

Horizontes

NEWSLETTER OF THE LATIN AMERICAN CENTRE



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Two horizons enclose our lives:
Looking back at 50 years,
looking forward to 50 more



Os Dois Horizontes The Two Horizons Los Dos Horizontes

(Joaquim Maria Machado de Assis, 1839—1908)

from his collection of poetry, *Crisálidas*, 1864

Translated by Vinicius Carvalho, Bruno Garschagen, Ana Martins, John Matheson, and Timothy Power (English);
and Silvia Sánchez Estrada, Gabriela Dale Leal and John Matheson (Spanish)

Excerpts from former students'
reflections on the Latin American Centre
are found on various pages of this issue.
For the full set of reflections,
see www.lac.ox.ac.uk

Dois horizontes fecham nossa vida:

Um horizonte, — a saudade
Do que não há de voltar;
Outro horizonte, — a esperança
Dos tempos que hão de chegar;
No presente, — sempre escuro,—
Vive a alma ambiciosa
Na ilusão voluptuosa
Do passado e do futuro.

Os doces brincos da infância
Sob as asas maternas,
O vôo das andorinhas,
A onda viva e os rosais;
O gozo do amor, sonhado
Num olhar profundo e ardente,
Tal é na hora presente
O horizonte do passado.

Ou ambição de grandeza
Que no espírito calou,
Desejo de amor sincero
Que o coração não gozou;
Ou um viver calmo e puro
À alma convalescente,
Tal é na hora presente
O horizonte do futuro.

No breve correr dos dias
Sob o azul do céu, — tais são
Limites no mar da vida:
Saudade ou aspiração;
Ao nosso espírito ardente,
Na avidez do bem sonhado,
Nunca o presente é passado,
Nunca o futuro é presente.

Que cismas, homem? – Perdido
No mar das recordações,
Escuto um eco sentido
Das passadas ilusões.
Que buscas, homem? – Procuro,
Através da imensidade,
Ler a doce realidade
Das ilusões do futuro.

Dois horizontes fecham nossa vida.

Two horizons enclose our life:

One horizon — saudade
For times gone by;
Another horizon – hope
For times that are yet to come;
In the present — always dark —
Dwells the ambitious soul
In the voluptuous illusion
Of past and future.

The gentle play of childhood
Beneath maternal wings,
The swallows' flight,
The swelling tide and rose fields;
The joy of love, desired
In a profound and burning gaze,
Such in the present time
Is the horizon of the past.

Either the ambition of grandeur
Silenced in the spirit,
Or the yearning for sincere love
That the heart never enjoyed;
Or a calm and pure life
To the convalescent soul,
Such in the present time
Is the horizon of the future.

In the swift passing of days
Under the azure sky — such are
The edges of the sea of life:
Saudade or aspiration;
In the eagerness of our dreams,
To our burning spirit,
Never the present is past,
Never the future is present.

What disquiets you? – Lost
In the sea of memories,
I hear a sorrowful echo
Of illusions past.
What are you looking for? – I seek,
Throughout this vastness,
To unravel the sweet reality
Of the illusions of the future.

Two horizons enclose our life.

Dos horizontes enmarcan nuestra vida:

Un horizonte – saudade
De lo que no ha de volver
Otro horizonte-la esperanza
Por los tiempos que han de venir
En el presente-siempre oscuro
Vive el alma ambiciosa,
La ilusión voluptuosa
Del pasado y del futuro

Los juegos dulces de la infancia
Bajo las alas maternas
El vuelo de las golondrinas
La marea viva y los rosales
El placer del amor, deseado
En una mirada profunda y ardiente
Así como en el presente
Esta el horizonte del pasado

O es la ambición de grandeza
Silenciada en el espíritu
O el deseo de amor sincero
Del que el corazón nunca disfrutó.
O una vida tranquila y pura
Para el alma convalescente
Así como en el presente,
Esta el horizonte del futuro

En el veloz correr de los días
Bajo el cielo azul- así son
Los límites del mar de la vida
Saudade o aspiración
En el entusiasmo de nuestros sueños
Para nuestro espíritu ardiente
Nunca el presente es pasado
Nunca el futuro es presente

¿Que te inquieta? – Perdido
En el mar de los recuerdos,
Escucho un eco triste
De pasadas ilusiones
¿Que buscas? – Exploro
A través de la inmensidad
Descifrar la dulce realidad
De las ilusiones del futuro

Dos horizontes enmarcan nuestra vida.

Greetings friends and colleagues

Director's Report Professor Leigh Payne



This year we celebrate 50 years since the creation of the UK Latin American Centre by the parliamentary Parry Commission at the University of Oxford. We have built an extraordinary Centre on a firm foundation becoming a centre of excellence.

At a time when Latin American studies are in crisis in the UK and other European countries, we remain a vibrant research and teaching institution with links across the world. In recent years, we have successfully completed a transition, hiring a new generation of scholars and launching new research projects. We maintain one of the best libraries on Latin America in the United Kingdom and a growing network of former visiting fellows, alumni, and collaborators across the world. There are many other reasons to celebrate our accomplishments and to prepare for the next fifty years:

- We have become the most highly regarded and established Latin American Centre in the UK, in particular, and in Europe in general.
- We are the only Latin American Centre in the UK and Europe that covers every sub-region of the Americas, from Mexico through Central America and the Caribbean, to the Andes, and to Brazil and the Southern Cone.
- Our Centre alone features interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary, interweaving historical, political science, sociological, economic, and international relations approaches to the region.
- Our Centre links Latin American scholarship in Oxford to the rest of the UK, Europe, the US, and the Americas through our wide range of seminar series, conferences and workshops, research, and talks around the world.
- Our research has been funded by some of the most prestigious grants, such as the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Leverhulme Trust, British Academy, US National Science Foundation, Open Society Foundation, and the Ford Foundation.
- Our scholarship has been published by the top university presses and most highly ranked journals, receiving national and international book and journal article prizes.
- We have had an impact on policy through our scholarship and talks in the UK and beyond, including at RUSI (the Royal United Services Institute) and Chatham House, the United Nations, the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights, the World Bank, as well as Supreme Courts, Parliaments, Ministries, and Embassies around the world.
- Our policy impact touches on the most pressing issues of the day, from reducing income inequality to resolving violent conflict and to strengthening democratic stability.
- Established and emerging scholars from the UK, US, the Americas, and Europe are attracted to our visiting academics programme to take advantage of the rich array of events on the Americas, to work with the Centre's top scholars in the field, and to use the resources in our Bodleian Library.
- We have created one of the most popular one-year master's programmes in Europe appealing to students from all of Latin America, the US, and Europe.
- We have one of the few two-year masters' programmes in the world, and provide fieldwork funding to support research in Latin America for each of those students.
- Our students have become world leaders in academics, business, governmental and non-governmental organisations, and the arts.
- Embedded in St Antony's College and the School for Interdisciplinary Area Studies, we have the opportunity to create comparative knowledge about Latin America in a strong area studies and international tradition.

The investment made in our Centre 50 years ago has paid off. We have much to celebrate on this anniversary. We hope you will come to Oxford on 18 to 20 September 2015 to learn more about our accomplishments through presentations of Latin American gems from the Bodleian Collection, seminars on relevant contemporary issues in the Americas led by past and current fellows and alumni, and discussions about the past and future of Latin American studies. Yet we do not just aim to celebrate the last 50 years but also to launch the next 50. With your help, we want to make sure that we can strengthen our research programmes, making them more visible and enhancing their impact. We hope to attract the best students from Latin America and other parts of the world, providing them with more funding and support. We are also committed to increasing the attention to the region across Oxford, the UK and Europe, attracting new scholars, and creating larger and stronger networks. We thus look forward to ensuring with you the next 50 years of excellence in interdisciplinary research, teaching, and policy development.

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Guido Di Tella Memorial Lecture

By Kiran Stallone, MSc student



In 2013, the Latin American Centre inaugurated the Di Tella annual lecture series in memory of academic and former Argentine Minister of Foreign Relations (1991 to 1999) and LAC scholar, Guido Di Tella.

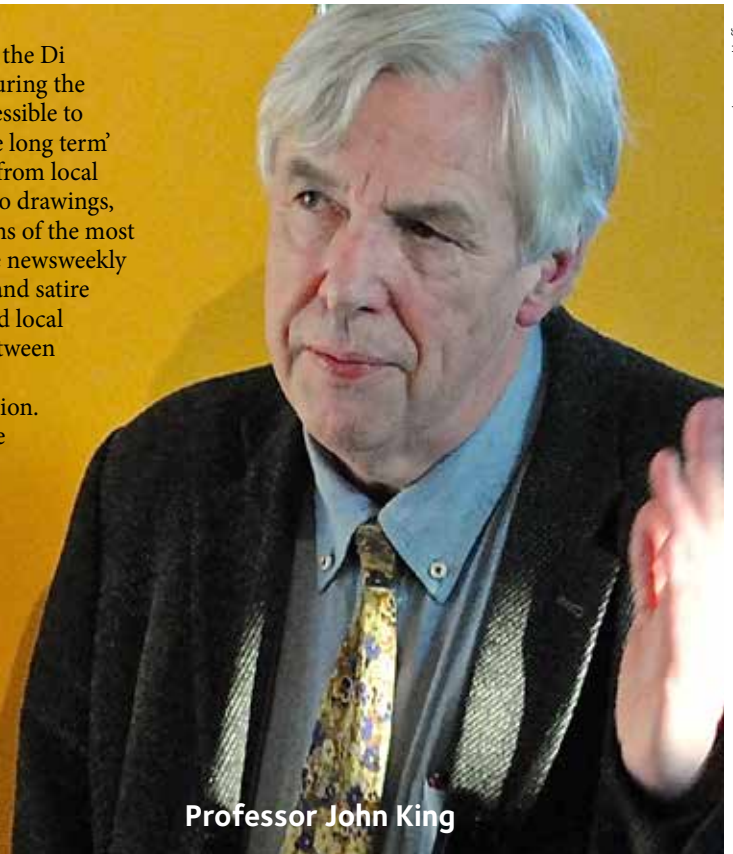
John King, Emeritus Professor of Latin American Literature at Warwick University, delivered the memorial lecture this year. While many focus on Guido Di Tella's political trajectory and his accomplishments as a public servant to the Argentine people, King's lecture

emphasized the role that Di Tella played in advancing Argentina's literary, cultural and intellectual scene. He also shared stories of how he came to know Guido Di Tella at St Antony's College during his time in Oxford from 1976 to 1983, a place that came to be a home away from home

for him and his family. King remembers Di Tella fondly, noting that he had 'an ineffable sense of just doing things.' After their meeting in 1977, King was hired to write a history of the Di Tella Institute for the Arts in Buenos Aires.

At its three distinct art centres located throughout Buenos Aires, the Di Tella Institute developed vibrant spaces for creative expression during the 1960s. According to King, it sought to make modern culture accessible to everyone, representing a 'cultural bridge-building strategy for the long term' by connecting Argentina to the international art scene. Ranging from local experimental theatre and dance to pre-Columbian art and Picasso drawings, the institute balanced traditional art with controversial exhibitions of the most abstract kind. The institute often collaborated with the Argentine newsweekly *Primera Plana*, a critical press that was unafraid to use cartoons and satire to express and defend its political views. Together, they catapulted local artists and writers to an international platform, making a link between Argentine culture and the outside world. Julio Cortázar is a well-known example of an author who benefitted from that collaboration. After showing slides of art exhibitions and works, King ended the lecture with a video homage to the Di Tella family.

This year and last, the LAC and St Antony's College warmly welcomed members of the Di Tella family, as well as the Argentine Ambassador, and friends of Guido and Nelly. Representing the family, Guido's brother Torcuato Di Tella, Argentine Ambassador to Italy, expressed his deep appreciation for the memorial lecture dedicated to his brother's work and achievements. Although Guido Di Tella passed away in 2002, his intellectual legacy lives on in Oxford. Through the annual lecture series and the dialogue that it creates, he will continue to critically engage students, professors, and visitors for many years to come.



Jonas von Hoffman

Professor John King



Jonas von Hoffman

25 April, 2015

Chair in Latin American History

By John Matheson, MSc student, and Paula Meléndez, 1st year MPhil student

The Chair in Latin American History was established in 1967 with funding from the Ford Foundation. The initial impetus behind its foundation was to boost the then nascent Latin American Centre by ensuring that the historical discipline would be the core of Latin American studies. This was part of the broader movement in the 1960s of renewed interest in both academic and government circles in Latin America, following the Cuban Revolution and the ensuing missile crisis. During its existence, the Chair was the foremost post in the history of Latin America in the UK and, perhaps, the foremost post outside the Americas. The Chair in Latin American History was an important and influential academic post until 2013 when funding for the statutory chair from the Faculty of History was unfortunately suspended. The LAC, St Antony's College, the History Faculty, and the Humanities Division began a fundraising campaign to endow the chair in perpetuity. While its (hopefully temporary) loss impairs the ability of Oxford to cover a key region of the world in the Faculty of History, its legacy lives on in the many alumni in history and other disciplines who now hold influential academic posts across Latin America and the world.

Four eminent historians have occupied the chair and are profiled here.

Raymond Carr



Sir Raymond Carr was the first holder of the Chair in Latin American History from 1967 to 1968. One of the most famous English historians of the twentieth century, Carr researched the history of Latin America as well as Spain and Sweden, his two other regions of predilection. Educated at Oxford, he was a member of his fair share of colleges,

including All Souls from 1946 to 1953, before coming to St Antony's. In 1968, he became Warden of the College, a position he held until his retirement in 1987. Ralf Dahrendorf, his successor as Warden, described Carr's tenure as Warden as the College's 'fiesta days'. As a historian of Latin America and Chair, Carr was an important actor in the renaissance of interest in the society and politics of Latin America in the West that began in the 1960s and endures to this day, not least through the stellar scholarship of those at the Latin American Centre at Oxford. Sir Raymond Carr passed away on 19 April 2015, leaving behind an impressive academic legacy that will endure for generations of scholars.

Christopher Platt



Professor Christopher Platt held the Chair in Latin American History from 1972 until his passing in 1989. Remembered for his work in financial and imperial history of Latin America and Britain, he was a controversial figure in the field of Latin American studies, largely on account of his

traditionalism at a time of academic upheaval. He completed his DPhil at Oxford, reportedly concluding his research in 18 months and writing the dissertation itself in only 6 weeks, and began an illustrious career that would take him first to Exeter and Edinburgh, then Cambridge, where he served as director of the Centre for Latin American Studies. He also served as director of the Centre at Oxford and in his later years, worked with figures like Guido di Tella, to promote research on Argentina and to encourage the production of Latin American scholarship for non-specialists. A prolific writer, he is ultimately remembered for this curious paradox: the principal historian of Britain's economic links with Latin America who fervently played down the importance of the link.

