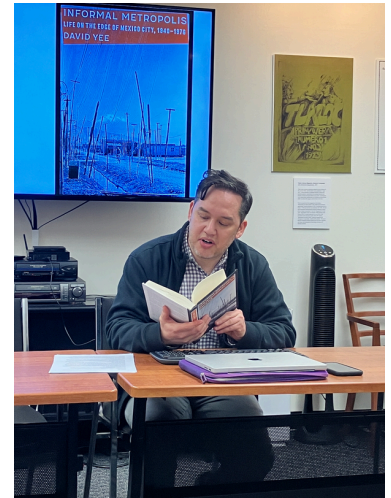


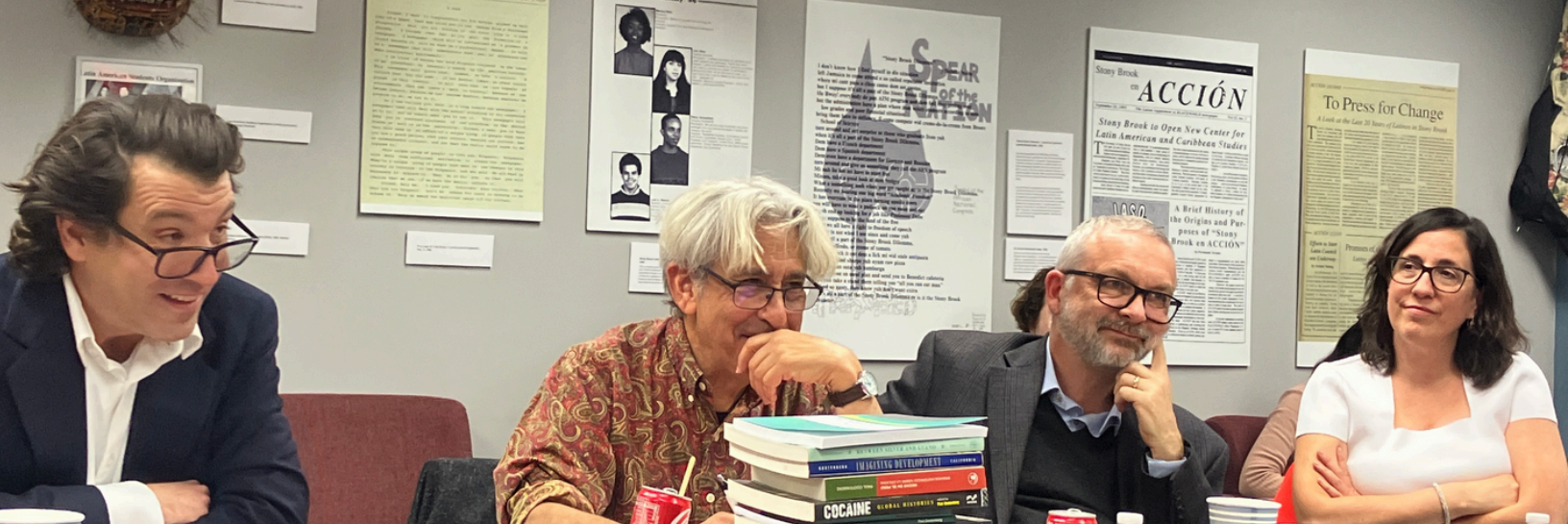
# LACS Annual Report

## 2024-25



EVENTS, ACCOMPLISHMENTS,  
COLLABORATIONS





*Dear LACS Advisory Board Members, Affiliated Faculty, Students, and Friends:*

As we begin a new academic year, I wanted to summarize LACS's events, accomplishments, and community collaborations during the 2024-25 year. I give profuse thanks to the continuing Assistant to the Director, Beatriz Solla Vilas (PhD candidate, HLL), for all their hard work, care, and investment in the Center's programming and community. My three-year term as Director has come to an end, and I'm thrilled to announce Prof. Karina Yager (from the School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences) as LACS's new Director. We hope that Prof. Yager will build new bridges between LACS and students/scholarly networks in the sciences.

During the 2024-25 academic year, we continued beloved traditions including our monthly cafés, movie nights, Portuguese book club, and Día de los Muertos celebration. We also aimed to support vulnerable (particularly undocumented) students, and initiate new collaborations in the Stony Brook and wider community. To that end, LACS facilitated a "Know Your Rights" workshop, a teach-in on undocumented students' experiences led by a group of undergraduates, and sponsored two new "Mariposa" scholarships for an undergraduate and graduate student to receive funds for educational materials and conference fees. College of Arts and Sciences Dean David Wrobel generously offered to match each scholarship, thus allowing us to offer four Mariposa awards in total.

