



LACiC

Latin American & Caribbean Information Center
FIU Libraries

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A LACiC publication on what's new for Latin American & Caribbean Studies at the Florida International University Libraries, to be published twice yearly, during the spring and fall semesters.

LACiC Unveils New Website

The Latin American and Caribbean Information Center presents its brand-new website, up and ready for navigation. The new site now features redesigned, easy-to-navigate drop-down menus with sharp graphics in eye-friendly, cool tones.

Still providing the same useful information, the LACiC website offers resources, news, and information on FIU's Latin American and Caribbean collection. With the site's "Ask the LACiC Librarian" page, you can continue to email us directly regarding inquiries related to LAC studies and expect a response within 48 hours.

Our Library Resources section is a great tool for self-help, as it guides you through the library collection as well as offers quick links to electronic and internet resources. On-line bibliographies, research guides and finding aids for specific topics such as Latin American Business, History and Literature, as well as country-specific guides can be used to help navigate the FIU Libraries' collections.

If you are not yet familiar with LACiC's website, now is a good time to explore. Visit our website at: <http://lacic.fiu.edu/>

Thanks to Michelle Peake, MALACS Graduate Student and former LACiC Assistant, for her vision, dedication and skills. ■

Collection Grows, Duplicate Materials Find a Home: LACiC Exchange Database

Though still in the works, the most exciting addition to LACiC's new website will be the LACiC Exchange Database. The database will offer other institutes and libraries the opportunity to exchange duplicate copies of Latin American and Caribbean materials with FIU Libraries.

The exchange database is a collection development tool that will enhance FIU's Latin American and Caribbean collection by continuing to add important resources to our holdings, while ensuring that FIU's unused, duplicate materials go to institutions lacking these materials. This simultaneously helps to build both the collections of FIU as well as of outside institutes – a win-win situation for everyone.

By clicking on a link on the LACiC website, outside libraries and institutes will be able to easily browse all of the duplicate titles held at FIU, request needed titles "amazon.com" style, and coordinate an exchange for materials deemed valuable by FIU Libraries toward the development of the Latin American and Caribbean collection.

The LACiC Exchange database will be ready and running by the end of March 2003. ■

Charla en español

- by Marian Goslinga

La Biblioteca de Florida International University pone a su disposición un nuevo servicio conducido completamente en español, en su empeño por ayudar a los estudiantes y al público de habla hispana.

Desde el sitio WEB de la Biblioteca, haga "click" donde dice "Ask a Librarian," al lado izquierdo de la pantalla. En la siguiente pantalla, oprima donde dice "Chat en Español." Una bibliotecaria le atenderá tan pronto como sea posible, para ayudarle de una manera eficaz y en su propio idioma.

Estamos preparados para contestar preguntas de consulta y proveer información básica sobre cualquier tema. La bibliotecaria puede contestar su pregunta de inmediato en línea o, enseñarle los distintos pasos que deben darse para obtener la información. ■

Gallery at Green Library

The Gallery at Green Library often features exciting, intriguing, (and sometimes controversial) exhibits from Latin American and Caribbean artists. Much of the works are from our Special Collections Department, and supported by Special Collections staff.

Previous exhibits have included the "Art of the Diaspora," featuring Jamaica-inspired gourds and calabashes, as well as works of Haitian art on loan from the Art Museum collection. A series of photographs of contemporary Havana were displayed at the Gallery, as was a special exhibition, entitled, "Social Fabric" that featured the works of Miami artist, César Trasobares.

The most recent exhibition, "American Resources," running through the end of March, was compiled to honor the critical contributions of African-Americans and women to the history and culture of America. Many of the artists showcased are from Latin America and the Caribbean, with the majority of them from the African Diaspora.

