Message from our Director

Dear Friends of the Gastón Institute,

¡Saludos! Greetings! I am pleased to share the summer edition of the Gastón Institute’s newsletter. We kicked-off our 30 year anniversary with some great events (described below) including a celebration of our estimado padrino Robert Hildreth, whose generous donation will support Latinx student success initiatives at UMass Boston.

We will be busy this summer coordinating the Talented & Gifted (TAG) Summer Learning Academy for bilingual Boston Public School students, planning the 25 year anniversary of the Latino Leadership Opportunity Program’s alumni reunion, and other upcoming events that we hope you will attend.

On behalf of the Gastón Institute we thank you for your support and hope you enjoy the summer!

Sincerely Yours,
Dr. Lorna Rivera, Director of the Gastón Institute

30th ANNIVERSARY EVENTS

A Year of Celebrations

We have recently launched new branding to celebrate our 30th anniversary. Stay tuned for all the events that the Gastón Institute is organizing and co-sponsoring, and make sure you grab a piece of cake!

Upcoming events:

English for New Bostonians
July 11, 9:30 am.
Ninety-one organizations, including chambers of commerce, private employers, community and workforce development groups, advocacy and philanthropic organizations, as well as ESOL providers, responded to ENB’s survey about challenges and opportunities for the integration of limited English speakers into our communities and workplaces. This event is a discussion about the survey findings, analyzed by the Gastón Institute, to determine the best strategies to support immigrants in the workforce and the companies that employ them.

Boston Through a Wider Lens
August 5 through 9
UMass Boston Bayside Campus
180 Mt Vernon Street, Boston MA 02125

A workshop for Greater Boston educators about the often neglected ways in which Boston’s history has been impacted and shaped by populations of color. We will take a hands-on, place-based approach, using visits to landmarks associated with local Native American, Asian American, Latinx and African American history. [REGISTER NOW](#) (a few spaces left)

Coming soon:
30 Year Anniversary Breakfast

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NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Gastón Institute Receives $1M from Long-time Supporters Bob & Diane Hildreth

On May 20, the Gastón Institute received a $1M donation from Robert and Diane Hildreth. During the signing ceremony at UMass Boston there was a panel discussion focused on the role of Hispanic-serving institutions in advancing Latinx student college success, including Bunker Hill Community College President Dr. Pam...
"The school is a statewide leader in educating Latinx students, and the Gastón Institute’s research and policy leadership are at the center of that important work. I’m thrilled to support UMass Boston and the Gastón Institute with this gift, and I hope it will inspire other philanthropists and our State House leaders to invest in UMass Boston. There is no greater investment," said Robert Hildreth.

We also hosted a special event on May 23 at the UMass Club to celebrate the Hildreth family’s donation and at this event we also honored all of our former directors: Miren Uriarte, Edwin Melendez, Andy Torres, and Idalí Torres.

ACCESS THE PHOTO ALBUM

Changing Faces of Greater Boston

*Changing Faces of Greater Boston* is a collaboration between the Boston Foundation’s Boston Indicators, the UMass Donahue Institute, and the four CANALA institutes at UMass Boston: the Trotter Institute, the Gastón Institute, the Institute for Asian American Studies and the Institute for New England Native American Studies.

Our collaborative research report tells the fascinating story of Greater Boston’s evolving racial and ethnic diversity. Some important findings include: more than 90 percent of our region’s net population growth since 1990 has come from new immigrants. Between 1980 and 2017, the state’s Latino population increased by 475 percent!

ACCESS THE FULL REPORT
Lorna Rivera and Trevor Mattos interviewed at BNN TV about the report

Andrés Torres Paper Series Award: New Recipients Announced!

We are pleased to announce the 2019 Andrés Torres Paper Series Awardees:

**Stephanie M. Huezo** (B.A., Wesleyan University; MA & Ph.D., Indiana University) is a historian of Latin American and Latina/o/x history whose work focuses on how communities organize to demand social and political rights using a critical pedagogy approach in both El Salvador its diaspora.

