

]



Conference on Latin American History

Volume 58 No. 2

Fall 2022



CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Volume 58, Number 2

IN THIS ISSUE:

I.	Message from President Ben Vinson III	4
II.	Message from Co-Executive Director Erika Edwards	6
III.	Dr. Barbara Weinstein, Distinguished Service Award Winner	8
IV.	Conference on Latin American History 2022 ballot	9
V.	James R. Scobie Award Reports	19
VI.	CLAH endowment and fund contributors	28
VII.	Lifetime members	29

2022 CLAH OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Executive Committee:

President: Ben Vinson III
Vice President: Celso Castilho
Past President: Bianca Premo
Executive Directors: Jurgen Buchenau &
Erika Edwards

Elected Council Members:

Danielle Terrazas Williams
Tamara Walker
Maria Barreiros Almeida Reis
Luisa Fernanda Arrieta
Brandon Byrd
Orlando Deavila Pertuz

Ex-Officio Council Members:

HAHR Editors: Martha Few, Matthew
Restall, Amara Solari, Zachary Morgan
The Americas Editor: John F. Schwaller
H-LatAm Editor: Marc Becker

Standing Committees:

Nominating Committee:

Brenda Elsey, Chair
Camilo Trumper
Corinna Zeltsman

Program Committee:

Sharika Crawford (2022 Chair)
Robert Franco (2023 Chair)
Jesse Cromwell

Regional & Thematic Sections

Andean Studies:

Sarah Hines, Chair
Javier Puente, Secretary

Atlantic World Studies:

Juan José Ponce Vázquez, Chair
Anne Eller, Secretary

Borderlands/Frontiers:

Jessica Ordaz, Chair
Nick Villanueva, Secretary

Brazilian Studies:

Yuko Miki, Chair
Benjamin A. Cowan, Secretary

Caribbean Studies:

Reena Goldthree, Chair
Takkara Brunson, Secretary

Central American Studies:

Laura Matthew, Chair
Brianna Leavitt-Alcántara, Secretary

Chile-Río de la Plata Studies:

Debbie Sharnak, Chair
Denisa Jashari, Secretary

Colonial Studies:

Mariana Dantas, Chair
Mónica Ricketts, Secretary

Gran Colombia Studies:

Shawn van Ausdal, Chair
María José Afanador, Secretary

Mexican Studies:

Mónica Díaz, Chair
Edward Wright-Ríos, Secretary

Teaching and Teaching Materials

Carlos Dimas, Chair
María de los Ángeles Picone, Secretary

I. Message from President Ben Vinson III



Dear Colleagues:

This is my final column, and more than anything, I wanted to use this space to convey my deepest and sincerest gratitude to the CLAH membership. It has been an incredible honor to serve as your president over the past two years. I have had the marvelous opportunity to witness so much camaraderie and spirit, and so much positive growth in our treasured organization. Amidst the challenges we've collectively endured, I've equally sensed a new vigor in our regional sections, as they've wrestled with increasingly complex questions towards advancing our discipline. At the same time, our membership has displayed a deep sense of purpose that extends well beyond the reaches of our research, and into the varied communities and student bodies that we regularly engage with. In no small measure, the CLAH's posture right now is of an organization whose impact has grown. Moreover, in unique ways, the influence of each individual scholar is being magnified by the organizational collective of the CLAH. Importantly, our voices are seeping into (and shaping) conversations that we have not always been privy to. And we are doing essential work to protect endangered archives, help our international colleagues, improve the structure of our organization, achieve greater inclusion, shape and inform policy debates, synergize with the broader historical profession, harness technology, and increase our numbers. We still have much ground to cover, as these are on-going projects. But I clearly see our organization continuing to climb and soar.

We've also been an organization with boundless volunteerism. I've seen that quality on vivid display in the hard work of our committees, and in the activities of our elected officers. The thoughtfulness and engagement of our member volunteers to review, promote, shape, and engage the best scholarship has been admirable. In moments when the time of faculty has been more encumbered than ever, both by the demands of the academy and of life factors, we cannot

underestimate our prideful volunteerism. It is this generosity that has enabled our organization to persevere and redefine elements of our practices, and to achieve new bounds of inquiry that will advance us all.

In my final message, I want to thank you again for all you do. I can't think of finer people to have as colleagues.

II. Message from Co-Executive Director Erika Edwards



Dear CLAH Members, I hope all is well and you are getting excited about our upcoming conference in Philadelphia (2023)!!! Fingers crossed this will be a in-person conference. I know after two years of virtual and/or hybrid conferences, it will be a great opportunity to see colleagues again. Although I remain impressed by our adaptability to the pandemic, it will be refreshing to engage and have fellowship with others in person at the luncheon and cocktail party.

On behalf of the CLAH, I want to take the time to thank Madison Green for serving as our graduate assistant for the past two years. As I begin my sixth and final year as CLAH co-Executive Director, I am very excited to know I kept my original goals of making the CLAH more diverse and equitable. Last year's Executive Committee and Council was the most diverse board in the CLAH's history. I also have promoted and continue to encourage that Sections incorporate graduate students. I have revitalized our elections system to make it more equitable and diverse and continue to support others to run and serve the CLAH.

This year also marks the end of Jurgen's and my term as Executive Directors of the CLAH. For the past sixteen years it has been housed at UNC Charlotte. We want to thank the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences for their support over the years and the countless graduate students that have also served under Drs. Jerry Dávila, Jurgen Buchenau and myself. We look forward to seeing who will lead the organization through the centennial of the CLAH (2026).

Lastly, I wanted to close with some procedural updates. These past two years have definitely taken a toll on everyone, and it is clear that we are tired. This year was especially challenging to seek nominations for the sections. I want to first thank all those who have volunteered to serve on these sections. Because of YOU we have had robust

and engaging conversations specific to various regions and themes. As we awaken from the COVID exhaustion, I can only remain optimistic that the enthusiasm to serve will regain momentum in the coming years.

Sincerely

Erika Denise Edwards

Dr. Barbara Weinstein, CLAH Distinguished Service Award Winner, 2022

The Prize Committee unanimously and enthusiastically recommends that the 2022 Distinguished Service Award be awarded to Barbara Weinstein. This award will highlight her various significant contributions to Latin American History through her path breaking research on Brazil, her services to many institutions, and the teaching and mentoring of students.

Professor Weinstein's research on Brazil has produced three outstanding monographs, edited collections, and a wealth of articles and other publications. Her first book, *The Amazon Rubber Boom, 1850-1920* (Stanford, 1983), analyzes the many ways in which the rubber industry impacted the North of the country, tackling questions of underdevelopment and dependency theory. Her second monograph, *For Social Peace in Brazil: Industrialists and the Remaking of the Working Class in Sao Paulo, 1920-1964* (North Carolina, 1996), studies the impact (and limitations) of industrialization projects on the shaping of São Paulo's working class. The work also introduces issues of gender by studying working class women. *The Color of Modernity: Sao Paulo and the Making of Race and Nation in Brazil* (Duke 2015), her third monograph, was awarded the Warren Dean Memorial Prize of CLAH for best study in Brazilian history in 2016 and the Roberto Reis Book Award from the Brazilian Studies Association/BRASA. These awards were in recognition for her analysis on the making of a *paulista* culture based on ideas of whiteness and progress in the south versus a black, mestizo and backward north. All of her three books have been translated into Portuguese. We cannot wait to read her next book on Frank Tannenbaum.

Through her many publications and collaborations, Barbara Weinstein strengthened the relations between US and Brazil's academia in spite of challenges to travel to the region. This achievement also reflects her efforts to expand and enhance the History of Latin America more generally at national, regional and international levels throughout her career. This was most notable during her tenure as President of the American Historical Association (2007) and through the many committees she served in the AHA, in the CLAH and, more recently, in the Latin American Studies Association. She has also maintained numerous leadership roles at the different institutions she has worked in. It should be noted how she used these platforms to defend academic freedom and democratic values. In addition, she has served the profession through her contributions as senior co-editor of *The Hispanic American Historical Review* as well as in different capacities in other journals published in the US and in Brazil.

