think we, and later on Alan Knight, complemented each other very well. And there was a constant stream of visitors from Latin America that helped to make the LAC an internationally respected centre.

How do you foresee the field of Latin American studies evolving in future years?

development. My generation faced a continent with many countries experiencing the breakdown of democracy and prolonged military rule. Now, by contrast, many Latin American countries have been notably successful in creating stable democracies and producing successful economies. So in some senses the question has changed from what went wrong, to explaining why progress has been made in these areas. Maybe Latin America has something to teach the struggling economies and political systems of Europe?



ONGOING RESEARCH

The Latin American Centre academic staff is engaged in a number of research initiatives that could be categorized under the broad rubric of improving the quality of life for Latin Americans. Here is a short summary below.

Business and Human Rights: the development of a database of alleged violations of human rights by businesses to establish the pattern of human rights abuses, the causes and consequences of those patterns, and whether the UN Guiding Principles, the financial or reputational cost of abuses, or other factors have had an impact on reducing these violations. The pilot project on Latin America is underway and funded by the John Fell Fund, British Academy & Leverhume, and University of Denver Daniels School of Business. One of the research assistants on the project is LAC student Luisa Murphy (MSc 2013). Collaboration with the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights and the University of Denver. PI: Leigh Payne

Coalitional Presidentialism Project: Most Latin American presidents cohabit with fragmented multiparty legislatures, creating potential problems for governability in the region. The first objective of the 3-year CPP project is to identify the tools used by Latin American presidents to cultivate support coalitions in their respective assemblies. Focusing on Brazil, Chile and Ecuador, the CPP examines five governing tools typically available to Latin American presidents: agenda powers, budgetary prerogatives, cabinet appointments, intra-party leadership and informal institutions of persuasion. A second objective of the project is to assess the impact of these governing tools on policy outcomes and horizontal accountability. The CPP therefore asks whether empowering presidents to manage fragmented legislatures creates a democratic deficit in the region. The project is funded by the Economic and Social Research Council. Collaboration with the African Studies and Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre at the University of Oxford. PI: Timothy Power

Elections and the Origins of Democracy: How did electoral institutions and practices impinge on processes of democratization in the Americas during the nineteenth century? This question has guided several research initiatives undertaken by Eduardo Posada-Carbó. In collaboration with Professor J. Samuel Valenzuela one project, supported by the Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame, focuses on the early history of elections to challenge prevailing theories about the origins of democracy in the Americas. An edited volume with some of the results of this project will be published soon by Cambridge University Press. Another project, in collaboration with Professor Andrew Robertson, looks at key contentious elections during the nineteenth-century to study how the various countries of the Americas responded to electoral conflicts. A third project is a study of the comparative history of elections and democracy in Colombia, 1830–1930, which has also received the support of the Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame. PI: Eduardo Posada-Carbó

The History of Congress in Colombia: For the last two centuries, since the beginnings of the republic, Congress has been a central actor in Colombian politics. Yet its long history has been largely neglected by modern scholarship. This project aims to encourage academic interest on the subject, by bringing together historians and social scientists to examine various aspects of the history of Congress and its wider significance on the politics, economics and society in Colombia. This ongoing initiative is supported by the Centro de Historia of the Universidad Externado in Colombia, and is being planned in collaboration with the Escuela de Gobierno at the Universidad de los Andes in Colombia. PI: Eduardo Posada-Carbó

The Impact of Transitional Justice: The analysis of a wide range of mechanisms for dealing with past human rights violations around the world to determine their success in reducing human rights abuses, strengthening democracy, and sustaining peace. Funded most recently by the National Science Foundation (US) and the Arts & Humanities Research Council (UK) Collaboration with the University of Minnesota (Kathryn Sikkink). Presentations to government agencies (Brazilian Ministry of Justice & planning committee for the Truth Commission, Korean Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Colombian Supreme Court, Colombian Special Prosecutors on the Justice and Peace Law, Colombian Congressional Committee on Peace), international governmental organizations (Inter-American Commission on Human Rights), international non-governmental

ONGOING RESEARCH

organizations (International Centre for Transitional Justice, Amnesty International). PI: Leigh Payne

Income Inequality: This research explores the extent to which recent reductions in inequality in Latin America are sustainable over time through comparative historical case studies of Brazil, Chile, Peru and Uruguay. The project explicitly explores recent changes in economic structures and political coalitions and links both. Funding from and collaboration with CAF-Development Bank of Latin America, Banco Santander, and John Fell OUP Research Fund. PI: Diego Sánchez-Ancochea and Rosemary Thorp

