

First Annual LatCrit Retreat

Miami Beach, Florida
April 30-May 3, 2001

SPONSORED BY:

THE CENTER FOR HISPANIC AND CARIBBEAN LEGAL STUDIES
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI SCHOOL OF LAW

AGENDA & SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

The purpose of this Agenda and Schedule of Activities is to lay out a general framework for our time together during the First Annual LatCrit Retreat. This Retreat gathers together a core group of persons who have committed themselves to the long-term development of LatCrit as a community and as an organization. As a community, our goal is to foster relationships that are based on genuine friendship and the joy of meaningful engagement with people who share our commitments to social justice and transformative praxis. As an organization, our goal is to create a long-lasting institution that provides material, intellectual and political support to outsiders both within and beyond the United States, nurtures effective linkages between the American legal academy and the social justice movements that inspire our vision and that need our involvement, promotes coalitional politics and reform agendas based on a commitment to intergroup justice and enables the cultivation of new scholars and leaders, who can benefit from and take leadership roles in the future development of LatCrit, Inc.*

As with other LatCrit initiatives, in inaugurating this Retreat, we are striving to take the long-term view. Therefore, we hope to nurture some new “traditions” via this first Retreat – including, to begin with, the tradition of repeating this Retreat every year as a regular venue of “quality time” for sustained brainstorming and interactive exchange of ideas focused on substantive and institutional development. In the future, however, we hope simply to append the Retreat to the conference, thus obviating additional travel. This Retreat, like the annual conferences, are “open” to all – an invitation was included in the conference materials this year, and we expect this practice will continue in the future. However, this Retreat depends more so than the conference on the active participation of individuals who take responsibility for discrete projects. The organization of this Retreat on an annual basis consequently best falls on the Co-Chairs of LatCrit, Inc. – presently, Lisa Iglesias and Frank Valdes. But, this specific responsibility is another tradition that we hope to initiate via this Retreat: the tradition in which the planning and facilitation of the annual Retreat is generally recognized as one of the major responsibilities of the LatCrit Co-Chairs.

Because the basic purpose of this gathering is to function as a *planning* Retreat focused on community-building and institution-building, the Schedule of Activities set forth below focuses

* All Retreat Events will be held in the conference room of the Caribbean Hotel on Miami Beach, located at 3737 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, (305-534-5464) except the Tuesday evening session and dinner, which will be held at Frank’s home.

on projects that advance this purpose. However, we also anticipate and invite additional ideas for inclusion in our discussions at each stage of the Retreat schedule. Please note that the Retreat is organized around six plenary sessions (and one small-group break-out session). These sessions open with an overview of the status quo and conclude with a session devoted to the organizing an infrastructure and plans of action based on the Retreat discussions. The sessions also focus on existing strengths or initiatives, including the annual conferences, the summer colloquia, internationalist projects, our use of information technologies, grant-writing and other types of “actions” through which we can perform LatCrit theory in socially grounded ways, both as individuals and as a community or institution.

Monday, April 30 2001

10:15 AM-1:30 PM Plenary Session One (and Working Lunch)

INTRODUCTION TO PURPOSES OF THE FIRST ANNUAL LATCRIT RETREAT, AND OVERVIEW OF HISTORY AND THE FUTURE LATCRIT TRAJECTORIES

The last six years have witnessed an unprecedented coming together of the LatCrit community through the organization of Annual Conferences and the incubation of some very exciting ideas for institutional development and special projects. These ideas span a broad range of possibilities from projects to bring LatCrit theory into the K-12 context to establishing LatCrit as an NGO with consultative status at the United Nations. One purpose of this opening session is for the Co-Chairs to provide a brief but detailed overview of the many special projects that we have been discussing with different LatCritters so that we can develop a cohesive vision of the future evolution of LatCrit, Inc. At the same time, the LatCrit project has always aspired to be a vehicle for the development of genuine solidarity and mutual respect based on a lively and lasting friendship among scholars and activists *as human beings*. This aspiration imposes additional responsibilities and burdens because it requires us to develop and to implement an ethical praxis in our dealings with each other so that the institution that emerges over the course of different projects reflects the human values and connections that inspired the project in the first place. This opening session thus seeks to set the stage for meaningful dialogue at multiple levels – from broad long-term institutional aspirations to the more personal and idiosyncratic questions of how we can create a community process in which individuals feel valued, appreciated and included. This opening session therefore will be focused around two basic themes: institution-building and community-building. To this end, this session will move quickly from a presentation by the Co-Chairs to a free-flowing brainstorming session on the “global picture” of what LatCrit stands for and what it should aspire to become based not only on the Co-Chairs’ presentation but also on the new ideas presented by participants.

Retreat participants might prepare for this discussion by reflecting on the following and similar questions:

- (1) What does the LatCrit project mean to you? When and why did you get involved? What kinds of commitments and collective experiences are likely to keep you involved? What kinds of experiences have you found alienating, and how can we address and correct the sources of alienation in a nurturing and community building manner?

- (2) Reflecting on the future potential of an organization such as LatCrit, Inc., where do you see its most significant potential impact (*e.g.*, theoretical innovation, support for new scholars, linkages to social movements or public policy think tanks)? How might it most effectively fulfill this potential?

1:30-2:00 PM COFFEE & SNACK BREAK

**2:00-4:00 PM Plenary Session Two
LATCRIT ANNUAL CONFERENCES: REFLECTIONS ON LESSONS
FROM SIX YEARS OF ANNUAL CONFERENCES AND STRATEGIC
PLANNING FOR FUTURE CONFERENCES**

The LatCrit Annual Conferences are the most developed project of LatCrit, Inc. as reflected in the six years of annual conferences we will have just completed and the fact that we have succeeded in securing institutional sponsorship for future annual conferences through LatCrit IX. (At the time of this writing, the final commitment to take LatCrit VIII to Cleveland is still in the works and may be finalized by the time of the Retreat). As a result, we are in an excellent position to approach the Annual Conferences in a more self-consciously strategic and globally programmatic manner than ever before. This simply means that we are positioned to think and plan more effectively in both substantive and community building terms. In this context, “community building” refers both to the aspiration to expand the involvement and representation of excluded communities in our conferences and planning process as well as to the way we interact with each other in the process of planning our conferences. Although the lion’s share of the burdens of putting together a conference naturally and inevitably fall on the onsite people and planning committee co-chairs, it is important to reflect on the ways in which conference planning always offers both “centrifugal and centripetal” possibilities – *i.e.*, experiences that produce a stronger sense of community solidarity, mutual assistance and engagement or that diffuse and disorganize our interconnectedness – that undermine our sense of “being in it together.” Obviously, our effort is to maximize the former and minimize the latter. To launch and orient our discussion, past Conference Planning Committee co-chairs might reflect on the lessons learned from their own experiences, while future Conference Planning Committee co-chairs should take this opportunity to communicate their vision of the way they hope the planning process will proceed in their year.