**Carolina Alonso Bejarano** (Ph.D. Women’s and Gender Studies, Rutgers University; M.Sc. Gender and Social Policy, London School of Economics; Law Degree, Los Andes University) is an activist scholar, writer and professor, whose work focuses on decolonial feminism and migration studies, particularly as it relates to interethnic immigrants’ rights activism in the United States.

Supported by the Hildreth Family Foundation, each $7,000 award supports the preparation of a scholarly manuscript focused on the Latinx experience in the U.S.

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**

In Pursuit of Equity, Accountability, and Success: Latinx Students in Massachusetts Schools

**Friday, October 4, 2019**
**Worcester State University**

The racial and income disparities in education in Massachusetts are well-known. Latinx students in particular are falling further behind despite decades of education reform and targeted programs created to improve achievement. Failure to address racial and income disparities in education (K-16) for Latinx students will
undermine the Commonwealth’s economic growth and viability.

This conference seeks to unite multiple systems and sectors around community, policy, and practitioner-centered solutions to addressing the current system of unequal outcomes in educational attainment and institutional treatment.

Deadline for submissions:
**July 15, 2019.**

APPLY ONLINE

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NEW REPORTS

**Latino Political Leadership in Massachusetts – 2019**

Authors: Bianca Ortiz-Wythe; Christa M. Kelleher; Fabián Torres-Ardila; Gaston Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston; and Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston

Our collaborative research with the Center for Women, Politics, & Public Policy finds that Latino elected officials do not have a presence in the State Senate, with only one Latina State Senator in office—yet having five Latinos in the Senate would be proportionate to the statewide Latino population. Only six Latinos serve in the 160-member House of Representatives; having eighteen would be proportionate. Other findings include: There are no Latinos in the state’s congressional delegation. In only one city, Lawrence, does a Latino serve as mayor. Read more about this research on Latino political leadership here.

FREE DOWNLOAD

The Political Leadership of Women of Color in
Massachusetts: Uneven Progress Amid Historic Advances

Authors: Center for Women in Politics and Public Policy, University of Massachusetts Boston; Gaston Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston; William Monroe Trotter Institute, University of Massachusetts Boston; Institute for Asian American Studies, University of Massachusetts Boston; and Institute for New England Native American Studies, University of Massachusetts Boston.

This fact sheet updates the 2015 Profiles in Leadership: Women of Color Elected to Office in Massachusetts report which documented the electoral leadership of 94 women of color who had ever served in office in Massachusetts, at least 34 women of color have been elected to office, reflecting a 36% increase in the past four years. Read more about the political leadership of women of color here.

FREE DOWNLOAD

“I don’t know if I have the courage”: Reproductive Choices in Times of Zika

Authors: Ana Rosa Linde Arias, Elisa Tristan-Cheever, Grace Furtado, and Eduardo Siqueira

The Transnational Brazilians Project’s Dr. Ana Rosa Linde-Arias, has been leading research about women’s views and attitudes about reproductive rights during the Zika epidemic. Women from various locations in Brazil, Puerto Rico, and the United States were interviewed about their reproductive decisions within the context of Zika epidemic. Findings suggest women’s health can be improved by strengthening culturally sensitive family planning services, as well as other public health interventions. Read more here.

FREE DOWNLOAD
NEW PROJECTS

Boston Through a Wider Lens

With funding from the Mass Humanities Foundation, UMass Boston’s CANALA Institutes are offering a week-long professional development workshop for educators August 5-9, 2019. The “Boston Through a Wider Lens” workshop aims to raise awareness among Greater educators, youth and community workers about the often neglected ways in which Boston’s history has been enriched by communities of color. The workshop uses place-based learning, fieldtrips to historic neighborhoods, and visits to landmarks associated with local Native American, Asian American, Latinx and African American history for exploring the struggles and contributions of Boston’s communities of color from asset-based perspectives.