The International Coordination of Public Policy: How do governments address issues that require the coordination both within and also between societies? This research agenda seeks to provide insights into such questions with projects that probe the behaviour of the executive and legislature when cooperating with other countries. Two larger and a series of smaller research projects are underway. The first, larger, project is a case study on Mercosur. It takes a rigorous look at how its member governments take decisions and incorporate them into domestic law in the light of institutions that preempt free-riding, but offer incentives for the inflationary adoption of policies. A second project turns to micro-foundations of human conduct. Relying on psychology and behavioural economics, it seeks to account for the creation, change and influence of institutions in the light of bounded, rational actors. Two smaller projects – one on presidents' ideological shifts in reaction to international creditors and another one on the preference for cooperation in international parliaments – complement the two broader endeavors. PI: Christian Arnold

Justice and Memory beyond Borders: This project focuses on Plan Condor, the secret transnational network of intelligence and counterinsurgency operations set up in the 1970s by the dictatorships of Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Brazil, to target political opponents who had sought refuge in neighbouring countries. The project contributes to the existing scholarship by incorporating the often overlooked regional element of the political repression in addition to what was taking place inside individual countries. Repression in fact spilled over domestic borders and amounted to a regional project of persecution of political opponents, effectively establishing a borderless area of terror in the 1970s and 1980s in South America. The focal point of the project is the new Plan Condor trial that began in Buenos Aires in March 2013 and is expected to last two years. The project is funded by the OUP John Fell Research Fund and the research assistant on the project is Pierre-Louis Le Goff, a LAC alumnus (MSc 2011). PI: Francesca Lessa

Universal Social Policy in Developing Countries: This project explores the political and economic determinants behind the adoption of universal social policies in developing countries. Based on a historical exploration of the Costa Rican successful experience, the project elaborates an explanatory model that is then tested in other successful cases, including Mauritius and the state of Kerala in India. Funding from the University of Costa Rica and the British Academy. PI: Juliana Martínez Franzoni (University of Costa Rica) and Diego Sánchez-Ancochea



Dr Diego Sánchez Ancochea



Dr Timothy Power



Librarians Sam Truman, Frank Egerton and Rebeca Otazua

Library: The Latin American Centre's library has come a long way since it was no more than a shelf of books in the early 1970s. Under the guidance of Fellow-Librarian Malcolm Deas and librarians Ruth Hodges and Laura Salinas, it grew to some 12,000 volumes. Over the last few years, since becoming one of the Bodleian Libraries, it has continued to develop. On the eve of the Centre's 50th anniversary, the library houses over 15,000 volumes, some 20 journals and a wealth of boxed research material (currently being added to the University's catalogue for the first time). The library is well placed to play a full part in the next chapter of the Centre's story. We now also have access to e-resources, including e-journals, the *Hispanic American Periodicals Index*, e-books and the Latin American Studies Oxford Bibliography. The library has automated circulation, wi-fi and a networked printer, copier and scanner, as well as its own website (recently upgraded) and online guides. It is staffed by the librarian and subject consultant and two library assistants, Rebeca Otazua and Sam Truman. We look forward to welcoming you. Frank Egerton, Librarian. For further information about the library, see;

website - <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/lac>

browse new books on LibraryThing- <http://www.librarything.com/catalog/LACLibraryOxfordUni>

or follow us on Facebook - search for Bodleian Latin American Centre Library.

DAVIS TARWATER (MSc 2010)

ALUMNI PROFILE

Excerpt from "20 Question Tuesday: Davis Tarwater" by Bob Schaller (reprinted from *USA Swimming*, January 17, 2012)

I know it was academic related rather than athletic, but isn't it nice, the irony that you went to Great Britain to study at Oxford, and now you are working to get back to London as an athlete?

The opportunity to go back to the UK as an Olympian would be an absolute dream come true, and in fact that was one of the reasons I wanted to come back. It's wasn't the only reason, but it was a compounded factor. To see the friends I have there, and be able to go back as an Oxford Blue -- essentially a varsity letter winner -- would be a cool thing.

What was it like to be with all those great thinkers at Oxford?

To be surrounded by so many people who are doing so many incredible things, with this amazing drive and ambition to change the world, completely changed my view of what I thought I could do, and what I hope to do. Just broadening those horizons has reshaped my vision on the sport as well.

How so?

I used to be in the sport for Davis Tarwater. Going to Oxford and seeing the selflessness and ambition of the students transitioned me to being in the sport as a mechanism to do good. I hope that I can carry that out in the last five months of my career.

