

Visiting Professors for 2011–2012 at LLILAS

Bringing new perspectives and regional insights to the study of Latin America is the goal of LLILAS's Visiting Professors programs. Distinguished Latin American scholars are brought to UT to teach courses or a set of classes, sharing their expertise and facilitating the exchange of ideas.

The Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Annual Visiting Professorship was established as part of the Joe R. and Teresa Lozano Long Endowment and supports visiting scholars to teach at UT for one semester. David Mauricio Solodkow was our Lozano Long Visiting Professor for spring 2012. He holds a PhD in Latin American literature from Vanderbilt University and is an Associate Professor at the Universidad de los Andes, Colombia. His areas of expertise are colonial studies with an emphasis on representation of identities, racial and ethnic classification, and ethnographic writing.

The Tinker Visiting Professor program dates back to 1973 when it was endowed by the Edward Larocque Tinker Foundation. The goal of the program has been to bring pre-eminent thinkers from Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula to provide an opportunity for U.S. scholars, students, and the general public to discover the contributions made by Latin American and Iberian scholars in a broad range of disciplines. Juan Darío Restrepo was the fall 2011 Tinker Visiting Professor. He holds a PhD from the Marine Science Program at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Restrepo has been head of the Magdalena River Science Initiative in Colombia and is Professor of Geological Sciences at Universidad EAFIT, Colombia. He has been involved as a resource scientist for the sub-programs of LOICZ-IGBP Basins, SAmBas (South American Basins), and CariBas (Caribbean Basins), and also as a member of the Scientific Steering Committees of LOICZ-IGBP and Colciencias (Colombia) in the Marine Science Program. (See related story p. 38.)

The Matías Romero Visiting Chair in Mexican Studies was created in 2003 through an educational and research cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Relations of Mexico and UT Austin to bring to UT distinguished Mexicans from the public and private sectors, as well as from academia, to foster greater understanding of Mexican culture and society. Gustavo Vega, Director

of the Center for International Studies at El Colegio de México, held the chair in spring 2012. He holds a PhD, in political science from Yale University, where he specialized in international relations, comparative politics, and international political economy. Dr. Vega is an expert in U.S.-Mexican economic relations and North American integration.

In 2010, the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies and the Fulbright Commission of Brazil signed an agreement to create a Fulbright Visiting Professorship in Environmental Sciences and Policy. It will bring an eminent Brazilian scholar to UT for one semester per academic year from 2011 through 2015 to teach a graduate course and conduct research. Edson Peters was the spring 2012 UT-Fulbright Visiting Professor in Environmental Sciences and Policy. He teaches environmental law at the undergraduate and graduate level in various universities throughout Brazil and is a prosecutor for Paraná's State Public Ministry of Justice. He received his MA in the law of public relations and his PhD in federal law from the Universidade Federal de Paraná.

LLILAS Visiting Resource Professors

The LLILAS Visiting Resource Professors (VRP) program allows for scholars to come to UT for shorter periods. Visiting Resource Professors are invited by UT Latin Americanist faculty members to lecture for one to two weeks in either undergraduate or graduate classes. The VRP program addresses three academic goals: to enhance the international community of scholars working on Latin American topics; to establish and strengthen contacts between Latin American institutions of higher learning and the University of Texas; and to allow Latin American scholars access to UT library collections and archives. For the 2011–2012 academic year, LLILAS welcomed the following Visiting Resource Professors.

FALL 2011

Ricardo Grau

Ricardo Grau is Associate Professor of Landscape Ecology and Director of the Remote Sensing Laboratory at the Universidad Nacional de Tucumán (UNT) in Argentina, and an independent researcher at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET). His research focuses on climate

change, processes of urbanization, and land use in Latin America. Dr. Grau earned his PhD in geography from the University of Colorado at Boulder, where he was also a Fulbright Scholar.

Hugo Mondragón

Hugo Mondragón is Assistant Professor of Architecture at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. Professor Mondragón's research focuses on how the national images of Chile, Colombia, and Brazil have been shaped by modern architecture. Dr. Mondragón obtained an MA in architectural history from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia and a PhD in architecture and urban studies from the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

Catalina Smulovitz

Catalina Smulovitz is Professor and Director of the Department of Political Science and International Relations at the Universidad Torcuato Di Tella in Argentina, and is also an Associate Researcher at the National Scientific and Technical Research Council (CONICET). She is a leading scholar in political science, particularly in areas of social accountability and judicial mobilization. Dr. Smulovitz earned her MA and PhD in political science from Pennsylvania State University.

SPRING 2012

Jorge Contesse Singh

Jorge Contesse Singh is Assistant Professor and Director of the Center for Human Rights at the Universidad Diego Portales (UDP) in Chile. His research focuses on human rights and indigenous issues, especially the relationship between the Mapuche and the Chilean state. Professor Singh received his LLM from Yale Law School and is also the recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship and the Presidente de la República Scholarship from the government of Chile.

Christian Spencer Espinosa

Christian Spencer Espinosa is a social historian and musicologist and recently completed a double PhD in history and music sciences from the Universidad Complutense de Madrid and the Universidad Nova de Lisboa. He is a scholar of the popular traditions of Chile and Chilean *cueca*. ☀