Tulio Halperín-Donghi



Professor Tulio Halperín (1926 to 2014) was Chair for two years from 1970 to 1971. He came to Oxford after having lectured at the University of Rosario, University of Buenos Aires and Harvard. He specialised in the history of 19th century Argentina and Latin America. His published works include: *Argentina en el callejón; Politics, Economics and Society in Argentina in the Revolutionary Period; The Contemporary History of*

Latin America; Tradición política española e ideología revolucionaria de Mayo; Guerra y finanzas en los orígenes del estado argentino; and Una nación para el desierto argentino. Dr Klaus Gallo from the Di Tella University considers Professor Halperín's legacy in Argentine historiography to be as powerful as that of Jorge Luis Borges in Argentine literature. Professor Halperín's writings are demanding of the reader, and his rich narratives are textured with ironies, nuances, and subtleties. Professor Halperín is remembered for his originality, elaborate writing style, candour, and sharp wit.

Alan Knight



Professor Alan Knight (born 1946), Emeritus Professor at St Antony's College, retired as the most recent Chair in 2013. Educated at Balliol College, Professor Knight returned to Oxford in 1992 following stints at the University of Essex, University of Texas at Austin (where he held the CB Smith Chair), and the Centre for US-Mexican Studies at the University of California,

San Diego. He served as director of the Latin American Centre and director of graduate studies several times in over twenty years at St Antony's. Professor Knight is a world expert on the Mexican Revolution and the modern history of Mexico more generally. He has also researched comparative themes in politics, sociology and economics in Cuba, Bolivia, and Argentina, among others, as well as Latin America's international relations. His books include: *The Mexican Revolution: Porfirians, Liberals and Peasants* (volume 1); *Counter-revolution and Reconstruction* (volume 2); *Caciquismo in Twentieth-century Mexico* (editor); *Mexico: from the Beginning to the Spanish Conquest*; *Mexico: The Colonial Era*; *The Mexican Petroleum Industry in the Twentieth Century* (with J.C. Brown); and *US-Mexican Relations, 1910-1940: An Interpretation*. Professor Knight has received a wide-ranging number of awards and honours: the Order of the Aztec Eagle from the Mexican government, the Albert Beveridge Prize, and the Bolton Prize for his comprehensive two-volume work on the Mexican Revolution. Students and academics alike continue to benefit from Professor Knight's incisive and rigorous academic mind at the Latin America Centre's main seminar and history seminar series where he is a frequent speaker and attendee. With his excellence in scholarship, Professor Knight has considerably raised the profile of the study of Latin America in Oxford, the UK, and beyond.

The Latin American Centre History Seminar has become a fixture in the academic calendar of the Centre, attracting a wide audience of students, academics and history buffs. Founded in 2013 by Eduardo Posada-Carbó (LAC Professor of History and Politics) and Mark Petersen (former DPhil student at Oxford), the Seminar covers Latin American history from a variety of interdisciplinary approaches. Two new exciting ventures were launched this year: a joint programme with the Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (Chile), which involves visits of Chilean historians from the Adolfo Ibáñez to Oxford over the next three years, and an Interdisciplinary Dialogue series, opened by Professor Andrew Hurrell titled History, International Relations and the Global: a Latin American Perspective. This year, the Seminar continued to include the Comparative History of the Americas Series, jointly convened with Dr Jay Sexton from the Rothermere American Institute (the talk by Professor Rebecca Scott is a good example of this collaboration), and joint seminars with the Spanish sub-faculty in Oxford. Mark Petersen, co-founder of the Seminar, shares some reflections about the foundation and *raison d'être* of the Seminar.

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Rio Branco Chair

By John Matheson, MSc Student



The Rio Branco Chair was launched by the Brazilian Studies Programme in 2013 and is funded by the Brazilian Ministry of Education's Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior [CAPES], with support from the Instituto Rio Branco (the Brazilian diplomatic academy). The Chair brings a leading Brazilian academic to Oxford for one term in order to conduct research and coordinate events around the University on Brazil's global emergence. Past events have focussed on Brazil's engagement with the EU and its involvement in Africa. The 2015 roundtable examined issues closer to home, 'Brazil and the Regional Integration of Latin America: Policy Challenges for the 21st Century'. Professor Marcelo Medeiros from the Federal University of Pernambuco was Oxford's 2015 Rio Branco Visiting Professor of the International Relations of Brazil. Professor Medeiros, who obtained his doctorate from the Institut d'Études Politiques de Grenoble in 1997, publishes widely on Latin American regional integration and Brazilian foreign policy.

In his talk, Professor Medeiros provided a comprehensive overview of contemporary Brazilian foreign policy in the region and the challenges that will confront Brazil in the years ahead. After a discussion on the historical singularities that inform Brazil's actions in the region, Professor Medeiros spoke of three defining characteristics of Brazil's international relations. First, Brazilian foreign policy in South America follows a structural realist trend based on cooperation and preserving state capacities. Mercosur (the Common Market of the South) was, in this sense, a pedagogical device for economic liberalism. Second, with the election of the Partido dos Trabalhadores (Worker's Party), the country has pursued a more ideological approach to international relations based on the principle of solidarity with the Left. Third, the values of democracy are pervasive in Brazil's interactions with the rest of the world, as evident from its firm belief to avoid meddling in the internal affairs of other states.

Professor Medeiros argued that the notion of *primus inter pares*, or first among equals, accurately describes Brazil's place in the region: the country's leadership style is one of cooperative hegemony. This is evident in Brazil's active role in regional institutionalisation: Brazil's leadership of UNASUR (the Union of South American Nations) and the constitutions of the Mercosur structural fund and parliament.



John Matheson

Professor Timothy Power, LAC Fellow and Director of the Brazilian Studies Programme, Professor Leigh Payne, LAC Fellow and Director of the LAC, Professor Marcelo Medeiros, Rio Branco Visiting Professor of the International Relations of Brazil, His Excellency Ambassador Roberto Jaguaribe, Brazil's ambassador to the United Kingdom, Professor Olivier Dabène, Sciences Po Paris

While it is home to roughly two thirds of South America's population, territory, and gross domestic product, Brazil opts for a cooperation-spread strategy in order to preserve its autonomy and because it lacks the means and willingness to act as a full-blown hegemon. Future challenges cited by Professor Medeiros include internal accountability, or state coherence, the continuation of the cooperation-spread strategy, defining further the country's new identity as interlocutor between developed and developing countries, and formulating and executing foreign policy as a public policy as opposed to an ideological one.

Professor Olivier Dabène from the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris also participated in this year's roundtable. In his presentation, 'Brazil: A Selected Leadership', he pointed to several examples of Brazil's reluctance to assert a regional leadership role. In Mercosur for example, Brazil was unwilling to become paymaster, a reflection of the common market's recent struggles. This contrasts, according to Professor Dabène, with Brazil's agenda-setting in infrastructure development, the UNASUR defence doctrine, and the UNASUR health council. Professor Dabène argued that Brazil is more of an efficient agenda-setter and coordinator than an unequivocal regional leader.

Both talks stimulated a wide range of questions from the audience, which included students and scholars from across the university and prominent individuals, such as Roberto Jaguaribe, Brazil's ambassador to the UK, and Leslie Bethell, emeritus professor and founding director of Oxford's former Centre for Brazilian Studies. Ambassador Jaguaribe closed the evening with enlightening remarks, referring to Brazil's foreign policy as a 'process of seduction and persuasion.' The ambassador agreed with various descriptions of Brazil's discreet and selective leadership but underlined that, while South America has always been the country's first and foremost priority, 'Brazil is not a country of imposition.' For Brazil to be influential he went on to say, different, subtle approaches are needed in dealing with its South American neighbours.

The Rio Branco Chair forms an integral part of a strong network of collaborations between Brazil and Oxford, and the Latin American Centre is grateful to CAPES and the Brazilian Foreign Ministry for their partnership.



John Matheson

CAF Development Bank of Latin America **Annual Conference**

On 31 October 2014, the LAC at the University of Oxford and CAF-Development Bank of Latin America co-hosted a conference at St Antony's College called The Emerging Middle Class in Latin America: Causes, Challenges and Opportunities. This is the second conference jointly organised by the LAC and CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and, like the first one, it was a major success.

The Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford, Andrew Hamilton, together with the President of the CAF-Development Bank of Latin America, Enrique García, and the Warden of St Antony's College, Margaret MacMillan, opened the conference.

Attended by 150 students, the conference featured internationally renowned scholars and policymakers, including six former ministers from several Latin American governments and senior members of CAF. Contributors to the conference highlighted the following three key themes:

- The middle class remains a contested concept. The concept, definition, and proper measurement of the middle class are all questioned in Latin America. While governments claim that a large part of the population has entered the middle class, definitions based on economic security show that many remain vulnerable.
- There is a gap between aspirations and the delivery of public services. The expectations and aspirations of the new middle class have yet to be met. Due to fiscal and institutional shortcomings, states capacities may be insufficient to keep pace with the rising demand for better public services.
- The effect of declining economic growth on the new middle class is unknown. The new middle class emerged in a recent period of economic growth in Latin America, largely coinciding with the commodity boom. The extent to which this positive trend can be sustained in a time of economic volatility and lower expansion is uncertain.



CAF Development Bank President Enrique García speaking this year at the University of Oxford.



CAF Development Bank President Enrique García with CAF-funded LAC MSc students Andrea González-Negrón and Alejandro González-Ormerod.

CAF- Development Bank of Latin America

Interview with CAF President Enrique García by Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, LAC associate professor of political economy

CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and the Latin American Centre have now been collaborating for four years. How would you evaluate the partnership? What do you think have been its most successful features?

I think it has been a very positive partnership for both institutions. For CAF, it is a pleasure to collaborate with a prestigious academic institution that is committed to Latin America, which puts a lot of effort in generating and disseminating knowledge about the region, as well as teaching and preparing students on the development challenges of Latin America. This partnership has also been important for CAF because it promotes the region and our institution in the UK, with a view to building bridges to foster trade and investment.

From an academic point of view, this alliance has allowed us to research and debate some topics of special interest with world-class academics and public policy practitioners; to give Latin American students a unique opportunity of attending one of the best universities in the world; and to promote research on topics of interest for us and for Latin America through the visiting fellows programme.

The most successful feature has been, without a doubt, the creation of the CAF-LAC Conference. This is a high-level international conference that has been held twice in Oxford (2012 and 2014). It provides a platform for politicians, academics, and business leaders to promote the region and analyse the main challenges it faces to attain sustainable development and more effective regional integration. The CAF conferences have been very high-profile events that have illustrated the importance of the CAF-LAC partnership for both parties and we are proud of its success.

Why is student support so important for you?

CAF is an institution committed to supporting Latin America's sustainable development and regional integration. In this context, to generate and disseminate knowledge and best practices on development issues is one of our key objectives. One way to achieve this is by creating networks and building bridges with academic institutions that are eager to help us toward this goal. The Latin American Centre at Oxford appeared naturally as a first-class option.

Additionally, we believe that one of the main challenges for our region is to improve its human capital; to support students with high academic potential will definitely have a positive impact as these students will become policymakers or academics working on Latin American issues.

What are your expectations for the future of our collaboration? How do you think we can strengthen it?

At CAF we are always looking for new ways to innovate our products and services. This partnership is no exception. I believe that, in the future, we should take advantage of the networks CAF and Oxford have established worldwide to generate synergies and add more value to our collaboration. I also believe that we should work more closely with other Latin American academic institutions in all aspects: conferences, scholarships, fellowships, and research. This is crucial for the exchange of knowledge and best practice.

CAF-Development Bank of Latin America and its European partners are working on the creation of a network. What is the value that a network can add to the collaboration?

We have established solid relationships with some of the leading academic institutions and think tanks in Europe (e.g., Oxford, LSE, Sciences Po, University of Alcalá, University of Salamanca, and the University of Lisbon). Until now, we have been working mostly bilaterally with each institution, and we will certainly continue to do so. Nevertheless, CAF and all of its European partners recently decided to create a network as a mechanism to benefit from possible synergies and positive externalities. The aim of the network is to exchange information and best practices among the participating institutions, to expand collaboration to new fields of study, and to create a network of fellows and students, which could amplify the impact of the individual partnerships. The academic network will also be a way to connect the European academic institutions with their Latin American counterparts. In this way, both regions benefit from the exchange of knowledge and information.

The celebration of the LAC's 50th anniversary is a great opportunity to reflect on the region's past, present and future. Given your extensive experience as minister, treasurer of the Inter-American Development Bank, and president of CAF, there is no one better to ask this question! What do you think have been the most significant changes in Latin America since you begin your policymaking career?

Probably the most important change in Latin America in the last fifty years has been the reduction of poverty and the strengthening of the middle class. Poverty was reduced from just over 40% in 1980 to 28% in 2013, and extreme poverty decreased from just under 19% to 12% during the same period. This has been the result of economic growth and better public policies, specifically in the macroeconomic and social areas.

For instance, regarding macroeconomics, we should note that debt, as percentage of GDP, in Latin America is around 40%, which is low when compared with many industrialised countries. Fiscal deficits are manageable, and there is fiscal space for counter-cyclical policy as was demonstrated during the Lehman crisis. Also, inflation has been under control in most countries and central banks are independent, which gives monetary authorities the capacity to undertake credible monetary policies. On the external front, international reserves are at all-time records, while the current account deficit is fully financed by foreign direct investment flows. There are also flexible exchange rates in many countries, which help to withstand external shocks. Last but not least, the financial system is well regulated and supervised. To get to this situation has not been easy, but the political will to attain macroeconomic stability in the region has been crucial for the recent success of many Latin American countries.

Similarly, the last decades have seen the progressive consolidation of democracy in the region – we must remember that fifty years ago and throughout the 1970s most countries were under dictatorships at some point – and with democracy came the implementation of more inclusive social policies. There have been important advances not only in health and education, as demonstrated by the fact that Latin America has, for the most part, attained its Millennium Development

Goals, but has also crafted safety nets for the poor and increased citizens' rights and their participation in politics.

All of this has been the result of a long period of learning – many times due to painful crises. The challenge for the region is to preserve many of the gains it has achieved in the last fifty years in a more complex global economic scenario, and to continue the process of reforms to consolidate economic growth and development. There is no room for complacency.

What are the main challenges for the future?

Latin America faces many challenges, among them to preserve macroeconomic stability, to attain higher rates of sustainable growth, to reduce poverty and inequality, to strengthen institutions, and to smartly integrate into the world economy. But perhaps the main challenge for Latin America is productive transformation. To achieve long-term economic growth, the region needs to increase productivity, add value to its vast natural resource endowments, and diversify its economies. To this end, there are many areas on which we need to work, but I would like to highlight three that, in my opinion, are crucial: infrastructure, education, and innovation. In terms of infrastructure, the region has an important gap when compared not only with developed countries, but also some developing countries. Current investment of the public and private sectors is not sufficient to close this gap. We estimate that investments of approximately 6% of GDP per year, equivalent to USD 200 to 250 billion, are needed to close it. With regard to education, the region has managed to do well in terms of coverage, but we are far behind in terms of quality. An important challenge in this area is to improve technical education for the workforce. Concerning innovation, investment in research and development as a proportion of GDP is very low as compared with OECD countries. The region must increase investment in research and development and create innovation ecosystems that establish links between the public sector, academia, and private enterprises, particularly the financial sector.