Professor Weinstein's work as a mentor and teacher has few parallels. She strengthened and extended the field through building and supporting institutions dedicated to the region and to gender studies at SUNY at Stony Brook, at the University of Maryland at College Park and at NYU. At each of these institutions, she served as a mentor to both PhD and undergraduate students and promoted the study of Latin America.

In sum, Barbara Weinstein's remarkable career as a historian in terms of scholarship, institutional development and collaboration, and teaching and mentoring makes her a most worthy recipient of CLAH's 2022 Distinguished Service Award.

Joaquín Chávez, Rafael Ioris, and Paula Alonso (Chair).

Fall 2022 ballot for officers of the Conference on Latin American History

Vice President/President Elect

Alejandra Bronfman is a cultural historian of the Caribbean with research interests in the production of knowledge, racialization and technology's role in the amplification of marginalized voices. Currently Professor in the Department of Latin American, Caribbean and Latina/o Studies at the University at Albany, she is the author of *Isles of Noise: Sonic Media in the Caribbean* (Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 2016); *Media, Sound and Culture in Latin America and the Caribbean*, Coedited with Andrew Wood, (Pittsburgh University Press, 2012); *On the Move: The Caribbean Since 1989* (Zed Books, 2007) and *Measures of Equality: Social Science, Citizenship and Race in Cuba, 1902-1940* (University of North Carolina Press, 2004). Her current research on the islands of Culebra and Vieques in Puerto Rico is an environmental and sensory history of the 20th century military occupations and their afterlives. She is the founder and one of the hosts of New Books in Caribbean Studies. To date, she has interviewed 64 authors of new books, and her podcasts have been downloaded over 370,000 times. She serves on the board of the Modern Endangered Archives Program (funded by the Arcadia Foundation) and the Radio Preservation Task Force (affiliated with the Library of Congress). Listening and collaboration guide her work with students, colleagues and researchers.

Ángela Vergara, California State University, Los Angeles. I am a labor historian and a professor of history at California State University Los Angeles. My scholarship has focused on workers' living and working experience in modern Chile while also placing it in a transnational framework. I am the author of *Copper Workers, International Business, and Domestic Politics in Cold War Chile* (2008) and *Fighting Unemployment in Twentieth-Century Chile* (2021). As a Chilean labor scholar, I am committed to fostering a democratic academic space that brings together scholars in Latin America and the Global North and openly discusses the ongoing precarization of academic work.

CLAH Council, Tenure Track

Jennifer Adair is an Associate Professor of History at Fairfield University whose research focuses on contemporary Argentina and the Southern Cone. She is the author of *In Search of the Lost Decade: Everyday Rights in Post-Dictatorship Argentina* (University of California Press, 2020), which examines Argentina's transition to democracy in the 1980s. She has also published scholarly articles on the history of letter writing, human rights, and the Catholic Church and

popular politics. Her current book project is an environmental and urban history of trash and recycling in Buenos Aires. An enthusiastic supporter of CLAH, she previously served as Secretary and Chair of the Chile-Río de la Plata Studies Section from 2017-2019.

Jorell Meléndez-Badillo is Assistant Professor of Latin American and Caribbean History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the author of *The Lettered Barriada: Workers, Archival Power, and the Politics of Knowledge in Puerto Rico* (Duke UP, 2021) and *Voces libertarias: Los orígenes del anarquismo en Puerto Rico* (Editorial Akelarre, 2015). He also edited *Páginas libres: Breve antología del pensamiento anarquista en Puerto Rico* (EEE, 2021). He is currently completing a book titled *Puerto Rico: A National History* (Under contract with Princeton UP). His work has also appeared or is forthcoming in *Caribbean Studies*, *ILWCH*, and *Small Axe*, among others.

Fabrizio Prado is associate professor of history at William & Mary where he teaches classes on Colonial Latin America and the Atlantic World. Prado is the author of *Colônia do Sacramento: o extremo sul da América portuguesa* (2002); and *Edge of Empire: Atlantic Networks and Revolution in Bourbon Rio de la Plata* (University of California Press, 2015), which was translated into Spanish as *El Borde del Império: redes atlánticas y revolución en el Río de la plata Borbónico* (Prometeo, 2021). Fabrício has been a research fellow at the Instituto de Historia Nacional y Americana Emilio Ravignani, Buenos Aires, a member of the class of 2008 of the International Seminar for the History of the Atlantic World at Harvard University, and an exchange faculty fellow at the School of History at the University of Saint Andrews, Scotland. Prado has received fellowships from the Lilly Library, The Ohio State University Center for Historical Research, the John Carter Brown Library, The Luso-American Foundation for Development, and the National Endowment for the Humanities. His current book project is tentatively titled *Inter-American Connections: Capitalism, Slavery, and the Making of Independent South America*, which examines the commercial linkages connecting the US port cities to Argentina, Brazil, and Uruguay during the Age of Atlantic Revolutions. Prado is an assistant editor of *The Americas*, and he is a member of the editorial committee of the journal *Almanack* (Brazil). His research interests focus on cross-border dynamics, social networks, commerce, contraband trade, corruption, social and economic history of the Southern Cone of Latin America.

Elizabeth Schwall. I am an Assistant Professor of History at Northern Arizona University and the author of *Dancing with the Revolution: Power, Politics, and Privilege in Cuba* (University of North Carolina Press, 2021), which won the Thomas McGann Book Prize from the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies. My research has also appeared in the journals *Hispanic American Historical Review*, *Cuban Studies*, *Gender & History*, *Dance Chronicle*, *Studies in Musical Theatre*, and *Investigaciones de danza y movimiento*, as well as the edited volumes *Futures of Dance Studies* (University of Wisconsin Press, 2020) and *The Revolution from Within: Cuba, 1959-1980* (Duke University Press, 2019). Given that I am in a relatively small department without other historians of Latin America, I really appreciate the opportunity to connect and learn from my CLAH colleagues. Since I have long benefitted from the CLAH community, I am eager to reciprocate by supporting CLAH in a service capacity.

CLAH Council, Non-Tenure Track and Graduate Students

Marissa Nichols is a Dean's Teaching Fellow and PhD candidate in the History Department at Emory University. She received a M.A. in History from Emory University (2019) and UNC Charlotte (2016) as well as a B.A. in Spanish and History from Bridgewater State University (2014). She is currently finishing her dissertation which examines how nursing work reshaped Indigenous-state relations in post-revolutionary Oaxaca, Mexico. She completed her dissertation research in Mexico with the support of a Fulbright-Hays DDRA Fellowship (2019-2020) and an H-31 Pre-Doctoral Grant from the American Association for the History of Nursing (2021). Most recently, she was awarded the Martha and Bill Dobes Outstanding Graduate Teaching Fellow Award from Emory's Laney Graduate School to design a workshop for graduate students on inclusive pedagogy.

Sergio Pinto Handler earned his PhD in Latin American History at Stony Brook University in 2018. He has since taught in the African and African Diaspora Studies Program at Boston College, in the International Studies Program at Trinity College, and he is currently a Visiting Assistant Professor of History at St. Olaf College. Sergio is now completing the final stages of revisions to his dissertation, a study of radical abolitionism in nineteenth century Rio de Janeiro. He has published excerpts of that study with Fordham University Press and his next project is a history of rice in the Hispanic world.

Secretary, Regional and Topical Sections:

Andean Studies Section:

Renzo Aroni, Postdoctoral Fellow, Columbia University

I am Renzo Aroni, a Mellon Postdoctoral Researcher and lecturer at Columbia University and a historian of modern Latin America, writing a book on Peru's Indigenous peasant resistance to Shining Path. My Andean heritage as a Quechua and an interdisciplinary scholar motivates me to propose my candidacy for serving CLAH as a secretary and then chair of the Andean Studies Section in the upcoming years. Based on my academic and humanistic training, I want to engage the scholarly collaboration and exchange of viewpoints for the Andean studies and promote greater participation of Andeanists in the activities of the CLAH and academic communities.