Amplify Latinx: "Inventory of Latinx-serving and Latinx-led Non-Profit and Civic Organizations in Massachusetts"

Amplify Latinx, Greater Boston Latino Network, and the Gastón Institute are partners in a project to develop an inventory of the currently existing non-profit and civic organizations in Massachusetts led by Latinx or serving Latinx populations. If your organization primarily serves Latinx communities or is led (executive director/ board of directors) by Latinx leaders, please contact the Associate Director of the Gastón Institute, Dr. Fabián Torres-Ardila.

TAG/ALERTA 5th Quarter Summer Learning Academy

Funded by Boston Public Schools, the Talented and Gifted Latino (TAG)/ ALERTA program supports Latinx students and English learners through a combination of project-based classroom practices and a learning environment that fosters students' cultural pride and civic engagement in a five-week accelerated summer learning program at UMass Boston. For more information, contact the outreach coordinators Leidy Quiceno and Angel Cosme, Jr.

We appreciate your generous support!

DONATE NOW

Meet our Research Collaborators

We welcome our new fellows and interns this summer. Ava Marinelli is a Fellow with Leadership in Equity & Education and our Policy Fellow for the summer. We also welcome Ruth Rivas, our new Communications & Marketing Assistant Intern.
Congratulations to our graduating Class of 2019 and especially our Research Assistants Luidgi Lalanne and Ellie Cordero. We wish them and all of our LLOP graduates much success! Special congratulations to Ellie who will work with Chica Project.

We are sad to bid farewell to our Visiting Scholar Dr. Ana Rosa Linde Arias, who will return to Brazil with her family to work on environmental health research projects. Dr. Linde Arias will continue to be affiliated with the Gastón Institute as a Senior Research Associate.

Hall of Fame

It would not be the same without them! This section highlights some of our most amazing collaborators.

Research Associate
Marisol Negrón

Marisol is an assistant professor of American Studies and Latino Studies, and one of the core faculty members of the Latino Studies Program. She is affiliated faculty of the Women’s and Gender Studies Department and the graduate program in Transnational, Cultural, and Community Studies. Dr. Negrón is a founding member of the New England Consortium of Latin@ Studies and member of the Faculty Board at the Gastón Institute.

National Scholar
Junis Warren

Dr. Warren (Northeastern University, New York University, The New School) is one of the three awardees of the 2017 Andrés Torres Paper Series. She is an Adjunct Professor of Political Science at York College, City University of New York. Dr. Warren grew up in Brooklyn, New York, with three siblings and a single mother from Barbados.

Undergraduate Research Assistant
Ruth Rivas

Ruth (UMass Boston, major in Business

Graduate Research Assistant
Ava Marinelli

Ava is our new Policy and Advocacy Summer
Management with a concentration in Marketing) joined UMass Boston Women's Center to be part of the Social Media promotion team. She is passionate about uplifting and empowering other women through discussion, events, social media and recruitment. Ruth is from El Salvador.

Fellow. She is a Boston University alumna and has an M.Ed. in Urban Education Policy at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Ava is a leader at Angelenos Organizing for Education and 3rd generation New Englander with parents from Boston and Vermont.

Board Member
Claudia Green

Claudia is the Executive Director of English for New Bostonians since 2006. Under Claudia’s leadership ENB has developed a high-profile advocacy campaign, re-crafted its grantmaking approach and expanded its reach to serve over 1,200 immigrant adults in the City of Boston. As former Director of the Center for Community Economic Development at the Gastón Institute, Claudia oversaw research and community-based intervention strategies in workforce, small business, and neighborhood development. Claudia holds a Masters in City Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Community Partner
Center to Support Immigrant Organizing

CSIO works with immigrant organizers, leaders, directors, activists and their organizations to overcome barriers to achieving social, political and economic justice for immigrant communities. With support from a Healey Public Service grant, Dr. Patricia Krueger-Henny, College of Education & Human Development, and co-Principal Investigator, Dr. Lorna Rivera have been collaborating with CSIO on the Youth Ubuntu project to address the challenges faced by English Learners in the Boston Public Schools related to racism, xenophobia, and Islamophobia.

For the most updated information please engage with us and our community in social media