What will be CAF-Development Bank of Latin America's role in meeting these challenges?

CAF has a comprehensive development agenda with a long-term vision for regional integration and sustainable development. This agenda is designed to help our member countries enhance economic growth by pursuing macroeconomic stability, microeconomic efficiency, social equity, and environmental protection. We are aware of the challenges that the region is facing, and we continuously adapt our institution to become better prepared to help the region overcome these challenges.

CAF works with the public and private sectors in a variety of areas related to these challenges, not only as a provider of funds, but also as an advisor when it comes to public policies; in other words, we are a source of knowledge and promoter of best practices. In particular, CAF is the main source of multilateral financing for the five founding member countries and has become one of the most important sources for all of Latin America, together with the IDB and the World Bank. While CAF accounted for less than 5% of multilateral financing in the region in the 1980s, today it provides about thirty per cent of that funding, and, most notably, has taken over the top spot in recent years in terms of approved financing for infrastructure development, including energy. At the same time, CAF has become a relevant player in financing the private sector.

But we understand that the institutions must adapt and be flexible and responsive to the evolving challenges the region is facing. We consider ourselves partners of our member countries, and work together with them in their reform agendas and development strategies.

Latin American Thinkers - Seminar Series

Kiran Stallone, MSc student with Professor Elizabeth Jelin



Professor Elizabeth Jelin, Principal Researcher at the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET) in Buenos Aires.

The Latin American Centre initiated the Latin American Thinkers lecture series as part of the 50th anniversary celebration.

The plan is to bring Latin Americans to Oxford who have made a significant impact in their disciplines to reflect on the transformations of their field over the last fifty years. The most recent seminar took place on 17 October 2014 with a lecture by renowned Argentine sociologist Professor Elizabeth Jelin. Professor Jelin specializes in social movements, gender issues and human rights, and has published numerous seminal works such as *State Repression and the Labors of Memory* and *Women and Social Change in Latin America*. During Argentina's military dictatorship from 1976 to 1983, Professor Jelin was at the Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad (CEDES), and since the mid-1990s she has worked at the Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social (IDES). Professor Jelin was part of the team that developed the joint graduate program in the social sciences of IDES and the Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento (UNGS). Since 1985 she has been a researcher at the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET). In 2013, she was awarded the highest prize for scientific achievement in Argentina, the Bernardo Houssay National Prize for her Research Trajectory in the Social Sciences and in 2014 she received

an Honoris Causa Doctorate at Université Paris Nanterre – La Defense.

Professor Jelin's lecture centred on 'Reflections on 50 Years of Social Research in Latin America,' focusing on the historical transformation of the Social Sciences in the region, leading to the development of interdisciplinary studies in the fields of memory, human rights, and gender.

Professor Jelin dedicated her talk to research concerns regarding gender, human rights, and memory as a response to social and political processes in the region. Thus, the gender agenda emerged in the 1970s, issues of democratization and citizenship rights in the 1980s, followed then by the development of the new field of research on memory, following the transition, when Latin American societies (at first in the Southern Cone) were facing the issue of how to cope and deal with the recent violence and repression. These developments in Latin American social research implied paradigmatic shifts produced by incorporating new interpretative frameworks that break through specialized disciplinary traditions (law and psychoanalysis, sociology and political science, anthropology and history), in an attempt to understand the contemporary reality of Latin America, in which multiple issues and processes converge.

This paradigmatic shift facilitates the recognition of subjective processes and cultural frames of action. To link the structural and institutional level with cultural patterns of meanings and with the processes that constitute an actor's subjectivity transcends the normal framework of any single discipline of social research.

Second, it puts the focus on the social agents that develop their strategies in contexts of struggle, confrontation, negotiation, alliances, and attempts to gain power and impose their practices on others. The implicit model of action in this kind of analysis returns to classic issues in political sociology, such as the construction

of authority and social legitimacy. It incorporates them into a temporality that is not just chronological – previous experiences and future expectation enter the scene – and with an explicit consideration of feelings and subjectivities.

Her talk ended by stating that these new areas imply an active intervention in the intellectual field, despite the tendencies to professional specialization. They show the existence of debates that combine academic rigour with personal and political involvement in public life.

After the talk, students and professors engaged in a question and answer session with Professor Jelin. It is hoped that this lecture will form the basis for a future publication on fifty years of Latin American studies.



DAY OF THE DEAD

At the beginning of November, LAC students celebrated the Day of the Dead by building an altar (Altar de Muertos) in the hallway of the LAC and its library.

Gabriela Dale Leal (Gaby), 1st year MPhil student and organiser of the project, explained that such altars are 'an important part of the Day of the Dead Celebrations [1 to 2 November] in Mexico and are built to remember the people that have left us'.

The altar featured a photograph of the Colombian novelist and Nobel Laureate, Gabriel García Márquez, who died earlier this year. 'Even though he was Colombian', Gaby remarked, 'he lived many years in Mexico so this tradition would be anything but foreign to him'.

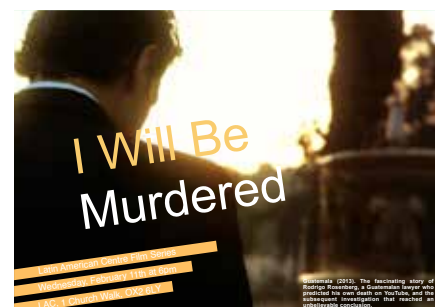
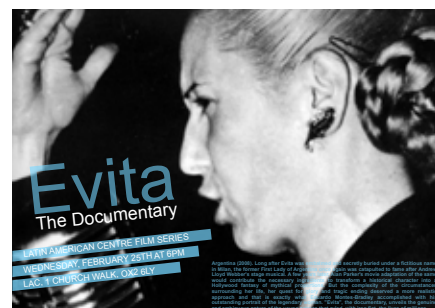
It is a tradition that is believed to have begun with the Aztecs some 3,000 years ago and, according to the Smithsonian Latino Center website, the modern Day of the Dead, or Día de los Muertos, is 'a day of celebration for the people of Latin America, particularly in Mexico and Central America, and more recently for Mexican Americans. Rather than grieve over the loss of a beloved family or friend, they choose to commemorate the lives of the dearly departed and welcome the return of their spirits'.

Each of the elements of the LAC altar has a particular significance. 'The pictures are of family members of both students and staff who died this year', Gaby explained. 'Some of the elements like the tea, ginger beer, wine, and gum were all things that the dead enjoyed when living. Since we believe that their spirits come back to earth, we like to leave what it was they enjoyed for them to savour again! The mirror, tiers, salt, skulls, water, flowers, and tissue paper bunting (papel picado) are all traditional elements of an altar.'

The Day of the Dead Altar was a great contribution to the LAC Celebration, thanks to Gabriela Dale Leal, 1st year MPhil.

LAC Film Series

The Latin American Centre hosted another year of captivating films from the region, as well as stimulating discussions among students and other attendees. Shown here is a sample of the films viewed this year.



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Kevin Casas-Zamora, Secretary for Political Affairs at the Organization of American States on his time at the Latin American Centre

How lucky to have spent those years at the LAC..., learning about the power and rigors of free inquiry, which the LAC teaches you with unparalleled eloquence.

LAC Visiting Research Associates 2014 - 2015

Carlos Caballero Argáez, CAF Fellow 2014



I was the CAF-Oxford Visiting Fellow at the LAC during Michaelmas Term 2014. The purpose of the Fellowship was to allow me to conduct research

on the opening of the Colombian economy and, specifically, of foreign trade barriers in 1990 and 1991, during the presidency of César Gaviria. Puzzlingly, it happens that the Colombian economy continues today to be one of the most closed in Latin America, at a time when the country has become a member of the 'Alianza del Pacífico' with Mexico, Peru and Chile.

Thus, during the weeks I spent in Oxford I was able to write the first version of a paper on the apertura of Colombia 25 years later, which I presented during a LAC seminar on 28 November 2014. I had close contact in the LAC with Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, who gave me very interesting suggestions. I also counted on the help of Aaron Watanabe, an MPhil student, who performed very efficiently as a research assistant. As a result of this work, Diego and I organised a seminar to be held in Bogotá in the second semester of 2015, with the purpose of comparing the economic opening experiences of a group of countries in Latin America and to analyse the factors which have determined their success in terms of innovation and increase of exports.

My personal experience at the LAC included a range of activities. In the LAC History Seminar, I presented a book I had recently finished in Colombia on the relationship between Presidents John F. Kennedy of the United States and Alberto Lleras of Colombia regarding the launch of the Alliance for Progress in 1961, the way the Cuban question was dealt with, and the role played by the Organisation of American States. I attended most of the seminars offered at the LAC during the Term and also had the time to establish contacts with other colleges and schools in Oxford. I am particularly close to the Blavatnik School of Government, its director and vice dean, and their graduate and doctoral students.

On the whole, my experience has been both fulfilling and rewarding because of the extraordinary academic and personal opportunities that were available to me and the excellent reception given to me by all individuals connected to the LAC.

Marcelo de Almeida Medeiros BSP – Rio Branco Chair in International Relations 2015

I received my PhD in Political Science from the Institut d'Études Politiques de Grenoble (1997) and my Habilitation Thesis from the Institut d'Études Politiques de Paris - Sciences Po (2010). I am an associate professor of Political Science at the Federal University of Pernambuco - UFPE (Recife-Brazil) and PQ-1D Research Fellow of the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development – CNPq (Brasília – Brazil). My research interests cover international politics and comparative government, especially the following topics: Mercosur, Brazilian foreign policy, the European Union, French foreign policy, institutions, governance, and democracy. My current work focuses comparatively on executive/legislative relations on foreign policy in Mercosur and French executive/legislative relations on foreign policy in the European Union. As Rio Branco Fellow 2015, I have been studying the role of Brazil as an emerging power in the 21st century and also the relations between Downing Street, Westminster, and Brussels.

Marcello Baquero – Brazilian Studies Programme

I am an Associate Professor of Political Science at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul-Brazil, with a PhD in Comparative Politics in Latin America from Florida State University. I serve as the director of the Nucleus of Latin American Research (www.ufrgs.br/nuposal), and also the Editor of the Journal of Political Science DEBATES (<http://seer.ufrgs.br/debates>). My main fields of research are: political culture, Brazilian politics, social capital and citizen empowerment. At the LAC, I worked on a project about the inertial nature of Latin American democracy.

Roddy Brett

I work at the University of St. Andrews, where I am permanent faculty in the School of International Relations and co-direct the Masters Programme in Peace and Conflict Studies. I was awarded my PhD at the University of London in 2002 and lived in Guatemala and Colombia until 2012. My fields of research include conflict, peace processes/peace-building, genocide, human rights, indigenous rights and post-conflict reconstruction, upon which I have published a total of eight books and articles. In Latin America, I acted as Advisor to the UN Development Programme and the UN Office of the High Commission for Human Rights. I also served as advisor on indigenous affairs at the Norwegian embassy. I worked with the Centre

for Human Rights Legal Action in Guatemala, as a member of the original team that prepared the evidence against former dictator General Ríos Montt, leading to his conviction in 2013 for genocide and crimes against humanity. I am a member of the Academic Advisory Board for the International Centre on Non-Violent Conflict, in Washington D.C., and of the Advisory Council of the Institute of Humanitarian Studies in Bogotá. During my six months at the LAC, I will be finishing my most recent book, *The Post-Conflict Legacy of Genocide: Political Violence in Guatemala*, to be published in 2015, and beginning another book on the history of Colombia's FARC guerrillas.

Edmund Valpy FitzGerald

I received a somewhat eclectic training: PPE at Oxford, three years with The Economist and then a PhD at Cambridge. After seven years as a development economics lecturer in Cambridge, I was given a chair at the Erasmus University (Rotterdam) and finally returned to Oxford in 1992. I am now emeritus professor of international finance and emeritus fellow of St Antony's. My numerous Latin American doctoral students at Oxford have gone on to make important academic and policy contributions; having benefited from the unique interdisciplinary approach at the Latin America Centre. My current research project at the centre is a study of the Sandinista Revolution (1979 to 1990), arising from my role there as a senior economic adviser during that period.

Ana Isabel López García

My area of expertise is comparative politics, with a focus on Latin America. I hold a BA in International Relations from Mexico's Autonomous Institute of Technology (ITAM), an MPhil in Latin American Studies from St Antony's College (2009), and a DPhil in Politics (Comparative Government) at Nuffield College, Oxford (2013). My main research concerns how political behaviour in Latin American democracies is affected by the character of their political institutions (executive-legislative relations and electoral systems) and the influence of transnational processes, like international migration. My DPhil thesis examined the trajectory of social mobilisation in third-wave Latin America and the ways social protest has been affected by the nature of executive-legislative relations. Presently, I am undertaking a research project that examines the attitudes and behaviour of Mexican citizens towards political parties in localities with high levels of migration to the United States. I am very happy to be at the LAC and I am eager to work on these and

other puzzles related to democratic governance in Latin America in an interactive way with students, faculty, and fellows at the Centre.

Pablo Policzer

I am an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Calgary, where I also hold the Canada Research Chair in Latin American Politics. I specialize in comparative politics, with a focus on how democratic and authoritarian regimes regulate armed actors, including militaries, police forces, and non-state armed groups. My book 'The Rise and Fall of Repression in Chile' (Notre Dame, 2009) won the Canadian Political Science Association's 2010 prize for best book in Comparative Politics, in addition to being named by Choice Magazine as an 'Outstanding Academic Title' for 2009. I obtained my PhD in political science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and my BA (Honours, First Class) in political science from the University of British Columbia. At Oxford, I am working on a project focusing on the conflict in the Mapuche territory in Chile since the end of the military dictatorship.

Felipe Portocarrero

I have been close to the Latin American Centre and to St Antony's College since 1989 when I came to undertake doctoral studies in sociology. After finishing an appointment as Rector at Universidad del Pacífico last August, I have been awarded two years of sabbatical leave in order to prepare a book of essays on the role universities play in contemporary societies. My previous research has been focused on the economic history of elites and philanthropy in Latin America, including giving and volunteering, the 'third sector,' and corporate social responsibility.

Rafael A. Prieto Sanjuán

On leave from the Faculty of Juridical Sciences of Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, where I am full professor, I hold an MJur and a DPhil in International Law (Panthéon-Assas), an MPhil in Latin American Studies (Sorbonne-Nouvelle), and another one in strategic studies (Paris Nord). I am passionate about subjects related to armed conflicts and peace processes, and also international humanitarian law and international criminal law, subscribing to the principle that there cannot be peace without justice. Accordingly, I have been researching this topic for about twenty years (<http://www.rafael-prieto.com/publicaciones>) and teaching in Bogotá or, as a visiting professor, researcher, and speaker, in various American

and European academic institutions (e.g., Minas Gerais, Brasília, Autónoma, Mexico, United States National Defense University, Harvard, Laval, Canada, Complutense de Madrid, Caen, Sorbonne, Panthéon-Assas, Paris Ouest, Nanterre, San Remo, Italy, The Hague, Bristol, etc.). With the great opportunity to spend this year in Oxford, I dealt with the justice issue as a necessary element in a peace process as well as with the limits and challenges presented by on-going armed conflicts such as the Colombian one.

