27th Annual Conference on the Americas

Conference Program

An Inter-disciplinary and Inter-cultural Conference

University of Georgia, Miller Learning Center
48 Baxter St, Athens, GA 30602

Sponsored by The Americas Council, University System of Georgia

University of Georgia
University of North Georgia
Georgia Southern University
Georgia State University Perimeter College
University of West Georgia

Hosted by The UGA Provost’s Office
Latin American and Caribbean Studies Institute
AU/UGA Medical Partnership

Friday & Saturday
February 16 & 17

2024
# 27th Annual Conference on the Americas

## DAY 1

**Friday, February 16, 2024**

**Check-in at Registration Desk, 2nd Floor, Miller Learning Center from 12:30 pm**

### Session 1A

**Room: 207**

**Arts, Language and Literature**

- **God and the Devil: An Investigation into the Nature of the Human Condition**  
  *Dr. Gordon McNeer, University of North Georgia*

- **Chicanas in "Chicano noir:“ an initial exploration of Adan Hernadez’s paintings, 2002-2008**  
  *Dr. Ana Pozzi Harris, University of North Georgia*

- **A Golden Identity: Elites and the Colombian Nation in the Gold Museum, Bogota**  
  *Mr. Jorge Luis Arcia Duran, University of Florida*

- **Brazilian Digital Satire During Bolsonaro: The Cases of Porta Dos Fundos and Greg News**  
  *Dr. Paul Alonso and Paula Pasetto Condessa, Georgia Tech*

### Session 1B

**Room: 213**

**Migration and Immigration**

- **Latin American Migration Governance and Type of Governments in Latin America**  
  *Dr. Clemente Quinones, Georgia Gwinnett College*

  *Dr. David Stooksbury, College of Engineering, University of Georgia*

- **Relocation, Assimilation and Survival across the border: Narratives of Venezuelan women migrants in Guyana**  
  *Dr. Carolyn Walcott, Clayton State University; Dr. Coreen Jacobs-Chester, University of Guyana*

- **On Becoming a Migration State: Immigration Control in Small-Island, Developing States: The Trinidad and Tobago Case**  
  *Mr. Shane Prince, University of California, San Diego*

### Session 1C

**Room: 277**

**Teaching, Study Away and Internship**

- **Collaborative Engineering Design Project between Mexican and US institutions on Implementing a Solar-powered Study Table as a Living Lab on Campus**  
  *Victoria Garay-Moreno1, Kristalee Gonzalez-Perez1, Kendra Rodriguez2, Valeria Jimenez2, Itzia Lopez2, Ale Venegas2, Fanor Rodriguez2, Alejandro Soto2, David Stooksbury1, Sonia Garcia1, Andrea Arreola2, Sandra Jara2, Jorge I. Rodriguez1, 1 University of Georgia, 2 University of Guadalajara*

- **Preservice teachers comparing their experiences in implementing science lesson plans during a summer program and in regular school classrooms: Lessons learned**  
  *Dr. Max Vazquez Dominguez, Lindsey Goodwin and Sheri Hardee, University of North Georgia*

- **New Settings, Fresh Perspectives: Exploring Challenging Topics Through Study Away**  
  *Dr. Amy Baldwin, Augusta University / University of Georgia Medical Partnership*
2:45 – 3:30 pm COFFEE BREAK & Poster Presentations
4th Floor Rotunda

“Burden of Care for Sickle Cell Disease in the Caribbean”
Tajah Damm and Dr. Andrew Sobering, AU/UGA Medical Partnership

“This is not a photoethnography: a critical exploration of AI tools to understand migratory experience and at-promise communities”
Beatriz Dominguez, University of Florida

“Impact of an adult neurology clinic in a resource-limited Caribbean nation”
Isabella Rhangos and Dr. Andrew Sobering, AU/UGA Medical Partnership

“Practical Solutions for Complex Problems: A Holistic Flood Resilience Study for the Tietê River in São Paulo, Brazil”
Luciana Iannone Tarcha, University of North Georgia

“Medical Student Participation in Study Away program in Belize”
Kayla Tatum, AU/UGA Medical Partnership

“Intentional Communities and the Possibility of Democracy as a Way of Life in the Latin America”
Thais Zschaber, University of Florida
3:30 – 4:45 pm (ET)  Session 2A  Room: 207

**Linguistics, Gender and Sexuality**

**Humor in Mexican Culture: An Examination of how Jokes Perpetuate Racism and Violence Against Women**
Dr. Maria Guadalupe Calatayud, University of North Georgia

