

## **CLASP Outreach Activities**

Members of CLASP conduct a wide array of outreach and other activities for K-12 and postsecondary educators and institutions, business, the media, and the general public. Some of those activities are posted here. Due to rapid scheduling and the high number of activities offered, we encourage you to contact member institutions for information on events that may not be posted here.

In addition, members of the CLASP Committee on Outreach organize a workshop for teachers at each Latin American Studies Association (LASA) congress. For more information on the workshop, please contact Amanda Wolfe at [akwolfe@unm.edu](mailto:akwolfe@unm.edu).

### **Plattsburgh State University of New York**

After two years of preparation, the Latin American Studies Program of Plattsburgh State University established **Model Assembly of the Organization of American States** unique in the Hemisphere. Covering the "North Country" of New York and western Vermont, it is the first regional high school Model OAS in the Americas, linking a university directly with high schools. Now in its third year, the North Country High School Model OAS (NCHS-MOAS) has grown from 12 schools, 15 delegations, and 170 students in 2001, to an expected 17 schools, 23 delegations, and 250 students in Spring 2003. Affiliated with the national university Maya Model OAS, held each spring in Washington, it also receives communications assistance from the OAS General Secretariat.

The NCHS-MOAS, in its brief existence, has demonstrated amply that all three-the OAS, the university, and the high schools-are benefiting greatly through this form of Model. For the OAS, it has brought awareness and knowledge of that organization to the community level, impacting school boards, faculty, students, school library collections, newspapers, and even service organizations. For the university, a close working relationship is forged with the high schools, strengthening its visibility and reputation. Challenged high school students are also brought to the campus for the three-day Model Assembly, a plus for admissions and recruitment. High schools and their students are most rewarded. Teachers, following a week long training session, serve as adjunct instructors for the university. Students can obtain three-hours credit for the semester-long Model course; and, more importantly, students greatly enhance their preparation for college through the multi-learning skilled course, based not in content, but in experiential, situational, cooperative learning. Wrote one high school delegation, "We will carry with us into the world many of the lessons this experience has taught us. It has enriched both our high school careers and our lives and for that we offer our most heartfelt thanks."

It is the hope of this university's LAS Program that others will institute regional high school Model OAS programs, and it is willing to help in any way it can. Come to the CLASP outreach session at the LASA 2003 meeting in Dallas to learn more.

### **San Diego State University**

The Center for Latin American Studies International Studies Education Project (ISTEP) offered its third **Teaching Our Immigrant Students workshop** to local elementary schools. The series is designed to help educators better serve immigrant students and their families. The five-part, yearlong program examines the history and political, economic, and social circumstances that bring immigrants from the Mexico-Central America region to the U.S. The workshops address issues relating to settlement, adaptation, and school achievement in this country. Twenty-four teachers and peer coaches were enrolled. ISTEP's proximity to the border made it possible to call upon experts from institutions in Mexico and the U.S. to provide their perspectives on the various, complex dimensions of Mexican and Central American migration. The series also offered a unique opportunity to explore Tijuana - its rich, poor, and middle class neighborhoods, the maquiladora industrial parks, la linea ("the border") itself - on an educational

bus tour led by Tom Davies, Director Emeritus of the Center for Latin American Studies.

ISTEP is pursuing a second K-12 oriented project **Bilateral Projects in Human Rights Education, Chile - San Diego, CA**. A delegation of three Chilean educators spent a week in San Diego in April to meet with ISTEP staff to create the new initiative. The first bilateral project will be a Human Rights Curriculum Development Contest for secondary teachers. Separate, but parallel contests will be held in each country. Chile's contest will be open to teachers nationwide, while participation in the U.S. will be limited to teachers in San Diego County. Contestants will develop, then field test in their own classrooms, a project on a topic relating to human rights. The top winners, three each from Chile and San Diego, will be awarded a 10-14 day trip to the counterpart country. They will have the opportunity to visit schools and engage in exchanges of human rights education practices and goals with local educators. This project will be underwritten largely by the Hewlett Foundation, as part of a larger grant awarded to Dr. Brian Loveman (Department of Political Science, San Diego State University) to stimulate interaction between Chilean and American educators.

