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UAT
Universidad Autónoma de
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Unidad Académica
Multidisciplinaria
Matamoros

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ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BORDER STUDIES

7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies: Border Complexities

Wednesday, February 19th, 2025:
H. Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico

Thursday, February 20th - Friday, February 21st, 2025:
Edinburg, Texas, United States

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

For inquiries, please reach out to [Dr. Caroline Miles](#) visit the [conference webpage](#).

Welcome from UTRGV



It is my pleasure to present the 7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies, hosted by The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and the *Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas*. The theme of this year's conference, "**Border Complexities**" reminds us of what is perhaps the hottest national, international, and global topic especially in terms of its implications on the *have-nots* from the developing world.

It is exciting to observe the growing worldwide interest in the conference over the years. The 7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies hosts nearly a hundred scholars from almost 30 national and international academic institutions. We are especially pleased to have Soledad Álvarez Velasco as keynote speaker.

The proximity to the border of our locations in Mexico and the US serves as the ideal space for scholars and researchers to engage in dynamic and visionary collaboration in a unique geographic region, and present multidisciplinary research on the important and timely issues related to borders. This year, the conference is face-to-face and will continue to facilitate sharing research across borders and developing lasting collaborative relationships to find solutions to some of the most compelling social, legal, economic, political, and technological problems the world faces today. We are also pleased to be offering simultaneous translation to serve our bilingual community.

I would also like to thank Dr. Luis Zayas, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, for supporting this conference. I also want to thank the deans, chairs, and directors who sponsored the conference, and to all our *colegas* at the *Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas*.

I also want to thank all my colleagues and staff in the various offices under International Study Programs, especially Dr. Caroline Miles who has coordinated the conference for several years and Roxana Trevino, the steering committee, reviewers, advisors, and simultaneous translation.

Dr. Jaime Ortiz

International Study Programs, UTRGV

Bienvenida UAT



A nombre de la Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, es un honor dirigirme a Ustedes en este VII Congreso Internacional de Estudios de Frontera: Complejidades Fronterizas. Evento que pone de manifiesto el compromiso de la Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas, a través de la Unidad Académica Multidisciplinaria Matamoros y de la Universidad de Texas Río Grande Valley, de colaborar en el abordaje de temas y situaciones que trascienden los límites físicos del Río Bravo, para explorar la frontera como un espacio de convergencia de dinámicas sociales, culturales y educativas.

Como universidad, entendemos la frontera desde enfoques teóricos contemporáneos que la revelan como un constructo complejo y en constante transformación y donde se entrelazan procesos de identidad y cooperación. Por ello la UAT asume la responsabilidad social de contribuir en el desarrollo y bienestar de nuestra comunidad, la perspectiva multidisciplinaria que se genere en este congreso, nos permitirá reflexionar sobre cómo estos procesos inciden en la configuración de realidades diversas y en la generación de nuevas oportunidades, reafirmando nuestro compromiso con el desarrollo y bienestar de nuestras comunidades.

El objetivo de este congreso es generar un espacio presencial y virtual de intercambio académico y científico que invite a repensar, desde múltiples disciplinas, las complejidades y desafíos de nuestra región fronteriza. Agradezco profundamente a los expertos que han aceptado compartir sus conocimientos y experiencias, y a quienes han contribuido en la organización de este evento.

Estoy convencido de que esta experiencia fortalecerá el conocimiento colectivo y ofrecerá nuevas perspectivas que enriquezcan la comprensión de las dinámicas y desafíos inherentes a la frontera

MVZ MC Dámaso Anaya Alvarado

Rector, UAT

Conference Theme

7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies: Border Complexities

Join us at the 7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies: Border Complexities, where we delve into the evolving dynamics of borders in today's world. Building upon the forthcoming publication "Border Complexities and Logics of Dis/Order," authored by Christian Wille and esteemed researchers from Luxembourg, Germany, and France, this conference explores a novel approach to border studies.

Wille and his colleagues advocate for a paradigm shift in border studies, emphasizing the interplay of various factors shaping borders rather than viewing them in isolation. Their work challenges traditional notions of borders as static entities, instead highlighting their complexity and dynamism.

In his recent interview, Wille underscores the importance of understanding the complexity of borders and its implications for research methodology. Borders are not mere structures; they represent intricate systems influenced by discourse, knowledge, space, and bodies. This complexity orientation offers a promising avenue for exploring borders in-depth.

At this year's conference, we invite presentations that reevaluate borders and border studies methodology in light of this emerging complexity shift. While submissions on a wide range of topics and global regions are welcome, we particularly encourage proposals focusing on Latin America and/or migrant health.

Don't miss the opportunity to contribute to the forefront of border studies discourse. Submit your proposal and join us in exploring the complexities of borders at the 7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies.



Conference Organizers and Sponsors

The 7th Annual International Conference on Border Studies has been planned and is hosted by Global Affairs at The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley and the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas.

We want to thank the following UTRGV colleges, schools, and departments that sponsored this conference:

- **The College of Liberal Arts**
- **The College of Engineering and Computer Science**
- **The Robert C. Vackar College of Business & Entrepreneurship**
- **The College of Education and P-16 Integration**
- **The College of Health Professions**
- **The School of Podiatric Medicine**
- **The School of Social Work**
- **The Department of Literatures and Cultural Studies**
- **The School of Interdisciplinary Programs and Community Engagement**
- **The Center for Collaboration and Ethics**
- **Office For Bilingual Integration**

Keynote Speaker Talk 2025:

“Between Migrant Struggles and Control. The Spatial Production of Migratory Corridors across the Americas.”



Soledad Álvarez Velasco, PhD

Assistant Professor

Departments of Anthropology and Latin American & Latino Studies

Dr. Soledad Álvarez Velasco, a distinguished social anthropologist and human geographer with a PhD in Human Geography from King's College London, is renowned for her groundbreaking research on migration dynamics across the Americas. Her work explores undocumented global south-north and south-south migration, border regimes, and migratory corridors, utilizing multi-sited and digital ethnography to reconstruct migrant trajectories.

Focusing on the Andean Region, Dr. Álvarez Velasco examines migration routes from Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, and Asia, while addressing topics such as the externalization of U.S. border policies, unaccompanied migrant children, and transnational smuggling networks.

She has held academic positions at the University of Heidelberg, the University of Houston, and is currently an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois Chicago, where she teaches courses on migration, border regimes, and mobility across the Americas.

We are honored to welcome Dr. Álvarez Velasco to our conference, where she will offer valuable insights into the complexities of contemporary migration.

Guest speakers:



Luis H. Zayas, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice
President for Academic Affairs

Luis H. Zayas has served as Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (UTRGV) since June 2023.

Originally from Coamo, Puerto Rico, Dr. Zayas earned his bachelor's degree in Economics and Liberal Arts from Manhattan College, followed by a Master of Social Work and a Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from Columbia University. Before joining UTRGV, he was the Dean of the Steve Hicks School of Social Work at UT Austin and a Distinguished Professor at Washington University in St. Louis.

His research, funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), focuses on the psychosocial well-being of immigrant families and the mental health of Latina adolescents. He is the author of books such as *Through Iceboxes and Kennels* (2023) and *Forgotten Citizens* (2015).

Additionally, he has served as an expert witness in immigration policy litigation, providing insights into the psychological effects of deportation and family separation.

In November 2024, Dr. Zayas was honored with the Dr. José A. Ruiz-Escalante Award by the Texas Association for Bilingual Education (TABE) for his leadership and contributions to bilingual education in higher education.



Dr. Alejandro Benedetti
Director del Grupo de estudios
sobre Fronteras y Regiones
(GEFRE)

"Herramientas teórico-metodológicas para localizar y delimitar lo fronterizo y lo transfronterizo"

Licenciado y Doctor en Geografía (Universidad de Buenos Aires). Investigador Principal (CONICET). Es profesor adjunto en las cátedras de Metodología de la Investigación y Seminario de Diseño de Tesis de la Universidad de Buenos Aires, Facultad de Filosofía y Letras, Departamento de Geografía.

