FACULTY ASSOCIATE NEWS

Leila Porter Awarded Presidential Engagement Professorship

Dr. Leila Porter was recently awarded a Presidential Engagement Professorship. This prestigious award honors professors who create and nurture external partnerships for mutual benefit. Dr. Porter received the award for her efforts over the last twenty years to help train Bolivian and American students in primatology and primate conservation. The award also recognizes her work with various Bolivian institutions to establish protected areas and her efforts to promote international research projects.

Dr. Porter is a biological anthropologist with particular interest in primate behavior and ecology. Her research focuses on South American monkeys (small-bodied tamarins, marmosets and callimicos). She has studied diet, habitat use, and parental care and is interested in the evolution of social behavior among primates.
Beatrix Hoffman Hosted Workshop
"Teaching Latinx History in the General Education History Survey Course"

Dr. Beatrix Hoffman planned and implemented a workshop titled "Teaching Latinx History in the General Education History Survey Course." The workshop took place at Waubonsee Community College this past April 12. The event was funded by Dr. Hoffman's receipt of the John Hainds Undergraduate Humanities Award from NIU's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

The purpose of the Hainds Award is "to enrich the content of programs and courses in the humanities and to foster interdisciplinary instruction, cooperation and scholarship in the liberal arts." Approximately 50 participants attended the workshop ranging from graduate students and high school teachers to community college and university professors. During the workshop, there were four featured presentations, including one by CLLAS Director, Dr. Christina Abreu. The participants were able to share academic resources and discuss best practices when teaching Latinx history.
Greg Beyer Hosted World-Renowned Capoeira Angola Practitioner

Head of percussion, Dr. Greg Beyer, hosted Mestre Cobra Mansa at NIU between April 15-18. Mestre Cobra Mansa is one of the world's most respected and well-loved practitioners and teachers of the art of Capoeira Angola. Through a variety of events, the NIU community was exposed to this Afro-Brazilian art. CLLAS was happy to co-sponsor and collaborate with the NIU School of Music and the NIU Capoeira Club during the following events:

Introduction to Latino Studies Class
"A Life in Capoeira"

Film Screening
Jogo de Corpo

NIU Latin Jazz Dance Party 2019

Thank you to CLLAS GA Elisa Flores and CLLAS Huskie Service Scholars Itsel Torres-Ramírez and Karen Gonzalez-Jiménez for all your hard work.
Thank you to Los Rancheros restaurant for providing the delicious food.
Mayra Daniel Awarded 2018 Virginia Hamilton Essay Award

Dr. Mayra Daniel and Dr. Melanie Koss from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction were awarded the 2018 Virginia Hamilton Essay Award given out by the Conference Board of the Virginia Hamilton Conference for Multicultural Literature for Youth. This award recognizes a journal article that makes a significant contribution to the professional literature concerning multicultural literary experiences for youth.

FACULTY ASSOCIATE PRESENTATIONS


Dr. Mayra Daniel did a number of presentations this year in Canada, the United States, and Guatemala. Her presentations focus on instruction in Guatemala and Ecuador.

FACULTY ASSOCIATE PUBLICATIONS

Dr. Mayra Daniel co-authored an article titled “Valuing the lives and experiences of English learners: Widening the landscape of children’s literature,” published in the TESOL Journal.

Dr. Simón Weffer published a letter to the editor in Chalkbeat.org titled “As a sociologist and a father, I have one conclusion: Chicago’s high school admissions process is unfair.”

CENTER NEWS

National best-selling author Ingrid Rojas Contreras visits NIU

On April 17 the NIU Library and CLLAS hosted a reading by national best-selling author Ingrid Rojas Contreras at the Founders Gallery in the Founders Memorial Library. Born and raised in Bogotá, Colombia, Rojas Coteras’ essays and short stories have appeared in Nylón, Los Angeles Review of Books, Electric Literature, Guernica, and Huffington Post. The author discussed her debut novel Fruit of the Drunken Tree. We were glad to have close to 70 attendees at this event. Thank you to all who attended.
CLLAS Spring Reception Honors Students' Accomplishments

On April 25 CLLAS concluded its programming for the academic year with the 2019 CLLAS Spring Reception. The reception honored the accomplishments and contributions of graduating LATS minors, members of the CLLAS Student Advisory Board, CLLAS Huskie Service Scholars, and Scholarship recipients. Congratulations to all!

Latino and Latin American Studies Graduating Minors
- Everardo Camacho, Psychology
- Richard Chavez, Spanish Language & Literature
- Patricia Flores, Environmental Studies
- Isis Vanessa Hernández, Psychology
- Ryan Allen Johnson, Psychology
- Ana Mendoza, Spanish Language & Literature (not pictured)
- Sandra Puebla, History
- Suzanne Serrano, Spanish Translation & Business

Huskie Service Scholars
- Karen González-Jiménez
- Fernando Sotelo Salgado
- Itsel Torres-Ramírez
- Pablo Valencia-García

CLLAS Student Advisory Council
- Isis Vanessa Hernández
- Ryan Allen Johnson
- Sheila Martínez
- Luis Sánchez

Scholarship Recipients
- Robert Marcelin Memorial Award
  - Itsel Torres-Ramírez

CLLAS Scholarship
- Isis Vanessa Hernández
STUDENT NEWS

2019 Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day (URAD)

We would like to congratulate the students who showcased their research and community engagement projects at the 2019 Undergraduate Research and Artistry Day (URAD) hosted by the Office of Student Engagement and Experiential Learning (OSEEL).

"Shared Meals and Positive Effect on Mental Health"
3rd place, Community Engagement Showcase Award
CLLAS Huskie Service Scholars Karen González-Jíménez, Fernando Sotelo Salgado, Itsel Torres-Ramírez, Pablo Valencia-García.

"Operation Wetback: An Era of Enforcement"
LATS minor, Sandra Puebla

"Then and Now: How Northern Illinois University's Health Services Changed Throughout the Years"
LATS minor, Ainsley Galvez

FEATURED STUDENT ORGANIZATION

Gamma Phi Omega (GPhiO)

Gamma Phi Omega International Sorority, Inc. was founded in April, 1991 as a social sorority. Their primary colors are maroon and navy blue. They are represented by the swan and their flowers are the fire and ice rose. Their national philanthropy is the American Diabetes Association, and their motto is "Unity and Sisterhood, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable."