

Occupy 2011

A PHOTO ESSAY

We are inspired by the Occupy movements that captivate the economic angst of our times and we are well aware that the 99% figure comprises a disproportionate number of Chicanos, Latinos, and immigrant communities.



Chair Message

Let me begin with a family story. Each spring, my 79-year-old mother leaves her home in McAllen, Texas, and heads to the border city of Reynosa, Mexico, to get her annual "tune-up." The ritual includes a new wardrobe, "the works" in the local beauty salon, and maybe even a new hair color. My mother says, "Renovarse o morir," which means, "Renew yourself or die." My mother's wisdom applies not only to personal renewal, but also to political renewal. The Occupy Movement has been about renewing democracy, inserting the voices of the 99% into political discourse, and eradicating old forms of governing that damage the majority of citizens. At the department level, we have many areas where we have blossomed and evolved. Among our many renewals are the following:



Dr. Aida Hurtado

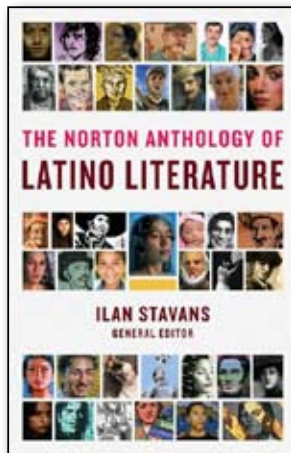
- Aside from our existing extraordinary talented lecturers, we have hired

(Continued on page 3)

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BookFinder



• **STAVANS, ILAN, EDNA ACOSTA-BELÉN, HAROLD AUGENBRAUM, MARÍA HERRERA-SOBEK, ROLANDO HINOJOSA, AND GUSTAVO PÉREZ FIRMAT, EDS.** *THE NORTON ANTHOLOGY OF LATINO LITERATURE*. NEW YORK: W.W. NORTON & COMPANY, 2011.

This groundbreaking anthology traces four centuries of Latino/a writing and includes the work of 201 writers from Chicana/o, Puerto Rican, Cuban-American, and Dominican-American traditions as well as writing from other Spanish-speaking countries. The anthology encompasses diverse genres, and it features writers such as José Martí, William Carlos Williams, Julia Alvarez, Oscar Hijuelos, Cristina García, Piri Thomas, Esmeralda Santiago, and Junot Díaz.

• **ALDANA, GERARDO.** *TYING HEADBANDS OR VENUS APPEARING: NEW TRANSLATIONS OF /K'AL/, THE DRESDEN CODEX VENUS PAGES, AND CLASSIC PERIOD ROYAL 'BINDING' RITUALS*. BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORTS INTERNATIONAL SERIES 2239. OXFORD: ARCHAEOPRESS, 2011.

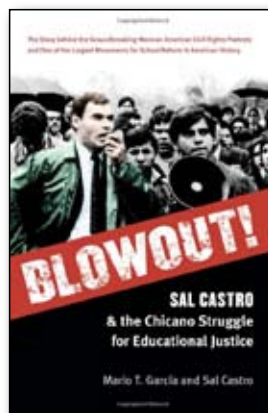
Tying Headbands presents a new conceptual continuity between



ancient Mayan and Central Mexican codex records. Revising both the mathematical and textual interpretations of the Dresden Codex Venus Table, this book uses a new reading of the hieroglyphic verb /k'al/ to reveal a ritual 'enclosing' of space and time at the core of Mesoamerican religions.

• **GARCIA, MARIO AND SAL CASTRO.** *BLOWOUT! SAL CASTRO AND THE CHICANO STRUGGLE FOR EDUCATIONAL JUSTICE*. CHAPEL HILL: U OF NORTH CAROLINA PRESS, 2011.

This book is an oral history/testimonio of Sal Castro, his life and times. Castro traces, in his own words, his coming of age in Los Angeles in the 1930s and 1940s; his early years as a high school teacher; and covers his major role in the historic 1968 "blowouts" when thousands of Chicano students walked out of their schools to protest years of educational segregation and inferiority in their schools.



• **NOGUERA, PEDRO, AÍDA HURTADO, AND EDWARD FERGUS, EDS.** *INVISIBLE NO MORE: UNDERSTANDING THE DISENFRANCHISEMENT OF LATINO MEN AND BOYS*. NEW YORK: ROUTLEDGE, 2011.



