HURACÁN, TORMENTA, STORM
WINDS OF CHANGE

MAY 2-3, 2019
H.J. PATTERSON 2124

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: LASC@UMD.EDU
Thursday, May 2nd

1:30 – 1:45 pm – Opening Remarks  
Natasha Piñeiros, UMD, Student Affairs

1:45 – 3:00 pm – Visionary Movements, Narrative Storms  
Discussant: Mariana Reyes, UMD, Spanish

Keisha Allan, UMD, Comparative Literature  
Writing in the Socio-Political Storm Under the Duvalier Regime

Cameron Busacca, UMD, International Education Policy  
Heidi Bloom, UMD, International Education Policy  
Libbie Randolph, George Washington, International Education  
Constructing the Revolutionary: An Analysis of the Role of Non-formal Education in Socializing Civic Values in Cuba

Lisa Warren Carney, UMD, Spanish and Portuguese  
Dreams of Disaster, Visions of Survival: Narrative Iterations of an Indigenous Struggle for Autonomy

3:00 – 4:30 pm – Forecasting Our Futures: Circulating Resources in Our Communities  
Discussant: Tulio Tablada, Johns Hopkins, Whiting School of Engineering

Ashley Henriquez, UMD, Electrical Engineering  
The Quantum Age: Applications of Materials in Solar Power

Helen Cordero, UMD, Government and Politics  
El Salvador’s Privatization of Water

Jorge Lopez Ortiz, UNAM, Urban Planning  
Integral Hydrometeorological Risk Prevention Model in Veracruz City

Gavvyn Flores, UMD, Criminology and Criminal Justice  
Dry Earth: An Analysis of Bolivian Water Security in the Era of Climate Change

Daniel Teodoro, UMD, Geographical Sciences  
Smart Collaborations: Network Patterns That Support Resiliency
4:30 – 5:30 pm – **Plenary Address**

**Hilda Lloréns**, *University of Rhode Island, Sociology/Anthropology*

5:30 – 6:30 pm – **Weathering the Storm: Lessons From the Academic Job Market**

**Britta Anderson**, *UMD, Latin American Studies Center*

6:30 – 8:30 pm – **Performance Night**
Students share their creative expression about the storms they have lived through.

**Friday, May 3rd**

10:00 – 11:00 am – **Creativity, Mental Health, and Wellness: How Art Helped Us Navigate Grad School**

**Analía Gómez-Vidal**, *UMD, Government and Politics*

**Víctor Hernández-Sang**, *UMD, Ethnomusicology*

11:00 – 12:00 pm – **Featured Presenter**
Anthropological Views on Puerto Ricans: Intersections with Caribbean and Latin American Societies

**Aixa Alemán-Díaz**, *NOAA National Sea Grant Office*

12:00 – 12:30 pm – **Lunch**

12:30 – 1:45 pm – "What Are You Doing Here?" A Graduate Student Discussion of Life and Method
Discussant: **Sabrina González**, *UMD, History*
Graduate students present their perspectives concerning the influences of their lived experience on what and how they study it.

**Kristofer Jon Reed**, *UMD, English*

**Lissette Escariz Ferrá**, *University of Pittsburgh, English*

**Ana Paula Nadalini Mendes**, *UMD, History*

**Natasha Piñeiro**, *UMD, Student Affairs*

**Nohely Alvarez**, *UMD, Architecture, Planning, and Preservation*
1:45 – 3:15 pm – Shockwaves: After and Against the Storm
Discussant: Natasha Piñeiro, UMD, Student Affairs

Jennifer Reyes, UMD, Public Policy
Mexican Immigration Policy Effects on Central American Migrants

Valentina Forero, UMD, Economics
The Edge of Peace: Why Are the Lives of Social Leaders in Colombia at Risk?