Tamara Feinstein, Assistant Professor, Murray State University

Dr. Tamara Feinstein is an Assistant Professor of Latin American History at Murray State University (Kentucky). She is currently concluding a book on the Peruvian legal Left during the later half of the 20th century. From 2000-2005, she worked as the director of the Peru Documentation Project at the National Security Archive, a non-profit research organization that specializes in obtaining declassified U.S. documents through the Freedom of Information Act. More recently, while teaching at St. Lawrence University, she worked on a collaborative exhibit

of Chilean Arpilleras from the Pinochet dictatorship, which will be the subject of her next research project.

Mark Rice, Associate Professor, Baruch College, City University of New York

I would look forward to working as secretary to encourage more collaboration between scholars at different institutions and stages of their careers. In particular, I would use our resources to highlight scholars at teaching institutions, contingent faculty, and outside of the US. There are several concrete steps as secretary that I could do to accomplish these goals, like expanding outreach through social media (alongside more traditional email to .edu accounts) and more extensive translation of announcements. Thank you for your consideration and I hope we can continue to make CLAH more dynamic and inclusive.

Atlantic World Studies Section

Jeff Erbig: I am an Associate Professor of Latin American and Latino Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz. As secretary, I would seek to deepen connections between researchers from the United States and those based in Latin America. I would also aim to promote public engagement in the study of the Atlantic World. My first book analyzed Indigenous territorialities and Luso-Hispanic border making in the Río de la Plata, and I am currently researching histories of deportation (destierro/degrado) to and from borderlands in the Southern Cone.

Jamie Goodall: I am a staff historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History. I am the author of *Pirates of the Chesapeake Bay: From the Colonial Era to the Oyster Wars* (The History Press, 2020) and *Pirates: Shipwrecks, Conquests, and their Lasting Legacy* (National Geographic, 2021). I want to serve as the secretary of the Atlantic Studies Section of CLAH because I believe in the organization's mission to foster the study and teaching of the history of Latin America and the Caribbean and its people. As an Atlantic specialist, I believe that I can promote the interests of the Atlantic section of CLAH and further the mission of the organization, especially as I have significant public outreach.

Emmanuel Lachaud: I am a Postdoctoral Scholar in Black Studies at City College of New York. As the secretary for the Atlantic section of CLAH, my aim would be to provide support to the council in continuing to cultivate Atlantic research. I truly do believe in highlighting our roles as comparatists, diasporists, and transnationalists who work across languages, non-conventional identities, and so many more categories as central to not only the history of the hemisphere, but to the history of the human experience. It would be my pleasure to continue to connect people throughout the world, bringing to fruition their academic endeavors, and helping CLAH's mission thrive in ways that privilege collaboration, visibility, and joy.

Borderlands/Frontiers Studies Section

Steven Hackel, UC Riverside: My scholarship engages the histories of Natives and missionaries in colonial California and northern New Spain in the 18th and 19th centuries. I situate the Spanish Borderlands in the larger framework of continental North America and wrestle with how that

colonial past should be remembered today. My work has focused on religious change, historical demography, digital history as well as public history. Increasingly, I have worked to create a community of scholars working on the Spanish Borderlands and sought opportunities to mentor younger scholars. As Secretary, I would create conversations across borders and between generations. For too long the history of the Spanish Borderlands has been cut off from larger historiographical debates and historical contexts.

Erick Langer, Georgetown University:

I would like to be the Secretary of the Borderlands/Frontiers Studies section because I work in large part on frontiers in the Chaco region and would like to promote the study of borderlands and frontiers among Latin Americanists. There are many vital studies done on this vast topic. I feel it is the duty of the Secretary (and the Chair) to highlight the new research on frontiers and borderlands. I am especially interested in making sure that the topic encompasses both North and South America and that it highlights the work of new, upcoming scholars in the field.

Daniel Morales, Virginia Commonwealth University

I focus on the history of migration between Latin America and the United States. My upcoming book, *Entre Aquí y Allá*, examines the construction of transnational migration across Mexico and the United States between 1900-1940. I have participated in CLAH in the past and would be honored to serve as secretary of the Borderlands and Frontier Section. As a borderlands and Latinx scholar, my work traverses traditional Latin America/US divides. I will work to continue the work CLAH has done expanding outreach to borderlands and transnational scholars of all regions and types.

Brazilian Studies Section

Jennifer Eaglin, Ohio State University

My name is Jennifer Eaglin. I am an associate professor of environmental history/sustainability at Ohio State University. My research focuses on alternative energy development in Brazil. As Chair for the Brazil Section, I would be interested in organizing a panel on post-election Brazil. I would bring together Brazilian historians to discuss the social, political, and environmental markers that have been historically affected by Bolsonaro's presidency and the upcoming election results. Ultimately, the panel will generate deeper discussion about the continuities and breaks with historical events of the past and how it has reshaped Brazilian society today.

Tom Rogers, Emory University

I am a historian of Brazil at Emory University (Associate Professor of Modern Latin American History), where I currently direct our graduate program in history and co-coordinate our work on public humanities. I have benefited from the discussions in the Brazil Section over the years and have appreciated the work of the secretaries. I would be happy to take a turn in the role and help facilitate our sharing of ideas.

Sarah Sarzynski, Claremont McKenna College

Associate Professor of modern Brazil, gender and sexuality, military dictatorship, rural social movements, race and ethnicity, Amazônia, and borderlands. My scholarship and teaching

interests reflect my commitment to recovering voices of peoples who have been marginalized or excluded from the Brazilian nation. My first book, *Revolution in the Terra do Sol: The Cold War in Brazil*, examines how rural social movements in Northeastern Brazil appropriated entrenched symbols of regional identity - *o cangaceiro*, slavery and abolition, *os coronéis e o povo rural*, and *messianismo* - to gain support for agrarian reform and rural workers' rights. My current research unearths how indigenous and borderlands peoples engaged in the process of border-making tentatively titled, *The Spaces Between Genocide and Ecocide: Amazonian Borderlands, 1922-1970s*. In a separate project, I am recovering transmasculine histories in Brazil in the 1950s and 1960s. The CLAH-Brazil section can render visible histories of marginalized groups such as transgender and indigenous peoples who continue to face violence in contemporary Brazil.

Caribbean Studies Section

Matthew Casey, University of Southern Mississippi Matthew Casey (PhD, University of Pittsburgh 2012) is Associate Professor of History and Director of the School of Humanities at the University of Southern Mississippi. He is the author of *Empire's Guest Workers: Haitian Migrants in Cuba during the Age of US Occupation* (Cambridge UP, 2017) and his publications have appeared in *New West India Guide*, *Caribbean Studies*, *International Labor and Working Class History*, *the Journal of Haitian Studies* and others. He is currently writing a book called "Joseph Jolibois Fils and the Politics of Democracy and Authoritarianism in Occupied Haiti and Interwar Latin America."

Jorell Meléndez-Badillo, University of Wisconsin Jorell Meléndez-Badillo is Assistant Professor of Latin American and Caribbean History at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is the author of *The Lettered Barriada: Workers, Archival Power, and the Politics of Knowledge in Puerto Rico* (Duke UP, 2021) and *Voces libertarias: Los orígenes del anarquismo en Puerto Rico* (Editorial Akelarre, 2015). He also edited *Páginas libres: Breve antología del pensamiento anarquista en Puerto Rico* (EEE, 2021). He is currently completing a book titled *Puerto Rico: A National History* (Under contract with Princeton UP). His work has also appeared or is forthcoming in *Caribbean Studies*, *ILWCH*, and *Small Axe*, among others.