"I used to be in the sport for Davis Tarwater. Going to Oxford and seeing the selflessness and ambition of the students transitioned me to being in the sport as a mechanism to do good."



*Davis Tarwater, Olympic Gold Medallist 2012 and Dr Eduardo Posada-Carbó.
Photo by Rob Judges*

Even though you went to a great university (Michigan) with great diversity, you must have seen that on a much greater scale studying at arguably the world's greatest international university, right?

It's amazing because when you are at an American school, even the best ones, your world is pretty small in terms of what you are exposed to. Even though my college (at Oxford, students live in individual "colleges") only had 250 people in it, more than 60 countries were represented. That's unbelievable, to be able to see how different people approach the pursuit of intellectualism, how they approach thinking, even how they structure arguments, for example, when you are working on a project with them. It was so illuminating, and such a gift.

So no regrets on taking a break from swimming to study in the UK?

It probably doesn't get much better than Oxford was for me. It was the best year of my life, and I think I got everything out of it that I possibly could have. I would encourage anyone who has a chance to live overseas for a little while, or go to school and study abroad, to take advantage of that, because it is so eye opening and cool.

MATATEA CHANGUY (MSc 2011)

ROBERT MALENGREAU (MPHIL 2013)

ALUMNI PROFILES



Matatea Changuy

Chile-California Council

After graduation, I moved to Silicon Valley, CA where I started to work for a **governmental nonprofit dedicated to promoting more sustainable and inclusive development in Chile** by learning from and collaborating with California. My work centres on fostering innovative development projects in the fields of education, innovation and technology, and the environment, using the Chile-California partnership framework. Since I started, I have been exposed to a wide range of initiatives, ranging from the creation of new legal partnerships between Chilean and Californian universities to the introduction of a national marine education program and the creation of a short documentary on internship opportunities for Chileans with Google. Working on the sustainable growth of the nonprofit itself has been very enriching, as well. I had the opportunity to redefine our mission statement, vision and strategy for 2013, and I am currently working on a draft for a new organizational structure and internal governance policy.



Robert Malengreau

Founder of UMRio

UMRio is a **non-profit organization which aims – through rugby and education – to promote development, peace and solidarity in and around Rio de Janeiro's favela communities**. In 2008, the Rio state government began to explore a public security programme to better integrate favelas within the broader city. While efforts to redress many of the city's social problems are dependent on unity and social cohesion, UMRio notes that fragmentation and division are similarly incompatible with the notion of success in a sport like rugby. Team building is at the heart of a successful rugby team, and it is through this understanding that UMRio aims to develop unity amongst children from different social backgrounds. Working in collaboration with the Oxford University Rugby Club, UMRio uses the 'Oxford factor' to stimulate sufficient interest from members of both elite and favela communities and UMRio aims to enhance the self-esteem of those living in the favela and notions of citizenship and inclusion in Rio's future generations.

For more information:
robert.c.malengreau@gmail.com

DPhil SEMINARS

Introducing the LAC's DPhil seminar by Sofia Donoso

Addressing an interest expressed by DPhil students in various departments at the University of Oxford, the LAC announced at its welcoming reception in early Michaelmas Term last year, a DPhil seminar to begin during the 2012–2013 academic year. The aim of this seminar is to provide a space for DPhils working on issues related to Latin America to present their research, and engage with the masters students, visiting fellows and faculty of the LAC. The seminar is also a great opportunity for DPhil students to present their work while preparing their transfer, confirmation, and viva materials. To date, Oxford-based researchers from the departments of Anthropology, Sociology, International Development, Law, and Politics and International Relations have engaged in the seminar, either by presenting or commenting on papers.

The seminar has met once each term during 2012–2013 pairing DPhil student presentations with comments from professors and fellow students. The evenings ended with a visit to a nearby pub.

The LAC DPhil seminar has provided an excellent opportunity for Oxford-based students to present and engage with each others' work. We are looking forward to seeing you all for the 2013–14 series. If you would like to present, please drop a line to Dr Christian Arnold (christian.arnold@lac.ox.ac.uk).

2012–13 PRESENTERS

Sofia Donoso

Development Studies, St Antony's College, presented her dissertation research on the 2006 Pingüino movement, composed of secondary school students who protested against Chile's highly segregated education system. Discussed by Prof Jorge Katz (LAC visitor) and Anthropology DPhil student Laura Koubenec.