Retreat participants might prepare for this discussion by reflecting on the following and similar issues:

- (1) How do we structure a planning process that enables the kinds of lively discussions that inspire new thematic formulations, promote engagement in new substantive fields, foster the identification of new participants and ensures that follow up work is spread equally among members of the planning committee? (Although this raises major policy and logistical issues, we also invite reflection on more “mundane” issues such how we respond when emails requesting information or dialogue are posted on the planning committee listserv);
- (2) How should we use the opportunity for advance planning offered by the knowledge that we already have secured three years of institutional sponsorship for future annual conferences to develop synergistic “streams” of programming that will allow us, over the course of these years, the flexibility of centering particular perspectives, themes and identities in a way that genuinely rotates from year to year and across different

geographical regions (*i.e.*, from Oregon (LatCrit VII) to Cleveland (LatCrit VIII) to Boston (LatCrit IX)).

5:00-7:00 PM FREE TIME (spontaneous caucusing, etc)

7:00-8:00 PM RECEPTION

8:00-10:00 PM DINNER

Tuesday, May 1, 2001

8:00-9:15 AM BREAKFAST

**10:00 AM-12:30 PM Plenary Session Three
INTERNATIONALIZING LATCRIT: THE SUMMER COLLOQUIUM
SERIES AND NGO STATUS**

Making “the international move” a concrete, programmatic and institutional reality is a pressing imperative if LatCrit is to fulfill the theoretical and political aspirations we have repeatedly articulated. Over the last two years, the Co-chairs have sought to implement this imperative by organizing two LatCrit Summer Colloquia in Spain in conjunction with the University of Miami’s Tour de España Summer Program, which we co-directed until this year. While the institutional politics at our home institution have made this model for developing the Summer colloquium unfeasible, the separation of the Summer Colloquium from the University of Miami’s Summer Program does open up new and exciting possibilities for rotating the summer colloquium to countries other than Spain. In this vein, we have held discussions with numerous individuals, including some of the Retreat participants, about organizing a five-year program of international colloquia in a variety of countries including: South Africa, Nicaragua, Chile, Mexico, Cuba and Argentina – perhaps returning to Spain at that time. The purpose of this colloquium series, as we see it, are manifold, ranging from the disruption of national and intellectual borders and their replacement with transnational, transcultural networks, discourses and communities to the use these colloquia to study particular contexts and begin mapping in a complex way how particularities of power and privilege in “different” contexts constitute inter/national patterns and multidimensional systems of subordination.

From these colloquia, in other words, can emerge both the substance and the organization of LatCrit, Inc. as an NGO – that is, a “Non-Governmental Organization” recognized by the United Nations and thereby authorized to participate in international venues where global policymaking on race, gender and related categories is being forged. Attaining NGO status requires completion

of a specified administrative procedure with the United Nations, which we expect to undertake immediately. Clearly, organizing these colloquia depends fundamentally on the identification of on-site institutions and people in the relevant foreign countries who are willing and able to sponsor and help organize the local logistics for these colloquia in the chosen country, as well as State-side LatCritters able and willing to work on programmatic and related planning. Hopefully, by the time of the second annual Retreat, the colloquium for next summer will be fully planned and LatCrit formally will have attained NGO status. To launch and orient our discussion, the Co-Chairs and other participants can describe the progress we have made (and limits encountered) in identifying local institutions and individuals for the above mentioned possibilities, followed then by interactive discussion and brainstorming.

Retreat participants might prepare for this discussion by reflecting on the following and similar points:

- (1) Institutional contacts they have or know about that might be interested in collaborating in this five year project;
- (2) Substantive themes that should organize and unify LatCrit engagement in the wide variety of issues confronting anti-subordination struggles in these different countries; (e.g. some substantive themes that come immediately to mind are (a) the status of minorities; (b) corruption and anti-corruption strategies; (c) the meaning of democracy and the tensions between human rights and globalization; (d) the meaning of substantive security; (e) the particular problems confronting women of color – all themes being structured around a commitment to explore the to anti-essentialist anti-subordination dimensions of the topics engaged);
- (3) Possible funding sources and brainstorm a fundraising strategy, including grant-writing and the search for more systemic institutional sponsorship of the colloquium series;
- (4) Alternative models for structuring the series (e.g. as stand-alone colloquia or linked to summer programs at other institutions);
- (5) Alternative ways of disseminating the work done at the Summer Colloquia (*i.e.*, not all Colloquia need to result in Law Review publications – particularly if we develop our multimedia, web-based information strategies and video conferencing capabilities, which are the subject of the following session).

12:45-1:45 PM LUNCH

2:00-5:00 PM FREE TIME (spontaneous caucusing, etc.)

**5:30-6:00 PM RECEPTION [Home of Frank Valdes]
6:00-8:00 PM Plenary Session Four [Home of Frank Valdes]
**BEYOND LAW REVIEWS: MULTIMEDIA, WEBCASTING AND THE
INCORPORATION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES INTO
LATCRIT PROJECTS****

One key aspect of the annual LatCrit conferences and summer colloquia to date is that, in each instance, the program has been co-sponsored by a law review that has published a symposium based on the proceedings. This collaboration is important for a number of reasons, not the least of which is to disseminate the richness of LatCrit gatherings. In the space of just a few years, a dozen LatCrit symposia have been published or are committed to be published. Now, we plan to continue this practice by taking it to the next levels – levels that depend on better and smarter use of available information technologies to supplement current and future publication options for all LatCrit events and LatCritters.

This session will be held at Frank's home because we want to demonstrate some of the video conferencing capabilities that are feasibly within our reach. This year Lisa and Frank purchased Logitech VideoCams in order to explore the possibility of conducting on-line video conferencing. Although there are much more sophisticated technologies that would increase the quality of the video conferences, the VideoCam experiment does confirm the feasibility of reducing costs through internet based conferences. This experiment also has opened the way to conceptualizing new possibilities for disseminating information about LatCrit as well as structuring LatCrit programming to reach a wider audience. After a brief demonstration of the VideoCam capabilities and some models of possible web page designs, we will be better able to brainstorm and develop ideas about new ways of incorporating information technologies, including enhancement of our web page to make it more dynamic and expanded use of multimedia in the annual conferences and summer colloquia. In time, these efforts can lead to LatCrit WebCasting of programs or portions of programs, ensuring an increasing ability to disseminate our work globally.

This information technology initiative is complementary to the international initiative described above under Session Three. Some possibilities include: (1) editing video tapes from prior LatCrit conferences and posting highlights on the web; (2) creating a webspace for LatCritters to post short reflection essays on current issues; (3) purchasing VideoCams for the LatCrit VII planning committee (and eventually for the summer colloquia) in order to conduct the conference planning process through the internet; (4) getting author's copyright permission to post LatCrit symposia papers on the LatCrit home page (this was done with the Harvard Latino Law Review, but has been a problem since). As these possibilities suggest, this information technology initiative also is relevant to the annual conferences and, indeed, to everything that we conceptualize and undertake in the coming years.

Retreat participants might prepare for this discussion by reflecting on the information technology resources they have access to at their own institutions, their own creative visions of how the LatCrit Home Page (see www.latcrit.org) might be developed and restructured to enable a broader dissemination of LatCrit scholarship and the consolidation of a genuine community forum on the internet.

8:00-10:00 PM DINNER, MUSIC, SPIRITS, CONVERSATION, ETC.

