Introduction

Dear ABS Members and Colleagues:

Welcome to this issue of La Frontera, the newsletter for the Association for Borderlands Studies.

First, let me thank our Secretary General Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly for his tireless efforts to move the ABS forward. He and his staff at the University of Victoria have been an invaluable asset in projecting the ABS as the premier academic organization for border studies. Thank you for your great work and dedication to our success as an organization.

Let me also tell you that we are looking forward to our Spring 2010 annual meeting in Reno, Nevada. I know that our President Elect, Javier Durán, is busy working hard on the necessary preparations for that meeting. The call for papers will be out this month of September and the panel formation and logistics planning will begin in earnest. We wish Javier luck with all that work! And please, do not forget to submit your paper / panel proposals on time. It helps enormously with the planning.

I want to share with you an important development that will make a difference in the future of our organization. We have signed an agreement with EBSCO Publishing, which will make The Journal of Borderlands Studies available on the internet. This raises the reach of our journal to a new level and helps the organization profit from this new effort to disseminate its content. This is made possible in part by the fact that our journal is now published three times a year and, we hope, we may take it to four times a year sometime in the future.

Finally, I want to let you know that we are engaged in an effort to attract to our organization more border scholars from underrepresented regions. We hope this effort will be reflected in our next annual meeting.

See you in Reno!

Tony Payan,

ABS President 2009-2010

Estimados(as) Miembros y Colegas:

Bienvenidos(as) a La Frontera, el boletín informativo de la Asociación de Estudios Fronterizos.

Primero que nada, quiero dar las sinceras gracias a nuestro Secretario General Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly por sus incansables esfuerzos a favor de la ABS. Emmanuel y sus colaboradores en la Universidad de Victoria han sido el elemento sien qua non en la proyección de la Asociación como la organización más importante en materia de estudios fronterizos. Gracias por su trabajo y su dedicación al éxito de nuestra organización.
Introduction Continued

Quiero también mencionar que esperamos con ansia verlos en nuestro congreso anual en Reno, Nevada, en la primavera del 2010. Nuestro Presidente Electo, Javier Durán, se encuentra haciendo los preparativos necesarios para el congreso. La convocatoria está ya a punto de salir este mes de Septiembre e inmediatamente comenzarán los trabajos: la formación de mesas y la planeación de la logística. Quiero desearle a Javier la mejor de logística. Quiero desearle a Javier la mejor de las suertes en su trabajo. Por favor, no olviden entregar sus propuestas de ponencia o mesa a tiempo. Esto nos ahorra mucho tiempo y esfuerzo en la planeación.

Luego, quiero compartir con ustedes un suceso importante que constituye un parteaguas en el futuro de nuestra organización. Hemos ya firmado el acuerdo con EBSCO Publishing, quien se encargará de distribuir la Revista de Estudios Fronterizos en la Internet. Esto permite elevar el alcance de nuestra revista a un nuevo nivel y constituye además un proyecto que incrementa nuestros ingresos al mismo tiempo que diseminamos nuestros trabajos de investigación a un mayor número de lectores. Esto es posible, en parte, gracias al hecho de que la revista se publica ahora tres veces al año y pronto, esperamos, cuatro veces al año.

Finalmente, quiero informarles que estamos realizando un esfuerzo por atraer un mayor número de fronterólogos de regiones con baja representación en nuestra organización. Esperamos que este esfuerzo se vea reflejado en nuestro siguiente congreso.

¡Nos vemos en Reno!

Tony Payan

Presidente de la ABS 2009-2010

Election Results

Recently, ABS members voted for the Vice President who will take over that position next April 2010.

The candidates were; Dr. Christine Brenner, an associate professor of public policy and administration at Rutgers University and Dr. Victor Konrad, Director of NorthWing Consulting in Ottawa, and Adjunct Research Professor of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University.

Dr. Christine Brenner was declared the winner. 79 votes were received from 194 eligible members. This indicates a 41% response rate.

By decision of our board, Christine Brenner is our next vice president beginning April 2010. Victor Konrad will serve as vice president the following year, beginning April 2011. This decision is coherent with our April 2009 decision to create a position for vice president. Similarly to what was decided by the ABS board last year, this decision solidifies the executive of the ABS while increasing the organizational memory and knowledge of our executive officers, who de facto serve as executive members for four years rather than two.
Past Presidents’ Book Award

**Gold Award 2009**


**Silver Award 2009**


**Nominee 2009**


The ABS book award consists of a plaque, a certificate and a year’s free membership in ABS for Gold and Silver Award winners. Also, the Gold Award winner for 2009 chairs the book award committee for 2010.

