
LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

2020-2021



"Coexistence" by Eduardo Kobra, depicting children with masks, representing five continents and five world religions. The Lemann Center thanks Eduardo Kobra for permission rights to use this image.

THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

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Director's Letter

We renew hope at the close of this 2020-21 academic year amid the hardships of the COVID-19 pandemic. Academics, scientists, and growing numbers of government authorities have been coming together to better understand and stem the spread of this novel coronavirus. Though uneven and still marked by uncertainty, this renewal of hope can be felt at Illinois and in universities across Brazil, with students, staff, professors, and community leaders joining forces to protect one another and the wider world around us. *Tamo junto*. We are in this together.



I'd like to first extend congratulations to the students who will inaugurate the "Empower Brazil" program. Created in late 2019, this program will support Afro-Brazilians, indigenous Brazilians, and Brazilians with disabilities in Master degree programs at Illinois, funded by the Lemann Foundation in São Paulo and carried out by the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies at Illinois. By enrolling and training students from historically underrepresented groups who will make a positive societal impact in Brazil, "Empower Brazil" marks a continuation of our Lemann Center's commitment to social and racial justice. Four years ago, the Lemann Center partnered with Brazil's CAPES and the Ministry of Education in the Abdias do Nascimento Academic Exchange Program. In the last year of that exchange program, in Fall 2019, three Afro-Brazilian undergraduate students enrolled at Illinois. Now, two of those students will be the graduate students who will inaugurate the "Empower Brazil" program.

I'd like to also congratulate the students in the Brazil Leadership Program, an advanced training scholarship opportunity for Brazilian civil servants in partnership with the Lemann Foundation in São Paulo, now in its fourth year. Two civil servants enrolled in Master degree programs at Illinois through online platforms, while another eight students deferred and plan on enrolling during AY 2021-22, if travel restrictions are lifted and health risks are low. Key to the success of this program has been our partners at the Escola Nacional de Administração Pública (Enap, or National School of Public Administration) and the Universidade do Banco Central do Brasil (Unibacen, or the University of the Central Bank of Brazil). Through the Brazil Leadership program, Brazilian federal government servants in economic and financial sectors enroll in Illinois Master degree programs to build on the knowledge and skills they are using to redress Brazil's challenges as they so define them.

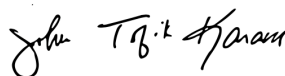
In addition to these relatively new programs that support advanced study at Illinois, our Lemann Center renewed its longer-standing support for graduate research in the humanities, social sciences, and STEM fields. Four Lemann fellowships were awarded to graduate students in Art History; Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership; as well as Spanish and Portuguese. Two Werner Baer Fellowships were awarded to Ph.D. students in Economics and Psychology. Last year's fellows showcased their multi-disciplinary research in the Lemann Center's third annual graduate forum. Held on Zoom, students presented their research about credit shocks on import/export firms, the past and present making of Amazônia, electoral politics at the grassroots and in social media, as well as decision-making in agricultural systems. They are our future.

The Lemann Center also hosted an exciting array of scholars in Brazilian Studies, including Mila Burns, Mary Ellen Hicks, James Macinko, and Cassio Turra. This year's Lemann Distinguished Visiting Professor was Armando João Dalla Costa, Professor of Economics at the Universidade Federal do Paraná. In an unforgettable performance on Zoom, the Lemann Center featured Adriana Calcanhotto in the event, "Music as Poetry: A Conversation With One of the Most Internationally Renowned Brazilian Singers Today."

Finally but importantly, I'd like to extend congratulations to Illinois professors, Jerry Dávila and Marc Hertzman, for being named co-editors of *Luso-Brazilian Review* (LBR), the flagship journal for Brazilian, Lusophone African, and Portuguese Studies. Jerry Dávila is the Jorge Paulo Lemann Professor of History, former director of the Lemann Center, and Illinois Global Institute Executive Director. Marc Hertzman is a long-time affiliate of the Lemann Center and a Conrad Humanities Scholar. They are co-editors for the history and the social sciences sections in LBR. These appointments speak to their cutting-edge scholarship and towering leadership in and beyond the field of Brazilian Studies.

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This 2020-21 annual newsletter is somewhat different than its predecessors. It is dedicated to those who lost their lives to COVID-19, those who survived it, and those who were spared but are now committed to redressing the inequalities exacerbated by it. With an eye toward marking this historic tragedy, this newsletter will feature a one-time special section that features brief reflections about life during the pandemic from some two dozen past visiting professors and former students of the Lemann Center over the past twelve years. This issue will also inaugurate a recurring section, "Checking in/ *Atualizando-se*," featuring a former visiting professor or Illinois alumnus. Their contributions remind us of who we were and why we are still committed to studying and making an impact, for the better, in our world.



Ao Alcance: Estudando na Universidade de Illinois

A [universidade](#) foi fundada em 1867 e é a segunda mais antiga do estado de Illinois. Com mais de 100 cursos de pós-graduação e somando mais de 11.000 alunos, é atualmente classificada como a 42ª melhor universidade do mundo e 11ª dos Estados Unidos.

Desde o ano passado, a Fundação Lemann firmou um acordo de 10 anos com a universidade para ofertar 14 bolsas de estudos destinados a alunos brasileiros negros e indígenas. As bolsas ofertadas pela Universidade de Illinois são a nível de Mestrado e cobrem 100% dos custos do curso e de vida, nos seguintes departamentos/centros:

- Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, College of Literature, Arts, and Sciences
- College of Law
- Department of Accountancy, Gies College of Business
- Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and
- Environmental Sciences
- Department of Education Policy, Organization and Leadership, College of Education
- Department of Finance, Gies College of Business
- Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, College of Applied Health Sciences

Estudando na Universidade de Illinois

Das 17:30 às 19:00



16 de setembro 2020

Shots of the event "Encontro Alcance," organized by the Lemann Foundation in São Paulo, meant to recruit historically underrepresented Brazilian students to apply to and enroll in graduate programs in the U.S.. Representing the University of Illinois were Lemann Director John Karam, Illinois Global Institute Executive Director Jerry Dávila, History PhD student Thaís Santana, and Portuguese MA student Flávia Batista.

Conheça os convidados!

John Karam



John é Diretor do Centro Lemann de Estudos para Brasileiros da Universidade de Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), onde atua desde 2015 como Professor Associado de Estudos Brasileiros.. Em sua função atual, é responsável pela parceria da Universidade de Illinois em Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) com a Fundação Lemann.

Jerry Dávila



Jerry possui a Cátedra Jorge Paulo Lemann de História do Brasil pela University of Illinois. Ele atualmente atua como Diretor Executivo do Illinois Global Institute, estabelecido em 2019 para promover o trabalho da Universidade de Illinois em Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) com centros de estudos de áreas internacionais e temas globais.

Thaís Sant'Ana



Thaís Sant'Ana é PhD candidate na University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Sua atual pesquisa aborda temas relacionados à História Urbana e Social da Amazônia e contribui com debates sobre a construção do Brasil moderno.

Flávia Batista



Bacharel em Relações Internacionais pela UNB atualmente está no segundo ano de mestrado em Estudos Brasileiros na Universidade de Illinois em Urbana-Champaign. Recentemente, Flávia conquistou a bolsa de pós-graduação do Centro Lemann para Estudos Brasileiros.

A Word From our Founding Director Joe Love: The Past and Future of Brazilian Studies at the University of Illinois

Joe Love, emeritus professor of History, was the founding director of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies. He reflects on his decades of scholarly and programmatic collaboration with Werner Baer that helped build and institutionalize Brazilian Studies at the University of Illinois.

Joe joined the faculty in History at the University of Illinois in 1966 and taught until 2002, returning from retirement to organize and direct the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies between 2009 and 2012. Werner Baer joined the faculty in Economics in 1972 and taught until 2016.

In June 2021, two of Joe's colleagues in History, Nils Jacobsen and Jerry Dávila, sat down to talk about his experiences with Brazilian Studies here, the contexts in which that work has been done, and future directions for Brazilian Studies.

How did Brazilian Studies get started at Illinois?

Eugene Davenport was first of course.

Davenport, who as Dean of the College of Agriculture from 1894 to 1920 traveled to Brazil, where he collaborated with Luiz de Queiroz, who established the University of São Paulo ESALQ School of Agriculture in Piracicaba.

But the modern beginnings of it started with me and a few years later Werner came. I like to think I played a role in attracting Werner to Illinois. I said we can be a kind of team, we are interested in the same subject. I already knew him – he was a tutor at Harvard when I was an undergraduate – and I reminded him of that relationship. When we first met, he was about to go to Brazil, eager to learn about it. At the time Juscelino Kubitschek was president and it was the most rapidly developing Latin American country. We talked a lot about Brazilian literature. So, I said why don't you come here, because we can get Brazilian Studies off the ground, we can be one of the best institutions in Brazilian Studies in the country. What else was there? There wasn't very much. Brazil was rising on the economic scene but there weren't many places to study Brazil. We could get things going here.

The library holdings were already excellent. It was one of the top research libraries in the country. I checked it out when I first came here, both the Brazil collection and the collection in Latin American Studies were pretty impressive. The librarian



Joe Love in Austin, Texas

for Latin America at the time was Carl Deal. Today it is Antonio Sotomayor. They have been really good about building the collection.

There was also instruction in Portuguese. That was one of the other areas where you could study Brazil and that built up over time.

Anthropologist John Karam, Professor of Portuguese, is the current director of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies, while Raquel Goebel directs Portuguese language instruction with support from the Lemann Center.

Joe Love's research has focused on regional history, especially of São Paulo and Rio Grande do Sul, as well as economic and political history, with a focus on development and the emergence of structuralist thought. It was as an economics major in that Joe first had courses with Werner, then a tutor in economics whose research had been on Germany and was shifting to Brazil. **From the time Joe began graduate research in 1964 until 1985, Brazil was under military rule. What were conditions like? How did they shape Brazilian Studies?**

When I began my dissertation research in Brazil in the fall of 1964, political conditions were already stifling. By the time I arrived at Illinois in 1966, the research situation was really depressing. A lot of people had been jailed temporarily or for a longer period. The dictatorship might have lessened academic interest in Brazil here because for graduate students doing

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research a lot of institutions were closed down. It was hard to do any kind of study. It put a damper on things.

Among the people jailed was Caio Prado, Jr., a big figure in Brazilian history. I happened to interview him in his home and two weeks later he was in prison. I was able to get some books to him while he was in prison, including William Styron's *Confessions of Nat Turner*, based on the slave rebellion, which had just been published.

Caio Prado, Jr.'s critiques of the military regime and its opposition drew a lot of attention. His *A revolução brasileira* (1966), about the coup won a major prize and was followed by *História e desenvolvimento* (1967). He was imprisoned in 1969 until the Supremo Tribunal Federal ordered his release a year later. Other Brazilian historians with whom Joe was close were also persecuted, detained, or fired, including Boris Fausto, Octavio Ianni and Emilia Viotti da Costa, for whom Joe helped obtain a teaching appointment at Illinois after being tried by a military tribunal and barred from teaching.

Amid this tumult, Brazilian Studies at Illinois grew through the collaboration struck by Joe and Werner. **What did Joe think was especially successful?**

I would point to my relationship with Werner. We did a lot together. And we wrote a lot of grant proposals. My particular task was to scope out the foundations and find out which ones might be interested. We worked together well. When he was enthusiastic about something, he got really enthusiastic. So we wrote proposals together. We were trying to build Brazilian Studies. It wasn't just in history and economics, it was a latitudinarian effort in trying to build a culture.

Werner was not so much a scholar of Latin America, but of Brazil in particular, and he had a great eye for talent which helped him bring many Brazilian students here. I think this specific interest in Brazil appealed to Jorge Paulo Lemann. We went to Harvard at the same time. I didn't know him at the time, but we both knew Werner, so that was a common connection.

Jorge Paulo Lemann funded the Center and we were able to design it the way we thought played to our strengths. We had that in institutional economics. I was really interested in endowing a position in history because historians don't change their regions of research, so if you have a historian of Brazil he

or she will continue to focus on Brazil.

What do you see as future directions for Brazilian Studies here?

You always confront the issue of whether to build on strength or expand the breadth of the program. Part of this has to be opportunistic. What is the most feasible thing to do? Given that, it would be good to keep attention on institutional economics. That would reinforce the cultural side too.

A more in-depth interview with Joe Love, conducted by Zephyr Frank, Glen Goodman, and James Woodard was published in *The Americas* as "Region, Nation and Social Science: An Interview with Joseph L. Love on 50 Years of Studying Brazil." (76:1, January 2019, 137-152).

Joe's and Werner's scholarly collaborations, which situate Brazil's economy in historical perspective and in global context, include:

Werner Baer and Joseph Love, "The Roots of Latin America's Backwardness," in *Rich Nations, Poor Nations: The Long Run Perspective* Derek Aldcroft and Ross Catterall, eds. Elgar, 1996.

Werner Baer and Joseph Love, *Liberalization and its Consequences: A Comparative Perspective on Latin America and Eastern Europe*. Elgar, 2000.

Joseph Love and Werner Baer, eds., *Brazil Under Lula: Economy, Politics, and Society Under the Worker-President*. Palgrave, 2009.

Joseph Love, "Latin America, UNCTAD, and the Postwar Trading System," in *Economic Development in Latin America: Essays in Honor of Werner Baer*, Hadi Esfahani, Giovanni Faccini, and Geoffrey Hewings, eds. Palgrave, 2010.

Joseph Love, "Industrialization: Comments," in *The Economies of Argentina and Brazil: A Comparative Perspective*. Werner Baer and David Fleischer, eds. Elgar, 2011.

Joseph Love, "Structuralism," in *The Oxford Handbook of the Brazilian Economy*, Edmund Amann, Carlos Azzoni, and Werner Baer, eds. Oxford, 2018.

Checking in / *Atualizando-se*

Here we feature a past professor, fellow, or scholar from the Lemann Center at Illinois in what we hope to be a recurring section of our yearly newsletter. This year highlights Professor Marco Bonomo, from Insper, one of the top post-secondary schools of business, economics, and engineering in Brazil. Dr. Bonomo was the 2018 Lemann Distinguished Visiting Professor at Illinois.

Increased Inequality in Brazil During COVID-19 Pandemic

The number of deaths due to COVID-19 in Brazil surpassed five-hundred fifty thousand, gradually approaching that of the US. Having reached a peak in mid-April, the average number of new deaths per day still exceeds one thousand. This epidemic record, both tragic and infamous, conceals a less-known calamitous social collapse.



The COVID-19 health and economic crisis has had a disparate impact on the Brazilian population. The poorer part of the population was disproportionately more infected, had a higher mortality rate, and was more likely to lose their jobs. The future of those families also suffered more as public schools remained closed for most of the time during the pandemic. The number of households under extreme economic duress, who fell below the poverty line also increased. As non-white Brazilians are overrepresented in disadvantaged groups, they suffered disproportionately the adverse health and economic impact of the pandemic. All those facts are documented by recent studies.

A starting point is that one's initial social circumstances were determinant of the ability to protect oneself from the coronavirus contagion. Social isolation is harder for someone who lives in a crowded household, leading to more virus exposure, as documented by a seroprevalence study in the

city of São Paulo.¹ Another important factor is related to work conditions. A study by FGV² reports that only 25.5% of workers were in jobs that could potentially be adapted to telecommuting, and only 17.8% had the necessary infrastructure to do so. These numbers are well below those for developed economies.³ However, this aggregate number reflects very different conditions depending on the job type. While the occupations of people with higher education (who completed college) could be mostly done at home, covering 62.4% of their jobs, only 6.5% of people with low formal education (who completed primary education or less) have the same opportunity.

In fact, the impossibility of working from home for lower income workers led to a striking difference in social distancing by income level after the introduction of non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPIs), as documented by a study in the São Paulo state.⁴ Working face-to-face implies higher exposure to contagion by two means: the activity of working face-to-face itself and the long hours spent in public transportation between work and home. So, low income/less educated people had a higher exposure to the novel coronavirus. The above mentioned household survey to monitor seroprevalence in the city of São Paulo⁵ also shows that seroprevalence in April 2021 was 30% higher in poorer districts than wealthier ones (47% vs 35.9%), and 80% higher for individuals who had not finished high school than for individuals with complete college (45.2% vs 24.7%).

Because of their higher exposure to contagion, people living in low-income areas were more likely to be hospitalized. What is more striking is that hospitalized patients living in poorer census tracts were 60% more likely to die from Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI) than patients from the wealthiest tracts.⁶ Part of this difference can be attributed to the difference in treatment between public and private hospitals, since poorer individuals are more likely to be hospitalized in public hospitals. In fact, patients treated in public hospitals were 40% more likely to die from COVID-19 than patients treated in private hospitals.⁷

Besides having their health disproportionately affected by the

¹ The study shows that in April 2021 households with 5 and more people had a substantially higher prevalence (48.2%) than households with one or two members (34.3%) (SoroEpiMSP -serial seroepidemiological survey to monitor the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the Municipality of São Paulo, SP, Brazil – Results of Phase 6).

² *Potencial de Trabalho em Casa no Brasil* – IBRE/FGV, June 2021.

³ Dingel, J. and B. Neiman (2020). How many jobs can be done at home? *Journal of Public Economics* 189

⁴ Li, Pereira, Prete et al. (2020), "Higher risk of death from COVID-19 in low-income and non-White populations of São Paulo, Brazil." *BMJ Global Health* 2021.

⁵ SoroEpiMSP -serial seroepidemiological survey to monitor the prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection in the Municipality of São Paulo, SP, Brazil – Results of Phase 6

⁶ Li SL, Pereira RHM, Prete Jr CA, et al. "Higher risk of death from COVID-19 in low-income and non-White populations of São Paulo, Brazil." *BMJ Global Health* 2021.

⁷ Li SL et al. (2021).

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COVID-19 crisis, poorer families were also further impaired economically. In that respect, the economic impact of COVID-19 on families cannot be reliably gauged by GDP growth. While the GDP has mostly recovered, the unemployment rate is still increasing, approaching 15% - the highest in recent history. However, the 15 million unemployed people underestimate the full impact on employment, as the pandemic caused many workers to stop looking for a job, leading to a decline in the labor force of 6 million people since February 2020.⁸

The contraction of the economy has affected the country's poorest and most vulnerable workers to a greater extent. The number of employed informal workers declined by 10.5%, approximately twice the proportional drop in the number of employed formal workers.⁹ Additionally, workers with little formal education left the labor force in disproportionately greater numbers.¹⁰

The devastating effects of the pandemic on the economy clearly exposed the precarity of Brazil's social safety net. Informal workers, who make up more than 40% of the workforce, have no protection against unemployment. A cash transfer program from April to December 2020, called Emergency Aid, reached 68 million recipients, and was instrumental in both assisting those vulnerable workers who lost their jobs and reducing poverty, highlighting the need to improve Brazil's social welfare system.¹¹ However, from January to April 2021 informal workers were left unprotected, as the health crisis further deteriorated and the unemployment rate continued to be stubbornly high. The new Emergency Aid program in 2021 restricted eligibility to about half of the former recipients and provided informal workers with monthly transfers that amounted to about only one-fourth of that paid in the 2020 program. As a result, poverty rates, which had declined from 14% just before the pandemic to 8% in 2020, are projected to exceed pre-pandemic levels, to about 18% this year.¹²

Finally, looking toward the future, the COVID-19 crisis in Brazil will leave not only dreadful social short-term effects but also a longer legacy of inequality. First, by fostering the adoption of labor-saving technologies it will increase an already very high wage inequality along skill levels. This factor will be exacerbated by the increase in education inequality

engendered by the crisis.

Brazil was one of the countries with longer school closures in the world. The lack of face-to-face classes aggravated inequality in learning. First, it amplified the dropout rate among poorer children. According to a UNICEF study,¹³ 13.9% of school-age children were out of school or without school activities in Brazil, with a much higher number in poorer regions. Second, as online teaching was predominant in Brazil during the pandemic, with only 13% of the school year taught face-to-face in 2020, there was a significant loss in learning. According to estimates done by a recent study, only 17% of math and 38% of language contents was absorbed by third-year high school students in 2020, face-to-face classes taken as a reference.¹⁴ Third, even among children that had online activities, those of poorer families had less access to internet and the necessary equipment. Finally, since online learning is more successful when parents support children's activities, its outcome is mediated by the parents' educational background, further compounding the greater inequality in education.

Brazil was a profoundly unequal country with low-quality public education before the pandemic, despite the important progress in reducing poverty, inequality and widening access to education after inflation stabilization in 1994. Unfortunately, the pandemic is undoing some of the social progress achieved in the decades since. Even to reestablish the status quo of 2019 it will be necessary to implement additional measures to improve social support mechanisms. A reform of its social protection system aimed at improving the social service network and providing insurance to informal workers can no longer be postponed. In the area of education, it is essential to equip all public school students and teachers with internet access and tablets, and to implement a nationwide program that provides guidance to states and municipalities on how to make up for the loss of learning during the pandemic.

⁸ Monthly data from PNAD Contínua as published by IBRE/FGV.

⁹ Monthly data from PNAD Contínua as published by IBRE/FGV.

¹⁰ See Menezes-Filho, N., B. Komatsu and J. Rosa (2021), "Reducing Poverty and Inequality during the Coronavirus Outbreak: The Emergency Aid Transfers in Brazil," Policy Paper No. 54, Centro de Gestão de Políticas Públicas, Insper.

¹¹ See Menezes-Filho et al. (2021).

¹² See Komatu, B. and N. Menezes-Filho (2021), "Simulações de Impacto do Novo Auxílio Emergencial sobre a Pobreza e a Desigualdade".

¹³ UNICEF (2021), "Cenário da Exclusão Escolar no Brasil: Um alerta sobre os impactos da pandemia da COVID-19 na Educação".

¹⁴ As estimated by Paes de Barros, R. and L. Machado (2021), "Perda de Aprendizagem na Pandemia", Insper.

We Are in This Together

"*Tamo Junto*"



Amid the millions of lives lost, and the millions more whose lives have been upended, the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies reached out to several dozens of professors and students who have researched and taught at the University of Illinois since our creation in 2009.

Lemann Distinguished Visiting Professors and Visiting Scholars made possible state-of-the-field courses and cutting-edge research on Brazil. Lemann Leadership Fellows were Brazilian public servants who enrolled in Master degree programs that increased government capacity in economic and financial sectors. Lemann Center Graduate Fellows and Werner Baer Doctoral Fellows were graduate students developing intellectual agendas and successful careers.

We asked many of these professors and students from the past twelve years to share what they most remember from their time at Illinois and what they have been through since the pandemic began. Their narratives remind us to valorize where we have been, who we have been with, what we have been committed to, and why we are in this together. *Tamo junto*.

Carlos Roberto Azzoni

Universidade de São Paulo

2012-13 Distinguished Visiting Professor

The routine ends up caressing, protecting, giving a sense of importance that we don't question or dispute. This goes for us as individuals and for our institutions. Although we understand that changes are essential, there is a tendency to reinforce old methods, comfortable procedures, rules of thumb that worked in the past.

Until something big happens and shows us that things must work differently.

And then, all of a sudden, the pandemic showed up...

Not just a big thing: a gigantic event...

Well, professional life changed dramatically for individuals and institutions. Even people used to working from home, as scholars are more prone to do than other professionals are, had to get used to the idea that face-to-face activities were not an option anymore. The new situation brought new challenges and took us away from our comfortable routines. Even improving our equipment for teaching and participating in meetings was necessary (better microphones and cameras, improving illumination, setting a neutral background, isolating the familiar sounds of the household, quieting the dogs, etc., etc.).

In one month or two, we were condemned to working from home, precluded from traveling (something scholars love doing ...), forced to adapt the household to accommodate the simultaneous professional activities of family members, dealing with children on a 24-7 basis, without the break that school-time provided, and with the additional task of making sure our kids attended their online activities ...

Days became long, continuous, and, after some time, tiresome and boring ...

Teaching online required a transformation of our consolidated teaching materials. Motivating students demanded different methods of presentation, interaction, and evaluation.

After a slow start, meetings became more frequent, and working hours were gradually extended. Particularly meetings involving people in different time zones forced people to stretch the working hours.

But then other types of transformation came in at various levels. Family interaction increased, and we shared more of our spouse's and children's lives ... Delayed important decisions were finally faced. In most cases, it led to disruptions that were waiting to happen.

Families with toddlers enjoyed an intense parent education, something left to kindergartens and pre-schools. We discovered that interacting with friends located at a distance is possible and rewarding ...

After an adaptation period, teaching online started to change, regaining some of the pleasant interaction dimensions it used to have. Institutions discovered that some job requirements were unnecessary (dress codes, tough working times, etc.). Online thesis and dissertation committees are now the rule, and this improved the diversity of member participation. Even in commercial activities, home-office arrangements increased productivity.

As we hopefully approach the end of the life-changing experience of the pandemic, it is time to think of the future. The toll was dramatic, with millions of lost lives. The fear it caused forced us to rethink our values and motivations. Most people used this experience to regroup with themselves, spot the relevant dimensions of their lives, and move on in a more selective and meaningful lifestyle.

This time of transformation led us to see through the dust and select the appropriate direction. These were terrible times, but we must use the experience to improve our lives. Let us carpe diem.



"TAMO JUNTO"

Roberto DaMatta

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro 2010 Distinguished Visiting Professor

I lived in Illinois in October 2010. This statement does not excite the Brazilian tourist who, when traveling, goes to restaurants and never thinks of visiting museums or, much less, universities.

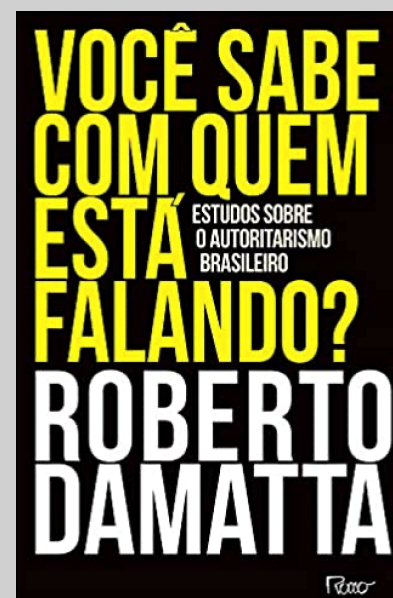
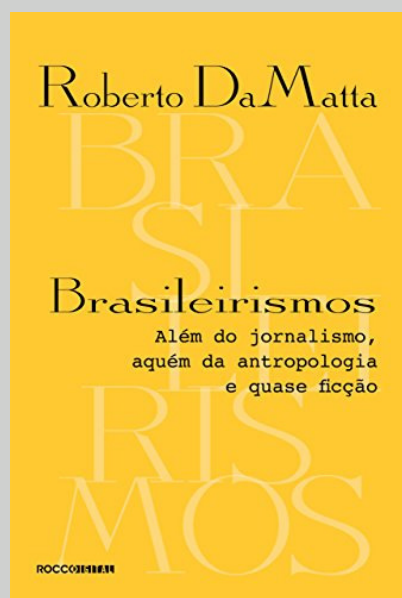
And so this French-named territory, this Urbana-Champaign area of Illinois, led to an anticlimax of sorts. It wasn't Manhattan, Los Angeles, Miami, or Chicago, the state's largest and most talked about city, but rather a college town that provided me cheerful moments with colleagues from the university's Anthropology Department, and with a kindhearted fellow, the founding director of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies, an easy-going American named Joe Love. A name he lived up to for the kindness with which I was received as a visiting scholar.

Thanks to my computer, I have a folder where bits and pieces of my work are saved in the form of the four or five lectures I gave during those memorable days at the Lemann Center.

It is, therefore, with great pleasure that – having accepted the invitation of the current director – I jot down these memories from a stay that offered a reprise to my routines of teaching and research at PUC-Rio and from being a columnist for the newspapers *Estado de São Paulo* and *Globo*, to rethink my work, sharing it with colleagues and students at Illinois.

On this solitary visit, I vividly recall my dear friend Werner Bear and my hosts, David Ivan and his wife Luciana. I also cannot fail to mention the honor I had when Illinois students and colleagues heard and read my work on Brazilian social structure — how we celebrate, how we drive cars, how we classify our animals, how we reject the impersonal and anonymity; and how we hide from ourselves our deep hierarchical bias.

In short, thanks to the Lemann Center, my 10 days in Illinois were quite pleasant and cheerful. It was a perfect respite: a micro-sabbatical in which I spent 10 days on what I love most...



Júlio César Bicca-Marques

Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio Grande do Sul

2013 Distinguished Visiting Professor

The return to my alma mater as Distinguished Visiting Professor of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies 13 years after receiving my PhD in Anthropology was an amazing experience. I can only be thankful to everyone from the Lemann Center, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies and the Department of Anthropology for the warm reception that made me feel back home at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign again. The possibility of interacting closely with my PhD advisor, Paul A. Garber, also helped me to remember the wonderful times that I had at the university and Urbana-Champaign with my wife in the second half of the 1990's.



After the sabbatical semester at UIUC in the spring of 2013 I returned to my institution, Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul, in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, where I am Professor of the School of Health and Life Sciences and also act, since December 2017, as Head of the Office of Undergraduate Research. I teach Conservation Science and Ecology & Sustainability at the undergraduate level and Scientific Writing in Biology at the Graduate Program in Ecology, Evolution and Biodiversity, in which I also advise doctoral and masters students in my research line on primate ecology, behavior, cognition and conservation biology.

I have focused my research on understanding the behavioral adaptations of nonhuman primates to anthropogenically-driven restrictions in habitat availability and resource quality, the cognitive ecology and social foraging of free-ranging and captive monkeys, primate host-parasite interactions, and the ecology of primate emerging infectious diseases, particularly the impact of yellow fever outbreaks on neotropical primate populations.

Regarding the impact of yellow fever on primate survival and conservation, I reactivated the outreach campaign "Protect our Guardian Angels" in January 2017 via Facebook. I had launched the campaign in 2009 to inform laypeople on the role of monkeys as sentinels of the circulation of the virus during outbreaks as a way of stopping misinformed people to harass and kill monkeys. This problem and the activities of the campaign were the subjects of my talk at CLACS in 2013. I reactivated the campaign in 2017 because of a new sylvatic outbreak of yellow fever that is causing drastic decreases in primate populations on its way from southeast to southern Brazil since then. Surprisingly, this kind of misinformation was also promoted by an episode of the Netflix series "72 Dangerous Animals: Latin America." Howler monkeys were wrongly accused in this episode of being dangerous because they would transmit the yellow fever to people. I, then, led a public petition via Rainforest Rescue, a European NGO, requiring Netflix to remove howler monkeys from their list of 72 dangerous Latin American animals or to edit the episode. Netflix did not answer our letter. However, about a month after the launching of the petition and over 100,000 signatures from all over the world, the episode had been already edited and the information corrected. The edited episode now highlights that in addition to suffering from many anthropogenic threats, such as habitat loss and hunting, howler monkey survival is threatened by the yellow fever.

Finally, COVID-19 has imposed many changes to our lives in Brazil as everywhere in the world. In addition to a permanent stressful state of national government-caused crises, the disease has required us to remain at home. Therefore, I have been teaching my classes remotely since the middle of March 2020. My wife has also taught online and my son and daughter are having their undergraduate classes at our universities online as well. We are tired and looking forward to the time when everyone will be vaccinated and able to spend time outdoors without the risk of getting sick and spreading the virus to others. However, we are fully aware that we need to be thankful, instead of complaining, for being able to work and study from home during these challenging times. This is a privilege that most Brazilians who need to expose themselves to the virus in order to be able to bring home a daily meal for their families, sadly, do not have.

"TAMO JUNTO"

Eduardo Coutinho

Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro

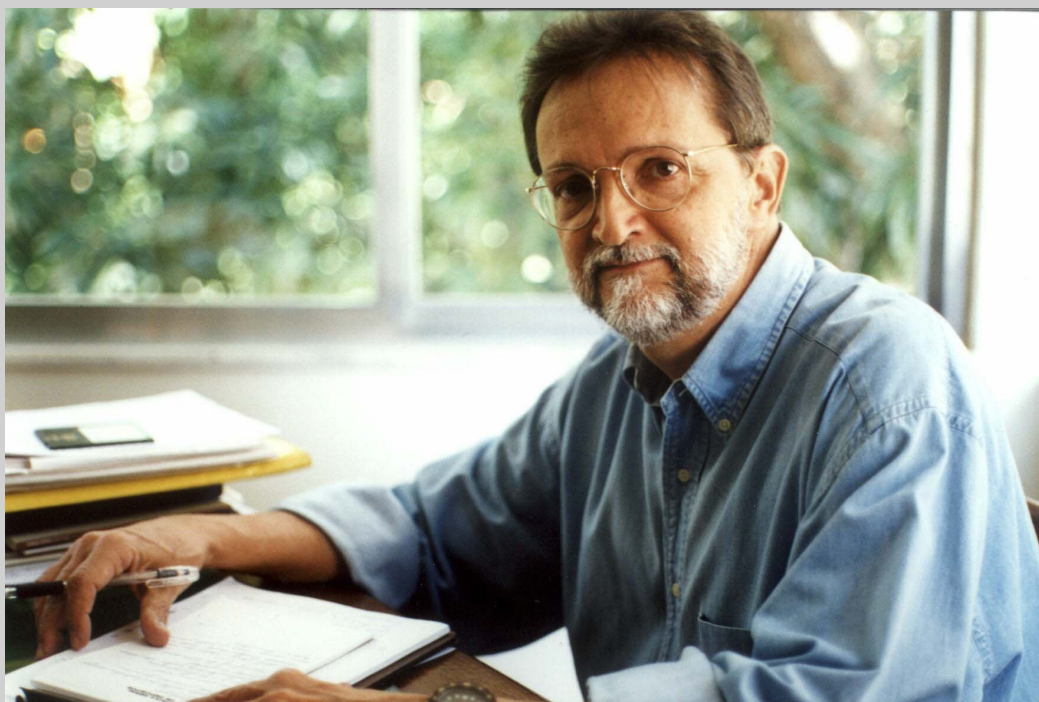
2011-12 Distinguished Visiting Professor

My stay at the Lemann Institute of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, for the academic year 2011-12, as a Distinguished Visiting Professor, was extremely productive. I developed several research projects at the university's library, taught two graduate seminars (one each semester) in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese, advised students about writing their papers and monographs, and gave lectures both at the Institute itself and at other North American universities where I was invited. Of all these experiences, however, I would like to highlight the exchange of ideas I had with other professors and students at Illinois, especially in regards to Comparative Literature, the discipline I have taught for decades at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro, and which constitutes my main area of study, ever since my graduate training (MA and PhD) at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, and the University of California-Berkeley respectively.

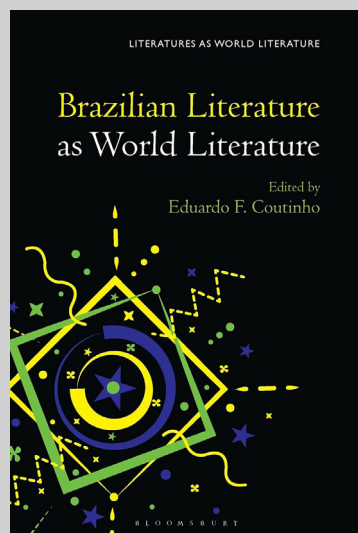
The first seminar, offered in Fall 2011, with the title "Poetic Constructions and the Formation of the Cultural Imaginary in Brazil" was centered upon the reading and class discussion of a selection of masterpieces of Brazilian literature and of these works' reception at different moments of the country's cultural and social history, considering questions such as the formation of the canon of Brazilian literature and of the factors that contributed to its construction. The second course, entitled "The Search of Cultural Identity in Brazilian and Spanish-American Essay Writing," taught in Spring 2012, was based on a selection of narrative texts and critical essays by Brazilian and Spanish-American authors, and on a class discussion of these texts, focusing primarily on the question of national and cultural identity and on the distinct expressions of this issue in the different countries that form the subcontinent designated as "Latin America."

Among the lectures I gave during my stay, I would like to

mention first the ones I delivered at the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies and the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies: "Comparative Literature in Latin America" and "Multiculturalism and Miscegenation in Latin America's Literary Production." The others were: "Rethinking Identities in Latin America's Cultural Production," delivered at Brown University; "Brás Cubas: o livro e o filme," at the University of Arizona; "Rethinking Comparativism from a Latin American Point of View," at Pennsylvania State University; "Comparative Literature in Latin America: a Distinct Perspective," at Yale University; "The Role of the Novel in the Construction of Brazilian Identity," at the University of Virginia; "Mestizaje and Multiculturalism in the Construction of Latin America's Cultural Identity," at Northwestern University; and "Repensando a Literatura Comparada do ponto de vista da América Latina," at Harvard University. In addition to these lectures, I participated in two international events, with the following papers: "The National Concept of Literature and Minority Group's Identities in Latin America," presented at the Congress "The National-Philological Concept of Literature and the European Hyphenated Identities" in Vienna, Austria; and "O racionalismo posto em questão: de Borges a Jorge Amado," presented at the "XI Congress of BRASA."