Wednesday, May 2, 2001

8:00-9:15 AM BREAKFAST

9:30-12:30 AM Plenary Session Five
ACTION PROJECTS: ALTERNATIVE MODELS FOR LATCRIT
INVOLVEMENT IN SOCIALLY RELEVANT PRAXIS

LatCrit has had the unusual privilege of being constituted by a group of individuals who believe not only in the power of ideas and the importance of theory, but who also are deeply committed to acting as agents of social change in solidarity with the practical struggles of frontline social movements. During this session, therefore, we will examine, critique and ultimately decide the manner and extent to which LatCrit should endeavor to engage in the concrete political, policy and legal struggles of the communities with whom we espouse solidarity. In thinking through these issues, one key thing to remember is that “LatCrit” can only involve itself in and through the involvement of individual LatCritters: it makes no sense to propose projects or commitments that lack the personal involvement and commitment of any particular person. Yet, it does make sense to examine the ways in which LatCrit can involve itself programmatically and institutionally in forwarding the concrete action projects that members of our community are already committed to, or desire to engage in the future. The following examples of possible models are based on our own individual interests as well as on discussions with different LatCritters in recent years, and which serve as a point of departure for our discussion.

LatCrit might, for example,

- (1) seek to develop a project aimed at developing LatCrit commentary on current events and public policies (*e.g.*, a think-tank that engages in formulating national and local public policy positions);
- (2) seek funding for an institution capacity building project in a Third world country (*e.g.*, the World Bank Inspection Panel is the first forum created in the interstate system that gives standing to indigenous peoples to challenge the project decisions of World Bank staffers: building indigenous capacity to invoke the Panel would provide an opportunity to link theory to practice in a way that builds international solidarity practically and concretely);
- (3) seek to develop an amicus practice to address issues identified as particularly relevant to LatCrit’s mission and vision;
- (4) think proactively and self-consciously about ways to incorporate action components into the organization of our Annual conferences that appropriately cohere with the particularities of the conference themes, regional location and the needs of the local participants and vision of the onsite organizers.

These suggestions are simply some examples to encourage Retreat participants to reflect on the ways in which you think LatCrit might develop actions that operate synergistically to advance our institution-building and community-building aspirations. To prepare for this discussion, Retreat participants should reflect on specific, concrete suggestion to foster LatCrit involvement in socially relevant praxis.

12:45-1:45 PM LUNCH

**2:00-5:00 PM Plenary Session Six
WRAPPING UP AND CONCLUDING THOUGHTS: ALLOCATING
TASKS AND ORGANIZING AN INFRASTRUCTURE TO IMPLEMENT
RETREAT IDEAS, DECISIONS AND PROJECTS DURING THE
COMING YEAR(S)**

If all goes well, our expectation is that the five prior sessions will have generated a conceptual frame for our collective work during the coming year(s). If so, we will need to organize ourselves realistically – that is, in ways that advance our goals efficiently and that also recognize both our strengths and limitations as particular, finite individuals and as a diverse community of geographically diffused scholars and activists. This concluding session therefore is devoted to distilling the Retreat discussions of past two days into a set of priorities and, also, into workable plan of action. The end result should be an infrastructure in which responsibilities are assumed or allocated in a manner designed to be efficient and synergistic – that is, in a manner designed to leverage our human and other resources while reducing stress, disharmony or duplication.

Retreat participants may prepare for this discussion by thinking in advance of how they might best focus their commitments, as well as their limited time and energy, to take advantage of our respective strengths and ameliorate our human or structural limitations. To begin this process, the Co-Chairs will begin with a brief recap of our discussions and decisions during the Retreat, and then elicit suggestions or volunteers to begin designing an infrastructure for follow-up. This concluding session may involve a breakout into smaller working groups, if warranted by the particular interests of the participants or it may be conducted in plenary format. If there are break out groups, retreat participants will have an opportunity to report back in the final session.

**5:15-6:30 PM Report Back on Small-Group Break-Out Session
BEGINNING THE FOLLOW-UP WITHOUT MISSING A BEAT:
BREAK-OUT GROUPS MEET TO ORGANIZE PLANS OF ACTION
FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS OR TASKS**

Taking advantage of our limited “face time” together, this session creates a formal occasion for individuals who have agreed to concentrate their time and energy on specific projects or tasks to report back and invite comments from the group as a whole. Key topics to address in this session include basic infrastructural issues, such as how the group will proceed over the summer and fall (including a time-line) and how it plans to keep in touch regularly (*i.e.*, conference call, listserv, both – if a conference call, who will organize it, and for when; if a listserv, who will create and maintain it, etc.).

6:30-8:00 PM FREE TIME (spontaneous caucasing, etc.)

8:00-10:00 PM DINNER & CONCLUDING REMARKS

First Annual LatCrit Retreat
Substantive Transcription:
Discourse, Decisions, Debates and Recommendations
Miami Beach, Florida
April 30-May 3, 2001

I. Themes of the LatCrit retreat:

A. What does LatCrit stand for now?

1. Taking stock
2. Theoretical tensions

B. “Big Tent” ISSUES:

1. Is LatCrit losing its focus as a result of continuing to grow and change, and remain inclusive?
2. Is it possible to remain coherent stand take on new goals
3. How can LatCrit continue to be inclusive & continue to expand in new directions, such as internalization?

C. Formalism vs. Anti-Formalism

1. constitutionalism vs. anti constitutionalism
2. “being formal in a substantive way”

D. Transition in Personnel & Leadership

1. Avoiding burnout from core group
2. Method of electing co-chairs of LatCrit Inc.
3. Dividing up key tasks
4. Job description of the LatCrit co-chairs
5. How to cultivate future leadership

E. Institution Building

1. Formal
 - a. corporation/”incorporation presence”
 - b. NGO status
2. Method of securing sites for LatCrit conferences

3. Ensuring continuing inflow of new people
4. Securing needed funds for future enterprise
5. Defining membership/ membership issues

F. Praxis

1. Local/national
2. Individual/under LatCrit umbrella
3. Making sure it happens

G. Personnel/personal: Preserving informality, spontaneous bonding and providing space for “small conversations”

H. Community Building

I. Survival issues

1. Sustainability of conference cycles
2. Leadership Transition
3. Preserve stability & allow for growth
4. Lessons from failed progressive movements

J. Conference planning

K. LatCrit as an Institution

1. Problems flat organizational structure
 - a. Non-Elitism as an ethic
 - b. Concentration of knowledge and responsibilities (burdens) on co-chairs & conference organizers
 - c. information dissemination of important decisions & distribution of information in accessible digestible forms
2. “Fragile site of resistance within the academe”
3. Survival issues
4. Burnout of leadership

L. “Dreaming the dream”: LatCrit and social justice

1. Power within the academe
2. Remain as “outsiders” with legitimacy
3. Developing Future Presence

Day 1. II. TAKING STOCK: Discussion of what is LatCrit.

A. What are LatCrit principles?

1. Intergroup justice
2. Anti-subordination
3. Anti essentialism
4. Multi-dimensionality
5. Praxis/solidarity
6. Community building
7. Critical/self critical
8. Ethical
9. Transnational
10. Interdisciplinary
11. Critical/self-critical

B. Other Cogent Observations:

1. “in part methodological but also substantive” (Lisa)
2. personal, intellectual & political --- multilevel experience (all)
3. growth system, morphing at each annual conference (all)
4. “fragile” (Frank & Lisa)

C. What are LatCrit’s assets?

1. Social justice community
2. In intellectual property terms (Keith):
 - a. Good will (legitimacy as pursuer of social justice)
 - b. Scholarship in the form of symposia
 - c. Network of relationships (like NAPSTER)
3. In corporate law terms
 - a. What are our capital assets? Value of scholarly product focusing on social justice
 - b. If we think of LatCrit as a text, is the BOD like an editorial board, i.e. it decides where to focus the scholarly project from year to year & conference site
4. For most it is personal.

