



## Message from the President

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Dear ABS members:

2010 has been a very challenging, complex, tense, and yet interesting year in the field of border and immigration studies. There are a number of political, economical, legal and socio-cultural developments, in particular at my home state of Arizona that, I am sure, will inform our research and teaching agendas in the years to come. As we prepare for our upcoming conference in Salt Lake City, allow me to reflect briefly on this year's accomplishments and successes. This process also involves acknowledging the extraordinary work undertaken by many of our members.

First, let us recognize our successful conference in Reno, Nevada where we had twenty nine sessions and panels. The film exhibit *369 Miles: Living the Border* by Luis Carlos Romero Davis drew a full house. Our Book Award and Key-note Address by

Dr. Thomas Sheridan (University of Arizona) and the ensuing reception was also a success and it gathered a substantial number of past ABS presidents and former officers.

Please join me in thanking our diligent Executive Secretary Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly for his dedication, energy and true commitment to make ABS a first class organization. Many of you know that we have come a long way in the last 5 years and Emmanuel's hard work has been at the center of this revival.



I want to thank Tony Payan for his excellent performance as past President. Tony provided great guidance and leadership during his tenure. I also want to thank WSSA, in particular Larry Gould and Gil Fowler for their help and support to make the Reno conference memorable. Our Board of Directors deserves special thanks for having



## Message from the President continued

been attentive to many issues during the process of organizing the program. Our leadership will greatly benefit from the input of our new board members Sonia Bass, Jose Villalobos and Ethan Ward. Our President elect Heather Nicol is already working hard on next year's program. We are confident that it will be another success.

As our organization grows demographically and intellectually, the fate of our journal will be instrumental in this expansion. Thus, I am happy to inform you that thanks to the extraordinary efforts and vision of our Board of Directors and in particular of our Executive Secretary and JBS Editors, the production and publication process of our excellent journal will undergo a great transformation. We have recently signed an agreement with the Taylor & Francis Group under the imprint of Routledge to publish and distribute the *Journal of Borderlands Studies*. This agreement will be of tremendous benefit for ABS. It will not only provide a quality product, but it will also boost distribution while maximizing resources for our association. This is a much welcome change. Thank you Emmanuel for your leadership in this regard.

Now, what about the future?

I believe this is a good time to look at ABS in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and to the emerging opportunities and challenges we will face. First, let us reflect about the place of our changing demographics in our collective identity. As a scholarly or-

ganization: Who are we? Who do we want to be? Where do we want to go? Second, I also want us to think about new ways to expedite decision making, voting procedures and new organizational models through a careful revision of our By-laws. And finally, I ask us to think about new ways to meet and interact as a professional organization. Is the way we have been doing this the right way? Can we think of other modes and models of meeting and interacting? I invite you to bring your ideas to our listserve and to our next conference.

I want to close by thanking all of you again for making last year a successful year, and by encouraging you to participate in the 2011 conference. I look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City.

Warm regards and best wishes for a good and productive 2011,

Javier Duran

ABS President 2010-11





## Symposium on “Teaching Border Studies” at the ABS 2010 Conference Reno, Nevada, April 2010

Early in 2010 Martin Klatt (University of Southern Denmark) suggested the organization of a panel on Teaching Border Studies at the April 2010 ABS conference in Reno, Nevada. The session was chaired by Oscar Martinez (University of Arizona), and papers were given by Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly (University of Victoria, Canada) Martin Klatt and James Loucky (Western Washington University).

Basis for the workshop and the three papers was the specific challenge to border researchers that our interdisciplinary field of research usually does not fit into traditional university curricula, most of which still follow a mono-disciplinary approach. The panel addressed how border studies researchers coming from a wide field of disciplines within the social sciences, the humanities and natural sciences, integrate their field of research in university curricula at bachelor and graduate school levels. Result of the workshop were ideas and inspirations to strengthen border studies in university teaching, as well as the establishment of a database on the ABS web pages, were it would be possible to share curricula and other teaching-relevant material with colleagues.

Emmanuel Brunet-Jailly presented his course “The Politics and Policies of Borders and Borderlanders”, introducing students to the various complexities of public policy making in an increasingly borderless world, with a specific focus on the Canada-US

and US Mexican borders, but also uses examples from European border regions. Border-regions are a world where policy makers increasingly deal with the multiple activities of other governments, both intergovernmental and international relations, which intervene in the processes of production of public policies. The course takes place within a Master of Political Science program. Most units of this course include a short lecture, a short power point presentation, and/or a short video clip and sometimes a voice recoding.

