

DEFENDING THE LAND: SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICTS IN THE AMERICAS

A CONFERENCE OF THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM
AND THE DEPARTMENT OF SPANISH



Photo: Flor Ruiz; Date: February 7, 2011

APRIL 22-23, 2022

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY CONNELLY CENTER



VILLANOVA
UNIVERSITY
College of Liberal Arts
and Sciences

Defending the Land:

Socio-Environmental Conflicts in the Americas

Conference Chair:

Raúl Diego Rivera Hernández, Associate Professor of Spanish, Director of the Latin American Studies program

Organizing Committee:

Agnese Codebò, Assistant Professor of Spanish

Laura Sáñez, Assistant Professor of Spanish

Miguel Ibáñez Aristondo, Assistant Professor of Spanish

Special acknowledgments:

This conference is made possible by a Faculty Research and Development Grant of The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

A sincere thanks to all our conference sponsors:

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The organizers of the conference would also like to acknowledge the generous support of the staff who have made this event possible: Chelsea Gerrard, Louise Griffin, Anne-Marie Joyce, Melanie Menkevich, Rebecca Rebalsky, Liesel Schwarz, and Jennifer Schu.

Keynote Speakers



Gabriela Valdivia is a Professor of Geography at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Assistant Dean in Honors Carolina. She is a feminist political ecologist examining the relationship between resources and socio-environmental inequities, with a focus on environmental injustices in Latin America. Gabriela is the author of the digital project *Crude Entanglements*, which explores the affective dimensions of oil production; co-author of *Oil, Revolution, and Indigenous Citizenship in Ecuadorian Amazonia*; and co-editor of the Routledge Handbook of Critical Resource Geography.

Jaskiran Dhillon is an anti-colonial scholar and organizer who grew up on Treaty Six Cree Territory in Saskatchewan, Canada. Her work spans the fields of settler colonialism, anthropology of the state, environmental justice, anti-racist feminism, colonial violence, political ecology, and youth studies. Her writing has been published in *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, *Cultural Anthropology*, *Feminist Formations*, *Environment and Society*, *Social Texts*, and *Decolonization* among other venues. She is the author of *Prairie Rising: Indigenous Youth, Decolonization, and the Politics of Intervention* (2017) and co-editor of *Standing with Standing Rock: Voices from the #NoDAPL Movement* (2019). Her new book, *Notes on Becoming a Comrade: Solidarity, Relationality, and Future Making* is forthcoming in 2022. Jaskiran is an Associate Professor of Global Studies and Anthropology at The New School and served as the founding president of The New School's AAUP Chapter. She is also building a radical community bookstore in West Philadelphia.



Featured Artist



Ana Llácer is a Spanish/American journalist and independent documentary filmmaker particularly interested in stories with an environmental justice focus and rooted in the vindication of human rights. Her recent works include the short films *No fate* (2015) and *Royalty* (2020), and the documentary *UMA: A Water Crisis in Bolivia* (2020), winner of the Best Documentary Feature Award at the Red Nation International Film Festival (2020) and the Best Indigenous Film Award at the Wildlife Conservation Film Festival (2020).

Conference Program

Friday, April 22nd

9:00 AM **Registration.** Bryn Mawr Room, Connelly Center

9:30—9:45 AM **Land Acknowledgement.** Connelly Cinema, Connelly Center. Whitney Martinko

Welcome. Raúl Diego Rivera Hernández

9:45—11:10 AM **Opening Plenary Session.** Connelly Cinema, Connelly Center

Moderator: Agnese Codebò

Gabriela Valdivia, Professor of Geography at UNC-Chapel Hill. “Feminist Political Ecologies of Healing in the Americas”.

11:10—11:30 AM **Coffee Break.** Bryn Mawr Room, Connelly Center

11:30 AM—1:15 PM

Panel 1 (in-person). Women, Land, and Dispossession in the Americas

Moderator: Cristina Soriano

Saint Davids/Radnor Room, Connelly Center

Kaché Claytor, Washington University in St. Louis. “Black Women and the Fight for Land in the Pacific Coast of Colombia”.

Rosa Philipp, Katholische Universität Eichstätt-Ingolstadt. “Body and Territory: A Feminist Political Ecology of Female Protagonism in Environmental Conflict”.

