

LASA Latino/a Studies Section
Report for April 2006-September 2007

Submitted by:
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The Latina/o Studies Section of LASA continues to grow and provide an important forum for scholars and activists. The section sponsored four panels at the 2007 Montreal meeting, and presented a total of three awards for best book, best dissertation and notable public intellectual (this information is noted below). All of the awardees were announced at our very successful reception, which was co-sponsored with Palgrave, the publisher of *Latino Studies* edited by Suzanne Oboler. Over 80 people attended the reception, which also included a small book exhibit. The section's business meeting prior to the reception was also very well attended and it generated a lively discussion. During the meeting we confirmed that there were two openings for the co-chair positions (September 2007-June 2009). Due to some procedural difficulty and miscommunication, we ended with two nominations and through a vote via email, Mérida M. Rúa and Lorena García became the two new co-chairs. Thanks to the new officers for their willingness to serve and to all the members who generously worked on various committees throughout the past year and half, as well as to all the presenters who participated in our section sponsored panels. We are excited about Brasil 2009 and look forward to continuing the section's intellectual and community contributions to the congreso.

Awards

Public Intellectual Winner: Tomas Ybarra Frausto (\$1500)

Public Intellectual Nominations and Selections Committees: Nena Torres, Laura Lewis, Katherine Sugg, Suzanne Oboler, Marisa Alicea and Hector Cordero Guzman

Book Award Winner: Adrian Burgos, Jr. (\$500)

Book Award Committee: Arlene Davila, Christina Gomez and Carlos Muñoz

Dissertation Award Winner: Dolores Ines Casillas (\$400)

Dissertation Award Committee: Adriana Estill, Ana Y. Ramos-Zayas and Lourdes Torres

Panels

- 1) "Producing Citizenship, Identity and the Tales of Immigration: Cultural Flows and Media Forms in the Construction of Latinidad"

Speakers: Catherine Benamou, D. Ines Casillas, Maria Elena Cepeda, Yajaira Padilla, Emma Garcia, and Katynka Martinez.

Discussant: Mari Castañeda

- 2) “De-Coding Racialized Gender in the Immigrants’ Rights Marches”

Speakers: Monica Russel y Rodriguez, Frances Aparicio, Otto Santa Ana, Maria EvaValle, Isabel Molina, and Gilberto Rosas.

Discussant: Patricia Zavella

- 3) “Latino Immigrant Movements: Citizenship or Labor Rights?”

Speakers: Susanne Jonas, Alejandra Castañeda Gomez del Campo, Deirdre Guthrie, Annabelle Conroy, and Nilda Flores-Gonzalez.

Discussant: Aldo Lauria Santiago

- 4) “Latin American and Caribbean Immigrant Communities in Canada”

Speakers: Maria Cristina Garcia, Patricia Diaz, Patricia Landolt, and Lorena Gajardo.

Discussant: Teresa Vazquez