The Gallery at Green Library exhibit space is located in the public area on the second floor of the Green Library. For more information, call John Bailly at 305-348-0297. ■

Outreach Events Between FIU Libraries and the University of Miami

A number of ongoing, collaborative outreach events between FIU Libraries and the University of Miami's Richter Library are scheduled for the Spring 2003 semester. These activities are open to the public and are especially beneficial to LAC studies students, faculty and Cuban studies researchers.

Tour of Cuban Heritage Collection (CHC) – On March 11th, students, faculty, librarians, and researchers were invited to enjoy an up-close examination of the Cuban Heritage Collection at the newly-renovated University of Miami's Richter Library. The response was so great, that two separate tours were conducted, one for library staff in the morning and another in the afternoon for students and faculty.

The tour provided a great opportunity for the FIU community to visit one of the premier Cuban and Cuban-American collections in the country. The Cuban Heritage Collection preserves and provides access to an extensive collection of books, periodicals, and archival materials on Cuba and the Cuban exile experience.

The CHC includes approximately 40,000 rare and contemporary volumes published in Cuba and abroad related to Cuban culture and history. Works by Cuban exiles and Cuban-Americans are also featured in the collection. There are over 300 titles of newspapers, magazines, journals, and newsletters published in Cuba, representing approximately 25,000 issues, in the CHC.

Upcoming events (dates to be announced):

The Cuban Heritage Digital Library Presentation – This event will be presented by Maria Estorino, Project Director and Archivist of the Cuban Heritage Digital Collection. It will be held at FIU Green Library.

Cuban Poets Roundtable – Invited poets include Uva de Aragón, Angel Cuadra, Amelia de Castillo, and Jorge Valls.

For details, contact Catherine Marsicek, 305-348-2228, <marsicek@fiu.edu>. ■

Díaz-Ayala Cuban and Latin American Popular Music Collection

In 2001, Cristóbal Díaz-Ayala donated to FIU what can be considered one of the finest and largest collections of Cuban music in the world. FIU Libraries will receive the collection over the next couple of years, with plans to provide access in digital format.

With passion and intensity, Díaz-Ayala devoted the last 25 years to building his collection. Made up of over 100,000 items, the collection includes 25,000 LPs, 14,500 78 rpms, 4,500 cassettes containing radio interviews with composers and musicians, 4,000 pieces of sheet music, 3,000 books, and thousands of CDs, photographs, videocassettes and paper files. The collection spans Cuban and Latin American music from 1909 through the 20th century.

One of the most significant aspects of the collection is its inclusion of rare, early recordings. Wax cylinders from 1909 (precursors to records) house the recordings of Cuban violinist, Marta de la Torres. There are also the first recorded examples of Afro-Cuban jazz from 1931, as well as a 1937 recording of the first bass solo by the legendary Cachao.

This extensive collection has been profiled in the New York Times and the Miami Herald. In the beginning of April check out a display on the Díaz-Ayala collection at the entrance to the Green Library. ■

Did you know that...

FIU Libraries began a Brazilian Approval Plan in Fall 2002? Approval plans ensure the development of a well-rounded and current collection by receiving items as they are published, based on a collection profile of scholarly resources for Brazil. This new Brazilian Approval Plan is being funded with Department of Education Title VI funding through the Latin American and Caribbean Center until August 2003. ■

Did you know that...

The display case at LACiC features changing exhibits highlighting LAC collections at the Libraries? Previous displays have focused on the Díaz-Ayala music collection, Latin American and Caribbean videos, Trinidadian Carnival, Haitian culture, and, even, Caribbean Rums. The current display features information on African diaspora artists, and complements the *American Resources* exhibit in the Green Library. ■

Donations Maintain Strength of LAC Collection

Donations such as the Díaz-Ayala Cuban and Latin American Popular Music Collection have enriched and strengthened FIU's ever-expanding Latin American and Caribbean Collection. There have recently been several large gifts made to FIU Libraries that deserve special recognition.

Dr. Carmelo Mesa-Lago gave his personal collection of books and other research materials to FIU Libraries in the fall of 2002. The collection includes over 500 books, in addition to pamphlets, periodicals, and other important resources, all on the Cuban economy, a reflection of Mesa-Lago's academic focus.

