



## Center for Latin American and Border Studies (CLABS)

MSC 3445  
PO BOX 30001  
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Nason House  
1070 University Ave.  
Las Cruces, NM 88003

### CLABS Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, September 24th, 2021

10:00 am to 11:00 am

In attendance: David G. Ortiz, Neil Harvey, Inigo Garcia-Bryce, Delia Valles-Rosales, Alison Newby, Blanca, Araujo, Delano Lewis, Dino Cervantes, Efren Delgado, Yvette Navarro  
Missing: Hector Diaz

- Board approved past meeting minutes from March 16th, 2021
- **Faculty Fellow Report**
  - Nason House
    - David Ortiz discussed the current status of the Nason house, giving the schedules of himself, Christopher Brown, Delano Lewis, Yvette Navarro, and Shafik Dharamsi.
    - Christopher Brown discussed the new GA for Beyond Borders, who will also be working in the house in October.
    - David Ortiz went over recent events occurring in the Nason house and encouraged other board members to host small events to help reinvigorate the house.
      - Neil Harvey suggested that he bring his undergraduate Latin American Politics class to the main conference room in the Nason House, where David Ortiz and Yvette Navarro could give a tour and talk about the work of CLABS.
        - Christopher Brown said he would send in a blurb concerning Beyond Borders so David Ortiz could read it on his behalf to the class.
  - Website and social media
    - David Ortiz went over changes to the CLABS website, including expanding our CLABS Scholars list and including the NMSU-UTEP Border REU Program. He also discussed upcoming website changes, including a pre-application for the CLABS scholarship and a submenu for the advisory board and committee meeting minutes.

- Christopher Brown suggested that we place this page under the archive section of the website.
  - David Ortiz talked about the growing following on social media accounts. He encouraged board members to send over events or other advertisements they want to be posted on the CLABS social media accounts.
  - David Ortiz suggested that advisory board members recommend events that CLABS could sponsor, citing RMCLAS and events from Chicano Studies as a successful way to use resources.
  - David Ortiz discussed talks in the HEST college about restarting the Border Walking Journal
    - Anita Hernandez wants to restart that journal but discussed the difficulties regarding time, money, and staff needed to implement this plan.
    - David Ortiz is pushing for the journal to be more than just education-based.
  - David Ortiz discussed the inclusion of CLABS regarding the potential grant to get the Amador collection cataloged and digitized.
    - David Ortiz is on the board, but the grant's decision won't be made until April.
- **Nason Collection Committee**
  - Christopher Brown discussed the current status regarding the cataloging of the Nasion collection.
    - Support from the provost, Dean Turpis, and library staff has led Linda Baldwin to record and catalog all the books in the Nason collection.
      - If the item is requested, it will state the Nason House's location and prompt the individual to contact the CLABS email address.
      - David Ortiz is in the process of getting an ownership stamp.
      - Christopher Brown expressed that the cataloging would answer the requests by the Nason family.
    - Christopher Brown and David Ortiz discussed potential options to keep the books safe and prevent theft, such as a keypad lock.
      - Inigo Garcia-Bryce proposed making it an open reading room.
      - David Ortiz suggested that the board reconvene when the cataloging is complete to decide the best approach and hours of operation.
      - Neil Harvey recommended that students hand over their ID to enter the reading room so that we have a record of who enters the room and account for when there is a stolen book.

- Christopher Brown said that CLABS and the Nason house will be featured in an article for Sun News where they told the story of Willoughby Nason.
- **Colloquium Series**
  - Inigo Garcia-Bryce went over the Spring Speaker Series lineup, including its presence on the web and high attendance. It suggests that making the Speaker Series online allows people from across the nation and internationally to attend.
    - David Ortiz calculated that there was an average of 127 people at the events in Spring.
    - Inigo Garcia Bryce discussed the success of RMCLAS and its international attendance. Next year's hybrid conference will be held at NMSU, with the support of CLABS and Beyond Borders.
  - Neil Harvey suggested that there should be follow-up with repeat attendees to add them to an emailing listserv.
    - Yvette Navarro proposed looking at the excel form with individuals who registered for past events and adding or referring them to sign up for our mailing list.
    - David Ortiz discussed the four mailing groups that are already used.
  - Inigo Garcia Bryce went over the fall colloquium lineup with Tony Payan, Amalia Leguizamo, and Kate Bove.
  - David Ortiz discussed the Spring 2022 lineup, including Jose Bucheli and Katie Acosta but says that the committee still needs to decide the last speaker.
  - Inigo Garcia Bryce suggested that we find ways to ask faculty and CLABS Scholars to indicate who they would like to see part of the series and get them to participate in the process
    - David Ortiz agreed, stating that this was how Tony Payan was suggested and became co-sponsored by CBED.
  - Inigo Garcia Bryce also suggested a more significant event during Latin Heritage Month where CLABS could partner with other departments, units, and the Mexican consulate to bring a more substantial event.
- **Partnerships and Agreements**
  - David Ortiz talked about this committee's work on behalf of Hector Diaz.
    - There have been agreements with two universities in Spain and the Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León.
      - One of them has already been signed, and there will be an opportunity for the NMSU provost and the provost of the University of Spain to sign the agreement.
      - Other agreements are still getting approved by the legal team.
      - There is continued work on developing a proposal for an international and comparative social work Ph.D. program. The UPAC deadline was not met, but this binational Ph.D. program

would be through the HEST college where Mexican students will come to NMSU, and American students will go to Mexico

- **Symposium and Publications**

- Neil Harvey discussed the committee's suggestion of a symposium focusing on the Impacts of Covid-19 on Latin America but suggested a new topic concerning the root cause of migration, food security/insecurity, hunger, and climate change, discussing the relevance of the issues and addressing the perspective missing from the recently criticized United Nations Food Summit.
  - The committee will discuss if they want to aim for Spring or next Fall for the symposium.
- Neil Harvey discussed his involvement of CLABS in a proposal for a Ph.D. program in Transborder and Global Human Dynamics that may be active in the next few years.
  - David Ortiz voiced his support for these efforts, and Neil Harvey requested a letter of support.

- **Scholarship & Community Engagement**

- David Ortiz discussed that the committee awarded two graduate and two undergraduate scholarships.
- The provost asked David Ortiz to grant another one on behalf of CLABS, bringing a total of \$2,500 awarded to students last semester.

- **LASA**

- David Ortiz discussed an invitation from LASA to co-sponsor a multi-center speaker series and encouraged the board to think about suggesting ideas as the application deadline is October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- David Ortiz confirmed that CLABS is a member of LASA.

- **Other**

- Neil Harvey suggested that CLABS try to get Title VI, and that this might be more of a possibility due to all the media and political attention on migrants.
- Inigo Garcia Bryce suggested a beginning or end of the year social party for CLABS so that the board can get together and celebrate successes.
- David Ortiz thanked the board for their support and work. He is hopeful that CLABS, Beyond Borders, and the International Working Group will help bring more budget, resources, and attention to Latin American and border studies.