José Manuel Puente

I am a professor in the Public Policy Centre at the Instituto de Estudios Superiores de Administración (IESA) in Caracas. I did my BA in Economics at the Universidad Central de Venezuela and then I completed an MSc at The London School of Economics and an MSc and a DPhil at the University of Oxford. To come back to Oxford is in some ways to come back home. I love this little town, its cultural and intellectual life, and Oxford's commitment to multidisciplinary studies. During this academic year in Oxford, I worked on two different projects: 'A Macroeconomic History of the Bolivarian Revolution' and 'The Political Economy of Social Spending in Venezuela from 1974 to 2012'.

Paolo Ricci - Brazilian Studies Programme

I am a professor of political science at the University of São Paulo, Brazil. I received my BA from Bologna University (1997) and my MA (2001) and PhD (2006) from the University of São Paulo. My emphasis is on comparative political science, working mainly on the following themes: legislative processes, electoral systems, political parties, and the history of political institutions. I have published numerous peer-reviewed articles in international journals like the *Journal of Latin American Studies*, *Dados*, *Journal of Modern Italian Studies*, as well as several book chapters. Among other things, I worked this year on two major research projects. The first concerned the role of elections before democracy focusing on electoral fraud, political behaviour, and political competition in Brazil's First Republic (1889 to 1930). This research involves aspects of different areas like political science, history, and law. The second project was an investigation of executive-legislative relations at the sub-national level in Brazil after 1988.



Maya Collombon

I am a permanent lecturer at the Institut d'Études Politiques in Lyon, France, where I hold the Latin American studies position. In 2012, I defended my PhD thesis in political science at Sciences Po Aix, France. My thesis argued that the transnationalisation of both public action and contentious politics should be re-read in a national, even local, perspective to understand better its emergence and development. My work is based on two years of fieldwork in Mexico and one year in Nicaragua, using the Plan Puebla Panama, a transnational public policy, as my case study. From 2011 to 2013, I worked as lecturer in political science at the University of Nice. In autumn 2014, I was visiting researcher at the LAC, working to finish a book based on my thesis for Karthala Editor, Paris. My research centred on the Grand Canal project, a Chinese interoceanic endeavour in Nicaragua.



Patricia Londoño Vega, DPhil 1997, Retired Professor, History Department, Universidad de Antioquia (Medellín, Colombia):

To describe my years at the LAC is to describe the figure of Malcolm: the generosity with his students, his attention during lectures, his spirit of criticism, his erudition, his sense of humour, his passion for old books, his excellent personal library (open to his pupils), a part of which was crammed in his office in the basement of the LAC.

The Latin American Centre Library

Frank Egerton, LAC Librarian



Frank Egerton

Professor Maarten Jansen examines a Selden scroll with LAC students from Dr Halbert Jones's Mexico, North America and the World course in Hilary Term 2015.

At the start of the academic year, Timothy Power generously donated a multi-region DVD player, together with a selection of DVDs, which we have added to what is rapidly becoming a valuable resource, comprising documentaries and feature films dealing with political or social themes.

In Michaelmas Term, we launched a one-page termly newsletter called the LAC Library Bulletin, edited by my colleague Sam Truman. The newsletter highlights library developments and the less familiar parts of our collections. We also took part in a trial of Casalini's Torrossa e-book platform and recommended some key social science e-texts for purchase. It is exciting to be experimenting with the technology and offering our readers e-book versions of popular texts.

In September and October, the Bodleian Library will be holding an exhibition in the Proscholium in celebration of the LAC's 50th anniversary. The centrepiece will be the Selden Roll, an early 16th century Mexican pictorial manuscript that came to the Bodleian as part of John Selden's library (which included the codices Mendoza, Selden and Bodley) in 1659.

The start of the exhibition will be accompanied by a lecture entitled, *Latin American Gems in the Bodleian Collection: Ancient Mesoamerican Manuscripts*, which will take place in the Weston Library on the Friday of the Alumni Weekend (18 September 2015). The lecture will be given by Halbert Jones, historian and director of the North American Programme, and Virginia Lladó-Buisán, head of Conservation and Collection Care at the Bodleian. Hal will situate the manuscripts historically and Virginia will explain how new non-invasive techniques are giving us ever-greater insights into the pictorial methods employed in the manuscripts and the kinds of materials used.

An additional speaker at the LAC anniversary event at the Weston Library will be Maarten Jansen, Professor of Mesoamerican Archaeology and History from Leiden University. In March he gave an inspirational talk on the Selden Roll and Codex Selden to LAC students and staff interested in Mexico. Both manuscripts were on display throughout. As the Bodleian catalogue describes, the Selden Roll originates 'from the Coixtlahuaca region incorporating both Mixtec and Aztec elements, apparently recording myths of origin and the migratory journey of divine ancestors up to the time when early settlement begin'.

A week later, colleagues of Professor Jansen lectured on innovative imaging techniques used to investigate earlier pictorial layers beneath the pages of the Codex Selden, which has long been thought

to be a palimpsest. While the talk and the techniques used were fascinating, the event ended with a surprising revelation. MSc student Alejandro González-Ormerod, reflected on the research, its conclusions and implications:

'As the joint team of researchers of the pre-Hispanic Codex Selden – one a scientist, the other a historian – walked us through their imaging techniques and findings, one thing almost passed me by as a minor detail. They had found nothing. The researchers had been trying to glimpse revelations of what lay just beneath a layer of white gesso covering the back of the Codex, and found that anything that had been there had been scraped off by the artists all those centuries ago. Their lack of disappointment revealed something deeper. In stark contrast to researchers from the 1950s who had seemed to have just stopped short of beating the fragile piece of deer-skin parchment with a hammer and dipping it in acid in their search for answers, these researchers, for all their figurative probing and prodding, had left the document intact.

The pristine Codex now awaits the next generation of more-technologically advanced students (perhaps for the 100th anniversary of the LAC?) to read beneath the layers of scraping and white paint. All thanks to these researchers' care to have done nothing to the precious Codex.'

Latin American Centre DPhil Student Workshops



Three years ago, the Latin American Centre created a DPhil students affiliate group. The group is comprised of students who research Latin America from various social science disciplines, including sociology, anthropology, development studies, history, politics, and socio-legal studies. The three members of the group profiled below presented their work to the Michaelmas Term workshop.



Julián Daniel López-Murcia, DPhil Candidate in Politics, Harris Manchester College

The aim of my thesis is to explain why and how after a comprehensive set of decentralising reforms (political, fiscal, and administrative), Colombia experienced significant recentralising processes in 2007 and 2011. These reforms emerged not only contrary to what was expected by some of the most influential works on decentralisation in Latin America (that did not predict this type of 'back pedalling'), but in a way that the existing hypotheses on recentralisation processes in developing countries cannot account for. Since the very beginning of my doctoral programme, I have found the LAC DPhil workshop one of the most stimulating academic experiences at Oxford. During my first year, I had the opportunity to discuss Annette Idler's research after her remarkable fieldwork in the crisis-affected borderlands of Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela. That session was a great inspiration to my own fieldwork in medium-sized and small municipalities in Colombia. One year later, I could return to one of my favourite topics (political institutions and the judicial role in Latin America, developed with David Landau and published in 2009) to challenge Gabriel Pereira's ideas on judicial politics in Argentina. And, in 2014, having conducted more than sixty interviews with elites as well as extensive archival research in Colombia, I presented my preliminary findings. Carlos Caballero, CAF Visiting Fellow and former Colombian minister of mining and energy, and Jesus Herrera, PRS at the Department of Politics and International Relations, commented on my paper both from practitioner and academic perspectives. Our dialogue on the balance between national and subnational governments in Colombia and Mexico has continued after that engaging session.



Maria Luiza A. C. Gatto, DPhil Candidate in Politics, St Antony's College

As a DPhil student in the Department of Politics and International Relations, I investigate the dynamics of gender quota adoptions in Latin America from the perspective of male incumbents. The main puzzle I try to solve is why gender quotas, which propose to limit the proportion of men to be nominated on party lists, have been frequently adopted in Latin American male-dominated parliaments. Having completed my introduction, theory, methodology, and quantitative chapters, I spent the months of August and September 2014 conducting archival research and interviews with politicians in San José, Costa Rica and Santiago and Valparaíso, Chile. The LAC DPhil community was crucial in helping me advance my studies both during and after my fieldwork. The immense support and political knowledge of Tomás Quesada in Costa Rica and the social explanations of Chile's electoral reform by Simón Escoffier, both fellow LAC DPhil students, were very important in helping guide my fieldwork efforts and contextualise my research findings. Back in Oxford, I once again had the chance of benefitting from the LAC DPhil community by participating in the DPhil workshop series and presenting a very early draft of my chapter on Costa Rica. The draft represented my first attempt at both adopting process-tracing and organising my findings from the field on paper. Dr Ezequiel González Ocantos, associate professor in the DPIR, and Kiran Stallone, a student reading for the MSc in Latin American Studies, discussed my paper and provided extremely valuable commentary and suggestions. During the workshop, I also had the chance to meet other LAC DPhil students, several of whom sent me written suggestions and article recommendations after the workshop.

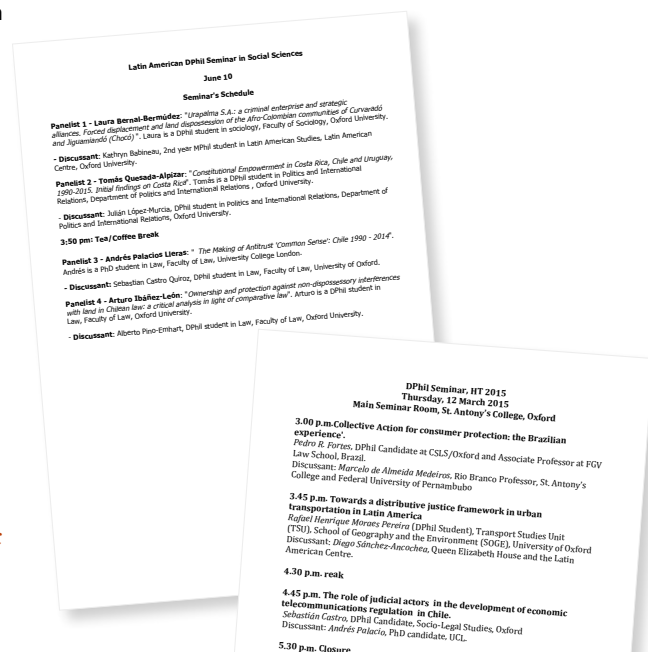


Kate Saunders-Hastings, DPhil Candidate in Socio-Legal Studies, Balliol College

Drawing on sixteen months of fieldwork in a poor and notorious Guatemala City barrio, my doctoral dissertation examines how evolving dynamics of urban violence affect life in a gang-dominated neighbourhood. The *maras* of Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras—the gangs that have helped give these countries some of the world's highest homicide rates—have changed dramatically in their group culture and criminal economy since their appearance in the 1990s. The experience of chronic insecurity in the marginal communities that form their territories has been transformed as a result: inhabitants report that gang violence is now less manageable, less predictable, and more frightening. Gang predation in this neighbourhood has led to the breakdown of shared expectations that helped in mitigating violence bolstering community resilience, and to increasing local support for repressive state interventions. At the Latin American Centre's Michaelmas Term DPhil workshop, I presented a portion of my argument for how the changing criminal economy and logic of violence of Guatemala City's gangs have altered the relationship between criminal groups and their communities and reshaped the lives of residents of their territories. The LAC DPhil affiliates workshop combines an informal environment with rich and rigorous feedback from both respondents and other participants. It's a rare opportunity at Oxford to present my research to others immersed in studying Latin America from a wide range of disciplinary perspectives. Their critiques and suggestions brought up regional dynamics, patterns, and literatures relevant to my research, and it's a great pleasure to get to know other young researchers undertaking exciting work in adjacent fields.

“Reflections from Paul Gootenberg, SUNY Distinguished Professor of History & Sociology, Stony Brook University (New York) on the Latin American Centre and St Antony's from 1979–1980:

St Antony's and the Centre, at risk of a pun, was at the centre of it all, a global destination for Latin Americanists. Most of all, I recall...an idyllic community of scholars that I think many of us have been trying to find again, and pass along, in our own intellectual pursuits and own academic communities in the many years since.





MSc Students 2014-2015

The Latin American Centre offers a one-year masters (MSc) course. These are the MSc students of 2014-2015. It has been a pleasure having them here for the past year. We wish them well and hope that they will stay in touch and return for the 50th anniversary celebration in September.



Jessica Bevan

Originally from Bath in the UK, my interest in Latin America was sparked during my undergraduate degree at the University of Warwick. I spent a year studying abroad at the Universidad de Buenos Aires in Argentina and developed an interest in the study of Latin American protest movements and their history of political resistance in the Southern Cone. My extended essay will examine the hermeneutics of violence against women in Mexico predominantly focusing on the maquiladora employees in Ciudad Juárez.



Miles Coleman

My name is Miles Coleman, I was born in South Africa but grew up in London and studied Spanish and Portuguese at Bristol University before coming to Oxford. I'm currently researching the role that football plays in Latin American societies, with particular attention to race and the region's colonial past.



Oliver Fletcher

Following my undergraduate degree at Yale in the United States, I've come home to the UK to pursue my interest in the history and culture of Latin America, especially Brazil. My extended essay is a study of the differing responses within Brazilian popular culture to the repression of the military dictatorship, focusing on Wilson Simonal and Caetano Veloso, two icons of 1960's Brazilian pop music.



Iacob Gammeltoft

I am Danish and Brazilian. My academic background is in business; I hold an MSc in International Management from the University of Bath. I have worked for the Embassy of Denmark in Brazil, where I assumed a commercial role last year. My research here focuses on inequality, its underlying modalities, causes and solutions. I am conducting my thesis on the informal economy in Latin America, comparing the various market-based policies governments deploy throughout the region in addressing it.



Andrea González Negrón

I am originally from Peru and I have studied in Germany, the Netherlands and Hong Kong. I am currently researching productivity growth in the largest Latin American economies — putting the commodity-boom decade in a historical perspective. I am particularly interested in the issues of macroeconomic stability and structural change in developing countries. Before coming to Oxford, I completed a BSc degree in Economics at Maastricht University, served as president of the United Netherlands Foundation and worked in the start-up 42Education.



Alejandro González-Ormerod

I am a half Mexican, half British MSc student with a particular interest in history. My research has revolved chiefly around this subject covering the general and economic past of Latin America, and of Mexico specifically. My greatest interest lies in the latter half of Mexico's twentieth-century history (I am writing my extended essay on civil society during this period). Before coming to Oxford I was a cheesemonger and maker, and a community organiser.



