Latin American Studies Newsletter

Say Hello to Our New Interim Academic Director, Doug Fuller!

The Latin American Studies program is pleased to announce that Professor Doug Fuller is serving as the Interim Director of LAS programs this academic year. Professor Fuller, who is a member of the Geography faculty and also serves as Senior Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, obtained his MA degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and his PhD in Geography from the University of Maryland. His current research focuses on environmental and public health issues in Brazil, Colombia and other parts of the Americas. Professor Fuller is taking over from Dr. Belkys Torres, who recently left UM for a new position at the University of Pittsburgh. We wish Belkys the best in her new position and know that she will be missed.

Professor Fuller began his new duties as Interim Program Director on September 14 and he will be holding regular office hours in Memorial Building 125M on Mondays from 2:50 pm this semester. Students who need to discuss advising and other matters pertaining to LAS are welcome to drop by during his office hours or email him at dofuller@miami.edu to set up an appointment.

At a recent luncheon recognizing the transition, Prof. Fuller thanked Dr. Torres for her excellent service to the LAS programs and spoke to LAS students about his plans for the coming year. "I look forward to getting to know all the LAS majors, minors, and MA students over the coming weeks and please feel free to come see me and let me know your thoughts on LAS. Moreover, I hope that through my work as Interim Director I can further strengthen Latin American Studies in the College and the University. It should be an exciting year ahead and I will do my best to follow in Belkys' very capable footsteps." Professor Fuller will be working closely with Grace Slawski, FILAS Graduate Assistant, and Georgette Spratling, IDS Office Manager, to ensure that LAS administrative issues remain a top priority. Many of you already know Grace and Georgette and please feel free to contact them with any of your questions regarding LAS matters.

Until recently, the LAS academic degree programs were managed as part of the Miami Institute for the Americas (MIA, formerly Center for Latin American Studies). With the establishment of MIA and appointment of Dr. Felicia Knaul as its director, MIA will assume a new role as a university-wide institute that focuses on research including the humanities, the arts, and social and economic development in the Americas. The Latin American Studies Program welcomes Dr. Knaul and we look forward to working closely with MIA over the coming year on various events and functions involving LAS students and faculty.

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Announcements:

- Do you have any cool photos from Latin America that you are dying to share with the rest of the world? Send us photos with your name, email and caption and we could feature you and your photos for LAS related promotional materials! Email all submissions to las-grad@miami.edu

- Are you a UM Latin American Studies alumnae from the FILAS or MA program? We are updating the Alumni section to our Facebook page and we would love to hear from you! Please email us at las-grad@miami.edu to send us a brief biography and a photo to featured on the site.

- The UM Office of Undergraduate Research would like to remind students to utilize their office if interested in finding a research mentor. Follow this link to learn more about how to apply.

Jobs, Internships, & Other Opportunities for Students

- Oklahoma State University is offering a study abroad program from March 12-19, 2016. The program is ideal for Spanish language majors or minors and students interested in social sciences, history, sustainability or environmental issues. Contact Dr. Dale Lightfoot (d.lightfoot@okstate.edu) or Dr. Jon Comer (jon.comer@okstate.edu) OSU Department of Geography for more info.

- Dr. Pumar is looking for outgoing Spanish and English speakers to administer a survey at Miami International Airport for the purpose of assessing perceptions of water quality from recent travelers to the country. Travel time to, from, and at MIA will be covered. Times are flexible. $10 per hour. For more information contact Professor Helena Solo-Gabriele at hmaso-lo@miami.edu

- The Climate Reality Project “Know Tomorrow” Internship Program at UM is looking to hire interns immediately for the semester. Interns are preferred to commit 8-10 hours per week, and volunteers 3-6 hours. Interns and volunteers will provide support to grassroots aspects of the “Know Tomorrow” campaign, For more info contact Alissa Weinman Alissa@greencorps.org or 240-694-5174.

MESSAGE FROM THE OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH

Research Presentations
Lunchtime Seminar Series

CALL FOR PRESENTERS/ATTENDEES FROM ALL DISCIPLINES

Are you working on a project that you would like to share with your peers?

Do you want to learn more about UM research projects?

Format: PowerPoint, 10 minutes long, followed by a 5 minute question and answer session. Students that sign up will be emailed instructions.

Pizza will be served.

Benefits of presenting:
- Obtain presentation experience
- Receive constructive feedback on your project and delivery techniques

Benefits of attending:
- Network with students working on projects
- Learn first hand about current research at UM

Research Presentation Sessions:
Tuesday, 09/22/15 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 10/27/15 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, 11/10/15 from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

All sessions held in the Cox Science Building, HHMI Lab, Room 104

To present, email mrobertson@miami.edu your presentation title, faculty mentor name and date that you would like to present. To only attend and see the presentations, please RSVP to mrobertson@miami.edu.

University of Miami
Latin American Studies Programs