Grace L. Sanders Johnson, University of Pennsylvania: Grace L. Sanders Johnson is a historian, visual artist, and assistant professor of Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania. Her areas of study include modern Caribbean history with a focus on Haiti, transnational feminisms, oral history, and environmental humanities. Sanders Johnson has worked with various archival projects including Concordia University's Oral History Project Histoire de Vie Haiti Group (Montreal) and was a 2020-2021 Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture Scholars-in-Residence Fellow. Her most recent work can be found in several journals including *Small Axe: A Caribbean Journal of Criticism* (2022), *American Anthropologist* (2022), and *Caribbean Review of Gender Studies* (2018). She is also the author of *White Gloves, Black Nation: Women, Citizenship, and Political Wayfaring in Haiti* (University of North Carolina Press, 2023)

Central American Studies Section

Bonar Hernández, Iowa State University

Bonar L. Hernández Sandoval is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at Iowa State University. His primary research and teaching interests include modern Latin America, the

Cold War, and the interplay between religion and politics. Hernández is the author of *Guatemala's Catholic Revolution: A History of Religious and Social Change, 1920-1968* (University of Notre Dame Press); "Reforming Catholicism: Papal Power in Guatemala during the 1920s and 1930s" (*The Americas*); and "Religion, Politics, and the State" (*The Oxford Handbook of Central American History*). He is currently working on a second book-length project that examines the history of religious and political activism in Guatemala.

Stephanie M. Huezco, Fordham University

I am an Assistant Professor of Latin American and Latinx History at Fordham University. My research focuses on how Salvadoran community organizers in both El Salvador and the U.S. diaspora shaped community and political mobilization by using an anti-imperialist and anti-capitalist method in their grassroots organizing. As a Salvadoran-American scholar, I am invested in researching and teaching about Central American communities and supporting initiatives that center Central American voices. Aside from my academic work, I am also a member of a popular education collective through the National Day Laborer Organizing Network (NDLON) where I serve as an advisor for various activities and materials developed for day laborers and immigrant serving organizations.

Sylvia Sellers-García, Boston College

Sylvia Sellers-García is a Professor of History at Boston College. She is the author of *Distance and Documents at the Spanish Empire's Periphery* (Stanford University Press, 2013) and co-editor, with Karen Melvin, of *Imagining Histories of Colonial Latin America: Synoptic Methods and Practices* (University of New Mexico Press, 2017). Her most recent book, *The Woman on the Windowsill: A Tale of Mystery in Several Parts* (Yale University Press, 2020), received the Bolton-Johnson Book Prize from CLAH and the James P. Hanlan Book Prize from the New England Historical Association. Sellers-García is currently working on the history of policing in late-colonial Guatemala.

Chile-Río de la Plata Studies Section

Edward Brudney, UT Chattanooga

Edward Brudney (Ph.D. Indiana University) is assistant professor of History at University of Tennessee, Chattanooga. His research analyzes the intersections of labor and legal history in Argentina during the late twentieth century. His book project, *Changing the Rules of the Game: Labor, Law, and Citizenship in Argentina, 1973-1983*, argues that despite the political turmoil of the 1970s, the law remained a critical site of contention and negotiation both for institutional actors and on the shop floor. As secretary, his priorities would be to foster creative exchange among graduate students, early career, and established faculty; and to grow connections between CLAH and other international scholarly organizations.

Romina Akemi Green, Washington and Lee University

I am Assistant Professor of History at Washington and Lee University. I research race politics in nineteenth-century Chile. As CLAH Rio de la Plata/Chile section secretary, I will seek to bridge scholarly dialogue across geographic areas and career stages on topics that advance the field. I hope to collaboratively develop a roundtable on researching race in the Southern Cone to share research, analytical, and methodological frameworks to initiate future collaboration, new

research questions, and teaching approaches. I hope to continue our section's successful tradition in organizing roundtables that create space for timely discussion, joint projects, and much-needed socialization.

Joshua Savala, Rollins College

As a historian of Chile and Peru, I often find myself pulled in both directions when it comes to academic organizations. This may serve as a generative point as secretary of the CLAH Rio de la Plata/Chile section. What does it mean to work on Rio de la Plata/Chile when historians are moving more fluidly across borders and regions? And even when the topic is tied to a city or town, how does that focus relate to broader themes within the region? I envision a roundtable on scale and region within and beyond Rio de la Plata/Chile.

Colonial Studies Section

James Almeida (Ph.D. Harvard University, 2022; visiting Assistant Professor of History, Oberlin College). Almeida's scholarly interests include historical constructions of human difference, especially race, gender, and sexuality; labor and human histories of commodity production; and how ordinary people encountered the state in Latin America. His vision for the Colonial Studies section is to engage with theory developed in Latin America to investigate the region's colonial histories and to explore entangled evolutions of colonial categories that are often isolated in scholarly studies, starting with the binary separation of people of African and indigenous descent.

Amílcar Challú (Ph.D. Harvard University, 2007; Associate Professor and Chair of History, Bowling Green State University) Challú is a Latin American historian with an interest in social, economic and environmental history. My research focuses on wellbeing, inequality and markets in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, although I have also ventured in the longer term and comparative work. I regularly teach colonial and modern Latin America, Mexico, the history of capitalism, and environmental history. I particularly enjoy mentoring graduate and undergraduate students and facilitating their research in Latin American archives. With a trajectory of collaboration with colleagues and constituencies across fields and national boundaries, I see my contribution as keeping a vibrant interdisciplinary dialogue in our section.

Guadalupe García (Ph.D. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2006; Associate Professor of History, Tulane University). García specializes in the history of cities and colonialism in Latin America and the Caribbean. Her research examines the intersections of colonialism, empire, and urban space and focuses on free, black, and enslaved peoples in Havana. Her work has appeared in the *Journal of Latin American Studies* and *Cultural Studies*. García's fellowships and awards include a Distinguished Fellowship at the CUNY Grad Center's Advanced Research Collaborative and research and digital fellowships at the John Carter Brown Library in Providence, Rhode Island. She has also held a Transatlantic Research Fellowship at the University of Warwick in the UK. Professor García is currently at work on a second book project that explores the use of digital humanities to interrogate how space, scale, and mapping can be used to counter the logic of the archive and expand our contemporary understanding of urban place.

Gran Colombia Studies Section

Katherine Bonil. I am a history professor at Universidad Javeriana (Bogotá, Colombia). I earned a PhD in History from Johns Hopkins University, a Master's degree in History from Universidad de los Andes, and a double major in Anthropology and History from the same university. My research interests focus on different aspects of the African diaspora in the Spanish Atlantic world, on identity-building processes, intersections of race and politics and, lately, on Afro-descendant peoples' role in the production of New World fluvial geographies. As secretary of the Gran Colombian Section of the Conference on Latin American History, I would be interested in organizing panels on the environmental histories of the African diaspora across the very diverse Gran Colombia's geographies.

Constanza Castro. I am a history professor at Universidad de Los Andes. I earned a PhD in History from Columbia University and a Master's degree in Latin American studies from Stanford University. I specialize in nineteenth-century Latin American history, and have a broad-ranging interest in the intersection between political culture, global urban history, and the history of capitalism. I am also interested in the public uses of history. Over seven years ago, I co-founded a public history group (*Historias para lo que viene*), and a group interested in discussing history as a peace pedagogy that worked alongside Colombia's Truth Commission in these last few years. As the secretary of the Gran Colombian Section of the Conference on Latin American History, I would be interested in organizing conversations on the local dimension of global capitalism in Latin America and the 'Global South,' as well as on historians as political actors.

Olga González-Silén, independent scholar. I am a historian of Venezuela during the Age of Atlantic Revolutions, I earned my PhD in History from University of Harvard. My research has appeared in *The Americas* and the *Hispanic American Historical Review*. I just completed a critical edition of a US merchant's notebook that provides insight into Venezuelan independence. In the last decade, Gran Colombia has personally come alive as it has welcomed many fellow Venezuelans. My priority is to build communities that bridge the divide between US- and Latin American-based scholars and their bodies of scholarship. One skill I offer is my extensive experience using Twitter to disseminate history and connect historians to each other.