As a result of my research at Illinois, I came to publish the following texts: "O americanismo poético de José Lezama Lima: notas sobre *A expressão americana*" in Mariluci Guberaman's *El pensamiento y la expresión americana*; "Literatura Comparada e interdisciplinaridade" in João Luis Pereira Ourique, João Manuel dos Santos Cunha, and Gerson Neumann's *Literatura: Crítica Comparada*; "O Comparatismo nas fronteiras do conhecimento" in Rita Lenira de Freitas Bittencourt and Rita T. Schmidt's *Zonas francas: territórios comparatistas*; "Reflexões sobre uma nova historiografia literária na América Latina" in Carlos Alexandre Baumgarten's *História da Literatura: itinerários e perspectivas*; "Da transversalidade da Literatura Comparada" in Marilene Weinhardt and Maurício Mendonça Cardozo's *Centro, centros: Literatura e Literatura Comparada em discussão*; "Heterogeneidad y paisajes culturales latinoamericanos" in Adriana Crolla's *Lindes actuales de la Literatura Comparada*; "Rationalism Called into Question in the Latin American Narrative: From Jorge Luis Borges to Jorge Amado" in *Comparative Literature Studies*; "O conceito de 'literatura nacional' e a crise de identidade na América Latina," in Ana Cristina Marinho Lúcio and Diógenes André Vieira Maciel's *Memórias da Borborema: reflexões em torno de regional*; "A atualidade da Literatura Comparada" in Denise Almeida Silva's *Poéticas do espaço, geografias simbólicas*; "Literatura Comparada hoje" in Benjamin Abdala Jr.'s *Literatura Comparada: Teoria, Crítica, História*; "The National Concept of Literature and Minority Group's Identities in Latin America" in Vladimir Biti's *Reexamining the National-Philological Legacy: Quest for a New Paradigm?*; "Literature and Drama" in Antonio Luciano de Andrade Tosta, & Eduardo F. Coutinho's *Brazil*.

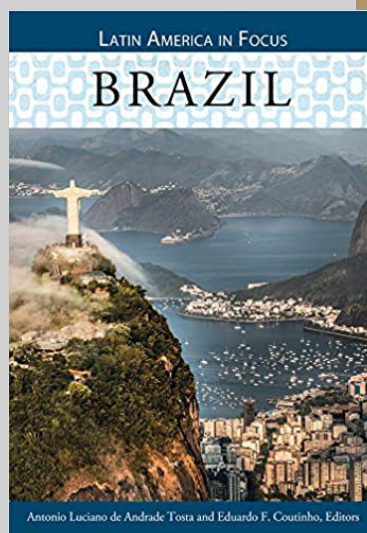


and Drama" in Antonio Luciano de Andrade Tosta, & Eduardo F. Coutinho's *Brazil*.

I also published, in collaboration with Antonio Luciano de Andrade Tosta, at that time Associate Professor at Illinois, the book *Brazil*; and, as a result of my contact with Professor Thomas O. Beebee, from Pennsylvania State University, I came to publish later the volume *Brazilian Literature as World Literature*. Finally,

I published, in 2021, the following essay, based on research that was entirely done at Illinois: "A presença do Brasil e da América Hispânica nos Congressos da Associação Internacional de Literatura Comparada" in *Revista Brasileira de Literatura Comparada*.

After my return to Brazil, in May 2012, I reassumed my work at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), teaching graduate seminars for the MA and PhD, and advising theses and dissertations. In December 2016, I retired officially, but continued to be at the Graduate Program in Letters of my university, and, a year later, in December 2017, I received the title of Professor Emeritus. In the same year, I was elected to the Rio de Janeiro State Academy of Letters. From this moment on, I continue to exert the same activities at the university, and I have been dedicating a great deal to lecturing at different institutions and to my publications. Among the books I have published in the later years are: *Rompendo barreiras: ensaios de literatura brasileira e hispano-americana*; *Raul Pompéia*; *Literatura Comparada: reflexiones*; *Brazilian Literature as World Literature*; and *Comparative Literature as a Transcultural Discipline*.



"TAMO JUNTO"

Fabio Akcelrud Durão

Universidade Estadual de Campinas

2014 Distinguished Visiting Professor

I was a Lemann Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Fall of 2014 and now, seven years later, I clearly see how important that sojourn was for me. The course I taught, "Critical Theory: Made in Brazil," generated an article for *MLN* and a chapter in the volume *Literature and Global South* in the Cambridge Critical Concepts book series. The experience of teaching Brazilian literature abroad encouraged me to devote more time to it and the articles I published or that I am about to publish on Bispo do Rosário, Carolina de Jesus and Jorge Amado clearly came as a consequence of that. The small book I wrote while at Illinois, *O que é crítica literária?* has been quite successful, with more than 3,000 copies sold so far. Another thing I recollect with pleasure is the interdisciplinary seminar on things Brazilian I participated in. Twice a month (if I'm not mistaken) there were lectures with discussions in the most diverse fields – I thought how ironic it was to have go abroad to obtain such a comprehensive vision of my country. But apart from academic things I remember well the good time I had teaching, how well prepared the students were, and how much fun I had hanging out with colleagues who would then become friends. (I'm not even going to say anything about the Korean food, which is so hard to find here in Campinas, let alone the beer – but this is getting better here too.)

All of this makes for a very sad comparison in relation to what we are experiencing in Brazil now. It's strange to think about it, but the pandemic could have been an occasion for national unity, and general solidarity; taxes could have been



rearranged, so that the rich might help the poor stay at home for a couple of months while the transmission of the virus was controlled. What happened was just the opposite, a president engaged in forcing people to the streets, so that the greatest number of citizens could die as fast as possible, in order to attain so-called herd immunity -- a strategy that has justly been called pandemicide. The official COVID-19 death count today is over 500,000, but since underreporting is around 30-40%, we can safely assume that we have over 610,000 victims of the virus-cum-government. I lost several colleagues and two close friends, brilliant intellectuals. Being 52, I experienced the end of the military dictatorship in Brazil with all its unfreedom and fear, and yet can assert that the period we have been passing through in the last few years is even worse than that. Maybe that's why my memories of Urbana-Champaign glow so vividly today.

Antonio Sérgio A. Guimarães

Universidade de São Paulo

2014 Distinguished Visiting Professor

In February 2020, we had just arrived in São Paulo from a short stay in Paris, where Nadya had taught and I had researched in the library of the École des Hautes Études en Sciences Sociales (EHESS) and revisited old used book shops. I didn't believe the pessimistic predictions I had read days earlier in The Guardian, that SARS-COV2 was the terrible virus that infectologists had feared for decades. The taxi driver who I hailed at the airport asked me if there was going to be a carnival celebration that year. I was very optimistic. "Yes," I responded, "there would be carnival." Indeed, many thought COVID-19 would likely be defeated in Wuhan itself, in China. But in March 2020, our lives already began changing otherwise. We started adapting our lifestyles to the pandemic, sanitizing all the food purchased but still without the continuous use of masks. Later, in April, everyday life in São Paulo already took its toll: cinemas, concert and exhibition halls, parks, and even our university campus, were closed. Upon reading and seeing the uninterrupted news of the deaths of unaccompanied elderly people, without the care or proximity of their families, I realized that we were very vulnerable in São Paulo, trapped in a 120 square meter apartment in a city that was all but closed down.

We made the decision to brave a plane trip and spend the pandemic in our house in Salvador, close to family and with the hope of taking walks on the beaches and bathing in the sunrises and sea waves. We expected to spend three months. We ended up staying thirteen. Everything that São Paulo represented for us was still shut down, and in Salvador, beaches also began to be closed and family interaction was almost nil. The Coronavac vaccine, manufactured by Butantan, which could change this state of being, would only arrive in April 2021.

Before it arrived, there was only one way to survive: organize old writings, articles, letters, and prepare a new book. I think

the risk of near death, the feeling of vulnerability, was behind this decision. It was a way to prepare the soul and leave an inheritance. More frequent contacts with former students, the reconstruction of memories... everything that used to be relegated to the background due to the urgency of living and writing the present gained a new meaning that gave life balance.

But how to write without libraries and with limited internet access? We had left São Paulo with our computers, documents, and the clothes on our backs.

It was then that I rekindled old friendships and quiescent contacts. The first challenge was to write an article for the *Encyclopedia Bérose*, a commitment that I had made before the pandemic. But how? I called upon a librarian friend of mine from the Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA), who started lending me books, first informally, then formally. I became a research associate at UFBA (A Cor da Bahia) thanks to Paula Barreto. I called friends at USP, at Midlin, and at the Instituto de Estudos Brasileiros (IEB). I called a former student, Irene Rosseto, and an old friend, both now at the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies (LILLAS) at the University of Texas-Austin, who gave me shelter as a Visiting Remote Researcher in order to access HathiTrust's wonderful digitized collection. In July, my *Modernidades Negras* will be published by Editora 34. After we returned from Salvador to São Paulo, another challenge began, perhaps more difficult and longer lasting: what will become of this country? Here the pandemic seems to have no end, and it persists amid the dismantling of the society we created after World War II.



"TAMO JUNTO"

Nadya Araujo Guimarães, Universidade de São Paulo 2018 Distinguished Visiting Professor



For my generation, the experience of confinement almost effortlessly brings to mind the sentencing of a life in prison, the feeling of exile. After all, I lived through the so-called “lead years” at the height of my youth. On

December 13, 1968, news of the signing of Institutional Act No. 5 (carried by radio waves) reached me on the night we were celebrating my 19th birthday on the UnB campus. We quickly left to dwellings to confine ourselves (not for the first time) safer than at university housing. We were scattered, isolated, and distant from each other.

The instinctive move to protect myself at that moment did not allow me to foresee just how long this internal exile would be. Some of the friends who had been celebrating there I never lay eyes on again. And it even obscured the life that would have to somehow resume after that Friday the 13th. Confining oneself was like living in an “ivory tower prison.” The price of not falling into the (brutish) hands of the enemy was paid for by the (gentle and “on one's own”) renouncement of freedom. Worse, as in physical imprisonment, confinement was tantamount to losing ties with everything that mattered. Because everything that was worth anything lay in the freedom to enjoy the outside world, in the classroom's complicit coexistence, in the library, in the “Bandeirão” cafeteria, on the sprawling grass fields of campus, in activist meetings, in film club activities – in life outside the home, anyway.

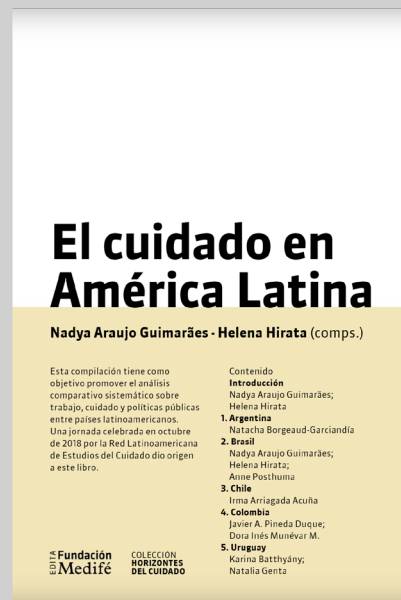
How to recount my surprise when a little more than fifty years later I found myself reliving the need for confinement? But now the enemy was invisible. It answered to acronyms other than those that used to frighten us in the 60's or 70's. And it didn't wear boots, though it was perversely welcomed by someone who had already worn them. On a fateful March 9, 2020, a new interruption of sorts occurred, which

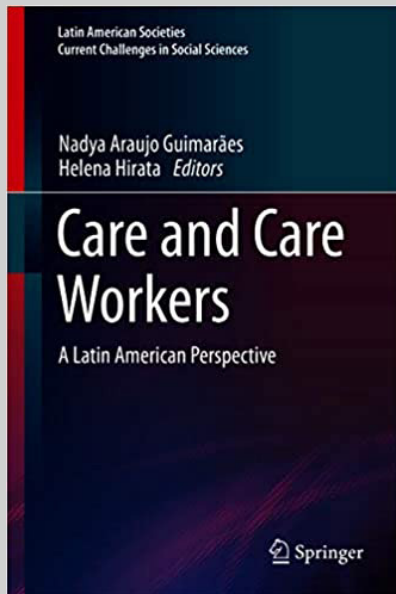
once again put real life on hold. An influenza dressed up as COVID (fortunately never confirmed) placed me in home confinement, even before social distancing measures, which would soon be adopted in the city of São Paulo.

Everyday life dwindled to the point that crossing the street in front of our apartment building became a great challenge, and walking in USP's Cidade Universitária felt like a transgression. This is when I found myself reliving that December 13, 1968. Backpack over my shoulders, with only the essentials (this time documents and personal computer), I slammed the door of our apartment in search of air to breathe in a new exile, Salvador. It was thirteen months trapped in the glass cage of a beautiful house, in the company of lush foliage and chirping birds, but where no family member should enter. Children and grandchildren were now reduced to the dangerous condition of being “transmission vectors.” I could see the sea through the bedroom window, it's true, but I couldn't savor the salty air or immerse the body in the delightful waves.

Suddenly re-emerging was this feeling of loss, of a life interrupted. How does one respond to this? How do we stand up when we lack the ground of sociability, this at once playful and hardened way of living life when one has grown up encapsulated in the circles of an intellectual world outlined with chalk? As in a kind of exile, it is not possible to predict when this twisted magic will lose its enchantment.

How did I survive this exile? Submerged in the world of intellectual creation. In fact, the start of confinement coincided with the first of three books that I would finish and submit to publishers in the days of COVID – *El Cuidado en América Latina: Mirando los casos de Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Colombia y Uruguay* (Editora Fundación Medifé Edita). When it

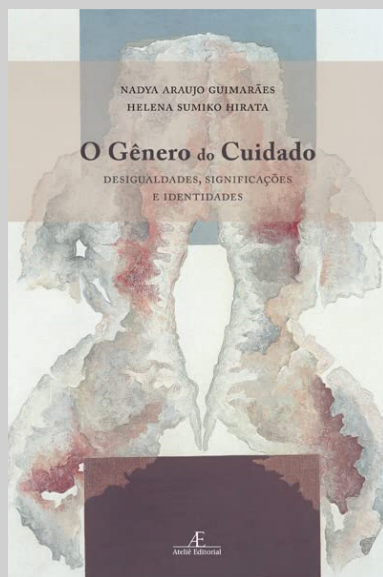




came out, in June 2020, I was already “in another vibe”, as the grandchildren say, preparing the book *Care and Care Workers: A Latin American Perspective* (Springer Publishing). Completed in July 2020, it would be released in January 2021. Both brought together materials prepared during intense debates we had had in São Paulo, in October 2018, at a time when the production of ideas was still nourished by cheerful lunches and

dinners, not to mention countless chats during breaktimes, washed down with coffee, freshly-squeezed juices, and homemade treats.

But virtual exile, confined in my glass cage, was relentless. By the time August 2020 came around, I had “only” events, seminars, dissertation defenses, livestreaming, institutional meetings – in short, virtual hell. Hunting for something that would take me back to creation, to savor the virtual paradise, I started rummaging through dormant memories, mine and my hard drive. I sought to bring back to life attractive ideas cruelly quarantined. I soon found myself involved in the marathon of forging a third book, challenging myself to build the thread of an argument that



would re-connect the aftermaths that happily emerged from that chest of memories. Between August and October I set up *O Gênero do Trabalho: Desigualdades, identidades e significações* (Ateliê Editorial), which came out at the end of December 2020.

One last unusual fact amid these creative pyrotechnics. All three books were produced at a distance of two thousand

kilometers from my own library, and there are eight thousand kilometers that separate me from my long-term partner with whom I prepared them, Helena Hirata, who was likewise confined in Paris. None of this stopped us from, in addition to virtually creating these books, also toasting in front of the screen at the end of each book, bringing together authors, translators and respective publishers. After all, surviving is giving life to the imagined world!

Now vaccinated – against the virus and against exile – I come back to life little by little in São Paulo, and I see that, like myself, the city that I left cannot erase the marks of suffering. A suffering, I learned, that even intense creation cannot placate.



"TAMO JUNTO"

Eduardo Rios Neto

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, IBGE

2015-16 Distinguished Visiting Professor



Upon my retirement as Full Professor of Demography at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, I was appointed Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies for the 2015-2016 academic year. I experienced a unique time at UIUC. I not only taught a course on population studies, but I was also able to mentor several graduate students developing projects or concluding dissertations on Brazil. My interdisciplinary background in demography enabled me to advise students stemming from various fields such as economics, political science, anthropology, etc.

I could also interact with UIUC faculty associated with the Lemann Center and in Economics during my stay. Based on these interactions, I wrote papers and concluded unfinished works previously developed in Brazil. During this period, Dilma's impeachment was on the agenda. I helped the

Lemann Center in the organization of a seminar to discuss this issue.

My experience in that academic year contributed to my transition to a post-retirement phase. Immediately after my return, I concluded works initiated at UIUC. I applied to the Brazilian Academy of Sciences and ended up elected. In 2019, I became the Director of Surveys at the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE). My main task was to deal with the issues associated with planning the Demographic Census to take place in August 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemics in March 2020, we postponed the Census Operation and all in-person interviews. We were able to continue publishing all statistics in 2020, relying on telephone interviews. We even created a new telephone household survey, named PNAD COVID, asking

specific questions about the pandemic, including the so-called "auxílio emergencial" (emergency monetary transfer during the pandemic). The Demographic Census planned to take place in 2021 was postponed again due to budgetary cuts and the pandemic's second wave. I was appointed the new President of IBGE upon this last postponement. We now plan the Demographic Census to take place in 2022. The Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies can count on me, as IBGE's President, on technical cooperation associated with Brazilian data.



Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística

LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

Luís Claudio Pereira Symanski

Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais

2019-20 Lemann Distinguished Visiting Professor

When the pandemic started, in mid-March 2020, I was living in Urbana-Champaign and working as Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Lemann Center. My wife and three-year-old daughter were with me. Although the



first weeks of lockdown were scary, it was only a matter of time until we got our routine adjusted to the new times of fear and social distancing. Although we avoided as much as we could any closed space besides our house, we soon started to notice that we could have some quality time wandering around our neighborhood and going to the local parks to play and exercise. Thus, going outside became part of our daily routine, what helped us to keep our physical and mental health and to calm down our very energetic daughter. Despite our fear of social interaction with anyone outside our family nucleus, after a few months, we began interacting with some of our friends in open spaces and, fortunately, none of us nor any of our Chambana friends got sick with COVID-19. We felt very lucky to be living in a city that allowed us a more smooth social isolation experience than we could have had in Brazil, but at the same time we were very concerned about the safety of our relatives and friends there, who had either to stay incarcerated inside apartment buildings that dominate the landscape of large Brazilian urban centers, or to expose themselves outside to work in a country that was already reaching some of the world's highest mortality rates of COVID-19. In October 2020, I had to return to Brazil. It was time to face this tragic situation in my country, which was worsened by a far-right Coronavirus-denial government, much more concerned with the economic crisis caused by the pandemic than in protecting the population. During that month the pandemic was reaping between 200 and 800 lives daily. This was, actually, a relatively low rate when contrasted to the nightmare that began six months later, in March 2021, when the number of daily deaths surpassed 2000, reaching, in April, over 4000.

