

CSER Newsletter

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

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Director's Letter

By Frances Negrón-Muntaner

We knew that it was time for action when the question of “how are things going at the Center?” produced exceedingly long answers. So, we took the next logical step and created the first Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race’s (CSER) newsletter, a biannual publication to report on the Center’s happenings and conversations.

As the following pages suggest, CSER has been hard at work in enhancing the curriculum, establishing public programs, recruiting faculty, and improving the Center’s infrastructure. One of our most important accomplishments this past year was the creation of CSER’s single major, “Ethnicity and Race Studies.” To develop the new major, CSER retained all prior courses and areas of study, including Asian American, Latino, and Comparative Ethnic Studies, as well as expanded the course offerings and added two additional tracks, Indigenous Studies and Individualized Course. At present, the major is simultaneously one of the most rigorous, flexible, and creative programs of study at the University. This combination of qualities has been particularly well received by the student body: in less than a year, the number of CSER majors and concentrators more than doubled, from 20 to 46.

To support the new major’s growth and the Center’s development as a research hub, CSER has also been busy recruiting and retaining outstanding faculty. Professor Mae Ngai, a renowned expert on immigration, joined CSER’s faculty as a core member in 2010. Important figures in journalism, indigenous studies, literature, and law, including Professors Nathalie Handal, Ed Morales, Elizabeth OuYang, Stuart Rockefeller, and Elsa Stamatopoulou, now

regularly teach at CSER. Likewise, the number of university affiliates has grown tremendously in a wide range of disciplines, reaching a total of twenty-seven faculty members.

In addition, CSER’s graduate student-led program, Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity (CARE), continues to thrive through various activities as well as a dynamic public forum that features the work of Columbia students and invited guests. This coming Fall, the Center will expand its support by creating the CSER Dissertation Workshop, a program aimed at graduate students working on projects related to the study of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity, among other areas.

Though teaching is at the heart of the Center’s mission, CSER has always been invested in public discussion about the Center’s core interests, and we continue to build on this tradition. Most recently, CSER established a number of exciting new public programs, namely Indigenous Forum, Columbia University’s first permanent multiyear Native American/Indigenous Studies speaker series; the CSER Annual Symposium; Artists at the Center; and the Caribbean Studies Faculty Working Group series. Last year alone, more than 1,000 people attended CSER events.

Furthermore, CSER is involved in various Latino Studies initiatives with other organizations and university public programs as part of a larger project to build this area of study at Columbia. In collaboration with Columbia’s Rare Book and Manuscripts, CSER launched the Latino Art and Activism Archive Project Library to identify the papers and records

of Latinos and Latino organizations in New York that may be of enduring significance as research resources. The Center, along with the National Association of Latino Independent Producers, is also involved in a Social Science Research Council study on Latinos and the media. Next academic year, CSER plans to organize a multiyear, university-wide Latino Studies Series.

As CSER grows as a focal point for innovative teaching, public programs, and research, we look forward to the coming year with great enthusiasm. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor will visit CSER this October and hold a series of conversations with faculty, students, and alumni. In May, the Center will establish the first Summer Institute on Indigenous Peoples’ Rights and Policy, a two-week seminar that will gather scholars, activists, and policymakers.

CSER will also officially launch a campaign to raise funds for various initiatives, including “CSER 2.0.” This initiative seeks to create a participatory, hands-on learning environment within CSER and in collaboration with other units. Central to CSER 2.0 is the development of the “Media and Idea Lab,” a space in which students, faculty, and visitors may focus on the nurturing and testing of new ideas in multiple media. Additionally, CSER plans to expand curricular offerings into new areas such as technology, visual culture, and economics.

We hope that the conversations continue into the next academic year.

See you at the Center.

Cover photo by Maggie de la Cuesta.

**Center for the
Study of Ethnicity and Race**

Columbia University

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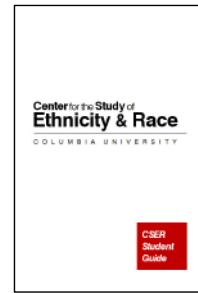
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CSER's New Major: Ethnicity and Race Studies

As of fall of 2010, CSER is the home of the Ethnicity and Race Studies major and concentration. Taught in collaboration with Barnard College's Interdisciplinary Concentration on Race and Ethnicity (ICORE), this major/concentration encompass a variety of fields and interdisciplinary approaches to the critical study of ethnicity, race, and indigeneity. Over fifty faculty members, including core faculty members, adjuncts, visiting professors, and affiliates from Columbia, Barnard, and elsewhere, are involved in teaching at CSER.

Students majoring in Ethnicity and Race Studies are able to focus their work on specific fields, including Asian American Studies, Comparative Ethnic Studies, Latino Studies, and Native American/Indigenous Studies. Students also develop the option of designing an individualized course of study. Individualized courses of study may encompass a wide variety of questions and themes. Among the most studied are those involving the relationship between race, ethnicity and law; health; human rights; urban spaces; cultural production; visual culture; and the environment.



For more information, please see our Student Guide at:
www.columbia.edu/cu/cser

See page 8 for Fall 2011 Courses.

Majoring in Ethnicity and Race Studies

The major introduces students to the study of ethnicity, race, and indigeneity and the deep implications of the subject matter for thinking about human bodies, power, identity, culture, social hierarchy, and the formation of political communities. The major encourages students to consider the repercussions of racial, ethnic, and indigenous identifications to local and global politics, and the ways race, ethnicity, and indigeneity relate to gender, sexuality, and social class, among other forms of hierarchical difference.

Students majoring in Ethnicity and Race Studies may focus their work on specific groups, including Asian Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans/Indigenous peoples, and/or concentrate on the comparative study of how the categories of race, ethnicity, and indigeneity are formed and how they transform. Students may also opt to design an individualized course of study.

The major consists of a minimum of 28 credits. Students will take three core courses and write a senior research project. Following the core courses, students will take a minimum of four elective courses, one of which must be a seminar.

Core Courses (16 Points)

- [CSER W3919](#) Modes of Inquiry (4 points)

- [CSER W3928](#) Colonization/Decolonization (4 points)

one of the following:

- [CSER W1010](#) Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies (4 points)
- [CSER W1040](#) Critical Approaches to the Study of Ethnicity and Race (4 points)

and

- [CSER W3990](#) Senior Project Seminar, must have taken Modes of Inquiry first (4 Points)

Specialization (13 Points)

Students must complete at least four courses, in consultation with their major advisor, in one of the following tracks/areas of specialization:

- Asian American Studies
- Comparative Ethnic Studies
- Latino/a Studies
- Native American/Indigenous Studies
- Individualized course of study

Language Courses

One of the following is highly recommended, although not required for the major:

- One course beyond the intermediate-level in language pertinent to the student's focus;
- An introductory course in a language other than that used to fulfill the degree requirements, but that is pertinent to the student's focus;
- A linguistics or other course that critically engages language, and/or an outside language and study-abroad program that include an emphasis on language acquisition.

CSER Graduation and Senior Theses

CSER majors **Kimberly Ashby, Jessica Johnson, Elisabeth Lee, Henry Oliver, Elizabeth Pino** and **Terrell Winder** presented their original research to faculty, staff, students, and family members at the Spring 2011 Undergraduate Conference titled “Exposure: Contemporary Articulations of Race in New York City and Beyond” on April 15.