Sus áreas de interés son: Fronteras, geografía política, pensamiento geográfico.

Dirige el Proyecto de Desarrollo Estratégico: "Sistema integrado de información sobre fronteras para el diseño de políticas estratégicas sobre accesibilidad y sobre participación ciudadana, para poblaciones de la frontera internacional del tramo argentino-boliviano"

UAT Itinerario - Matamoros

Día 1: Miércoles 19 de Febrero



To register for the Matamoros event:

1. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to complete your registration form.
2. After completing the form, you will automatically receive an email with the Zoom link.

Location: Auditorio de la Unidad Académica Multidisciplinaria Matamoros

Please note: This QR code is only for the Matamoros event. Do not confuse it with other QR codes for different sessions.

Hora	Actividad
8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	Registro
9:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Ceremonia de Inauguración: Bienvenida por la Dra. Yolanda Castillo Muraira Directora de la Unidad Académica Multidisciplinaria Matamoros. Mensaje por el Dr. Jaime Ortiz, Vice Provost for International Study Programs and Professor of Global Economies and Markets en UTRGV. Mensaje y Declaratoria Inaugural por parte del Rector de la Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas el MVZ. MC. Dámaso Leonardo Anaya Alvarado.
9:30 AM – 10:15 AM	Primera Ponencia Dra. Raquel Muñiz Salazar “Vigilancia Genómica de Tuberculosis en Población Migrante México-Estados Unidos”
10:15 AM – 11:00 AM	Segunda Ponencia Dra. Claudia Campillo Toledano “Precariedad, Pobreza Multidimensional”
11:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Número Artístico y Receso
11:30 AM – 12:15 PM	Tercera Ponencia Dra. Menara Lubé Guizardi “Cuidado y Movilidad Femenina”
12:15 PM – 1:00 PM	Cuarta Ponencia Dr. Alejandro Benedetti “Herramientas teórico-metodológicas para localizar y delimitar lo fronterizo y lo transfronterizo”
1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Clausura del Evento

UTRGV Program – Edinburg

Day 1: Thursday, February 20th



To view the conference schedule and access to Edinburg virtual sessions:

1. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to visit the conference website.
2. On the website, you will find detailed instructions for registration and session access.

Please note: This QR code is only for the Edinburg event. Do not confuse it with other QR codes for different sessions.

Time	Activity	Location
8:00 AM – 9:00 AM	Breakfast and Welcome	
9:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Panel 1	Main Ballroom
	Panel 2	Cenizo Room
	Panel 3	Bronc Room
10:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Break	
10:45 AM – 12:15 PM	Panel 4	Main Ballroom
	Panel 5	Cenizo Room
	Panel 6	Bronc Room
12:15 PM – 12:30 PM	Break	
12:30 PM – 1:30 PM	Lunch	
1:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Roundtable 7	Main Ballroom
	Panel 8	Cenizo Room
	Panel 9	Bronc Room
3:00 PM – 3:30 PM	Break	
3:30 PM – 5:30 PM	Administrative Addresses and Keynote Speaker	Main Ballroom
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM	Reception	Main Ballroom

UTRGV Program – Edinburg

Day 2: Friday, February 21st



To view the conference schedule and access to Edinburg virtual sessions:

1. Scan the QR code or [click here](#) to visit the conference website.
2. On the website, you will find detailed instructions for registration and session access.

Please note: This QR code is only for the Edinburg event. Do not confuse it with other QR codes for different sessions.