Carmen Valdivia, Macalester College. “Mercurial Coloniality, Gold and Water in Claudia Sparrow’s *Maxima* (2020)”.

Cristina Elena Pardo Porto, CUNY. “Cyanopsia: New Ways of Seeing Latinx-American Photography in the Anthropocene”.

1:15—2:15 PM **Lunch**

2:15—4:00 PM

Panel 2 (hybrid webinar). Ecocriticism and Ecologies of Hope

Moderator: Jill González

Fedigan Room, Saint Augustine Center, Room 400

Carolina Irene Márquez Méndez, Instituto Mora. “Revaloración de la vida frente a la vulneración socioambiental y la violencia”.

Yolanda Mexicalxóchitl García Beltrán, Colegio de México. “Los proyectos eólicos en México y en el mundo como generadores de energía y de conflictos socioambientales”.

Inna Sukhenko, University of Helsinki. “The Literary Dimensions of Socio-Environmental Conflicts in U.S. Nuclear Fiction: On Solastalgia in Communicating U.S. Nuclear History”.

Ruby July Peñaranda Espinoza, El Colegio de San Luis. “Basura y sostenibilidad”.

2:15—4:00 PM

Panel 3 (in-person). How to Do Things with Decolonization: A Panel of Villanova Graduate Students

Moderator: Dana Lloyd

Saint Davids/Radnor Room, Connelly Center

Laura Simpson, Theology and Religious Studies. “Captivity and Surplus: An Exploration of Carceral Settler Colonialism”.

Shayla Jordan, Theology and Religious Studies. “Decolonizing Education: From Native American Boarding Schools to Tribal Colleges and Universities”.

Elisha Chi, Theology and Religious Studies. “Decolonizing the Tabernacle: A Prescription for the Propagation of the Doctrine of #landback for the Catholic Church”.

Perdian Tumanan, Theology and Religious Studies. “Is Indonesia Doing Settler Colonialism in West Papua?: A Historical, Economic, and Cultural Analysis”.

4:00—4:20 PM **Coffee Break.** Bryn Mawr Room, Connelly Center

4:20—6:20 PM **Film screening of *UMA: A Water Crisis in Bolivia* (2020).** Q&A session with director and producer Ana Lláter.

Moderator: Tania Romero

Connelly Cinema, Connelly Center

6:30 PM **Food Truck Night.** Villanova Oreo

Saturday, April 23rd

Connelly Center

9:30 AM **Registration.** Haverford Room. Coffee and pastries for guests and participants.

10:00 AM—12:30PM

Panel 4 (in person). Literature and the Environment

Moderator: Miguel Ibáñez Aristondo

Devon Room

Ginett Pineda, Penn State University. “Simpatías necesarias en tiempos de Pandemia: La significación de los cangrejos en *Mugre Rosa* de Fernanda Trías”.

J. Manuel Gómez, La Salle University. “Protectores de la naturaleza: seres místicos y criptozoología”.

Cait Salomon, Villanova (M.A. English). “Gardens in 'a sizzling wasteland': *The Year of the Flood* as a 'hopepunk' model for environmental restoration”.

Iván Díez de la Pava, University of Florida. “El hombre y la selva a través de la figura de Antonio José Bolívar Proaño en *Un viejo que leía novelas de amor*”.

Ulises Juan Zevallos Aguilar, The Ohio State University. “Quechua Cosmopolitism Against Extractivism. *Qaparcuy* (2012) by Dida Aguirre”.

12:30—2:30PM **Lunch**

2:30—4:00PM

Panel 6 (in person). El conocimiento colectivo a favor de la dignificación social y ambiental en Norristown, PA.

Moderator: Tomás Hidalgo Nava

Connelly Cinema

The Environmental Justice Group and Activistas of the Center for Culture, Art, Training, and Education (CCATE). Presenters: Caitlin Brady, Lourdes Flores, Rosalba Esquivel Cote, Diana Lugo, and Gilliam Lorenzo Rosa.

4:10—4:30 PM **Coffee Break.** Haverford Room.

4:30—6:00 PM **Closing Remarks.** Connelly Cinema.

Moderator: Laura Sáñez

Jaskiran Dhillon, Associate Professor of Global Studies and Anthropology at The New School.
“Organizing Against Climate Change: Anti-Colonial Feminist Praxis, Solidarity, and Future Making”.