In addition to obtaining departmental honors, Elisabeth Lee was presented with CSER’s “Award for Outstanding Thesis” in recognition of exceptional quality in research and writing for her project on the urgent challenges of newly deportable residents of New York, and the efforts of the New York Governor Paterson’s Special Immigrations Pardon Board.

Professor Frances Negrón-Muntaner, who presented Elisabeth with these two awards on May 16 at CSER’s graduation reception, praised Elisabeth’s “remarkable initiative in pursuing her intellectual interests, great leadership qualities and ability to contribute to the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race’s intellectual growth and governance.” This past spring semester, Elisabeth was part of CSER’s founding Student Advisory Board and was a member of the CSER/History search for a Borderlands historian, producing the undergraduate recommendations to the faculty search committee.

Kimberly Ashby was presented with CSER’s “Award for Excellence in Scholarship,” in recognition for excellent academic quality and performance and for the combination of rigor, curiosity, and an ethos of collegiality in all her classes. Professor Cassie Fennell, who presented Kim with the award, expressed admiration for her “enormous efforts to bring her intellectual interests to bear on the world outside the classroom,” and called her a “model for a young, engaged scholar.”



TOP
From left, Jessica Johnson, Kim Ashby, Terrell Winder, Elisabeth Lee, and Henry Oliver.

LEFT
Elisabeth Lee and Anjuli Reza, CSER Preceptor, at CSER’s graduation party on May 16.

BOTTOM
Prof. John Gamber presents CSER’s “Award for Excellence in Scholarship” to Kimberly Ashby.



CSER also presented a special “Acknowledgment of Service” award to Anjuli Reza (PhD candidate, English), for her exceptional work as CSER’s preceptor for the previous three years. In this role, Anjuli oversaw and guided the thesis writing of all CSER’s graduating seniors, and was the force behind the annual undergraduate conference in which our students presented their work to the

university community and beyond.

Another special award for “Outstanding Service,” in recognition of exceptional quality and performance, was given to Stephen Chou, who this past academic year created all of CSER’s posters, brochures, and programs for our events.

Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity (CARE)

By Yesenia Barragán



The Workshop on Critical Approaches to Race and Ethnicity is an interdisciplinary space organized by graduate students interested in the critical consideration of race and ethnicity in their research and activism. It is a program of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race and sponsored by CSER and the Office of Diversity Affairs at the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. By bringing together a diverse community of scholars and activists within and outside the Columbia University community, we seek to examine racial and ethnic formations and engage race and ethnicity as key categories of analysis in order to address larger social, cultural, and political questions across geographical boundaries. The workshop also serves as a space for scholars to develop and share ideas, drawing upon the personal and academic

experience of our various communities.

Our events the past two years truly reflect our commitment to building an active, dynamic space in the pursuit of these goals. This past academic year, we hosted a graduate-students-of-color fellowship workshop; an art showing and conversation with a local Haitian-American artist, Richard-Olivier Marius; a prospectus workshop on “Performing Race” with Matthew Morrison, a Ph.D. candidate in Historical Musicology; a keynote speech by former Black Panther and Political Prisoner, Ashanti Alston; a graduate student community discussion on Walter Johnson’s “On Agency”; a conversation and film showing on US military mapping of indigenous communities in Oaxaca, Mexico with activist filmmaker Simón Sedillo; and, finally, a book launch for “Down and Delirious in Mexico City: The Aztec Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century,” written by *LA Times* journalist Daniel Hernandez. We look forward to building our community as we expand our collective and develop connections across disciplines in the following years.

STUDENT ADVISORY BOARD

To foster increased student participation in CSER governance, the Center established the Student Advisory Board. The Board serves as an advisory unit to CSER on all matters related to programming, academics, and hiring. The CSER Student Advisory Board is made up of seven undergraduate majors and concentrators. The members for the 2010–2011 academic year were Emeka Ekwelum (CC ‘12), Cindy Gao (CC ‘12), Amber Ha (CC ‘12), Lizzie Lee (CC

‘11), Elizabeth Pino (CC ‘11), Ester Raha Nyaggah (GS ‘12), and Daniel Valella (CC ‘12). This past semester, students served as part of student committees on both faculty searches. The role of the Student Advisory Board will expand this academic year to organize visits of guest speakers to campus. A new committee of seven representatives will be elected in the Fall of 2011.

ACADEMIC QUALITY FUND GRANTS

During the academic year 2010-11, CSER awarded nine Academic Quality Funds (AQF) grants to students across disciplines that aided them in carrying out their research projects.

Javed Basu-Kesselman

- Political Science/Columbia College
Marginalization, Political Awareness and Urban Youth

Yesenia Barragán

- History/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
A Social and Political History of Afro-Colombian Society

Tamar Blickstein

- Anthropology/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Re-examining Historical Silencing as Racialized Social Embodiment Among Immigrants of Indigenous Ancestry in Argentina

Simon Calle

- Music/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Nuevas Músicas Colombianas and the Networks of Music Circulation in Colombia

Andre Deckrow

- East Asian Languages and Civilizations/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Examining Pre-World War II Japanese Migration to Brazil

Yuxiang Ge

- History/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Ethnic Chinese Mafu in San Francisco and Hong Kong 1949-1978

Romeo Guzmán

- History/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Mexican State Formation and the Diaspora

James Roane

- History/Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Cartographies of Fat

Faculty Updates



CSER is delighted to welcome **Professor Ikuko Asaka**, who joined the CSER faculty this fall. Professor Asaka received her Ph.D. in history from the Program in Gender and Women's History at University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is a specialist in gender and race and is currently working on three projects. The first is a book manuscript that traces how labor and territorial formations in the British and U.S. Empires took shape around the question of the proper location of black freedom within the scope of the Atlantic world. Her second project is an article on diasporic identification between self-emancipated people in Canada and freed people in the British West Indies, placing escaped slaves in a larger matrix of the British Empire and African Diaspora. Professor Asaka's third project is an article that connects the history of U.S. Pacific expansion to race, gender, and class relations in the antebellum eastern seaboard.