Martin Klatt continued with presenting his course “European Border Region Development”, taught in the Master of Science European Studies program offered by University of Southern Denmark in cooperation with University of Flensburg. The approach of this course is comprehensive with introduction into different border theories, the history of borders, European Union border related programs and border studies’ research. Student activity is assured by presentations and oppositions, as well as the development of Interreg projects (simulation) as well as case studies. This special border focus is rather unique compared to other typical, EU-centred, programs of European Studies, but the usability considering employment qualification is not easy to assess.

James Loucky’s presentation had a comprehensive approach using border studies and the anthropology of borders to move away from the traditional state-centred teaching common to most university programs. Here, Border Studies represents a promising arena for challenging established thinking and practice not just with respect to nation-state



## Symposium on “Teaching Border Studies” continued

borders but also as regards intellectual, disciplinary and institutional configurations. Borders tend to be perceived, by people as well as states, as essentially fixed and linear. But they are better conceptualized as complex amalgams of flows and integration, as well as divisions and exclusion.

An anthropological perspective encourages a comparative, holistic, and prospective approach to borders of many kinds, along with border crossings in areas like gender, generation, and discipline as well as politics. Both "Borderlands" and a version entitled "Borderblur" (which merges border concepts with focus on Mexico and Central America probe borders beyond and borders beyond, along with borders between. Such framings allows insights into the intercultural and international roots of diversity within Canada, the United States, and Mexico, for example, or engaged dialog about the imperative for biocentric and bioregional thinking (such as considerations of climate change or water issues through riparian or bioregional perspective).

All participants in the discussion following the presentations welcomed the idea of establishing a database on curricula and other teaching related aspects. This will make an opportunity to get inspiration, exchange experience with colleagues and thus will strengthen border studies in general.

Other topics of discussion included issues of (1) student motivation, (2) bringing border realities to become border study material, and (3) questions regarding the usefulness of a layered approach. Indeed, layers could be interdisciplinary and multi-method (toolbox could include market forces, politics, cultures, linguistics ...), varied thematic and regional foci as well as (collective) policy projects, such as water management, immigrants and society were also discussed. Here, the border lens allows for insight on multiple levels in multiple disciplines. Perspectives can range from broader and conceptual, to micro and policy level. A last focus could be ethical considerations of borders, such as the varied religious and legal/right related conceptions of space: Muslim, Jewish, legal or tribal.

***If you are interested in sharing any of your course outlines and/or remarks on those discussions, please write to [jbsjrn1@uvic.ca](mailto:jbsjrn1@uvic.ca). We will keep the discussion open in our next issue of La Frontera, and will publish your syllabus on the ABS web page. Thank you!***





## The Association for Borderlands Studies Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA April 13-16, 2011

The ABS extends an invitation to current members and future members to participate in the annual meeting of the Association for Borderlands Studies, a multidisciplinary conference dedicated to the study of borders in all parts of the world.

While we welcome papers on *all* topics and areas related to border studies, the special conference theme will be **Borders and Power**. Papers addressing this theme will develop the concept of borders as sites for the enforcement and/or contestation of, power arrangements. Power is defined as social, economic, political or cultural, institutional and non-institutional, formal and informal, while power arrangements can be understood as ranging from broad geopolitical agendas to embedded local conflicts. Papers which address this theme will be considered for publication in a special issue of the *Journal of Borderlands Studies* or for an edited volume in the new borderlands series of Bentham press.

We also welcome proposals for panel presentations. The panel may contribute to the special theme of the conference, or any other topic which contributes to border studies. Panel organizers should identify and confirm individual presenters prior to the submission of their proposal, and should collect abstracts and titles for each paper before submitting the proposal for consideration.

Individual paper presentations, not associated with panels are also welcome. In order to participate, you must send an abstract for your paper or panel, not exceeding 150 words, by mail to Heather Nicol, Department of Geography, 1600 West Bank Drive, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada, K9J 7B8, or by email to [heathernicol@trentu.ca](mailto:heathernicol@trentu.ca), by **December 14, 2010**.