This is a ground-breaking interdisciplinary volume that addresses the dearth of scholarship and information about Latino men and boys to further our understanding of the unique

challenges and obstacles they confront. The volume offers research and policy that decreases the invisibility and disenfranchisement of Latino men and boys. The contributors represent a cross section of disciplines from health, criminal justice, education, literature, psychology, economics, labor, sociology, and more.

Invisible No More includes two articles from our faculty: **Dolores Inés Casillas** "Taking Count of Gender and Legal Status within Latino Media Policy," 122-135; and **Horacio Roque Ramírez**, "Claiming Queer Cultural Citizenship: Gay Latino Im(Migrant) Acts in San Francisco," 180-203. ☿

RECENT

PUBLICATIONS
AND PRESENTATIONS
BY OUR FACULTY

• **RALPH ARMBRUSTER-SANDOVAL**

"The Life of the Party: Alice McGrath, Multiracial Coalitions, and the Struggle for Social Justice," *Aztlán* Vol. 36, Number 1 (Spring 2011) 69-98.

• **EDWINA BARVOSA**

"Mestiza Consciousness in Relation to Sustained Political Solidarity: A Chicana Feminist Interpretation of the Farmworker Movement," *Aztlán* Vol. 36, Number 2 (Fall 2011) 121-154.

• **GERARDO ALDANA**

"On Deciphering Ancient Mesoamerican Foundational Texts: The Challenges of Non-Logos-Based Creation Narrative," 47-68. *Foundational Texts of World Literature*. Ed. Dominique Jullien. New York, Lang Publishing, 2011.

"Indigeneity and Classic Mayan Astronomy." Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies. Guest Lecture, Loyola University, New Orleans. October 7, 2011.

"K'ahk U Pakal K'awiil and the Dresden Codex Venus Table: More Evidence that the GMT is Wrong." Presented by invitation at Maya at the Playa, Florida. October 12, 2011.

• **DOLORES INÉS CASILLAS**

"Sounds of Surveillance: U.S. Spanish-language Radio Patrols La Migma," *American Quarterly*, vol. 63, no. 3 (September 2011), 807-829.

"Adiós El Cucuy: Immigration and Laughter over the Aiwaves," *Boom: A Journal of California*, Vol. 1, Number 3, (September 2011), 44-56.

• **HORACIO ROQUE RAMÍREZ**

"This Desire for Queer Survival." *Ambientes: New Queer Latino Writing*. Eds. Lázaro Lima and Felice Picano. Madison, WI: University of Wisconsin Press, 2011. 96-111. ☿

(Chair's Message... from page 1)

two young scholars who have rejuvenated our existing courses. Felicia Montes, MFA, is an artist and performer and is teaching "Contemporary Chicana/o Art." Check out her video at (<http://youtu.be/EHgLhd-K7xE>). Dr. Georgina Guzman, who earned her doctoral degree in English at UCLA, is working on a book-length manuscript entitled: *Affective Archives: Racialized, Immigrant, and Gendered Labor and the Politics of Shame and Empathy in Chicana/o Literature*. She is teaching "Chicana Writers."

• We have a new cohort of four extraordinarily talented graduate students who have joined our other equally talented 24 graduate students: Janett Barragan, Juan Sebastian Ferrada, Adrianna Simone, and Silvia T. Villarreal.

• Professor Gerardo Aldana, the founding editor of this newsletter, is now co-editor and Professor Dolores Inés Casillas is the new head editor.

• Our faculty and graduate students continue to write books, journal articles, chapters, present at conferences, and teach. Our department is a vibrant and productive intellectual environment full of engagement and innovation.

• We are looking forward to a new hire during this academic year.

• We will be hosting the annual meetings of MALCS (Mujeres Activas en Letras y Cambio Social; <http://www.malcs.org/>) in August 2012. In preparation for this momentous event, we will also be hosting the National Coordinating Committee Mid-year Meetings January 20-21, 2012.

There is no doubt all of the activity and energy surrounding our department would make my mother proud. She revels in change and innovation. "Haz algo; no nada más estés parada," was the refrain in our house—always abuzz with activity, laughter, chistes, and innovation. Renovarse o morir—indeed.

Feliz Navidad y Prospero Año Nuevo. May the holidays bring you and your loved ones, renewal, energy, movement, and glorious happenings in the coming year. ☿

Demetria Martínez receives the 2011 Luis Leal Award!

(Santa Barbara, CA) – This year, Demetria Martínez (novelist, poet, journalist, and writing coach) became the recipient of the 2011 Luis Leal Award for Distinction in Chicano/a Latina/o Literature. The award was given to Martínez on Thursday, October 27th, in the Corwin Pavilion, at the UCSB campus. The event was attended by more than 600 students, faculty, and community members.

Born and raised in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Martínez is well known for her novel *Mother Tongue*, where she exposes the struggles of Central Americans in their quest to achieve legal refugee status, as a consequence of the region's civil conflicts of the 1980's. *Mother Tongue* (recipient of the Western States Book Award for fiction) is in part inspired by Martínez's own experiences with the Sanctuary Movement. Her journalistic involvement with this movement led to her being tried in 1988 for her alleged support in the smuggling of two



Professor Mario Garcia (left), Demetria Martínez (center) and her father, Ted Martinez (right).

pregnant Salvadorans into the United States. She was found not guilty of those charges.

Martínez's numerous literary works also include, *Breathing Between the Lines* (1997), *The Devil's Workshop* (2002), *Confessions of a Berlitz-Tape Chicana* (2006), *Grandpa's Magic Tortilla* (2010), and her forthcoming collection of short fiction, *The Block Captain's Daughter*. ☿

Faculty Spotlight:

DR. EDWINA BARVOSA

BY D. INÉS CASILLAS

Q. You teach, quite possibly, the largest Chicana Studies class in the nation. Which theme or topic within those ten weeks is your favorite? And what do you have for breakfast before lecturing to over 500 and soon to nearly 700 students?

My favorite topics compare gender norms past and present. It's interesting to see what has changed and what has not within Chicana/o culture and to witness the variations that have always been present, especially in how different Chicanas have responded to the constraints and opportunities that they have faced. I also really enjoy the weeks on labor, educational

"Reading Anzaldúa's work again, I was struck more than ever by how much trauma and recovery from trauma are a theme in Anzaldúa's essays, interviews, and in some major concepts such as the Coatlicue state."

opportunity, and political activism. I eat chorizo and eggs with sauteed spinach on the side for breakfast so I don't run out of steam in the middle of the performance.

Q. As you well know, within Chicana and Chicano Studies, the personal is always theoretically relevant. Your earlier work on mestizaje and self-craft is clearly a testimony to this. In what ways is Political Theory different or alike to this train of thought?

I think research of any kind is usually personal for people in some way. This is as true in political theory as it is Chicana and Chicano Studies, although the drives that different people have in their work often varies. For me, the combination is an easy one since both fields easily incorporate an interest in social justice and social change. As a small child I wondered how people like my father

could work as hard as they do and still live in poverty. I wondered what could keep such a painful and destructive situation in place. In bridging Chicana/o Studies and political theory as an adult I'm able to study the circumstances that maintain social hierarchies and to consider the means by which social change might be realized.

Q. Are there any new trends in either Chicana and Chicano Studies or Political Thought that have influenced your next research project?

I'm still interested in Gloria Anzaldúa's account of mestiza consciousness and in further exploring the political implications of inner diversity. In my first book, *Wealth of Selves*, I focused a lot on the potential contradictions among aspects of the self and how those rifts might influence political life. In my new book project, I'm extending this by identifying different types of inner contradictions, as well as the conditions that produce those contradictions (e.g. collective trauma) and their effects on the perpetuation of racial hierarchies in our "post-racial" era.

Q. You recently taught a graduate seminar on Gloria Anzaldúa and her writings. Did the experience of teaching Anzaldúa lead to any new readings of her work?

Reading Anzaldúa's work again, I was struck more than ever by how much trauma and recovery from trauma are a theme in Anzaldúa's essays, interviews, and in some major concepts such as the Coatlicue State. I seldom write anything that doesn't begin with Anzaldúa in some way or another, so seeing this afresh is now influencing my research and other aspects of my life as well.



Q. So many Chicana academics hail from Texas. Tell us a bit about your family's ties to the State that has produced a strong cohort of Chicana scholars.

My parents are refugees from the Texas borderlands. My father was born in Mexico in 1919. They hailed originally from the rural area between Crystal City and Carrizo Springs and my father grew up not far from Eagle Pass in a place called Winter Haven that time has wiped away. As I grew up, my parents told me stories of local bigotry and violence and how they hadn't wanted to raise me and my brother in the racism of Texas. So the turmoil of Texas was always an absent presence in my childhood--even as I lived in the Texas diaspora--and it shaped me as it does so many other Chicanas. The rest of my family stayed in Texas. My Dad's family (Mexican heritage) is still in Eagle Pass and on the west side of San Antonio, and my mother's side (German and Cherokee) live in central Texas. I visit Texas often for research and family events and it's still an absent presence in my work on racism.

