



**CLABS**

Center for Latin American  
and Border Studies

MSC 3445  
PO BOX 30001  
Las Cruces, NM 88003

Nason House  
1070 University Ave.  
Las Cruces, NM 88003

## **Symposium and Publication Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

October 11th, 12:00 PM

In attendance: David Ortiz, Neil Harvey, Blanca Araujo, Efren Delgado, Yvette Navarro

- Neil Harvey suggested that it would be great if the committee were to pull off a 2022 Spring symposium. The symposium would focus on a more general view of the impacts of COVID-19 in Latin America, Mexico, and the U.S.-Mexico border.
  - Table Themes
    - Efren Delgado sent over a list of potential presenters to talk about food systems and Covid-19. He suggested he may need to update and reestablish if these individuals would still be interested in participating in the symposium.
    - Neil Harvey discussed his NMSU-UTEP Border REU Program and the potential to address immigrant advocacy, seeking asylum, and what immigration looks like during a pandemic.
      - Additionally, Neil Harvey will talk about Chiapas in the U.S.-Mexico Border later in October, so he said he would invite some speakers to be part of our symposium to begin building a relationship.
      - David Ortiz mentioned Katie Acosta and her work on migration issues and asylum seekers, which he believes would fit Neil Harvey's proposed table.

- Blanca Araujo suggested Alberto Espino as a possible speaker on how the pandemic has affected students and education on the border.
- Logistics
  - Neil Harvey suggested that we draft a conference format to share with colleagues about the symposium to gauge their interests and start receiving proposals.
    - David Ortiz said that it would be best to include times, dates, and names of some of the experts at the table so that both faculty and graduate students know that these experts will give them feedback and that there is an opportunity to publish conference proceedings.
      - Efren Delgado liked this idea, noting that an interactive symposium would be great for graduate students and junior faculty to share and get feedback on their work.
    - Neil Harvey said he would write up a draft for the symposium and that committee members should reach out to panel participants to get approval of their involvement.
    - David Ortiz also mentioned that advertising could be done using CLABS's mailing lists and social media pages.
      - Advertisement will begin the week before Thanksgiving if possible.
  - The committee agreed that an in-person symposium accommodating online attendees would be preferable to get a good turnout.
  - Payment of some of these experts might be difficult, especially if they want to present in person and not online via Zoom.
    - David Ortiz cited CLABS's recent sponsorship with CBED, who provided money for a speaker to present, as a good partnership, and that the committee should try to reach out

to other departments and centers that may be interested in helping us fund this endeavor.

- Efren Delgado suggested that CESFAS may have funding to support workshops.
  - The committee agreed that the symposium would be Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, through Sunday, April 10<sup>th</sup>
- Next Meeting
  - The committee will reconvene to discuss the conference proposal and finances so that the committee has a better idea of how much money they have allotted for this symposium.
    - Discussions about inviting graduate students and providing feedback will also be discussed, including the potential for a scholarship for a graduate student's presentation.