D. What are some of the principal tensions?

1. Tension between “Lat” & “Crit”

- a. Early conferences/panels emphasized more the identity & cultural parts of “Lat” rather than “Crit, “ -- clearly it is dynamic & in tension with “Crit.”
- b. Not fixed proportion as the name implies
- c. Inclusive enough to allow various views/approaches
- d. This is a problematic tension, but also good.

2. Defining “Lat”

- a. Within “Lat” there is Latino/a, Asian-Pacific American, Black, Gay- Lesbian- Bi
- b. “Lat” can’t be “Lat” without being universal
- c. Each community defines itself & particularities within various contexts – not solely identity based, or essentialized
- d. As methodology: personal, community building (“hanging out” in Frank’s room; being inclusive in conferences; no star system)

3. Defining “Crit”

- a. “Crit” is what distinguishes LatCrit from POC conferences, CLS, CRT, Law & Society.
- b. “Politics & law” in a “major” way (Frank); e.g. Law as manipulative & subject to political processes, facilitating capital concentration, rhetorical manipulation of knowledge, etc.
- c. Methodologies/approaches in D.1 above.
- d. Flexible parameters that mean something & set limits --- some things are clearly not Crit (e.g., Clarence Thomas is not critical)
- e. Political/ spontaneous formation of coalitions vs. identity based groups who can claim legitimacy
- f. See LatCrit symposia, etc., but can this be “boiled down” into digestible English, or even imagery (*Sub-Comandante Marcos* in Mexico City; world map reversing North-South)?

E. LatCrit as a Movement within the Academe

1. site of radical contestation in legal academe focusing on tenuring progressive/minority professors
2. Resisting culture of elitism, formalism, non-meaningful analysis, etc.
3. Linking with other progressives in other disciplines

III. Formalism versus Anti-Formalism

A. In the LatCrit Conferences: informal interactions are an important part of LatCrit that must be consciously preserved and sustained.

B. Preserving Inter-generational Interactions

1. In the structure of the LatCrit conference programs this is seen in the relationships between plenary & concurrence, inclusion of “new faces” in the plenaries, rotating better-known participants to the concurrent panels, ensuring that those in plenary listen (Lisa).
2. Is there a need to provide an orientation book, shorter than the primer, at each Conference?
 - a. Keith & Lisa -- possibility of producing a 20-minute video that runs continuously in the Hospitality suite.
3. Re-instituting talking circles where people have an opportunity to introduce each other? Issue: Balance the size of the LatCrit Conference with LatCrit continuing to be a personal experience.
4. Important to preserve feeling of ownership in new participants

C. Hospitality Suite

1. Keeping it going, making sure that senior people continue to attend, yet preserve spontaneity
2. Some supervision & official control of suite required, e.g., possible sexual harassment, hotel security interventions
3. Labor allocation issues: who runs it, etc

D. Creating “private space”

E. Revisiting works in progress to ensure that “new” people are being mentored

IV. Constitutionalism vs. anti constitutionalism

- A. GOAL: “being formal in a substantive way” (Lisa)
- B. Do you want a rule system that can direct direction of LatCrit leadership, and also allow for changes & transitions, build flexibility, build in rights, and allocate power in decision making?

- C. Flexibility & adaptability human-ness of anti-constitutionalism
- D. How useful are analogies to corporate law: fiduciary duty, preserving minority rights, allocation of decision making power.

V. Method of election of the Board of Directors: Elected vs. non-elected

- A. Elected: Democratic/Madisonian** method has strong cultural component; it is self-authenticating, and may give those so elected greater sense of institutional responsibility, but
1. Should we duplicate SALT method where the summary synopsis may not match the personae, or elected members fail to deliver on promises?
 2. Will this method get the work done?
 3. May alienate valuable candidates who are nonetheless rejected through this system.

B. Non elected

1. Responds to emergencies (like people resigning)
2. Flexible in terms of getting organizational purposes done
3. Bylaws so provide
4. May be the most appropriate in terms of where we are organizationally as this ensures survivability

C. Dues paying membership?

1. Requires defining “members,” which means creating close-ended categories of who is “in” and “out”
2. What amount? Dues must ensure that Latin American members would not be priced out
3. Too formal? Alienating?

D. Action items:

1. Prepare a survey of membership about governance issues, such as whether LatCrit members want or see a need to create a definition of membership, whether dues payment is desirable, etc.
2. Steve & Sylvia to review Bylaws & make recommendations to Board.
3. Method of Election to Board: The Board should consist of 12 members, 6 former chairs from conferences (on rotating basis), and 2

are the co-directors of LatCrit. Inc. These 8 would then select the remaining board members based on sweat equity, promise of future projects, and institutional connections, & knowledge base that these members could offer the organization. (Nancy)

4. Board membership should be staggered to preserve knowledge base and smooth transitions (all)
5. Need for transparency of election process (all).
6. Deliver information about formal structure to LatCrit participants in manageable form with sufficient frequency to ensure that all, or most, people actually are informed about governance structure.

VI. PRAXIS

A. Importance of delivering on praxis

1. Possible legitimacy issue: new entrants may ask what have you done? Are you all talk? etc.
2. Rethinking praxis with each conference and symposium cycle
3. Are we just “talking heads”?

B. Past “mistakes”

1. “Tours” to areas where we have sites may appear imperial
2. Contrast with the Hawaii POC/APA 2000 conference

C. Bringing more practicing lawyers to the conferences, making sure that it is part of each programs

1. Allows invited lawyers (some from overseas) to have someone with whom to form coalitions, exchange information, etc.
2. Contextualizes theory.

D. Site praxis

1. “Using the hammer” as Praxis -- build houses for local community & have students work with professors, senior & new entrants in a physical project. (Hugo)
2. Ask local communities how we can be helpful. From past experience, these groups are likely to respond with requests for \$ or help in grant writing.
3. Going to local high schools & talking about being lawyer etc. (Gil)

E. LatCrit Praxis

1. Litigation: very important
 - a. Voting rights/redistricting ?
 - b. Keith : start project within LatCrit – possible action items with state legislatures given new population increases of Latino/as and Asian Americans
 - c. Use media to publicize Praxis agenda? Perhaps in Portland
2. Consider staging media event in Portland, or within the cycle year.
3. Prepare to write briefs, etc.
4. If Bush appoints Supreme Court nominee, testify, particularly if the nominee is Latino/a.
5. K-12 education project?

DAY 2. VII: International Summer Colloquia

A. What are they?

1. LatCrit outside the US, make LatCrit more international
2. LatCrit professors learn from an international experience, read new texts, exposed to new ideas.
3. Begin new discourses with progressive academics and lawyers who are struggling with similar objectives to LatCrit.