Q. Is there a non academic book that you're reading now?

Yes, I'm reading a book by Desmond Tutu called *Made for Goodness*. ☿

WRITING TIPS

From the Finish Line

EDITED BY ADRIANNA SIMONE

Dissertations are the most exciting part of a graduate student's research and the most terrifying. Fear not! Our seasoned experts have come up with these tips to get you through the dissertation and maybe even all of your graduate education. If your nightmares involve computer crashes that delete all your work or being crushed under a pile of research books, these tips will alleviate your fears and get you well on your way to recovery.

Eddy Alvarez



Dissertation: Finding Sequins In the Rubble: Space, Memory and Identity in Queer Chicana/o, Latina/o Los Angeles

■ Following Chela Sandoval's SWAPA (Spoken Word Art Performance Activism) method, I pick a quote from relevant readings (sometimes non relevant readings) and start freewriting on this quote. Paying attention to intellectual, emotional, and physical responses, I write without worrying about structure. Later on, I edit and extrapolate what will work for my dissertation. On these occasions, my writing is more connected and flows better.

■ Black coffee, a little sugar, and Nina Simone on the radio!

Jose Anguiano



Dissertation: Latino Listening Cultures: Affect, Community and Resiliency in Latino Music Practices

■ Reward yourself for being productive.

■ Build a writing playlist. For good writing groove and minimal lyrics, check out: MarkFarina's Mushroom

Jazz Collection, Röyksopp, Ratatat, Café Tacuba's instrumental album Reves/Yo Soy, and the Kronos Quartet.

■ Did I mention write every day? In fact, go do it now!

Michelle Baca



Dissertation: Representations of Melancholy in Chicana/o Literature.

■ Turn off the TV. All of your friends may be in there, but they will not help you finish your dissertation. They will lead you to believe that you should be paid for analyzing Mad Men.

■ Remember that what you're doing is unique and valuable. No one has ever said what you are saying in exactly the way you are saying it. That's worth something.

William Calvo-Quiros



Dissertation: Double Vision: Border Legends, Border Epistemologies and the Phantasmagoric.

■ Spend money on a good laptop! Ask around...

■ Dedicate time to do some exercise... or arts and crafts, yoga, swim, macra-

mé, whatever keeps your mind clear!

■ Coffee shops are great places to work, but be aware of those places where you may find other people that may distract you. WRITING HOURS are NOT the same as OFFICE HOURS or HAPPY HOURS.

Thomas Carrasco



Dissertation: Oppositional Performance: A Social-Historical Analysis of the Avant-Garde Comedy Troupe Chicano Secret Service.

■ Be as organized as possible.

■ Have writing deadlines.

■ Have a professor on your committee that you have access to.

Amber Rose González



Dissertation: Another City is Possible: Mujeres de Maiz, Spiritual Activism, and the Cultivation of Sacred Spaces in Los Angeles.

■ Be patient with writing blocks. They will happen. Try doing something else related to your project where you can still be productive while giving

(Continued on next page 6)

(Dissertation... from previous page)

yourself a breather to overcome the block.

■ Make sure that when you present at a conference, it's related to your dissertation work—a chapter, a section of a chapter, research findings, etc. There will be plenty of time to present on secondary projects (I just learned this one myself).

Francisco Fuentes



Dissertation: Christian Youth Culture and Chicano Communities at the San Diego-Tijuana Border.

■ If you are an early-bird writer, a good night's sleep and exercise beats coffee in the morning.

■ Take notes to stay organized. Taking notes is an incredible tool to stay organized in the dissertation process. Taking notes on your writing, in addition to note-taking on books, is helpful in developing writing skills and deepening the content in your text.

■ Spoken words can spark ideas as much as written ones. Do not hesitate to speak your ideas out loud or share them with others.

Adrianna M. Santos



Dissertation: Chicana Survival Narratives: Representation, Gender Violence, and Politics.

■ I have always loved writing, but the dissertation is an entirely different animal from poetry, short story, essay, or even an academic article. It is a lengthy and complicated process,

but it is also a passion for me. To keep interested and motivated, I suggest continuing to read for pleasure, making time for friends and family, self-care, and outlining a detailed writing plan (be open to changing it if you get inspired in a specific direction). You are, after all, an expert on your topic.