La *Asociación de Estudios Fronterizos*, dedicada al estudio de las fronteras con una perspectiva multidisciplinar en todas las áreas geográficas del mundo, convoca a su Congreso Anual. El Congreso tendrá lugar en Salt Lake City, Utah, E.E.U.U., del 13 al 16 de abril de 2011. Si bien la convocatoria acoge con beneplácito todo tipo de estudios sobre todos los temas y áreas relacionados con los estudios sobre fronteras, el tema central del Congreso 2011 se centrará principalmente en las **fronteras** y el **poder**. Las ponencias idóneas para este Congreso deberán entonces abordar este tema de manera fundamental, es decir las maneras en que las fronteras refuerzan o retan los arreglos del poder. El poder, como concepto, incluye entretejidos sociales, económicos, políticos o culturales, así como arreglos institucionales y no institucionales, formales e informales. Así mismo, se entiende que los arreglos de poder pueden ser entendidos desde una amplia agenda geopolítica de los conflictos locales integrados hasta los arreglos más sutiles. Aquellos documentos que aborden el tema central del Congreso serán considerados para su publicación en un número especial de la *Revista de Estudios Fronterizos* y de un volumen editado en la serie de nuevas fronteras de la prensa Bentham.

La convocatoria se extiende también a participantes que propongan mesas completas. La mesa puede contribuir al tema especial del Congreso o abordar cualquier otro tema relacionado con los estudios de las fronteras. Los organizadores de las mesas deben identificar y confirmar a los ponentes individuales antes de la presentación de su propuesta, y reunir los resúmenes y los títulos de cada trabajo antes de presentar la propuesta para su consideración ante el Comité Organizador.

Todas las presentaciones individuales son también bienvenidas.

Para participar en esta convocatoria, se debe enviar un resumen de la ponencia o mesa completa que no exceda de 150 palabras, por correo regular a la Dra. Heather Nicol, Departamento de Geografía, 1600 Cisjordania Drive, Peterborough, Ontario, Canadá, K9J 7B8, o por correo electrónico a [heathernicol@trentu.ca](mailto:heathernicol@trentu.ca), a más tardar el 1º de diciembre de 2010.







## Past Presidents' Book Award

### Gold Award 2010

**Chris Rumford** (2008) *Cosmopolitan Spaces: Europe, Globalization, Theory*. Routledge Press.

### Silver Award 2010

**Roxanne Doty** (2009) *The Law into Their Own Hands: Immigration and the Politics of Exceptionalism*. The University of Arizona Press.

### Bronze Award 2010

**Julie Mostov** (2008) *Soft Borders: Rethinking Sovereignty and Democracy*. Palgrave MacMillan.

The ABS book award consists of a plaque, a certificate and a year's free membership in ABS for the Gold Award winner. Also, the Gold Award winner for 2010 chairs the book award committee for 2011.

2010 Book award committee members:

**Tom Sheridan** (U of Arizona/Chair),  
**Stephen Mumme** (Colorado State U),  
**David Molina** (U of North Texas) and  
**Manuel Chavez** (Michigan State U).

## Of Interest...

Chapter authors from Mexico and the U.S. take on global urban theorist **Saskia Sassen** and ground her work at this transnational global manufacturing site with a shrinking, relatively 'absent state' on the Mexico side. This book was developed in a unique collaboration at COLEF/El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, Cd. Juárez. Both **Jorge Bustamante** and **Alejandro Lugo** discuss this cross-border collaboration in their comments on the back cover of the book. <http://us.macmillan.com/citiesandcitizenshipattheusmexicoborder#toc>

Two interesting projects by **Simon James**:

Talking Borders Audio Archive  
CIBR, Queen's University Belfast  
[www.archive.org/details/borders](http://www.archive.org/details/borders)  
and

Contested Spaces Video Project  
Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies  
University of Sydney  
[www.archive.org/details/Contested-Spaces-Video-Project](http://www.archive.org/details/Contested-Spaces-Video-Project)





## Member News

**Chris Brown** is involved with a collaborative research project on “Transboundary Water Resources in North America, a Comparative Perspective” - a research proposal funded by the Canadian Studies Grant Program. North America possesses two different spatial contexts in which transboundary water resource management issues exist, the arid US-Mexico border region and the humid US-Canada border region. This work is a comparative examination of management frameworks in these regions, involving trips to US-Canadian border regions and cities in Canada where key policy and decision makers work to advance the US-Canada management framework. Specific questions he will pose:

- What governmental and non-governmental institutions exist in the US-Canada border context, how did they develop, and what has been their general experience?
- What are the roles of regional binational water management structures that exist at the international level (i.e. watershed boards/councils advanced by the International Joint Commission (IJC); unilateral US and Canadian governmental agencies; and regional initiatives related to specific issues?
- What impediments impair the functional enhancement of various institutions; how may these barriers be reduced?
- How can experiences from one border region inform water resource management policy in the other border region?