During Hispanic Heritage Month in the fall, our \$2,500 Sánchez Award went to undergraduate Victor Chacón. In November, LACS and the History Department held a retirement retrospective for Latin American and drug historian Prof. Paul Gootenberg that brought scholar-commentators from Columbia, NYU, the University of Cincinnati, and other institutions.

In spring 2025 we sponsored new-book talks by Prof. Brooke Larson and two Stony Brook alumni, Profs. David Yee and Raquel Otheguy, continued hosting our Faculty Works-in-Progress series (at which Profs. Valeria Mantillas Morales and Ileana Jimenez presented), and raised enough funds during Giving Day to award two PhD Summer Research Fellowships.

In terms of community collaborations, we began partnering with a new Long Island pupusería (San Francisco Deli) whose food became a hit at our cafés. I also curated a photography exhibit entitled "Cesar Chavez's European Tour" that we mounted in Chavez Residence Hall, so that students living there could pass by photographs of the hall's namesake and learn more about the historical movement for farmworkers' rights.

The number of our LACS minors keeps growing, and we look forward to recruiting new ones. Now more than ever, the study of Latin America and the Caribbean is vital to Stony Brook's excellence. I look forward to seeing what LACS accomplishes in this year ahead.

Lori A. Flores, LACS Director (2022-2025)



## LACS SCHOLAR TALKS/PANELS

Book Panel for *The Lettered Indian: Race, Nation, and Indigenous Education in Twentieth-Century Bolivia*, featuring:

Author and Prof. Brooke Larson (History)

Profs. Paul Firbas and Sebastian Lopez Vergara (Hispanic Languages & Literatures) and Prof. Sinclair Thomson (NYU)

“A Qing Feast for Colombian Palates” (Prof. Valeria Mantilla Morales, History)

“Hopped Up: How Travel, Trade, and Taste Made Beer A Global Commodity” (Prof. Jeffrey Pilcher, University of Toronto)

“Informal Metropolis: Life on the Edge of Mexico City, 1940-1976” (Prof. David Yee, Metropolitan State Univ. of Denver)

“Cesar Chavez’s European Tour” Exhibition Opening Talk (Prof. Stephen Pitti, Yale University)

“Black Freedom and Schooling in Nineteenth-Century Cuba” (Prof. Raquel Otheguy, Bronx Community College)

“Resisting Pretty Privilege: Afro-Latinx Trans Youth Reading Black Feminism at School” (Prof. Ileana Jimenez, English)

“What Side Are You On? A Tohono O’odham Life Across Borders” (book talk by Mike Wilson and Prof. José Antonio Lucero)

## GRADUATE STUDENT-LED SERIES

“Politics and Languages in Latin American Colonialism”

Featured speakers: Prof. José del Valle (CUNY), Daniela Ortiz de Zevallos Pastor (freelance artist), Prof. Antonio Feros (University of Pennsylvania)

“Body and Sexuality in Colonial Latin America”

Featured speakers: Profs. María Emma Mannarelli (UNMSM), Victor Pueyo (Temple) and Zeb Tororici (NYU)

## OTHER EVENTS

Sound Studies Workshop (led by Prof. Eric Zolov, History):

“I’ll Never Be Joao Gilberto: The Pleasures and Pitfalls of Attempting to Reproduce a Masterful Bossa Nova Recorded Performance” (Prof. Frederick Moehn, King’s College, London)

“Sounding Race: Early Phonographic Culture and Racial Narratives In Argentina” (Prof. Rodrigo Viqueira, Hispanic Languages and Literatures)

“Migrations of Soul: Afro-Latin Music In Cold War Thailand” (Prof. Ben Tausig, Music)

Retirement Retrospective for Prof. Paul Gootenberg (History) with comment from:

Prof. Barbara Weinstein (NYU)

Prof. Pablo Piccato (Columbia)

Prof. Isaac Campos (Univ. of Cincinnati)

## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Flower partnership with the Long Island Farmworker Flower Cooperative (LIFWC) for Día de los Muertos

Food partnership with San Francisco Deli/Pupusería for monthly LACS Cafés

Co-sponsorship of events with:

-SACNAS (Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans In Science)

-Department of Philosophy

-Department of Physics

-Chavez Residence Hall