Mexican Studies Section

Rob Alegre: I am an associate professor at University of New England in Maine. I am the author of *Railroad Radicals in Cold War Mexico: Gender, Class, and Memory* (Nebraska, 2013). If elected, I would propose facilitating methodological dialogues that place Mexico within broad transnational and global histories. My vision includes us having conversations across generations, periods, and specialties.

Xóchitl M. Flores-Marcial: I am an interdisciplinary historian of Colonial Mexico. My work centers on the Zapotec of Oaxaca- currently hosted by the UNAM Instituto de Investigaciones Filológicas and Históricas at their Oaxaca campus. I am interested in serving as Secretary to contribute to my field and to help move our field forward. This role would also allow me the opportunity to connect with colleagues across the country.

Diana Montano is an Assistant Professor of History at Washington University in St. Louis. I consider the position of Mexican Studies Section Secretary to be an excellent opportunity to support and promote top-level scholarship on Mexican history. It will also allow me to improve its teaching, something of critical importance at this time. The organization of the Mexican Studies panel for the 2024 conference is particularly appealing given its ability to shape the field's conversations.

Teaching and Teaching Materials Section

Barbara Ganson (Florida Atlantic University):

The history of writing is one the most fascinating aspects of the encounter of cultures in the New World. Many societies recorded their concerns not only on paper but on objects. Who produced them, who wanted them and why, and what can we discover about their reception, circulation, and transformation? What do they reveal about change over time, social class, ethnic and racial differences, gender disparities, religion, and daily life? I hope to share new approaches to the teaching of Latin American History through the study of objects and the history of writing to facilitate a better learning experience.

Pilar Maria Herr (University of Pittsburgh Greensburg):

I would like to serve as Secretary of the Teaching Section for CLAH because I believe it would provide me with an opportunity to serve the historical profession, exchange best practices on teaching in the profession, and learn from others. I have been teaching at the University of Pittsburgh Greensburg, an undergraduate liberal arts regional campus of the University of Pittsburgh, for the last 22 years. I'm a Latin Americanist who also teaches the History of Spain. Over the course of my career, I've developed and taught over ten different courses, both face-to-face and during the pandemic, online. I'm also interested in learning different approaches to teaching history, including seminar and hybrid formats, using different digital tools for assignments and assessment, and small groups. My passion is being in the classroom and teaching undergraduate students the basic skills of reading, writing, and research, as well as to appreciate the diversity of the historical world and how history informs our present day lives.

Melina Pappademos (University of Connecticut)

I'm an associate professor of History and Director of Africana Studies. Already active in another AHA affiliated society, I have witnessed how narratives in scholarly fields under the CLAH umbrella have lost none of their urgency. On the contrary, they precede and re-frame history's broadest and most pressing questions. I would be honored to serve as CLAH secretary, to support our colleagues' undergraduate teaching and learning initiatives as well as their creation of new intellectual pathways, inexorable across both Latin American scholarship and the historical profession.

V. James R. Scobie Award Research Reports

Alexander Chaparro-Silva, The University of Texas at Austin (report on 2020 Scobie delayed by COVID-19 pandemic)

Funds from the James R. Scobie Award allowed me to continue the second stage of archival research for my dissertation “Writing the Other America: Democracy, Race, and Print Culture in the Americas, 1830-1898.” My project analyzes how during the nineteenth century Latin American intellectuals came to the US, offered a sophisticated comparative reflection on democracy and race relations in both Americas, and crafted racialized continental differences. It delves deeply into the ways these writers published continental newspapers and books in the US, sponsored intellectual circles in cities such as New York, New Orleans, and San Francisco, and established transnational correspondence networks to engage with the political problems common to the American hemisphere.

Due to the worsening of COVID-19 conditions for international travel during 2021, I hired a research assistant and historian fellow, Eduardo Rodríguez Moncada, who consulted and digitized archival records previously identified by me in the following repositories in Bogotá, Colombia:

- National Library of Colombia: 19th Century Collections and Newspapers
- Luis Ángel Arango Library, Rare Books and Manuscripts Collection: Correspondence and Newspapers
- National Archive of Colombia: Republican and Foreign Relations Sections
- National University of Colombia Archive: Manuel Ancízar Basterra Collection

The findings from these archival visits are constituted by historical and sociological treatises, correspondence, travelogues, and papers of several Colombian intellectuals, men and women, who wrote about their experiences in the US during the nineteenth century. Since newspapers constitute the core of my primary sources, I also obtained digitized copies of more than one hundred continental newspapers from New York to Santiago de Chile held in these Colombian repositories. A significant part of the extensive collection of nineteenth-century US newspapers is packed with marginalia, which is fundamental to reconstruct the community of readers of these publications in the hemisphere. Assembling this truly American archive is one the main goals of this project since the collections of Latin American newspapers published in the US are seldom complete in archival repositories, academic databases, and digital libraries across the Americas.

This archival research, funded by the James R. Scobie Award, showed me how Latin American intellectuals—men and women—were connected by extensive correspondence networks throughout the entire hemisphere and how US newspapers in Spanish and English were amply read and discussed south of the Rio Grande. These newspapers influenced and responded to different intellectual traditions, political agendas, and local projects in multiple countries in the American hemisphere.

Finally, and equally important, I want to thank the Conference on Latin American History and the 2020 selection committee for supporting my dissertation project. I also want to thank Eduardo Rodríguez Moncada for his invaluable archival work..

Javier Etchegaray, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

The journey often starts before the travel itself, and in this case, June 20th (twelve days before I was scheduled to fly out to Chile) marked the beginning. Early that day, various librarians, archivists, and museum workers unions throughout the entire length of the country went on an indefinite strike. The prospect of carrying archival research in Chile – my past two summer research plans having been cancelled due to COVID-related contingencies – seemed at once so close and so far; I could not believe my luck. Armed with resolve, and a very detailed archival guide put together over the span of many months through a close consultation of the main secondary literature relative to my research topic, I set out for Chile on July 1st, 2022.

My hometown, Santiago, seemed at once familiar and different. The ever-present and snow-capped Andes mountains shone with the sun's reflection on a clear winter day, yet, the avenues and buildings of downtown Santiago evidenced the cumulative effects of three years of heavy protests compounded by the pandemic and a deteriorating economic situation. As I talked to the doorman of the National Archive about the ongoing strike, disperse and cacophonous columns of civil organizations, indigenous collectives, and ordinary citizens, marched along Santiago's main arteries and pedestrian malls during the final stages of the campaign for the constitutional referendum. The stakes were new – a complete constitutional change was being offered – yet so much was old and ordinary – the general hubbub of downtown Santiago, the crowds of onlookers assembled in every corner, and the usual cast colorful characters wandering about.

Since my time in Chile was relatively short, I was frantically trying to think of archives to contact and ways to pivot my research plans. Through a footnote buried deep in an obscure monograph published in Chile, I came to the realization that the archive of the Archbishopric of Santiago potentially held material relative to colonial Chiloé, my area of study. After contacting different departments of the Archbishopric, I was able to secure an appointment with the archive on Tuesday, July 5th. During the remainder of that week, I scoured the Archbishopric's archive looking for material relative to Colonial Chiloé. To my surprise, I found an unexpected amount of documentation including references to specific late-seventeenth and early-eighteenth cases regarding the proper application of royal regulations governing the use of indigenous labor by part of different colonial institutions; cases I was currently working on in an article draft. Through a combination of persistence and quick-thinking I was able to make the most of a situation that was beyond my control and at the end of my first week of archival research in Chile, I received the news that the strike at state archives was over. I could now embark on that which I had waited to do for over two years.