Time	Activity	Location
8:00 AM – 8:30 AM	Breakfast	
8:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Roundtable 10	Main Ballroom
	Panel 11	Cenizo Room
	Panel 12	Bronc Room
10:00 AM – 10:15 AM	Break	
10:15 AM – 11:45 AM	Panel 13	Main Ballroom
	Roundtable 14	Cenizo Room
	Panel 15	Bronc Room
11:45 AM – 12:00 PM	Break	
12:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Panel 16	Main Ballroom
	Panel 17	Cenizo Room
	Roundtable 18	Bronc Room
1:30 PM	Box Lunch & Rio Grande Valley Border Tour	

Detailed Program

Day 1: Thursday, February 20th

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM – Breakfast and Welcome

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM – Panels/Roundtables 1, 2 & 3

Panel 1: Economic Intersections: Development and Borders (Main Ballroom)

- Moderator: **Mr. Mark Mallory** (Texas A&M University) – *Border Crossing, Border Making, and Transborder Recognition Politics in Black Seminole Diaspora History*
- **Dr. S.R. Aurora Moderator** (UTRGV) – *A Human-AI Integrative Framework to Co-Produce Futures of Work at the Border*
- **Mr. Alan J. Alaniz** (Yale University) – *Consumable Borders: Developmentalism and Marketing in Mexico's Border Cities*
- **Dr. Verena La Mela** (University of Heidelberg) – *Complex chaos and meaningful disorder on the Sino-Kazakh border*
- **Dr. Nchamaze Arnold Akepu** – *Opportunism in Despair: Re-imagining the US-Mexico border in the Collective Memory of Anglophone Cameroonian Migrants along the "Mexico Line"*

Panel 2: Environmental Borders: Climate, Justice, and Mobility (Cenizo Room)

- Moderator: **Dr. Gonzalo Álvarez Fuentes** (Universidad de Tarapacá) – *Las relaciones transfronterizas de pueblos indígenas en América Latina: problematizaciones de lo internacional y contribuciones*
- **Dr. Leyla Feize** (UTRGV) – *External and Internal Walls: Attachment Theory and Immigrants' Experiences*
- **Mónica Salmón Gómez** (The New School of Social Research) – *Caring Across Borders: Individual and Collective Survival Strategies of Latin American People on the Move*
- **Lucas Belury** (University of Arizona) – *The Ecology of Flood Justice; Introducing the FLUJOS (Flood Justice Utilizing Satellite Observation) Co-Production Framework*
- **Mrs. Sara Eloisa Bonilla Salgado & Rosa Maria Flores** (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León) – *Experiencias en el reconocimiento social, jurídico y afectivo en el proceso de solicitud de refugio de las personas hondureñas en Nuevo León, México*

Panel 3: Health and Vulnerability in Migrant and Border Populations (Bronc Room)

- Moderator: **Dr. Moncerrato García Viveros** (UAT) – *Paludismo en Población Migrante*
- **Dra. Evelyn Teresa Capistrán Castro** (UAT) – *Juntos contra la Tuberculosis*
- **Mtro. Juan Antonio Melo de Anda** (UAT) – *Conciencia Actual del Fenómeno Migratorio*
- **Dra. Fabiola Lugo Sobrevilla** (UAT) – *Retos en salud de la población marginada en H. Matamoros, Tamps.*
- **Mtro. José Guadalupe Vélez Ramírez** (UAT) – *Inteligencia emocional en enfermería y las complejidades de la violencia obstétrica en el contexto fronterizo*
- **Dr. José Luis Robles López** (UAT) – *Tuberculosis*

10:30 AM – 10:45 AM – Break

10:45 AM – 12:15 PM – Panels/Roundtables 4, 5 & 6

Panel 4: Transnational Politics and the Shifting Borderlines (Main Ballroom)

- Moderator: **Joab Esamwata** (UTRGV) – *Racialized Populations: Who gets in? Who is shut out? Exploring the Screening process for Black African Migrant Asylum seekers at the U.S-Mexico Southern Border*
- **Mr. Tsering Dawa** (Jawaharlal Nehru University) – *Relevance and Resistance: Geopolitical Dynamics and Local Impacts Along the India-China Border in Ladakh*
- **Dr. Michael Todd Smith** (UTRGV) – *Constructing a Region or a Wall? The Eastern Mediterranean Between (Middle) East and West*
- **Itumeleng Selialia** (SADC) – *Paradiplomacy and Developmental Regionalism in SADC: Implications for Regional Development and Governance*
- **Dr. Arinze Ngwube** (SADC) – *Bridging Borders through Cross-Border Paradiplomacy: Subnational Governments in African Region-Building*