2009 Book award committee members:

- Joan Anderson (San Diego/Chair),
- Stephen Mumm (Colorado) and
- David Molina (North Texas).

Member News

**Christopher Brown**, [brownchr@ad.nmsu.edu]

Effective August 1st, 2009 Chris Brown is the new Department Head at the New Mexico State University Department of Geography.

**Johan Schimanski**

The Border Poetics Group at the University of Tromsø is relaunching its web site at a new address, [http://uit.no/borderpoetics/](http://uit.no/borderpoetics/). The new web site includes bibliographies, a web discussion and news forum, and a glossary of key terms.

**Tamar Diana Wilson**

The American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) San Diego Office invites you to a free screening of “THE 800 MILE WALL”

Thursday December 3rd, 2009 at 6:00 PM

Joe & Vi Jacobs Center (Celebration Hall)

404 Euclid Avenue, San Diego, CA

For more info call: 619-233-4114
Books:


Zartman, I. William Ed. (2009) *Understanding Life in the Borderlands: Boundaries in Depth and in Motion* (University of Georgia Press). This book was put together at a gathering of chapter authors arranged by Dr. David Stea at the 2008 ABS meeting in Denver.

Articles and Book Chapters:


Niemi, Einar, Johan Schimanski and Stephen Wolfe guest editors “Cultural Production and Negotiation of Northern Borders” special issue *Journal of Northern Studies* Issue 1, 2009 [selected papers from the ABS 2008 European conference]


Schimanski, Johan and Stephen Wolfe guest editors “Introduction: Cultural Production and Negotiation of Borders” special issue Nordlit nr.24 [selected papers from the ABS 2008 European conference]
Link: http://uit.no/humfak/publikasjonar/41?SubjectId=1197&From=0

Link: http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/122511895/issue

Conference Papers and Invited Talks:


Reich, Peter “Hispanic Common Lands and American Common Law: Deciding Land Disputes in Texas and New Mexico Since 1850” Pacific Coast Branch, American Historical Association, Annual Meeting, August 8, 2009.

Reich, Peter “Historia de las Instituciones Juridicas en el Suroeste de los Estados Unidos” Tercer Seminario de las Instituciones Juridicas de los Estados de Mexico, Queretaro, June 30, 2009.

Strauss, Michael J. “The Academic Bridge between Dormant Ideas and Diplomatic Practice: The Example of Territorial Leasing” paper presented at the New Directions in International Relations workshop, Interdisciplinary Center, Herzliya, Israel, July 2009.


Recent Conferences

African Borderland Research Network
How is Africa Transforming Border Studies?
The third ABORNE annual meeting took place in Johannesburg, South Africa, September 10-14, 2009

The University of San Diego Trans-border Institute
Mr. Alan Bersin, Assistant Secretary for International Affairs at the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, shared his vision of the U.S.-Mexico border security relationship, explored the coordination of United States border security policy with the southwest border communities, and addressed the importance of close collaboration between the United States and Mexico in this regard. Bersin placed particular focus on policies surrounding the southbound flow of arms and cash across the border.

The University of Texas at El Paso
War on Drugs Conference September 20-22, 2009
A precedent-setting, two-day conference on the forty-year old war on drugs, drew speakers of multiple points of view from the academic, government, and advocacy sectors. Over a thousand people attended events, launching a civil-society call to change prohibition policies: the failed drug-control interdiction and criminalization paradigm that invests little budgetary support into public health approaches such as addiction prevention and treatment and harm-reduction approaches.

The University of Southern Denmark’s campus in Sønderborg - Department of Border Region Studies organized its annual ‘IFG on the map’ event on Thursday, 29 October 2009. Speakers were Anssi Paasi (Oulu University, Finland), Chris Rumford (Royal Holloway, University of London) and Bo Stråth (Renvall Institute, University of Helsinki).
Upcoming Conferences

Borders and Identities Conference 2010
Newcastle, United Kingdom
8-9 January 2010
Contact Person: Dominic Watt
Meeting Email: bic2010@events.york.ac.uk
Web Site: http://www.york.ac.uk/res/aiseb/bic2010/

Kosovo: From One Protectorate to Another
Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Canada
11 February 2010
Organized by the Center on Peace Missions,
Raoul Dandurand Chair
See: http://www.dandurand.uqam.ca/missionsdepaix.html