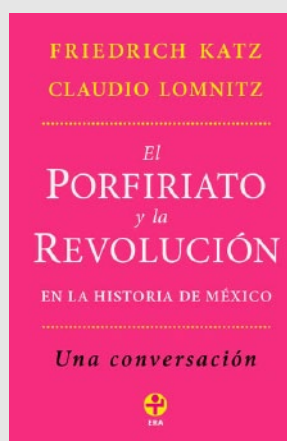
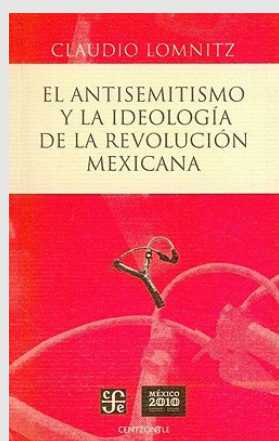
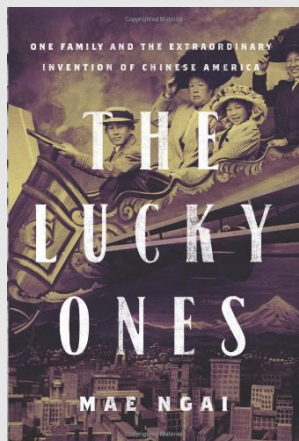
Last year, **Professor Claudio Lomnitz** published two books in Mexico: *El antisemitismo y la ideología de la Revolución Mexicana* (Fondo de Cultura Económica), and, co-authored with Friedrich Katz, *El Porfiriato y la Revolución en la historia de México, una conversación* (Ediciones Era). In addition to this, along with colleague Fernando Escalante, Professor Lomnitz launched a book series in Mexico published by Fondo de Cultura Económica, titled *Umbrales (Thresholds)*, devoted to translating pocketbook editions of key social science authors, texts, and issues into Spanish. He also published several articles in academic journals and books, among them a piece on Latin America dependencies, which is forthcoming in the *South Atlantic Quarterly* and a piece on the origin of the Mexican race which appeared in the Argentine journal *Prismas*. Professor Lomnitz wrote the forward to the 50th-year commemorative edition of Oscar Lewis's *Children of Sanchez*, in the Fondo de Cultura Edition, and his play, *El verdadero Bulnes*, was adapted for Mexican Public Radio. He gave lectures at a number of places, including UCLA, UC-Irvine, Cornell, UC Berkeley and the University

of Indiana. Professor Lomnitz is currently on sabbatical in Berlin, where he is finishing his book on Mexican and American radicals around the time of the Mexican revolution.



Professor Elizabeth R. OuYang's testimonial appeared in the Fall 2011 special edition of *The Asian American Literary Review*, "Commemorating the Tenth Anniversary of September 11." Later this Fall, Professor OuYang's article, "Immigrants with Prior Criminal Record Risk Removal from the U.S.-Impact on Asian Immigrants," will be published in the *Asian American Law Journal*. This article focuses on her advocacy as president of OCA-NY, formerly known as the Organization of Chinese Americans, in securing a governor's pardon that prevented the deportation of Qing Wu, a lawful permanent resident with a teenage criminal record, and the subsequent creation of the special immigrant pardon review panel. This case was featured in *The New York Times*. As part of OCA-NY, Professor OuYang conducted two naturalization clinics in Flushing and Elmhurst in the summer of 2011. Her current work on redistricting has recently been covered by *The Daily News*.

CSER Faculty Recent and Upcoming Publications



From left:
The Lucky Ones by Mae Ngai, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

El antisemitismo y la ideología de la Revolución Mexicana by Claudio Lomnitz, published by Fondo de Cultura Económica

El Porfiriato y la Revolución en la historia de México by Claudio Lomnitz, co-authored with Friedrich Katz, published by Ediciones Era



During this last year **Professor Sel J. Hwang** published six articles and book chapters in peer-reviewed journals and edited volumes, won an award from the HIV/AIDS Section of the American Public Health Association for research on low-income/poverty-class transfeminine people of color, and is currently consulting on a report on international trans/gender-variant health commissioned by the Open Society Foundation (OSF). Sel has also been involved in the following research studies in various capacities: Researcher/Technical Advisor on a study of health disparities among low-income/poverty-class trans/gender-variant people of color in New York City; Co-Investigator of a study on sex workers in Karnataka State, India; Principal Investigator of a study on low-income/poverty-class/cocaine-crack-and-heroin-using women of color in New York City who partner with other women and trade sex with men for drugs and/or money; researcher on sangomas (mostly anatomically-female-born gender-variant spiritual healers) in Johannesburg and Capetown, South Africa; and Co-Principal Investigator of a study on medical students' and physicians' knowledge, attitudes, and practices toward transfeminine hijras in Mumbai, India. Sel was also invited and

gave lectures at the New York Psychiatric Institute/Columbia University Medical Center, Gay and Lesbian Medical Association Annual Conference, Williams Institute at the University of California at Los Angeles, and Trans Health & Medical Conference (Capetown, South Africa), as well as a plenary panel on race and ethnicity at the World Professional Association for Transgender Health Symposium, and presented research at several conferences. Sel also joined the National Advisory Board of the Center of Excellence for Transgender Health at UCSE, was an invited participant in the International Best Practices for Expanding Access to Health Care for Transgender Communities Seminar sponsored by OSF, and joined the Organizing Committee of the Philadelphia Trans-health Conference, while also serving on the Boards of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission and the National Queer Asian and Pacific Islander Alliance.

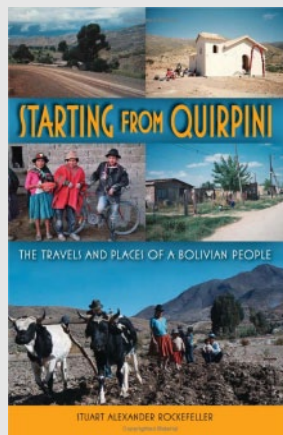


Professor Gray Tuttle is currently on academic leave with a Ryskamp Fellowship from the American Council of Learned Societies. In 2011, Professor Tuttle received a grant from The Rubin Foundation to

expand the Engaging Digital Tibet website at Columbia (<http://digitaltibet.ccnmtl.columbia.edu/>). He has three new publications to be released this year: a Chinese translation of his book *Tibetan Buddhists in the Making of Modern China* (forthcoming from Hong Kong UP), *Mapping the Modern in Tibet* in press for publication in the series: *Beiträge zur Zentralasienforschung*, Sankt Augustin: International Institute for Tibetan and Buddhist Studies—Wissenschaftsverlag GmbH, and *Wutaishan and Qing Culture* (co-edited with Johan Elverskog), to be published as an issue of the *Journal of the International Association of Tibetan Studies*.



Professor Elsa Stamatopoulou taught the first course on Indigenous Peoples Rights at Columbia this past spring semester. Following the adoption of the historic UN Declaration on the topic, the course “Indigenous Peoples’ Rights: From Local identities to the Global Indigenous Movement” attracted the interest of not only CSER students but also graduate and undergraduate students from other departments. In May 2011, Professor Stamatopoulou was named Co-Chair of the International Committee on the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh.



From left:
Sovereign Acts by Frances Negrón-Muntaner, published by South End Press forthcoming December 2011

Love and Strange Horses by Nathalie Handal, published by University of Pittsburgh Press

Starting from Quirpini: The Travels and Places of a Bolivian People by Stuart Alexander Rockefeller, published by Indiana University Press



Throughout this past year, **Professor and CSER director Frances Negrón-Muntaner** has been active as a scholar, filmmaker, and speaker. She wrote several essays and interviews on the confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor (*Journal of Transnational American Studies*), writer Rosario Ferré's career (*CENTRO: Journal of the Center for Puerto Rican Studies*), and the "politics of small problems" or the ways that so-called small places and issues are central to thinking about the contemporary world (*Critical Credo*, Columbia University Press). She also completed two policy papers, one on Latino exclusion from the mainstream media in collaboration with the National Association of Latino Independent Producers and a second one about the state of Latino LGBT organizing, with Hispanics in Philanthropy. Her new edited volume, *Sovereign Acts*, and film, *War in Guam*, will be released this year. Professor Negrón-Muntaner has also been interviewed and/or cited by various publications, including *The New York Times*, *The New York Daily News*, *El Diario/La Prensa*, *Media Matters*, *New York Observer*, *Reuters*, and *Página 12* (Argentina) on a wide range of topics,

including the use of racialized language to describe President Obama's policies, the career of black bibliophile Arthur Schomburg, the future of ethnic studies, sexual politics in contemporary Cuba, the impact of narco-trafficking in Latin America, and indigenous resistance to land dispossession by the U.S. military in Guam. Last summer, she received a Chang-Chavkin Fellowship to participate in discussions on Columbia's Global Core and develop new courses of study.