Honor Brabazon

Politics and International Relations, examined the challenges facing anti-neoliberal social movements under centre-left government politics focusing on the case of the Landless Peasants' Movement in Bolivia. Discussed by Dr Chris Arnold (LAC) and Sociology DPhil student Anja Krausova.

Annette Idler

Development Studies, shared her analysis of violent non-state actors such as guerrilla, paramilitary, drug trafficking and common criminal groups in the Colombian-Ecuadorian and Colombian-Venezuelan borderlands. Discussed by Prof Leticia Pinheiro (LAC visitor) and Politics DPhil student Julián López.

Cintia Külzer

Development Studies, introduced us to her research on social networks and the relocation of the footwear Sinos Valley cluster in Brazil. Discussed by Dr Bin Hao (Development) and Development DPhil student Carmen Contreras.

Ivan Zambrana

Development Studies, looked at environmental governance in the Andes

with particular focus on the Ecuadorian 'Rights of Nature' and the Bolivian 'Rights of Mother Earth'. Discussed by Dr David Preston (LAC affiliate) and Development DPhil student María Mancilla-García.

Gabriel Pereira

Politics and International Relations, presented on different forms of judicial involvement in politics in the case of Argentina. Discussed by Prof Stephen Meili (St Anthony & Law visitor) and Politics DPhil student Julián López.

Patricia Espinoza

Development Studies, presented her research on consumption patterns, lifestyles and the (re)construction of social identities in the new Bolivian middle class. Dr Indrajit Roy and Dr Maria Cristina Bayón (LAC visitor) provided feedback.

Juan Castro

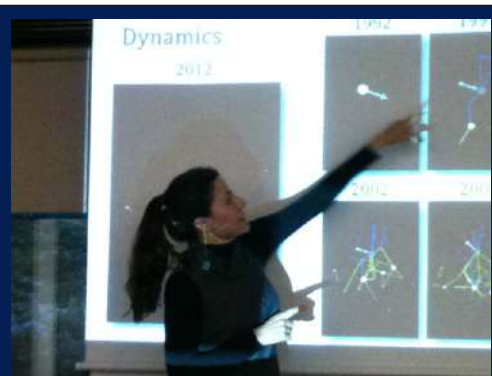
Development Studies, outlined his transfer paper on home and school contributions to cognitive skill formation and the effect of early stimulation interventions on parental time use, a research project focusing on Peru. Juan received comments from both Patrick Alexander (Education) and Kate Orkin who is conducting DPhil research on a similar topic.

Anna Krausova

Sociology, discussed the conflicting rights paradigms in regional resistance to Bolivia's multicultural reforms. She received comments from Dr Laura Rival (Development) and Sociology DPhil student Simón Escoffier.



Gabriel Pereira



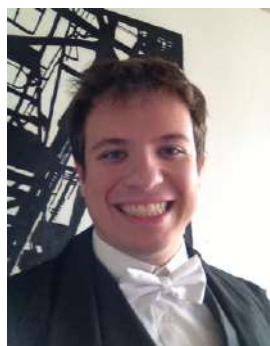
Cintia Külzer

CURRENT STUDENTS



Photo by Maria Angelica de Gaetano

MSc PUBLIC POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA (2012-2013)



**João
Moro**

My name is João Moro, I am 27 and I am from Brazil. I am currently reading for the MSc in Public Policy in Latin America. My undergraduate degrees were obtained in Law (USP) and International Relations (PUC-SP). I've worked both in public and private sectors, with public law. I plan to work in public policy positions, especially in Brazil.



**David
Poritz**

For the past ten years I have worked at the intersection of the extractive industries and Corporate Social Responsibility in Latin America. While at Oxford I completed research on the role of social and environmental conflict in changing investor risk tolerance in the oil and gas industry. I previously studied Anthropology and Latin American Studies at Brown University.



**Carlos
Romero**

I am a Mexican student and former intelligence officer. My research is on organized crime and the dynamics of violence in Mexico. In my MSc PP dissertation I propose a plan for reducing the level of violence in the short term, employing a rational choice framework. Following this project, I hope to pursue a DPhil on organized crime as a governance issue.

MSC LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (2012–2013)



**Álvaro
Cano
Roncagliolo**

I am from Peru and my research at Oxford focuses on transnational water policy and its impact on water management in mining contexts in the Andes. I graduated from UCLA (philosophy and political science) and I am a researcher on natural resources management at the Catholic University of Peru (PUCP).