Rafael de Mello

Originally from Porto Alegre, Brazil, I came to the LAC after completing a BA in Philosophy, Politics, and Law at Durham. At Oxford my interests have shifted from geopolitical trends and foreign policy to emerging economies and macroeconomic policy. The fantastic community and extensive resources here have allowed me to compare development experiences in East Asia and Latin America and focus on the future of Brazil. In my free time I enjoy playing strategy games and learning different languages.



Michael Kozek

I am from Orange, Connecticut (not the most cosmopolitan of places, though no love lost) and studied political theory at Trinity College. I became interested in Latin America after working for a transparency NGO in addition to studying gender politics in Buenos Aires. I have extended my study of the politics of difference for my extended essay, which concerns Multicultural Policies (MCPs) in Brazil.



John Matheson

I'm from Miramichi, New Brunswick, a small town in eastern Canada. Following my studies in international business and politics at McGill University in Montréal, I entered the private sector as a human resources trainee at British American Tobacco's Canadian subsidiary. I subsequently worked for two years as the talent and organisational effectiveness (pardon my corporate jargon) manager of the Americas, splitting my time between the regional office in Rio de Janeiro and the global headquarters in London. My primary research interests are Canada-Latin America relations and LGBT mobilisations in the region.



Claire Michaud

I am an MSc student from Boston, Massachusetts. I completed my undergraduate studies at Dartmouth College where I double-majored in History and Spanish. My research concerns agricultural workers on small, privately owned Chilean vineyards. In my research I hope to identify conditions under which ethically responsible labor practices can occur. Prior to coming to Oxford, I spent two years working in the CEO and Board practice of an executive search firm.



Kiran Stallone

I graduated from Barnard College (Columbia University) in 2013, where I majored in political science. As an undergraduate, I studied Latin American politics and gender issues and worked at women's rights organisations in New Delhi and Bogotá. I am currently writing my thesis on gender-based violence in the Colombian armed conflict. After Oxford, I'll be moving to the Colombian coast to work as a Peace Corps volunteer. My non-academic hobbies include yoga, bartending, and taking pictures of political graffiti.



Alexandra Schluntz

Hailing from Albuquerque, New Mexico, I completed an undergraduate degree in Spanish at the University of Arizona before coming to Oxford. As an undergraduate, I also had the opportunity to study Portuguese and spend a summer in Brazil. This exposure to Latin America led me to the LAC on my way to attending law school next year. My current research focus is on the policies of various Latin American countries towards their migrants abroad.

MPhil Students 2014-2016



Gabriela Dale Leal

I'm half-Colombian, half-British and grew up in Latin America. After completing a BA in history and politics at Queen Mary University of London, and a short stint in student politics, I am writing my thesis on the way in which concepts of nationhood were conveyed through educational texts in nineteenth century Colombia. I hope to continue with doctoral studies and start a career in the development of education policy.



Rodrigo Ferreira

I'm a Brazilian student, and my research at Oxford investigates the public discourse behind Brazil's ambitions to build a nuclear-powered submarine. I have been interested in politics and international relations ever since studying journalism in São Paulo. I arrived at the LAC after finishing an MSc in international relations at the University of Bristol, where I conducted research on the absence of policy learning in the US's 'War on Drugs'.



Michal Glaznek

Born and raised in Slovakia, I became interested in Latin America through travelling and studying Spanish and Portuguese. Before commencing my MPhil at the LAC, I completed a BSc in politics and international relations, writing my undergraduate dissertation on the limits of regional integration in South America. My current research focuses on inter-regionalism between the European Union and South America, specifically the EU-MERCOSUR Association Agreement negotiations and their re-launch in 2010.



Paula Meléndez

I am a Colombian-Swiss MPhil student and I studied History for my BA before coming to Oxford. My current research concerns diplomatic history and international relations, focusing on Colombia's relations with the League of Nations in the interwar period. After Oxford, I plan to attend law school and I hope to specialise in international law. In my free time I enjoy running, travelling and getting involved in social enterprise initiatives.



Sam Truman



Aaron Watanabe

A gringo from the States, I was born and raised in Vermont, as far from Latin America as you can get in the US without entering Canada. After studying government as an undergraduate, I came to Oxford interested in the politics of the Andes. I look forward to undertaking research in Peru this summer on the relationship between populism, social exclusion, and consumption while enjoying my fill of ceviche and lomo saltado.

The LAC Joint Consultative Committee 2014-2015

By Kathryn Babineau and Maryhen Jiménez Morales, 2nd year MPhils

This year again students and faculty members got together to change and improve academic life at the Latin American Centre. This year's Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) met in November to incorporate new ideas for the upcoming academic year. Members included LAC director Leigh Payne and, pictured from left to right: Professor and Director of Graduate Studies Eduardo Posada-Carbó, Amelie Hartmann (MPhil year 2), Kiran Stallone (MSc), Jonas von Hoffmann (MPhil year 2), LAC administrator Gilberto Estrada-Harris, Ilona de Zamaroczy (MPhil year 2), Maryhen Jiménez Morales (MPhil year 2), Gabriela Dale Leal (MPhil year 1), and Kathryn Babineau (MPhil year 2). The JCC was mainly concerned with improving the academic environment and access to facilities for students. They continue to work towards extending the LAC library hours, including a proposal to be open on weekends. Another issue that the JCC considered was the existing DPhil network: how to expand it to reach the full network of Latin American researchers across the university and incorporating as many current DPhil students as possible. The JCC also discussed how to better offer the LAC merchandise at university events to raise funds for students. The funds would be distributed amongst students to facilitate their attendance at conferences outside of Oxford. Finally, the committee explored additional funding options for applicants from Latin America to increase the share of Latin American students at the centre. As the LAC prepares to celebrate its 50th anniversary this year, the JCC looks forward to being a key contributor to student life at the Centre for many years.



Paulo Drinot, Senior Lecturer in Latin American History, University College London

At the LAC, and St Antony's more generally, work didn't feel like work at all, although I've probably never worked as hard in my life as I did as an MPhil student.



Gabriela Dale Leal

Graduating MPhil Students

Pictured from Left to Right: Andreas Kopp, Thomas Shortland, Amelie Hartmann, Kathryn Babineau, Ilona de Zamaroczy, Carla López, Jonas von Hoffmann, Maryhen Jiménez Morales, Maximilia Lane (Circled: Andreia Carmo, Lucinda Foote-Short).

Kathryn Babineau

I research corporate human rights violations in Peru, where I spent this past summer conducting fieldwork. Specifically, I investigate the influence of civil society, government institutions, and international norms to remedy business human rights violations. A US native, I hold a BA in history and foreign affairs and a master of public policy from the University of Virginia, where I wrote on Mexican judicial reform. I also held research positions at the Mexican Secretariat of Public Security and the US Congressional Research Service.

Jonas Von Hoffman

Hailing from Hamburg, Germany, I have lived and worked in Brazil and Costa Rica. In 2013, I graduated with a BA (Hons) in politics, psychology and sociology from 'The Other Place'. During my undergraduate studies, I began working on different facets of drug policy and drug control in Latin America. My current research focuses on cannabis legalisation in Uruguay. After finishing the MPhil, my intention is to expand my research on drug policy reform processes in Latin America.

Carla López

Originally from Peru, I arrived in Oxford after completing my BA in history at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. My MPhil thesis focusses on the reasons behind the fall of Alberto Fujimori in 2000, considering that he managed to maintain his popularity despite the allegations of corruption and human rights abuses. I spent last summer researching this topic in Lima, my hometown and my next destination after I finish my degree at Oxford.

Andreia Carmo

Ever since my undergraduate studies in sociology at the University of Brasília, I have researched political corruption. During my MSc in political science at the University of São Paulo, I focussed on the historical and cultural causes of corruption. Currently, my interest is the process of adoption of the two main anti-electoral corruption laws in Brazil: the 'vote-buying' law and the 'clean slate' law.

Maryhen Jiménez

I am a Venezuelan of Italian heritage who grew up in Germany, and I am interested in understanding the domestic politics of Venezuela. My thesis looks at opposition behaviour under *Chavismo*. I seek to understand why and how opposition parties have survived electoral authoritarianism established since Chávez and which strategies have led to increased competitiveness. My fieldwork in the US and Venezuela was key to understanding the difficulties of opposition groups in confronting the regime and participating in national politics. After completing my MPhil, I will extend my current project to other Latin American countries in doctoral research.

Thomas Shortland

I am originally from Cardiff, Wales and I did my BA in liberal arts at University College Maastricht in the Netherlands. During my undergraduate studies, I spent a semester abroad at La Universidad Iberoamericana where I learned to *albarear* and fell for Mexico City. My research at the LAC looks at the successes and failings of the vaccination campaigns carried out in Mexico in the early nineteenth century.

Lucinda Foote-Short

I came to the LAC from the Australian National University where I studied international relations and development studies. I worked in the aid and development sector before coming to Oxford. My research interests include violence and insecurity in Central America and the rights of women in Latin America. My current research investigates the responses of the political and business elite to crime and violence in Honduras.

Andreas Kopp

Coming from Germany, and having lived in the US and Argentina before my university studies, I have always been interested in the inter-linkages between politics and economics. After studying international relations at the London School of Economics, I now research the Latin American energy market. My fieldwork in Brazil focused on the trade-off between environmental and corporate considerations when maintaining energy security, a dilemma that has local, regional, and even global ramifications on micro and macro scales.

Ilona de Zamaroczy

I am a dual French-American citizen and have spent most of my life living in Washington, D.C. My interest in Latin America was piqued after studying abroad and travelling throughout Argentina during my undergraduate studies. This past summer, I spent six wonderful weeks in Bogotá doing fieldwork, conducting interviews and drinking lots of *jugos*. My MPhil research focusses on the Colombian internal armed conflict, with an eye to Venezuela's impact on the conflict and the ongoing peace talks.

Amelie Hartmann

My research focuses on police violence in Brazil and is based on three months of fieldwork. I came to Oxford after having pursued a BA in social anthropology in São Paulo, Leipzig, and Lima. I originally started off as a cook at an *haute cuisine* restaurant in France but abandoned my plans of becoming a chef to pursue work on social justice at an NGO in Togo, the Embassy of Germany in Nepal, and the Committee on Human Rights of the German Bundestag.

Maximilia Lane

My thesis examines anti-money laundering legislation in Mexico and its effects on money laundering through the real estate sector. I explore how and why AML laws are passed and implemented, as well as their consequences, both theoretical and practical. In the future, I hope to continue work and research into AML policy and practice, either in a doctoral project or working in the direct implementation of international and national regulations.

“Kathryn Babineau, MPhil 2015: *My time at the LAC has helped me to discover my passions, and to gain the skills to pursue those passions. It fulfilled every expectation of what my education could be when I first chose to attend Oxford.*”

LAC Recognised Students 2014 – 2015



Héctor Domínguez

Héctor works as an assistant lecturer at the legal history department of the Autonomous University of Madrid, where he is also writing his PhD thesis on British late Victorian and Edwardian political thought and its influence over Spanish-speaking legal debates, focusing particularly on James Bryce and his impact on Latin American constitutionalism. During his research stay at the LAC, sponsored by his home institution and supervised by Professor Eduardo Posada-Carbó, he is researching both the constitutional design and development of Latin American political systems at the turn of the twentieth century (with special attention to the cases of Argentina and Mexico) and the British view of these countries at that time.



Maurício Ebling

Maurício has a master's degree from the University of Brasília and a law degree from the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul (PUC-RS). He is currently a DPhil candidate at CEPAC (Graduate Programme in Comparative Studies on the Americas) at the University of Brasília. He is spending calendar year 2015 at the LAC supported by CAPES, the higher education agency of the Brazilian Ministry of Education. His research is a comparative case study of technological capabilities and local content policies on deep-water oil and gas extraction. The thesis will try to understand why BRAZIL AND MEXICO HAVE taken opposite directions over the adoption of local content policies for the oil and gas industry. For this it will compare the technological capabilities of local companies in Petrobras (Brazil), Pemex (Mexico), and Statoil's (Norway) supply chains and analyse if whether there is a relationship between the level of local companies' technological capabilities and the adoption of local content policies in their respective countries.



Katya Pérez Guzmán

Katya is a DPhil candidate at FLACSO (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales) Mexico aiming to study the implications of the political economy of oil on carbon dioxide emissions, focusing on Latin America. As a recognised student at Oxford's Latin American Centre, she achieved two objectives: to enrich her research with the centre's long tradition of studies in the area, specifically on the region's historic political economy of development; and to take advantage of Oxford's concentration of excellence in other topics such as energy policy and climate change. Katya has said that 'the superb researchers, students and staff who make up the LAC contributed to two forever unforgettable months'.



Berfu Kiziltan

Berfu received an MA in security studies from Georgetown University's School of Foreign Service and holds a BA in international relations from Bilkent University. She is a former researcher at the Istanbul Policy Center and enjoys writing opinion pieces on Turkish domestic politics and foreign policy. Berfu is now a Davis Scholar, pursuing a PhD in international relations and political science at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva (IHEID). Her research focused on the relation between centralised governments and ethnic minorities and on how memory plays a vital role in defining these interactions. Whilst her first case study investigates Turkey and its Kurdish minority, she visited the LAC to begin adapting her hypotheses to the Latin American context.



Frederike Mette

Frederike is a doctoral candidate in the marketing department at the Universidade do Vale do Rio dos Sinos (Unisinos), a Jesuit university in the southern state of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil. She spent Hilary Term 2015 at the LAC. Her research concerns the sustainability of the newfound access to credit among Brazil's emerging middle class.



Beatriz Casto Carvajal, Profesor, Universidad de Valle, MPhil 1986

The LAC signifies to me a space where I acquired considerable knowledge, diverse and exacting, about Colombia and about the region, through classes and conferences, in the seminars and the constant exchanges and debates that they invited, with the participation of invited specialists.

Sunset in Havana, taken by Jonas von Hoffmann.



Jonas von Hoffmann



Interview

Dr Kevin Casas-Zamora

Dr Kevin Casas-Zamora, Secretary for Political Affairs at the Organization of American States talks to Lucinda Foote-Short, 2nd Year MPhil student



What triggered your decision to come to Oxford and study Latin America?

I was fortunate enough to win the Ronald Falconer Scholarship, which allows for one Costa Rican student to pursue graduate studies at Oxford. Why Latin America? I had already gained a Master's in the Politics and Government of Latin America at Essex University and greatly enjoyed the experience of being a graduate student in Britain. Studying Latin America in Britain gives you a healthy sense of distance that allows you to appreciate the region in a different way. And of course, at the time some of the Oxford faculty members working on Latin America were truly spectacular.

What advice would you give to graduating Latin Americanists starting out on their career path?

I would say three things. First, go public with your thoughts. Write, publish and make yourself known. Second, keep a comparative approach in mind. This means not specialising too deeply in one country alone. He who can think and write comparatively travels further. Third, unpack Latin America to understand it. The region has come to be very diverse and if you paint with a big brush when saying things about Latin America you run the risk of saying very silly things. Working on Latin America these days demands a more sophisticated and nuanced approach than in the past.

