



# THE LATCRIT E-LETTER

&

ANNUAL CALENDAR OF LATCRIT PROJECTS AND KEY DATES

*an electronic newsletter reporting to the community on group projects, events and plans*

[www.latcrit.org](http://www.latcrit.org)

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## !!! FELIZ ANO NUEVO !!!

Hola amigas/os! Happy New Year ... and welcome to the spring 2004 issue of the LatCrit E-Letter, an electronic newsletter that we will send you via email three times per year (September/fall, January/spring and May/summer) to keep you apprised of community projects, events and plans - and to invite your feedback and active participation in the programs or activities of your choice. Immediately below, we provide capsule summaries and key dates on recent programs and upcoming events, followed by the updated Annual Calendar of LatCrit Projects and Key Dates (on the last page of this issue), which provides a year-long overview of community activities ... please feel free to print and post this Calendar for easy year-round reference. For more information on community projects and plans, please visit our newly re-designed website at [www.latcrit.org](http://www.latcrit.org) ... and if you prefer *not* to receive future issues of this E-Letter, please send us a brief email to [latcrit@law.miami.edu](mailto:latcrit@law.miami.edu), and we will unsubscribe you. Thanks! Gracias!

## RECENT HIGHLIGHTS & COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

Last semester (fall 2003) was extremely eventful ... the inaugural **South-North Exchange on Law, Theory and Culture** (SNX), held December 11-13, 2003 at the Universidad Inter-Americana de Puerto Rico, Facultad de Derecho in San Juan attracted 24 scholars from seven countries and eight disciplines to explore this year's Exchange theme, *Beyond Formal Democracy: Re-conceiving Self-Determination*. The diverse participants formed a Project Team to ensure the long-term vitality of this new initiative, which is designed to foster cross-disciplinary and cross-cultural exchanges focused on law, theory and culture. Project Team members include Carmen Gonzalez, Jorge Esquirol, Diego Medina Lopez, Belkys Torres, Colin Crawford, Dominique Legros, Angel Oquendo and Charles Venator Santiago. Several themes were identified for future Exchanges, including *Constitutional Reform and Social Engineering*, *Free Market Fundamentalisms*, and *Indigenous Peoples Across the Americas* ... planning already has begun on these themes and future SNX programs - for more information please visit our website or contact us at the addresses provided above. As with past LatCrit scholarly programs, the proceedings of this Exchange will be published in the form of a symposium issue ... watch for details in our next E-Letter!

Along these lines, we are especially delighted to report that our first-ever Spanish language symposium is in the works, based on the Spanish language panels and essays presented at the **LatCrit International and Comparative Law Colloquium** (ICC), which we conducted in August 2003 at the Universidad de Buenos Aires Facultad de Derecho in conjunction with the Critical Global Classroom Study-Abroad Program. This Spanish language symposium is being published by the Revista Juridica (Law Review) of the Universidad Inter-Americana de Puerto Rico while the English language essays, based on the English language presentations at the same Colloquium, are being published as a symposium simultaneously by the University of Florida Journal of International Law ... look for both soon!

Immediately after the SNX program concluded, the LatCrit Board of Directors met on the island of Vieques for our first-ever Board Retreat, at which we were joined by various folks not on the Board who are actively spearheading various group projects ... this three-day **"Board-and-Friends" Retreat** generated several major breakthroughs in long-term planning relating to the Annual Conferences and other on-going or new projects, which we then discussed

more broadly at the Open Community Forum and related gatherings held in the **LatCrit-at-AALS Hospitality Suite** in Atlanta ... for the second time, we hosted this community Hospitality Suite during the annual meeting of the American Association of Law Schools (AALS), in the first week of January 2004, to provide a community space for social gatherings as well as a common space for meetings and other project-related events, including the Critical Global Classroom Study Abroad Program (CGC) and other student-oriented programs ... this year, in addition, we celebrated the inauguration of Gerald Torres as President of the AALS and Beto Juarez as Co-President of the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) together with Holly Maguigan ... we congratulate Gerald, Beto and Holly as we look forward to continuing our work in solidarity with them during the coming months and years!