Panel 5: Health, Human Rights, and Border Realities (Cenizo Room)

- Moderator: **Dr. Pablo Latorre Rodriguez** (UABC????) – *Los CIM, ¿hacia un cambio de modelo de gestión pública de la migración en México?*
- **Dr. Adelaido García Andrés** (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León) – *Effects of migration on health: Do Mexican Migrants Re-turn in Declining Health*
- **Dr. Wan-Lin Chang** (UTRGV) – *Health Concerns among College Students along the U.S.-Mexico border*
- **Dr. Rosa María Flores Martínez** (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León); **Dra. María Elena Ramos Tovar** (Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León); **Dra. Laura Karina Castro Saucedo** (Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila) – *Buenas prácticas en la atención de la salud a personas en movilidad, por ciudades del noreste de México.*
- **Madeline E. Baird** (University of Connecticut) – *Transit migration and the politics of care for people en route to the U.S.-Mexico border: a comparative case of Chiapas State, México and Darién Province, Panamá*

Day 1: Thursday, February 20th

Panel 6: Language, Culture, and Identity in Borderlands (Bronc Room)

- **Moderator:** Dr. Azucena Herrera (UTRGV), and Mr. Djordje Djordjevic (UTRGV) – *Evaluating the pertinence of offering a Bilingual Curriculum for College Students at the RGV Border area.*
- **Dr. Katherine Christoffersen and Dr. Julio Ciller (UTRGV)**– *Bilingual Voices in the Borderlands: Documenting the Language of the Rio Grande Valley.*
- **Ms. Silvia Vera-Huesca (UTRGV)** – *Biculturalism as a tool that makes you unlimited*
- **Dr. AJ Baginski (UTRGV)** – *Figurations of trans bodies in Border literatures*
- **Dr. Natalia Mazzaro (University of Texas at El Paso)** – *The Prestige and Marketing Value of English in the Linguistic Landscape of Matamoros*

12:15 AM – 12:30 PM – Break

12:30 PM – 1:30 PM – Lunch

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM – Panels/Roundtables 7, 8 & 9

Roundtable 7: Best Practices for Scholars/Practitioners to Protect Vulnerability and Exploitation of Community Living Around the Borders (Main Ballroom)

- **Moderator:** Dr. Kriti Vashisht (UTRGV)
- **Dr. Selma Yznaga (UTRGV)**
- **Dr. Leticia Villarreal Sosa (UTRGV)**
- **Dr. Susy Villegas (UTRGV)**
- **Dr. Luis Torres (UTRGV)**

Panel 8: Gender, Migration, and Performative Resistance (Cenizo Room)

- **Moderator:** Dr. Laura Elena Belmonte (University of New Mexico) – *Making Waves in “Tranquil Waters”: Chicanafuturism and the Invisibilization of Violence*
- **Mrs. Galia Cozzi Berrondo (Stony Brook University)** – *Resisting the Border Spectacle: Transnational and Transtemporal Queer and Trans Migrant Politics Through Performance*
- **Ms. Karla Hernandez (University of California Los Angeles)** – *Los Verdes: A Gendered Analysis of the U.S. Border Patrol*
- **Daisy Gonzalez (UTRGV)** – *Abstract for “Gender Dynamics in Border Crossings: Exploring the Experiences of Women and LGBTQ+ Individuals”*
- **Mtro. Roberto Ontiveros Patiño (UAT)** – *Autoeficacia Vocacional en Adolescentes de una Preparatoria Particular del Noreste de México: diferencias por género.*
- **Mtra. Ma. De la Cruz Galindo Ceja (UAT)** – *Conductas sustentables en estudiantes de psicología: análisis comparativo por semestre de estudios, género, capacitación formal y ocupación*

Panel 9: Migration and Mobility Across Borders (Bronc Room)