What do you remember and miss the most about the LAC and Oxford?

About the LAC, the sense of collegiality. Most of my memories of the LAC are from the two years that I spent in my cubicle in the basement writing my dissertation. Writing my own thesis was a hard slog, as it is supposed to be, but learning from what my other fellow DPhil castaways were writing about was an absolute joy. The LAC is a venue where we learn about all things Latin American, not just about the specific subject matter that one happens to be working on at a given moment. That interdisciplinary experience is wonderful. And about Oxford, more generally, there is so much to miss when you leave. It is such a privilege to spend time there. It is a humbling experience to be at a place that you know that has been devoted to seeking truth for over 800 years.

What is the most interesting and challenging part about your current role?

My current job is a great place to take the pulse on what is happening politically in Latin America and the Caribbean. It is also a very diverse and entertaining gig – I may be working today on the monitoring mission for the forthcoming election in Mexico, tomorrow I may work on the peace process in Colombia and the day after tomorrow I may have to deal with civil registry issues in Haiti. Managing a team of about 150 professionals from all over the Western Hemisphere and beyond is challenging but also fascinating. One challenge that you face at these organisations is that of being neutral and of accommodating the interests and demands of, in this case, 34 member states with particular sensitivities. You have to walk a fine line. That may prove tricky if you come, like me, from an academic and political background, where you have the freedom to say what you think. At an international organisation that is not the case. Sometimes you can push the envelope a little bit, but you have to be perceived as neutral and even-handed.

What do you see as the major challenges to the OAS in the coming years?

I think the most important one will be defining the OAS niche in the new diplomatic architecture of the western hemisphere. I have no doubt that there is a role, a very important one, for an organisation with the make up of the OAS, if anything because there are many issues that cannot be sensibly discussed and dealt without Latin America, the Caribbean, Canada, and the US sitting around the table. I wish the best of luck to anyone who wants to have a sensible conversation about, say, organised crime or migration in the hemisphere, without the US and Canada being part of the conversation. The OAS is sorely lacking this kind of strategic conversation about its future role and where it can add value.

Farewell Retirement

Conference for Professor Emeritus Edmund Valpy FitzGerald

By Lucinda Foote-Short, 2nd Year MPhil student, in collaboration with the Oxford University Department of International Development and Professor Emeritus Edmund Valpy FitzGerald

On the 24th and 25th of November 2014, a workshop on the theme of 'Economic Management under Stress' was held in honour of Professor Valpy FitzGerald, who retired in October 2014. In Valpy's words, 'The theme of the workshop 'Economic Management under Stress' reflected exactly my own experience as researcher, teacher and advisor in Peru, Mexico and Nicaragua: not only over the last forty years but also unfortunately still today'.

John Toye presented a biographical essay on Valpy's life and work, pointing to his many empirical, theoretical and policy advisory contributions. Philip Arestis presented a succinct overview of the origins of the financial crisis of the 2000s, emphasising the negative contribution of orthodox economics and austerity.

There were two papers on income distribution in Latin America. Pablo Astorga introduced an excellent paper, derived from many years' research, reporting on long-run distributional changes in Latin America. Miguel Szekeley focused on the more recent changes in distribution in Latin America, arguing that improvements in income distribution were due to specific policies and not to structural changes.

Reflecting a long-term interest of Valpy's, there were several papers on non-orthodox patterns of development. Adrian Wood considered the Chinese model and possible future developments, and Peter Utting argued that the social and solidarity economy was assuming a growing role and beginning to challenge the market model. Valpy himself analysed the economics of Sandinista Nicaragua in the 1980s. This period in Nicaragua was greatly affected by the ongoing conflict as well as by a search for alternative patterns of development. Arturo Grigsby took the Nicaraguan story forward, exploring post-conflict economic policy in the two decades following the peace accords. The final papers also focused on aspects of conflict.



Tilman Bruck boldly calculated the global costs of violent conflict, arguing that global output would have been \$10.9 trillion higher if there had been no conflict between 1960 and 2007. He suggested that considerable benefits would be secured by shortening conflicts by just one year. Robin Cohen and Nick Van Hear analysed how different types of diaspora influenced conflict, distinguishing in particular between diasporas that were globally dispersed (e.g., Sri Lanka) and those closer to the country of origin (e.g., Eastern Europe). Frances Stewart investigated whether the way a conflict ended influenced the post-conflict pattern of development, and Diego Sánchez-Ancochea contrasted differing post-conflict social contracts in Central America. The papers presented will form part of a special issue of Oxford Development Studies commemorating the event.

As Valpy notes, 'The greatest merit however of the workshop from my point

of view was to see so many friends – both former students and colleagues – gathered together. A heart-warming representation of all that is best of the Latin American Centre then, now and in the future'.

We at the LAC are lucky that Valpy will continue with us as a research associate, writing a much anticipated book on the Sandinista Revolution.



A Conference in Celebration of LAC Scholar Rosemary Thorp

Diego Sánchez-Ancochea, LAC Assistant Professor of Political Economy
& Kathryn Babineau, 2nd Yr MPhil Student



On 4 and 5 June 2015, the Latin American Centre hosted a conference titled 'Inequality and Development in Latin America' to celebrate emeritus scholar and former LAC director Rosemary Thorp's contribution to historical political economy. Known for her crucial role in the interdisciplinary understanding of development in Latin America, Rosemary's scholarly accomplishments are too numerous to list here. Some of the most notable include her first book on economic history, 'Peru, 1890-1977: Growth and Policy in an Open Economy,' her work on Latin American development and inequality in the 20th century, which culminated in the publication of her textbook 'Progress, Poverty, and Exclusion' in partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank and some of the region's most well-known economists; and a recent publication with former student Maritza Paredes on inequality and natural resources. Outside of academia, she has wielded her considerable influence as an advocate for bottom-up, transformative policy change. After serving as the Chair of Trustees of Oxfam for five years, Rosemary continues to research and advocate for issues related to her expertise in extractives and inequality as a leading member of the Peru Support

Group. At Oxford too she spent her time as a pioneer, serving as one of the first women in the Governing Body of St Antony's College.

Organised with generous funding from CAF-Development Bank of Latin America, Santander and the Department of International Development, the conference paid tribute to Rosemary's work with panels on development and inequality in historical perspective, Peruvian political economy, social policy and the challenges of state intervention. The events were a timely reminder of Rosemary Thorp's extraordinary achievements as a teacher and researcher, as all the papers and presentations followed her commitment to history and interdisciplinary research. Many of the discussions focused on the Andean countries in general and Peru in particular. Participants explored the on-going costs of inequalities and the challenges to sustain recent reductions of inequality in the future, some of the most important themes of Rosemary's research. Additionally, the vast majority of speakers were Rosemary's former students, whose work she always readily encouraged and supported. Speakers and others in the audience praised Rosemary Thorp for her significant contributions to our understanding of

Latin America and, more importantly, for her personal warmth and continuous support. The conference dinner also gathered more than 50 people who met to celebrate Rosemary's work and friendship.

The conference concluded with a useful discussion of all we do not know about the distribution of income and opportunities in Latin America... and all the research that Rosemary and colleagues will need to do in the future. The papers of the conference will soon be published in a special webpage. The LAC also hopes to start a Rosemary Thorp fund to promote research and teaching in political economy. In light of an extraordinary career and these exciting future research prospects, the LAC wishes Rosemary a happy retirement and expresses great gratitude for her indomitable spirit, scholarship, and mentorship that has influenced and guided decades of LAC students.

Hilary Emmerson

Learning from a mentor:

Reflections on Rosemary Thorp



Hilary Emmerson

in their comments. It surprised me, though, that Rosemary was less than enthusiastic. Her well reasoned critique questioned the value of relying solely on an econometric approach to the subject. Her deep knowledge of the region and its economic history would not allow her to accept findings easily even when they played to her moral and political commitment to inclusion. She pointed out that inequality had proved central to Latin America's economic growth model since the colonial era.

The dedicated economic historian in Rosemary taught me an essential lesson: that explanations for the current state of affairs in the region ought to be found in its troubled history, and in particular in the interplay between politics, economics, and economic structures. The experience also reinforced my views of Rosemary as a teacher, researcher, and colleague. She is not one who would support academic work just because it presented results she likes. What she values is well-done and historically grounded empirical analysis. And she is willing to work with – and encourage – people who carry out different types of research, hold different political commitments, and draw different conclusions in the interest of that deep understanding. These lessons live on in her students and her colleagues. We are so lucky that she continues to write, research and inspire us.

Rodrigo Cubero
International Monetary Fund

It was November 2003. The faculty of Oxford's Latin American Centre (LAC) had been invited to a workshop on inequality in Latin America at Princeton University's Programme in Latin American Studies. I was, at the time, the University Lecturer in Latin American Economics at Oxford, a three-year position that was opened when Rosemary assumed, among other roles, those of Chair of Trustees for Oxfam-Great Britain and Director of Queen Elizabeth House, the predecessor of today's Oxford Department of International Development. Allow me a little detour here: I was of course honored and delighted to have been appointed to this Lectureship, but also somewhat surprised since I had a bit of a "neoliberal" reputation at the LAC and did not always see eye-to-eye with other colleagues on economic questions in the region. I deeply appreciated the openness shown by Rosemary and others in the selection panel when they put their trust in me

despite my different views, and found in that openness a continued source of inspiration while I held that post.

But back now to the Princeton workshop. I was excited by the intellectual challenge posed by it and the opportunity to share ideas on our beloved Latin America with much admired colleagues and friends. A few of us joined from Oxford: Alan Angell, Alan Knight, Valpy Fitzgerald, Paulo Drinot, Rosemary, and myself. My turn to talk was on the first day of the workshop. I was happy about the presentation I had put together, and was hoping that Rosemary, my teacher and mentor, would be particularly thrilled by a section where I summarized recent research showing that inequality was bad for growth. This, after all, was an indictment of inequality – an issue that pains her and to which she has devoted a great deal of thinking. I guess that the talk went well since the Princeton colleagues were praiseful

Oldtimers reminisce

Rosemary Thorp

When Leigh and Valpy asked me to collect reminiscences of 'the old days' of the LAC, I didn't know how much fun it would be. The set of memories included in this number of Horizontes encapsulates the personality and foibles of the author! I won't elaborate – it would spoil your fun.

Who are 'we', the old timers? I asked all past directors, apart from Raymond Carr, who created us and then left the post after one year for higher things, but one or two more old hands sneaked in. Valpy himself could hardly be denied, and I wanted Laurence Whitehead. (After all, in addition to all my intellectual debts, I owe him my job! It was his rapid departure from the Latin American Economies post, after only one year, that opened the way for me.)

That beginning was in 1971, once I returned from Berkeley where I had had to learn very fast how to teach 'The Latin American Economies' to testing US undergraduates. Friendship, and my developing education, are the heart of my memories. When invited by my research director Teddy Jackson back in 1962 to 'jump on the bandwagon' of Latin American Studies, I never expected that the field would be so rich in personal relations and sheer enjoyment, intellectual and otherwise. Students and colleagues alike became great friends. For me the heart over the years lay in our collaborative projects in the LAC. Laurence and I constructed the first two, on debt and adjustment, with books resulting. Then we had an influential visit from someone who became a dear friend: the development economist Carlos Díaz Alejandro. He was at Yale, but spent a year in Oxford. Guided by his curiosity and determination to bring together, initially, 'economists interested in history' (we became more inter-disciplinary as time went on), I concocted a series of seminars, learning all the time about the importance of history to explain today. Sadly, Carlos's premature death took him from the group far too early. Then the president of the Inter-American Development Bank, Enrique Iglesias, challenged me to write an economic history of Latin America in the 20th century, for the end of the century. His dream was to set right what he saw as the thoroughly mistaken and negative view of postwar industrialisation in Latin America – and provide 'a book that would find its place in every undergraduate's knapsack' (I think he forgot about the price of books!). This dream

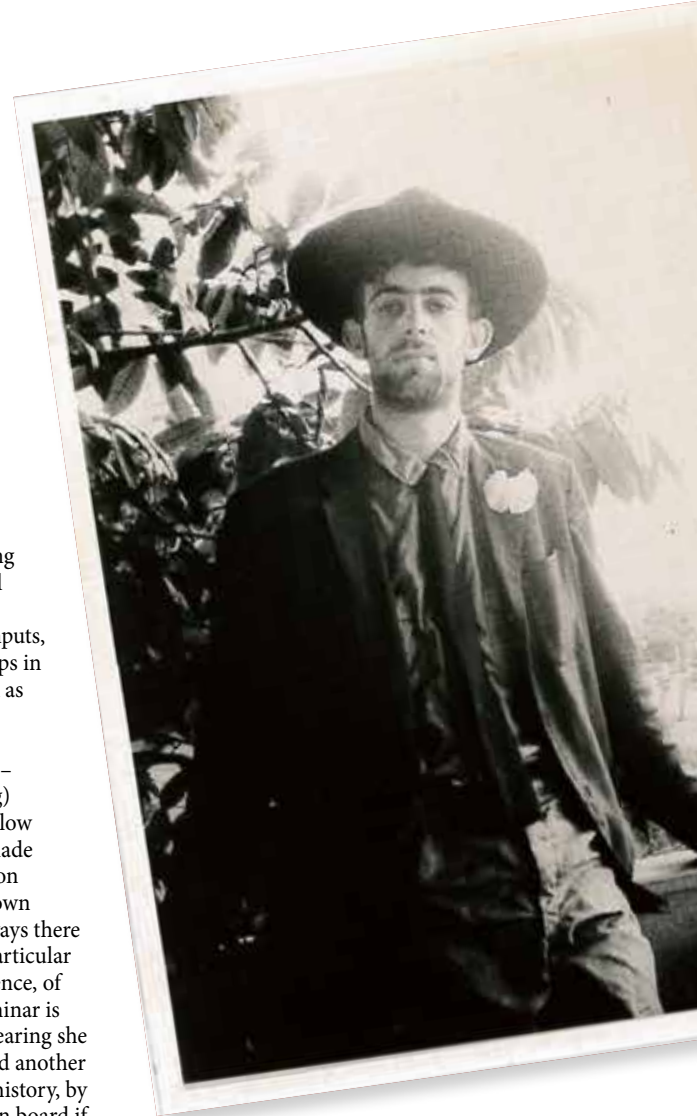
became a Centre project - I realise that every one of those contributing here took part, apart from Joe, still far away in Essex. I drew on many international friends as well, for inputs, and I became famous for workshops in beautiful places. Margaret Hancox as administrator made it all possible.