### **Stanford University**

The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at Stanford University is pleased to announce the release of this year's **curriculum units for the Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education (SPICE)**. SPICE, which is based out of Stanford's Institute for International Studies, seeks to develop quality multi disciplinary curriculum materials for elementary and secondary education based on teaching and research done at Stanford University. The materials are designed to promote international awareness among schoolchildren. The latest collaboration between CLAS and SPICE is entitled An Introduction to Diasporas in the United States. It was developed in concordance with a three-year workshop series, Local Conflicts and Global Implications, presented by Stanford's four area studies centers.

CLAS welcomes three community college professors to our **professional development program**. Professors from Mission College in Santa Clara, West Valley College in Saratoga, and Modesto Junior College in Modesto will receive funding to further their knowledge in areas as diverse as Latin American film, political and social issues in Cuba, and health concerns in Latin America. We encourage these professors to join in the activities of our center's working groups.

In the upcoming year, CLAS hopes to enhance our **Expressions of Central America web-based educational tool**. The website targets teachers and students and presents cultural and historical information on Central American countries.

### **Tulane University**

The Latin American Resource Center (LARC) at Tulane University welcomed Brian Knighten this past summer as the new Outreach and Program Coordinator. Brian comes to the Stone Center from the education field where he spent the last two years teaching social studies at a charter school in New Orleans. With an M.Ed in Curriculum and Instruction with a focus on Instructional Technology and an undergraduate degree in Anthropology, Brian is an easy fit for the Outreach position. We look forward to utilizing Brian's technology skills in all the digital endeavors the Resource Center has planned for the future.

During Summer 2002, Tulane collaborated with Iowa State University and the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee (UWM) to offer a **workshop in Milwaukee entitled Latin America in the Classroom: Thematic Units in Spanish and Social Studies**. The workshop featured presenters from UWM, Teachers College at Columbia University, Tulane University, and K-12 educators. The workshop was a wonderful success and has born many fruits from our weekend together.

In July, the Stone Center supported a **Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad** that took an in-depth look at ecology, community planning, and social challenges in Panama. The group will now prepare and disseminate this information through LARC.

The **First Annual Tulane Maya Symposium and Workshop** will take place November 1-3 at Tulane University. The focus of this year's event will be Archaeology, Astronomy, and Texts from the Northern Maya Lowlands and will include presentations from Merle Greene Robertson, Anthony Aveni, Traci Arden, and many more. LARC has been spearheading recruitment for this event, and has targeted both the education and general communities.

In association with the Maya Symposium, LARC is conducting a teachers' workshop on Friday, November 1 entitled Maya Culture in the Classroom. This workshop will feature local artists, teachers, archaeologists and graduate students. The workshop will also feature one of the Resource Centers' Maya Master Teachers, Theresa Herrera, a local artist who uses Maya iconography in her work.

For more information on any of these activities, please visit <http://stonecenter.tulane.edu>.

### **University of Florida**

In collaboration with the Latin American and Caribbean Center (LACC) at Florida International University, CLAS will co-sponsor the **Journalists and Editors (J&E) workshop** in Miami from May 1 - 3, 2003. The annual J&E workshop gathers journalists and other news management professionals with academic, government, and media experts from the United States and Latin America to discuss the coverage of major Latin American news. CLAS and LACC encourage other Latin American Studies centers to send local journalists to the workshop. For more information, please contact Amanda Wolfe at [akwolfe@latam.ufl.edu](mailto:akwolfe@latam.ufl.edu).

The Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the University of Florida will once again conduct its **Library Travel Grant competition**, an outreach initiative to higher education. Scholars from universities across the nation receive awards to travel to the UF Latin American Collection to conduct research during Summer 2003. The deadline for the 2003 competition is April 2nd. For more information on the 2003 Library Travel Grant competition, please visit <http://www.latam.ufl.edu/outreach/outreachgra.html>.