Camila Guerrero, UMD, Spanish, Government and Politics
Inheritance of Political Partisanship from Parent to Child: Case of Salvadoran Immigrants of the Civil War

Blanca Arriola Palma, UMD, Government and Politics
El Salvador: Building Remittance Dependency, Transnationalism and Emigration

Ana Paula Nadalini Mendes, UMD, History
Slow Food as Anti-Hurricane

3:15 – 4:30 pm – (Dis)placement, Design, Resilience
Discussant: Kristofer Jon Reed, UMD, English

Sergio García Mejía, UMD, Civil and Environmental Engineering / Center for Disaster Resilience
Predicción de movimientos migratorios pos-desastre a través de un modelo probabilístico en el triángulo norte centroamericano (Guatemala, El Salvador y Honduras)

Darien Brahms, UMD, History, Global Interaction and Exchange
Homelessness and Hurricane San Felipe: Disaster Policy and the Reinforcement of Power in Puerto Rico, 1928

Daniela Pardo, UMD, Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
Building Optimism: Community Design in Latin America

Nohely Alvarez, UMD, Architecture, Planning, and Preservation
Spatial Changes in Immigrant Communities by Climate Gentrification
4:30 – 6:00 pm – Keynote Panel
Making Waves: Perspectives on Huracán, Tormenta, Storm
Discussant: Ana Paula Nadalini Mendes, UMD, History

Isabella Alcañiz, UMD, Government and Politics

Daniel Alvarenga, Journalist, AJ+/Al Jazeera

Merle Collins, UMD, English

Wendy Osirus, Social Worker, MONDHA

Ana Ivelisse Sánchez- Rivera, UMD, Geographical Sciences

6:00 – 6:15 pm – Closing Remarks
Kristofer Jon Reed, UMD, English

6:30 pm – Reception

Music by:
Pablo Regis & Band
Son Cosita Seria

Catering by:
Kate Cozina (Chef Lucrecia Espinal)
Plenary Address

**Hilda Lloréns** is an anthropologist focusing on the Caribbean, the African Diaspora in the Americas, and on Latinxs. The thread that binds Dr. Lloréns’s scholarship is understanding how racial and gender inequality manifests itself in cultural production, nation building, access to environmental resources, and exposure to environmental degradation and harm. She is a professor in the Sociology/Anthropology Dept. at the University of Rhode Island where she teaches core courses in anthropology. Dr. Lloréns is the author of *Imaging the Great Puerto Rican Family* (2014), and of academic articles that include “Beyond Blanqueamiento,” “Latina Bodies in the Era of Elective Aesthetic Surgery,” “Identity Practices,” and “Imaging Disaster,” among several others. Her writing has also appeared in popular venues such as *The Conversation, SAPIENS, NACLA Report of the Americas, LatinoRebels, 80grados*, and others.

Featured Presenter

**Aixa Alemán-Díaz** joined the NOAA, Office of Oceanic & Atmospheric Research (OAR), National Sea Grant Office for her Knauss fellowship as the coastal ecosystems and resilience specialist. She obtained her Ph.D. in sociocultural anthropology at American University in Washington, DC. Her research compares the way in which the social background — place of residency, employment, education, and age — of residents, technical experts, and short-term visitors influences their social relationships with beaches and coastal bioluminescence in their everyday life. Like land, the coasts face pressures due to the multiple uses, or on-site activities, such as recreation, biodiversity conservation, scientific research, and public uses. Prior to her doctoral degree, Aixa completed an M.A. in anthropology at Rutgers University and a bachelor's as a double major in psychology and anthropology at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. Aixa’s professional experiences reflect a commitment to foster discussions around research through her work in the academic, public, and non-profit sectors. As a person born and raised in the archipelago of Puerto Rico, she plans to continue to develop projects that are ethnographic and qualitative in nature in regard to those living and using the coasts of Puerto Rico and of similar areas elsewhere in the world.
**Isabella Alcañiz** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Government and Politics, University of Maryland (UMD). Her research on environmental and climate politics, social inequality, international financial mechanisms for climate change, the state in the global south, and Latin American politics has been published in the *British Journal of Political Science*, *World Politics*, *Latin American Research Review*, *Latin American Politics and Society*, *Water Policy*, *Environmental Science & Policy*, and elsewhere. In 2016, she published her book *Environmental and Nuclear Networks in the Global South: How Skills Shape International Cooperation*, with Cambridge University Press. Dr. Alcañiz holds a Licenciatura degree in International Relations from the Universidad de Belgrano (Buenos Aires, Argentina) and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Northwestern University. Professor Alcañiz is also a member of the Leadership Council of the Mi Espacio program at CASA de Maryland.

