

CALL FOR PAPERS

1st Mesoamerican Studies Center (MASC) Conference

“Mesoamericans in California: Immigrants’ Resistance, Social Movements, Rights, and Memory”

Conference date: Friday November 3, 2017

The University of California Merced’s Mesoamerican Studies Center has undertaken a project led by faculty and students to advance understanding and formulate plans of action that address issues pertaining to Mesoamerican immigrants in the US, social movements, human rights, and memory of Mesoamerican cultures and societies which have nurtured massive displacements towards the US. MASC will host a one-day conference to showcase research by emerging scholars in the humanities and social sciences. The conference will be held on November 3, 2017, on the University of California Merced campus located in the heart of the Central Valley of California. Our students are 51% Latina/os, 21% Asian, and 28% from a myriad of diverse origins. The conference will offer ample opportunities for interdisciplinary exchange on topics such as socially engaged scholarship, enhancing strategic issues of inequality, power & social justice, sustainability and human health, immersion in local languages, cultures, and histories of Mesoamerica, or studies of the geographical or translocal sites of Mesoamerican civil societies. It will also address current events of critical interest to the Mesoamerican and Latina/o communities.

Scholars, especially graduate and undergraduate students, are invited to propose papers no more than 20 minutes in length.

Please send a **250-word abstract** to:

MASC Conference Program Committee

c/o Arturo Arias and Paul Almeida

aarias26@ucmerced.edu palmeida@ucmerced.edu

Deadline: September 1, 2017

Keynote Speakers:

Verronica Terriquez received her Ph.D. in Sociology at the University of California Los Angeles, her M.A. in Education at the University of California Berkeley, and her B.A. in Sociology at Harvard University. Her research examines how individuals' demographic characteristics – as well as their ties to civic organizations, schools, and other institutions – reproduce or challenge patterns of social inequality. Much of her research has implications for policies affecting low-income, immigrant, and Latino communities. Dr. Terriquez has prior experience working as a community organizer and volunteer for



various education reform, immigrant rights, labor rights, and racial justice efforts. She is the principal investigator of the California Young Adult Study and the Youth Leadership and Health Study. She has published “Intersectional Mobilization, Social Movement Spillover, and Queer Youth Leadership in the Immigrant Rights Movement.” (2015; *Social Problems*); “Training Young Activists: Grassroots Organizing and Youths’ Civic and Political Trajectories.”(2015; *Sociological Perspectives*); “Intergenerational Family Relations, Civic Organizations, and the Political Socialization of Second Generation Immigrant Youth” (2014; *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*); and “Trapped in the Working Class?: Prospects for the Intergenerational (Im) mobility of Latino Youth” (2014; *Sociological Inquiry*) as her latest major journal articles.



Charles R. Hale holds a joint appointment as Professor in the departments of African and African Diaspora Studies (AADS), and Anthropology at The University of Texas at Austin. From 2009 to 2011, he served as Director of the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LLILAS). Since 2011 he has served as Director of LLILAS Benson Latin American Studies and Collections, a partnership between LLILAS and the world-renowned Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection. Professor Hale’s scholarly interests include identity politics, racism, neoliberalism, and resistance among indigenous peoples of Latin America. He is author of: *Resistance and Contradiction: Miskitu Indians and the Nicaraguan State, 1894-1987* (Stanford, 1994), and “*Más que un indio ...*” *Racial Ambivalence and Neoliberal Multiculturalism in Guatemala* (SAR, 2006). He is co-editor (with Darío Euraque and Jeffrey Gould) of *Memorias del mestizaje: Cultura política en Centroamérica, 1920 al presente* (CIRMA, 2004); editor of *Engaging Contradictions: Theory, Politics, and Methods of Activist Scholarship* (UC Press, 2008); and author of numerous

articles in his areas of interest. He was president of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) from April 2006 through October 2007.

Iris Montero currently teaches in the Science and Technology Studies Program at Brown University. She is a historian of early modern science and medicine working on European, Latin American and indigenous traditions of natural knowledge production. She received her Ph.D. in the History and Philosophy of Science from the University of Cambridge, where she was the first Mexican recipient of a Gates Scholarship for doctoral work in the humanities. Her current book project focuses on the hummingbird as an object of scholarly inquiry across an array of fields, including the history of science, archaeology, anthropology, art history and environmental history. She has taught previously at the Institute of Philosophical Research (UNAM) in Mexico City. She has just published the book chapter “The Slow Science of Swift Nature: Hummingbirds and Humans in New Spain” in Patrick Manning and Daniel Rood’s edited volume *Global Scientific Practice in an Age of Revolutions, 1750–1850* (2016), and is preparing a book.

