Happy New Year from the Research Center for the Americas!

This quarter, the RCA is hosting our first Activist-in-Residence, Isaí Ambrosio, Director of the Davenport Resource Service Center (DRSC). During the residency, he will be working on a new project for DRSC to strengthen the quality of relationships with families in North County, specifically conceptualizing a program that will support mothers. Aligned with the RCA’s mission, this activist residency initiative facilitates the university’s ability to be of service to our local community. By building bridges and connections, not walls, we hope this residency has the potential to foster new collaborations and new inspirations.

Mark your calendars as tickets go on sale on January 15, 2019 for the RCA Spring Fundraiser to be held on Saturday, April 27, 2019 during Alumni Weekend at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History. Please go to our website to purchase your tickets.

Thank you for your continued support of the RCA. Please be sure to follow us on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. I look forward to seeing you at our Winter events and our fundraiser.

Saludos,
Sylvanna M. Falcón, Director
Research Center for the Americas
ACTIVIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Isaí Ambrosio is the Director of the Davenport Resource Service Center (DRSC), one of six programs offered by the Community Action Board of Santa Cruz County, Inc. A former farmworker, Isaí is a local activist and community leader seeking to find ways to support migrants, families, and others in need. Isaí plans to develop a monthly workshop series for mothers and outline a holistic service delivery model for DRSC that meets the needs of the entire family. Isaí’s Office Hours are on Friday morning at the RCA (Casa Latina building, Merrill College). You can reach him at iambrosi@ucsc.edu.

CALL FOR PHOTOGRAPHY SUBMISSIONS by UC Santa Cruz Students

We are accepting photographs by UC Santa Cruz students on the theme of "Love. Community. Home." for our annual photo scholarship contest. First, second, and third place winners will be awarded scholarships and have their photographs exhibited at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History in April 2019. Submission deadline is Feb. 1, 2019.
RCA FUNDRAISER FOR STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

TICKETS ON SALE STARTING JANUARY 15, 2019

On Saturday, April 27, 2019 the RCA is hosting its first fundraiser for student scholarships at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art & History with live music by Calíco, silent action, photo booth, cash bar, and more. Funds raised will support RCA student awards for research and professional development as well as the Reyna Grande Creative Writing Scholarship and the Wally Goldfrank Research Scholarship.

UPCOMING WINTER EVENTS

“Carceral Identity Within and Beyond the Prison”
Thurs., January 24, 2019, 1:30–2:45 p.m.
Humanities Building 2, Room 210

Join us for a book talk with Dr. Patrick Lopez-Aguado, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Santa Clara University.

**Stick Together and Come Back Home: Racial Sorting and the Spillover of Carceral Identity** (University of International Women's Day Symposium
Thurs., February 28, 2019, 1:30–5:00 p.m.
Merrill Cultural Center, Merrill College

The RCA and the Feminist Collective of Sisters in the Borderlands of UC Santa Cruz are hosting Dr. Ranita Ray of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Dr. Barbara Sutton of the University of Albany, SUNY. Dr. Ray discusses her...
California Press, 2018) examines the experiences of seventy youth and adults in California's Central Valley as they navigate juvenile justice and penal facilities before finally going back home. Dr. Lopez-Aguado outlines how institutional authorities structure a "carceral social order" that racially and geographically divides criminalized populations into gang-associated affiliations. This event is free and open to the public and co-sponsored with the Sociology Department.

Dr. Sutton discusses her book *Surviving State Terror: Women's Testimonies of Repression and Resistance in Argentina* (New York University Press, 2018). This event is free and open to the public and co-sponsored with The Office for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the Feminist Studies Department.

Click HERE for the symposium schedule.

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**RCA PUBLICATIONS**

**Open Forum**

Open Forum is a space for brief scholarly commentaries on focus areas of interest to the research center by UC Santa Cruz faculty and graduate students. This edition features submissions by Candy Martinez, Ph.D candidate of Latin American and Latino Studies titled “The Ebbs and Flows of a New Researcher in Oaxaca” and Juan Diego Prieto, Ph.D. candidate of Politics titled “Figuring out Whether (and why and how and to whom) Institutions Matter.”

**Research Reports**

The RCA is pleased to re-launch Research Reports in an abbreviated format for educators and the broader public. Our first research report -- “Youth Participatory Budgeting in the Americas” -- is co-authored by Dr. Jessica K. Taft, Associate Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies and Daniel Rodríguez Ramírez, graduate student of Psychology with designated emphasis in Latin American and Latino Studies.