**Daniel Alvarenga** is a journalist based in Washington, DC. He currently works as a video producer for AJ+, a digital branch of the Al Jazeera news network. His work includes reporting on politics, social movements, and climate justice in Central America and the U.S. He’s the son of refugees who fled the civil war in El Salvador in the 1980s.

**Merle Collins** is professor in the Department of English with an interest in Caribbean studies, African American/African diaspora, and comparative literature. Dr. Collins is a writer of fiction, poetry, and critical essays. Her publications include novels *Angel* and *The Colour of Forgetting*, short story collections *Rain Darling* and *The Ladies are Upstairs*, poetry collections *Because the Dawn Breaks*, *Rotten Pomerack* and *Lady in a Boat*, and an Authorized Biography of Dame Hilda Bynoe, one of the first local governors in the Anglophone

Wendy Osirus is a Haitian Dominican social worker in the Dominican Republic who primarily works with Haitian and Haitian Dominican migrant communities. He founded the NGO MONDHA (Movimiento por los Derechos Humanos, la Paz y la Justicia Global) which focuses on providing medical services to children of vulnerable families, and helping undocumented immigrants to get the necessary documents in poor Haitian communities in bateyes (housing communities within sugarcane plantations) in the Northern region of the country. Also, he is founder of a new small political party, Partido Popular Unión Haitiana (PPUH). He has worked in the division of migrants in the Jesuit organization Centro Montalvo in the D.R. that works with Haitian immigrants. Currently, he is running a reforestation project in Haiti through MONDHA, dedicated to not only planting trees but also offering educational workshops about conservation to members of rural communities. In 2010, he returned to Haiti to assist with post-earthquake recovery efforts.

Ana Ivelisse Sánchez-Rivera is a Human Geographer with a background in Cognitive and Social Psychology. Her undergraduate research at the University of Puerto Rico was based on discriminatory attitudes against Dominicans living in Puerto Rico. She completed her MA in Multicultural Geography at SUNY Binghamton. Her thesis expanded on how patterns of racial whitening changed by places on the Island and the importance of these when identifying xenophobic attitudes against Dominicans. She recently completed her Ph.D.
at the University of Maryland in the Geography Department. Her work
to Identity Process Theory and its position about people-place
relationships. Her study focused explicitly on how places created by the
government and the narratives told about them influence racial, ethnic, and
national identity in Puerto Rico. Her recent work is inspired by her four-year
experience teaching geography courses related to climate change and her
involvement in inter-departmental initiatives concerning climate change
and social inequality. Her current research bridges topics related to sense of
place (place-identity, place-dependence and place-attachment),
impoverished populations' lack of ability and/or unwillingness to relocate,
and climate change in Puerto Rico.
LASC Conference Social Media Storm

Post your pictures and comments to Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter, with the hashtag #HuracanConference. Be creative for the chance to win a mug and photo from the artist Víctor Hernández-Sang for the best social media post.

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Art: Vinícius Ferreira Barth and Lissette Escariz Ferrá

Graphic Design: Daniela Pardo

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Please visit our photography exhibit, with artwork by Victor Hernández-Sang, Lissette Escaríz Ferrá, and Santiago Monsalve Salazar.
Agradecemos especialmente a quienes han hecho posible esta conferencia.

Agradecemos a todos os que fizeram essa conferência possível.

Thank you to those who made this conference possible.

Graduate Student Conference Committee
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