‘Hey, What’s Going On in There?’: An Ethnography of Classroom Dynamics in an Urban Middle School

Richard Mora, Occidental College
Education Across the Americas

Thursday, April 10

Grace Dodge Hall 285

8:45 – 9:00 AM  Breakfast will be served

9:00-9:30 AM  AM Welcome and Introduction

Janice Robinson, Special Counsel to the President, Office of Diversity & Community.
Lesley Bartlett, Assistant Professor of Education, International and Transcultural Studies.
Milagros Nores, Ph.D. Student in Education and Economics. Co-leader ALAS.

9:30-10:45 AM  Panel 1: Inequalities in Educational Access and Attainment in MERCOSUR Countries

Bolsa Escola: Redefining Poverty and Development in Brazil. Christian Andrew Denes. School of International Affairs, Columbia University. Economic and Political Development.


11-12:15 PM  Panel 2: Multilingual and Intercultural Education


12:15-1 PM  Lunch (on your own)
1-2 PM  Presentation and Discussion

John Beam  
National Center for Schools and Communities
John M. Beam is Executive Director of the National Center for Schools and Communities. This university-based center provides policy analysis, research, and technical assistance to grassroots efforts to improve public schools in low-income communities in several states. Formerly, John Beam owned and directed a successful consulting firm with a strong emphasis on school reform and economic development. He is a co-founder of the Brooklyn School Business Alliance, a federally funded consortium of economic development, educational, and private sector organizations offering training for teachers in entry level hiring standards in New York City industries and career awareness activities for high school and junior high school students.

2-3 PM  Invited speaker

Tony de Jesus  
Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños
Title: "Here It’s More Like Your House”: The Proliferation of Authentic Caring as School Reform at El Puente Academy for Peace and Justice

Originally from the Bronx, Tony de Jesus was a school social worker and active in community based organizations in Boston for 6 years before attending the Harvard Graduate School of Education—from which he is now “at risk” of obtaining an Ed.D. in June. His dissertation is titled, “The Paradox of Promise at a Latino Community High School.” Currently, he is a Research Associate at the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, CUNY.

3-5 PM  NGO Roundtable

Joel Magallan, Tepeyac
Joel Magallan is the director of educational services at the Tepeyac Association. The Tepeyac Association is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 network of 40 community based organizations, whose mission is to promote the social welfare and human rights of Latino immigrants, specifically the undocumented in New York City. The Association Tepeyac is also dedicated to inform, organize, and educate Mexican immigrants and their families about rights, resources, and processes to develop leaders, organizations, and communities, to built a great Mexican community, integrated to all races and cultures in New York. Founded in September, 1997 by Mexican community leaders, the Association is the only public resource dedicated to organize Mexican immigrants in the five boroughs of New York City. Through its grassroots structure and leadership the Association serves and influences over 10,000 members. Their educational services include English as a Second Language instruction, after-school instruction, computer training, youth leadership, and adult leadership.

Mariel Castro, Alianza Dominicana
We apologize that we are unable to provide biographical information about Mariel Castro, who works with Alianza Dominicana.
Alianza Dominicana, Inc. is a non-profit community development organization that partners with youth, families and public and private institutions to revitalize economically distressed neighborhoods. Alianza's mission is to assist children, youth and families break the cycle of poverty and fulfill their potential as members of the global community. Founded in 1987, Alianza Dominicana, Inc. develops model neighborhood-based initiatives using comprehensive and integrated services that attend to children, youth and families' multiple needs. Since its founding 13 years ago, Alianza has emerged as the most comprehensive Dominican human service and community development agency in the US. It is the leading authority on Dominican-Americans, the fastest growing Latino population in New York State. Dominicans are the second largest Latino community in New
York State and the fourth largest in the country. Offering services in 11 sites, Alianza annually services more than 17,000 individuals from Manhattan and the four other boroughs. Their educational services include La Plaza and La Plaza Mosaic, Alianza's Beacon school-based community centers. This program transforms local schools into thriving neighborhood centers after school hours. The Beacon schools also provide a safe and supervised place for youth to go after school for recreation, cultural activities, homework help and tutoring. Alianza's Beacon School model has been replicated in New York City, New York State, nationally and internationally. Further, their Center for Employment, Training and Education (CETE) program provides employment and work readiness skills for youth; their AIDS Rap youth theater group educates about HIV/AIDS prevention; and their CREO Yo program provides drug treatment for adolescents.

José de los Santos, Centro Social La Esperanza
Since 1999, José de los Santos has worked at La Esperanza Center, teaching ESL, Pre-GED, and Civics. He also maintains records and submits reports to funding agencies. Centro Social La Esperanza, Inc. was founded in 1952 as an agency that provides services to Hispanic immigrants in New York City. In particular, they provide programs for people with developmental disabilities who are excluded from other programs. In providing comprehensive day programming, Esperanza offers a variety of services: medical, pharmaceutical, dental, speech pathology, psychology, occupational therapy, and physical therapy are available to individuals based on need. La Esperanza also offers education in life skills such as community orientation, nutrition, recreation, adaptive behavior and communication skills. Their educational services include basic literacy, civics, GED, Pre-GED, and English as a Second Language instruction.