B. Potential problems

1. language
2. funding
3. site planning/conferences become more difficult
4. Keep global position of the US in view. (Tayyab's 4/30/01 email: Latcrit is a project within the legal academy of the US. Consequently the critical counter-hegemonic move that it represents also inescapably partakes of the privileges that issue from being "American." It is imperative that we always remain mindful of this positionality as we approach the spaces outside the US. It is important that the needs and plans for the summer colloquium be framed in its context: the need to create a sustainable critical space within the general context of the study abroad programs of American law schools. Partnerships with entities situated out there should be on the basis of mutual need and benefit. Going global should be a vehicle not so much to expand but to deepen our critique of issues that are "here and now." The point of departure should not be that "we have some

thing to give to them." It should be "we may have shared concerns and exchange of ideas and energies may help us all.")

C. Countries in the immediate future?

1. Colombia (Jorge Esquirol & Liliana Obregon)
2. Chile (Hugo)
3. South Africa

D. Beyond ...

1. Ukraine
 - Why? a. Economically distressed, language issues, ethnicity – discrimination toward Russian & gypsies.
 - b. Theme of governance, corruption will be key
 - c. “Civilian democracy” alternatives to neo-liberal markets project
 - d. Opposition to southward expansion of the EU
 - e. U. Oregon has contacts in Ukraine.
2. Brazil
3. India
4. Hong Kong
5. China
6. Australia/new Zealand
7. Mexico
8. Hawaii

E. Themes for the Summer Colloquia. Track themes from country to country; build workshops to track themes and interweave with LatCrit conferences. (Tayyab’s 4/30 email, Themes should not appear to rehearse the focus of the "Washington consensus" We may want to sharpen the focus to train on issues that dovetail with LatCrit's primary concerns in its primary area of operation, issues of subordination in the US and their relation with the American legal academy.)

- 1 **Reconciliation.** See **VIII.E** below
2. **Good governance** (“governabilidad”)
 - a. Corruption & anti-corruption framework was rejected, but this remains an important theme that needs to be addressed under “good governance” framework. The discourse of corruption can be strategically deployed; for example,

(i) RULE OF LAW projects redeploys American capitalism. Nominally, this is a project that secures enforceability of contracts for American multinationals; however, arguably, this project maintains North-South dominant relationship. US foreign aid funds pouring into Nicaragua are primarily for the ABA's "rule of law project."

(ii) James Galfi's thesis in his recent book is that discourse of "good governance" is another form of Edward Said's *Orientalism*. Such images now drive international capitalism. This rhetoric stresses US as a place of "good governance" against which we construct images of the South.

(iii) Price Waterhouse has developed an index that rates countries as a place to do business constructs a "merit" system of funds/ capital through this rating index. It is based on IMF factors. Gives a country a number, "corruption" is part of the computation. Like Moody's in the municipal bonds. If a country is given a low number than capital will not flow into this country because it is deemed a risky investment

b. Governance, nonetheless, is a "real" problem. Whether a country is governable & there is economic and political stability affects middle class and impoverished; drives "brain drain" and immigration flight to the North of undocumented workers.

c. The growth of international organized crime also can be a part of this theme.

3. Human Rights

a. "Developing the third generation human rights" (See Lisa's article on this). How can you obtain security for people that is substantive and ethical, and not based on force?

b. Human rights should have broad coverage: substantive security, poverty/ redistribution/socio-economic rights; self determination; indigenous cultures; minority autonomy; decolonization; personal dignity.

5. Globalization

a. See past LatCrit Symposia

b. NAFTA, MERCOSUR trade issues

c. Environmental issues.

d. "Transition" to democracy issues.

E. Format

1. Workshops & conference. Workshops precede the conference and would involve more detail, rigorous reading groups, intense exchanges.
2. If Chile (Santiago) is linked to Argentina (Buenos Aires), two five-day conferences are possible.
3. Build in site visits within country

VIII. What is Going On in Chile? (Hugo)

A. Political positions, discourse, debates -- What LatCritters need to study and read in order to understand the state of legal discourse and political debates in Chile.

1. Political economic discourse
 - a. Right (more developed, dominates)
 - b. Center left (at margins, more about justice)
 - c. ARCIS/LOM (Marxist, a minority in this conversation)
 - d. Overlapping, not clear-cut divisions.
2. Social cultural debate
 - a. conservatives
 - b. liberals

B. History of Ideas. The traditional cannon that everyone needs to know for legitimacy of discourse within the Chilean legal academy

1. Jurgen Habermas
2. Nikolas Luhman
3. Norberto Bobbio
4. John Rawls
5. Alain Touraine / Pierre Bourdieu
6. Anthony Giddens

C. Progressive Chilean Academics involved in the social status debate and potential invitees to LatCrit Chile conference:

1. *Rolf Foerster* (Anthropologist, Universidad de Chile. Projects: indigenous people and multi-nationalism)
2. *Jorge Larrain* (Sociology, U. Birmingham, UK & U. Alberto Hurtado (UAH). Projects: identity & culture in Latin America, directs thesis such as identity in Guatemala, expert in Marx)

3. *Bernardo Subercaseux* (Anthropologist. Romance literature, U. Chile, very influential, Ph.D. Harvard, member of Comision Bicenteneria (Chile observes 200th anniversary in 2010), Asst Dean Humanities Dept. Projects: History of Ideas in Chile)
4. *Fernando de Laire* (Sociologist, U. Chile & UAH. Projects: labor law, development, contemporary political theory)
5. *Eugenio Tironi* (sociology, Catholic U. Touraine's disciple Projects: strategic communication, marketing, elections,)
6. *Tomas Moulian* (sociology & Marxism, ARCIS. Most radical on the list, communist. Wrote Best seller, now in 20th edition, *Anatomia de un Mito*, critiquing Chilean "common knowledge" that everything was going well, and issued first alarm cry that basic structural dynamics of Chile were sick)
7. *Manuel Antonio Garretón* (Sociologist., U Chile. Project: political culture)
8. *Pablo Salvat* (Sociologist, UAH, philosophy, of law. Projects: modernity and post-modernity; human rights)
9. *Jose Aylwin* (U. de la Frontera, son of the former Pres. Projects: indigenous rights)
10. *Jose Bengoa* (historian, President Universidad Academia. Project: indigenous peoples in general. Has represented Chile in UN on indigenous rights. Well-published)
11. *Hugo Fazio* (Economist, Marxist, ARCIS. Projects: income inequality)
12. *Elizabeth Lira* (social psychologist, UAH. Project: RECONCILIATION. Very interesting work, she has done studies on tortured families, exiled, & studied repentant army officers. Published *Violencia Social*. Member of the "mesa de dialogo" – public roundtable involving Armed forces, church, and Pinochet victims. Frequently co-authors with Brian Loveman, U. San Diego)
13. *Luis Vitale* (Historian, U. Chile, Marxist. Project: *Historia de America Latina*, multiple volumes in which he provides Marxist interpretation of history of Latin America)
14. *Marcelo Arnold* (Sociologist & anthropologist, U. Chile; disciple Nikolas Luhman. Project: social systems)
15. *Orlando Mella* (sociologist, CIDE. Project: study of immigration)
16. *Gonzalo Arroyo* (UAH- VP, economist, Jesuit priest, exiled under Pinochet, influential thinker)

17. *Carlos Hunneus* (Sociologist. U. Catolica. Project: Pinochet, (just published a biography))
18. *Carlos Portales* (Diplomat. Project: regional integration – Mercosur)
19. *Domingo Namuncura* (indigenous intellectual, writes about indigenous peoples)
20. *Claudio Grossman* (Dean American U., President Human Rights Inter-American Commission)
21. *Alfredo Jocelyn-Holt* (historian and lawyer, writes about the history of Chile, liberal)
22. *Teresa Valdes* (Sociologist, Facultad Latino Americana Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO). Project: “genero”/ gender)
23. *Sonia Montecino* (Anthropologist, U de Chile. Projects: gender, indigenous peoples)

D. Popular Topics and Events. Types of events and topics that typically receive funding in Chile & receive public attention.

