



Latin America 2020
Sanford Consortium Auditorium
February 20, 2020

3:00 PM: Welcome

- Rafael Fernandez de Castro, Director, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies and Professor, School of Global Policy & Strategy

3:05 PM: Contemporary Latin America: Issues, Policies and Themes

- Chair: Richard Feinberg, Professor, School of Global Policy & Strategy
- Civil Society Responses to Public Security Challenges, Cecilia Farfan Mendez, Head of Security Research Programs, Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies
- Climate Change and Latin American Energy Policies, David R. Mares, Distinguished Professor of Political Science and Director, Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies
- Indigeneity in Latin America, Nancy Postero, Professor of Anthropology and Director, Human Rights Program
- Discussant: Peter H. Smith, Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Political Science

4:15 PM: A New Decade: Reimagining Prosperity to Halt the Exodus from Central America


- Laura Chinchilla Miranda, former President of Costa Rica


5:00 PM: Musical Performance – La Camarada Tango Trio

5:45 PM: Reception

SPEAKERS

Laura Chinchilla Miranda was the first female president of Costa Rica, serving from 2010 to 2014. Chinchilla served as Costa Rica's vice-minister for public security (1994 to 1996) and minister of public security (1996 to 1998). She was also chair of the Joint Drug Intelligence Center; chair of the National Immigration Council; and a member of the National Drug Council, National Security Council and Academic Council of the National Police Academy. From 2002 to 2006, she served in the National Assembly as a deputy for the province of San Jose. Chinchilla served as vice-president and minister of justice from 2006 to 2008. She has served on various reform initiatives that promote citizen security and human rights throughout Latin America, such as the Project Advisory Committee of Civil Society and Public Safety for the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA), the Central American Dialogue Foundation Arias for Peace and Human Progress and the Foundation for Peace and Democracy (FUNPADEM). She graduated from the University of Costa Rica and received a master's degree in public policy from Georgetown University.





Cecilia Farfan Mendez leads the security research portfolio at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies (USMEX) at UC San Diego. She is an expert on organized crime and U.S.-Mexico security cooperation and co-chairs the U.S.-Mexico Security Cooperation Taskforce led by USMEX in partnership with the Justice in Mexico Program of the University of San Diego and the Mexico Security Initiative at the University of Texas. Farfan holds a Ph.D. in political science from UC Santa Barbara and has been a recipient of several research fellowships including Fulbright, the UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation and Mexico's National Council on Science and Technology.

Richard Feinberg is a professor of international political economy at the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) at UC San Diego. He is an expert on trade and investment, globalization, democratization and non-governmental organizations, and has enjoyed a distinguished career as diplomat, policy advisor, consultant, university professor and author of over 200 books and articles on international relations. Feinberg is a non-resident senior fellow at the Brookings Institution authoring three reports assessing Cuba's economic reforms on foreign investment, the country's private enterprise and the emergence of its middle class. He holds a Ph.D. from Stanford University.

Rafael Fernandez de Castro is a professor at GPS and Director of USMEX. A former foreign policy adviser to President Felipe Calderon, he is an expert on bilateral relations between Mexico and the U.S. He is founder and former chair of the Department of International Studies at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM). He has published numerous academic articles and written several books, including *Contemporary U.S.- Latin American Relations: Cooperation or Conflict in the 21st Century*. He is the founder and editor of Foreign Affairs Latin America. Fernandez de Castro received his Ph.D from Georgetown University.

David R. Mares holds the Institute of the Americas Chair for Inter-American Affairs at UC San Diego and is the Baker Institute Scholar for Latin American Energy Studies at the James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy at Rice University. He also directs the Center for Iberian and Latin American Studies at UC San Diego. His research and teaching interests include Latin American energy politics, the political economy of drug policy, defense policy, civil-military relations and the use of photographic imagery in politics. Mares is the author or editor of ten books and his publications have appeared in journals such as Comparative Politics, International Organization, International Interactions, Security Studies, and Latin American Research Review. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University.

Nancy Postero is a professor of anthropology at UC San Diego and the Director of the Human Rights Program. Her research examines the relation between race, politics, and political economy, focusing specifically on indigenous peoples of Latin America. She was previously a criminal defense and human rights attorney, and a journalist. Her books include *Now We Are Citizens*, *Indigenous Politics in Postmulticultural Bolivia* and *The Indigenous State: Race, Politics, and Performance in Plurinational Bolivia*. Postero received her Ph.D. from UC Berkeley.

Peter H. Smith is a distinguished professor emeritus of political science at UC San Diego. His fields of study are comparative politics, Latin American politics, and U.S.-Latin American relations. Smith's books include *Talons of the Eagle: Latin America, the United States, and the World* and *Democracy in Latin America: Political Change in Comparative Perspective*. In 2013, he received the prestigious Kalman Silvert Award from the Latin American Studies Association in recognition of his lifetime contributions to scholarship in the field and to the profession at large. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University.

