



Latin America Conference Ireland (LACI)

First Latin America Conference Ireland (LACI)
Latin America at a Crossroads:
Between Globalisation and Regionalisation
Dublin, Ireland: 23-24 May 2013

University College Dublin, Ireland
Contact email: LACI@ucd.ie

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

While Latin America is assuming a new role in global geopolitics and its migrant population is reshaping the USA and Europe, the region is still represented as exotic, exiting at times dangerous: “For most Europeans and (US) Americans, Latin America is still little more than their underdeveloped sibling, its inhabitants pitching up on its shores or struggling across the Rio Grande into the USA. It's a place of exuberant music, mesmerising football, extravagant beauty, fantastic literature, drug trafficking and guerrilla warfare - in short, exotic, dangerous and exciting” (Guardiola-Rivera). In this Conference, we are interested in challenging stereotypical ideas and representations of Latin America presented in the Global North. Latin America is a diverse region of many cultures, nationalities and identities. It is part of a complex and globalised world where interesting economic, political and cultural changes have been taking part.

The *Latin America at a Crossroads* Conference is being organised as an interdisciplinary event by scholars from the Schools of Sociology, Social Justice, Geography, Planning & Environmental Policy, and Politics and International Relations in University College Dublin. It is the first conference on Latin American issues organised in Ireland, and it seeks to create links between Latin America, Ireland and the rest of Europe. The conference will provide a valuable forum for an academic dialogue on issues concerning the region and a space for intellectual activism and expression.

Important Deadlines

Abstract Submission: **30 November 2012**

Notification of acceptance: **15 December 2012**

Full paper submission: **1 May 2013**

Language of the Conference: **English**

Proposals are welcomed on (but are not limited to) the following issues:

- Culture, Identities and Society
- Diversity, Equality and Human Rights
- Environment and Urban Change
- Education, Liberation and Resistance
- Gender, Masculinities and Power
- Indigenous Issues
- Latin America and Ireland
- Lessons Learned from Latin America
- Media and the Internet
- Migration to/from and within Latin America
- Neoliberalism, Poverty and Inequality
- Politics, Conflict and Social Movements
- Sexualities and LGBT Issues

****Cultural night; Latin American fair; Photographic and Visual Art exhibitions****

Target audience

The organisers aim to attract a mix of academics, activists and writers. We welcome submissions in the form of empirical and scholarly analysis, theoretical papers and creative writing from emerging or established scholars, graduate students, independent scholars, and activists. We encourage **individual papers** and **panel session** proposals from all disciplines and mixed-methods research.

We invite proposals for 20-minute presentations of papers exploring any aspect of the above listed topics. Please send **250 word abstracts** plus a short **biographical note** (no more than 100 words) to:

LACI@ucd.ie

Ethos of the Conference

This first Conference aims to be an international social, cultural and political forum for the sharing of ideas and information of relevance to Latin America. The event has an ethos of encouraging encounters, inclusion and exchanges:

- It seeks to provide a space for building networks between scholars, researchers and activists interested in Latin America.
- It looks to be inclusive by offering an open invitation to anyone interested in Latin America. We hope to remove barriers in a welcoming atmosphere among participants.
- It encourages the promotion of exchanges on approaches, experiences and lessons learnt between people from Latin America, Ireland and the rest of Europe.

LACI Organising Committee:

Dr. Ernesto Vasquez del Aguila, Dr. Veronica Crossa, Dr. Melanie Hoewer, Valeria Llano-Arias, and Dr. Alice Feldman.

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