1. Generally trade & telecommunication
 - a. NAFTA
 - b. MERCOSUR
 - c. Telecommunications, finance
2. Mining
3. Finance

E. ACADEMIC THEMES

1. **Reconciliation.**
 - a. Post Pinochet reconciliation vs. AMNESIA of Pinochet regime’s crimes.
 - b. “How can we reconcile if we never have been conciled”? (como podemos reconciliar si nunca hemos conciliado) (Hugo)
 - i. Putting it on the public record
 - ii. Should wrongdoers keep their jobs? Go to prison?
 - iii. What reparations are possible?
 - iv. Does Reconciliation involve a social penalty?
 - c. Retell what happened, as part of justice
 - d. Brian Loffman argues that the amnesia of human rights violations means that the same discourse gets recycled decade after decade, with the entreaty and justification of “let’s move on.”

2. Possible workshop theme: Compare & contrast with other models (Argentina, South Africa, Columbia), do these other countries track the discourse of “forgetting” and moving on. Possible invitee Randall Robinson, THE DEBT, who has tied US reparations to international human rights

2. **“Transition” to Democracy.**

a. Dominant discourse is that transition to democracy has occurred, and that problem is limited to “adjustment problems.” Poor are an anomaly within the market system; faith in markets. Neo liberals want order in the market, but resist change to market rules.

b. Hugo: “Leftist theorists in Chile are not asleep, and they are trying to ‘arm’ themselves.”

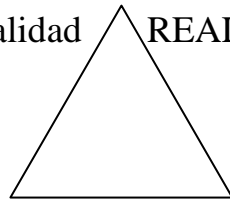
3. Indigenous rights, Mapuche conflict, much like Chiapas.

F. Three interesting projects in Chile: Innovations from which LatCrit could learn

1. **“2000 viviendas para el 2000”**(2000 homes for 2000)

a. Humanitarian project. Focused on people in their 20s. Its mission is to reflect on what is social action; seeks to facilitate reflexive social action. This group has created political leaders. Recently top journal named the young leaders in social action and all were involved with this organization. Aug. 15 is Day of solidarity and group does social work in 100 projects.

b. Realidad REALITY



Reflexion (Reflection)

Accion (ACTION)

c. multidisciplinary

2. **Amereida = America & Eida (Ilyad Virgil)** a trip in America

- a. Symbol is upside down South America,
- b. Santa Cruz in Brazil built by this group; entire architecture department leaves for Brazil, and they build housing
- c. A new pedagogy project, part of an architectural movement.
- d. Universidad Catolica de Valparaiso -- located in two sites, one is on the beach, 50 feet from the classroom.
- e. Don't believe in architecture as art, they have their own system, they produce their own language, & they don't copy
- f. ALBERTO CRUZ is a primary proponent. Teaches an obligatory course for freshmen, widely attended. His classroom is a huge balloon. Class ends with ½ hr poetry reading about the class.

3. DEBATE PAIS

- a. Symposia of academic exchanges through plenary system that lasts for three days. Its main topics are: justice, ethics & aesthetics. Principal aim is to foster debate within Chile.
- b. Working group (8 sessions from Sept-Oct) with famous people, discuss issues like equity, social justice.
- c. *Consejo Nacional Para la Superacion de la Pobreza* (funded by Ford), concentrates on how to end poverty in a practical way
- d. Publications: i) *Mensaje*, ii) *Persona & Sociedad* (UAH)
- e. Sponsored by: Universidad de Chile & Ministry of Education
- f. Locus: CASA CENTRAL UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE (buena vigilancia), in front of the presidential mansion. Santiago, Chile, August 28-30.

G. Other points of interest (possible site visits for Chile Summer Colloquium).

1. *Villa Grimaldi*. Site of torture, national monument, “very impacting” (Hugo).

2. *Neruda Foundation*. House of Pablo Neruda. Foundation that sponsors poets.
3. *Asociacion de Detenidos Desaparecidos* (Association of Detained and Disappeared). Purpose is to find the bodies of “desaparecidos,” about 1000 still missing.
4. *Conflicto Mapuche*. Learn about the struggle of these indigenous peoples, related to forestry, hydroelectric, usurpation of lands, relocation, globalization. AUCAN HUILCAMAN, an indigenous political leader, won a trial in OEA against Chile. Aucan filed a claim against Chile when 734 protestors were jailed, and Chile violated minimum due process in the ensuing trial. The Government, not wanting to risk judgment, negotiated a settlement with Aucan and protestors.
5. If situs praxis is pursued, per prior discussion, one possibility could be a workshop for lawyers involved in reform of criminal law and criminal procedure. In Chile is transitioning from a written filing system to an oral system. Chile must learn oral techniques, how to direct, present arguments. That type of training is needed.
6. Possible site could be the Chilean Congress, which could be made available for the Summer Colloquium

Day 3 VIII. LatCrit PRAXIS

A. Why LatCrit PRAXIS?

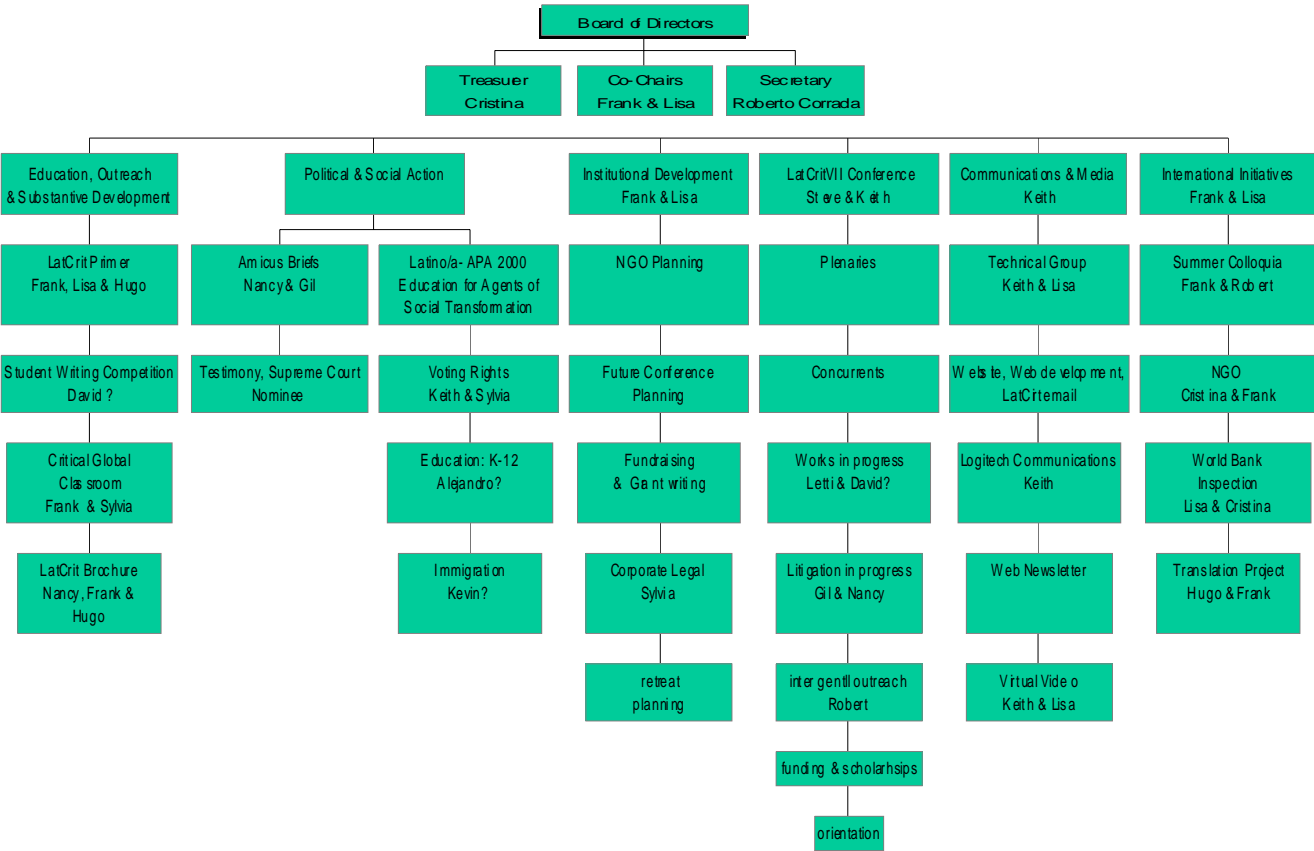
1. Begin with (LatCrit) action (praxis). Our internal action before outside action. Internal praxis is not separate -- there is no outside/inside praxis.
2. LatCrit Praxis sets up expectations and traditions of what people in LatCrit do.
3. LatCrit Praxis must find ways to preserve history & recognize people, but do so without making positions/titles easily capturable for the exercise of power, or construction of hierarchy within the organization.

