

# Social Justice Research Center Newsletter

## Advisory Group, Affiliates and Associates:

Check out the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the new Social Justice Research Center newsletter that will be brought to you monthly. Through this correspondence, the SJRC hopes to keep you informed about its newest developments, as well as opportunities that may assist you in your commitment to social justice research. In every issue, we will be highlighting upcoming events, a featured social justice article for your reading pleasure, along with a multitude of other announcements that have a social justice focus. In future issues, look for highlights of scholarly journals that deal with issues of social justice, as well as grant and financial aid opportunities. Please provide feedback on this newsletter. What else would you like to see? E-mail us at: [sjrc@uwyo.edu](mailto:sjrc@uwyo.edu). We look forward to a year of shared expertise and ideas for increased social justice research and development.

Sincerely,  
The Social Justice Research Center

## Upcoming Events

- ▶ Sept. 11: [Guadalupe San Miguel](#) kicks off the University of Wyoming Chicano Studies Program's Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture Series with his lecture, "Beyond the Plight and Struggle of Chicano Education."
- ▶ Sept. 22: [Kenneth M. Orona](#) will deliver the lecture, "Muddy Water: Histories for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century," as a participant of the Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture Series
- ▶ Sept. 25-26 : [Salman Rushdie](#), legendary novelist and human rights activist, visits campus as a guest of the University of Wyoming Department of English L.L. Smith Lecture Series
- ▶ Oct. 16: [Louis "Pancho" McFarland](#) will discuss "Multiracial Macho: Hip Hop and Chicano Identity" to close out the Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture Series
- ▶ Oct. 27-28: [Manuel Munoz](#), acclaimed writer, engages discussion at a series of events including the University of Wyoming Creative Writing Department's Visiting Writer Series

## Featured Article

- ▶ *The University and Social Justice*, by Frank Cunningham, discusses the "considerations of social justice that pertain to universities with respect to reserved spaces for applicants from disadvantaged groups, targeted hiring, differential student fees or faculty workloads and salaries, and similarly contested matters" (Cunningham, 1). This article is attached in the e-mail. Please forward us suggestions for future 'Featured Articles'!

## Announcements

- ▶ We have made huge progress in outlining the SJRC's role in supporting our members with their research endeavors. In next month's newsletter, look for more details about how to access these services. [In the mean time, check out what we can do for you!](#)
- ▶ The SJRC will have two Graduate Assistants, Ruth Mena-Tellez and Heather Lucero, working to support the Center's goals throughout the 2008-2009 academic year. With our GA's, we have a physical presence on campus: McWhinnie Hall 211, M-F, 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. [Meet our GA's.](#)
- ▶ As always, the Social Justice Research Center would like to facilitate continued growth of our presence on campus. One way this is made possible is by promoting further expansion of membership to the Center. You can help us in our endeavors by encouraging others to join as affiliates and associates at our homepage: <http://www.uwyo.edu/sjrc/>.

September 2008 Edition

## **Guadalupe San Miguel, Jr., Kenneth M. Orona and Louis “Pancho” McFarland – Chicano Studies Program Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture Series**

The University of Wyoming Chicano Studies Program’s Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture Series commences Thursday, September 11<sup>th</sup> with a lecture from Dr. Guadalupe San Miguel, Jr. His lecture, “Beyond the Plight and Struggle of Chicano Education,” will be held at 6 p.m. in the Classroom Building, RM 314. San Miguel is a professor in the University of Houston’s History Department and recipient of the Outstanding Book Award for the best book on the history of Education: *Brown, Not White*.

Dr. Kenneth M. Orona will give the lecture, “Muddy Water: Histories for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” on Monday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12 p.m. in the Classroom Building, RM 222. Orona, an Assistant Professor in Ethnic Studies at the University of Colorado in Boulder, is an expert in U.S. Western History focusing on the U.S. Progressive movement.

Dr. Louis “Pancho” McFarland will close out the Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture Series with the discussion, “Multiracial Macho: Hip Hop and Chicano Identity,” on Thursday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. in the Classroom Building, RM 314. McFarland, acclaimed author of *Chicano Rap: Gender and Violence in the Postindustrial Barrio*, teaches sociology in the fields of race, gender and culture at Chicago State University.

All lectures are free and open to the public. These events are co-sponsored by the SJRC.

