



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

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# CLABS Colloquium Committee Meeting

Friday, February 16, 2021

12:00 pm to 1:30 pm

In Attendance: David Ortiz, Delia Valles-Rosales, Inigo Garcia Bryce, C. Alison Newby, Yvette Navarro

- **Spring 2021**

The committee discussed who they would like to present during the Spring 2021 colloquium. Delia suggested a faculty professor in UC San Diego who works in health care with COVID-19 near the border. Alison proposed a panel on responses to COVID across Latin America, mentioning Cuba's current reopening. The committee agrees this will be valuable since people can see how these countries will be transformed as a result of this pandemic. Delia and Alison suggested a focus on COVID and immigration on the border. Inigo says that a historical perspective on this panel might be beneficial, citing Marco Cueto in Brazil. He believes offering something comparative would be interesting, even though bandwidth might pose an issue with participants from other countries. Alison and Inigo agreed that this type of panel would most likely be longer than one hour. Although the committee agreed this would be a good idea, David suggested that it might be a better theme for the fall symposium and suggested the committee members join the symposium meeting to offer insight and ideas. Inigo believed that the symposium and colloquium could be complementary, but Alison pointed out that the symposium is uncertain since none of us know how the state of COVID will pan out, so it would be best to at least have one colloquium event this semester to talk about this topic.

Inigo stresses the need for this first event of the semester to start out strongly and therefore, should be a topic and speaker will the biggest appeal. David agrees that this should set the trend of successful events. The committee approved asking Mauro Porto to present during our February Colloquium. There was talk of moving the event to early March instead, but this might create a problem in May because of finals week.

For March's colloquium, the committee agreed to a panel of three people, one from NMSU, one from Mexico, and one from outside. Inigo agreed to find a speaker from Juarez and Delia will contact Linda Hill. Inigo suggested there be a writeup for this panel to help each participant know what will be expected of them. As for the third (April) colloquium, Alexis Salsa was suggested, who is a new professor who studies recent art movements in Mexico. If Alexis is not available, then Inigo suggested Kate Bovie in linguistics.

- **Potential Speakers**

The committee agreed that Carlo Mora might be a good person to ask to be part of our colloquium in the future. Inigo mentioned that particular criteria for each semester of speakers should include one speaker (preferably a new faculty member) from NMSU, one speaker talking about the border and one speaker talking about Latin America. He suggested these loose categories will be beneficial for the committee in terms of planning. The committee also agreed that it might be beneficial to have some events that are entirely in Spanish or get a translator to recruit non-English speaking presenters. Delia suggested Efen's father as a potential speaker within a panel or alone.

- **Fall 2021**

David wants there to be at least 3 presentations during Fall 2021 to make a total of six per year preferably on the same day of the week each month at the same time. David suggested we may be able to fund one guest speaker per year. Since Inigo pointed out that panels were the most successful in previous events, the committee agreed that every semester should have one special colloquium that includes a panel and is longer than typical events. The committee agreed to meet in a month (March 12) to finalize the schedule of presentations for the rest of the year.