We welcome proposals from UC Santa Cruz faculty and graduate students for future submissions in the Research Reports series or Open Forum.

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**MEET OUR UNDERGRADUATE INTERNS**
Andrea Rosas Herrera was born in the state of Puebla in Mexico. Her family migrated to Monterey, California, when she was eight years old. She chose UC Santa Cruz to remain close to her family, especially her sister, and because UC Santa Cruz accepts recipients of TheDream.US scholarship, which she won. She is a double major in Politics and Latin American and Latino Studies and is affiliated with College Ten. She has become passionate about social justice and politics and has developed a growing interest in visual arts, especially photography. She sees going to law school in her future and possibly becoming a politician at some point too.

Luis Ramirez was born in Guerrero, Mexico and his family migrated to California when he was two years old. He selected UC Santa Cruz for his undergraduate studies because of the campus’s history of political activism and its natural beauty. Luis is a Politics major, with a combined Sociology/Latin America and Latino Studies degree. He is also getting a minor in Education. Luis is a member of Los Mejicas, a Mexican folkloric dance group at UC Santa Cruz and part of the Workers Student Solidarity Coalition. Luis hopes to eventually attend graduate school, pursuing his own research in intra-ethnic conflicts and obtaining a teacher’s credential.

AWARD WINNERS

The RCA is thrilled to support research by UC Santa Cruz faculty and graduate students as well as sponsor Research Clusters. Congrats to our award winners.

Individual Faculty Research Awards

- **Mark Amengual**, Associate Professor of Languages and Applied Linguistics, “An acoustic description of early and late Spanish-English bilingual speech.”
- **Saskias Casanova**, Assistant Professor of Psychology, “Resilience in Action: Reflections from Latinx students in a Youth Participatory Action Research Club.”
- **Regina Langhout**, Professor of Psychology, “Change 4 Good Confronts ICE Raids,”
- **Kristian Lopez-Vargas**, Assistant Professor of Economics, “Promoting Bicycle Use in Urban Perú,”
- **Patricia Pinho**, Associate Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies, “LASA Congress 2019.”
- **Brenda Samaniego de la Parra**, Assistant Professor of Economics, “Linking Survey and Administrative Data in Mexico to Study Informal Labor Markets.”

Graduate Student Mini-grants

- **Jacob Moe**, Social Documentation, “Radio Saracula.”
Saugher Nojan, Sociology, “Afghan Refugees’ Racialization, Belonging and Political Subjectivities.”

Karina Ruiz, Latin American and Latino Studies, “Powerful Children: Governance and the Mixed-Status Family.”

Victoria Sanchez, Latin American and Latino Studies, “(De)colonial Futurisms: Art, Technology and the Visual Politics of Migrant Surveillance.”


Research Clusters

“Interrogating the Intersections of Gender, Race, and Class to Examine Brazil’s Current Reactionary Wave” Coordinator: Marina Segatti, graduate student, Department of Feminist Studies.

“Caribbean Studies” Co-coordinators: Juan C. Dávila Santiago and Rafael Delgadillo, graduate students, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies.

“Indigenous Futurisms in the Americas: Decolonizing Space-Time(s) in Feminist Science” Co-coordinators: Felicity Amaya Schaeffer, Associate Professor of Feminist Studies and Victoria Sanchez, graduate student, Department of Latin American and Latino Studies.

“Women’s Health, Gender, and Empowerment (WHGE) Student Ambassadors” Co-coordinators: Michelle Parra and Roxanna Villalobos, graduate students, Department of Sociology.

A LOOK BACK
Fall 2018 Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program

Alexandra Sanchez, UC Santa Cruz Visiting Scholar with the Film & Digital Media Department (FDM) worked with a team of nine undergraduate UCSC students as part of the RCA’s Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program (URAP) on advancing the analysis of ÉXODOCS, a multi-year research project on the representation of migration. This URAP team analyzed three decades of Public Broadcasting Services (PBS) documentaries on the subject of Latin American migration to the United States to decipher the dominant narratives about human mobility. Alexandra’s mentor was RCA Faculty Affiliate Jennifer Maytorena Taylor, Associate Professor of FDM and Director of Graduate Studies of the Social Documentation MFA Program.

SAVE THE DATE

February 13, 2019 ~ An undergraduate research roundtable organized by RCA interns at the Charles E. Merrill Lounge.

February 19, 2019 ~ A student-only lunch with UCSC alumna Reyna Grande (space will be limited).

March 28, 2019 ~ Presentations by RCA students and faculty at “Stories under the Influence” at the Santa Cruz Museum of Art and History.
Santa Cruz CA 95064

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