Much of the discussion at the Vieques Board-and-Friends Retreat focused on internal self-governance and long-term planning, including the objective of expanding the LatCrit Board to reflect the growth in our Portfolio of Projects (visit our website for a complete itemization and descriptions) and the need to regularize the transitions of the Co-Chairs and other Officers ... if you are interested in joining the LatCrit Board, or have nominations, thoughts or suggestions along these lines, please join us at the upcoming **Annual Planning Retreat** in Philadelphia May 2-4, 2004 (immediately after the LatCrit IX conference), where we will be discussing these questions to arrive at collective community decisions - if you are unable to join us in Philadelphia this May, please email your nominations, thoughts or suggestions to our email address (see above) as soon as possible ... for your convenience, our ByLaws, "job descriptions" and eligibility criteria for Board members and Officers are posted on our website, so please take moment to provide your input via email as we prepare for the second decade of LatCrit theory, praxis and community!

Perhaps most concretely, at the Board-and-Friends Retreat we focused on your feedback regarding the naming and mission statement of our new peer-review journal, which we have been developing since last year in partnership with the Universidad Inter-Americana de Puerto Rico in San Juan (for background information, please visit our website, and review the fall 2003 issue of the E-Letter). As you know, we have conducted this community-wide process to ensure that our new flagship journal would represent the multiple diversities of the LatCrit community as much as possible, and we are happy to report that the new journal's name is **CLAVE: A TRANSDISCIPLINARY JOURNAL OF LAW, POWER AND CULTURE!** The name **CLAVE** is a Spanish word with several substantive and symbolic meanings that make it fitting for this new periodical: **CLAVE** means "key" as in the "crux" or "heart" of the matter, as well as signifying the order of musical notes to make a melody. With the expected creation of student and faculty editorial boards this spring, **CLAVE** is set to commence operations this summer, and is scheduled to publish its first issue during the upcoming academic year (2004-05) ... so please keep a lookout for the **CLAVE** Call for Papers later this academic year!

Finally, we are most delighted to report that in the closing days of the fall 2003 semester we entered into discussions with the DePaul University College of Law, with whom we now have a "critical partnership" to launch a new student-oriented program focused on the combination of experiential learning, community service, social justice and critical theory. This new initiative, the Community Development Externship Network, will provide at least three scholarships for the summer of 2005 to place students in underserved and poor communities across the Americas, both rural and urban, to work on issues involving land, housing, environmental justice and economic human rights and to maintain or enhance the assets of such communities ... this new project builds on the prior work that Thomas Mitchell has undertaken at the University of Wisconsin in recent years, and is being spearheaded by Thomas, Sumi Cho, Alicia Alvarez, Carolina Stefoni and other community members, who already have formed a Project Team to operate this new student-oriented program ... for more information on this new collective project, please visit our website and/or write to us using the internet and email addresses provide above (see logo info at top of first page).

## **CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS**

Just last week the **Student Scholar Program** received 22 timely submissions from 3 continents for this year's Student Scholar scholarships ... the Student Scholar Program (SSP) is a critical partnership with Boalt Hall School of Law, which we launched last year to provide support and mentoring to students interested in academic careers ... once again, the Student Scholars are being selected by a committee of critical outsider scholars chaired by Angela Harris ... the Student Scholars receive stipends to present their papers at the upcoming LatCrit IX conference in

Philadelphia (see below), which then are published as part of a law review symposium based on the conference proceedings, as well as a scholarship and stipend to participate in the Critical Global Classroom Study Abroad Program in Chile, Argentina and South Africa (July 5 - August 15, 2004) ... the Student Scholars also are teamed with mentors to help produce a second publishable manuscript during the second year of their participation in this program ... for biographical information on last year's inaugural class of LatCrit Student Scholars, or for more information on this program, please visit our website at [www.latcrit.org](http://www.latcrit.org).