**Jesús
Alejandro
Espinosa**

I have a B.A. in Economics from Tecnológico de Monterrey, Mexico. I also have broad working experience, having performed jobs in OECD, a Mexican think tank and also the Mexican Congress. I chose the LAC for its multidisciplinary perspective. I am focusing my studies on political economy and natural resources. Upon graduating I am considering conducting research in Brazil and Mexico.



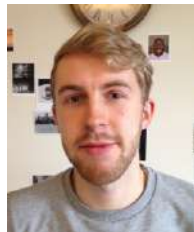
**Juan
Sebastián
Gil**

I am a Venezuelan native of Colombian, Cuban, and Costa Rican heritage, raised in Miami. I've published on the development of American and British political parties. My extended essay is on the politics of marriage in 19th century Colombia, specifically the sociopolitical conflicts in secularizing marriage. My recent academic interests include Colombian family history and political thought.



**Rowan
Hamill-
McMahon**

Having (shamefully!) never been to Latin America, my interest in the region was first piqued by its literature, which I studied as part of my BA (Modern Languages) here in Oxford. My work this year has been primarily historical, specializing in Mexico and its Revolution.



**Alex
King**

I aim to become a foreign correspondent for Latin America. I have previously lived in Argentina where I studied Latin American cinema at UBA's Facultad de Filosofía y Letras in Buenos Aires. I have also researched Shamanism in the Peruvian Amazon and am passionate about Latin American film and literature.



**Seungho
Lee**

My internship in Peru acted as a significant impetus towards my aspiration to deepen my interdisciplinary understanding about Latin America, mainly due to the vibrant, expanding, yet uncertain nature of the region. I did my undergraduate degree in economics at University of Warwick.



**Franziska
Mager**

Graduating from FU Berlin and USP, Brazil, in Political Science, at Oxford, I became interested in local macroeconomic and societal trends. My thesis investigated the 'new' Brazilian middle class and its participation in higher education – and (surprisingly) awoke my curiosity for quantitative research. I will next study Evidence-Based Intervention in Oxford.



**Luisa
Murphy**

Business human rights violations constituted the focus of my studies this year. The combination of classroom lectures and a business and human rights research project enabled me to bridge my knowledge of these two fields. I am grateful for the intellectual opportunities the LAC has offered me.



**Martin
Plowden**

My research interests lie chiefly in Cuban history and U.S.-Cuban relations, as well as the political and economic histories of Argentina, Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela. My extended essay this year looked at how Cuba has started to open up economically, socially and politically since Fidel gave up power in 2006.



**Pauline
Ravillard**

I am a Franco-Iranian student focusing on Politics, and more specifically democracy, of Latin America and on its economics since the 1970s. My main region is the Southern Cone. I am currently the youngest student of the LAC, as I started this masters straight after finishing my bachelor in Politics with Economics at the University of Bath.



**Nicolás
Robinson
Andrade**

I am an Ecuadorian student, focusing on the politics and economics of my country. At Oxford, I have done research into commercial policies between Ecuador, China, and the US. In the future, I would like to become a singer in a salsa band, or begin a career as a telenovela actor.



**Diego A.
Scardone**

My academic background is in Political Science and my main interests involve the internationalization of Brazilian capital and its impact on neighbouring countries in South America. I currently hold the CAF Scholarship at the Latin America Centre and intend to return to Brazil after my graduation to work in the government for at least one year before pursuing a masters in Public Policy.



**Marcos
Todeschini**

After working for seven years as a business journalist I decided it was time to analyse the recent changes in Brazilian society without the rush of the newsroom deadlines. I found the course to be very flexible because you can focus on the areas that best suit your research purposes. I am particularly interested in the rise of a new middle class and the implications on the quality of democracy in Brazil.



**Radoslaw
Zelewski**

I graduated from Aberystwyth University, receiving a First-class Honours Degree in BA International Politics and Spanish. At the LAC, I focus on political economy and the IR of Latin America. I serve as a Student Representative for our JCC. After completing my studies at Oxford I will aspire to fix this world.

OTHER STUDENTS

*Michael Kieber
(MPhil 2011–2013)
Joseph Sammut
(MPhil 2011–2013)
Johanna Dorenborg
(MSc 2013)*

MPhil LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (2012-2014)



**Maria Angelica
DeGaetano**

My undergraduate thesis focused on violence and justice, especially with regards to lynching as part of *justicia popular* in Guatemala. After graduating, I worked for an international legal non-profit based in San Francisco where I had worked part-time for several years. My long stay in this organization that litigates human rights cases around the world gave me the opportunity to understand international law and transitional justice mechanisms. My MPhil thesis is on transitional justice mechanisms post atrocity, specifically trials and memory in Guatemala and El Salvador. Since moving from Guatemala, I have continuously worked with immigrant communities seeking asylum both in the United States and in Italy as an interpreter and translator. The newest language I have begun to learn is Mayan K'iche'.



**Hester J.J.
Borm**

During my undergraduate degree in history at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, I increasingly became interested in Latin America, international development and public policy. Pursuing this MPhil seems like a logical next step, that allows me to research environmental policy more in detail, and prepares me for an international career with a strong research component. My current research focuses on community response to proposed hydroelectric projects in the south of Chile.



**Rafael
Gude**

In the past, I have conducted research on the rise of Neo-Pentecostal Churches in Latin America. I have written about how these emerging churches have attracted a significant number of converts because they offer an agency-based approach to salvation and success that sacralizes current neoliberal economic principles. At Oxford I have begun doing research on transnational gangs in El Salvador, specifically the Mara Salvatrucha. I am interested in how current gang members exit gangs. I will be in El Salvador this summer conducting research on this topic.



**Pablo
Kerblat**

I graduated from the University of Kent in 2012 with a degree in Politics, IR & Spanish (year abroad in Buenos Aires). After writing my undergraduate dissertation on Bolivarianism and Chávez's foreign policy, I decided to further my interest in Venezuelan politics. My thesis focuses on criminal violence and governance issues. After Oxford, I intend to work with regional or international organisations specialising in development or human rights.



**Anna
O'Kelly**

I have grown up in both Canada and the US. Conducting research in Brazil as well as with Latin American communities in the Bay Area got me interested in health in Latin America, specifically women's reproductive health. I will be conducting my MPhil project on prostitute health in Buenos Aires, and I hope to continue my work as I pursue my medical career after Oxford.



**Andrea I.
Salinas**

I graduated from Bard College with a degree in Economics and returned to my home country, Ecuador, to work for the Ministry of Economic Policy (MCPE). The experience I acquired in terms of recent regional and national economic undertakings and their corresponding obstacles allowed me to redefine my interests. I recognized the importance of pursuing a degree that intertwines the social, political and economic spheres to examine current realities in Latin America. I'm currently investigating the economic circumstances faced by Colombian refugees in Ecuador and the policies designed to alleviate their precarious conditions.



**Julia
Zulver**

I completed my first degree in Political Science at Queen's University in Canada. During this time, I spent a term at the Tecnológico de Monterrey in Cuernavaca, Mexico. Through travel around the country, I was able to immerse myself in the very environment that I was studying in class, and consequently gained a desire to focus my education on Latin America. My current research interests focus on the role of women's mobilization in areas of violent crime. I will spend this summer conducting field work in El Salvador. In my free time, I enjoy rowing and hosting various cross-cultural appreciation evenings with my housemates.

MPhil LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (2011-2013)



**Benjamin
Ahnert**

I am originally from Frankfurt (Germany). I did my BA in Liberal Arts (Politics major) at University College Maastricht (Netherlands). During my undergrad, I spent a semester abroad at PUC-Rio (Brazil), where my nine long years of high school Latin finally proved useful in my attempts to learn Portuguese. After a brief experience in policy work in Brussels with the German social securities agency, I started my MPhil at the LAC, where my research focuses on Brazil's changing political and economic relationship with China (additional investigations frequently led me to the St Antony's Late Bar). Having enjoyed my fieldwork, and after graduating in the summer of 2013, I will start an internship with Red Associates, a consultancy that employs ethnographic methods.



**Alice
Baumgartner**

I'm in my second and final year of the MPhil. I'm interested in the borderlands between Mexico and the United States during the 19th Century. Using municipal and state archives from northern Mexico, as well as the hitherto unused archives of an 1873 Mexican commission to the Rio Grande Valley, my thesis asked what became of the border after it was delineated in 1848 but before either Federal government began to enforce it. This fall, I'm starting a Ph.D. in History at Yale University, where I hope to write my dissertation on the Underground Railroad, which ran from the American South to Mexico.



**Georgia
Hill**

I completed the MPhil in Latin American Studies with a focus on Brazil. I am interested in the relationships between the state, the private sector, and civil society in poverty alleviation and reduction of socioeconomic inequality. For my thesis I explored the role of the private sector in community development initiatives, specifically researching the role of corporate social investment, also known as corporate philanthropy in Brazil. I conducted a case study of Grupo Camargo Corrêa, a large business conglomerates in Latin America, and their philanthropic foundation. Ultimately, I hope to work within the private sector to help increase its commitment to corporate social responsibility.