- **Moderator:** Dr. Willie Costley (Centre College) – *Illicit Movement: Immigrants, Deglobalization and the Far Right*
- **Mr. Oladotun Emmanuel Awosusi (University of Fort Hare)** – *Border Enforcement Regimes in Africa: Comparative Insights from West and Southern Africa*
- **Dr. Ruben Zaiotti (Dalhousie University)** – *Network Effects: Databases, Border Control and the Reconfiguration of Relations between Transit and Destination Countries of Migration*
- **Miss Emma Newman (Texas A&M University)** – *Missing Migrant Search and Recovery in Brooks County, Texas*
- **Luisa Caye, Nirvana HeidarianBaei, Diane Nuñez and Tay Villaseñor (Texas State University)** – *Complex Borders, Complex (Im)mobilities: Migration to the Rio Grande Valley*

3:00 PM – 3:30 PM – Break

3:30 PM – 5:30 PM – Address by:

- **Luis H. Zayas, Ph.D.** – Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, UTRGV
- **Dámaso Leonardo Anaya Alvarado** – Médico Veterinario Zootecnista, Master en Ciencias, and Rector, Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas

Followed by Keynote Talk: **Dr. Soledad Álvarez Velasco** – Assistant Professor, University of Illinois, Chicago, “Between Migrant Struggles and Control. The Spatial Production of Migratory Corridors across the Americas.”

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM – Reception (Main Ballroom)

Day 2: Friday, February 21st

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM – Breakfast

8:30 AM – 10:00 AM – Panels/Roundtables 10, 11 & 12

Roundtable 10: The Complexities of Migrant Journeys to the US-Mexico Border and Beyond (Main Ballroom)

- Moderator: **Dr. Caroline Miles** (UTRGV)
- **Dr. Sarah Blue** (Texas State University)
- **Dr. Jennifer Devine** (Texas State University)
- **Dr. Marie Price** (George Washington University)
- **Dr. Elizabeth Chacko** (George Washington University)
- **Dr. Carla Angulo-Pasel** (UTRGV)

Panel 11: Politics and Representations of Borders in South Asia (Cenizo Room)

- Moderator: **Dr. David Anshen** (UTRGV)
- **Dr. Tanmoy Putatunda**, (KIIT Deemed to be University, India) – *Affective Nationalism: Studying Representations of Border in Indian Television Commercials*
- **Dr. Gourab Chatterjee** (KIIT Deemed to be University, India) – *Renegotiating Boundaries in Digital Spaces among the Online Communities in India and Bangladesh*
- **Dr. Debanjali Roy**, (KIIT Deemed to be University, India) – *Imagining Borders: Shifting Representation of Kashmir in Mainstream Indian Cinema*

Panel 12: A Broad Array of Criticalities and Lived Experiences in Teacher Education: Llano Grande, Aztlán, México Profundo (Bronc Room)

- Moderator: **Dr. James Jupp** (UTRGV) - *Beyond Borders: Leveraging Cultural Ways of Knowing in Science Education*
- **Dr. Griselda Eufrazio** (UTRGV) - *Autohistorias of Immigrant Chicana Educators in the Borderlands: Discrimination and School-Curriculum-and-Family Subtraction*
- **Dr. Raul Garza Jr.** (UTRGV) - *Theorizing Aztlán: A Critical Exploration Model of Culture and Place with Chicana PreService Teachers*
- **Dr. Patricia Ramirez-Biondillo** (UTRGV) - *Theorizing Aztlán: A Critical Exploration Model of Culture and Place with Chicana PreService Teachers*

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM – Break

10:15 AM – 11:45 AM – Panels/Roundtables 13, 14 & 15

Panel 13: Arte Migration: Nuestra Lengua, Techno-Capitalism, Critical Consciousness, and Discursive Creative Acts (Main Ballroom)

- Moderator: **Dr. Christen Sperry García** (Florida State University) - *Arte Migration: A Discursive Borderlands Creative Praxis*
- **Corinne McCormack-Whittemore** (UTRGV) - *Nuestra Lengua/Our Language*
- **Gina Gwen Palacios** (UTRGV) - *To All Whom It May Concern – Art, Farmworkers' Patents, and Techno-Capitalism*
- **Dr. Sergio Lemus** (Texas A&M University) - "The Pain Never Leaves Me": Working Hard, Injury, and Structural Violence among Mexican Yarderos in Transborder Chicago

