

THE INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

Where passion and excellence encounter knowledge

In This Issue

News from the Director

Guest Spekaers

Celebration of Carnival at USF

Photos taken in Chiapas (Mexico) by Dr Padilla.



ISLAC in the Community

ISLAC- USF
"I Belong Week"

Faculty Highlights

Spanish Fair &
Expo

ISLAC Student
Spotlight

ISLAC Past Events

News from the Director

Dear ISLAC family and friends,

It is hard to believe that the Spring 2023 semester is almost over. I hope everyone had a great semester. Before we are off for the summer, I would like to reiterate the key role that ISLAC plays in USF and the Tampa Bay Area. ISLAC has had a long-time presence in the area and through research, teaching and service aims at improving the understanding of Latin America, the Caribbean and Latinos in the US. This certainly enhances our contribution to both, the Tampa Bay Area and the State of Florida.

I would like to share that last month, I participated in a conference in San Cristobal de Las Casas, Chiapas (Mexico). It was a transformative experience where knowledge and expertise was shared by peoples from different local or indigenous communities, mainly women. New methodologies to building strong communities and collaborative practices were presented and put to work, with amazing results. I also learned a lot about the diversity and inclusion that can be practice from the bottom up, and how different indigenous groups are working with each other. Upon my return, I shared with my students in my Racial and Ethnic Relations class, more details about the different understanding of ethnicities and race that some of these communities have. Some of the pictures I took are in the front page!

I want to share some of my ideas for next year. **ISLAC** expects to be a pivotal player in the long road ahead, if USF moves forward to becoming a Hispanic Serving Institution. In the meantime, ISLAC has been actively engaged in ALAS, the presidential Task Force "Advancing Latino Access & Success" that president Law has created and in involved in the Status of Latinos (SoL).

ISLAC supports Latino/a/x students to be successful, thus next Fall will launch a pilot program, partnering students and faculty members. If you are interested, please reach out to me. **ISLAC** will also hold in the Fall of 2023, a Research Symposium to showcase the research carried out by our Faculty and students. Soon, we will send a Call for Papers. Also, this summer ISLAC is supporting junior faculty's research, if you have an idea, contact me.

I know that our **ISLAC** community support our goals and mission. If you want to contribute financially to support our students or other current projects fostering teaching, research and public service among USF faculty focusing on U.S. Latinos, the Caribbean and Latin America you can access this link for giving:

<https://giving.usf.edu/online/gift/f/390750/a/0>

Feel free to reach out to me with ideas and suggestions. Stay tune!

Have a restful summer,

Beatriz Padilla



Guest Speakers

"Tweet me to Prison: Protest, Social Media, Free Speech and Autocracy Today"

with David E. Hoffman

On February 21st, 2023, the Institute for the study of Latin America & the Caribbean (ISLAC), the Institute for Russian, European, and Eurasian Studies (IREES), and the Zimmerman School of Advertising brought David E. Hoffman to the University of South Florida.


Hoffman's presentation began with a story about a girl named Danuta Peredyna from Belarus. She was arrested for reposting a text on Telegram that criticized Putin and Lukashenko for the current war in Ukraine.

After making this repost, Danuta Peredyna was later picked up by police and arrested. She was sentenced to 6.5 years in prison. With this story, David Hoffman left students, faculties and visitors alike shocked by the manipulation and abuses of freedom of speech conducted by the Belarus government. Following the story, Hoffman asked the audience, "Could you imagine this happening to you?" Hoffman reminds us all that there are political prisoners around the world, young people, almost entirely not criminals, who are held captive for just demanding their rights.


Pulitzer Prize Winning Author

DAVID E. HOFFMAN

Tweet Me to Prison: Protest, Social Media, Free Speech and Autocracy Today




David E. Hoffman is a contributing editor and member of the editorial board of The Washington Post. He was previously assistant managing editor, foreign editor, Jerusalem correspondent, Moscow bureau chief, and White House correspondent.



TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023
2:00-3:15pm

Marshall Student Center
Room 3707

The talk is co-sponsored by:
Institute for Russian, European, and Eurasian Studies (IREES)
Zimmerman School of Advertising & Mass Communications
Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean (ISLAC)



UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA
College of Arts & Sciences

The event is free and open to the public. For reasonable accommodations, please contact cas-rsvp@usf.edu



Celebration of Carnival at USF



Photos taken during the event with MALACS student: Laurel Lee, Yasmeen Armoush and Barbada de Paula



On February 27th, the Institute for the study of Latin America & the Caribbean (ISLAC) and the Office of Multicultural Affairs hosted a Carnival event! The event included dancing, traditional Latin American & Caribbean foods, and talks regarding the history of Carnival in Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Tampa.

Yasmeen Armoush, a current Master's student in ISLAC and la Reina de Carnival en Tampa 2022 spoke about the rich history of Carnival in the Sister Cities, Barranquilla and Tampa. Then, Alfred Goldberg spoke about the Tampa Sister Cities Program and its meaningful impact in the community.

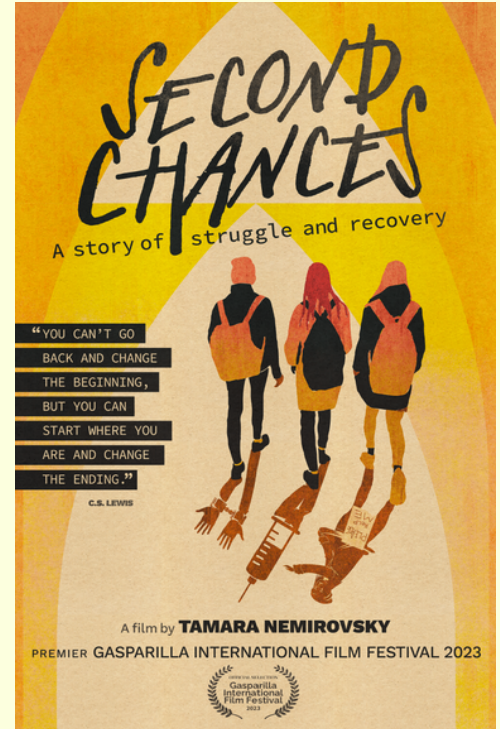
The program continued with representatives from Sarasota - Merida Sister Cities, Grisell Aleman and Michael Fehily, who spoke about Carnival in Mérida, Mexico, and study abroad opportunities in Mérida for USF students. Lastly, Neudy Carolina Nuñez, the Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs, shared the history of Carnival in the Dominican Republic.

The event had a wonderful turnout and it was a pleasure to share the experience of Carnival's from different countries with the University of South Florida students, professors, and community supporters.

ISLAC in the Community

"Second Chances" at the Gasparilla International Film Festival

This documentary, directed by Tamara Nemirovsky (ISLAC Affiliate Faculty), follows four individuals in Tampa, all of whom have faced the daunting challenge of recovering from substance abuse through the COVID-19 pandemic. The premier was not only sold out, but well received by the audience who engaged in a thoughtful discussion.



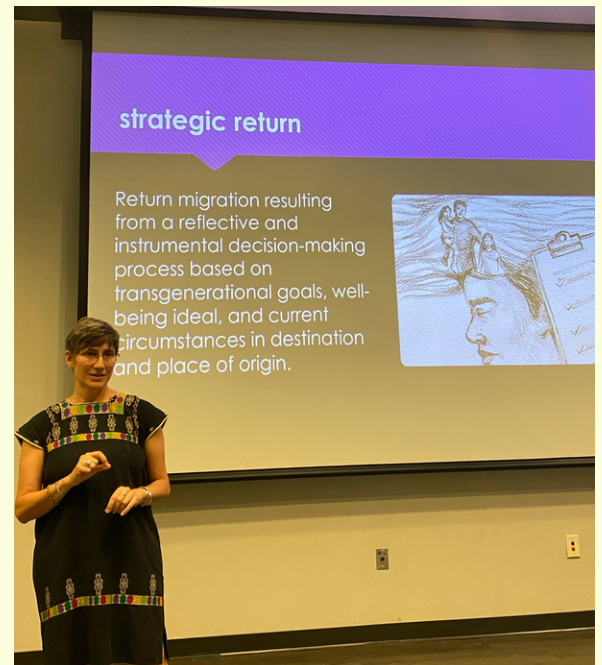
Director Padilla and Tamara Nemirovsky with colleagues during the festival, March 2023.

Guest Speakers

“Migration, Health, and Inequalities: Critical Activist Research Across Ecuadorean Borders” featuring Dr. Roberta Villalón

The University of South Florida had the opportunity of hosting Dr. Roberta Villalón on Tampa’s USF campus to discuss her new book, “Migration, Health, and Inequalities: Critical Activist Research across Ecuadorean Borders”. Dr. Roberta Villalón is a Fulbright Scholar, Professor and Chairperson of the Sociology and Anthropology Department at St. John’s University in New York City. Students and faculty had the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation.

This interdisciplinary and transnational study looked at the health and well-being of Ecuadorians in relation with migration in the United States, Spain, and Ecuador. Dr. Villalón examine how social inequalities, migration, and health policies in the sending and receiving countries impact the experience of migrants. This book will be helpful in creating policy that improves the health and well-being of those associated with migration and lead to improved equality and social justice for migrants.



A green event poster for the Spencer Cahill Memorial Colloquium Series. The poster features a portrait of Dr. Roberta Villalón in a circular frame. The text on the poster includes: "Spencer Cahill Memorial Colloquium Series featuring Dr. Roberta Villalón, Prof. of Sociology, St. John's University, SWS Past President". It announces a book presentation of "Migration, Health, and Inequalities: Critical Activist Research Across Ecuadorean Borders" by Roberta Villalón. A short description of the book is provided: "Drawing from an interdisciplinary activist research in Ecuador, the United States, and Spain, this talk offers a nuanced sociological understanding of the impact of outward and return migration on health and well-being." The event is scheduled for Monday, April 17th, 2023, from 12:30 - 1:45 PM at TECO HALL, College of Education. The poster also features the University of South Florida logo and the ISLAC logo. At the bottom, it lists sponsors: "Sponsored by: Department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences & Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean (ISLAC)" and "Co-sponsored by: Department of Anthropology".

ISLAC - USF "I Belong Week"

Spanish Fair & Expo

Students Spotlight



Master's students from ISLAC, Laurel Lee and Barbara Herrera were able to attend the Spanish Fair & Expo. They greatly enjoyed speaking with prospective students about the purpose of ISLAC and the program options available. It was exciting to see students' interest in the World Language program and hear about the numerable career opportunities that put Spanish language skills to use.



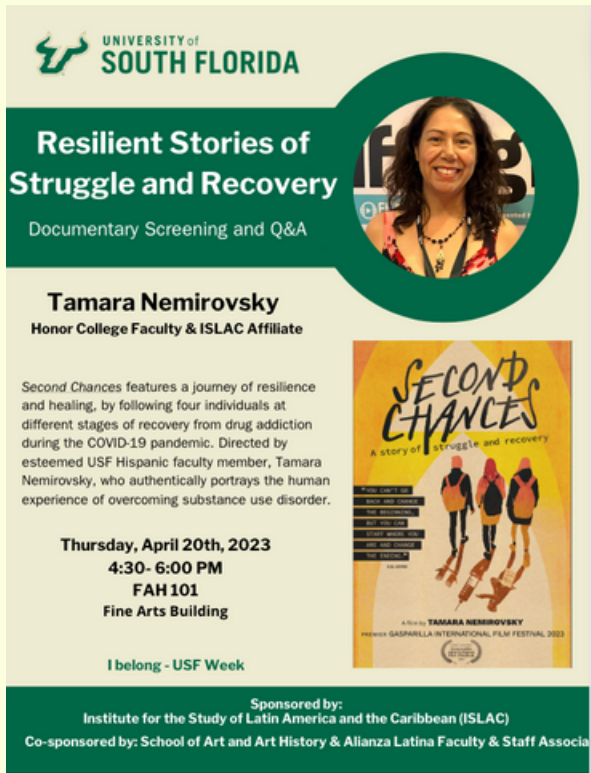
ISLAC - USF "I Belong Week"

Faculty Highlights

Presentation of Tamara Nemirovsky's Documentary "Second Chances"

Students, faculty, and community supporters had the opportunity to see the documentary, "Second Chances" on April 20th at USF.

This documentary shares the story of four employees of The Portico Cafe, which supports people transitioning out of homelessness, addiction, and incarceration, providing them with opportunities for job training and employment. The unexpected COVID-19 pandemic changed Nemirovsky's original vision for the film, but in the end she was able to show the impact it had on those who are marginalized in society.



UNIVERSITY of SOUTH FLORIDA

Resilient Stories of Struggle and Recovery
Documentary Screening and Q&A

Tamara Nemirovsky
Honor College Faculty & ISLAC Affiliate

Second Chances features a journey of resilience and healing, by following four individuals at different stages of recovery from drug addiction during the COVID-19 pandemic. Directed by esteemed USF Hispanic faculty member, Tamara Nemirovsky, who authentically portrays the human experience of overcoming substance use disorder.

Thursday, April 20th, 2023
4:30- 6:00 PM
FAH 101
Fine Arts Building

I belong - USF Week

Sponsored by:
Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean (ISLAC)
Co-sponsored by: School of Art and Art History & Alianza Latina Faculty & Staff Association



After the screening, there was a discussion with the Director and a participant from the documentary who answered questions from the audience.

Currently ISLAC is fundraising to add Spanish subtitles to the documentary, to share with the Spanish speaking community. If you wish, you can contribute here:

<https://giving.usf.edu/online/gift/f/390750/>

ISLAC - USF "I Belong Week"

ISLAC Past Events

Where Global and Local Meet

USF Global Health Conversation Series with Dr. Beatriz Padilla and Dr. Roberta Villalón

USF Health International
USF Health International Presents
GLOBAL HEALTH CONVERSATION SERIES
Transnational Migration and Health Access
Tuesday, April 18, 2023
9:00am—10:00am EDT

Roberta Villalón, PhD
Professor
Sociology and Anthropology Department
Latin American Feminist Activist Scholar
St. John's University

Beatriz Padilla, PhD
Associate Professor
Director Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean
Department of Sociology
University of South Florida

Dr. Roberta Villalón is a Fulbright Scholar and Professor of the Sociology and Anthropology Department at St. John's University. Originally from Argentina, her background in political science and international relations, together with her expertise in Latin America, has shaped her transnational activist scholar praxis distinctively. Publications like *Migration, Health and Inequalities: Critical Activist Research across Ecuadorean Borders* (Bristol University Press, 2022), *Memory, Truth and Justice in Contemporary Latin America* (2017, Rowman & Littlefield), and *Violence Against Latina Immigrants: Citizenship, Inequality and Community* (2010, NYU Press), illustrate her global feminist politics. Over the years, she has been an active member and served in various capacities in the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), the International Sociological Association (ISA), and Sociologists for Women in Society (SWS). Roberta is Past President of SWS and co-founded the Latin+ Feminist Sociology Collective.

Dr. Beatriz Padilla is an Associate Professor at University of South Florida and the Director of the Institute for the Study of Latin America and the Caribbean (ISLAC). She is the Co-Chair of the International Migration Section of the Latin American Studies Association, and represents the sections before the Executive Committee. She has been a consultant for the International Organization of Migrations (IOM) and advisor for the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union. She has coordinated several research projects funded by the European Commission such as "Multilevel Governance of Cultural Diversity in Comparative Perspective: Europe and Latin America", "Understanding the practice and developing the concept of welfare bricolage". More recently she led a project on "The Venezuelan humanitarian crisis: Migration, trauma and resilience". As a Global Feminist Scholar, her lines of research include migration, gender, health, participatory action research, diversity, inequalities and public policies. She has co-authored books such as "Trajectories of Refuge: Gender, Intersectionality and Public Policies in Portugal", "Exploring Welfare Bricolage in Europe's Superdiverse Neighbourhoods", "Diversity, Migrations and Citizens' Participation: Intercultural identities and relations", "International Migrations and Public Policies", "Gender and mobility in present time" and published articles in the *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies*, *International Migrations, Gender, Work and Organization*, *Health Policy and BMC Public Health*, among others.

Moderator:
Arlene Calvo, PhD, MPH
Associate Professor
College of Public Health
University of South Florida
City of Knowledge in Panama

Click [HERE](#) to register

Please forward this email to your colleagues across the world

On April 18th, 2023, Dr. Arlene Calvo (Salud Latina & College of Public Health), Dr. Beatriz Padilla (ISLAC & Department of Sociology and Interdisciplinary Social Sciences), and Dr. Roberta Villalón (St. John's University) participated in USF "Global Health Conversation Series". The speakers shared their insights on migrants' health inequalities. Dr. Roberta Villalón spoke about her research on migrant health in the US, Ecuador, and Spain. Dr Padilla spoke about migrants' access to health services at the local level (neighborhood) in the context of superdiversity.

If you would like to listen to the recording, it can be found on USF Health International's Youtube page, under the title "**Global Health Conversation Series - Dr. Roberta Villalón and Dr. Beatriz Padilla**".

Link: <https://youtu.be/ZpYWwvVGHJQ>

ISLAC - USF "I Belong Week"



For more information on our upcoming events, please visit ISLAC
webpage
<http://islac.usf.edu/>

We would love to include other faculty publications and events in our
next issue. Please reach out to Laurel Lee's email which is listed below.

If you want to donate to ISLAC to support our students, academic program
or research, please do so in this page

<https://giving.usf.edu/online/gift/f/390750/>

ISLAC INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA
4202 EAST FOWLER AVENUE, FAO 270
TAMPA, FL
[HTTP://ISLAC.USF.EDU](http://islac.usf.edu)



ISLAC - INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY
OF LATIN AMERICA AT USF



Follow us @ [islac_usf](https://www.instagram.com/islac_usf)



LAUREL LEE
EMAIL: LAURELL@USF.EDU