Nathalie Handal's new poetry collection, *Poet in Andalucía*, is forthcoming Spring in 2012 from the University of Pittsburgh Press. Alice Walker says about the collection: "Poems of depth and weight and the sorrowing song of longing and resolve." Her new play, *Men in Verse*, is showing this Fall at the Bush Theatre and Westminster Abbey in London.



Professor Stuart Rockefeller has done ethnographic fieldwork in highland Bolivia and in Buenos Aires, Argentina. His book *Starting From Quirpini*, about the local and transnational mobility of the members of an indigenous Bolivian community, was published last year. Among his articles are pieces on folkloric representations of culture in Bolivia; the political possibilities of the MAS government of Bolivia; and, most recently, a critique of the language of "flow" in writings about globalization. Currently he is doing research for a book about participation by Bolivian migrants in the social movements of Buenos Aires.



Professor Ed Morales recently wrote a major investigative piece on civil rights abuses in Puerto Rico for *The Nation* (forthcoming in October), and is currently working as musical director for an upcoming independent film called "Losing It." He is currently writing a book about the Nuyorican Arts Movement.

CSER Courses

Fall 2011

For more information, listing of ICORE/MORE courses and CSER cross-referenced courses, please visit CSER website, www.columbia.edu/cu/cser/

CSER W3919

Modes of Inquiry

(*Major Requirement)

Prof. Catherine Fennell

W 2:10pm-4:00pm - 402 Hamilton

Lab Session - M 2:10pm-3:00pm - 402

Hamilton

One of CSER's new required courses, Modes of Inquiry aims to introduce students to a variety of ways of knowing key to several fields that investigate racial and ethnic difference in social, cultural, political and economic life. The seminar will also ask students to think reflexively and critically about the approaches

they employ and evaluate the ethics, constraints, and potential of contemporary knowledge production about difference. The course will culminate in a semester project, an 8-10 page proposal for research that will ideally be related to the student senior project.

CSER W3928

Colonization/Decolonization

Prof. Mae Ngai and Prof. Chris Brown W

11:00am-12:50pm - 420 Hamilton

This course focuses on the spread of European influence and hegemony throughout the world from the age of discovery in the late fifteenth and sixteenth century to the era of decolonization after World War II and postcolonial realities of the present. We are interested in the processes and contents of social and cultural contact and exchange,

the development of knowledge, and how they shape relations of power; the place of colonialism in the development of Western capitalism; and the elements of colonial power and resistance, including ideologies of liberal political philosophy, social Darwinism, and nationalism. We will think about how ideas about civilization, religion, self and other, and freedom have evolved over time and shaped the making of the modern world. Class is held as a discussion seminar based on close reading of the primary-source documents.

CSER W1010

Introduction to Comparative Ethnic Studies

Prof. Gary Okihiro

TR 1:10pm-2:25 pm

417 International Affairs Bldg

Introduction to the field of comparative ethnic studies.

CSER W3510**Immigration, Relocation, and Diaspora**

Prof. John Gamber

TR 2:40-3:55pm - 517 Hamilton

The master narrative of the United States has always vacillated between valorizations of movement and settlement. While ours is a nation of immigrants, one which privileges its history of westward expansion and pioneering, trailblazing adventurers, we also seem to long for what Wallace Stegner called a “sense of place,” a true belonging within a single locale. Each of these constructions has tended to focus on individuals with a tremendous degree of agency in terms of where and whether they go. However, it is equally important to understand the tension between movement and stasis within communities most frequently subjected to spatial upheavals. To that end, this course is designed to examine narratives of immigration, migration, relocation, and diaspora by authors of color in the United States.

CSER W3250**Native American Representations**

Prof. John Gamber

T 4:10-6pm- 420 Hamilton Hall

*NOTE: formerly Representations of Native America

All too often, the general population's ideas about American Indians are shaped by representations that do not come from Indian people. These often-stereotyping images of Native Americans shape not only popular, but even indigenous, notions about what Indians are or ought to be. This course is designed to provide students with a background in the ways that Native people have represented themselves, whether they are writing/creating back against outside portrayals or creating for their own expression. This is an ethnic studies course. As such we will be addressing issues including indigeneity, race, ethnicity, privilege, and marginalization. We will also address the intersections between these issues and those of class, gender, and sexuality.

CSER W3926**Latin Music and Identity**

Prof. Ed Morales

W 2:10pm -4:00pm – 420 Hamilton

Latin music has had a historically strained relationship with mainstream music tastes, exploding in occasional “boom” periods, and receding into invisibility in others. What if this were true because it is a space for hybrid construction of identity that directly reflects a mixture of traditions across racial lines in Latin America? This course will investigate Latin music's transgression of binary views of race in Anglo-American society, even as it directly affects the development of pop music in America. From New Orleans jazz to Texas corridos, salsa, rock, and reggaeton, Latin music acts as both as

a soundtrack and a structural blueprint for the 21st century's multicultural experiment. There will be a strong focus on studying Latin music's political economy and investigating the story it tells about migration and globalization.

CSER W3905**Asian Americans and the Psychology of Race**

Prof. Shinhee Han

R 11:00am -12:50pm - 420 Hamilton

This seminar provides an introduction to mental health issues for Asian Americans. In particular, it focuses on the psychology of Asian Americans as racial/ethnic minorities in the United States by exploring a number of key concepts: immigration, racialization, prejudice, family, identity, pathology, and loss. We will examine the development of identity in relation to self, family, college, and society. Quantitative investigation, qualitative research, psychology theories of multiculturalism, and Asian American literature will also be integrated into the course.

CSER W3922**Asian American Cinema**

Prof. Eric Gamalinda

R 6:10-8:00pm – 420 Hamilton

This seminar focuses on the critical analysis of Asian representation and participation in Hollywood by taking a look at how mainstream American cinema continues to essentialize the Asian and how Asian American filmmakers have responded to Orientalist stereotypes generated by Hollywood. We will analyze various issues confronting Asian American communities, including yellowface, white patriarchy, male and female stereotypes, the “model minority” myth, depictions of “Chinatowns,” panethnicity, the changing political interpretations of the term “Asian American” throughout American history, gender and sexuality, and cultural hegemonies and privileging within the Asian community.

CSER W3970**Palestine and the Palestinians Through Literature and Theater**

Prof. Nathalie Handal

T 2:10pm-4:00pm – 420 Hamilton

This course explores contemporary Palestinian culture, history, and society through literature and theater produced by Palestinian writers and playwrights, including those in the West Bank, Israel, other Arab countries, and the West. The course will examine Palestinianess, looking at the various cultural and socio-political issues prevalent in plays, poetry, nonfiction and fiction. Discussions revolve around styles and aesthetics as well as identity and cultural politics. Students will also read critical and theoretical works in order to better help them understand the works. Some of the writers the class will cover include Mahmoud Darwish, Faqwa Tuqan, Sayed Kashua, Mourid Barghouti, and Naomi Shihab Nye.