Frank Alvarado, Community Association of Progressive Dominicans
Since 2002, Frank Alvarado has served as the director of the Education and Youth Development Program at ACDP. He oversees Beacons, Americorps, 21st Century Learning Centers, and Advantage after-school programs, among other programs. He previously worked as branch supervisor for the West Side YMCA and project director for the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corps.
The mission of the Community Association of Progressive Dominicans is to promote and develop the physical, emotional, social, and economic well-being of the residents of Upper Manhattan, the Bronx, and New York City by facilitating community empowerment through education, provision of human services, and the development of individual skills and community leadership. ACDP was founded in 1979 as the first non-profit to focus on the needs of New York's Dominican immigrants. ACDP has organized the community to develop high quality programs providing direct assistance to 23,359 persons annually. With a team of more than 230 volunteers, ACDP serves in the following critical areas: education and youth leadership; public and mental health; food and nutrition; immigration and citizenship; housing; and economic development. ACDP is involved with a variety of educational initiatives. ACDP runs the Community Choice Beacon Program at two sites: CIS 117 in the Bronx and CIS 164 in Manhattan. They also administer a dual language New Vision School, the ACDP/Amber Charter School, the Twenty-First Century Academy for Community Leadership/P.S. 210, La Escuelita After-School and Recreation Program at Highbridge, HIV/AIDS Education and Prevention Program, and several other programs.

Martin Coria, Church World Service
Born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina, Martin Coria earned a degree in law from the University of Buenos Aires in 1995. In 1995 he was offered and accepted the position of Secretary to the Governor of the province of Mendoza, Argentina where he lived from 1995 to 1999. Martin Coria came to the U.S. in 1999 to pursuing a master degree in public and nonprofit management at New York University where he graduated in 2001. He joined CWS' Social and Economic Development Program as the Associate Director for Latin America and the Caribbean and Europe in July 2001; he is now Interim Director there. Mr. Coria also co-chairs the Latin American staff team of Church World Service.
Church World Service is a cooperative humanitarian ministry of 36 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations that provides sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in more than 80 countries. CWS is part of the ecumenical family of the National Council of the Churches of Christ,
in the U.S.A. In Latin America and the Caribbean, CWS works with approximately seventy partner organizations (ecumenical groups, NGOs and other groups of civil society) on sustainable development issues.

**Vickie Larson, Madre**

Vicki Larson has worked at MADRE for two and a half years, most recently as Development Coordinator. She is also an activist and organizer serving on the board of Met Council on Housing, a grassroots tenant-advocacy group in New York. She has done reproductive and sexual health counseling at women's clinics in New York and Florida; been a human rights observer in indigenous communities in Chiapas, Mexico; led delegations to South Africa and Cuba; written and edited for the Independent, the newspaper of the New York City Independent Media Center; and is currently involved in anti-war organizing in NYC.

MADRE is an international women's human rights organization that works in partnership with women's community-based groups worldwide to address issues of health, education, economic development and other human rights. Since 1983, MADRE has delivered over 18 million dollars worth of support to community-based groups in Latin America, the Caribbean, Middle East, Africa, the Balkans, and the United States.

**Friday, April 11**

*Grace Dodge Hall 179*

8:45-9 AM  Breakfast will be served

9-10:15 AM  Invited speakers

**Maria Torres-Guzman**

"Education for ELLs: Inclusion, Enrichment, Equity, and Social Justice"

María E. Torres-Guzmán is Associate Professor and Director of the Program in Bilingual/Bicultural Education at Teachers College, Columbia University. She has published numerous articles in such journals as *Educational Forum, Education & Urban Society, Anthropology & Education Quarterly, Computers in Schools, Theory in Practice, Teachers College Record, International Journal of Qualitative Studies in Education, Bilingual Research Journal* and *NABE Journal*. In addition to numerous chapters, co-edited two volumes of *Teachers College Record*, guest edited a volume of *Bilingual Research Journal*, co-authored *Learning in Two Worlds*, and developed computer-based and curricular materials in Spanish.

**Peter Lucas**


Peter Lucas teaches peace education in the Department of International and Transcultural Studies. His research and teaching has focused on peace education, school violence and school safety in New York, international human rights education, the role of photography and film in human rights witnessing, small-arms disarmament education, and violence and popular peace movement in Rio de Janeiro. His recent studies include “The Sequel to School Violence: Peace Education,” a manuscript under submission about a school-based peace education.

10:30 AM-12:00 PM Panel 3: Race, Ethnicity and Schooling

Whose Children are they Anyway?: Classifying and Segregating Latino Students in Special Education Classrooms, While Dismissing Parental Authority as Inconsequential. Santiago Solis. Teachers College, Columbia University. Learning Dis/Abilities.

Discussant: Mariana Alfonso. Teachers College, Columbia University. Economics and Education.

12-1:30 PM Lunch, Video and discussion: Escuela
Lunch will be provided

This film discusses the educational, economic, and social challenges facing youth in families who migrate to find work. The film provides a unique perspective on the educational difficulties faced by children who are uprooted from their homes two or three times annually throughout their K-12 years. It illustrates, too, the emotional, psychological and physical hardships faced by migrant students and their families — all of which make education a more elusive goal.

2-3:15 PM Panel 4: Behavioral and Attitudinal Factors Across Secondary Schooling


Discussant: Julieta Garcia Hamilton. Teachers College, Columbia University. International Education Development

3:30-4:45 PM Panel 5: Educational Organizations and Human Rights Education in Latin America

3:30-4:45 PM  
Panel 6: High-Stakes Testing and Bilingual Education
Grace Dodge Hall 177


5-6 PM  
Invited speaker: Closing event

Lesley Bartlett
"Education across the Americas: Future Directions"

Lesley Bartlett is an assistant professor of education in the Department of International and Transcultural Studies at Teachers College, Columbia University. Her research, teaching, and activism focus on issues of literacy and development, critical theory and pedagogy, and sociocultural studies of schooling across the Americas, specifically Brazil and the United States. She is currently at work on a book manuscript entitled, The Uses of Literacy in Brazil.