We are still in the middle of this nightmare, at the writing

of this text on June 11th, a day when Brazil has registered 2216 deaths by COVID-19. I live in Belo Horizonte, the third largest metropolis in Brazil, a city that has a population of almost 6 million inhabitants. Most of this population lives in overpopulated neighborhoods packed with apartment buildings, a reality very distinct from the pleasant neighborhoods of houses with wide and arborized streets that characterize the cities of Urbana-Champaign. For most people in Belo Horizonte, the social isolation in their apartments and overcrowded households makes life unbearable, and anxiety and depression have become widespread mental illnesses, which are exacerbated by a pervasive sorrow, since everyone mourns at least a relative or close friend lost to COVID-19 during this period. Although some with economic entitlement maintain social isolation, most need to work outside the home, risking their lives on a daily basis. On the other hand, most feel the necessity to socialize and, for this reason, bars and restaurants are almost always crowded. In fact, lockdowns in Brazilian cities have been minimal, with most businesses, bars, restaurants, and gyms still working on more restricted time schedules. A few weeks ago I returned to Urbana-Champaign to stay with my wife and daughter, who are still living here due to my wife's doctoral studies. I was very relieved when I arrived here and noticed that, because of the massive vaccination campaign, life is getting back to normal and people are more relaxed, something that is still far from happening in Brazil. Now, again looking at Brazil from afar, I can better understand the mix of fear, concern, indignation, and disappointment that constantly accompanied me during the ten months I lived in Brazil. The fear was to contract COVID-19 and worse transmit the virus to other people. The concern was for the life of my relatives, especially the elderly, like my mother, father, and aunts, for whom the disease can be fatal. The indignation was with a federal government that, as investigations have demonstrated, intentionally acted to proliferate the virus, combating the sanitary measurements adopted by state and city governments at the peak of the pandemic, and publicizing and distributing a set of drugs that are scientifically proven to be ineffective for preventing or treating COVID-19. Here I cannot help but express my disappointment with the large amount of people that, whether by selfishness, opportunism, arrogance, or naivete, adopted the COVID-19 denial and anti-scientific discourse of our president, contributing to the dissemination of the virus, and being, thus, co-responsible for the worst tragedy of our Brazilian history.

"TAMO JUNTO"

Arabela Campos Oliven

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul

2016-17 Visiting Scholar

During the 2016-17 academic year I was a Visiting Scholar at the Lemann Institute for Brazilian Studies at UIUC. This experience had a big impact on me.

I got a B.A. in the Social Sciences in 1965 from the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) which is a public Brazilian university. In 1972, I obtained an M.A. from the University of Essex and in 1972, a Ph.D. from the Institute of Education at the University of London in 1982, both in Sociology.

I arrived in the United States for the first time in 1993 to do a postdoc at the Center for the Study of Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley. I then realized that my experience as an undergraduate student in Brazil emphasized an anti-American perspective: the U.S. was often seen at that time as a supporter of Latin American dictatorships.

In order to understand the U.S, I got rid of my prejudices and came to like the society that welcomed me. The U.S was much more than a consumerist, individualistic, and racist society, a vision which I held in my stereotypical and superficial vision. I was fascinated by the complexity of the country in which I was living. I fell in love with the period of the Civil Rights Movement. I realized that Brazil and the U.S., with their shared past of slavery, had much more in common than I imagined.

While at Berkeley, I chose to study a topic that was largely unknown to Brazilians. I followed the controversy surrounding affirmative action policies and published a paper on this theme. Back in Brazil, I participated in the debate on inclusion policies in higher education. I have always been critical of the elitism of Brazilian public universities which were extremely selective, and almost exclusively white. I positioned myself in favor of racial quotas as a way of making our public universities more representative of society.

In 2012, the Brazilian federal law No. 12,711, known as the Quota Law, was passed. It reserves 50% of places in federal higher education public establishments for students who have attended high school in public institutions, considering the socioeconomic level and ethnic-racial origin.

UFRGS, my Alma Mater, was one of many Brazilian universities that anticipated the law. In 2008 it established social and racial quotas for students from public schools, blacks and indigenous people. I experienced the challenge of having affirmative action students, which proved to be very



enriching, both for me and for the students. I supervised theses and dissertations on experiences of inclusion policies in higher education in Brazilian universities.

Comparing the environment of different universities in the U.S. with which I was in contact, I noticed that in elite private institutions such as Dartmouth College

and Brown University (where I was visiting scholar in the academic years of 2009-10 and 2011-12), the theme of affirmative action policies did not seem to be of great interest. However, in the case of UIUC affirmative action aroused a lot of curiosity and even sympathy. I presented papers on the impact of affirmative action in Brazil at the School of Education and at the Lemann Institute. I also met with professors and students with whom I discussed university policies in both countries.

During the period that I spent at UIUC, I carried out research on that university's inclusion policies starting with Project 500, an experience of historical relevance that began in 1968, exactly half a century before the experience at UFRGS.

In 2020 I published the article "Project 500: a plan meant to include African Americans in a public research university in the United States and its challenges, 1968-2018" in the journal *Pro-posições* (vol. 31, accessible at <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/1980-6248-2018-0033>) to make this complex experience available to the Brazilian public.

In 2022 Brazil is going to have to evaluate the first 10 years of the quota law's implementation. I believe that knowing what happened at an important American public university over the span of five decades will help further enrich this debate.

I am immensely grateful to the Lemann Institute for having offered me this opportunity at UIUC, of which I have fond memories and where I had the opportunity to share many academic and affective experiences with different groups and people. I feel like a member of this community.

Ruben George Oliven

Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul

2016-17 Distinguished Visiting Professor

I was a Distinguished Lemann Visiting Scholar during the 2016-17 academic year. My wife, Arabela Oliven, who is a sociologist, was with me as a visiting scholar. I taught two courses on Brazil ("The Making of Modern Brazil" and "Brazilian Culture and National Identity") and carried out research on popular music in the United States.

Now, I am back in Brazil, where I teach at the Graduate Program in Social Anthropology of the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (Porto Alegre, Brazil). It is important to bear in mind that, whereas in countries like the United States there exists a clearer division between academic and public intellectuals, in Brazil this division is blurred. Given that Brazil is a country with its huge inequalities and social problems, social scientists are "summoned" to involve themselves in the social and political arena. I had this experience when I was the president of the Brazilian Association of Anthropology and had to deal with the question of the survival of the indigenous population and remnants of slave communities and the demarcation of the lands our current constitution grants to those two groups. Later, when I became the president of the Brazilian Association for Graduate Studies and Research in Social Sciences, I fought for more resources for the Social Sciences. Since 2019, I have been one of the directors of the Brazilian Academy of Science. Founded in 1916, it is one of the oldest scientific institutions of Brazil. This organization has members from all areas of science.

At the present time, Brazil is strongly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, further worsened by a government that has an anti-science agenda. The president says that COVID is just a cold. He encourages agglomerations and does not wear a mask. He was against the vaccine and instead has favored the use of hydroxychloroquine as a preventive treatment and spent public funds buying huge quantities of that drug. Funding for education and science has been cut down severely, threatening the continuity of research and graduate studies.

Nevertheless, the Brazilian Academy of Sciences has been very active. Every two weeks we promote a webinar on different themes: virus, vaccines, social inequality, among others, which draws a wide attendance. This year I am co-organizing

our Annual Meeting that will be conducted remotely with the presence of Brazilian and foreign scientists, among whom are Nobel Prize laureates. On the political front we have lobbied for and guaranteed the approval of a law that provides more funding for science. We were able to convince our representatives and senators to overturn the vetoes presented by the president. Currently we are fighting for these resources to be allocated in the national budget. We are constantly publishing articles, giving interviews, and trying to show the importance of science in the war against COVID-19. The outcome of our efforts has been very positive. Several politicians who criticize the current government, stress that politicians must listen to scientists if they want to be effective in fighting the pandemic that Brazil is going through.

Given that I am not a politician and have no intention of becoming one, I continue my academic activities. I teach the Seminar for the PhD students of our graduate program; I supervise graduate students and I do research. Currently I am working on a book that compares Brazilian and North American popular music. I am also the editor-in-chief of *Horizontes Antropológicos* (<http://www.ufrgs.br/ppgas/ha>), one of the leading Brazilian journals of Anthropology. And yes, of course, I have a wonderful family: a wife, two children, one daughter in law, and no pets.



"TAMO JUNTO"

Diego Sanches Corrêa

Universidade Federal do ABC

2011-12 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow

At some point in my life, I came to realize that I wanted to be a professor and follow an academic career. I can't determine precisely when it happened, but I had already made up my mind when I arrived to the U.S. in mid-2007 to start my PhD in political science at UIUC. The following years were challenging, as they usually are for international graduate students, but every aspect of the experience was worth it. I feel privileged for having had this opportunity, coming from one of the most inegalitarian countries in the world, where a large share of the population struggle to make ends meet. I was supported by a Capes-Fulbright fellowship in the first four years, a Lemann fellowship in the fifth, and a TA-ship in the last semester of my stay.



At the UFABC, I have the opportunity to teach very diverse cohorts, due largely to the university's commitment to affirmative action. Moreover, I frequently teach and advise students from different countries in our graduate program. The main concern my colleagues and I have had moving classes to virtual platforms during this pandemic was how to do it without leaving disadvantaged students behind. Most of the time, they lack a quiet and appropriate space to study, and their internet access tends to be of poorer quality. If before the pandemic, at least the environmental conditions for learning were pretty much the same for all students, now they clearly are not. Education is crucial for enhancing the virtues that make us better people, and I wonder about the longer-term consequences of so much time working in social isolation. Many students will get their degrees with about half of their classes being taught through virtual platforms. Indeed, current times are tough. We know that the world will not be the same after the end of this pandemic, so I hope the current challenges bring out the best in us.

A bit more than eight years have passed since I defended my dissertation and, today, I am an assistant professor of political science at the Federal University of ABC (UFABC), one of the youngest and most promising public universities in Brazil. It is first in Brazil's ranking of internationalization, so I feel that I am exactly where I should be. My experience in the U.S. made me appreciate cultural diversity and international exchanges not only in the academic environment, but in our general lives. Being in contact with people from different countries, with different values, thinking very differently from ourselves, on a daily basis, make us better people. Tolerance, moderation, respectfulness are virtues that our world is in desperate need today, and they can be fostered through intercultural exchanges in our social relations. How easier would it have been to face the current challenges if these virtues were well-established in our societies.



Paulo Henrique Vaz

Universidade Federal de Pernambuco

2012-13 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow

I am a 35-year-old father of five-year-old twins, PhD in Economics from UIUC, and currently adjunct professor of Economics at the Federal University of Pernambuco. I serve as vice-head of the Economics graduate program, and one of the directors of the Group to Evaluate the Impact of Public Policy (GAPPE).

As such, my agenda has been divided into three main parts: i) Training future economists; ii) Academic research; and iii) Policy-oriented investigations. First, I contribute as a professor of core courses in Macroeconomics, and as vice-head of the graduate program, organizing seminars, workshops, and international applications to Ph.D. programs or career opportunities. I engaged and witnessed the improvement of our academic standing, which has room to grow but is already ranked TOP 10 nationwide in terms of research productivity, according to the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES), with a well-connected network of researchers and placements ranging from domestic positions with an established academic reputation (Economic Departments, Central Bank and think tanks) to multilateral agencies, such as IDB and World Bank. The latest ranking, based on private market surveys, also ranked the quality of our students as 7th in Brazil out of 197 institutions.

As regards academic research, my main contributions focus on the causal inference of public policy and productivity analysis at both macro and micro levels. I study and contribute to qualified debates on topics such as credit access for long-term investment and exports, tax-compliance costs, childcare locations near firms and women's employment, mayors with business backgrounds, and Brownfield vs Greenfield types of Foreign-Direct Investment (FDI). Meanwhile, as a consultant, I work directly on policy-oriented research for some institutions in Brazil, such as the Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA), the Ministry of Citizenship, the Ministry of Culture, and the Ministry of Justice. Three books and some articles are the byproducts of those initiatives. Most projects involved our team at GAPPE, composed of several graduate students (from master and doctorate programs) and a high-performance server, which handles our big data analysis and stores a unique combination of microdata (person and firm-level) built over the last five years.

The pandemic was a big challenge to the UFPE community, but we handled it well, conditionally. Classes switched to online with relative success, although the economic profile and psychological health of our students needed special attention. The remote access to our high-performance server kept the pace of most ongoing research, and the selection process to graduate school was not really affected. We accepted students from several states of Brazil and one from Colombia, all of them with scholarships. Besides the shortage of vacancies in Ph.D. programs, we were able to send four master students abroad to highly ranked programs: UC-Davis, University of British Columbia, Bocconi University, and Southern Methodist University. It was a historical achievement for our program and paradoxically happened during the pandemic. Another positive aspect was that the pandemic turned online seminars into common practice. As the seminar chair, I took advantage of that to invite well-known international participants and to open it to all those interested. It turned out that almost three hundred people signed up, mostly graduate students from all over Brazil, but also some professors and experts from abroad. As a consequence of one of those seminars, the most popular one, I am organizing a 30-hour workshop on Causal Inference in early August, supported also by the Brazilian Econometrics Society. The first poll on Twitter got around two thousand people interested in it.

Personally, my wife and I were challenged to keep working with two kids at home full time, who needed assistance with their online classes and routine activities. Their education and mental health have been our main concerns. We have been mostly at home since March 2020, shocked by some losses in our family from COVID-19, mostly elderly, but some healthy loved ones as well. My sister, a young physician, who just graduated to join COVID-19 response teams on local emergencies was constantly updating us on the current local situation. No doubt it was a huge hurdle, and still is, but we chose to focus on how to fight it to minimize the burden for our family and friends.



"TAMO JUNTO"

John Ben Soileau

The National Academies

2013-14, 2017-18 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow

In the winter of 2018, I left the Anthropology department in Urbana-Champaign to begin a policy fellowship in Washington D.C. at the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (the Academies). The 3-month fellowship introduced me to a myriad of non-university academic opportunities. In summer 2019, I accepted a full-time position at the Academies in a program that utilizes community engagement as a mechanism to inform policy-making around issues of hazard mitigation and community resilience. When lockdown from COVID-19 began in the spring of 2020, our program began piloting different ways to do virtual engagement about the cascading effects of the pandemic on community functions and well-being. I am grateful that I have been able to work from home in Washington D.C. and contribute to a deeper understanding of how COVID-19 compounds the impacts of other hazards and has differential effects on marginalized communities. Additionally, the time I saved from not commuting to work every day allowed for revisions to my doctoral dissertation, which I expect to defend in the fall of 2020.



Although my work at the Academies is not currently directed towards engagement efforts in Brazil, I have been able to remain connected to the communities I lived with during research through ongoing correspondence with community leaders and volunteer work. During dissertation fieldwork with my host community of Carragedo, a quilombo in Gurupá, Pará, I collaborated with residents on a grant application for a series of capacity building projects. The granting organization is called The Minga Foundation, a small nonprofit dedicated to improving health and social equity for underserved communities. “Minga” is a Quichua term analogous to the Portuguese term “mutirão”—collective work towards a shared goal. Our grant funded the maintenance of a community-owned açai orchard, the implementation of a distribution network for potable water, and the formalization of a quilombo community association. After fieldwork, I continued to oversee the continuation of these projects through volunteer work with The Minga Foundation. When COVID-19 began rapidly spreading across the Amazon, quilombos in Gurupá became especially vulnerable and

the virus infected several families in Carragedo. The Minga Foundation and I coordinated a fundraising effort that provided PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) and a two-month cesta básica (basic food and household items) to each family so people could remain in the community and prevent contagion. I am happy to relay that no fatalities occurred in Carragedo and that COVID-19 has abated in this region of the Amazon.

My graduate studies at UIUC were enabled and enhanced by the generous social and academic support of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies, the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and the Department of Anthropology. My current position at the Academies and my volunteer work with The Minga Foundation allow me to pursue community-engaged and empirically based field research in the development of equitable social and environmental policies. I look forward to staying connected to the rede of the Fundação Lemann and advancing social equity in Brazil!



Dona Luana with cesta básica for the COVID-19 Relief Project with The Minga Foundation. Quilombola Community of Carragedo. Gurupá, Pará

Isabel Freitas Peres
Seattle University School of Law
2013-14 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow

I miss my days at the University of Illinois as a former Lemann Fellow, but I work at a university and still live an academic life. I am currently living in the Seattle area, and working at Seattle University College of Law. I work with law students taking the Washington bar exam and have the pleasure to work with international, including Brazilian attorneys, working towards their master's or law degree at Seattle University and planning to sit for the bar exam.



The Lemann Center allowed me to continue my studies at the University of Illinois and expand my research and knowledge in Brazilian themes. I am currently preparing to teach a course for the Master of Business Law program at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana Cali, in Colombia, in which I will compare the Brazilian and U.S. legal business structures. This course, of course, will be on Zoom.

The COVID pandemic has affected all parts of our lives. Last March, I had to rapidly transition my class to an online format with a few days' notice. This skill, being able to rapidly change and adapt, was part of the skills set I developed as a Lemann Fellow. I have been working from home since last March, and have been working hard ever since to adapt to this new teaching and classroom experience in which we find ourselves. It was hard to see last year's class and this year's class go without a proper graduation celebration, knowing how important that moment was when I finished law school at University of Illinois. My students are resilient and faced the challenges of the pandemic with a strength that we all had to find within ourselves.

While I have been spending more quality time with my husband, who also has been working from home, I have not seen my family living in Brazil since the pandemic started and our plans to meet last Christmas were put on hold. We hope to meet again this year. I have been following the current situation in Brazil and hoping for things to improve there and all over the world. This past year has been more than just unprecedented, challenging us to be and act better, to think about and acknowledge the role of science and research for the advances that allowed us to be where we are today, and the importance of our work going forward.

Renato Schwambach Vieira
Universidade Católica de Brasília
2015-16 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow,
2017-8 Werner Baer Fellow

After finishing my PhD at UIUC, I was hired as an Assistant Professor at the Economics Department in UCB in Brasília. I started teaching in February 2020, which means I only taught a couple of weeks in person before classes were suspended due to the pandemic. My university responded quickly and set up the infrastructure to move all courses online immediately. The transition was not without its difficulties. Not only was I teaching for the first time, but I was teaching online for students who had never taken online classes before. Thankfully, we all managed to overcome these initial challenges and students were able to take their courses and to move forward with their studies.