CSER W1601**Introduction to Latino/a Studies**

Prof. Frances Negrón-Muntaner

MW 1:10pm-2:25pm, 503 Hamilton

The objective of this course is to provide an interdisciplinary introduction to Latino studies and some of its most salient debates, including the constitution of Latino identity, immigration, the relationship of Latinos to the labor force, racialization processes, gender dynamics, and sexual politics.

CSER W3490**Critical Analysis of Post 9/11 Immigration Policies**

Prof. Elizabeth R. OuYang

R 11:00am-12:50pm - 522C Kent Hall

Since September 11, 2001, there has been an avalanche of immigration enforcement policies and initiatives proposed or implemented under the guise of national security. This course will analyze the domino effect of the Patriot Act; the Absconder Initiative; Special Registration; the Real I.D. Act; border security, including the building of the 700 mile fence along the U.S./Mexico border; Secured Communities Act-that requires the cooperation of state and local authorities in immigration enforcement; the challenge to birthright citizenship; and now the congressional hearings on Islamic radicalization. Have these policies been effective in combating the war on terrorism and promoting national security? Who stands to benefit from these enforcement strategies? Do immigrant communities feel safer in the U.S.? How have states joined the federal bandwagon of immigration enforcement or created solutions to an inflexible, broken immigration system?

CSER W3903**Immigrant Social Movements**

Prof. Stuart Rockefeller

T 11:00am-12:50pm – 420 Hamilton

This course will make much use of Ong's Flexible Citizenship, also drawing on Das Gupta's Unruly Immigrants, and I hope to spend some time talking about Chavez and Chicanismo, Benmayor's (and others') work on cultural citizenship, early-20th-century Italian and Jewish anarchists, and Argentina, specifically Bolivians there. We will discuss exiled Latin American intellectuals, if I can find good sources. It will be a way to look at how displaced/marginal peoples find a basis to claim a public personhood, and we will look at fights over citizenship and transnationalism. I'm most interested in immigrants going beyond “immigrant-rights” activism, to actively working on the ‘host’ society.

CSER Launches Indigenous Forum

RIGHT

From left, Prof. Elsa Stamatopoulou, Prof. John Gamber, the Honorable Larry Echo Hawk, CSER director Frances Negrón-Muntaner, Prof. Audra Simpson and Daniel Press.

Photo by Maggie de la Cuesta



On February 22 this year, CSER launched the first multi-year Native American/Indigenous speaker series at Columbia University. Named “Indigenous Forum,” CSER Director Frances Negrón-Muntaner called the series a “dream come true.” “At last,” she added, “Columbia has a permanent public series focusing on Native American and Indigenous Studies. It is a milestone for both the university and the larger community.”

The series is the first program of the Center’s Native American/Indigenous Studies Project and will bring three speakers a year to Columbia working in different areas: academia, the arts, and the

political sphere. This past year’s Forum was an extraordinary event, bringing together a diverse community of scholars, students, artists and advocates to discuss key questions and challenges to indigenous peoples. Speakers this year included Larry Echo Hawk, Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs-U.S. Department of the Interior; Dale Turner, Associate Professor of Government and Native American Studies at Dartmouth University; and Luci Tapahonso, poet and Professor of American Indian Studies and English, University of Arizona. Meanwhile, the Native American and Indigenous Studies track within the Race and Ethnicity Studies

major welcomed its first students in the fall semester, some of who have already completed their course requirements for graduation.

The Forum has also spawned other events including the Indigenous Studies Graduate Student Conference, co-sponsored with Indigenous Forum. Planning for the next edition is currently underway. For the academic year 2011-12, we have already confirmed the participation of journalist Mark Trahan, scholar Scott Richard Lyons (University of Michigan), and visual artist Bunky Echo-Hawk.



Donor Profile / Daniel Press

For the last five years, Mr. Daniel Press (‘64CC) has worked to strengthen Columbia’s programs for Native Americans. In 2010, following CSER’s creation of the Native American/Indigenous track of study, Mr. Press made a generous multi-year commitment to create the Indigenous Forum speaker series at his alma mater. Responding to Professor Negrón-Muntaner’s comment that the Indigenous Forum was “a dream come true,” Mr. Press stated, “This is a dream come true for me as well, the opportunity to help bring together two parts of my life that have so enriched my life—my four years at Columbia and my forty-three years

working with Indian nations.”

At present, Mr. Press heads the Van Ness Feldman Native American practice group and has been engaged in the practice of Indian law since 1968. Over that period he has represented numerous tribes, Alaska Native Corporations (ANCs), intertribal organizations, and tribally-owned enterprises. The scope of his practice has included virtually every area of Indian Law—energy, land, health, business development, education, agriculture, trust funds and assets, employment and labor law, and environmental remediation.

Mr. Press also represents companies engaged in business with tribes and has used his years of experience working with tribes and private sector companies to assist his clients in developing productive business partnerships with tribes so that their projects can move forward quickly and cooperatively. Moreover, Mr. Press has been at the cutting edge of many key issues in Indian law and economic development. He was one of the founders of the Tribal Employment Rights Office (TERO) program in 1977 and is recognized as one of the country’s experts in Indian labor and

employment law issues. He served as counsel to the intertribal organization that began the inquiry into the Interior Department’s mismanagement of Indian trust funds. He helped to draft the Indian provisions of both the 1992 Energy Policy Act and EPAAct 2005. He also helped create the Native American Bank, an institution owned by 24 tribes that focuses on loans and other services to Indian tribes and ANCs.

In the area of economic development, Mr. Press has assisted tribes and ANCs to establish numerous businesses and has assisted those businesses obtain contracts from the Federal government using the SBA 8(a) and other preferences available to such businesses. In 2002, he helped to create the first multi-tribal 8(a) information technology company, owned by twelve tribes and ANCs, which has received over \$90 million in sole-source government contracts and has created over 300 jobs on remote reservations and Alaska Native Villages.

Mr. Press will be teaching a course on “Issues in Modern Tribal Government” at CSER this coming Spring.

Theorizing Native Studies

A Symposium

By Audra Simpson



In addition to the Indigenous Forum, the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race has also supported other faculty initiatives on Indigenous Studies. On October 16-17, 2010, CSER hosted an interdisciplinary symposium titled *Theorizing Native Studies*. Convened by Audra Simpson (Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology, and CSER faculty associate), this symposium brought together nine scholars within Native and Indigenous studies who are engaged with theoretical debates within their disciplines and are explicitly involved in research and analysis that develops broader sociological, historical and literary frameworks within and beyond the field of Native Studies. Building upon the success of a four-session panel at the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association meetings in Athens, Georgia in 2008, as well a panel at American Studies Association Meetings in 2008, this assemblage met at Columbia University to seminar their work further in preparation for a book-length, edited volume of interdisciplinary work that intervenes in frequently articulated dogmas regarding the identity and utility of theory for analysis.