For the next three weeks I carried out research with the colonial collections housed at both the Archivo Nacional and Biblioteca Nacional. As is becoming increasingly common in archives throughout the world, original documentation was exceedingly hard to come by, and thus, microfilm/microfiche was the norm. Knowing my time at the archives was relatively short, I prioritized photographing mass quantities of material over the detailed and paused analysis at the

archive's reading room that is the historian's ideal. This, however, was not without a meticulous method. I had come equipped with an archival guide that I prepared and cross-referenced with the archive's internal catalogs. Similarly, I developed a system of tickets that helped me keep a precise internal inventory of the many thousands of photographs I was going to take of extremely similar-looking handwritten documents on the slightly browned paper that is characteristic of colonial documents (whenever they aren't water-damaged or eaten up by bugs, that is). All of this was done with pencil, paper, and whatever materials I could fit in a small fanny pack – downtown Santiago can be unforgiving to those who lug laptops and expensive cameras in their bags.

During my time at these two archives, I photographed nearly 6,000 pages of unpublished archival documents relative to colonial Chiloé housed in six different collections. More than the purely quantitative aspect, I was left satisfied by the rich contents of some of these materials. I found many instances of indigenous communities collectively submitting testimonies and depositions, complaints lodged by indigenous individuals against particularly abusive colonial officials, and richly textured judicial cases that revealed the idiosyncrasies of social life in a colonial borderland. Similarly, I was able to meet fellow historians carrying out research which led to the usual coffee dates followed by exchanges of ideas, as well as the staff of these different archives, people whose day-to-day experience provides them with a knowledge of historical documents that rivals that of professional historians. My journey at the archives ended two days earlier than I had budgeted thanks to a positive, and fortunately asymptomatic, case of COVID – *cartón lleno* as they say in Spanish.

I am grateful to the Conference on Latin American History and the James R. Scobie Award committee for providing me with the funding necessary to carry out this important step towards my dissertation research. The material recollected in this trip will be important to me over the next couple of years since it will allow me to write an important part of my dissertation. However, I am already beginning to use some of this material in my research. I am currently incorporating the research I carried out at the archive of the Archdiocese of Santiago into a revision of an article I submitted to a leading journal dedicated to the study of colonial Latin America. Both personally and professionally, this trip exposed me to the beauty of archival research and was a lesson in confronting contingencies with positivity and resolve.

Constance Holden, University of Connecticut

With the James R. Scobie Award, I conducted preliminary dissertation research in Buenos Aires, Argentina. Through this research trip, I was able to prove the feasibility of my dissertation, which I can now confidently say will examine gendered conceptualizations of Blackness in late 19th and early 20th century Argentine print and visual culture. In particular, my project aims to thread together the hyper-visible representations of Black femininity in the making of a “modern” Argentina. This project will connect the ideological construction of “whitening” and “whiteness” to the ways in which women of African descent self-fashioned according to, against, or informed by the symbolic and material realities of a “whitened” Argentina.

Between July – August 2022, I found intellectual homes in the libraries, archives, and museums of Buenos Aires. While this trip solidified the need to go beyond Buenos Aires in the study of the 20th century African-descended population in Argentina, my time in the capital allowed me to become familiarized with the landscape of resources and opportunities for studying the history of Africans and their descendants in Buenos Aires and in the Argentine provinces. Originally, I planned to divide my time between the Biblioteca Nacional (BN) and the Archivo General de la Nación (AGN). However, due to a spontaneous closure of the Biblioteca Nacional, I spent the majority of my days at the Archivo General de la Nación. While there are 3 branches of the Archivo General de la Nación, I frequented the branch at Parque Patricios, which holds all of the audio and visual repositories.

There, I went through the entire catalog of photographs within the *Caras y Caretas* Collection. Out of 129,272 images taken between 1898-1939, I identified 301 photographs with captions or other descriptors that identified their subjects as being of African descent. Most of these photographs were not of African-descended Argentines, but of African or African-descended entertainers, athletes, or diplomats from Uruguay, Brazil, Ethiopia, or the United States. In photographs of Argentine women of African descent, photographers or archivists categorized them primarily as centenarians. These initial findings, even as based on this one collection, assures me that there is a story to be told about why these images of aging women of African descent were central to the visual project of “whitened” Argentine modernity. These images gesture toward a so-called “whitening” project beyond European immigration or discursive claims about Blackness as a remnant of the colonial past. Instead, these visual representations signal a process of marrying Blackness to “foreignness” through modes of entertainment, diplomacy, and colonialism within the Argentine cultural sphere.

At the Archivo General de la Nación, I also explored and catalogued the images found within the Witcomb Collections, where I identified a group of photographs taken of a Black community outside of the urban center of Buenos Aires. I am not yet sure who or where they are, but these images point toward a path that challenge the dominant Buenos Aires, urban narrative of Black identity and community formation in 20th century Argentina. While time precluded me from culling through the entire centralized collection of photographs, I was able to identify several images of African-descended Argentines, including paintings and lithographs. None of my research at the Archivo General de la Nación would have been possible without the patient assistance of archivists and receptionists. I am grateful for their help in demystifying the archival catalogs, answering my questions about identification codes, and pointing me in the direction of good coffee and food to sustain my studies.

If my experience at the Archivo General de la Nación emphasized the importance of relationship-building in archival research, then it was my early attempts at network creation that facilitated additional connections. Before arriving in Buenos Aires, I met with historian Paulina Alberto, who graciously put me in contact with Lea Geler and María Lourdes de Ghidoli, leading scholars on Blackness and Black communities in Argentina. In Buenos Aires we met for coffee and together, with anthropologist Eva Lamborghini, we brainstormed sources and sites that could be generative for my research. They suggested that I look more closely into women’s magazines published in the early decades of the 20th century in the hope of identifying how their authors,

illustrators, and editors engaged with transnational and national ideas about Blackness and femininity. Their words of encouragement led me to examine early issues of *El Hogar*, a women's magazine first published in 1906. Per the advice of an archivist at the Biblioteca Nacional, I went to the Museo de Arte Popular de José Hernández to locate the first issues of *El Hogar*. I spent a few days culling through the biweekly publication at their library. There, the historian and librarian introduced me to the *Nativa* magazine, a *criollista* publication from the 1920s that brought attention to the role of Black women domestic servants in the history of Argentina. Between *El Hogar* and *Nativa*, I was able to imagine a dissertation—and perhaps a book project—beyond 1860-1914 and into the 1920s, which would be able to accommodate a broader argument about how visual languages around Blackness and Black women shaped *criollismo* and Argentine modernity. Thanks to these connections, I was able to weave together new threads and sources that point toward the absolute centrality of conceptions of Blackness and Black femininity in early 20th century Argentina. I am deeply appreciative of all the guidance, advice, and conversations that reminded me of the vitality and possibilities of this work.

While I was unable to fully explore the lives of the women whose names and images appear in the magazines and photographs, I was able to connect with Afro-Argentine activists. I attended seminars and reading groups at the Espacio Malcolm, a barbershop and meeting space organized by members of DIAFAR (Diáspora Africana de la Argentina). Here, I learned in community and solidarity about the meanings of diaspora in the present-day struggle throughout Argentina for Black recognition and equity. I joined a discussion about the history of African descendants in Argentina and a reading group on *Women, Race, and Class* by scholar Angela Davis. These conversations revealed the profound interconnections between, across, and within global Black freedom movements, affirming that such struggles echo and mirror across the African diaspora. I was eager to listen. Activists such as Federico Pita spoke to the limits of what we consider to be the archive, to its constructed silences, and to the possibilities of family histories as revelatory sites. I remembered the stories shared in my family about childhoods in the Jim Crow South as I listened to the secrets passed down in Afro-Argentine families about how to embrace Blackness and Black selfhood amidst the violence of erasure. These diasporic moments of connection energized me to blend innovative, creative, and familiar methodologies in my study of Argentine Black history.

I arrived in Buenos Aires with boundless, nebulous ideas and departed with a solid vision for my dissertation. As my project on Black femininity, visual culture, and national identity in Argentina will continue to evolve, I will meet those shifts with the confidence, innovation, and imagination nurtured by my archival experience in Buenos Aires. I am thankful for every WhatsApp, email, and encouraging conversation. My work was met with nothing but enthusiasm and for that I am ever grateful. With the James R. Scobie Award, and thanks in large part to James R. Scobie's scholarship on Buenos Aires, I am able to write a compelling prospectus and plan for future archival research in Argentina.

Jeanette Charles, UCLA

With the CLAH's James R. Scobie award, I conducted necessary research and revised multiple drafts of my dissertation prospectus on the historical intersections between Black radicalism, political economy, and *religiones populares* (popular religions) in contemporary Venezuela (1958-2018). Given these advances, I have plans to finalize my doctoral exams and advance to candidacy by January 2023. In addition to fieldwork in Venezuela, my project requires research into networks throughout the Black Atlantic World; including, but not limited to Cuba as a key point of contact. As such, I decided to pivot and travel to La Havana and Matanzas, Cuba this August to ground my understanding of this project from a transnational perspective. The opportunity to learn more about Cuba's historical trajectory and linkages with Venezuelan religious and political ties has enriched the design of my dissertation moving forward. In La Habana and Matanzas, I met with historians, economists, educators, and Afro-Cuban religious practitioners as part of an exchange facilitated by the Martin Luther King Memorial Center and Witness for Peace Solidarity Collective. I visited the following historical and cultural sites: San Severino Fortress (an official UNESCO Slave Route Museum), Casa de Africa, and "AfroParque" among other locations. I recorded presentations and interviews as well as visually documented each location for future reference. Each place shed light on the intricate relationship between Cuba's revolution, African / Afro-Diasporic popular religious practices, and Afro-Diasporic identities. Furthermore, I acquired books published in Cuba about the history of African and Afro-Diasporic religions, musical traditions, the revolutionary process, and political economy that will serve as invaluable secondary sources. On this occasion, many of the themes that I explored also touched upon Reparations and the Cuban revolution's relationship to global Black consciousness and collective demands for reparatory justice in the 20th and 21st centuries, as well as the recuperation of land, resources, and practices as a form of historical debt repayment. Reparations as a historical, political, and intellectual framework for this research offers a timely lens through which I will establish and position this work's relevance as well.

Perhaps among the most impactful were exchanges with artists and historians in Matanzas – a majority Black, port city along Cuba's north coast – where a recent oil containment facility experienced a tragic explosion in mid-August. Unexpectedly, I arrived within a few days of the explosion. I could still smell the oil in the air. However, the people's resolve and solidarity were palpable as the community members helped one another and worked together to face this disaster. People shared testimonies of how they were impacted by the traumatic explosion and evacuations. I also attended a community exhibit of children's artistic renderings post-emergency and learned about local efforts in holistic healing. My time in Cuba was both a privilege and challenge given these unfortunate circumstances.

The rest of this report includes a few snapshots into my time on the ground. In a meeting with artist Emilio O' Farril at San Severino, whose own paintings interpret the relationship between the Orishas (Regla de Ocha deities) and forms of Afro-Cuban resistance, he remarked, "Matanzas is Little Africa." Matanzas' historic roots and resilience today are undeniably African.

The comradeship, kinship, and overall collective determination to face all obstacles side-by-side speaks to generations of African and socialist values present in Cuban society – in addition to the city’s visible African-descendant majority. Matanzas is also historically known for rebellions such as La Escalera and other insurgencies led by African and Indigenous maroons. The historians at San Severino explained that Matanzas’ name comes from a series of anti-colonial maroon attacks against Spanish slave-owners and their descendants. Matanzas, literally meaning “killings” or “massacres,” refers directly to these incidents. This legacy of Black self-determination and collective self-defense embodies an ancestral fight for African and Indigenous liberation that lives on every day.

Farril also highlighted the importance of paying tribute to African and Diasporic African heroes during our visit to “AfroParque.” The name is under construction as modifications to the park are still underway. The park is a reclaimed square in downtown Matanzas with portraits of Black Cuban, African-US American, and African leaders such as: Jose Antonio Aponte, Nelson Mandela, Agostinho Neto, and Martin Luther King among others. More leaders from Latin America and the Caribbean are in the process of being added. Farril explained, “Here, the heroes connect to *negritude*, to racial aspects. Cuba is revisiting its pedagogy as it relates to race and racism. Everything that connects us to African history with Cuba was brought here for generations in their minds. This is how I learned and how my daughter learned.” The park also features an altar space carved into a brick wall that the community will adorn with their own religious icons and memorabilia. Another wall features a large image of *Los Muñequitos de Matanzas* (famous Cuban rumba ensemble) and a map of La Marina, Matanzas. The map’s guide includes identifiers for different Casa-Templos, Abakua sites, and other traditional religious spaces. This map evidences that there are several active *cabildos*, *cofradías*, and other religious societies in Matanzas alone. They serve as communal hubs of Afro-Cuban religious practice and community mobilization. Information about these different religious societies and their relationship to one another provide unparalleled insights into the role of Cuba in the Black Atlantic World and its relationship to other Diasporic African nations like Venezuela. Popular educator and community leader, Regla, shared how *cabildos* and other religious organizations have become *first responders*, also uniting to address a myriad of local issues from the COVID response to recent relief efforts post the explosion. Continued research will guarantee greater understanding about these *cabildos*, their relationships or establishments in other Afro-Diasporic lands as well as their historical undertakings.

This initial research in Cuba affirms the island’s special position in the Black Atlantic as both a nation and territory with profound religious and political proximity to Africa for the Diaspora. In 2019, Afro-Venezuelan filmmaker, Beni Márquez shared how Cuba has served as a critical lifeline for Afro-Venezuelans in their religious practice of African Diasporic popular religions. Márquez both confirmed and partially challenged this same idea in a recent interview stating that, “[Cuban religiosity] took us directly to Africa. And, the religious bridge that was established with Cuba, in short, allowed us to reach Africa...the Afro-Venezuelan undertook a spiritual journey towards his roots. And this first port could have been Haiti, it could have been Cuba. This allowed us to get a little closer to Africa, to know that there were Orishas like Sango,

Yemoja, Obatála, that made us identify ourselves and say, *coño*, cool we are Black Venezuelans; but, we do not really come from Venezuela. We come from the African continent. This spiritual point for the Afro-Venezuelan was very important because it allowed us to get closer to Africa and also added to the consciousness of what we are.”¹

Upon a return trip to Cuba I would like to focus more on direct connections to drumming lineages that facilitated houses of Afro-Cuban religious practice in different communities in Venezuela. Likewise, in my next research trip to Venezuela, I plan to share my findings from Cuba with my contacts and engage in conversation with Venezuelans about their reflections on Cuba’s role in their own political and religious processes.

¹Beni Márquez. Interview with the author. Sept. 2022.

Austin Nelson, University of Florida

Thanks to the generous support of the Conference on Latin American History’s James R. Scobie Memorial Award, I was able to travel to Lisbon, Portugal and research the feasibility of my proposed dissertation topic. My project focuses on Palmares, a seventeenth-century maroon community in the Pernambuco captaincy of colonial Brazil. Palmares was the largest community of runaway slaves in the western hemisphere. It successfully resisted destruction for nearly a century. And yet, despite this fierce resistance and the outsized space Palmares occupied in the minds of colonial administrators, Palmares remains an understudied topic among colonial Latin Americanists. Yet, as historians of the Haitian Revolution have made so abundantly clear, powerful expressions of Black autonomy greatly impacted broader Atlantic dynamics, no matter how localized these expressions may have been. In an effort to trace how the agency of escaped slaves in the hinterlands of Brazil may have impacted the wider Atlantic world, my project seeks to understand how knowledge and information about Palmares was spread across the Portuguese empire, paying special attention to the ways in which the specter of Palmares influenced the decisions of policymakers and plantation owners. In order to assess the wider significance of Palmares, I draw on official correspondence, diplomatic and military reports, and other government documents produced by various Portuguese administrators across the empire who were aware of Palmares.