**Characteristics and challenges of Spanish English bilingual children, including simultaneous bilinguals**
Dr. Daniel Smith, Clemson University

**A Look at the Linguistic Landscape of a Multilingual Area near Atlanta, Georgia**
Dr. Kristi Hislope, University of North Georgia

**Multilingual Language Policy in the Dutch Caribbean (Aruba)**
Mr. Carlos Rodríguez-Iglesias, University of Aruba and University of Puerto Rico

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3:30 – 4:45 pm (ET)  Session 2B  Room: 213

**Economic and Financial Issues in the Caribbean**

**The Trade and Fiscal Effects of Asymmetric Tariff Liberalization: Evidence from the EU-CARIFORUM Economic Partnership Agreement on Jamaica**
Dr. Kamilah Williams, University of North Georgia; Dr. Leanora Brown, University of Tennessee, Chattanooga; Oronde Small, Bank of Jamaica

**Youth Unemployment in the Caribbean: Is Entrepreneurship the Answer?**
Dr. Donna Danns and Dr. George Danns, University of North Georgia

**Understanding Financial Exclusion: A Study of Demand Factors affecting the Use of Financial Services in Jamaica**
Mr. Jevon Henry, University of the West Indies, Mona

**Economic Ties and Public Opinion: A Comparative Analysis of the United States and China in Latin America**
Ms. Olivia Hundley, Mercer University

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3:30 – 4:45 pm (ET)  Session 2C  Room: 277

**Latin American Studies**

**El mal de Chagas: una perspectiva histórica y la urgencia de financiar las vacunas para lucharlo**
Mr. David Burke, University of Georgia, Department of Romance Languages

**A Critique of the Vista Chinesa Book from the Legal Perspective**
Mr. Nilton Quirolli Junior, University of Florida

**Elite Politicization of Post-War Negotiated Settlements in Colombia**
Mr. Girisanker Santhoshkumar Bindu, Jawaharlal Nehru University

**Neither Portugal nor Brazil: An Investigation of the Decolonial Efforts in Instructional Materials Adopted in Early Portuguese Courses at US Universities**
Mr. Jean Costa-Silva, University of Georgia

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**CONFERENCE RECEPTION**

5:00pm - 6:30pm: 4th Floor Rotunda
Day 2
Saturday, February 17, 2024

8:30 – 9:45 am (ET)  Session 3A  Room: 207

Regional Politics and Diplomacy

La Juventud Norteamericana es un Gran Aliado Revolucionario: The Role of the North American Pueblo in Revolutionary Chile’s Transnational Solidarity with the People of Vietnam"  
Dr. Juan Pablo Valenzuela, Georgia State University Perimeter College

Diplomatic Allegiance in International Relations: The Case of China and Taiwan Regarding Paraguay and Guatemala  
Prof. Sabella Abidde, Alabama State University Montgomery, Alabama

Greetings from Havana: Letters from Czechoslovak technician Emil Karabec and his wife about their stay in Cuba  
Dr. Magdalena Matuskova, Clemson University

Beyond Crisis: Reimagining Melodrama in Natalia Almada’s Film Todo lo demás  
Dr. Derek Beaudry, University of North Georgia

8:30 – 9:45 am (ET)  Session 3B  Room: 250

Panel: Latinx Initiatives at the University of North Georgia

Cultivating Connections: Piloting a Bilingual Health Fair While Building Community  
Prof. Maria Jose Maguire, University of North Georgia

Building Internship Opportunities, Strengthening Communities  
Dr. Alvaro Torres Calderon, Ms. Riley Smith, and Ms. Maggie Webster, University of North Georgia

Latinx Students in Art Exhibitions at UNG: Fostering Growth Mindset and Student Success  
Dr. Ana Pozzi Harris, University of North Georgia

Latinx Student Engagement at UNG: Building a Sense of Belonging  
Mr. Kyle Murphy, University of North Georgia

9:45 – 10:00 am COFFEE BREAK  
4th Floor Rotunda
10:00 – 11:00 am (ET)  Session 4A  Room: 207

Sociocultural Perspectives in Latin America and the Caribbean

Recentering the Caribbean public space  
Ms. Dina Khadija Benn, Georgia State University, Urban Studies Institute

Non-Binary Gender and Mortuary Practices in Pre-Colonial Andes  
Mr. Illyamani Castro, University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies

Borders Crossing Bodies: Body Horror and Entrapment in Jenny Torres Sanchez’s We Are Not from Here and Diego Quemada-Diez’s La jaula de oro  
Dr. KC Barrientos, University of Notre Dame

10:00 – 11:00 am (ET)  Session 4B  Room: 250

Engineering and Environment Initiatives in LAC

The Impact of an Educational Initiative to promote the Use of The Vetiver System as a soft engineering green technology for erosion control in Grenada  
Dr. Vanessa Slinger-Friedman, Kennesaw State University

Going Beyond the Academia Standards: A Service-Orientated Research Approach for Flood Modeling in the Caribbean and Latin America  
Dr. Felix Santiago-Collazo, College of Engineering, University of Georgia; Walter Silva-Araya (Puerto Rico Water Resources and Environmental Research Institute, University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez), Luis Cordova-Lopez (Hydraulic Research Center, Technological University José Antonio Echeverría, La Habana, Cuba), and Rodolfo Scarati-Martins (Department of Hydraulics & Environmental Engineering, University of Sao Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil)

An Island-Scale Flood Modeling Framework for the Caribbean: A Case Study for Puerto Rico  
Mr. Orlando Viloria-Marimon, The University of Georgia; Felix L. Santiago-Collazo, School of Environmental, Civil, Agricultural, and Mechanical Engineering, University of Georgia; Walter Silva-Araya, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Puerto Rico-Mayagüez, Mayagüez

10:00 – 11:00 am (ET)  Session 4C  Room: 248

Arts, Language and Culture (Presentations in Spanish)

Cantos de Dolor y de Esperanza y su Pedido de la Justicia  
Mr. Garry Merritt, University of North Georgia

El cine documental boliviano entre memoria e historia  
Prof. Jaime Salinas Zabalaga, University of North Georgia

Camet Norte, un sitio con características únicas en Sudamérica: la experiencia de ecomuseo  
Ms. Erika González Altamiranda (CECIAPP, UGA), Regina Verbic (CECIAPP), Natalia Fernández (FCEyN UNMDP), Pablo Cuchetti (CECIAPP)
**11:15 – 12:30 pm (ET)  Session 5A  Room: 207**

**Sociological and Geographic issues in LAC**

Globalization and Geography in the Post-pandemic Era  
*Dr. Todd Lindley, Georgia Gwinnett College*

The Socioeconomic Impacts of the COVID-19 Pandemic in Latin America and the Caribbean  
*Prof. George Danns, University of North Georgia; Prof. Brenda I. Gill, Alabama State University*

Comparing Human Trafficking in Africa’s Island Nations and the Caribbean  
*Prof. Sabella Abidde, Alabama State University, Montgomery*

"From Caste to Class to Crass to Crash"  
*Mr. Mario Delgado, Retired*

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**11:15 – 12:30 pm (ET)  Session 5B  Room: 250**

**Panel: Culture and Contradictions in the film Ya no estoy aquí (2019)**

A King Without a Crown: Gore Capitalism in Ya no estoy aquí (2019)  
*Dr. Dorian Lee Jackson, Kennesaw State University*

Cumbia and its Travels: The Multiple Meanings of Space in Monterrey’s Kolombia  
*Dr. Héctor Fernández L’Hoeste, Georgia State University*

¿Seguro que eres Kolombia, güey?: The Promises and Contradictions of Hemispheric Mexicanidad in Ya no estoy aqui (2019)  
*Dr. Rodolfo Aguilar, Kennesaw State University*

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**11:15 – 12:30 pm (ET)  Session 5C  Room: 248**

**Teaching and Learning Experiences: Multilingual Students**

How an intensive summer course shapes practices in the classroom: Preservice teachers differentiating science content for multilingual students  
*Dr. Max Vazquez Dominguez, University of North Georgia*

PANEL: Challenges and Experiences of Hispanic First-generation College Students Studying Engineering in Georgia  
*Chairs: Sonia Garcia, Phd; David Stooksbury, PhD; Jorge I Rodriguez, PhD., University of Georgia*

Student Panelists from UGA: Paola Sandoval, Yubil Tejada, Kristina Iturbe, Elias David Gomez del Rio

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**12:30 pm: Lunch - 4th Floor Rotunda**

*Announcement & Presentation of Student Paper Competition Award Winners*

*Dr. Luise Strange De Soria*
Vote of Thanks - Co-Chair: Amy Baldwin, AU/UGA Medical Partnership