This symposium sought to intervene in the tired and constraining axis, which hold that “theory” derives from the West and, as such, its utility is limited to those who derive from the West. By extension, the use of theory is perceived to involve emergence from a narrowly-defined space of culture, in which Indigenous theory is then defined by “tradition,” “separatism” and narrowly-defined “nationalism.” As gestures towards a new critical and interpretive apparatus that seeks to critique, build upon and then refashion interpretation within Native and Indigenous Studies, the interdisciplinary group of scholars in the Theorizing Indigenous Studies project illustrated the ways analytics might get designated as Western, or non-Western ‘theory’ provide useful forms critique and construction within Native and Indigenous studies and do so in a manner that may travel beyond the field of Native and Indigenous studies. Through this process of explicit theoretical engagement with post-structuralism, semiotics, Iroquois and other forms of Indigenous political philosophy, structuralism, and Marxist and anti-colonial existential philosophers, the vigorous discussions during this two-day event deepened the field of Native studies while enacting and expanding its commitment to understanding the conditions of indigeneity, colonialism, modernism and disciplinarity—more broadly, all taken to be intellectual and political practices that might be best analyzed with recourse to anti-essentialist postulates; deconstruction; and, most

importantly, modes of rigorous analysis, critique and construction.

These papers have been conferenced and revised enough to comprise an edited volume. This volume will make a significant contribution within Indigenous studies, as well as the specific disciplines in which each scholar resides (English, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Anthropology, Philosophy, Political Science, Native Studies). What this group of scholars, and these deep conversations around their papers, demonstrated to the forty attendees present each day, was that Native studies is engaging these larger theoretical discussions while still maintaining its commitments to Native communities and political practice.

The following scholars shared their work with us during the symposium:

Christopher Bracken (English and Film Studies, University of Alberta),
Glen Coulthard (Native Studies, University of British Columbia),
Mishuana Goeman (Women’s Studies, University of California, Los Angeles),
Jackie Grey (Independent Scholar),
Robert Nichols (Philosophy, University of Alberta),
Scott Morgensen (Gender Studies, Queen’s University),
Vera Palmer (Native American Studies, Dartmouth College),
Mark Rifkin (English, University of North Carolina - Greensboro),
Andrea Smith (Media Studies, University of California - Riverside).

The event was also supported by generous contributions from The Institute for Research on Women and Gender (IRWAG), Department of English, and the Department of Anthropology.



LEFT

Paige West, Glen Coulthard, Robert Nichols, Jackie Grey

The Sex of Nations

An Interview with Abel Sierra Madero

By Frances Negrón-Muntaner

Frances Negrón-Muntaner is Associate Professor of English and director of the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race. She has published several essays about sexuality in Cuba, including "In Search of Lourdes Casal's 'Ana Veldford'" (with Yolanda Martínez-San Miguel) and "Mariela Castro, Homosexuals and Cuban Politics."

Although only 34, Abel Sierra Madero is one of the most important historians working in Cuba today. His award-winning books—*From the Other Side of the Mirror: Sexuality and the Construction of the Cuban Nation* and *The Sexed Nation: Gender and Sexual Relations in the Early Nineteenth Century*—constitute a break with prior treatments of nationalism in Cuba and offer a fresh look at new archives in proposing their main theses: that the production of a sexual/gender other as also a socio-political other is at the core of the reproduction of Cuban national identity over the last two centuries.

This past November, Sierra Madero visited CSER's class, "Che Guevara: Texts and Contexts," to discuss the historical production of Guevara's concept of the New Man and its political implications in post-revolutionary Cuba. Just before he returned to Havana, we had a chance for a brief exchange to flesh out his thesis.

FNM: In what ways would you say that Cuba is a "sexed nation"?

ASM: For me, the sexed nation is a metaphor to explore the ways in which both the elites and popular sectors have sexualized the national "corpus" and presented it as analogous to the human body, with well-defined shapes and borders with erogenous places, and abject zones.

This process reaches a "climax" in the second half of the twentieth century. If before the Revolution the Cuban nation had been represented as a feminine

body, after 1959 the warrior becomes its guardian, and Fidel Castro's body becomes the ultimate national symbol: an impenetrable and inviolate survivor of American blockades and attacks.

FNM: Ironically, the post-1959 state discourse constitutes Cuban national space as homosocial, relegating the "female feminine" to the margins yet fixating on homosexuals, transvestites and transsexuals or the "female masculine."

ASM: Early on, the identity of the Cuban homosexual subject starts to be perceived as a threat to the nation's sovereignty, stability, progress, and defense. Since according to this discourse the homosexual's effeminate traits were the result of the defeat of the national virility by the American penetration/colonization, homoerotic subjects were thought to embody both a threat to national masculinity and sovereignty. This culminates in the infamous UMAP camps and continued marginalization of gays and women in Cuba from most structures of power.

FNM: As part of your argument, you take up Guevara's notion of the New Man. In class, we had great debates about this idea: Was it an enabling category to articulate resistance to U.S. hegemony or a modular historical product with toxic consequences? We also looked closely at Guevara's theory of the vanguard, particularly its spatial metaphor of a charismatic leader followed first by a political vanguard and then by the



undefined masses as inherently problematic to a project of political freedom. How do you see it?

ASM: When I began thinking about the New Man, I thought that it was only a Cuban phenomenon, that Che Guevara invented it. Then I realized that the "New Man" was a discursive strategy that conveyed a gender ideology that is shared among different nationalist projects and political regimes, including Nazi Germany and the Russian Revolution. In this regard, the concept of New Man could be understood as an empty or floating signifier since its meaning can be claimed by different or even antagonistic projects.

In Cuba, the New Man emerges as a central aspect of the new ideological framework developed to re-structure society, and it served a process of "revolutionary" social engineering. It embodied both a model of traditional masculinity and a political ideology grounded in the theory of the revolution and the "construction of socialism" in the Eastern bloc. The discourses on the "authentically revolutionary" and "being a real man" were key in the production of a new communist subjectivity.

To the question of the relationship between the New Man and governance, this was not a concept inserted in a modernizing project. The New Man was not conceived as a citizen but as an indistinct member of a disciplined and docile human mass that would follow the political vanguard. So, I would say that the New Man was a product

of specific circumstances that created various antagonisms against the feminine and homoerotic.

FNM: Over the last few years, particularly with the rise of Raúl Castro to the presidency, there has been increased attention to the transvestite and transsexual as “rehabilitated” zones of the body politic. Yet, while LGTB and mainstream media outside of Cuba often understand this attention as an indication that Cuba “progresses” toward a more inclusive state, one could argue that these efforts seem more geared toward regulating sexual others than constituting a space that supports autonomous social movements.

ASM: The organization at the head of this process is the state’s National Center for Sexual Education (CENESEX), which has sought to establish a new discourse on sexuality in Cuba within the frame of “diversity.” The problem is that this has limited the emergence of a genuine activist movement striving for homoerotic rights and identities. What this institution privileges is a policy of assimilation, integration, normalization and naturalization, via medico-legal sex-change operations that grant the trans subject a legitimate social condition. Such a stance banishes from the public scene a

political debate on sexuality, one that is more encompassing and confrontational towards traditional institutions.