Support from the Scobie Award allowed me to spend over a month in Portugal. I used it to follow individual colonial administrators and their close associates across Lisbon’s many archives and libraries, including the Arquivo Histórico Ultramarino, the Arquivo Nacional do Torre do Tombo, the Biblioteca da Ajuda, and the Academia Real das Ciências de Lisboa. Preliminary evidence from the archives appears to show that the impacts of Palmares on other parts of the Portuguese Atlantic were wide ranging, from shaping the structure of colonial administration through changes in the responsibilities of government offices, to influencing the way that colonists viewed their own slaves. The support of CLAH and the Scobie Award was critically important to the completion of my dissertation prospectus, which seeks to connect

Palmares to the wider Atlantic world. It will also inform my requests for funding support for more sustained archival research shortly.

Camila Ordorica, University of Texas

Thanks to the 2022 CLAH James R. Scobie Award, this summer I was able to book an 11-week trip to Mexico City where I spent my time tracking the history of the country's national archive, the Archivo General de la Nación (AGN). To do so, I visited three archives. First, I went to the AGN where I worked with the collection "Archivo Histórico Institucional AGN S. XIX (volúmenes)." Because of its fragile material state, this collection is not available to the public on hand, and I had to obtain permission in advance to look at them. Furthermore, because of this delicate condition, the archivists who assisted me told me that I could probably not see the volumes more than once. So, for the first 7 weeks of my trip I spent my time at the AGN photographing all of the pages of each of these volumes, ensuring that the material is digitized so that I can access it at a later date. In total, this amounts to more than 1800 pictures. To date, I have arranged these pictures per volume, and I am working on clustering them by file to keep track of them and to facilitate access during the transcribing and writing periods of my program, scheduled 2023-2025.

The second archive I visited was the Archivo Histórico de la Secretaría de la Defensa Nacional, the Ministry of Defense Archive. To do so, I had to write a letter asking permission to do so to a General who replied back with a very formal and numbered authorization letter. Notwithstanding the bureaucratic obstacles, it was important that I go to the archive of the Secretary of Defense because it holds the original document of establishment of the AGN. Written by Lucas Alamán, the document entitled "Comisión a Juan de Dios Uribe e Ignacio Cubas para organizar el Archivo General y Público de la Nación, con lo que existía en la Secretaría del Virreinato. 15 de Marzo. 1823," is a 24-page file that has two records within it: a very gloomy material description of the colonial documentation in 1823, and the official appointment of the Juan de Dios and Cubas to establish and organize a national archive. This is the point of departure of the history of the AGN during the modern and independent period, and is thus fundamental for my research.

Finally, I went twice to the Archivo Histórico Diplomático (HDA) de la Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores, the historic archive of the Foreign Affairs Ministry. Not really knowing what to expect, this archive proved to have very interesting information. Since during the 19th-century the AGN was under the administration of this Ministry, the HDA holds many notices and information reports of the conditions of the archive, such as the bills for construction of special cabinets and the labor conditions of the soldier-archivists that worked there, amongst many other things. I was also very fortunate to find documentation on multiple record retrieval and centralization processes from places as different as Michoacán, Estado de México, Guatemala, New Orleans, and London. I also found evidence of the diplomatic negotiations from 1871-1941 between the Mexican and U.S. governments about the 28 handwritten volumes by Sigüenza y Góngora that were extracted by General Winifield Scott during the U.S. Invasion of Mexico in 1847. In total, during my two visits to the HDA I was able to take more than 1500 photos from a total of 75 files on national and international aspects of the history of the AGN, most of which I was unaware of until when I saw them there.

Overall, this award allowed for a very productive summer that has already proven to have considerably reshaped how I am framing my project, and the research paths I have to pursue henceforth. I look forward to systematizing and transcribing this material and to start making sense of the archival history that I am in the process of thinking and writing.

VI. IN APPRECIATION: CLAH ENDOWMENT AND FUND CONTRIBUTORS

CLAH Prizes and Awards:

Gilbert M. Joseph

Barbara Weinstein

Kristen Block

Norah Gharala

Sandra Aguilar-Rodriguez

Jessica Graham

Lauren Derby

Jurgen Buchenau

Marshall C. Eakin

John Womack, Jr.

Bolton-Johnson Award:

Eric Van Young

Warren Dean Prize in Brazilian History:

Ada Ferrer

James R. Scobie Awards

Kristie Flannery

Bridget Chesterton

VII: LIST OF LIFETIME MEMBERS (NEW MEMBERS IN BOLD)

Alden, Dauril	De La Torre Curiel, José
Aleman, Gladys	Delson, Roberta
Anderson, Rodney	Duenas, Alcira
Andrews, Reid	Eakin, Marshall
Appelbaum, Nancy	Eller, Anne
Arrom, Silvia	Flemion, Phillip
Beezley, William	Friedman, Max Paul
Bell, Stephen	Ganster, Paul
Bennett, Herman L.	Gao, Jian
Bigelow, Allison	Garrett, David
Borges, Dain	Goldthree, Reena
Borucki, Alex	Gonzales, Michael
Boyer, Christopher	Gram, Bill
Buchenau, Jurgen	Graubart, Karen
Bunker, Steven B.	Greever, Janet
Burkholder, Mark	Grieco, Viviana
Burns, Kathryn	Herman, Rebecca
Cagle, Hugh	Horna, Hernan
Carey, Elaine	Jaksic, Ivan
Casey, Matthew	Johnson, Harold
Castilho, Celso	Kiddle, Amelia
Castro, Donald	Knight, Franklin
Cline, Sarah	Komisaruk, Catherine
Coatsworth, John	Langer, Erick
Coerver, Don	Lavrin, Asunción
Cohen, Theodore	Lee, Monica Kittiya
Connell, William F.	Lesser, Jeff
Conniff, Michael	Lewin, Linda
Cook, Karoline	Logan, Alison
Cooney, Jerry	Lombardi, John
Couturier, Edith	Lopez, Rick
Covert, Lisa	Love, Joseph
Cowan, Benjamin	Lutz, Christopher
Craib, Raymond	MacLachlan, Colin
Crawford, Sharika	Mallon, Florencia
Cummins, Victoria	Mansilla, Judith
Davies Jr., Thomas	Matthew, Laura
Dávila, Jerry	McEnroe, Sean
De Avilez Rocha, Gabriel	Milton, Cynthia
De La Pedraja, René	Moulton, Aaron
De La Teja, Jesús F.	Myers, Alfred

Navarro, José Manuel
Nobles, Rex
O'Hara, Matthew D.
O'Toole, Rachel Sarah
Olcott, Jocelyn
Owens, Sarah
Pieper Mooney, Jadwiga
Poole, Stafford
Porter, Susie
Premo, Bianca
Proctor III, Frank (Trey)
Pruitt, Jennifer
Putnam, Lara
Radding, Cynthia
Ramos, Frances
Rankin, Monica
Rausch, Jane
Reséndez, Andrés
Rice, Mark
Rich, Paul
Roch, Gabriel
Roseblatt, Karin
Sanders, Nichole
Schlotterbeck, Marian
Schwaller, John

Scobie, Ingrid
Scott, Rebecca
Sierra Silva, Pablo Miguel
Silva Campo, Ana Maria
Soto Laveaga, Gabriela
Stern, Steve
Stevens, Donald
Stewart, James
Sullivan-Gonzalez, Douglass
Summerhill, William
Sweet, David
Tenenbaum, Barbara
Terraciano, Kevin
Tinsman, Heidi
Tulchin, Joseph
Vázquez, Josefina Z.
Vinson III, Ben
Wakild, Emily
Walker, Andrew
Walker, Louise
Warren, Richard
Wright- Rios, Edward
Yannakakis, Yanna Panayota
Young, Julia
Zyblikiewics, Lubomir