Such difficulties cannot be compared to the suffering of students and colleagues who needed to care for loved ones who were severely affected by the disease. Luckily, that was not my case, even though I have friends and family members who work in the health field and who carried the heaviest burden for our society in this period. I am vastly grateful for all that they have done.

We are still very far from being able to "go back to normal", and I am not sure if we ever will. So many lives were lost and so many people were wounded in different ways by this tragedy. I believe that one important lesson that the pandemic taught us is that our society needs to be better prepared for this type of event, which cannot be faced without coordination and planning. We, as academics, can play an important role in designing and proposing solutions to this problem in order to avoid that our society experiences such a tragic event ever again.



"TAMO JUNTO"

André Pinheiro Machado Mueller
Banco Central do Brasil
2015-17 Lemann Leadership Fellow

I am currently living in Brasília, working at the Banco Central do Brasil (BCB), as the Head of the Deputy Governor for the Administration's Office. In these challenging times, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it was up to the Administration's Office to implement, and quickly, a robust structure to permit all employees and collaborators whose job could be carried out remotely to work from home. BCB had already been experimenting with telecommuting, but this sudden shift was a major challenge, especially due to the circumstances and time frame involved. This was all done in an orderly fashion, being able to maintain all processes uninterrupted and our staff as or more productive as when we were working in our conventional offices. Working from home has been a positive experience, even though I miss the positive externalities of mixing with my colleagues during normal shifts. It has been 10 years since I started my masters at UIUC, which has had a wonderful impact in my life. Not only academically, but also a life changing experience. Daily, my family and I exchange fond memories of our two years there. When all this is over, and the world shifts to the so called "new normal", we will definitely return for a quick trip to, as we Brazilians say, kill the "saudades." Until then, our concern is to keep everyone safe and prepare ourselves for the future, so it may be bright and happy for all.



José Deodoro de Oliveira Filho
Banco Central do Brasil
2015-17 Lemann Leadership Fellow

Last May, in 2021, the week before my 49th birthday, I stood outside David McKinley Hall and took selfies to impress my friends from our WhatsApp group made up of members of the 2017 MSPE class. I don't think my friends were very impressed but I learned that everyone is alive and well, which is good enough. On that day, empty streets and off-season cold weather gave the University of Illinois campus an eerie atmosphere. Still, had I not known better, I could easily assume it was just a regular summer evening in Champaign-Urbana, not what I had hoped to be the last days of the COVID-19 crisis. It does feel like we're finally reaching the end. Mine has been a wild ride.



The crisis hit just short of a year after my wife and I had moved from Brasília to Arlington, Virginia. We have been happily locked down together in a 50 square meter apartment. The worst part was not being able to visit our relatives in Brazil until vaccines were available because our families have cases of high risk individuals. It was an easy and uneventful year on this side of the hemispheres. Unfortunately, much happened on that other side. Right at the start, my wife lost her aunt to COVID-19 in São Luis, Maranhão. Then, this year, my grandma passed away. She had been in the hospital for a few months due to a stroke and tested negative for COVID-19 a couple of days before, thus considered safe enough for an open casket funeral. But safety was an illusion: a final exam came out positive 48 hours later, from blood drawn just hours before her death. It turns out she was in Fortaleza, and in the brief time to bury our own, the entire family caught the virus but, thankfully, no one else fell victim. My father escaped that time because he skipped burial services due to his heart condition. However, more recently, he and most of my direct family tested positive, even though they were isolated on the family's farm. Thankfully, once again, no victims. Between these up's and down's, most of us survived.

It remains for us to do the best to honor those who died by living life to the best of our capacities. These days, if you are invited to brunch at my home, you will eat homemade bread and quiche, play videogames I programmed myself, and listen to my rendition of Fur Elise on the piano. All skills acquired under lockdown.



Banco Central do Brasil

Marília Corrêa

University of Michigan

2016-17, 2018-19 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow

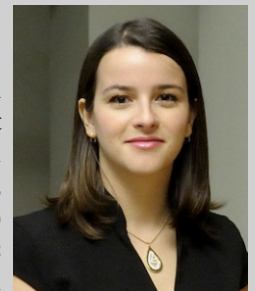
After concluding the PhD program in History at UIUC in 2019, I moved to Ann Arbor to start a postdoctoral research fellowship at the University of Michigan. This appointment at the Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies (WCED) has allowed me to focus on writing and make important progress on my book manuscript. Currently titled "Breaking Soldiers: Military Dictatorship, Expelled Servicemen, and Trauma in Brazil," it examines how the military regime marginalized servicemen they labelled as communists and subversives throughout the era of the dictatorship (1964-1985). I show how the dictatorship subjected these men to traumas that altered their sense of belonging and how military rule had overarching effects that transcended the era of the dictatorship itself.



Although I was able to make progress with research and writing, focusing on work was not an easy task. Crises of social, economic, and political order ensued in the United States, Brazil, and elsewhere due to the pandemic while other problems our society was already dealing with before 2020 did not disappear. In addition to experiencing loss and grief, we also had to deal with the neglect and disrespect of political

leaders.

Like most scholars who study Brazil, I also dealt with travel restrictions and was not able to physically conduct research in historical archives in the past year and a half. Thankfully, many archives of the dictatorship were digitalized and even though this does not fully substitute an in-person research experience, I worked with two digital platforms made available by the Brazilian National Library and the Brazilian National Archives to complement the research component I need to finish the book manuscript.



Since the University of Michigan campus was closed and everyone at WCED had to work from home, I also experienced social isolation. Developing strategies to form and maintain an online community of colleagues helped me focus on work. A group of postdocs connected by WCED met weekly on Zoom to share our research and get feedback from each other. I was also able to maintain important relationships I had formed in Champaign-Urbana. I am particularly thankful for the friendship and mentorship of Jerry Dávila and Marc Hertzman, who helped me navigate these trying times personally and professionally. While I missed being around colleagues on campus during the pandemic, building an online community kept me connected.



Weiser Center for Emerging Democracies

"TAMO JUNTO"

Guilherme Marques de Amorim

University of Illinois

2017-18 Werner Baer Fellow

I came to the University of Illinois in Fall 2017 to pursue a PhD in Economics. Upon my acceptance, I also received the Werner Baer Doctoral Fellowship from the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies, which is competitively awarded to incoming doctoral students from Brazil. Four years have since gone by and I can now take stock of the experience – which has been nothing short of life-changing – and reflect on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on my life.

Being a graduate student at Illinois has provided me an invaluable opportunity to consolidate myself as a prospective researcher and educator, and to advance my comprehension on questions which are very dear for me. In these last few years, my work has been focused on understanding the economic aspects of the interaction between public policy, labor markets, and healthcare in Brazil. My projects include studying the impact of governmental monitoring policies on the transfer of federal funds to the country's national health system (the SUS), and the impact of unemployment shocks on access to private health care and mortality. I have also been involved with rewarding teaching responsibilities, such as being Head Teaching Assistant for a large-scale sophomore course in economic statistics (Econ 203) and a stand-alone instructor for my own course on health economics and public policy (Econ 418). I am fortunate to have had the support of amazing professors and staff in both the economics and finance departments, not to mention my daily interaction with very competent peers from various backgrounds and with the many highly interested students I meet each semester in the courses I teach.

Like most persons in my social circle, the COVID-19 pandemic came as a big shock to my life. Research projects that depended on external resources were put on hold. Teaching became a big challenge, as it involved keeping students engaged and motivated while also acknowledging their own personal struggles. The sharp decline in face-to-face interactions with students, colleagues, and professors, in a moment when such exchanges are paramount to both our personal and professional development, contributed greatly to a newfound feeling of isolation. Furthermore, with travel restrictions to most countries put in place, including to Brazil, this whole time included also being away from friends and family at home, and having to deal with the anxiety of worrying about them and of being unable to correspond beyond a Zoom call.

However, as the popular saying goes, every cloud has its silver lining, and it is not an overstatement to say that on the flipside this pandemic also helped me acquire fresh perspectives in life. First, it made me realize the importance of the simple things I usually take for granted, like going out to places I like and hanging out with friends and family. It also served as an opportunity for me to look inward at myself and to better understand the importance of self-knowledge. To seize the moments of solitude as a path to personal growth may not be novel wisdom, but at least for me it became clearer without the habitual rush of day-to-day life. In a deeper sense, it also encouraged me to engage in personal reflection on the transient and unpredictable nature of life itself. Contemplating how much of our own lives is outside of our control can be a daunting exercise, but, paradoxically, doing so may have helped me deal with my own anxieties and realize that, despite all adversities, a worthy motto to hold by is to just keep going.

But most of all, I believe the pandemic has also instilled in me a renewed sense of hope. Seeing the tensions that sprung from all levels of society this past year for me served as a testimony to our capacity to endure and our ability to hold on to our shared sense of community. In the end, all grievances notwithstanding, I cannot but help also acknowledge an intense feeling of gratitude: for being healthy, for being able to pursue a fulfilling career, and for being surrounded by people I cherish and admire. I thus leave behind these uncertain times bringing with me only a decided will for giving back, and for looking forward, head up, toward whatever path life will have me take.



Roberta Menin Lafraia

Banco Central do Brasil

2018-20 Lemann Leadership Fellow

The pandemic hit just before I finished my studies at UIUC. We had to plan our return to Brazil in those uncertain first months of 2020 when we still thought the disease would be around for “just” a few months; at that time an international move was no piece of cake. It also meant we could not hug goodbye the good friends we made in the USA. On top of that, COVID-19 also jeopardized our reunion with friends and family back home. One year after arriving in São Paulo, due to the high transmission rate in Brazil and not being vaccinated yet, we are still social distancing, working, studying and shopping from home.



When I resumed my job at the Central Bank of Brazil, everyone was already working remotely. The organization adopted this practice widely, following public policy and protecting its employees. The decision proved wise, as productivity did not diminish. In fact, I benefit from it every day: my role involves holding regular and frequent meetings with executives in Brasilia. In prior times, that would require travelling or disputing available time slots in video conference rooms. Now, our meetings are scheduled as best fit for the matter in question, distance no longer being a restriction. This is much more agile, flexible and cost effective. So, although I miss the face-to-face interaction, I believe that professionally there are also gains that will endure in the long run.

The impacts of COVID-19 in the already weakened Brazilian economy are strong, as we struggle with the necessary sanitary measures as well as fiscal issues. In this context, the knowledge acquired through the Master in Policy Economics Program better prepared me for my work at the Banking Supervision Department of BCB, where our role is to ensure the soundness of the Brazilian Financial System.

For my kids, the experience of living abroad during those couple of years gave a wider perspective of the world and also taught them to cope with being physically distant from family and their Brazilian friends. Both these features are useful as the pandemic is stretching the period we have to be physically apart. COVID-19 put us at home for now, but we see many countries overcoming the perils of the disease by mass vaccination and we know Brazil will accomplish that too.

While the majority of the population is still in distress, I consider myself fortunate enough to be able to work safely from home, which is also the case of my husband. From this privileged position, we take it as our moral duty to do our best to prevent the virus from circulating.

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"TAMO JUNTO"

Gustavo S. Cortes
University of Florida
2018-19 Werner Baer Fellow

I completed my Ph.D. in Economics at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2019 and I am currently an Assistant Professor of Finance at the University of Florida's Warrington College of Business. The COVID-19 pandemic has deeply affected my life on personal and professional levels. As a result, I turned to studying how economic policy-makers can help mitigate some of the perverse effects of a public health crisis in the economy. In one of my projects, I look at how the Federal Reserve's monetary interventions (like quantitative easing, or QE) affect the risk of a financial disaster in emerging market economies, including Brazil.



We contrast the interventions conducted by the Federal Reserve in response to the 2008 Subprime and the 2020 COVID-19 crises with respect to their effectiveness in reducing disaster risk. We document that both interventions reduced disaster risks in domestic financial markets, but that spillover effects are notably distinct. While the subprime interventions are generally characterized by negative spillovers to international equity markets, the responses to the COVID-19 crisis are generally associated with positive spillovers. We interpret these results as consistent with different degrees of protagonism played by Central Banks in the two episodes, emphasizing the importance of the broader participation of monetary authorities in expanding their balance sheets to counteract the effects of major crises.

I also take advantage of my knowledge in financial history to analyze how other past epidemics affected important sectors of the economy. For example, in another project, I study how the American life insurance sector reacted to the 1918-19 Influenza pandemic. Despite the COVID-19 disease being more severe on older cohorts of the population, the similarities between the 1918 and the 2020 pandemic episodes are striking as we observe that, because of new mutations of the coronavirus, more and more young adults are dying. It is with great sadness that I see Brazil's horrifying death toll in the COVID-19 pandemic, but I believe scientists and academics have a historic opportunity to show the public the importance of our work.

Filipe Peças Correia
University of Georgia
2019-20 Lemann Center Graduate Fellow

What a journey I had at the University of Illinois! For some, graduating is a goal or a very happy moment. For me it is at least one of the happiest forms of sadness. We call it nostalgia, or in Portuguese we have a better word: *saudade*. My Lemann Graduate Fellowship had a fundamental role in helping me get here. Without it, I would not have gone to Brasília to explore labor and credit data at the Central Bank of Brazil for the first time. This research lay the basis of a paper that I showcased in more than a dozen institutions in my job search. The pandemic surged while I was in Brazil for a second time, so I decided to move back to Portugal. My whole job search was conducted from the bedroom that saw me grow.



Now, does that mean that the pandemic brought a lot of challenges to me personally? Not really. I detoured to be closer to my family and friends. I kept my job. I stayed healthy. I graduated on time. I even secured the position of Assistant Professor of Finance at the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia, where I am starting in Fall 2021. That being said, the pandemic brought about much larger impacts. Here we talk from employment and financial challenges, to mental and physical health, to an aggravation of racial problems in our society. Hence, those that like me, who kept their resources, and are equipped with top-notch resources and now education, hold the responsibility of producing ideas for a better world.

Brazil is no exception, and I am truly committed to continue studying pre- and post-pandemic outcomes and to produce policy-relevant insights. My two COVID-related works as of now focus on the United States, but I have future projects with Brazilian data. Empowering students to pursue their goals with individual and collective responsibility is also part of the mission I carry on my shoulders. Lastly, I am committed to making grounded impacts, and no matter where my studies focus, my goal is to keep studying the most fragile, the fringes of our society, those that are invisible: informal workers, informal loans, parallel economies, and moral and social norms around employment and credit. For that, I make an open call: for the automation of processes, and for the production and transparency of high-quality data.

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Lemann Distinguished Visiting Scholar

Armando João Dalla Costa was the 2020-1 Distinguished Visiting Scholar, who physically remained in Curitiba due to travel restrictions and health risks amid the pandemic. He is a Professor in the Graduate Program in Economics and in the Graduate Program in Economic Development at the Federal University of Paraná. Through Illinois online platforms, in Fall 2020, he taught “Multinational Companies in Brazil: 1889 to 2018” (LAST 550/395). In Spring 2021, he taught “Brazilian Multinational Companies: 1970 to 2018” (ECON 490). These courses brought Illinois students to reflect on the role of multinational companies in Brazil’s history of economic development as well as the ways that Brazilian and Latin American multinational companies have entered the international market.

Professor Dalla Costa earned his PhD in Economic History from the Université de la Sorbonne Nouvelle Paris III in 1997. He served as a postdoctoral fellow at the Université de Picardie Jules Vernes, Amiens, as well as at the Faculdade de Economia, Administração e Contabilidade da Universidade de São Paulo (FEA/USP). He was Professor at the Tuiuti University of Paraná (UTP) and at the Department of Economics at the Federal University of Paraná (UFPR). He was the leader of the Research Group on Business Economics, served as president of the Brazilian Association of Researchers in Economic History (ABPHE), and he has held the CNPq Research Productivity Scholarship. He has published more than 90 articles, 12 books, and 20 book chapters.



Jorge Paulo Lemann Chair in History Notes



Jerry Dávila

This was a good year for looking forward. In the coming year I will hold a Fulbright Distinguished Chair in American Studies at the Federal University of Minas Gerais, where I will be finishing research for a book on patterns of racial discrimination in twentieth century Brazil. And this fall the 12th edition of *A History of World Societies* will be released. The Illinois Global Institute continues to grow, with a grant from the Office of the Chancellor for a collaborative project called “A Blueprint for Transitional Justice in the United States: Building on Lessons and Insights from Global Perspectives,” which will draw upon the experience of Brazil’s *Comissão Nacional da Verdade* and other experiences in Latin America as well as other parts of the world. As the University of Illinois campus reconvenes from remote work arrangements, the Illinois Global Institute and its units, including the Lemann Center, will be moving to a new building: Coble Hall. This gives all of us a closer location to students and helps the Lemann Center organize staff and work in new and more effective ways.

Several of our students in History and recent graduates had major successes. Thais Rezende de Sant’Ana defended her doctoral dissertation *Migrants and the Brazilian BoomCity: Manaus from 1850 to 1940* and this fall takes up a post-doctoral fellowship at Rollins College. Marília Correa has been appointed visiting assistant professor in History at Loyola University in New Orleans and John Marquez, assistant professor at Colorado College will be on a fellowship at the Omohundro Institute at the University of Virginia. Both Marília and John have recent articles: “Military Resistance to the Brazilian Coup: The Fight of Officers and Soldiers against Authoritarian Rule, 1964-1967” (*The Americas*, April 2020) and “Witness to Freedom: Paula’s Enslavement, Her Family’s Freedom Suit, and the Making of a Counterarchive in the South Atlantic World” (*Hispanic American Historical Review*, May 2021).

Brazil Leadership Training Program

The partnership between the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies at Illinois and the Lemann Foundation in São Paulo continued to support the advanced graduate training of Brazilian civil servants. This partnership expands a scholarship opportunity that started at the Lemann Center in 2009, supporting staff in Brazil's Central Bank to study in the Master of Science in Policy Economics (MSPE) Program at Illinois. In 2016, the Lemann Center at Illinois and the Lemann Foundation in São Paulo joined forces with the University of the Central Bank of Brazil (Unibacen) and the National School for Public Administration (ENAP) in order to enroll a broader range of Brazilian civil servants at Illinois. In this enlarged program, since 2016, eight public servants have enrolled and graduated from Master programs in Accountancy, Finance, Law, as well as MSPE. Five more public servants deferred admission due to travel restrictions and health risks during the pandemic. In the 2020-21 academic year, however, two other public servants chose to begin their respective programs through online options offered in Law and MSPE. Their following narratives reveal career development and determination.



