Decolonization in the 21st Century: Revolutionary Perspectives from Latin America and Beyond

Over the last 500 years a vehement critique of colonialism and imperialism has emerged from marginalized groups all across the Americas. This history of exclusion and oppression is based on the maintenance of logics derived from Eurocentrism, and at every stage works to control what is deemed the truth and who is deemed a human. Elites who support these ways of thinking construct ideological structures and societal institutions that persist to this day, seeking to regulate how we conceive of concepts such as knowledge, power, being, gender, race, sexuality, and existence. In much of the work under the umbrella of Latin American Studies, Caribbean Studies, and/or U.S. Latino Studies many of these logics are interrogated if not refuted for their unsustainable and unjust outcomes. In this conference we hope to share reflections on how we each tackle this complex system of colonial/modern inequality both in how we do our work and in the topics and subjects we seek to study.

Some of the questions involved in this dialogue would include:

- How do we diagnose or identify colonial logics within systems of knowledge production and power?
- What methods of research are useful for the identifying and undoing of Eurocentric theoretical frameworks?
- Where are articulate and forceful challenges to colonialism and neocolonialism coming from and who is involved in such critiques?
- How do area and ethnic studies contribute to the decolonizing of the university setting and for society in general?

We welcome submissions from all disciplines and fields of study that are part of the social sciences and humanities, although other fields will also be considered. We welcome submissions from graduate students, faculty members, activists, artists, and people involved in media. We ask that submissions be on topics based on or related to people or ideas from Latin America, the Caribbean, and Latinos in the United States.

Submission Guidelines:

- We invite all types of presentation formats including: panels, paper presentations, workshops, plenary, think tanks, posters, and other formats
- Please include a presentation title, your organizational affiliation, and contact information
- Individual Presentation: 200-300 word abstract; Panel or Group Presentation: 500 word abstract
- **Extended Deadline for Submissions: February 26, 2015 11:59pm EST**
- Email submissions in PDF files and any questions to lacsgradstudents@gmail.com
- *Travel grants* are available for select PhD students, see website below for guidelines
- Refer to the webpage [http://lacsgradstudents.wordpress.com/](http://lacsgradstudents.wordpress.com/) for information on travel grants, lodging, transportation, and more