In a way, the CENESEX has become a gender factory that obliterates the trans’ subversive character, and their ability to directly question normative institutions. An example of this is that a few years ago, this institution hired designers, hairdressers, and make-up artists in order to teach transvestites, transgenders and transsexuals how to walk, dress, talk, or use cutlery according to established social norms and in view of their future as women. The CENESEX policy remains trapped in the binary frame of masculine and feminine, while continuing to reproduce stereotypes. Yet, given the Cuban experience with the repression of sexual minorities, the CENESEX project has seduced many people within the island and at an international scale, due to its innovative endeavors in trying to break with a homophobic and discriminatory revolutionary tradition.

FNM: It seems that these policies are also about presenting a more acceptable face for Raúl Castro’s regime abroad through Mariela Castro, the president’s daughter and director of CENESEX. In other words, if the UMAP camps constitute one of the

darkest hours of the revolution for global public opinion, and the revolution’s image to date has been that of a hypermasculine warrior in green fatigues, what better public face than that of a sweet and caring woman who fights for the rights of transsexuals?

ASM: For a long time, homosexuality has been one of the grounds on which the Cuban government has been criticized for its human rights record. This has led to the development of strategies to erase from collective memory pages of history as those evoked by the Military Units to Aid Production (UMAP, *Unidades Militares de Ayuda a la Producción*) and their overtly anti-homosexual policies, and CENESEX is part of that.

At the same time, this institution has taken some positive actions. In 2005, it managed to bring to parliament the issue of sex-change operations for transsexual people, including a proposal for a new Family Code and a new Law on Gender Identity. Furthermore, it achieved the consent of the authorities to celeb- rate the International Day Against Homophobia for the first time last May 17, 2008. For several years now, CENESEX has also sponsored a training program for transvestites and transsexuals, which aims at health promotion and HIV/ AIDS prevention. So, I would say that a lot has changed, but more needs to happen for Cuba to embrace diversity not as a new norm but as unregimented difference.



LEFT

Abel Sierra Madero was a guest speaker in Prof. Frances Negrón-Muntaner’s class “Che Guevara: Texts and Contexts” on November 17, 2010

Photo credit: Maggie de la Cuesta

2010-2011 Academic Year in Review CSER Events



Johnny Marines and audience. Photo by Fidel Malena.

September, 2010

CSER Open House to welcome its faculty, students, and friends. We will have refreshments and musical entertainment and will officially launch our new website.

September 29

Book talk and signing for Professor Mae Ngai's new book, *The Lucky Ones: One Family and the Extraordinary Invention of America*, at the Barnes and Noble on Broadway and 115th Street

September 30

Cuban-based writer and blogger **Lizabel Mónica** talked about the increasingly important Cuban blogosphere and how the denial of this space by the authorities raises the questions of "where" is Cuba and what Cuban virtual space is.

October, 2010

October 1-2

Music and Indigeneity in the Americas

Featuring scholars, activists, and artists from North and South America, the conference presented panels on topics ranging from repatriation and indigenous cultural rights; to law, media, and education; to new forms of collaborative research on popular and traditional music in the context of community-based cultural activism.

October 15

"The 21st Century Negro": A Conversation with Haitian-American Artist, **Richard-Olivier Marius**.

October 22

The Columbia Journal of Race & Law, jointly with CSER presented its inaugural symposium, featuring: "The Great Debate: Arizona's SB 1070."

October 25

A conversation with **Leila Cobo**, Executive Editor for Latin Content and Programming for *Billboard* magazine.

Grupo Aventura, Bachata Music and Latino Identity
November 10, 4:00PM
420 Hamilton Hall
1130 Amsterdam Ave.
Columbia University

Johnny Marines
Manager of Grupo Aventura

Grupo Aventura manager Johnny Marines responds to questions from students in Professor Ed Morales' class "Latin Music and Identity" and speaks on Grupo Aventura and its contributions to the Bachata genre and influence on Latino identity.

Event presented by Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University.

November, 2010

November 10

Grupo Aventura manager **Johnny Marines** responds to questions from students in Professor Ed Morales' class "Latin Music and Identity" and speaks on Grupo



Holiday party. Photo by Rafael Saldaña.

Aventura and its contributions to the Bachata genre and influence on Latino identity.

November 12

"Anarchist Panther," a Conversation with former Black Panther and Political Prisoner, **Ashanti Alston**.

CHE GUEVARA & THE NEW MAN
ABEL SIERRA
NOV. 17
1:00 PM
703 Hamilton

Abel Sierra is an assistant professor and professor. He holds a PhD in Historical Geography from the University of Havana. His work focuses on gender, sexuality and processes of nation-building. He is the author of *Del otro lado del espacio: La construcción de la territorialidad en la región cubana*. The other side of the space. Sexuality in the construction of the Cuban nation which was awarded the "Casa de las Américas" International prize in 2004.

Event presented by Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University.

November 17

Che Guevara and the New Man, lecture given by **Abel Sierra**.

November 18

"Trauma and the Politics of Affect in Catastrophic Time/Space," - a talk by Prof. **Maurice Stevens**.

December, 2010

December 8

CSER, ILAS, and ICORE Holiday Party!

BOOK LAUNCH
Starting from Quirpini
The Travels and Places of a Bolivian People
 Prof. Stuart Rockefeller

Date TBA (Re-schedule from November 15)	420 Hamilton Hall 1130 Amsterdam Ave. Columbia University	Join us for Professor Rockefeller's book release and reception. <i>Starting from Quirpini</i> is an ethnography based on a rural community in the Bolivian Andes which links to regional, national, and transnational movements, and power in the region.
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Event presented by
 Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

January, 2011

January 31
 Professor **Stuart Rockefeller's** Book Launch:
Starting from Quirpini the Travels and Places of a Bolivian People

February, 2011

February 10
Mae M. Ngai, Professor of History and Lung Family Professor of Asian American Studies at Columbia University, spoke on "The True Story of Ah Jake: Language and Justice in Late-Nineteenth-Century Sierra County, California"

INDIGENOUS FORUM

The Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSER) presents the first permanent multi-year Indigenous Forum Speaker Series at Columbia University.

FEBRUARY 22, 2011 11:00 AM - 4:00 - 6:30 PM	MARCH 22, 2011 11:00 AM - 4:00 - 6:30 PM	APRIL 20, 2011 11:00 AM - 4:00 - 6:30 PM
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Honorable Larry Echo Hawk
 Assistant Secretary, Indian Affairs
 U.S. Department of the Interior

Dale Turner
 Associate Professor of Government and Native American Studies,
 Dartmouth University

Luci Tapahonso
 Professor of American Indian Studies and English,
 University of Arizona

With a Haunting History of Political Recognition, Is There Change in the Wind for Indigenous Rights?

On the Idea of Reconciliation in Contemporary Indigenous Politics

A Radiant Curve: Poetry and Stories

Presented by: Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University
 1130 Amsterdam Hall, Columbia University
 1130 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY
 Presidential Level Room One
 Family House, Columbia University
 64 Montgomery Drive, New York, NY

February 22
Indigenous Forum Inaugural Address:
 "With a Haunting History of Political Recognition, Is There Change in the

Wind for Indigenous Rights"? given by **Honorable Larry Echo Hawk**, Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs, U.S. Department of the Interior.