**Emma Norman** is involved with the “Program on Water Governance (PoWG)” at the University of British Columbia. They recently released a new policy document on Water Security in Canada.

The Water Security Primer can be downloaded at the following website: <http://www.watergovernance.ca/publications/WaterSecurityPrimer2010.pdf>

The key objectives of the Primer are to:

- Present a working definition of water security;
- Present case studies of new approaches which may help to improve water security in Canada;
- Situate water security within a wider governance model.

This document, prepared with the generous support of the Canada Water Network, reflects contributions from end users and water managers from across Canada.

If you have any questions feel free to contact them at [water.security@ubc.ca](mailto:water.security@ubc.ca) or [Emma.Norman@ubc.ca](mailto:Emma.Norman@ubc.ca)





## Publications

### Books:

**Hernández, Francisca James and Rosalia Solorzano** (2010) *Chicana Studies: An Introduction, Vol. 1.* (Kendall and Hunt ).

Link: <http://www.kendallhunt.com/solorzano>

**Kennard, Ann** (2010) *Old Cultures, New Institutions Around the New Eastern Border of the European Union* (LIT Verlag in Berlin, and available in North America from Transaction Publishers, Rutgers University, NJ).

**Spener, David** (2010) *Clandestine Crossings: The Stories* (San Antonio, Texas: Self-published). Link: [www.trinity.edu/clandestinecrossings](http://www.trinity.edu/clandestinecrossings)

**Staudt, Kathleen** (2010) *Cities and Citizenship at the U.S.-Mexico Border: The Paso del Norte Region* (Palgrave USA, paperback).

**Trigal, Lorenzo López** (2010) *Diccionario de términos sobre la ciudad y lo urbano*, (Madrid: Biblioteca Nueva). Link: <http://www.bibliotecanueva.es/>

**Vanderwood, Paul J.** (2010) *Satan's Playground: Mobsters and Movie Stars at America's Greatest Gaming Resort* (Duke University Press).

Link: <http://www.dukeupress.edu/Catalog/ViewProduct.php?productid=19855>

**Wilson, Tamar Diana** (2010) *Some from Zacatecas* (Austin: Plain View Press).

### Articles and Book Chapters:

**Arreola, Daniel D. and Nick Burkhart** (2010) "Photographic Postcards and Visual Urban Landscape" *Urban Geography* 31:7, pp. 885-904.

**Brown, Chris** (June 2010) "Comparative Approaches to Governance and Management of Water Resources in North America" *Vertigo, la revue électronique en sciences de l'environnement*. Link: <http://vertigo.revues.org/9721>

**Fullerton Jr., Thomas M. Angel L. Molina, Jr.** (2010) "Border Municipal Water Consumption Forecast Accuracy" *Water Resources Research* 46 (June), W06515.1-W06515.8 (doi:10.1029/2009WR008450).

**Fullerton Jr., Thomas M. and George Novela** (2010) "Metropolitan Maquiladora Econometric Forecast Accuracy" *Romanian Journal of Economic Forecasting* 13:3, pp. 124-140.

**Houtum, van H.** (2010) "Waiting before the Law; Kafka on the Border" *Social and Legal studies* 19:4, pp. 285-297.

Link: <http://sls.sagepub.com/content/19/3/285.abstract>

**McDowell, Meghan G. and Nancy A. Wonders** (2010) "Keeping Migrants in Their Place: Technologies of Control and Racialized Public Space in Arizona" *Social Justice* 36:2, pp. 54-72.

**Miles, William F.S.** (2008) "Legacies of Anglo-French Colonial Borders: A West African and Southeast Asian Comparison" *Journal of Borderlands Studies* 23:2, pp. 83-102.

**Mumme, Stephen P. and Oscar F. Ibanez** (2009) "U.S.-Mexico Treaty Impediments to Tactical Security Infrastructure Along the International Boundary" *Natural Resources Journal* 49:3+4, pp. 801-824.