China’s Policies on its Borderlands and International Relations
11-12 March 2010
University of Macau, Macao, China
Organized by the Faculty of Social Sciences and Humanities
Contact Person: Dr. Bill Chou (e-mail address: kpchou@umac.mo)

2010 World Conference on Borders and Borderlands in Africa
April 2010
Provisionally scheduled for Abuja, Nigeria

The 57th Annual Conference of the Rocky Mountain Council for
Latin American Studies
Boulder, Colorado, USA
7-11 April 2010
Contact Person: Professor Robert Ferry
See: http://www.rmclas.org/conf_10.php

Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting
Washington, D.C., USA
14-18 April 2010
Organizers:
David Pijawka and Francisco Lara-Valencia
School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning, Arizona
State University, USA
Antoine Decoville, Christophe Sohn and Olivier Walther
Centre for Population, Poverty and Public Policy Studies (CEPS), Luxembourg
See: http://www.aag.org/annualmeetings/2010/

Between the Lines: Border Research Ethics and Methods
The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, USA
23 April 2010
See: http://clas.arizona.edu/brem

International Geographical Union (IGU) Regional Conference
Tel Aviv, Israel
12-16 July 2010
Bridging Diversity in a Globalized World:
The Changing Geopolitical Structures of the Mediterranean
and the Middle East
See: http://www.igu2010.com/

Asian Borderlands: Enclosure, Interaction and Transformation
2nd Conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network
Chiang Mai University (RCSD), Thailand
5-7 November 2010
See: http://asianborderlands.net/
Association for Borderlands Studies Annual Meeting

14-17 April 2010

In conjunction with the 52nd Annual Conference of the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, Nevada, USA

Call For Papers

We would like to take this opportunity to invite you to participate in the annual meeting of the ABS, a multidisciplinary conference dedicated to the study of borders all over the world.

In order to participate, you must meet the following three requirements:

1— Send a paper proposal or abstract, not exceeding 150 words, by mail to:
   Dr. Javier Duran, President Elect of ABS
   Director of Border Studies
   546 Modern Languages
   Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese
   The University of Arizona
   Tucson, AZ 85721
   or by email to: duran@email.arizona.edu

   by December 14, 2008. The proposal must include the title of the presentation, the name of the presenter(s), the affiliation, an email address of the author(s), and audio-visual needs.

2— Sign up for a membership with the Association for Borderlands Studies on their website at http://www.absborderlands.org/member/index.html, since all participants must be paid members of the ABS.

3— Register for the Western Social Science Association (WSSA) conference on their website http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences/default.htm#prereg. Doing this early will save you money, since on-site registration is generally more expensive.

ASOCIACIÓN DE ESTUDIOS FRONTERIZOS
Convocatoria

Por medio de la presente, queremos hacerle extensiva nuestra invitación a participar en el congreso anual de la Asociación de Estudios Fronterizos, el cual se dedica al estudio de todo tipo de temas concernientes a las zonas fronterizas del mundo. El congreso se llevará a cabo del 16 al 18 de Abril de 2009 en el Grand Sierra Resort en la ciudad de Reno, Nevada, en los Estados Unidos de América.

Para participar es necesario seguir los siguientes pasos:

Enviar una propuesta o abstracto, no mayor de 150 palabras, por correo a: Dr. Javier Duran, Presidente Electo de ABS
Director of Border Studies
546 Modern Languages
Dept. of Spanish and Portuguese
The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721
O por correo electrónico: duran@email.arizona.edu

a más tardar el 14 de diciembre del 2009. El abstracto debe incluir el título de la ponencia, el nombre(s) del ponente(s), la afiliación institucional del autor(es), un correo electrónico, y el equipo audio-visual requerido para la ponencia.


Inscribirse ante la Western Social Science Association (WSSA) en su sitio Internet: http://wssa.asu.edu/conferences/default.htm#prereg. La inscripción ante la WSSA es indispensable para participar en el congreso anual de la ABS.
Capacity Building Program for Sustainable Border Cities

Planning Workshop

Hosted by the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning (SGSUP) at Arizona State University (ASU) and El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF).


During the summer, approximately 20 planners from the border city of Nogales, Sonora met with faculty from ASU, COLEF and other higher education institutions to review and discuss the latest theoretical and technical developments in sustainable urban planning. These meetings are part of a Border Workshop on Urban Sustainable Planning put together by Dr. Francisco Lara, Assistant Professor at the SGSUP, with the support of SCERP, the U.S.-Mexico Border 2012 Program and BECC.