February 23
 Former Democratic Congressman **Bruce Morrison**, sponsor of the Immigration Act of 1990, spoke on "Immigration Reform: Where do we go from here?"

March, 2011

March 22
 "On the Idea of Reconciliation in Contemporary Indigenous Politics," a lecture by **Dale Turner**, Associate Professor of Government and Native American Studies, Dartmouth University. Part of Indigenous Forum series.

March 31
Lucy Salyer from the University of New Hampshire, spoke on "Crossing Borders: the Fenians and the Crisis over Citizenship."

April, 2011

April 12
 "The Literary Case of Wen Ho Lee," a talk by **Colleen Lye**, Associate Professor of English, University of California.

April 14
 CARE presents *Down & Delirious in Mexico City: The Aztec Metropolis in the Twenty-First Century*, a new book by **Daniel Hernandez**.

THE 6TH ANNUAL UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE ON ETHNICITY AND RACE

EXPOSURE:
 CONTEMPORARY ARTICULATIONS OF RACE IN NEW YORK CITY AND BEYOND

APRIL 15 (FR), 2011 10AM-4PM
 CASA HISPANICA (116TH ST. & BROADWAY AND RIVERSIDE)

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY
 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

CALL FOR PAPERS!

"The specter of color is apparent even when it goes unmentioned, and it is all too often the unspoken force that influences public policy as well as private relationships."
 - John Hope Franklin, 1993

Columbia University's Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race invites papers from any undergraduate discipline at nearby colleges that seek to explore, uncover, illustrate, or describe how daily articulations of institutional and private power inform an understanding of race and ethnicity in New York and beyond.

The daylong conference will feature a keynote address by Dr. Marc Lamont Hill, author of *Beats, Rhymes, and Classroom Life*. Through panel presentations, an informal lunchtime and in-depth discussions, the conference will provide a forum for students to various disciplinary fields to engage each other's work and deepen the discussion of Race and Ethnicity.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS
 Abstracts of 200-300 words should be submitted by email no later than **March 25th** to ajl@cser.columbia.edu. Participants will be notified by March 27th. Unfortunately we will not be able to provide transportation or housing.

Deadline topics for papers include, but are not limited to:

- Race Relations in the United States
- Migration and Ethnicity
- Immigration
- Race and Gender
- Language
- Race and Law
- Journalism and Cultural Criticism

April 15
The 6th Annual Undergraduate Conference on Ethnicity and Race titled "EXPOSURE: Contemporary Articulations of Race in New York City and Beyond," the daylong conference featured a keynote address by **Dr. Marc Lamont Hill**. Students from various disciplinary fields engaged each other's work and deepened the discussion of Race and Ethnic Studies within the university and beyond.

April 19
 "Refugee Memories and Asian American Critique," a lecture given by **Viet T. Nguyen**, Associate Professor, Departments of English and American Studies and Ethnicity, USC.

April 20
 "A Radiant Curve: Poetry and Stories," a lecture given by **Luci Tapahonso**, Professor of American Indian Studies and English, University of Arizona. Part of Indigenous Forum series.

April 26
 Roundtable Discussion: "Unsettled: Past and Present of Caribbean Revolutions" presented by CSER, ILAS and the Columbia University Caribbean Working Group. See PAGE 16 for further information.

GRADUATION ▶▶

CSER graduation 2011

May 16 (MON)
 420 Hamilton Hall

Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race, Columbia University

Class of 2011 in Ashby, Kimberly, Jeffrey, and Lak, Esquivel

Class of 2011 in Ashby, Kimberly, Jeffrey, and Lak, Esquivel

I hope you're graduating, you should know this is a lie.

DESTINATION

May, 2011

May 16
CSER Graduation, Class of 2011.

CSER Upcoming Events

Fall 2011

September, 2011

September 22

(THU) 6:00pm-8:00pm

Please join us in welcoming **Nora Gamez Torres**, whose talk is titled "Living in transition: the politics of popular music in contemporary Cuba."

October, 2011

October 6

(THU) 1:00pm-6:00pm

CSER Faculty Symposium: "Theory and Practice of Social Movements"

This coming October, we will begin a second series, the Annual CSER Symposium. The Symposium will create a space for discussion on a topic of interest to CSER faculty. Speakers included Cathy J. Cohen, Mehmet Dosemeci, Tania Mattos, and Gabriella Coleman
Location: Faculty House, Columbia

University, Garden Room One,
64 Morningside Drive, New York, NY

October 12-14

Hispanic New York Film and Video Festival, Sixth Edition

(Oct 12, 6pm) - Opening night at Instituto Cervantes, screening of *Subterráneos*, followed by live performance by "Fuerza Norteña."

Location: 211 East 49th Street, New York, NY 10017

(Oct 13, 6pm) - Screenings at Casa

Hispanica, Columbia University:

Dirt and *Los que se Quedan (Those Who Remain)*.

(Oct 19, 6pm) - Screening at Instituto

Cervantes of *Recordando al Mamoncillo*.

November, 2011

November 2

(WEDS) 4:00pm-6:00pm

Indigenous Forum Series – lecture by **Mark Trahan**, "The Next Great Battle: American Indian Self-Determination

During the Era of Cutbacks"

Location: 420 Hamilton Hall

December, 2011

December 2

(FRI) 10:00am

"Transcolonial Fanon"

The Institute of African Studies (IAS), the Center for the Study of Ethnicity and Race (CSER) and the Maison Française at Columbia University will sponsor the Interdisciplinary Conference to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the death of Frantz Fanon.

Location: Maison Francaise, Columbia University, Buell Hall, 2nd Floor, Broadway Boulevard at West 116th Street

December 8

(THU) 5:30pm-9:00pm

CSER Holiday Party

Location: 310 Philosophy Hall

December 9-14

Tibetan Language Conference
(more information TBA)

Caribbean Working Group

CSER's Caribbean Studies Faculty Working Group (CFWG) began its public programming this past academic year. For the first time at Columbia, the CFWG created a space to facilitate exchange amongst our faculty working in various disciplines and fields which generated open academic discussion on Caribbean issues and held three successful programs open to the public. In October 2010, the CFWG, together with CSER and NYU's Hemispheric Institute on Performance and Politics, hosted Lizabel Mónica, a young Cuban blogger and writer, who spoke about various cultural movements in Cuba, including those organized around hip hop music and independent blogging. In November 2010, the CFWG and CSER



invited Abel Sierra Madero, a Cuban historian, to lecture about the emergence and articulations of Che Guevara's concept of the New Man. Finally, this April, the CFWG launched its first roundtable on the present and future

of Caribbean revolutions in light of the recent upheavals in the Middle East and northern Africa. Invited guests included Doris Garraway, Maja Horn, and Laurie Lambert.

As CSER received renewed funding from the Institute of Latin American Studies to expand the scope of CFWG next academic year, the group will focus on internal roundtables concentrating on work in progress and a major conference on the 50th Anniversary of Frantz Fanon's death. CFWG also hopes to begin envisioning an interdisciplinary "Caribbean Laboratory," which will invite two Caribbean scholars per academic year, preferably with an interdisciplinary outlook, to short residences in the fall and spring respectively. The scholars would offer workshops and collaborate with other institutions and academics.