**Ristolainen, Mari** (2010) "Writing Cultures and Traditions at Borders" from the University of Eastern Finland.

**Sanchez-Rodriguez, Roberto and Stephen Mumme** (2010) "Environmental Protection and Natural Resources" San Diego: Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, University of California San Diego, Working Paper 10-01, pp. 1-39.

**Schimanski, Johan** (2010) "Reading Gender in Border-Crossing Narratives" *Gendering Border Studies* Eds. Jane Aaron, Henrice Altink and Chris Weedon (Cardiff: University of Wales Press) pp. 105-26.

**Spener, David** (2010) "Movidas rascuaches: Strategies of Migrant Resistance at the Mexico-U.S. Border" *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* 35:2, pp. 9-36.







## Articles and Book Chapters (continued):

**Wilson, Tamar Diana** (2010) "Compadrazgo Networks and Immigrant Adaptation in a Nevada Town" *Economic Action in Theory and Practice: Anthropological Investigations. Research in Economic Anthropology* Vol.30.

**Wilson, Tamar Diana** (2009) "Anti- and Pro-Immigrant Entrepreneurs: Labeling Theory Revisited" *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies* 34(2), pp. 135-154.

**Wilson, Tamar Diana** (2009) "Beyond Bounded Communities: Network-Mediated Migration from an Urban Colonia in Mexicali, Mexico" *Urban Anthropology* 38:2-4, pp. 149-166.

**Zaikov, K.S.** (2010) "Territorial borders of the Russian Empire on Murmansk coast in the early XIX century" "Historical and cultural problems of northern countries and regions" 1:9.

## Conferences

### 2nd Conference of the Asian Borderlands Research Network

Chiang Mai University (RCSD), Thailand

5-7 November 2010

"Asian Borderlands: Enclosure, Interaction and Transformation"

See: <http://asianborderlands.net/>

### RISC 2010 Conference (Consortium for Comparative Research on Regional Integration and Social Cohesion)

Luxembourg

11-13 November 2010

"Development, Poverty and Global Crises: Reinforcing Governance"

See: <http://www.risc.lu/>

### EastBordNet conference

20-22 January 2011, Catania, Sicily

"Remaking Borders"

See: <http://www.eastbordnet.org/conferences/2011/index.htm>

### Fences, Walls and Borders: State of Insecurity?

International conference organized by the Raoul Dandurand Chair at the University of Quebec at Montreal in association with the Association for Borderlands Studies

19-20 May 2011

Montreal, Quebec, Canada

See: <http://www.dandurand.ugam.ca/evenements/appels-de-communications/670-fences-walls-and-borders-state-of-insecurity.html>

### Urban Conflicts: Ethno-national Divisions, States and Cities

19-21 May 2011

Queen's University, Belfast

See: <http://www.internationalpeaceandconflict.org/xn/detail/780588:Event:298677>

### Border Regions in Transitions (BRIT) XI

"The Mobile Borders"

6-9 September 2011


Geneva, Switzerland/ Grenoble, France

See: <http://www.unige.ch/ses/geo/index.html>





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**Conflict and Cooperation in Divided Cities** by Jarosław Jańczak (ed.), Berlin: Logos (2009). Reviewed by Katarzyna Stokłosa, Chair in European Studies, TU Dresden, Dresden, Germany.

**Border Politics: The Limits of Sovereign Power** by Nick Vaughan-Williams, Edinburgh University Press (2009). Reviewed by Seán L'Estrange, Lecturer in Sociology, University College Dublin, Ireland.

**'Illegal' Traveller. An Auto-Ethnography of Borders** by Shahram Khosravi, Palgrave Macmillan, Global Ethics Series (2010). Reviewed by Ilse van Liempt, Department of Urban Geography, University of Utrecht, the Netherlands.



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- 159 Building the Borderlands: A Transnational History of Irrigated Cotton along the Mexico-Texas Border** by Casey Walsh, Texas A&M University Press (2008). Reviewed by Owen McEldowney, Researcher at Queens University, Belfast.

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- 129 The Borderlands of Culture: Américo Paredes and the Transnational Imaginary** by Ramón Saldívar, Duke University Press (2006).  
Reviewed by Thomas A. DuBois, University of Wisconsin-Madison, USA.