## **Salman Rushdie – University of Wyoming Department of English L.L. Smith Lecture Series**

Legendary novelist and human rights activist, Salman Rushdie, will be visiting campus September 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup> as a guest of the University of Wyoming Department of English L.L. Smith Lecture Series. Rushdie is currently the distinguished writer in residence at Emory University and author of ten novels, including his acclaimed yet controversial novel: *The Satanic Verses*.

The celebrated author will speak and answer audience questions on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m., in the UW College of Arts and Sciences auditorium. The event is free and open to the public.

Rushdie will also lead a breakfast conversation about his work on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Albany County Public Library. Attendance is free, but seating is limited. To reserve tickets, call (307) 721-2580 ext. 5456 or e-mail [albypr@will.state.wy.us](mailto:albypr@will.state.wy.us).

Other events planned for Rushdie's visit include book discussions of "The Satanic Verses" in September. The University of Wyoming Libraries will provide a limited number of free copies of the novel to the public. Further details about the book discussions will be announced later.

## **Manuel Munoz – University of Wyoming Creative Writing Department’s Visiting Writer Series**

Fiction writer, Manuel Munoz, will be visiting campus October 27<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> as part of the University of Wyoming Creative Writing Department’s Visiting Writer Series. Munoz is a faculty member of the University of Arizona’s Creative Writing Program and author of two collections of short stories: *Zigzagger* (Northwestern University Press, 2003) and *The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue* (Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill, 2007).

The acclaimed writer will be doing a public reading with a Q&A session on Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m., in the Foundation House. A reception and book signing will follow his reading.

Munoz will also be the guest at the Ross Hall book club the following day, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m., at the Foundation House. The book club will be reading his second collection during his visit. Both events are free and open to the public.

While on campus, Munoz will also be visiting with students who are reading his work this fall in a Mexican-American literature course. In addition, he will be spending time in conversation with the University’s MFA students and having breakfast with undergraduates from Spectrum and MECHA.

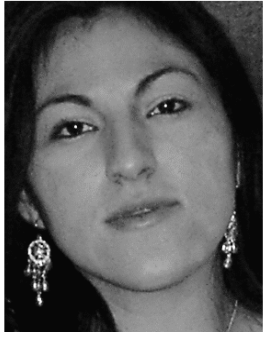
These events are co-sponsored by the SJRC.

## **SJRC Serving You**

In order to support social justice research scholars, the SJRC provides many services to our faculty, staff and student members, including supporting you in:

- Conducting literature searches using electronic databases
- Collecting research data
- Entering research data (i.e. SPSS, enVivo!, etc.)
- Seeking possible publication outlets for research findings
- Providing notification of possible grant funds and financial aid opportunities

## SJRC Graduate Assistants



**Ruth Mena-Tellez**, born in Monterrey, Mexico, graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2007 with a degree in Social Work. Now, she is working toward a Masters in Social Work and plans to attend law school next year. Family and education are very important to her, as well as being a good role model for her younger siblings. For the last 4 years, Ruth dedicated her life to the Boys and Girls in Casper teaching and encouraging Latino youth to educate themselves and achieve their goals. She also coached soccer and basketball and enjoyed teaching kids about Latin culture by celebrating Latin holidays and teaching them Spanish. Ruth enjoys reading about politics and social justice and going to Denver to eat Latin food.

Advocating and serving the Latino community has become very important to Ruth. She believes that in order to make a change in the Latino population, it is important that she educates herself about the issues that affect them so that she may be effective in providing them with the resources necessary to succeed.



**Heather Lucero** is a MS candidate in the Electrical Engineering department at the University of Wyoming. Her graduate studies focus on Semiconductor Materials and Devices. She received her undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering last spring here at UW. Heather has been actively involved on campus during her college career participating in the Honors Program and being a member of the Student Affairs Student Advisory Board, LeaRN, Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society, Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers, as well as the Society of Women Engineers.

Heather grew up in Cheyenne, Wyoming in a family of two. She and her brother are the first generation in her family to attend college, so academics have always been a very important part of her life. When Heather isn't busy with school, she is undoubtedly experiencing the outdoors. She enjoys backpacking, hiking and rafting in the summers and skiing in the winter. Service to her community has always been an integral component to her life. She enjoys tutoring on campus, working to encourage youth to engage interest in science and technology, and promoting the advancement of Latino youth through education in her work with the H.O.P.E. organization.