**Amelia
Josephson**

I became interested in Latin America during a trip to rural El Salvador in 2003. My primary research interest is the twentieth-century history of US-Latin American diplomatic relations. I majored in History and Hispanic Studies at Columbia University and spent a semester of my undergraduate years studying at FLACSO and the University of Buenos Aires. My MPhil thesis is about the international efforts to mediate between Bolivia and Paraguay during the Chaco War (1932-35). I am currently working as an editor and writer for Pulsamérica, a Latin American news link.



**Robert
Malengreau**

I came to the Latin American Centre (LAC) having studied Politics and International Relations at Undergraduate level. Prior to arriving at the LAC I spent a year living in Rio de Janeiro, where I became fascinated with the city's urban development and public security agenda (and particularly with the concurrent UPP program). While my time in Rio was key to consolidating my interest in this field, the LAC has provided me with the resources and support to broaden my understanding of the issues, and seek to contribute to the field. With the invaluable support of Professor Leigh Payne, and several colleagues at the LAC (including Diego Scardone, Joao Moro, Julia Zulver and Rafael Gude) I founded UMRio - a project that I wish to continue developing when I move permanently to Rio in June 2013.



**Jessica
Randall**

My research interests lie in the areas of gender and development and social movements in Latin America. In 2012, I spent two months in Nicaragua conducting fieldwork for my thesis, "Transformative Framework or 'Donor Fad-ism'? Analyzing the Rights-Based Approach in the Context of Gender and Development in Nicaragua", which treated the question of whether or not the rights-based approach makes a difference in the behaviours and actions of development institutions. Oxford's MPhil program has allowed me to gain a better understanding of the complexities that arise from the intersection of women's human rights and development *interventions in Latin America*.



**Kate
Shattuck**

A proud native of the Great Northwest of the United States, I became interested in the history of modern Latin America while studying Spanish and history as an undergraduate at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington. I am especially interested in twentieth-century Latin American political and intellectual history. My MPhil thesis examines the efforts of Left intellectuals in Santiago, Chile, to reconceptualize the theory and practice of socialist politics during the Pinochet dictatorship, focusing on changing understandings of democracy within the Chilean intellectual Left. I hope to go on to a career in teaching and research.



At the end-of-year LAC party several students received recognition for distinctions on their exams, dissertations, and theses.

IN RECOGNITION

We would like to acknowledge gifts and donors that have enriched the intellectual life of the Latin American Centre's students and staff over the past year. Many thanks to all of you for your support.

CAF-Latin American Development Bank Fellowships.

CAF fully funded one of our MSc students this past year (**Diego Scardone**) as well as a one-term fellowship for **Dr Jorge Katz**.

Carlos de Sola Wright Fund.

Francisco de Sola set up this fund in honour of our alumnus Carlos de Sola to support research on Central America. This year we have awarded travel funds to three first year MPhil students (**Maria Angelica DeGaetano**, **Rafael Gude**, and **Julia Zulver**) to conduct their research in El Salvador and Guatemala.

Crawley Prize. Our alumnus Andrew Crawley has provided funds to allow us to award prizes for the best MPhil thesis and MSc dissertations. This year we provided three prizes to **Kate Shattuck** and **Alice Baumgartner** (both MPhil 2013) and **Juan Gil** (MSc 2013).

Guido Di Tella Memorial

Lecture. Nelly Di Tella, widow of Guido Di Tella, has made a contribution to the Latin American Centre and St Antony's College to support an annual lecture on Latin America. Malcolm Deas will give the inaugural lecture on 25 October at 5pm at the Nissan Lecture Theatre at St Antony's College. We encourage you to attend.



Prof Foweraker's retirement lunch.

Rio Branco Fellowship. The Brazilian research council CAPES has funded one annual senior fellowship for the study of Brazilian foreign policy and international relations. The first fellowship was held this year by **Prof Miriam Saraiava** from UERJ.

Roger Brew Memorial Fund.

This fund was set up to support students at the Latin American Centre. The funds ran out this year.

Ronaldo Falconer Scholarship

to support students from Costa Rica. We were unable to provide any awards this past year.