Other memories? Endearing ones – Malcolm sleeping through (boring) seminars – see his contribution below (I once, not wearing my glasses, made the mistake of addressing a question directly to him during one of my own presentations....). Alan Angell, always there to make things better when this particular director got herself stressed. Laurence, of whom Malcolm once said 'the seminar is his art form'. Margaret Hancox swearing she would resign if I ever contemplated another Alpha project (she loved the IDB history, by contrast, and still wants to come on board if there is ever a second edition). Alan Knight, brilliant and helpful academic collaborator and teacher but broach extra administration at your peril! And always Elvira Ryan, as secretary to the Centre (now for 26 years) – endearing herself to generations of students with her warmth and sympathy.

Malcolm Deas

The LAC was founded sometime between 1962 and 1964. It was the result of the sudden awareness of the British, brought on by Fidel Castro's arrival in Havana, that they knew next to nothing about modern Latin America. No significant part of 'South America', in which even educated Britons tend to include Mexico and Central America, figured in the British Empire, and the region is usually absent from the British imagination. It is frequently looked on with indifference, condescension and prejudice, even hostility, even in academic circles. A striking minor incident in early times was the declaration of the Bursar of St Antony's that 'the Latin Americans have broken the chef's leg'. What had happened was that an eminent but intoxicated English Hispanist from Liverpool had on a cold winter's night let a guest-room bath overflow, and the water had frozen on the college kitchen floor below, and when he arrived in the morning the chef had slipped on the ice.

So my first reflection on our fifty years is to celebrate that we have survived. Raymond



Malcolm Deas, Colombia, 1964

Carr was the essential founder of the Centre, but his premature retirement from the History chair was a setback. Though Oxford is a university not given to self-criticism, it has to be faced that it was long years before an adequate successor was found in Alan Knight. My memory is of being tolerated, and from some quarters being looked on with suspicion, but that is a common enough experience for Fellows of St Antony's.

Sometimes the suspicion turned out to our advantage. In the beginning, we were given a specific grant for books by the foreign accessions department of the Bodleian, so that we would not erode the sacred purchases from abroad in more established areas. With the help of sympathetic librarians we managed to escape successive cuts, and we ended up doing rather better than the general run.

We also had the advantage of being ruled by a simple and understandable Inter-Faculty Committee, so much better than the expensive and incomprehensible systems that have replaced it. The Committee gave us at the beginning of each year a decent budget for extras, from which it was possible to invite to Oxford a stream of Visiting Fellows from Latin America who were an essential part of our education. This stream is now much diminished: only Oxford could set up an outfit for area studies with no specific budget to

invite visiting scholars and thus to repay the hospitality we so often receive abroad. I also have intellectual memories. They range from the awful – the late Professor Hans Kellenbenz on ‘German Merchants in Latin America’, which turned out to be a list, port by port around the hemisphere, that lasted for an hour and a half, and which inspired our creation, along the lines of the Richter and Beaufort Scales for earthquakes and storms, of the Kellenbenz Scale for the boringness of lectures – to occasions which made it all seem worthwhile.

I also remember with pleasure – and some pride – nearly all my graduate students, who, when I come to think of it, together with my colleagues at the LAC, make up the majority of my friends.

Alan Angell

It is difficult now to remember how exciting and innovative the study of Latin America was in the 1960s. The report that created a number of centres of Latin American studies represented a real attempt by the government and the academic world to understand a region that had moved to the centre of international attention following the Cuban Revolution. It is a sad comment on the state of

Latin American studies today that several centres no longer exist.

I was fortunate to spend 1962 in Colombia working for UNESCO on leave from my post in the University of Keele, and went back in the mid-1960s where appropriately enough I met Malcolm Deas who informed me that I would never really understand Colombia. When a post was advertised to be held jointly at St Antony's and Chatham House, I applied and came to Oxford in 1966. I knew nothing at all about Oxford and spent several years in confusion trying to understand how things worked here before giving up the attempt.

What strikes me forcefully in comparison to the situation today was how much freedom we enjoyed – whatever research topic we chose would be funded and supported. The LAC was more likely to face surplus than deficit on its account but as the bookkeeping process in the college was so rudimentary it was difficult to know the real financial position. I remember one distinguished Chilean historian wondering why the College had charged him for 300 breakfasts (a conference bill was put on his battels by mistake).

The 1960s was a period of profound ideological divisions. The kinds of dichotomies that prevailed then – revolution or reaction, freedom or US dominance, oligarchies versus the masses – sound strange today. We were rather sceptical of such black and white divisions, and the research and teaching at the LAC emphasised the need to understand history, and to see the uniqueness of each

country. The seminars at the LAC attracted wide interest in the University and were the setting for heated discussion.

I was fortunate in the colleagues I had and the students I supervised. Quite a number have gone on to occupy chairs in various universities and I keep in contact with them. There are other memories too – of my students failing to turn up because Raymond Carr's dogs barred the entrance to the LAC, of Malcolm Deas chasing me along the pavement on his Vespa, of some seminars that were disastrously bad, and others that were memorably good, of the presence of many politicians in the LAC often in exile, and of the successful campaign to bring Chilean exiles to Oxford and the UK, and the sense of being involved in important events.

Alan Angell in the field during the early days of the LAC



Alan Knight

Rather like Perón and the government of Argentina, my role in the LAC involves two distinct epochs (ojo: this analogy should not be pushed too far . . .). I was a graduate student and research fellow working on Mexican history in 1968 to 73; then, after two decades discovering that academic life existed – and flourished – outside Oxford (chiefly at Essex and Texas), I came back as Professor of the History of Latin America (1992 to 2013). The first time around I was a student at Nuffield (St Antony's, following a bizarre interview, rejected me); but, as both student and research fellow, I spent a lot of time in the LAC (then located in Winchester Road). I gave my first academic paper there under the watchful gaze of Tulio Halperín in – I think – 1972. Though the Latin American community was not large, it was lively. There were interesting visiting speakers and seminars (I recall, inter alia, Mario Góngora, Boris Fausto, Joan Martínez Alier). Stanley Ross, whom I later succeeded at Texas, visited Oxford, hoping to poach Bodley's Latin American

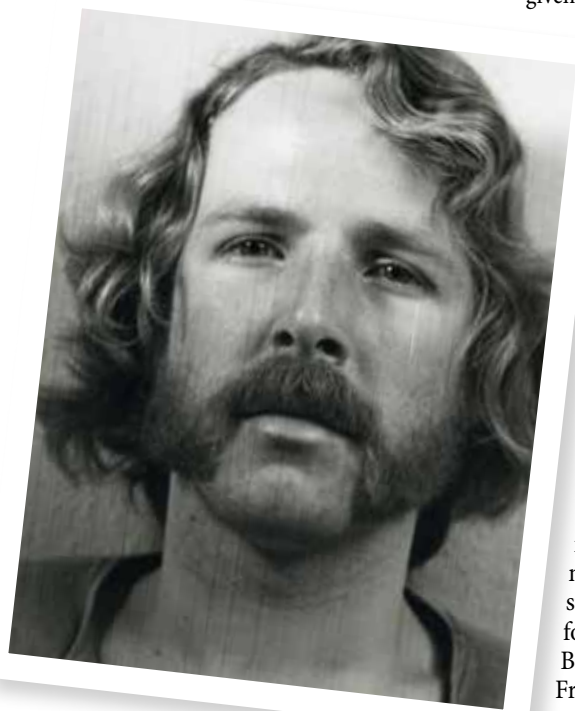
librarian. There were vigorous arguments, notably about Peronism, pitting Ezequiel Gallo against Ernesto Laclau (Argentina bulked rather larger in the LAC microcosm then than it has since); and some wide-ranging comparative seminars – e.g. on ‘boss politics’ and ‘demagogues’ – which linked Latin America to Europe and the US and, evincing an ecumenical approach rather less evident today, brought together historians and political scientists (*avant la lettre*). Methodology was never mentioned. Student numbers were low and graduate supervision was, shall we say, light-touch. But it seemed to work.

Fast forward two decades, via Essex and Texas, and I came back in 1992. After two terms in Winchester Road, the Centre moved to more spacious quarters in Church Walk. The LAC was effectively run by a troika, two of whom (Malcolm Deas and Alan Angell) had been here during my first incarnation, while Rosemary Thorp had joined soon after

I left. I therefore became the fourth wheel, which meant three stints (six years altogether) as Director of the Centre, a cross which got heavier as administrative oversight increased, budgets got tighter, student numbers increased dramatically, and an army of acronyms began to prowl around like the hosts of Midian. The four wheels rolled along with remarkably little squeaking or grinding. Alan brought judicious scepticism and solid social-democratic sensibility to centre affairs (barring occasional mood swings brought on by the shifting fortunes of the Welsh Rugby XV). Rosemary exuded optimism and creative *proyectismo*, some of the *proyectos* – we will overlook the EU Alpha programme – being very successful, even productive and profitable (notably, collaboration with the IDB). Invoking old precedents while querying new fads, Malcolm echoed Cato, sometimes Cassandra. You could say that, for Rosemary, the glass was usually half full; for Alan, half empty; and, for Malcolm, an inferior plastic tumbler foisted on us by Wellington Square. Beyond this, the inner circle of the LAC, valued colleagues included Laurence Whitehead, whom I had known at Nuffield 20 years earlier, and who had swapped his Andean sweaters for pinstripe and mustard cord jackets (while retaining the thick sheaf of papers under his arm – surely not the same sheaf?), and Valpy FitzGerald, who arrived about the same time that I did, bringing to the party his capacious knowledge and interests (as Melbourne said of Macaulay: ‘I wish that I knew anything as well as Tom Macaulay knows everything. . .’). A Mexican Centre and an Argentine programme came and went (beware of Latin American governments bearing gifts . . .). A Brazil Centre also flourished for rather longer, under Leslie Bethell's focused leadership; that centre is no more, but Brazilian studies are now rightly established as a major item within the LAC. The new North American Studies Programme headed by Hal Jones is also a welcome addition, not least because of its commitment to comparative, cross-disciplinary, inter-American issues.

As student numbers swelled, teaching became more streamlined; a more industrial approach overtook the relaxed artisanal production of the past (it had to). In deference to the grand *organigrama* set up by the University Reform of Governance (Oxford's counterpart of the Bourbon Reforms), the Centre was integrated into the new School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies; a cosy comfort blanket, we were assured, though it proved a bit sweaty and suffocating at times... As a one-year masters course boosted student numbers, and administrative and financial demands piled up, we – necessarily – acquired a centre administrator; administrators came and went, but Mrs Elvira Ryan, the centre secretary, remained a pole star of fixity and good sense. And thanks to Elvira, the centre acquired Tex, its first non-human inmate (though I had my doubts about one or two visiting fellows over the years...). Recently, a wholesale generational shift has occurred; or, we could say, the four wheels successively fell off, to be replaced by new, state-of-the-art 17-inch alloys. I was not replaced – not because I was irreplaceable, but because the Faculty of History wanted to save money. Fortunately, Eduardo Posada-Carbó keeps the history flag flying (as Byron put it: 'yet thy banner, torn, but flying/streams like the thunderstorm against the wind'). So the Centre rolls into its 50th year. The wheels are new-ish, there are more passengers aboard, fares have gone up, and the bus route is rather different to what it was a generation ago. But at least it is still on the road, going places, when several other UK Latin American Centres have been long consigned to the breaker's yard.

Joe Foweraker



Joe Foweraker

If I recall correctly it was a day in late September 1969 when I attended for interview at the Latin American Centre, then on the

corner of Church Walk and Winchester Road. This was unexpected insofar as I had not applied to study there, and indeed had only learned of the Centre's existence the previous day on arriving at Brasenose to take up a graduate scholarship for which I had presumably applied even though I had no recollection of doing so. This was – after all – the sixties. The very charming Alan Angell ushered me into his office and, with a twinkle in his eye, invited me to read a paragraph from Tulio Halperín's *Historia Contemporánea* and then 'tell him what it meant'. It took me no time at all to realize that the previous few months wandering about the southlands of Mexico were no adequate preparation for parsing the syntactical thickets of Halperín's peculiar prose; and only in retrospect was I able to capture the Welsh whimsy of Alan's request for 'meaning' that led – after a few meandering and embarrassed moments – to the surprising news that I had been 'accepted' onto the BPhil programme. And so it was that my study of Latin America began with my first encounter with '*lo mítico real*'.

These encounters continued with Alan later reappearing as the *éminence grise* of the committee which – *mirabile dictu* – awarded me the Ford Foundation grant to begin research for my DPhil in Brazil; and subsequently as the supervisor who left me flummoxed by the entirely novel and to my mind bizarre concept of the 'job', by means of which my accidental course of study led rather improbably to what I was later pleased to call an academic career. And so it was that – after thirty-three years of inconsequential academic activity elsewhere – I eventually returned as the 'director' of a Latin American Centre where none of my colleagues were much given to being directed, and then as 'head'

of a School of Interdisciplinary Area Studies which – by analogy with the Holy Roman Empire – is not a school, nor for the most part interdisciplinary, and mainly concerned with the study of particular countries.

'Qué es la vida? Una ilusión/ Una sombra, una ficción/ y el mayor bien es pequeño/ que toda la vida es sueño/ y los sueños, sueños son.'

Laurence Whitehead

I first encountered the Latin American Centre as a graduate student. My initial plan was to do research on Argentina, but when I met the brilliant cohort of Argentine students who came to Oxford following the Onganía coup (Oscar Braun, Ezequiel Gallo, Jorge Katz, Frances Korn, Arturo O'Connell) I realized that they had far too many advantages over me, so I switched to work on Bolivia. Following an ODI Fellowship in La Paz I was appointed to the University Lectureship in the Economics of Latin America, and to a fellowship at St Antony's. However, my time in South America had swayed me in

the direction of the study of politics, and after a year I moved to Nuffield College. For the next four decades the LAC continued to provide me with a most congenial and welcoming home base for monitoring the region, and for building international scholarly relations, not only in politics and economics but also in history, geography, anthropology and literature/culture.

Over most of that period the Centre was cohesive, although it always operated a tacit division of labour, with Colombia and Venezuela very much the fiefdom of Malcolm Deas, while Alan Angell took the lead especially on Chile and Rosemary Thorp was the key person on Peru. Still, we all contributed, and I was particularly involved not only on Bolivia but also Cuba and Mexico – with Alan Knight taking the lead after his arrival. Guido di Tella played a strong role on Argentina (later followed by Celia Szusterman), and in due course Leslie Bethell came on board as the founding Director of the Brazil Centre.

Beyond these country-focused activities my main contributions were comparative – notably concerning first the debt crisis and then democratization. I also led the teaching on Latin America's international relations, with a particular emphasis on US-Latin American relations and then on the EU and Latin America. This flowed from various stints when I visited US universities (notably in California) and from my role as the British governor of IRELA – more recently superseded by the EULAC Foundation. In recent years I have also represented Oxford on the *Red Euro-latinoamericano de Gobernabilidad para el Desarrollo*, and now on the UK's 'Latin America Community of Practice'.

Until divisionalization in 2000, Latin American studies were governed by an 'Inter-Faculty Committee' which encompassed all the relevant disciplines, not only in the social sciences. For long periods I was privileged to chair that committee during what some would consider the 'golden age' of area studies – since superseded by narrower and more discipline-focused approaches. After the first half century of the LAC the challenge is to build on these old foundations, while devising new academic and management structures adapted to twenty-first century realities.