■ Most of all, love what you do. I count my blessings every night that I am in a position to do what I love every day.

Cristina Serna



Dissertation: Deconstructing the Nation: Queer and Feminist Art in Mexican and Chicana@ Social Movements.

■ It has been very helpful to make a work plan each semester and set clear, measurable goals. This includes making a list of specific tasks and putting them on a calendar. It has also been very useful to sit down on

Sundays to plan my work calendar for the week; it makes my week more productive. I recommend blocking out a set amount of writing hours each day.

■ The following online tool has been useful for getting started on a brand new piece of writing when I am feeling stuck and need an extra push: <http://writeordie.com/#Web+App>

Jessie Turner

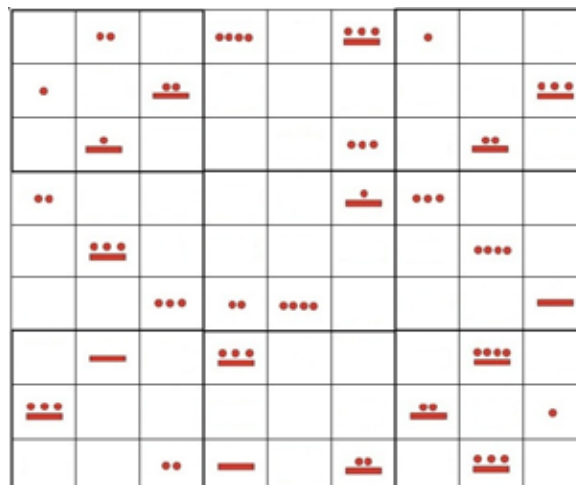


Dissertation: Mixed and Mixed: Inheritance and Intersectionality in the Identity Formation and Identity Migration of People with Mexican and Other Ethnoracial Backgrounds.

■ Don't try to power through when you feel your brain turning to mush after already working for several hours. Take a 30 minute break to go for a walk, watch TV, or read a book for fun in order to clear your mind and be fresh to start again. ☿

MayanSudoku

SUDOKU IS A SIMPLE AND FUN GAME OF LOGIC. THE RULE IS THAT YOU NEED TO FILL THE GRID SO THE MAYAN NUMBERS BETWEEN 1 - 9 OCCUR ONCE IN EACH ROW, COLUMN, AND 3 X 3 BOX. HAVE FUN!



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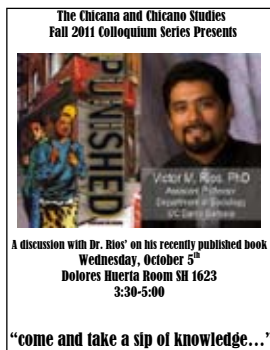
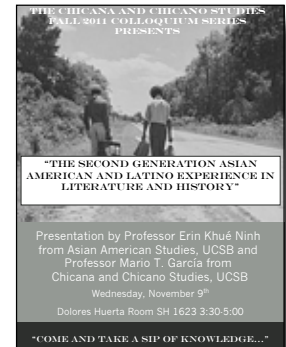
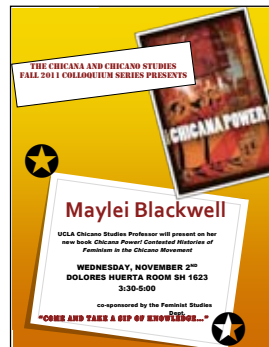
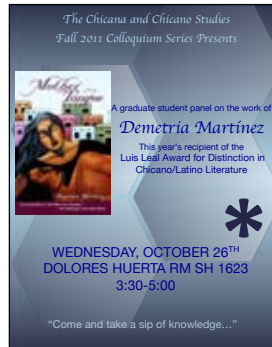
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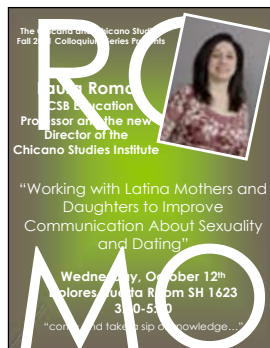
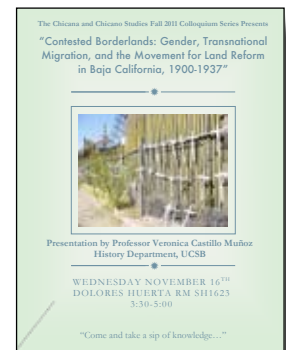
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“come and take a sip of knowledge.”