Guido Di Tella (1931 – 2001)
Photo courtesy of La Nación newspaper



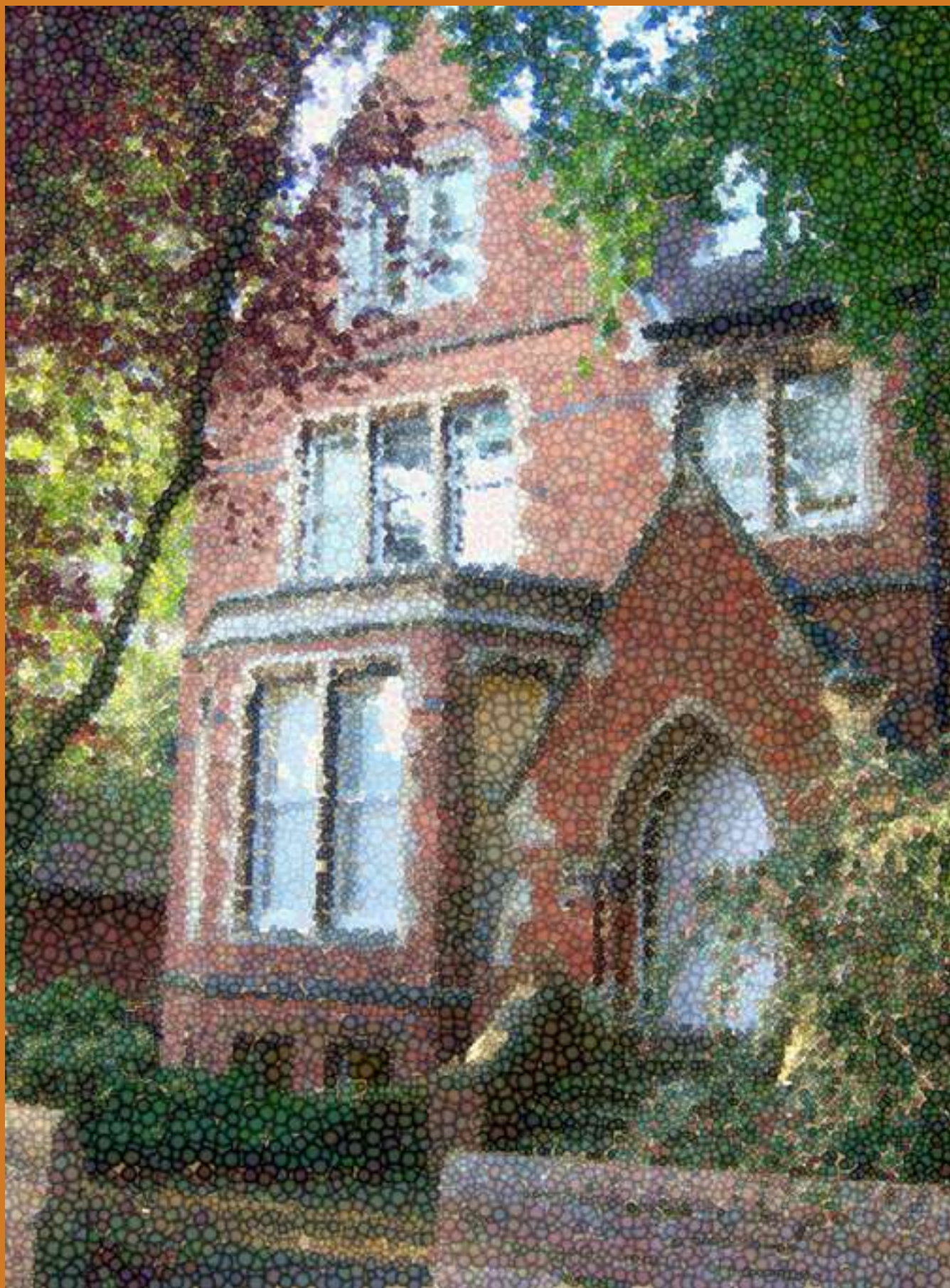
David Robinson's send off and Gilberto Estrada Harris's welcome

We would also like to recognize and thank for their service to the Centre both **Prof Joe Foweraker**, who retired from the LAC this year, and **David Robinson**, our administrator who has moved on to work for St Antony's College. We are pleased that **Gilberto Estrada Harris** has assumed the role of our new administrator and that **Dr David Doyle** will begin lecturing on the Politics and International Relations of Latin America in Michaelmas Term 2013.



Dr David Doyle

Further we would very much like to thank all of the students who contributed to the production of this newsletter, especially: **Hester Borm**, **Angelica DeGaetano**, **Georgia Hill**, **Amelia Josephson**, **João Moro**, **Jessica Randall**, and **Kate Shattuck**. Thanks also to **Dr Eduardo Posada-Carbó** and **Prof Joe Foweraker** for editorial assistance.



WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN 2015 IF NOT SOONER.



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