The goal of this workshop is to train local planners in the application and adoption of methods and techniques required for sustainable urban planning, with an emphasis on open space planning and flood hazard mitigation. During eight sessions held between June 13th and July 18th, the participants explored and learned how to apply geographic information systems, urban ecology, green building, and public participation techniques to solve local problems.

A requirement of the workshop was the development of an applied project to create an urban network of green spaces in Nogales using concepts and techniques relevant to urban sustainability. Review of the final projects took place on August 14th, 2009 at the Plaza Hotel in the City of Nogales, at a public meeting attended by citizens, public officers and business leaders. The planners participating in the workshop had extensive experience in designing and implementing local development projects in the public and private sector, and many were recently hired to staff the newly created Nogales’ Municipal Institute for Research and Planning (IMIP).

In seeking to expand the planning capacity of communities within the U.S.-Mexico borderlands, SGSUP is advancing their partnerships with cities on both sides of the border and with Mexican higher education institutions. These partnerships, as demonstrated by the success of this workshop, are the most effective way to address shared urban and environmental issues along the U.S-Mexico border.

Francisco Lara (SGSUP)
Human Rights Along the U.S.-Mexico Border
Gendered Violence and Insecurity

Edited by Kathleen Staudt, Tony Payan and Z. Anthony Kruszewski

Transforming the border security debate

Much political oratory has been devoted to safeguarding America’s boundary with Mexico, but policies that militarize the border and criminalize immigrants have overshadowed the region’s widespread violence against women, the increase in crossing deaths, and the lingering poverty that spurs people to set out on dangerous northward treks. This book addresses those concerns by focusing on gender-based violence, security, and human rights from the perspective of women who live with both violence and poverty.

From the Pacific to the Gulf of Mexico, scholars from both sides of the 2,000-mile border reflect expertise in disciplines ranging from international relations to criminal justice, conveying a more complex picture of the region than that presented in other studies.

Initial chapters offer an overview of routine sexual assaults on women migrants, the harassment of Central American immigrants at the hands of authorities and residents, corruption and counterfeiting along the border, and near-death experiences of border crossers.

Subsequent chapters then connect analysis with solutions in the form of institutional change, social movement activism, policy reform, and the spread of international norms that respect human rights as well as good governance.

These chapters show how all facets of the border situation—globalization, NAFTA, economic inequality, organized crime, political corruption, rampant patriarchy—promote gendered violence and other expressions of hyper-masculinity. They also show that U.S. immigration policy exacerbates the problems of border violence—in marked contrast to the border policies of European countries.

By focusing on women’s everyday experiences in order to understand human security issues, these contributions offer broad-based alternative approaches and solutions that address everyday violence and inattention to public safety, inequalities, poverty, and human rights. And by presenting a social and democratic international feminist framework to address these issues, they offer the opportunity to transform today’s security debate in constructive ways.

Kathleen Staudt, Tony Payan, and Z. Anthony Kruszewski are respectively professor, associate professor, and professor of political science at the University of Texas—El Paso. Staudt is the author or editor of more than a dozen books, most recently Violence and Activism at the Border: Gender, Fear, and Everyday Life in Ciudad Juárez. Payan is the author of The Three U.S.–Mexico Border Wars: Drugs, Immigration, and Homeland Security.

http://www.uapress.arizona.edu/BOOKS/bid2143.htm
This is a new atlas on European Migrations published by a French academic press.

Un panorama percutant des politiques européennes d’asile et d’immigration

L’Union européenne compte aujourd’hui près de 78000 kilomètres de frontières, chiffre qu’il faut doubler si l’on y ajoute les frontières internes des Etats membres. Depuis le milieu des années 1980, les Etats européens ne cessent de renforcer les contrôles migratoires à ces frontières, ainsi que dans les pays d’où partent et par lesquels transitent les migrants, ce qui a pour effet de rendre les parcours plus dangereux et d’assigner à résidence les populations les plus pauvres de la planète.

Pour comprendre l’évolution de ces politiques migratoires européennes et leurs conséquences, cet atlas engagé donne à voir des réalités peu connues du grand public. A cette fin, Migreurop a rassemblé des informations d’une réalité difficile à saisir, du fait de l’échelle géographique du phénomène, mais aussi d’une volonté de dissimulation des gouvernements européens.

Chacun des quelque trente thèmes examinés (la politique européenne des visas, les camps de transit, le regroupement familial, etc.) donne lieu à un dossier de trois pages didactique et richement illustré : de nombreuses photos et vignettes viennent compléter les cartes.

Éditions Armand Colin
144 pages • 19,50 €
It’s never too late to subscribe to the Journal of Borderlands Studies

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