Message from our Director

Dear Friends of the Gastón Institute,

¡Saludos! Greetings! As 2018 comes to a close, I am excited to share the winter edition of the Gastón Institute’s newsletter which describes how we continue to do research and community development projects that inform public policies affecting Latino communities in Massachusetts.

In 2019, the Gastón Institute will celebrate its 30 year anniversary, and we hope you will join us for special events we will host throughout the year to commemorate the legacy and impact of our transformative work.

We also look forward to celebrating the 25 year anniversary of our Latino Leadership Opportunity Program (LLOP). LLOP was established by the national consortium of Inter-University Programs on Latino Research (IUPLR), and today it remains the only existing LLOP chapter in the United States—so we are extremely proud to welcome a new cohort of LLOP students in the Spring semester for this historic program.

Finally, this newsletter will share some important opportunities for young scholars and activists, and we include links to our latest "Latinos in Massachusetts" series of demographic reports by selected areas. On behalf of the Gastón Institute we thank you for your support of our mission and we wish you all very happy holidays!

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

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CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Andrés Torres Paper Series Award

We are pleased to announce a Call for Proposals for the Andrés Torres Paper Series Award—a national call for scholars who have completed their dissertation research or obtained their doctoral
degrees in the past five years.

The Gastón Institute will award two grants of $7,000 for the preparation of a scholarly manuscript focused on any of the following three broad areas of the Latino/a experience:

(1) the connection between immigration and community formation;
(2) transnational linkages; and
(3) inter-Latino relations and relations between Latinos and other racial/ethnic groups.

Proposal Due: March 11, 2019
Awardee Announced: April 15, 2019

APPLY NOW

Robert Hildreth Latin America Internship Award

Sponsored by the Gastón Institute and the generosity of Robert and Diane Hildreth, the Hildreth Latin America Internship Award provides approximately $3,000 for UMass Boston students to travel and research in Latin American or Caribbean countries.

Current international partners include Facultad Latinoamericana De Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) in Ecuador, University of Quintana Roo and Sistema de Universidades Estatales de Oaxaca (SUNEO) in Mexico, Fundación Vínculos in Bogotá, Colombia.

Please contact us if you are a student who is interested in conducting research in the Caribbean or Latin America, or if you know of any potential candidate.

Proposal Due: February 19, 2019
Awardee Announced: March 18, 2019

APPLY NOW
NEW REPORTS

Latinos in Massachusetts Selected Areas

Gastón Institute researchers have produced new demographic reports focusing on Latinos in the cities/towns of Brockton, Fall River, Marlborough, Methuen, New Bedford, Taunton, Watertown, West Springfield and Winthrop.

These reports include overviews of each city/town’s Latino population, education, labor force participation, housing and health insurance status.

FREE DOWNLOAD

CURRENT PROJECTS

The Youth Ubuntu Project

This Healey Public Service grant is led by Dr. Patricia Krueger-Henny, College of Education & Human Development, and Gastón’s Dr. Lorna Rivera in collaboration with African Community Economic Development of New England (ACEDONE) and the Center to Support Immigrant Organizing (CSIO). The Youth Ubuntu project is guided by Participatory Action Research to address the challenges faced by English Learners in the Boston Public Schools related to racism, xenophobia, and Islamophobia. Teams of Latinx and Somali youth researchers are documenting their experiences and making policy recommendations to Boston Public Schools.

Boston Foundation and Donahue Institute: "Changing Faces of Boston Demographics"

The Institute for Asian American Studies, Trotter Institute, Institute for Native New England Studies, and the Gastón Institute are working with the Boston Foundation and Donahue Institute on a research report that examines racial/ethnic demographic changes in Massachusetts and highlights social-economic outcomes such as educational attainment, housing, political representation and other quality of life factors. This
collaborative research maximizes the strengths of each of the CANALA institutes who are providing analysis about the social issues, political contexts, and well-being affecting different racial/ethnic communities in MA.

**English for New Bostonians: "English Works Campaign"**

We are collaborating with English for New Bostonians (ENB), providing technical assistance and data analysis of ENB's recent statewide English for Speakers of Other Language (ESOL) policy survey. Our institute will produce a report this winter that identifies challenges and opportunities in meeting the English language needs of Latinos and other immigrants in Massachusetts, and updating the policy agenda of ENB's statewide English Works Campaign.

We appreciate your generous support!

**DONATE NOW**

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**Meet our Research Collaborators**

**New semester, new young promising talent!**

We are always excited to receive new collaborators:

We are delighted to welcome to our staff LLOP alumni, Leidy Quiceno and Angel Cosme who are the new Community Outreach Coordinators for the Talented and Gifted (TAG) Latino Programs and Proyecto Alerta.

Our Latino Student Success coordinator, Elaine Ramos-Rodriguez, will be leaving her position to pursue graduate studies at Lesley University. We wish Elaine the very best in her future endeavors and are truly grateful for her outstanding work with the Latino Student Success Initiative.

**Hall of Fame**

**It would not be the same without them!**

This section highlights some of our most amazing collaborators.
Dr. Shapiro is an Associate Professor of Psychology with expertise in clinical psychology, family life cycle transitions and family development. She has been a long-time collaborator with our Institute and has been instrumental in involving undergraduate students as part of our research. She will also be the Spring 2019 LLOP instructor and she currently serves on the Institute’s Faculty Advisory Board.

Dr. Linde-Arias is an environmental health scientist. She has a Masters degree in Genetics, Oviedo University in Spain and a doctoral degree in Environmental Sciences at Hokkaido University in Japan. At UMass Boston she works with Dr. Eduardo Siqueira on her research project “Women, Reproduction and Family Life in the Time of Zika.”

Pfen is an Anthropology major at UMass Boston, with a minor in Environmental Science. She is a research assistant for the Latino Leadership Opportunity Program evaluation project. Pfen is from Malaysia and has lived in Chile for a year, where she learned Spanish.

Franklin Ortiz is currently a graduate student in the Transnational, Cultural and Community Studies graduate program at UMass Boston. He has been part of the Success Boston program. He has worked as a counselor for elementary and middle school students in the South End. He is of a Dominican and Puerto Rican descent.
Tariana V. Little

Tariana Little is the CEO and co-founder of EmVision Productions, a mission-driven media agency in Boston. She is an LLOP alumna and a Doctor of Public Health candidate at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health. She serves as co-chair of the Institute’s Community Advisory Board.

Edward M. Kennedy Institute

After three years co-organizing Involucrate to celebrate Hispanic Heritage and encourage the young Latinx of Massachusetts to be civically involved, we can say that the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate is a one-of-a-kind partner that we are privileged to work with.

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