Roundtable 14: RGV: Living on the River's Edge: No soy de aquí, ni soy de allá - The struggles of what it means to be a Hispanic from three perspectives; the American, the Mexican and the Border town boy (Cenizo Room)

- Moderator: **Marcela Hebbard** (UTRGV)
- **Mr. Jose Rodriguez** (UTRGV)
- **Mr. Saul Dominguez** (UTRGV)
- **Silvia Vera-Huesca** (UTRGV)
- **Mtra. Mabel Goretty Chala Trujillo** (UAT)

Roundtable 15: Transformations in the Many Faces of Chicana Identity (Bronc Room)

- Moderator: **Dominique Rodríguez** (University of New Mexico)
- **Miss Cynthia García** (University of New Mexico)
- **Mrs. Lee Ann Llamas** (University of New Mexico)
- **Dominique Rodríguez** (University of New Mexico)

Day 2: Friday, February 21st

11:45 AM – 12:00 PM – Break

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM – Panels 16, 17 & 18

Panel 16: Attracting Tourism Investments to the Rio Grande Valley: Challenges, Opportunities, and Solutions (Main Ballroom)

- **Moderator: Dr. Arjun Singh** (UTRGV)
- **Bharat R. Patel** (UTRGV)
- **Elizabeth Suarez** (McAllen Chamber of Commerce)
- **Mr. Saigiridhar Mullapudi** (UTRGV)

Panel 17: Enfoque Social de la Migración Entorno a Procesos Socioculturales (Cenizo Room)

- **Moderator: Dr. Iris Rubí Monroy**
- **Amina Atziry de Julián Uceda, Dr. Iris Rubí Monroy Velasco, Valentina Tovar Mota** (*Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila*) – *Significados Sobre Ser Migrante Desde Las Narrativas De Niñas Y Niños En Movilidad*
- **Dr. Miriam Espinosa-Dulanto** (UTRGV) – *Imaginarios Sociales Sobre “El Sueño Americano” Frente A La Pesadilla Americana De Jóvenes Migrantes*
- **Chabely Torriente-Menéndez, Ana Laura Carrillo-Cervantes, José González Tovar** (*Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila*) – *Afrontamiento Al Estrés En Un Grupo De Migrantes Internacionales En Coahuila, México*
- **Dr. Martha Virginia Jasso Oyervides** (*Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila*) – *La Interseccionalidad De La Vulnerabilidad En Niños, Niñas Y Adolescentes En Movilidad*
- **Briseida Guadalupe Flores Chávez, Dr. Iris Rubí Monroy Velasco, Juan Carlos Centeno Maldonado** (*Universidad Autónoma de Coahuila*) – *Narrativas Visuales: El Amor Romántico En Parejas Transnacionales A Través De La Fotovoz*

Roundtable 18: Working with Immigrant Populations on the U.S. Texas-Mexico Border: A Focus on Psychological Health (Bronc Room)

- **Moderator: Dr. Alfonso Mercado** (UTRGV)
- **Mr. Andy Torres** (UTRGV)
- **Mrs. Amanda Palomin** (UTRGV)
- **Francisco Banda** (UTRGV)

1:30 PM – Box Lunch & Rio Grande Valley Border Tour with Stefanie Herweck and Scott Nicol

Border Tour - On February 21st 1:45 - 5:30 p.m.

Join Stefanie Herweck and Scot Nicol, co-authors of two ACLU reports on the impacts of the U.S. - Mexico border wall, for a virtual tour of the border and border walls in the Rio Grande Valley. The tour will include a discussion of impacts of the walls on migrants, communities, businesses, farms, and natural areas, as well as an update on the ongoing construction of walls under the Biden Administration.



The US-Mexico border is most frequently imagined by people outside the border region as either a static geographical boundary or a zone of conflict and contention. What gets lost in these conceptions is the everyday reality of border life. On this tour, we will walk participants through the experiences of border residents and show how border communities and the environment are impacted when false narratives of the U.S.-Mexico frontier are circulated.

The University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

