EVENTS

Thabisile Griffin, "Black Militias in the Era of Revolutions: Politics, Race and Labor"
Thursday, November 19

History of Science Colloquium: Claire Gherini (Cedars-Sinai Postdoctoral Fellow)
Monday, November 30

Brian J. Griffith, "Contesting the National Beverage: Wine, Beer, and the Battle over ‘Foreign’ Tastes and Habits in Interwar Italy"
Tuesday, December 01

IN MEMORIAM

RESEARCH PROFESSOR EMERITUS JUAN GOMEZ-QUINONES

Our community mourns the loss and celebrates the brilliant career of Juan Gómez-Quiñones, who died on November 11, 2020. Juan earned his B.A. in Literature, M.A. in Latin American Studies, and PhD in History, all at UCLA. After a brief stint as a National Endowment for the Humanities fellow at the University of Texas at Austin, he returned to UCLA as a tenured full professor in 1974. Juan’s research and writing ensured that he would emerge as a leading light in the first generation of Chicano Studies scholars. By envisioning a Mexican American past, he created a model of politically-engaged scholarship in line with the Chicano Movement’s political thrust as it emerged in Los Angeles and throughout the U.S. Southwest in the late 1960s and 1970s. At UCLA, Juan played a critical role in the formation of a Chicano Studies community, through the founding of the Chicano Studies Research Center in 1969 (serving as its second director from 1974 to 1985), an archive and library dedicated to the historical experiences of Mexican Americans, and of Aztlán in 1970, which is still the premiere journal of Chicana and Chicano Studies. Ultimately, Juan’s tireless efforts to establish a scholarly community dedicated to the study of Mexican Americans led in 1995 to the establishment of the Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies at UCLA, which now houses 17 full-time faculty members and a student body of about 1000 majors and minors. His work as the quintessential activist-scholar garnered him many honors including the National Association for Chicano and Chicana Studies Scholar of the Year Award in 1990 and the 2003 UCLA Ann C. Rosenfield Distinguished Community Partnership Prize. Juan’s wide-ranging intellect and expansive record of publication inspired
subsequent generations of scholars from a variety of disciplines to focus on the Mexican American experience(s), generating new lines of scholarly inquiry. He wrote about Chicano/a culture and politics, but also about anarchism, the borderlands, political economy, indigeneity, labor, gender and immigration. Juan was also a poet; his collection of poems, *Fifth and Grande Vista*, was a tribute Boyle Heights, the neighborhood he grew up in. In the span of his over fifty year association with the UCLA History Department, Juan left a powerful and lasting legacy, not just as an activist/scholar in the field of Chicana/o Studies, but also in ethnic studies more broadly, opening access and promoting equity in higher education.

Please click here for a post from the Director of the Chicano Research Studies Center.

LUDWIG (LARRY) LAUERHASS, JR.

Ludwig "Larry" Lauerhass Jr. died on December 29, 2019. A UCLA alumnus and employee as well as a generous supporter of both Spanish and Portuguese and History, Larry passed away in his home, in the company of his daughter, son-in-law, and grandchildren.

In addition to a BA in Political Science from UNC Chapel Hill, he earned at UCLA an MA in Latin American Studies (1959), a PhD in History (1972), and a master's degree in Library Science (1976). In 1968, Larry joined UCLA Libraries as Latin American Bibliographer; after he got his PhD he taught in both the History Department and the UCLA Washington DC program. He directed the Latin American Center (1978-1984), created and chaired the Program on Brazil (1989-1994), and coordinated the UC Education Abroad Program in Brazil (1995). He taught a number of courses on modern Brazilian history, Latin American nationalism, American monuments, and the memory and iconography of Hiroshima and the atomic bomb.

Larry is the author or editor of many essays and bibliographies on Latin American historiography, politics, and education. On trips to Latin America over twenty-five years as UCLA Bibliographer, Larry acquired well over 200,000 items related to Latin America -- approximately 40,000 of which are printed in or focus on Brazil, comprising one of the top US university library holdings in the field.

He crated endowments in UCLA’s Special Collections targeting 19th-century visual cultures as well as graduate fellowships in the departments of History and

https://history.ucla.edu/content/memoriam