4. Activism of the organization is the product of the people in the organization. People will rise to the occasion and make it work.
5. How do you talk about the project vs. those who do the project?

B. Possible Structure within LatCrit

1. See organizational chart below.

LatCrit Inc.



2. **Education, Outreach & Substantive Development.** These projects consist of the items 1-5 in the draft brochure, *LatCrit Theory, Praxis & Community: an Introduction* (attached). Their purpose is to be
- (i) responsive to the need to reach out to students; and
 - (ii) attempt to reclaim intellectual capital at elite institutions in the form of law students who do not have access to “Crit” professors.
- a. **LatCrit Primer.** “a compilation of selected texts from the symposia to introduce interested scholars, students, activists and others to LatCrit theory.” Lisa and Frank remain primarily responsible for the contents of the Primer and its update for each conference. Hugo will review the contents of the Primer and make suggestions as to content and help with the translation to Spanish.
- b. **Student Writing Competition.** “an annual event open to all law students and graduate students, with the best appears being presented at the annual conference and published in the annual symposium.” This was viewed as a relatively “low cost” outreach project, but very important. Frank and Lisa to contact David Cruz to see if he will be willing to head this program.
- c. **Cyber classroom.** “a national Student Faculty Listserv that enables direct exchanges based, in part on the Primer readings and student discussion in their local reading/discussion groups.” This project requires support of webdesign, and leadership remains open.
- d. **Critical global Classroom.** “employs summer study abroad programs to provide opportunities for students nationwide to study current issues of critical legal theory in international and comparative perspective.”
- (i) *The U. Miami* Spain Program is currently “up for grabs” and needs to be shopped around to LatCrit participants who might be willing to head it and could procure institutional support for it. In terms of personnel needs, the program requires that at least one faculty be “on site” during the four week summer program, and arrive in Spain one day before. There are up to six teaching positions in the program. Frank and Lisa have already developed the logistics and contacts.

- (ii) Sylvia will help Frank contact possible LatCrit participants who might be interested in taking up the reins. Frank will develop a set of materials explaining the program.
- (iii) *Potential contacts:*
 - Robert Westley, Tulane
 - Margaret Montoya, Mexico
 - Madelaine Plasencia, Tulsa
 - Jean Montoya, U. San Diego
 - Claudio Grossman, American U.
 - Chris Cameron, Southwestern
 - Alicia Abreu, Temple
 - Kevin Johnson, UC Davis
 - John Saxton, NYU
 - Margalynne Armstrong, Santa Clara
 - Nancy Ehrenreich, U. Denver
 - Dean Mills, University of Florida

e. **LatCrit Brochure.** The draft requires further editing and layout improvements. Nancy will take the lead, and work with Frank. Hugo will help in translation to Spanish.

3. **Political and Social Action.** If you never say same thing twice, as is the practice in legal academia, you fail to build consciousness and resistance communities. Repetition and translation allows LatCrit to invade non-academic spaces. Wherever LatCrit projects should be articulated both in Spanish & English.

a. Amicus brief project.

- (i) LatCrit would participate in amicus briefs in cases where LatCrit perspective might be really valuable.
- (ii) Alternatively, this would also give LatCrit an opportunity to file an amicus in cases where LatCrit member had taken on innovative and valuable litigation.
- (iii) Briefs could be posted on the LatCrit webpage and could supplement public education.
- (iv) This project could eventually involve World Court human rights litigation efforts, and strategic interventions could be

coupled with the Summer Colloquia praxis outcomes. (Possible example: the relative autonomy of Africans settled in southern Colombia is now begin threatened by the forestry industry. This might be a case for study in the Colombia Summer Colloquium and also a case study for intervention at a world court level.)

- b. Latino/a Supreme Court nominee.** The group identified the need to prepare for the eventual nomination by the Bush administration of a conservative Latino/a to the Supreme Court. What should be the reaction of? What should be LatCrit's Congressional testimony?
- c. Latino/a Asian Pacific Americans 2000: Education for Agents of Social Transformation Project.** The reported growth of Latino/a and Asian American populations (and the growing fear of white "minority" status) creates a new visibility for Latino/as and an imperative need/opportunity to educate the public and minority communities. This is a strategic intervention at a time that the majority of Americans are still formulating what it means Latinos/as are now the Nation's largest minority group.

(i) VOTING RIGHTS project.

Purpose: 2000 Census reports that Latinos/as now outnumber African American. Latinos/as have registered marked increases in non-Treaty states (outside of the Southwest and California) not previously populated with Latinos/as. Moreover, the largest 15 cities in the United States now have majority populations of people of color. The political questions that this project addresses are twofold: (I) How can Latinos/as be more active at the local government level? (ii) What does it mean whether Latinos get dealt out of state representation?

Keith proposes that this project popularize, and put in action, Lani Guanier's ideas about voting and representation, which Keith conceptually framed as 3 generations of voting rights. First generation is *formal* access to the ballot, e.g., *Reynolds v. Simms*, now transformed into *Bush v. Gore*. Second generation is the right to a meaningful vote, or undiluted representation.