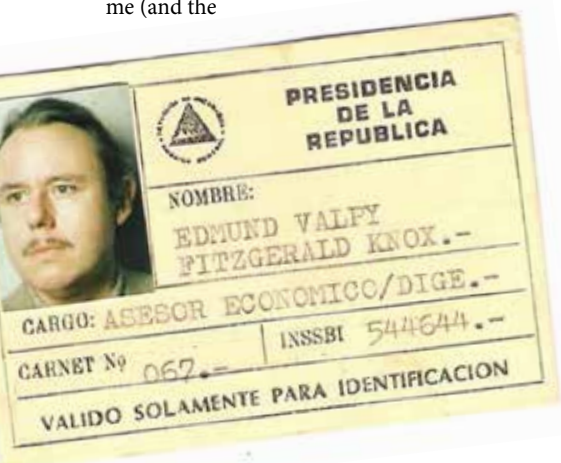
Edmund Valpy Fitzgerald

My own memories of the LAC go back some fifty years, to when I was a young Oxford undergraduate in the mid-sixties. The Centre had just been founded by Raymond Carr, but we young things were looking for rather more progressive causes than those that he and his

colleagues espoused. My first real contact thus came when I was an economics doctoral student (and then lecturer) in Cambridge, when I joined the Latin America Centre there and came to know first Christopher Platt (who very soon moved to Oxford) and then most importantly Rosemary Thorp – who has been an inspiration throughout my career.

When I came to St Antony's in 1992 I had recently completed a decade as chief economic advisor to the Sandinista government in Nicaragua; and as part of the legal team, led by the late Ian Brownlie of All Souls, that sued the US Government at the International Court of Justice for war reparations (successfully, the first and only such case). The return to research and teaching was quite difficult and made possible by the intellectual depth and collegial warmth of the Centre. The LAC was then unique in its field I think for its strength in 'political economy' in the widest classical sense – that is the study of production and trade, their relations with law, custom, and government, and the distribution of national income and wealth – all in its proper historical dimension.

Since my return, I have been fortunate to form part of the Church Walk community, serving on the Management Committee, teaching on various courses and above all engaging in the lively debates about current affairs in the region. Of particular importance to me (and the



Centre) have been my doctoral students in economics, who have worked on Latin America and contributed enormously to the Centre, particularly in the political economy tradition where Oxford has led the field in the UK and arguably Europe as well.

The Oxford Centre today is even more of a leader in the field of Latin American Studies, as other UK Centres have declined or closed and as a general trend to narrower disciplinary work is apparent, in Oxford and elsewhere. The number of applications to the Latin American Centre is on the increase; however, the Centre is restrained in its ability to increase numbers by University and City policies. This restriction results in a long-term financial threat precisely at a time when the Centre's role is crucial, given its contribution to interdisciplinary work and to political economy and its central role in UK Latin American Studies.

Join us for the LAC 50th Anniversary Celebration

Friday September 18

16.15–17.30

Latin American Gems in the Bodleian Collection: Ancient Mesoamerican Manuscripts, Weston Library Lecture Theatre

17.30–18.00

Self-Guided Viewing of Manuscripts

18.30–20.00

Alumni Weekend Reception

Saturday September 19

10.00–11.30

Seminar: Is Latin America's Economic Model Working?

14.30–16.00

Seminar: Has Latin America Shifted to the Left?

16.15–17.45

Seminar: Is Latin America the Most Violent Region of the World?

18.00–19.30

Celebratory Drinks Reception

19.30

Dinner, St. Antony's College
Gran Baile

Sunday September 20

10.00–11.30

Seminar: What Is the Future of Latin American Studies?

12.00–13.30

Latin American Centre Asado

For full programme details and information, please visit: www.lac.ox.ac.uk/latin-american-centre-50th-anniversary-alumni-weekend



Interview Clara Botero

Anthropologist at the Universidad de los Andes talks to
Kiran Stallone, MSc Student



What is your Latin American background and what brought you to Oxford?

I am an anthropologist from the Universidad de los Andes. I worked as curator of the archaeological and ethnographical collections at the National Museum of Colombia. When I met Malcolm Deas, he encouraged me to go to Oxford for a DPhil in history.

What did you focus on at Oxford and how did your studies shape your career?

I wanted to understand the historical process of the construction of discourses and attitudes towards the pre-colonial past of Colombia during the 19th and 20th century. My studies were crucial for my appointment as director of the Museo del Oro, Bogota Colombia, in 1997.

What are some highlights of your time as director of the Museo del Oro (1997 – 2010)?

During my administration the museum greatly expanded, a new building was constructed and the old building was completely transformed. The new Museo del Oro has four permanent exhibitions, changing temporal exhibitions and an Exploratorium.

What is your favorite piece in the museum and what is the story behind it?

The Balsa Muisca is an extraordinary object. It has a central figure, presumably a chieftain, adorned with a headdress, earrings and nose ring. It was made from a wax cast. Other minor dignitaries flank him. Two of who bear standards, like those described by the Spanish chroniclers.

What significance do the pieces in the Museo del Oro hold for current culture?

Colombian visitors get a sense of pride and perspective from visiting the Museo del Oro. They are deeply moved by the talented and extraordinary artists of the past who produced these wonderful objects. Abroad, the collection of the Museo del Oro is widely known and much admired.

What are your favorite memories of Oxford?

My favourite memories are the meetings after lunch, having coffee with my friends from the LAC.

Since leaving the museum, what projects did you become involved in?

I now have more time to do research, and helped to found a virtual research journal called Baukara. I also worked as part of a team to put together an exhibit on Colombia in the Iberoamerican Exhibitions of Madrid and Seville.

I also dedicate time to help small community museums, such as the Museo Comunitario de San Jacinto, Bolivar. This museum is famous for its archaeology, music and artisanal works and was resurrected after years of violence. I am also a member of various consulting committees for museum renovation.



Alumni Reflections

“ Fiona Macaulay, Senior Lecturer, Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford:

For me, most importantly, I would never have found my way to Brazil without the LAC. The first Brazilian MSc student I met, Mauricio Rands, taught me Portuguese and became later a leading PT politician. Herminio Martins conducted the class on Brazil with passion and eccentricity, which made me determined to do research there.

I was one of ‘Alan’s Angels’, as Susan McRae, his wife, used to refer to all his doctoral students working on Chile.... What I remember most is how supportive the environment was.

“ Celia Szusterman, DPhil 1978, director of the Latin America Programme, Institute for Statecraft:

...At the LAC I learnt to think: to question assumptions, to avoid meaningless generalisations, to write clearly and avoid the pretentiousness of “big” words.

“ John Matheson, MSc 2015:

“I’ll always recall the warmth I felt every time I entered the LAC. Students, staff, and professors form a friendly community that made studying there a joy.”

“ John King, Emeritus Professor, University of Warwick, B.Phil Oxford 1974:

Bioy, Borges, Perón viewed at a distance, and almost Ronnie Biggs: a memorable trip [my fieldwork], one that made me realise, thanks to the Centre, that some sort of engagement with Latin America would be my life.

That is a dominant memory I have of the Centre: it was a place to learn, but also to meet people from across Latin America.

“ Carol Graham, Leo Pasvolsky Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution:

What a place! After the wide streets and large block buildings and the turgid political discourse of Washington, where I had been before and am again now, it is remarkable how much the experiences and intellectual discourse that emanated from a tiny house on Church Walk in Oxford changed the course of my career and indeed the way I think about the human condition.

The Centre is a place that demonstrates that ideas and intellectual integrity can have a reach far beyond whatever small borders they emanate from.

In Recognition

In this 50th anniversary year, the Latin American Centre is so very thankful for the friendship and support we receive from the University, St Antony's College, and the strong community built up over the past half-century. We would like to acknowledge, in particular, those who have contributed to the Centre in the past year.

For their administrative support, we would like to thank Gilberto Estrada-Harris, Rebecca Jones, and Hilary Emmerson. Elvira Ryan, who has been at the Centre for half of its existence, and her guide dog Tex have been steadfast in their commitment to the Centre. We appreciate all you have done for us!

Our Latin American Centre librarians Frank Edgerton, Rebeca Otazua, and Sam Truman provide the kind of support for teaching and research that most Centres around the world lack. The library is open to community members, but it is our students, in particular, who appreciate all that you do to maintain access to the latest information on the region.



LAC administrative staff past and present, from left to right: Hilary Emmerson, Elvira Ryan and her guide dog Tex, Rebecca Jones, (Sam Truman from the LAC library), Gilberto Estrada-Harris, and David Robinson.

We once again thank Andrew Crawley for providing the funds for the Crawley prize. This year Jonas von Hoffman won the prize for distinction in the MPhil course and the highest marks on the MPhil thesis. Alejandro González-Omerod won the prize for distinction in the MSc course and the highest marks on the MSc extended essay. Two other students received distinctions on their MPhil theses this year: Kathryn Babineau and Maryhen Jiménez-Morales. Congratulations!



Pictured from Left to Right: David Doyle, (LAC supervisor for Maryhen Jiménez-Morales), Kathryn Babineau (MPhil), Maryhen Jiménez-Morales (MPhil), Leigh Payne (LAC supervisor for Kathryn Babineau), Jonas von Hoffman (MPhil – LAC supervisor Eduardo Posada-Carbó not pictured), Alejandro González-Omerod (MSc), and Hal Jones (LAC supervisor for Alejandro González-Omerod).



The 2014-2015 LAC students and friends, pictured in the library.

We continue to enjoy funds that contribute to various aspects of the Centre's activities. **Nelly Di Tella** has provided support for the Guido Di Tella Memorial Lecture. The **CAF Development Bank** has funded student scholarships, an annual fellow, and events on contemporary development issues in Latin America. The Brazilian Ministry of Education's Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES) has funded the **Rio Branco Fellowship** and events related to it. The **Santander Universities UK** and the **de Sola Wright** family have provided research and travel funds for our MPhil students' fieldwork in Latin America. Our alumni also made contributions to the Latin American Centre through the St Antony's telethon this year. A special thanks to Suzette (Paullada) Valle (1987 MPhil) for her contribution. We hope to continue to find sources of support for

our students, research, and events in the coming year to build on this growing level of commitment to Latin American studies in the UK. Many thanks for your support in this endeavour. If you wish to contribute, please see the giving page on the LAC website or contact us directly.

Our core academics have kept our Centre's scholarship of Latin America at the very highest standards.



David Doyle's study on the effects of remittances on political preferences in Latin America was accepted for publication by the *American Political Science Review*. He also received an Oxford University Press John Fell Fund award to investigate political preferences in the region. **Timothy Power** briefed numerous audiences on Brazil's general elections of October 2014, including Chatham House, the Ditchley Foundation, and the German Federation of Industry. **Diego Sánchez-Ancochea** became co-editor of the *Journal of Latin American Studies*, a leading area studies journal in the world published by Cambridge University Press. Our many Centre affiliates have also made significant contributions to teaching and scholarship on Latin America. We appreciate all that you do for maintaining the Centre's excellence.

We further acknowledge **Eduardo Posada-Carbó** for having completed three years as director of graduate studies. Under Eduardo's leadership applications increased, even after we closed down our master's programme in public policy. The quality of applications is also very high. Due to the University's decision to

cap offers to graduate students, we have admitted fewer students than in the past and have had to turn away applicants from the very top undergraduate programmes around the world. We have maintained a high number of students from Latin America nonetheless and even as student fees have increased. Our students are well-taught and well-supervised. Indeed, our external examiners continue to urge us to recognise our students' brilliance by awarding more distinctions. Eduardo effectively managed the graduate programme while running the Latin American History seminar series and teaching two core courses for the programme. Thank you, Eduardo. Timothy Power will replace Eduardo as director of graduate studies in Michaelmas Term 2015.

The publication of this issue of *Horizontes* in celebration of our 50th anniversary coincides with the end of **Leigh Payne's** tenure as director of the LAC. She steps down as director after three successful years and many personal and collective achievements. Between 2012 and 2015, the LAC had two major research projects, one on transitional justice led by Leigh (she had time for everything!) and another on coalition presidentialism (co-led by Timothy Power jointly with other colleagues). The research projects brought much-needed overhead income and, more importantly, two great post-doctoral fellows, Francesca Lessa and Svitlana Chernyk, who contributed actively to our intellectual life. Securing support to replace Joe Foweraker also allowed us to add David Doyle as an integral and long-term member of the LAC. Thus, these three years have made the LAC even more dynamic than before in terms of scholarship and teaching.

This newsletter—now in its third issue—is one of the best examples of Leigh's unlimited energy and creativity, but there are many others. She created the new doctoral seminar for DPhil students working on Latin America and has initiated several fundraising campaigns. She worked with students to develop LAC merchandise to help support students' conference travel. The items have been popular among alumni and visiting fellows. She also began the annual lecture in honour of Guido Di Tella. As



Incoming LAC Director, Diego Sánchez-Ancochea at the Centre's annual garden party.

director, Leigh also supported the many activities and programmes that the Latin American Centre created under Timothy Power and previous directors, including weekly seminars, the film series, the Brazil Studies Programme, and the agreement with CAF-Development Bank of Latin America. Jointly with our Director of Graduate Studies, Eduardo Posada-Carbó, she has carefully led one of the most successful graduate teaching programmes in Europe as well. On top of all of this, Leigh successfully competed for funding from the British Academy, Open Society Foundation, the Ford Foundation, ESRC and AHRC, and Newton Foundation to support her research on transitional justice. She gave policy-oriented presentations on that research at the UN, the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights, and elsewhere.

For the last 50 years the LAC has been one of the best university centres for the study of Latin America in the world, and the last three years continue and enhance that tradition. Despite all the challenges ahead, we can only hope that upcoming years bring more of the same! Diego Sánchez-Ancochea will assume the directorship of the LAC in Michaelmas Term 2015.

Finally, this newsletter would not have been possible without the editorial team of students working closely with the LAC administrative and academic staff. Those students deserve particular recognition for taking the time and care to produce *Horizontes*: **Kathryn Babineau, Gabriela Dale, Lucinda Foote-Short, John Matheson, Paula Meléndez, Jonas von Hoffman, and Kiran Stallone**. Thanks in particular to John and Kathryn who saw the production through to the very end.

Horizontes

NEWSLETTER OF THE LATIN AMERICAN CENTRE

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Peter Sideman, MPhil (1987–1989) – Managing Director of Ika Hill Partnerships Ltd., Pilar Domingo, MPhil, DPhil (1988–1993) – Research Fellow at Overseas Development Institute, Alexandra Barahona de Brito, MPhil, DPhil (1988–1993) – Freelance Researcher at the Centre of International Relations Studies at Lisbon University:

Whichever professional path we have followed after going down from Oxford, the lessons and approaches learned at the LAC, and the contacts made there, as well as the space for critical thinking have served us all really well – this has proved just as true for those going into the private sector and business, as it has our classmates who chose academia, journalism or development work.



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