The **Critical Global Classroom (CGC)** is set to start up this July in Chile, and then to travel to Argentina and South Africa, including once again as part of its formal curriculum the LatCrit Colloquium on International and Comparative Law (August 7-11, 2004) ... this study-abroad program is a critical partnership with the University of Baltimore School of Law that we launched last year as a life-line to students at law schools from coast to coast who seek access to a critical and comparative legal education focused on antistatist theory and social justice activism ... please help us get timely word to potentially interested students at your school: the CGC awards eight credits and is designed to enable students to "split" their summers, thus making it possible both to participate in a summer clerkship as well as in this unique six-week program. Due to travel logistics, enrollment is limited and the deadline is April 5<sup>th</sup> - please reach out to your students now, as they begin to make their summer plans - and encourage them to visit the CGC website ([law.ubalt.edu/cgc](http://law.ubalt.edu/cgc)) or email ([cgc@ublat.edu](mailto:cgc@ublat.edu)) to reserve their place in the 2004 CGC program!

In addition, please "save the date" on YOUR calendar for the next **LatCrit Colloquium on International and Comparative Law**, which will be held August 7-11, 2004 in South Africa in conjunction with the CGC - and keep a lookout for the Colloquium Call for Papers, Panels and Participation, which you should receive by mid-March 2004 ... we welcome and urge your response and participation ... to review prior Colloquium programs, please visit our website.

Similarly, in mid-February please watch for the Program and Registration Materials for the **Ninth Annual LatCrit Conference**. Hosted by Villanova University School of Law, LatCrit IX convenes in Philadelphia on Thursday, April 29<sup>th</sup> at 4 PM ... this year's conference theme, *Countering Kulturkampf Politics Through Critique and Justice Pedagogy*, focuses critical attention on backlash lawmaking campaigns undermining the civil and human rights advances of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century ... this year's conference coordinators, Frank Rudy Cooper and Beth Lyon of Villanova, have prepared a fabulous program based on your rich responses to the fall's Call for Papers, Panels and Participation ... mark your calendar NOW to join us in Philly for LatCrit IX *and* for the two related events (see immediately below)!

*PLEASE* remember that this year we once again will conduct our **New/Junior Faculty Development Workshop** the day before the Annual Conference begins, in partnership with the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT), at the conference site ... the feedback we received from the new/junior folks last year ensured this year's follow-up Workshop, and we urge you to plan ahead now so that you join us in Philadelphia on Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, to meet with - and provide support for - the new and junior faculty among our ranks. Please look for more details about the New/Junior Faculty Development Workshop in the LatCrit IX Program and Registration Materials, and plan ahead to join us in Philadelphia by 4 PM on Wednesday, April 28<sup>th</sup>, to participate fully in this key community-building event.

Finally, we urge and invite you to join us for this year's **Annual Planning Retreat** - our fourth - in which we expect to finalize group decisions regarding various projects, as well as internal self-governance ... these Annual Planning Retreats, which take place immediately after the Annual LatCrit Conferences, provide a venue for focused group discussions and long-term planning, and they have proven invaluable in developing synergistic plans for our various projects thus far. This year, in addition to the annual review of our Portfolio of Projects, we also will discuss basic questions regarding expansion of our Board, transitions of Co-Chairs and Officers, and similar issues focused on internal self-governance ... please look for more details about the Annual Planning Retreat in the LatCrit IX Program and Registration Materials, and plan to stay with us in Philadelphia through Tuesday night, May 4<sup>th</sup>, to participate actively in this especially important Annual Planning Retreat (but if you are unable to attend this event, please send us your suggestions on projects, internal self-governance, Board nominations, etc., via email, and as requested above).

As always, please take a moment now to glance at the updated **Annual Calendar of LatCrit Projects and Key Dates** (on the next page) so that you can plan/budget in advance ... of course, please feel free to print and post this Calendar for easy year-round reference to help you make advance plans and budgets to join us at the events of most interest to you ... we hope to cross paths with you soon and often this spring and summer! Abrazos fuerte a todas/os!

