

# DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

### Fall 2019 Newsletter

## Welcome to Our New MA and PhD Students!



From left to right: Belinda Castilblanco (MA), Nashali Lauger (MA), Mario Henao (PhD), María Medín-Doce (PhD), Omar Lbadessi (PhD), Michael MacMahon (PhD)

### Associate Professor Lena Burgos-Lafuente Wins the Wilbur Marvin Visiting Scholar Fellowship of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (DRCLAS) at Harvard University

While at Harvard in Fall 2019, Professor Burgos-Lafuente will perform archival research for her project, "A la izquierda de la izquierda: Cosmopolitan Communism in the Early to Mid-Twentieth Century Caribbean (1920-1959)."

Burgos-Lafuente specializes in poetry, Latin American essay writing, sound studies, and transatlantic literary crossings in the first half of the 20th century. She received her PhD from New York University in 2011 and was a recipient of the Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship for 2014-2015. She is the author of *A la escucha del destiempo: poéticas de la posguerra en el Caribe transatlántico* (Iberoamericana Vervuert), editor of *Untendered Eyes: Literary Politics of Julia de Burgos* (CENTRO Journal, 2014), and co-editor of *María Zambrano in Dialogue* (Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies, 2015) and *Cartas a Consuelo* (Folium, 2014), Julia de Burgos's unpublished correspondence to her sister. She is also co-editor of *The Puerto Rico Reader: History, Culture, Politics,* under contract with Duke University Press.





### Ignacio Arellano and Aurelie Vialette are 2019-20 Recipients of the Graduate Fellowship & Faculty Research Program

Fifth-year doctoral student Ignacio Arellano will work on his dissertation, "Viajes áureos: desplazamientos y circulación en la literatura del Siglo de Oro," and Associate Professor Vialette will work on her research project, Concealment of Forced Labor: Slave trader Antonio López y López and the General Tobacco Company in the Philippines.



### Associate Professor and Chair Daniela Flesler Receives Outstanding Mentor Award

The Outstanding Mentor Award recognizes senior faculty who serve as exemplary mentors, demonstrating commitment to supporting the intellectual, creative, scholarly, and professional growth of mentees.



### Lecturer Elena Davidiak Receives Provost's Outstanding Lecturer Award

The Outstanding Lecturer Award recognizes faculty who contribute to the University's mission through exemplary teaching, service, and related professional development.



### Mariella Bonilla Wins Turner Summer Research Grant

Fourth-year doctoral student Mariella Bonilla used the grant to work on her dissertation about immigration and human traffic between Latin America, Spain and the US.



### Anay Rodríguez Wins 2019-20 Turner Dissertation Fellowship Award

Doctoral candidate Anay Rodríguez is working on her dissertation, "Memoria, censura y literatura en tiempos de transición en Cuba," directed by Professor Lena Burgos Lafuente.

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**Conversation with Writer Kirmen Uribe** 

This past Spring the Basque language writer Kirmen Uribe joined us for a discussion of his work. Uribe is one of the most relevant writers in Spain of his generation. He won the National Prize for Literature in Spain in 2009 for his acclaimed first novel *Bilbao-New York-Bilbao*. He recently won the NYPL Cullman Center Fellowship for 2018-2019 to write his new novel.



# Zaida Corniel

Para adolescentes, premenopáusicas y especialistas de la salud (cuentos)

Colección Rambia de Ular

### HLL Lecturer Zaida Corniel Book Presentation

Dr. Zaida Corniel '15 presented her first book of short stories, *Para adolescentes, premenopáusicas y especialistas de la salud* (Artepoética Press, 2019) to our Department on April 10, 2019. Zaida received her PhD from SBU; her research and teaching fields are contemporary Caribbean literature, Latinx studies, and theater.



### Isabel Murcia Estrada Wins the Edward Guiliano, PhD '78, Global Fellowship

Second-year doctoral student Isabel Murcia Estrada undertook archival research for her project "Finding Concha de Albornoz: After the Traces of a Writer Without Writings" in the Archivo General de la Nación, in Ciudad de México.

### The 1st Pedro Lastra International Poetry Award

On September 13, 2019, Puerto Rican poet Irizelma Robles was honored as the winner of the 1st Pedro Lastra International Poetry Award with her work "Lacustre." The award was founded in 2018 in honor of Stony Brook University professor Pedro Lastra to encourage excellence in poetry. The prize is for books of poetry written in Spanish and submitted from anywhere in the world.





# **Events:**

# **INDIGENOUS AND GLOBAL CULTURES IN COLONIAL MESOAMERICA**

### Professor Paul Firbas Organizes Mexico 500+, October 2, 2019

In 1519 Hernán Cortés led the first European military penetration in Mesoamerica. His campaign radically transformed the lives of local communities and shaped the new global culture of the early modern period. Mexico City and the viceroyalty of New Spain would become "the head of the Western world" and the geopolitical center for the articulation of American, European, African and Asian peoples, commodities and cultures. This one-day mini-colloquium commemorated 500 years of writing and producing global knowledge in and about Mexico. Participants included Camilla Townsend (Rutgers University), Iris Montero (Brown University), Stephanie Rohner (Oklahoma State University), Elizabeth Newman (Stony Brook University Department of History). ponsored by the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature, The Office of the Provost, the Humanities Institute at Stony Brook and the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center.

### International Colloquium

"On Archival Truths: Affects, Knowledge, and Gender" October 4 and 5, 2019



Organized by Associate Professor Aurélie Vialette, together with Judith Revel (Université Paris-Ouest Nanterre) and Annick Louis (Université de Reims, EHESS Paris), the objective of this fifth international conference, "On Archival Truths," is to allow researchers to continue thinking about the social role of the archives in the contemporary culture, in both scientific and public contexts. How can we work with the archive to understand our present? We aim to create a space in which we will have both a theoretical approach to the notion of archive and a practical set of "case studies" through which we can understand the tensions that one can encounter in an archive, between private and public, individual and collective, between what one reads in an archive and what one writes about the archive. This theoretical and practical approach will be possible thanks to interdisciplinary collaboration among specialists in philosophy, sociology, cultural studies, history, anthropology and literature.

### **Graduate Conference**

"State of the Nation: Literary and Visual Nationalisms, Then and Now" October 25, 2019



Papers are welcomed in areas relevant to the conference theme: literary and visual works engaging with nationalism, the nation, and national identity.

Send submission by October 4, 2019 to Evelyn.Cruise@stonybrook.edu

Keynote speaker: Professor Graciela Montaldo, Columbia University.

### Thank you for your generosity!

Resources for faculty and students support and strengthen our diverse educational experience. The Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature depends on our alumni and friends to build and improve our research opportunities through study abroad scholarships, graduate fellowships and graduate and undergraduate travel that supplements teaching and research.

### GIVE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HISPANIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE