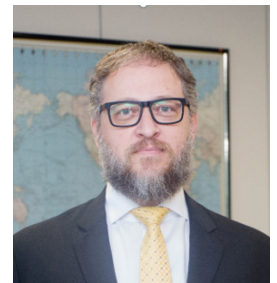
José Carlos Cavalcanti de Araujo Filho, Foreign Trade and International Affairs, Ministry of Economy

Master of Science in Policy Economics, College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

An important part of my professional experience with international trade and investment policy in the public sector has been monitoring the world economy while reconciling other countries' economic development experiences with those of the Brazilian reality. In that sense, mastering theoretical knowledge and quantitative skills has become indispensable to better understand and analyze the domestic impacts of international flows of goods and capital in the Brazilian economy in an extremely interdependent world.

In line with the goal of improving my knowledge and developing new skills, the Policy Economics program has offered me thought-provoking and inspiring experiences. The first courses in the program have already shown me new perspectives on the foundations of good economic analysis for good policy making by combining economic theory, quantitative tools and real application practices. It has been particularly exciting and eye-opening, for instance, to dive into the importance of improving productivity and institutions to achieve higher growth rates and development, which has been a chronic challenge of the Brazilian economy in the past few decades. Without better policies that allow for continuous and long-term growth, inequality and the social problems are not easily resolved.

Regarding trade policy, an important discussion about the extent to which Brazil should open its economy to free trade has been recurrent since its industrialization. Juxtaposing Brazil with more developed economies, we can find evidence that openness to foreign competition may play an important role by providing greater access to more innovative goods and services to firms and individuals, allowing for greater productivity. The improvement of institutions may follow, by means of reforming legal and regulatory frameworks that stimulate entrepreneurship and new foreign investment. Also, special attention to education policy and innovation are key to keep and improve competitiveness of labor. Yet, foreign trade accounts for about 23% of the Brazilian GDP.



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From a global perspective, though, the COVID-19 pandemic has raised a new set of questions regarding the direction of the world economy from now on, and what the policy impacts of the public health crisis will be for each country. On a personal level, during these extraordinary times, being engaged intensively in my studies has helped to keep me focused and motivated, although it has been a challenge to not be emotionally affected, even unconsciously, by the atmosphere of uncertainty during the pandemic especially in my home country.



Comércio Exterior e Assuntos Internacionais.
Produtividade, Emprego e Competitividade

So far, the program has already offered me insights on how to address some of the policies that need to be improved in Brazil and I look forward to the next courses to help me contribute more to the improvement of the Brazilian economy and the betterment of society's welfare. The opportunity to participate in the MSPE program has been enriching and will certainly allow me to be a more qualified professional to promote changes in public policies that will be even more pressing in the coming years.

Rafael Alves Lourenço, Brazilian National Consumer Secretariat

Master of Law (LLM), College of Law

I have worked for the Brazilian Federal Government since 2010. I started as a Technical Analyst at the Brazilian Insurance Authority (known by the acronym, SUSEP, in Portuguese), an autarky of the Ministry of the Economy. My main responsibilities were related to supervising institutional conduct toward customers, so-called market conduct supervision.

I was later invited to join the Brazilian National Consumer Secretariat (known as Senacon in Portuguese) to analyze preliminary investigations and administrative sanction proceedings regarding the infringement of consumer rights at a national level. In other words, consumer protection and welfare. The challenges I have faced at Senacon were related to law enforcement, the intersection between law and economics, and privacy law. The issues related to privacy affecting consumers, such as data breaches as well as data collection without informed consent, have increased in Brazil and worldwide.



In my first semester at the University of Illinois, my enrollment in a privacy law course had the objective to understand better and to reflect upon what is privacy, its contours, the harms to it, and how the U.S. is dealing with these issues in terms of case law and statutory law. To complement that, due to the increasing entanglement between consumer, privacy, and antitrust legislation, I enrolled in the antitrust law course to learn about the framework for U.S. antitrust law and how their principles have developed over time, considering that it is the essential center of diffusion of ideas on antitrust.

Werner Baer Prize for Notable Public Service

Dr. Aloísio Araújo, Professor of Economics, of the Escola Brasileira de Economia e Finanças of the Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV), is the 2021 recipient of the Werner Baer Distinguished Service Award. He has been a professor at FGV for over 20 years, and has taught at the Universities of Pennsylvania, Chicago, California and Sorbonne. He is a member of the Brazilian Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation, the Econometric Society and the Third World Academy of Sciences. In 1999, he received the Order of Scientific Merit. Since 2003, he has been an honorary member of the American Academy of Arts & Science. In 2006, he was elected to the US National Academy of Sciences.



Dr. Aloísio Araújo

The Werner Baer Distinguished Service Award is sponsored by the Lemann Foundation in partnership with the University of Illinois and ANPOCS (Associação Nacional dos Centros de Pós-graduação em Economia). It honors the trajectory and legacy of Werner Baer, who trained dozens of Brazilians who now shape the field of economics and economic policy itself in Brazil. This award aims to recognize exemplary and transformational work, focused on the development of Brazil. The evaluation committee was led by Marcelo Braga (Federal University of Viçosa) and included the participation of Rodrigo Soares (Columbia University, nominated by the Lemann Foundation) and Clélio Campolina Diniz (last year's winner).

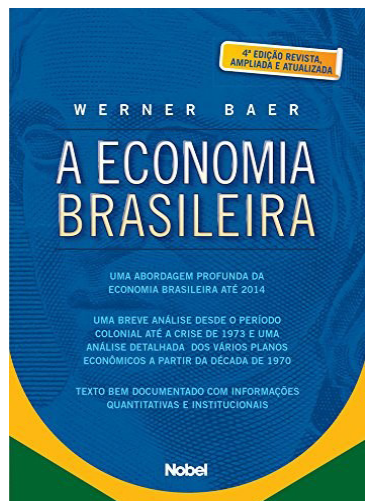
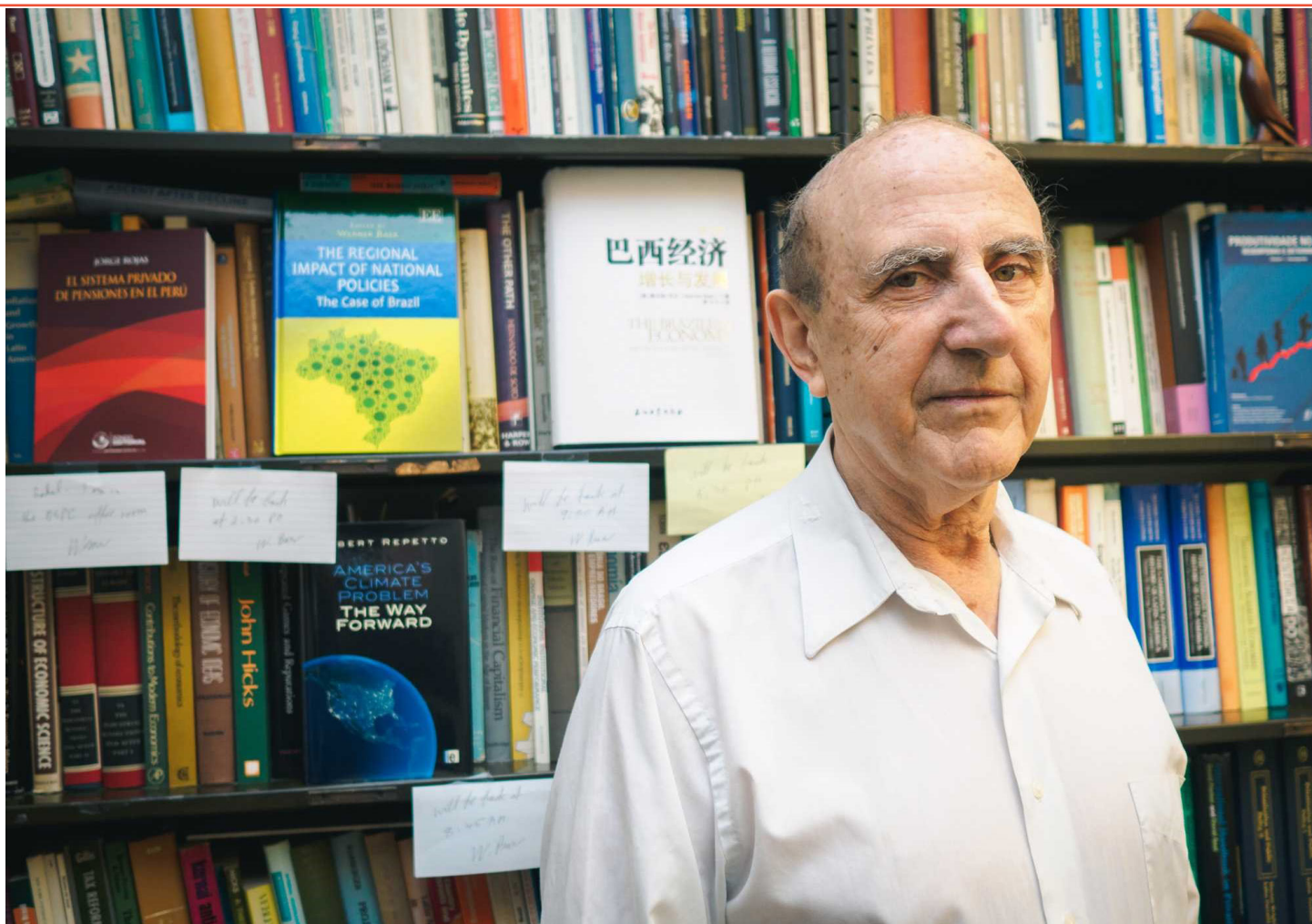
Inaugurating the Werner Baer Postdoctoral Position

A new postdoctoral position that supports early career scholars from Brazil will be inaugurated at the Lemann Center in 2022. It has been created in memory of Werner Baer, renowned economist of Brazilian development who taught at the University of Illinois, thanks to the gift from the family of Professor Baer's sister, Marianne Kilby. This position provides support for Brazilian scholars who received their Ph.D. no earlier than five years prior to the start date of the postdoctoral position and whose studies engage Brazil in any field.

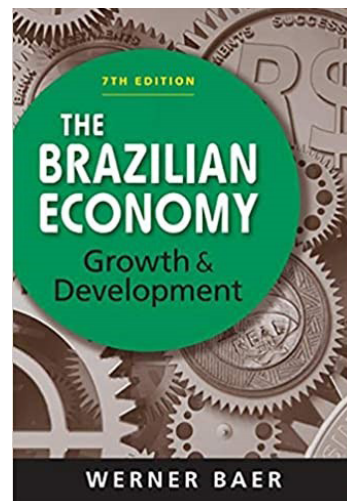
Two semester-long postdoctoral positions are now being advertised for a January 15, 2022 start date. After the two inaugural postdoctoral scholars in the 2022 Spring semester, there will be one year-long postdoctoral position for AY 2022-3, and subsequent academic years. According to former Lemann Center Director Mary Arends-Kuenning, Werner Baer had commented on his own wish to see this sort of postdoctoral opportunity institutionalized, bringing full circle the support of doctoral students and faculty members at the University of Illinois.

Our sincerest thanks to Marianne Kilby and family.

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The late Professor Werner Baer (May 6, 1931 – March 31, 2016) was the Jorge Lemann Professor of Economics at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. His research centered on Latin America's industrialization and economic development.



Lemann Lecture Series

Every year the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies invites a number of distinguished scholars, faculty and graduate students from around the world to present lectures on the foremost issues regarding Brazil's economy, society, and culture.

Fall 2020

September 15th

Armando João Dalla Costa, Lemann Distinguished Visiting Professor

Bunge Brazil (1956 to 1994):

Consolidation of an Economic Group

This paper aims to show that Bunge Brazil consolidated itself as an economic group in the second half of the twentieth century. Founded in Amsterdam in 1818, it has operated in the country since 1905, arriving from Argentina where it was present since the end of the 19th century under the name of Bunge & Born. In the 1990s, the Bunge Brazil group had 127 independent firms. For this paper, we selected four of them, representing several sectors: wheat and milling (Mill Fluminense); paints, varnishes and derivatives (Coral Paints); agribusiness and exports (Sanbra); textile and clothing industry (Santista Textil). Theoretically the text follows the authors who discuss the formation of economic groups in peripheral economies. The primary data were collected from the Bunge Memory Center in São Paulo and through interviews. As a preliminary conclusion, it can be said that Bunge has consolidated itself as an economic group whereas it diversified its activities and transformed some of its 127 companies into industrial conglomerates by having their own affiliates, and forming themselves into other economic groups.



September 29th

Bruno de Macedo Zorek, Universidade Estadual de Campinas

The Future of São Paulo in the 1950s

This lecture is about the future of São Paulo as seen by politicians, intellectuals, and the press in the 1950s. From the perspective of urban planners and politicians, there was a dispute between two fundamental destinies for the city. The first and strongest one believed São Paulo should be prepared with all kinds of urban interventions to become one of the best and



biggest metropolises in the world—a standpoint embraced by the State and embodied by people like Francisco Prestes Maia and Robert Moses, both influential urban planners. The second, an alternative perspective, defended a radical transformation of São Paulo, which then would become a well-planned confederation of small garden cities, each one with no more than 30 thousand people, and all spread through a territory 20 times larger than the one occupied by the city at that moment—a point of view represented especially by Luís de Anhaia Mello, also an urban planner. These two futures, even if opposed to each other, were both optimists and imagined bright futures for São Paulo. But a third representation, born from that dispute, was pessimist and condemned the metropolis to become a dead city if nothing was done to prevent it. Intellectuals from humanities and the press—who were optimists at the beginning of the 1950s, in generally agreeing with the first destiny—shifted their opinion during this decade. As the debate between urban planners went on, both intellectuals and the press increasingly moved away from the optimistic points of view and adopted a pessimistic one, similar to the third perspective. This presentation's main objective is to offer some explanations on why and how that happened, showing the relationships among all of these futures of São Paulo.

October 27th

Faranak MirafTAB, University of Illinois

Clarissa Freitas, Universidade Federal do Ceará

Ken Salo, University of Illinois
Revisiting Transnational Teaching for Social Justice: Virtual, Real and Hybrid Experiences

In this presentation, we revisit our experience of teaching transnationally across Brazil (UFC campus) and the US (UIUC campus) about ongoing struggles of the urban poor against global processes of urban dispossession and displacement. Initiated via Skype class discussions, some UIUC students and faculty traveled to Fortaleza, Brazil in May 2019 to



THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

03 Transnational Teaching for Social Justice

Dialogues of Unlearning during Fortaleza Encounter
Summer 2019



learn how UFC students, faculty, and two favela communities use inclusionary zoning tools to improve access to localized socio-economic and health services. The ongoing and overlapping global health, economic and socio-political crises and associated stay-in-place orders which inhibit travel, have forced us to rethink how to develop experiential learning through transnational exchanges, beyond conventional reading and writing. More specifically, echoing social justice educators like hooks and Spivak, this moment offers a unique opportunity for rethinking how our students at privileged institutions in North and South America learn from their transnational subaltern others. Our talk will reflect on how this moment of multiple crises challenges our project, funded by Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies, to strengthen transnational student literacies of urban exclusions and planning practices.

Spring 2021

February 9th

Mary Ellen Hicks, Amherst College
Black Cosmopolitans and the World of South Atlantic Slavery

This talk explores lives of the freed and enslaved African and creole mariners laboring on slaving vessels in the South Atlantic. It uncovers the complex relationship that early modern West Africans had with the sea—in both Africa and in the diaspora—which was defined not solely by terror



and dislocation, but also by the recurring ability to capitalize on their proximity to oceanic environments, commerce, and flows of information to achieve a range of objectives, including legal freedom, material advancement and personal connection. Focusing on Atlantic world's second most active slave trading port—Salvador, Brazil—it elucidates the connections between transatlantic slaving commerce and broader processes of acculturation, intellectual exchange, and the accumulation and circulation of material wealth throughout the South Atlantic and Bahia.

February 16th

Mila Burns, Lehman College-CUNY
Dictatorship, Resistance, and Feminisms in Dona Ivone Lara's Sorriso Negro



More than simply a paragon of Brazilian samba, Dona (Lady) Ivone Lara's 1981 *Sorriso Negro* (Black Smile) is an album deeply embedded in the political and social tensions of its time. Released less than two years after the Brazilian military dictatorship approved the Lei de Anistia (the "Opening" that put Brazil on a path toward democratic governance), *Sorriso Negro* reflects the seminal shifts occurring within Brazilian society as former exiles reinforced notions of civil rights and feminist thought in a nation under the iron hand of a military dictatorship that had been in place since 1964. Dona Ivone Lara has always claimed to have no connections with political movements or activism. However, *Sorriso Negro* became a symbol for the feminist and Black movements which were gaining strength in the country. Songs like *A Sereia Guiomar* and *Sorriso Negro* are examples of how she navigated the tense gender and race relations in Brazil while keeping a façade of neutrality. Furthermore, they remind us of the urgency of a new vocabulary to express the myriad of strategies of resistance present in the lives of underrepresented groups.

Lemann Lecture Series

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February 23rd

James Macinko, UCLA

The Challenges of Healthy Aging in Brazil

Over the past 30 years, Brazil has made considerable progress in improving the health and well-being of its citizens and such progress has led to a rapid increase in the population aged 60 and over. Yet, the experience of growing older in Brazil varies significantly by socioeconomic conditions and geography. This talk focused on insights from the Brazilian Longitudinal Study of Aging (ELSI-Brasil) to provide an update on the health and well-being of older Brazilians (including experiences with COVID-19) that highlight the role of social inequalities. Results were placed in context through systematic comparison with aging cohorts in over 20 middle- and high-income countries. The seminar concluded with thoughts about challenges and opportunities for promoting healthy aging in Brazil going forward.



March 9th

Thais Rezende da Silva de Sant'ana, University of Illinois

Urban Development and the Making of the City of the Forest in 19th Century Brazil

Histories of cities are in some sense singular and unique. At the same time, I understand that what takes place in each city can enlighten the ways in which a variety of wider and broader urban dynamics operate. Literature in Brazilian urban history has significantly spoken to problems contextualized within turn-of-the-century São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro, and engages with the idea of modernization without change. This talk provides a discussion that expands on the contributions from these studies. It invites us to reflect further on processes and agents that helped build, unbuild and rebuild Manaus – one of the country's most important urban centers – while inquiring into the features of an ecology of urban development that operated in Northern Brazil prior to the peak of the rubber-boom.



March 23rd

Cassio Turra, Centro de Desenvolvimento e Planejamento Regional, UFMG

Socioeconomic Differences in Adult Mortality in Brazil: What Have We Learned so Far?

Mortality decline began in the 1940s in Brazil. It is associated with public health measures, technological advances, and industrialization and urbanization processes. Numerous aspects of the mortality transition in Brazil have been widely investigated. The list includes the determinants of infant mortality decline, changes in the structure of death causes, levels of under-registration of deaths, and regional variations in mortality. However, earlier research has paid little attention to the effects of socioeconomic changes on survival gains. This drawback is unfortunate, particularly for a very unequal country such as Brazil. The most significant difficulty is finding reliable data to generate robust estimates that correlate individual characteristics to mortality. Scholars have recently used and combined demographic and statistical methods, census, death records, and survey data to overcome these limitations. The effort has resulted in new evidence about the socioeconomic differences in adult mortality in Brazil. In this seminar, I will discuss the importance of examining the association between economic and demographic measures and share the methodological advances made over the last years regarding adult mortality. I will also compare Brazilian estimates with results from other countries, highlighting differences and similarities. I will end by talking about what we still must learn on this topic in Brazil, the prospects for new data collections, and the future research agenda.



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Portuguese Language Program

by Raquel Castro Goebel, Director of Portuguese Language Program

This year, the Portuguese Program has many reasons to celebrate, despite all the challenges and uncertainties caused by the pandemic. One of the highlights of the year was Raquel's election as member of the Brazilian Council of Citizens in Chicago (Conselho do Cidadão), a Brazilian Advisory Board devoted to the promotion of Brazilian Culture in the Midwest. She worked diligently to switch all Portuguese language courses to a 100% online delivery mode. She coached the Portuguese Program's TA Flávia Batista on different projects to assist her in completing a Leadership Certificate through the Leadership Center, and she also maintained the Portuguese page on Facebook filled with Portuguese grammar tips and exciting opportunities for community involvement. As a result, this Spring, the Portuguese page on Facebook reached a milestone: 1.000 followers! As Director, she assisted many departments and campus units in verifying and conducting translations, and responding to questions related to the Program Administration. She served as Advisor to the Luso-Brazilian Student Association, as a Reviewer for the Journal of the National Council of Less Commonly Taught Languages-NCOLCTL for Portuguese, and as Member of the Language Evaluation Committee.



of Brazil," that she will be piloting in Spring 2022. She participated in a three-day Curriculum Development training course at The University of Chicago focused on redesigning our first-year basic language curriculum. Raquel presented on "Desenvolvimento de Programas de Português à luz das teorias de Career Coaching" at the IX Encontro Mundial sobre o Ensino de Português- EMEP, an International Conference on the Teaching of Portuguese, organized by the American Association of Teachers of Portuguese- AOTP. In Spring 2021, she participated in a series of conferences and workshops that discussed the teaching of Portuguese in the US, including the series of workshops sponsored by the Brazilian Consulate in Chicago on teaching heritage learners.

To continue creating opportunities for community engagement during the pandemic, Raquel worked closely with students, through the Luso-Brazilian Student Association, to deliver venues for students and community members to connect. Bi-weekly Portuguese Conversation Tables were delivered via Zoom, some in partnership with the University of Michigan. In a collaboration with the Brazilian RSO, she has been developing an ambitious podcast project: "Brazil: one Country, many voices." The podcasts will include interviews with prominent people who work closely to Brazilian culture. The recording of the podcasts is set to begin in Fall 2021. This coming year Raquel will be celebrating her 10-year anniversary as Portuguese Instructor at UIUC.

On November 19, 2020, Raquel participated in the American Association of University Supervisors, Coordinators and Directors of Language Programs- AAUSC's first general on-line meeting to discuss the "Adaptation of Syllabi (assignments, participation, attendance, assessments)" to improve the quality of our Portuguese courses. She assisted in the organization of the first virtual Share Fair event, which took place on Zoom, and had a great attendance record. She devoted the Summer of 2020 to work on course development to fulfill the Mellon grant commitment together with her counterparts at The University of Chicago and Michigan State University. Their group completed the first advanced course, "Journey into Brazil," to be offered in Fall 2021. At the moment, they are working on the second course, "Regions

because the need for leaders



Lemann Center Grant Programs

The Lemann Center Grant programs have as the main objective the support of research proposals on Brazilian topics that involve UIUC faculty members. These Grants are for one year and up to \$20,000.

Faculty Research Grants

Tracing the Global Climate Change in the Late Proterozoic Bambuí Group, Minas Gerais, East-Central Brazil

Franck R. A. Delpomdor, Illinois State Geological Survey, Prairie Research Institute

The Earth's climate has changed throughout the geologic times. Much of the time Earth's climate was warmer than it is today, but climate has sometimes been colder, as when glaciers covered much more of the planet. The objective of this project is to examine one of these glaciations, called Marinoan, in sedimentary rocks of the 500-600 million years old Bambuí Group from east-central Brazil, in which ice and snow globally covered the Earth's surface over several million years. The project will also interpret the geology and paleoclimatology of biogenic rocks that occurred immediately after the global Marinoan glaciation. This research will address two fundamental questions on (a) the synchrony of the carbon isotope fluctuations in the Late Proterozoic Ocean and (b) the reliability of carbon isotope and geochemistry used as indicators of geological events and correlation tools for the Late Proterozoic succession in east-central Brazil and the time-equivalent strata in Central Africa. The data generated in this project will be an important scientific asset, particularly due to lack of extensive geological data between Brazil and Central Africa, which will be certainly a basis for future discussion and will be more widely appreciated by interested researchers regarding Precambrian geology.



Critically Examining Business Models for Private Higher Education Services in Brazil

Carlos Inoue, Gies College of Business

In the last two decades, Brazil has experienced a large influx of private for-profit institutions in higher education. While these institutions contributed significantly to the growth of individuals with post-secondary degrees in the country, they also raised concerns about the delivery and quality of education. Private higher education institutions differ markedly in many aspects such as the number of different establishments, variety of subject areas, use of full-time and part-time faculty, use of in-person and distance learning, and fees charged to students. Such diversity raises the question of how these different business models compare in terms of their ability to create and capture value—that is, achieving good education outcomes while sustaining a viable enterprise. This project proposes to: (1) identify the evolution of alternative business models in the Brazilian private higher education sector; and (2) investigate the relationship between business model attributes and the survival, scaling, and service quality of private higher education institutions. Using qualitative and quantitative methods, this project will offer an assessment of the growth of private for-profit higher education in Brazil, of the different business models used by the educational institutions, and of associated outcomes such as quality of education, worker pay, and business survival.



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Collaborative Research Grants

Maximizing Access to Health Promotion Programs: VAMOS Afro-Brazilians!

Principal Investigators:

Andiara Schwingel, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, University of Illinois

Tania Benedetti, Department of Physical Education, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina



This project is designed to build the collaborations needed to examine the impact of health disparities in access to chronic disease prevention programs, and shed light on strategies that promote inclusion and diversity in the health field. In the context of addressing unhealthy lifestyles to prevent and manage chronic diseases among Brazilians, a community-based behavioral change program was created by the PIs of this proposal in 2012 - VAMOS (“Vida Ativa, Melhorando a Saude”). Since then, VAMOS has been offered at no cost to individuals and the program is financially sustainable due to the fact that it leverages existing resources in Public Health Centers (UBS) that operate under the Unified Health System (SUS) in Brazil. Although VAMOS has proven to be successful in improving the lifestyles and health of participants and has led the way in implementing primary prevention strategies in SUS, the program has experienced limited success in reaching individuals from diverse backgrounds. Specifically, the representation of Afro-Brazilians among VAMOS participants falls behind what it should be, and does not reflect the distribution of Afro-Brazilians in the population.

This project aims to maximize access to health promotion programs among Afro-Brazilians. We will do this by examining the existing database of VAMOS participants by race and gain insights on the differences between White and Afro-Brazilian participants with respect to health characteristics, lifestyles, program participation trends, as well as, collecting and analyzing narratives about the experiences of Afro-Brazilians with the program. We anticipate that this study will expand the inclusion of this underserved and underrepresented population specifically in our on-going project, VAMOS. We also anticipate that the knowledge gained from this study will have a greater impact, as they can be transferred/adapted in other community-based health programs and initiatives across the country.

Understanding the Flow-Structure Interaction of Perforated Structures for Load and Noise Control

Principal Investigators:

Leonardo Chamorro, Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering, University of Illinois

Hernan Ceron-Muñoz, Department of Aeronautical Engineering, Universidade de São Paulo



This collaborative project will focus on uncovering the unsteady dynamics of flexible structures with various porosities or perforations under multiple flow conditions for aerodynamics applications. We plan to carry out laboratory experiments and numerical simulations at the two institutions using our complementary expertise. Coupled characterization of the flow field and structure motion will be performed with synchronized particle image velocimetry (PIV) and digital image correlation (DIC) techniques. Complementary numerical simulations will be carried out at the University of São Paulo to assess the fidelity of various approaches. Spectral analysis and low-order decomposition will be used to characterize the structure motions across scales of the flow. This information will be used to build engineering models to estimate the behavior of porous structures. The formulations will guide the engineering design of porous devices located on the tip of a flap as a possible side-edge flap noise reduction.

Lemann Center Graduate Fellows

The Lemann Center offers awards for graduate students enrolled at Illinois: Lemann Center Graduate Fellowships and Werner Baer Fellowships.

Juliana Mozachi Sandri, Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership.
Adult Learning and Museums: How the Future Museum of Economics of Brazil May Promote Learning Among Its Adult Visitors

The study aims to contribute to the implementation of the future “Museum of Economics of Brazil,” fostering the delivery of financial literacy among the Brazilian adult population. The purpose of the study is to identify through a needs assessment among key stakeholders which would be the most important adult learning principles and museum features when implementing the future Museum.



Daniel Pérez-Astros, Department of Spanish & Portuguese
Post-dictatorship, Trauma, and Testimony in Brazil and Venezuela

This project proposes an intersectional approach, using Testimonies studies and Trauma studies, against the backdrop of Brazilian and Venezuelan literature. How do these two bodies of literature reveal the agency of readership and its construction of nationality concerning past dictatorships? Trauma storytelling also works as a way of coping with violence and as an opportunity for writers and readers to have some closure by reporting the wrongdoings caused by military dictatorships.



Armando José Torres, Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership
Digital Opportunities and Support in Response to COVID-19: Community Empowerment Through Appropriate ICT Solutions

This project aims to examine the relationship between Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and community-based entrepreneurs from favelas within the peripheries of Rio de Janeiro. The objective is to understand the access, usage, and value of ICTs in the local context to better support community entrepreneurs to improve access, generate income, and strengthen support networks. This is a collaborative research effort with the Sustainable Favela Network in Rio de Janeiro to support favela communities to stay connected and to generate income during the COVID-19 pandemic. We have seen how the global COVID-19 pandemic has affected the most vulnerable communities around the world due to access and usage barriers. ICTs are now, more than ever, essential for daily activities. We plan on gathering data through a mixed methods approach to develop the survey instrument and to ensure the complementarity of the findings. As a participatory action research project, there will be an iterative process to continuously share and validate the data collected. The results of this study will be democratically distributed between group facilitators and community leaders to inform best practices and better serve local favela entrepreneurs.



THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

Luis Gonzalo Pinilla Gómez, Department of Art History
Public Aesthetics and Collective Studio Practices in South America, 1960s-1980s

This dissertation is a first-time comparative analysis of the transformations of an art form [artistic print media] and an art space [print studio] practices in three countries in South America –Brazil, Chile, and Colombia– between the early 1960s and late 1980s. It proposes an investigation of the historical precedents and potentialities of the integration between Hispanic America and Brazil in the visual arts, an understudied dimension of South to South connections; these transformations take shape through innovative processes of resurfacing diverse knowledge and cultural systems while highlighting artistic exchanges and dialogues. Through these case studies, I recognize the emergence of transnational artistic circuits, and the enlargement of the narrative of art history beyond hegemonic Western canons. By tracing a local artistic genealogy, this study considers this new global context of artistic production and examines the efforts of local artists and political actors to negotiate it.



Werner Baer Doctoral Fellows



Sebastião Oliveira
Economics

Incoming Doctoral Student, 2021



Rodrigo Fabretti
Psychology

Incoming Doctoral Student, 2021

Created in memory of Werner Baer, renowned economist of Brazilian development who taught at the University of Illinois, thanks to gifts from the family of Professor Baer's sister, Marianne Kilby, and from Jorge Paulo Lemann, the Werner Baer Fellowship supports social scientific doctoral work on Brazil. The Werner Baer Fellowship provides support for incoming Brazilian doctoral students whose studies engage Brazil in the social sciences, and for doctoral students of any nationality and from any academic department conducting social scientific dissertation research on Brazil.

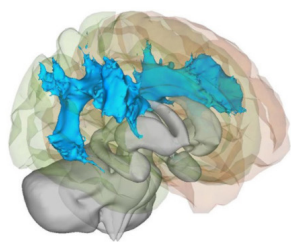
Faculty Reports on Lemann/FAPESP Collaborative Research Grants

Validation of Muscle Mass Measurements Among Brazilian Older Adults

Flavia Andrade, School of Social Work

Ligiana Pires Corona, Department of Applied Sciences, Universidade Estadual de Campinas (UNICAMP)

This proposal will examine whether a simpler procedure based on ultrasonography can be used to measure muscle mass and assist in the diagnosis of sarcopenia among older adults. We plan to address the following aims: 1. Validate the use of portable ultrasonography device against the gold standard Dual-energy X-ray Absorptiometry (DEXA) for body composition; 2. Characterize the body composition of the population of older adults, considering muscle mass and fat mass; 3. Develop formulas based on anthropometric and ultrasonography measurements used in Brazilian clinical settings to more easily identify sarcopenia among older adults. As a direct measure of body composition and fat-infiltration in the muscle, we believe that ultrasonography can simplify the diagnosis of sarcopenia and improve diet and physical activity recommendations in clinical settings.



WELCOME TO THE BRAIN
IMAGING AND TINNITUS:

International Interdisciplinary Conference

November 20-22

International Interdisciplinary Conference on Brain Imaging and Tinnitus

Fatima Husain, Department of Speech and Hearing Science
Jeanne Oiticica Ramalho Ferraz, Faculdade de Medicina, Universidade de São Paulo

On November 20-22, 2020, the University of Illinois hosted the International Interdisciplinary Conference on Brain Imaging and Tinnitus. The virtual conference was

organized by Professor Fatima Husain and members of the Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience Lab and hosted on Zoom. The keynote speaker was Jos Eggermont, PhD, a renowned auditory neuroscientist and tinnitus researcher at the University of Calgary, Canada. The interactive, interdisciplinary conference aimed at researchers, clinicians, and students, featured close to 20 world-renowned and up-and-coming speakers, and covered neural mechanisms, diagnostic measures, and treatments. In particular, colleagues and collaborators from the Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil, joined the conference both as speakers and attendees. About 350 people registered for the conference. Attendance for individual lectures varied between 70 and 117, with attendees representing 28 different countries and five continents, including Africa. Lectures were recorded and made available to the attendees after the conference ended.



THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

The Effects of Environmental Chemical Exposures on Reproduction

Jodi Flaws, Department of
Comparative Biosciences

Wellerson Rodrigo Scarano,
Department of Biosciences
Universidade Estadual Paulista



Healthy reproduction is critical for the survival of all species, including humans. Unfortunately, millions of women and men are infertile across the world. Although many factors contribute to infertility, a major contributor is exposure to environmental chemicals. Several studies indicate that perinatal exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals sets up the male and female offspring to have reduced reproductive capacity throughout their lifetime.

Before we can develop methods to prevent or treat chemical-induced fertility, it is critical to determine the mechanisms by which environmental chemicals adversely impact fertility. Thus, Dr. Wellerson Scarano (Universidade Estadual Paulista) and Dr. Jodi Flaws (University of Illinois) developed a collaboration in which they worked together to examine the effects of perinatal exposure to a group of endocrine disrupting chemicals called phthalates on male and female reproductive organs. These chemicals are of concern because they pose a significant threat to male and female reproduction in men and women and they are commonly used in plastics, building materials, and personal care products both in Brazil and the United States. In fact, phthalates are one of the top contaminants in humans.

As part of the collaboration, Drs. Scarano and Flaws worked together to test the hypothesis that perinatal exposure to environmentally relevant concentrations of phthalates adversely impacts the development and function of the prostate in male offspring and the ovary in female offspring. Further, they tested the hypothesis that the observed effects of perinatal exposure to phthalates are multi-generational in nature. To test the hypotheses, they exposed pregnant rats to a phthalate mixture and then assessed prostate function in the male offspring and ovarian function in female offspring.

The results from the studies on males indicate that the phthalate mixture decreased anogenital distance, prostate weight, and testosterone levels at the lowest exposure dose compared to controls. The mixture also increased inflammatory foci and focal hyperplasia incidence in prostates compared to controls. The data also indicate that phthalate mixture exposure at lower doses can cause greater gene expression modulation as well as other downstream phenotypes than exposure at higher doses. The results from the studies on females indicate that the phthalate mixture altered folliculogenesis and expression of steroidogenic enzymes, but not apoptotic factors or cell cycle regulators in the ovary compared to controls. The phthalate mixture also altered expression of steroidogenic factors and apoptotic factors in the F2 ovary compared to control.

Drs. Scarano and Flaws published a peer-review manuscript in Toxicological Sciences. One of Dr. Flaws' graduate students (Andressa Gonsioroski) visited Dr. Scarano's laboratory to learn techniques, conduct experiments, and collect some data on the collaborative project. Dr. Scarano visited Dr. Flaws' laboratory to learn techniques and discuss the research project in detail. Dr. Scarano also presented an invited seminar on the work in the Interdisciplinary Environmental Toxicology Program seminar series at the University of Illinois. Dr. Flaws planned to present the work at a scientific conference in Brazil this past year. However, the conference was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Flaws and Dr. Scarano are in the process of finalizing the data from their study and plan to submit an additional manuscript for publication soon. They also plan to present the work at upcoming scientific conferences as soon as the pandemic ends and conferences are held in-person again.

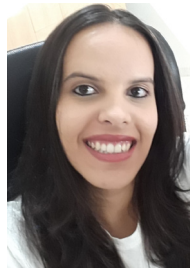
Publications:

Scarano, W., Bedrat, A., Alonso-Costa, L.G., Aquino, A.M., Fantinatti, B., Justulin, L.A., Barbisan, L.F., Freire, P.P., Flaws, J.A., Lemos, B. Exposure to an environmentally relevant phthalate mixture during prostate development induces microRNA upregulation and transcriptome modulation in rats. *Toxicological Sciences* 171:84-97.

Lemann Center Graduate Fellow Research Reports

Event-based Decision-making for Distributed Brazilian Agricultural Systems," Agricultural & Biological Engineering

Ana Paula Spranger Correia de Oliveira, Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering



Research Activities:

Inefficiencies are inherent to any agricultural system, often occurring due to uncertainties in weather conditions, market volatility, and farm and logistics management. Furthermore, farmers often manage several distributed parcels of land in different locations, which significantly increases challenges and risks associated with farm management and asset allocation. To improve farm management, we can integrate data analytics and computer modeling for optimal decision-making. With this research, we developed a mixed-integer linear program to help farms manage risk and reduce inefficiencies on distributed grain farms with many fields and many feasible market endpoints. The model objective is to maximize farmer's profits, and it contains three main types of constraints. Route constraints limit which routes can be traveled for machinery and grain transportation. In-field harvesting constraints limit harvesting rate based on machinery throughput and field capacities. Allocation constraints direct machinery to each parcel of land and grain to each optimal market point. Model outputs include cost breakdown, harvesting time and number of hauling trips, and optimal harvesting and hauling routes. The model is currently being tested and validated in US and Brazilian case studies. Preliminary results show that optimal routes can be found when considering traveling time as opposed to traveling distance. Further, grain harvesting costs are the most significant ones, followed by grain hauling costs and machinery transportation costs. In addition to this research project, I have successfully completed my M.S. thesis defense and deposit. My thesis compares Brazilian sugarcane and the US corn systems in renewable energy production. First, I conducted a literature review to learn from the Brazilian system and its use of sugarcane bagasse for electricity production. I expanded my literature review to also learn

from the US corn system and investigate current supply chain challenges that slow the adoption of renewable energy in the US. Then, I proposed a computer program with a new integrated approach to renewable energy systems that also considered the role of farm and distribution management for optimal supply chain decision-making. The proposed integrated approach resulted in a significant supply chain cost reduction when using both grain and biomass as feedstock for ethanol production.

Publications, working papers, conference proceedings and presentations:

"Identifying Energy Production Opportunities with Event-based Decision-making for Agricultural Systems." 2020 ASABE Annual International Virtual Meeting.

"Integrated Optimization for a Grain-biomass-ethanol Supply Chain with Event-based Decision-making." 2021 ASABE Annual International Virtual Meeting.

"A Multi-crop, Multi-parcel Model for Optimal Machinery and Grain Transportation in Distributed Farm Systems." 2021 ASABE Annual International Virtual Meeting.

Foreign Policy as Fake News? Bolsonaro's Electoral Fear-Mongering Campaign in Brazil

Flávia Batista da Silva, Department of Spanish & Portuguese



In the 2020-21 academic year, I completed my M.A. thesis and successfully graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The fellowship allowed me to solely focus on my coursework and thesis completion, with no teaching duties. I could finish my literature review and data analysis over the last Fall and complete the writing of my thesis over this Spring. I also used my M.A thesis as the writing sample of my Ph.D. applications, and I received two generous offers. In sum, the Lemann Graduate Fellowship was crucial to the conclusion of my M.A. and to my acceptance into a Ph.D. program in Political Science.

THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

Quantifying Amazônia: Ecocritical Narratives and the Afterlife of the Rubber Boom in Brazil, Peru and Colombia (20th & 21st Centuries)

Carmen Gallegos, Department of Spanish & Portuguese

Research Activities:

The 2020-21 academic year was a challenging period as we all learn how to re-imagine our research work and adapt to the fluctuating “new normal.” I was able to focus on writing two chapters of my dissertation and conduct remote archival work. In addition, I presented part of my research in the Lemann Graduate Forum. My project highlights the creation of an accounting rhetoric in which the Amazon region is re-imagined through, for example, infographics and photographs produced by the Brazilian government to participate in the Chicago (1893) and New York (1912) world’s fairs. My research focuses on a turning point in the representation of the Amazon rainforest as a space of contention and quantification during the economic downfall of the rubber boom economy and the beginning of photography in Latin America. From an ecocritical approach, I suggest that the Amazon rainforest was not only exoticized, but also calculated and quantified, shaping our perception of biodiversity, extractivism, and conservation as concepts that can always be “measured.” I have been engaged in completing the historical part of my dissertation and writing the visual analysis of primary sources from archives located in Manaus (collected during my fieldwork in Brazil during the summer of 2018) as well as online sources during 2019 and 2020. Finally, I am developing a paper that compares 19th and 20th-century visual ephemera about the Amazon rainforest in Peru and Brazil.

Publications, working papers, conference proceedings, and presentations:

“Postcards in the Marketplace: 19th and 20th centuries Amazon Imagery in a Contemporary Digital Archive.” (In preparation).



Collective Candidacies, Collective Mandates and New Municipalism In Brazil - Possibilities for Gender Equality in Cities and States

Cintia Martins Freitas, Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies

Research Activities:

I had many opportunities to advance my research on collective candidacies and mandates, new municipalism, and democratic innovation in Brazil. I published an article in the magazine, Red Pepper, and presented parts of my research during the Lemann Graduate Forum and the seminar series on municipalism organized by the Minim Municipalist Observatory and the NYU Urban Democracy Lab. I was invited to make a presentation on the “Feminization of Local Politics” to students of UIUC’s course “Community Development in the Global South” (UP 423) during one of their class meetings in Fall 2020. Together with Atyeh Ashtari and Professor Faranak Miraftab, I have successfully applied for the Global Intersections Grant for Fall 2021 (from the Center for Global Studies at UIUC) with the project “Rethinking local-global intersections and urban features: a digital storytelling platform to construct solidarities in radical care and democracy.” This year, I have completed my M.A. thesis on collective candidacies, new municipalism and gender equality in Brazil’s local governments.

Publications, working papers, conference proceedings, and presentations:

“Strength in Numbers: Collective Candidacies and Shared Mandates in Brazil,” Red Pepper, Spring 2021.

Cintia Freitas and Faranak Miraftab, “Collective Candidacies and New Municipalism in Brazil: Opportunities and Challenges for Democratic Innovation,” Urban Studies (Special Issue on New Municipalism). In progress.

“Collective Candidacies and Shared Mandates in Brazil: Opportunities and Challenges,” Seminar series on municipalism, organized by the Minim Municipalist Observatory and the NYU Urban Democracy Lab, March 2021.



Werner Baer Fellow Research Reports

The Ability of Firms to Engage in International Trade Depends Crucially on their Access to Credit

Vinicius Poloni Sant' Anna,
Department of Economics

Research Activities:

A growing body of research studies the role of credit availability to international trade activity. However, the limited availability of firm-level data and the difficulty in separating credit supply shocks from other economic factors pose a significant challenge for these studies. My research contributes to this literature by using a combination of highly granular and unique Brazilian databases hosted by the Central Bank of Brazil to investigate and quantify the effects of a sudden change in credit availability on international trade activity, including potential spillovers to the rest of the domestic economy. To estimate these effects, I study the general credit expansion from government-owned banks in Brazil following the 2008 Global Financial Crisis. Before the Financial Crisis, private and government-owned banks behaved similarly in terms of their credit operations and growth rates. After Lehman's bankruptcy, however, increased risk concerns spread across financial institutions causing them to reduce credit availability. To prevent the adverse effects of credit constraints on spreading throughout the economy, the Brazilian government pressed government-owned banks to act counter-cyclically. Our results show that government banks' credit supply shock was larger to exporter or importer firms relative to firms that produce for the domestic market. This research contributes to the understanding of the Global Financial Crisis in 2008 to the Brazilian economy in the context of international trade. It also has potential policy implications for credit expansion policies in supporting exporters and importers during financial crises.



Publications:

Cortes, Sant'Anna, and Van Doornick. (2021). "The Direct and Indirect Effects of Credit Shocks on Exporter and Importer Firms." Working Paper. Seminar at the University of Illinois, Macroeconomics Graduate Student Seminar Series. 2020.

Brunna Bozzi Feijó, Department of History

Research Activities:

In my first semester in the PhD program, I took four courses: 1) "Approaches to History" (Hist 593) with Professor Craig Koslofsky; 2) "History and Social Theory" (Hist 591) with Professor Kathryn Oberdeck; 3) History of Brazil since 1808 (Hist 405) with Professor Marc Hertzman; and 4) Latinx Americanism Between Colonialism and Postcolonialism (Span 507) with Professor Vincent Cervantes. Hist 405 and Span 507 will count towards the required credits for Modern and Colonial Latin America, my choices of major and minor, respectively. Women and Gender Studies will be my second minor.



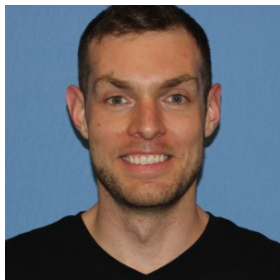
The four courses have helped me design the historiographical, methodological and theoretical groundwork to sustain an original research agenda about the interplay of religion, gender and authoritarianism. My plan is to develop better tools to work with oral history. I might have to rely more heavily on interviews and testimonies than anticipated, given that physical archives might not be a feasible source in the foreseeable future (at least not in Brazil). I have made progress towards my degree by doing the groundwork of my first-year paper, which is about the participation of women in the Theology of Liberation, as well as the ways religiosity shaped women's engagement in civil resistance to the Brazilian dictatorship (1964-1985). In Spring 2020 (during my M.A. in the Spanish and Portuguese Department), I started to work with progressive Catholicism in Latin America, when I wrote an annotated bibliography on this topic as the final paper for History 507 (Creating Differences in Latin America). I have turned that initial and broad interest into prospective research questions.

THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

Marcelo Mazzocato, Department of Economics

Research Activities:

I began the Ph.D. program by doing research in applied microeconomics as well as in development and labor economics. The first-year students all take the same two-course sequences in Micro, Macro and Econometrics, which are the foundation for all further coursework and research in Economics. So, this year I focused on thoroughly learning the tools of the trade. Last semester I was a student of Dr. Bera, Dr. Lemus and Dr. Parente, all of whom got to know me personally (although through zoom) and talked to me about their research and potential opportunities for my upcoming years in the program, even though in the first year these opportunities are not yet available for me. In the Spring semester, I took classes with Dr. Krasa, Dr. Chung and Dr. Xie. I felt the complexity of the material increasing but I'm definitely gaining knowledge and confidence that I will be able to formulate an original research agenda as well as carry out my TA responsibilities in the next semesters. This year I also got to know my fellow classmates and my three TAs. All of them have been instrumental in keeping me focused and motivated in spite of the challenges that come along with a rigorous academic program. Unfortunately, I lacked in getting to know my senior class students beyond my TAs because of the pandemic situation, so that is definitely something I will strive to make up for in the next school year, as networking and co-working can be very beneficial in an academic's career.



Migrants and the Brazilian Boom-City: Manaus from 1892 to 1940

Thais R.S. Sant'Ana, History

Research Activities:

I became involved with grassroots initiatives in the Amazon, I performed follow-up research, and I am currently revising the final draft of my dissertation in preparation for my defense. Additionally, I joined debates with a focus on the transcontinental Amazon rainforest hosted at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies (Harvard University), as well as presented research findings at online academic events across the Americas and in the UK. My project was recently selected in a university wide competition to receive the support of the Humanities Research Institute (HRI) graduate fellowship. The HRI fellowship was declined in order to accept a postdoctoral appointment at another higher education institution.



Selected publications, working papers, conference proceedings, and presentations:

"The Global Drought and Crisis." Invited Guest Lecturer, Colgate University, United States, February 2021.

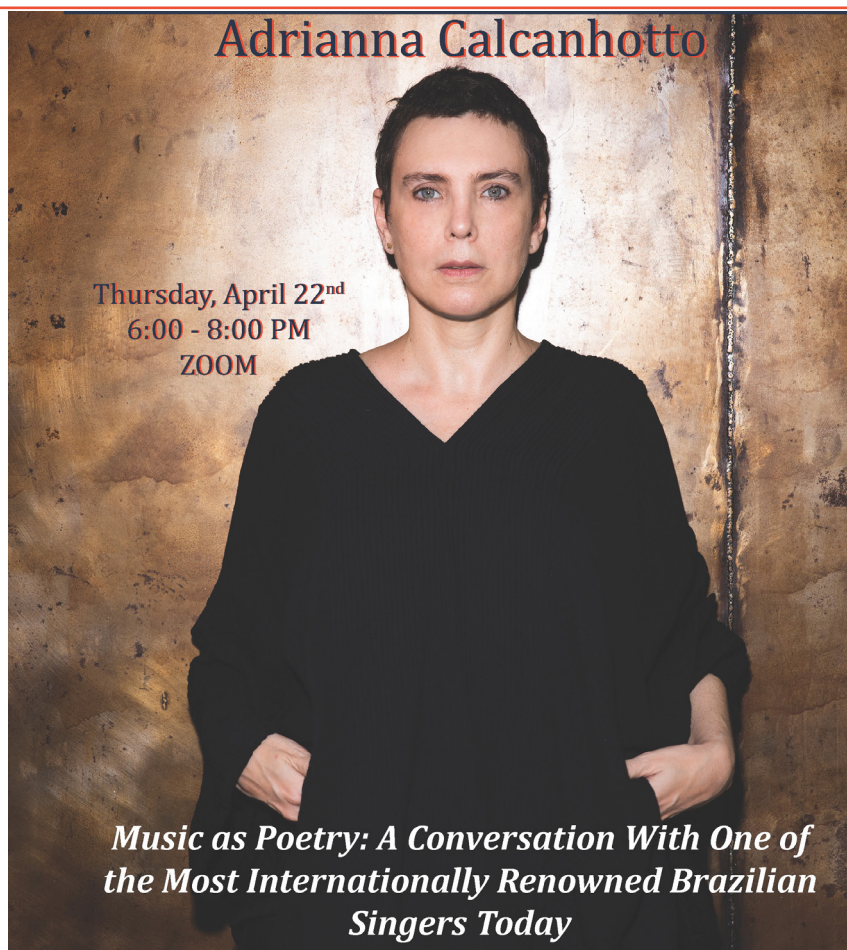
"The Role of Women in Northern Brazil's Large-Scale Migration Flows." Notes from Home Conference, Newcastle University, United Kingdom, March 2021.

"Urban Development and the Making of the City of the Forest." Invited Guest Lecturer (Lemann Lecture Series), University of Illinois, United States, March 2021.

"City as a Bricolage: Alternative Understandings of the Urban." The American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, United States, April 2021.

"Popular Experiences and City Making in the Amazon." Latin American Studies Association Annual Congress, Canada, May 2021.

Cultural Programming



On April 22, 2021, the Lemann Center featured Adriana Calcanhotto in the event, “Music as Poetry: A Conversation With One of the Most Internationally Renowned Brazilian Singers Today.” Some four hundred people signed up for this event on Zoom.

Adriana Calcanhotto is a multi-platinum performer and Latin American Grammy Award winner. She won the “Best Portuguese Language Song” for “Tua,” and the Best Children’s Album with “Adriana Partimpim.” Her “songs have a force of their own, broadcast on radios and picked up by television shows and exported all over the world. Composing widely popular ballads to conceptual art inspired by the greats in Literature and poetry, largely influenced by Brazilian modernism, her original songs continue to be re-recorded by great musicians.” Currently professor and ambassador at University of Coimbra, Adriana reveals a great devotion for words, books and poetry. She not only wrote melodies for some of her favorite poems, but worked together with important voices of contemporary poetry, performing with Augusto de Campos, Antonio Cicero, Waly Salomão, and Ferreira Gullar.

Cosponsors of this event included the Consulate-General of Brazil in Chicago, the Center for Latin American & Caribbean Studies, the Humanities Research Institute, the Illinois Global Institute, and the Women & Gender in Global Perspectives Program.

THE LEMANN CENTER FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES

As part of International Week at Illinois, on October 19, 2020, the Lemann Center sponsored the performance of Luciano Antonio. Luciano's performance took the audience on a tour of Brazil by presenting a range of Brazilian compositions combined with his own original compositions. His performance includes rich and complex harmonies and melodies with simple rhythms as well as songs that have simple harmonies and melodies with very complex rhythms. The dynamics of his performance range from pure solo guitar and voice to the full sound of rich Brazilian percussion.



Luciano was born into a musical family on January 3, 1969 in rural Iretama, Paraná, Brazil. In a melodiously rich environment, he learned first how to sing with his mother, Luiza Maria. He further developed his vocal abilities through his maternal grandparents who performed for local live radio shows as well as his paternal grandparents who harmonized beautifully. By age 14, he took up the violão (acoustic guitar) as a self-taught instrument, focusing his repertoire on Brazilian Folk and Bossa Nova (Brazilian Jazz). He continued his pursuit of technical development through the study of classical guitar at the age of 17, attending several guitar symposiums, workshops and master classes under one of Brazil's most respected professors, Henrique Pinto.

Luciano's music journey next led him to the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) where he received a Bachelor's degree in music performance. At UMKC, he was invited to join Chicago Samba (a Chicago based Brazilian

music group) and commuted weekly between Kansas City and Chicago to make ends meet. After successfully completing his education at UMKC, he relocated to Chicago where he has since established himself as a performing artist. Luciano has collaborated with many great fellow artists: playing acoustic guitar on John Goldman's 'For All the People,' vocals on Matt Geraghty's 'Mozaic,' arranging/co-producing, and performing on the recent release 'Samba Mundo' by St. Louis based Samba Bom, serving as lead vocalist and guitarist with the Evanston Orquestra de Samba which connects classical music with Brazilian rhythms and harmonies, and performing throughout the Chicago Jazz scene as a soloist. Other engagements include opening performances for Caetano Veloso, Vinicius Cantuaria, Virginia Rodrigues, performances for the Chicago Mayor's Office of Special Events, The Democratic Convention of 2004, Jakarta International Jazz Festival in 2007, Bright Future International Festival in Sochi, Russia in 2013, and several commercial releases throughout the Mid-west. In 2011, Luciano released "Vida de Arista -An Artist's Life," an album of original music. His second album of original music is "Sem Palavras-Without Words."

Other Co-Sponsored Activities:

- K-14 Education During COVID-19 in the US and Abroad: A Professional Development Workshop for K-12 and Community College Educators and Librarians. July 28-29, 2020.
- Graduate Student Workshop "Writing Effective Fellowship Proposals". November 6, 2020.
- Learning Latin American Dances: Afro-Brazilian Samba. February 11, 2021.
- On-Contamination: With Brazilian artist Ricardo Basbaum - Inaugural Talk. March 11, 2021.
- Migration and Game Design: Keynote Lecture by Lual Mayen. "From Refugee to Game Developer: Peacemaking through the Art of Gaming." April 8, 2021.
- AsiaLENS Finding Yingying Virtual Screening. April 2-9, 2021.
- 51st Linguistics Symposium on Romance Languages (LSRL 51). April 29th - May 1st, 2021.

About the Center

Established in 2009, the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies promotes teaching and research about Brazil by faculty and students at Illinois and their Brazilian counterparts, who take advantage of the extensive resources available at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

Building on long-standing collaboration with Brazilian scholars in economics and agriculture, as well as nearly a half-century of teaching and research in Brazilian literature and history, the Center fosters knowledge and understanding of Brazil across disciplines and colleges. It does this by offering fellowships to UIUC and Brazilian students at graduate and undergraduate levels; funding faculty research; organizing international conferences on Brazilian topics; and supporting cultural activities.

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