A donation of more than 1,200 titles, mostly books, was received from J. Noe Herrera of Libros de Colombia as a gift for the Law Library. This personal collection focuses on all aspects of Colombian law, with a emphasis on constitutional law.

Guillermo Martínez, has pledged a gift of Cuban exile poetry pamphlets to the Libraries. These unique and valuable materials were collected over the past 30 years by his father, Guillermo Martínez Márquez, a noted international journalist.

Gifts like these are deeply appreciated as they contribute to the development of a collection that offers a broad range of source material for LAC faculty, students and researchers. ■

Colombian Paper Competition Joins 1st Annual Florida Student Conference on Latin American and Caribbean Studies

The success of last year's Colombian paper competition has warranted a repeat. The competition, sponsored by LACiC, LACC and Colombian book vendor, J. Noe Herrera of *Libros de Colombia*, is a forum for students to present their research papers on Colombian topics. Students are invited to submit papers on Colombian studies issues.

This year's competition, however, will be part of a larger Conference, the first annual, "Florida Student Conference on Latin American and Caribbean Studies," to be held at FIU on April 11th, 2003. All topics on Latin America and the Caribbean are welcome and papers submitted will be grouped into conference panels according to paper themes.

Best paper awards (and cash awards too!) will be announced at the end of the conference. For more info, pick up a flyer in LACiC or contact Jordan McDuff at <jordan.mcduff@fiu.edu>. ■

LACC's 2003 Library Travel Grants

The Latin American and Caribbean Center offers Library Travel Grants to the University of Florida's Latin American Collection, one of the finest collections of Latin American materials in the US.

The purpose of the grants is to enable researchers from FIU to use the extensive resources of UF's collection, which includes over 350,000 volumes, 55,000 reels of microfilm, and renowned newspaper and government document collections.

To discuss how the UF LAC collection can support your research, contact Catherine Marsicek at LACiC, 305-348-2228, <marsicek@fiu.edu>. For application information, call LACC, 305-348-2894. ■

Focus on Haiti

For researchers studying Haiti, or those of you planning on attending the Haitian Summer Institute, FIU Libraries will soon receive some new Haitian publications. For a complete list of new titles, please see the FIU Libraries' Catalog.

- *Les femmes haïtiennes aux élections de 1990* / Suzy Castor, 1994. Women, civil rights, and the election of 1990.
- *Une Haïtienne à New York: Roman* / Roger Dorsinville, 1991. A novel of the Haitian Diaspora set in Brooklyn.
- *Associationnisme paysan en Haïti: Effets de permanence et de rupture* / Pierre Simpson Gabaud, 2001. Study of peasant cooperatives in Haiti. Includes a review of the literature.
- *Pourquoi les campêches saignent-ils?* / Jacques G. Godart, 1987. Winning novel of the 1987 Prix Deschamps.
- *Haïti et l'après-Duvalier: continuité et ruptures* / Cary Hector; Hérard Jadotte, 1991. Noted Haitian authors write on corruption, human rights, public education, popular movements, and other themes.
- *Module 30* / Gerard Hippolyte, 1994. Exposition of paintings by the Haitian artist.
- *Isla para dos* / Rubén Silié, Carlos Segura, eds., 2002. Explores problems of the Dominican-Haitian frontier. Includes recommendations regarding relations and cooperation in the areas of environment and migration.
- *Le prix de la parole : un journaliste raconte ses péripéties dans les geôles militaires après le coup d'Etat de 1991* / Paul Jean-Mario, 2001. Personal account of a journalist imprisoned after the anti-Aristide coup.
- *Panorama du folklore haïtien : présence africaine en Haïti* / Emmanuel Casséus Paul, 1962. A collection of folk traditions.
- *Reveil du negre marron* / Tale of Negritude in Haiti in comic-book format. ■