

## Fall 2022 NEWSLETTER

### FACULTY NEWS

#### Fernando Loffredo Awarded a Five-Year Max-Planck Partner Group Grant

Assistant Professor Fernando Loffredo was awarded a five-year grant by the German Max-Planck Society, one of the world's most prestigious research institutes. As Principal Investigator, Professor Loffredo will lead a collaborative project titled "Empires, Environments, Objects: Connecting Visual and Material Cultures across the Hispanic World" in partnership with the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, Lima, and the Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florence– Max-Planck Institute for Art History, Italy.



*Prof. Loffredo delivering a lecture on February 13, 2021 at the Prado Museum in Madrid*

This project, sponsored by a Max-Planck Partner Group Grant, seeks to explore the web of connections among the visual and material cultures and its transformative power in diverse communities of people and environments across the global territories under Spanish and Portuguese rule, with a particular focus on early modern Latin America and the so-called Spanish Pacific. Beginning in 2022 and continuing through 2027, this grant will offer new opportunities to Stony Brook students and faculty, and will bring innovative scholarship and academic activities to our campus.

#### Digital Humanities and Mestizo Studies

In conjunction with Professor Paul Firbas's new course on Mestizo Studies, Dr. Isabella Magni of the University of Sheffield (UK), and Rutgers University doctoral candidate Paolo Scartoni visited Stony Brook on April 7, 2022 to give a talk and participate in a conversation with students on digital tools and methods in digital humanities.

The event was structured around a series of basic questions such as, "What are the digital humanities?" "How is the digital changing the way we read and interpret literary and historical texts?" "What do we mean when we talk about digital projects?"

**Stony Brook University** Dept of Hispanic Languages and Literatures | Center for Italian Studies | University Libraries Center for Digital Humanities

Talk (in-person)  
From Renaissance Letters to Digital Communities:  
Research and Methods in **Digital Humanities**

**Isabella Magni** Postdoc Fellow at HathiTrust Research Center | **Paolo Scartoni** is a Ph.D. student at Rutgers University.

## Sir Run Run Shaw Series Lecture

As part of Professor Javier Uriarte's course on "Literature and Politics in Nineteenth-Century Latin America," Felipe Martínez-Pinzón, Associate Professor in the Department of Hispanic Studies at Brown University, delivered one of the Fall 2022 semester's [Sir Run Run Shaw Series](#) lectures, sponsored by the Dean of the College of Arts and Science. Professor Martínez-Pinzón spoke on "Sketches of Manners, Civil War and Liberal Reform in Nineteenth-Century Latin America," a topic related to Martínez's recent book *Patricios en Contienda: Cuadros de costumbres, reformas liberales y representación del pueblo en Hispanoamérica (1830-1880)* (University of North Carolina Press, 2021).



## Two Lecturers Join the Department



This fall we welcomed two experienced instructors of Spanish to fulltime positions as lecturers. Luis Rodríguez Chaves (PhD, Stony Brook, 2021) is a specialist in post-Civil War Spanish written narrative and film.



Pablo García Gámez (PhD, CUNY Graduate Center, 2019) is an award-winning playwright and theater scholar.

## New Brazilian Lecturer in Portuguese

We are also excited to welcome Monica Panigassi Vicentini who comes to Stony Brook this fall through a program sponsored by the Brazilian Ministry of External Relations to promote the study of the Portuguese language and Brazilian culture. Monica earned her undergraduate degree in literary studies, and her Masters and PhD in Applied Linguistics at the State University of Campiñas, São Paulo, Brazil. Her research interests include language testing and assessment, integrated writing tasks and Portuguese as a second/foreign language. Prior to coming to Stony Brook, she worked as a Fulbright Language Teaching Assistant at Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, and also taught Portuguese in Cuba.



## GRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS AND EVENTS

### Congratulations to our new PhDs!

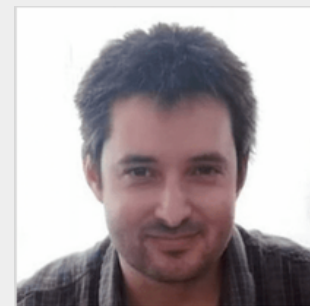
Natalia Polito defended her dissertation, "El género chico criollo en Buenos Aires: Ciudad, cine y performance de género a comienzos del siglo XX"/ "The Género Chico Criollo Genre in Buenos Aires: City, Cinema and Gender Performance at the Beginning of the 20th Century," on July 14, 2022

Advisors: Professors Adrián Pérez Melgosa and Javier Uriarte



Alberto Sánchez-Medina defended his dissertation, "Angeles fríos: avatares del asesino en novelas hispanicas del siglo XXI"/ "Cold Angels: Avatars of the Killer in Hispanic 21st-century Novels," on August 24, 2022.

Advisors: Professors Javier Uriarte and Paul Firbas



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### Two Students Win Presidential Dissertation Completion Fellowships



Martha Chávez Negrete was awarded a Presidential Dissertation Completion Fellowship to support work on her doctoral thesis, "El juguete-bitácora en la narrativa latinoamericana del siglo XX."

Moisés Hassan Bendahan also earned Fellowship support for completing his PhD thesis, titled "Visualizing the Gutter: (Non)Belonging in Asian American and Latinx Experience through Comics."

## Two MA Graduates Begin their Teaching Careers

Anita Rescia completed her MA degree in August 2022 with a thesis titled "España rota: La temática infantil en la literatura y el cine de la Guerra Civil Española." In September, she began work as a full-time Spanish teacher at Miller Place High School, Miller Place, NY.



Jacqueline Romero also graduated in August with a thesis analyzing "Género y violencia en Latinoamérica y España." She is pictured here on her first day in her full-time position teaching Spanish at Brentwood High School, Brentwood, NY.



## Edward Guiliano '78 Global Fellowship Program



María Medín-Doce was awarded a Guiliano Global Fellowship to undertake research in the the Biblioteca Nacional de España in Madrid, in their collection of magazines and periodicals directed toward women readers during the period of the Civil War and Franco dictatorship. This research is in support of Maria's dissertation on the physical space of the house and the idea of home as an emotional and moral concept.

Samuel Espíndola Hernández received funding from the Guiliano Global Fellowship Program for research at the James Baldwin Library in MacDowell, New Hampshire as part of a project titled "Transcribing Silences: Notes on Carlos Soto-Román and documentary poetry." Soto-Román began work on a series of poems in response to the military coup and Pinochet dictatorship.





## Max Planck Institute Fellowship

Jose Gabriel Alegría held a two month fellowship at the Max Planck Institute in Florence, Italy, pursuing research on the “Numens Triceps,” or Three-Faced Trinity, an iconography that that enjoyed a wide diffusion in Renaissance Europe as well as the colonial Andes and continues to influence forms of modern Andean religious expression.



## Four Students Awarded Summer Research Fellowships

PhD students Omar Badessi, Marta Chávez Negrete and Carolina Boutoureira earned Departmental fellowships to support their travel and research, and Paulo Soares won a research fellowship from the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center.

## Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access (IDEA) Grads

Three PhD students have been selected as IDEA Grad fellows to work on a variety of projects in the College of Arts and Sciences. In spring, [Evelyn Cruise](#) worked with Maria Nagan, Associate Dean for Curriculum and Erica Hackley, Assistant Dean for Academic Planning on curriculum pathways for Globalization Studies, and with Rachel Rodriguez, CAS Director of Communications, on web content for a variety of departments. This fall, [María Medín-Doce](#) is working on projects in Communications with Rachel Rodriguez, and [Mario Henao](#) will be engaged in a project in Humanities promotion and recruitment with Associate Dean Roger Thompson.

## Graduate Student Conference, Friday, November 4

### “I Was Not Born to Love: Capabilities, Affect and Care”

The conference theme seeks to address the multiple approaches that make the experience of love a unique way of being in the world. Who are those who love? What is the connection between sex and love? Through love, one practices care, but this is also connected to the act of choosing: choosing who deserves our attention and who we might harm in order to take care of who—or what—we love.

Keynote speaker: PJ DiPietro, Department of Women’s and Gender Studies, Syracuse University



## In Memoriam

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We mourn the loss of our beloved colleague, Adrián Pérez Melgosa, Associate Professor and former Director of the Stony Brook Humanities Institute, in June of this year. An innovative and inspiring teacher and mentor, Adrián directed multiple undergraduate, MA and PhD theses, working with students from the Department of Hispanic Languages and Literature as well as Cultural Studies and Comparative Literature. As a scholar, his pathbreaking research explored the intervention of visual and written fiction narratives on the shaping of collective identities in the Americas and Europe.

## We Appreciate Your Support

We are grateful for the generous giving of so many of our alumni and friends! We depend on this support to build and improve our research and teaching opportunities through scholarships, graduate fellowships, and other experiential opportunities for our students. If you are interested in learning more about how you can [support](#) our students and Departmental initiatives, please feel free to contact [Hodan Hassan](#), Assistant Dean for Advancement, at 631.632.4055.