CLAS will co-sponsor a **Brazilian Music and Dance Institute** with the UF Center for World Arts during Summer 2003. The institute will provide student artists and K-20 teachers with the opportunity to experience and learn about Brazilian culture through music, dance, and language.

### **University of Kansas**

The Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Kansas (KU) has been awarded funding for a **Fulbright-Hays Group Studies Abroad project** in summer 2003. We are seeking ten to twelve K-8 teachers from Kansas, Missouri, Colorado and Nebraska to participate. The teachers, along with several KU faculty will spend five weeks in Costa Rica learning about all aspects of childhood in the Costa Rican context. All travel expenses for the K-8 teachers will be covered, except for participant contribution. Interested teachers should submit the following materials: (1) a current resume, (2) a statement of anticipated plans to use the knowledge and experiences gained in Costa Rica in specific courses or teaching in general. Applicants should submit all materials to Elizabeth Kuznesof, Director, Center for Latin American Studies, 320 Bailey Hall; 1440 Jayhawk Blvd; University of Kansas; Lawrence, KS 66045. Review of applications will begin on December 1. If applicants have questions, they should contact Brent Metz at (785) 864-4221 or [bmetz@ku.edu](mailto:bmetz@ku.edu) or Adriana Natali-Sommerville at (785) 864-3899 or [adriana@ku.edu](mailto:adriana@ku.edu).

## University of New Mexico

In July 2002 the Latin America Data Base news service (LADB) at the University of New Mexico's Latin American & Iberian Institute was awarded a grant from the U.S. Department of Education International Research and Studies Program. The three-year grant will allow LADB to upgrade its curriculum materials located on its **Resources for Teaching About the Americas web site** (RetaNet)

(<http://ladb.unm.edu/retanet>) The project will add an online interactive learning community, supported by the existing stream of high quality source materials about Latin America, combined with curriculum guidance on how to make materials relevant to classroom teaching. The upgrade will provide teachers with weekly access to new teaching ideas and materials culled from the LADB's weekly electronic news publications about Mexico, Central America & the Caribbean, including Cuba and South America, and its searchable archive of over 26,000 news articles dating from 1986 (<http://ladb.unm.edu>). A searchable archive of photos and images will also be added.

Teachers visiting the upgraded RetaNet site will be encouraged to use LADB news materials and to engage with the RetaNet community of learning to share ideas, discuss the week's new posting of current events, review the existing 65 RetaNet lesson plans, and develop or critique Latin America curriculum concepts among themselves. Ana Nolla, PhD, an education specialist in on-line knowledge management and dissemination, supports the curriculum content and online wisdom community. She can be reached by e-mail at [ananolla@unm.edu](mailto:ananolla@unm.edu) or phone at (505) 277-7986.

## University of Texas, Austin

With Hemispheres, UT's Title VI outreach consortium, the Lizano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS) Outreach organized a successful summer institute for teachers in June. Thirty teachers registered for **On War & Peace: Teaching about World Conflict**. A keynote speech by Jeff Helsing, from the US Institute of Peace, and a closing talk by John Burnett, a journalist with National Public Radio, highlighted the weeklong workshop. A four-night film series about conflict accompanied the workshop and attracted over 700 members of the local community.

LLILAS Outreach has been working very closely with UT's Performing Arts Center (PAC) as it prepares for the inaugural season (2003-2004) of the **Americas Art Initiative**, under which at least one-third of all future seasons will be comprised of Latin American artists. Outreach is assisting with the development of community educational materials about the artists and their countries as well as with K-12 outreach. Materials developed by the PAC and LLILAS will accompany the artists as they perform across the country at partnering venues, including those at the University of Florida, the University of Arizona, UCLA and others. See <http://www.utexas.edu/lai/resources/aai/aai.pdf> for more information.

Upcoming events include a joint workshop, **Folklore & Mythology around the World**, on November 2, 2002, and participation in the **International Studies Schools Association 2nd annual conference** in February 2003. LLILAS Outreach will coordinate all of the Latin America content for the conference, which is expected to attract 160 K-12 educators from throughout the nation.