# ANNUAL CALENDAR OF LATCRIT PROJECTS & KEY DATES

UPDATED: SPRING 2004

**!!! PLEASE RETAIN THIS 2003-04 ANNUAL LATCRIT CALENDAR FOR EASY YEAR-ROUND REFERENCE !!!**

*This updated Annual Calendar presents, month-by-month, the key dates relating to our various group projects to help you plan well in advance the events and programs in which you wish to participate this year ... print and post this Calendar for future reference and please visit our website (www.latcrit.org) for archives, details and updates on our community activities.*

<u>MONTH/DATE</u>	<u>PROJECT/NAME</u>	<u>EVENT/DEADLINE</u>	<u>MISCELLANY/NOTES</u>
<b>FALL 2003:</b>			
SEPTEMBER	5 <sup>th</sup>	SSP	SSP CALL FOR STUDENT PAPERS AND APPLICATIONS ISSUED
	10 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT E-LETTER	FALL ISSUE E-CIRCULATED
	15 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT IX	LATCRIT IX CALL FOR PAPERS & PANEL PROPOSALS ISSUED
	30 <sup>th</sup>	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> SYMPOSIUM SUBMISSIONS BASED ON THE INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM
OCTOBER	10 <sup>th</sup>	CGC	STUDENT OUTREACH AND REGISTRATION BEGIN
	20 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT IX	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> RESPONSES TO LATCRIT IX CALL FOR PAPERS & PANEL PROPOSALS
	30 <sup>th</sup>	S-N EXCHANGE	PROGRAM, SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION MATERIALS CIRCULATED
NOVEMBER	1-15 <sup>th</sup>	CGC	ON-CAMPUS INFO MEETINGS CONDUCTED
	20 <sup>th</sup>	S-N EXCHANGE	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> S-N EXCHANGE REGISTRATIONS
DECEMBER	5 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT-AT-AALS "SUITE EVENTS"	EMAIL INVITATIONS SENT OUT
	10-13 <sup>th</sup>	S-N EXCHANGE	CONVENES IN SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO (IAUPR)
	14-16 <sup>th</sup>	BOARD RETREAT *(ONE-TIME EVENT)	CONVENES IN VIEQUES, PUERTO RICO
<b>SPRING 2004:</b>			
JANUARY	2-6 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT-AT-AALS "SUITE EVENTS"	CONVENES IN ATLANTA, GEORGIA
	20 <sup>th</sup>	SSP	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> STUDENT SUBMISSIONS/ APPLICATIONS
	30 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT E-LETTER	SPRING ISSUE E-CIRCULATED
FEBRUARY	10 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT IX	PROGRAM SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION MATERIALS CIRCULATED
	20 <sup>th</sup>	S-N EXCHANGE	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> SYMPOSIUM SUBMISSIONS BASED ON THE S-N EXCHANGE
MARCH	10 <sup>th</sup>	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM CALL FOR PAPERS & PANEL PROPOSALS ISSUED
	20 <sup>th</sup>	SSP	STUDENT SCHOLARS DESIGNATED
	30 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT IX	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> LATCRIT IX REGISTRATIONS
APRIL	5 <sup>th</sup>	CGC	FINAL DEADLINE: CGC STUDENT ENROLLMENT
<b>SUMMER 2004:</b>			
MAY	1-4 <sup>th</sup>	NEW/ JR. FACULTY WORKSHOP	CONVENES IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
		LATCRIT IX AND ANNUAL PLANNING RETREAT	CONVENES IN PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA
	15 <sup>th</sup>	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> RESPONSES TO INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM CALL FOR PAPERS & PANEL PROPOSALS
JUNE	10 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT E-LETTER	SUMMER ISSUE E-CIRCULATED
	20 <sup>th</sup>	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM	PROGRAM, SCHEDULE AND REGISTRATION MATERIALS CIRCULATED
JULY	5 <sup>th</sup>	CGC	CONVENES IN SANTIAGO DE CHILE (AND TRAVELS TO BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA)
	15 <sup>th</sup>	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM REGISTRATIONS
AUGUST	5 <sup>th</sup>	CGC	CONVENES IN CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA
	7-11 <sup>th</sup>	INT'L & COMP. COLLOQUIUM	CONVENES ON ROBBEN ISLAND, SOUTH AFRICA
	30 <sup>th</sup>	LATCRIT IX	<b><u>DUE DATE:</u></b> SYMPOSIUM SUBMISSIONS BASED ON LATCRIT IX