How do you NOT “get screwed” in the redistricting process? For example, a minority population can get packed into a district, or alternatively, they can be fractured into, for example, five district council units. E.g., *GARZA v. County of Los Angeles* (Gloria Molin challenged 1990 redistricting pushing a more distinctive Latino/a district). One could think of the first generation issues as being formed around African American group identity and power politics issues, while the “second generations” may be vitally important to Latinos/as in large electoral vote states like California, Texas, Florida, Illinois, New Jersey and New York. Third Generation of voting rights is the right to meet and participate in meaningful legislative outcomes. Creates a condition for more dialogue, makes compromise and coalitions necessary. Mechanisms at local level to ensure that when minorities participate they are not constantly outvoted. E.g. cumulative voting.

This project aims to redefine “ethnic politics.” There have traditionally been two models. Ethnic machines like Irish in NY in early 1900s, Tammany Hall, etc., where things got done through spoils system and political machines, and involved elements of corruption. This created opposition among bourgeois white (e.g. Lochner), and backlash was aimed at local immigrants. What it involved was functioning of local networks. Second model are Jewish Americans (perhaps Cubans), which although numerically small, have had a great deal of political influence in part through monetary contributions and high profile. The third model is the focus of this project, Latinos/as & APA Voting Rights.

Possible collaborators: Keith and Sylvia will take the lead. LatCrit participants who might be interested and will be contacted include Letti Volp, Beto Juarez, Gil Carrasco, Audrey McFarlane, Sherrilyn Ifill, Marina Hsieh. Sylvia will contact activist organizations, MALDEF, NCAAP, Southwestern Registration Project, and investigate possibility of collaboration.

Possible products/outcomes: Pamphlet in Spanish and English directed at local political leaders on strategies for redistricting

(Keith and Sylvia); forming panel of experts available to political machinery in the redistricting battles going on in state legislatures (Keith); cooperative ventures with Southwestern Registration Project and activists organizations. (Sylvia). Keith to look into possibly getting students interested in a LatCrit/APA symposium issue on this topic.

(ii) **K-12 project.** Margaret Montoya has been working with UCLA education doctoral students, Lupe and Alejandro, in a project that aims to translate LatCrit into the field of education. How can LatCrit theories and insights be used in high schools and elementary schools? How can LatCrit theories and insights penetrate the canon through creation of materials, and diversification of school boards? One focus is the representation history of Latinos in that history, and generally, and analyzing. What is being reflected in the education books

Possible collaborators: Adrienne Wing, Gerardo Lopez, (Missouri-Columbia), Alejandro, Lupe, Octavio (Utah)

Possible products/outcomes: booklet; pedagogy manual; books.

(iii) **Immigration.** This seems to be a natural component of a Latino/a-APA 2000 Project, but the retreat only identified the project. Other LatCritters involved in Immigration issues might identify this as an area in which they are interested in taking on political and social action projects.

4. **Institutional Development.** This is the primary responsibility of the co-chairs of LatCrit Inc (currently Frank & Lisa), and begins to define the job description of the Co-Chair(s).
 - a. **Future conference planning.** Co-chairs coordinate with LatCrit participants procuring future conference sites. This is a key responsibility that ensures the survivability of LatCrit project.
 - b. **Retreat Planning.** Frank and Lisa planned the first retreat and took primary lead in discussions, particularly Day 1. In

subsequent retreats, the past year's attendees will take a lead in communicating what was achieved in the past retreat, and explaining the past decisions, organizational structure, and movement history ("there is a history to that ..."). Sylvia agreed to take on this function of "LatCritic Transmitter" at the Second Annual Retreat. The co-chairs will remain primarily responsible for the agenda and preparing the retreat materials. The LatCrit retreat will continue to be open to all LatCrit participants. There will be a requirement of preparation, however; for example, reading these minutes, corporate documents, the prior year's action items and memos, so that those who participate will understand past strategies/decisions.

- c. **Fundraising and Grant-writing.** Lisa and Cristina will work on this during the summer. See retreat materials.
- d. **Corporate reorganization.** Prepare questionnaire about preferences re: self-governance & use as disseminating info vehicle about formal corporate structure. Sylvia & Steve to review Bylaws & report back to board re: Do Bylaws concord with LatCrit goals and practices? Make recommendations for staggered Board. Register LatCrit trade name. Sylvia will take on primary responsibility as counsel for LatCrit corporate affairs.
- e. **NGO project.** This involves obtaining NGO status so that LatCrit could participate in international UN conferences. Frank will work on this with the help of Vernellia Randall. The goal is that by LatCrit VII, LatCrit will have NGO status secured.

5. **LatCrit Conferences**

- a. **Planning.** Conference Chairs lead the planning of each annual conference with the support of the planning committee. Part of the retreat was devoted to begin the brainstorming process for LatCrit 7. Structurally, LatCrit conference themes need to flow into the International Summer Colloquia themes, and International Colloquia participants and planners need to be included in the LatCrit Conferences.
- b. **"Litigation in Progress."** As part of the discussion on LatCrit litigation Praxis, the group suggested that LatCrit Conferences

and Lisa are aware of the video clips that might be useful for the video and will have to be involved in the development of the storyboard.

Goal By LatCrit 7 have a story board, & develop a “beta” video.
Possible LatCrit participants: Dennis Greene, Vernellia Randall.

- d. **Logitech cameras.** The retreat included a demonstration by Lisa of Logitech camera technology. Keith, Steve, Lisa and Frank will each purchase a Logitech camera as a Beta project to work out kinks prior to instituting it. This technology could help LatCrit 7 conference planning.

Sylvia will investigate whether conferencing technologies available through federal dispute resolution center could be made available to LatCrit.

- e. **Possible WEB Newsletter?** At various times during the retreat, participants identified the need to keep LatCritters abreast of developments and decisions made by the Board and LatCrit Conference Planning committees. If LatCrit expands to a more complex structure, as envisioned, the need to communicate activities and make decision making process transparent seems even greater. The retreat identified a need for developing a newsletter that could be transmitted via Email. A logistical problem is that the email list is incomplete (although thanks to the LatCrit 6 co-chairs the mailing lists should be in much better shape). However, LatCrit could begin with a partial email list and also post the newsletters on the website. No leader has yet been identified for this project.

7. **International Initiatives.**

- a. **International Summer Colloquia.** Planning groups and List servs to be developed for each Summer Colloquium and for each there will be a primary contact in the country and to spearhead generally. See details in Summer Colloquia are discussed in VII above.

- b. **NGO.** The activities of the NGO project, when it becomes activated, would fall under the International Initiatives. Tayyab's 4/30/01 email: The NGO option should be mindful that there are thousands of North-based NGOs out there with a very checkered record of their activities in the South. It is important that we get to know why, with a few exceptions, North-based NGOs are viewed with suspicion and resentment in the South.

- c. **WORLD BANK INSPECTION PANEL.** This is a future project to be spearheaded by Lisa and Cristina. LatCrit would take a look at World Bank project decisions. This would provide LatCrit an opportunity to interact with Third World lawyers.

- d. **Translation project.** The international effort depends on translation of LatCrit intellectual product. Translation needs to be an ongoing effort, both in terms of the Education Outreach and substantive development, but also in terms of conference planning.

Retreat Participants: Keith Aoki, Ignacio Barona, Steve Bender, Gil Carrasco, Nancy Ehrenreich, Lisa Iglesias, Sylvia Lazos, Cristina Prkic, Hugo Rojas, Frank Valdes, Robert Westley.

Prepare by: Sylvia Lazos

Date: May 10, 2001

> Only with such understanding we will avoid the pitfalls.