**Our presentations
from this fall 2011:**



The Chicana and Chicano Studies department hosts a weekly colloquium series inviting students, faculty, staff, and community members to **“come and take a sip of knowledge.”** To date the department has held over 50 presentations providing an intellectual space to share research, participate in fruitful discussions and foster community.



forthcoming **Colloquium** *[Winter Schedule]* *Wednesdays 3:30 pm [Dolores Huerta Hall, SH 1623]*

January 11th
WOMEN OF COLOR LAWYER PANEL
(Jessica Delgado, Simona Farris and Arcelia Hurtado)

January 18th
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP
(D. Inés Casillas, Chicana/o Studies Dept. UCSB)

January 25th
FUNDATIONAL READING LIST CEREMONY
IN HONOR OF DR. LUIS LEAL

February 1st
FELICIA LOPEZ, CODEX BORGIA WORKSHOP
(Chicana/o Studies Dept. Graduate Student, UCSB)

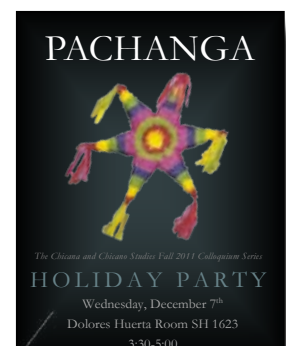
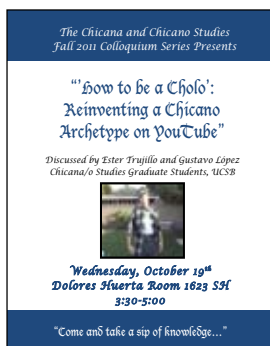
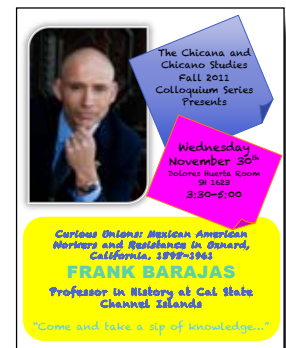
February 8th
THOMAS CARRASCO
(Chicana/o Studies Dept, Graduate Student, UCSB)

February 17-18th
CHICANO MOVEMENT CONFERENCE
February 22nd
CARLOS MORTON, THEATER AND DANCE, UCSB

February 29th
ELENA GUTIÉRREZ, GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES, UIC CHICAGO

March 7th
CRISTINA SERNA
(Chicana/o Studies Dept, Graduate Student, UCSB)

March 14th
NO COLLOQUIUM
ATTENDING THE NACCS CONFERENCE
(Chicago, March 14th-17th)



Open Faculty Position Chicana@ Studies Department UCSB



The University of California, Santa Barbara Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies

The Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies invites applications for a ladder-rank faculty position. This search is open to all research foci within the discipline and is open rank. The appointment will be *effective July 1, 2012*.

The department emphasizes interdisciplinarity and has the distinction of instituting the first PhD program in Chicana and Chicano Studies in the nation. Applications are welcome in all areas of expertise in Chicana/o Studies. Candidates should be engaged in research projects, motivated to provide undergraduate and graduate mentorship, and have prior teaching experience within one or more of the department's three areas of focus: History and Narrativity, Cultural Production, and Social Processes (see the department's website for details: www.chicst.ucsb.edu).

Applications must be received by January 15, 2012 for primary consideration; however, the position will remain open until filled. The Ph.D. degree must be completed by the time of appointment. Submit cover letter, samples of published books and articles or two dissertation chapters, statement of teaching philosophy, and three letters of recommendation directly to the department: **Aída Hurtado, Chair, Department of Chicana and Chicano Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-4120**.

For further information, contact Joann Erving, Business Manager at jerving@chicst.ucsb.edu or consult the department's website at www.chicst.ucsb.edu.

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deadline *January 15th, 2012*

A CONFERENCE ON THE EMERGING HISTORIOGRAPHY OF THE CHICANO MOVEMENT

A large, expressive red brushstroke graphic that resembles a stylized city skyline or a series of vertical strokes. The word "CHICANO!" is written in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the middle of this graphic.

CHICANO!

FEBRUARY 17-18, 2012
8:30 am - 5 pm

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For more information, contact Prof. Mario T. García (805) 893-4074