

Application Form for Consultative Status

Only duly completed applications can be taken into consideration. Please do not leave any question unanswered, rather write “not applicable“ if it is the case. Please be as brief as possible and do not exceed one page per question.

PART I

Application Form

1. Name and, if any, acronyms of organization.
LatCrit, Inc. (Latina & Latino Critical Theory, Inc.)

2. Contact Information.

a) Permanent headquarters address.

**c/o Professor Francisco Valdes
Center for Hispanic and Caribbean Legal Studies
University of Miami School of Law
1311 Miller Drive, Ste. G369
Coral Gables, FL 33146**

(P.O. boxes are not accepted as headquarters address, but are acceptable as postal address)

b) Postal address, if different from headquarters address.
same

c) Contact phone and fax number.

(305) 284-5432 (voice); (305) 284-1588 (fax)

d) Name and position of contact person.

Professor Francisco Valdes, Co-Chair of LatCrit, Inc.

e) E-mail address.

latcrit@law.miami.edu

f) Website, if any.

www.latcrit.org

3. Summarize the aims and purposes of your organization.

Since its inception in 1995, LatCrit’s basic twin goals have been: (1) to develop a critical, activist and inter-disciplinary discourse on law and policy towards Latinas/os, and (2) to foster both the development of coalitional theory and practice as well as the accessibility of this knowledge to agents of social and legal transformation. LatCrit theorists aim to center Latinas/os’ multiple internal diversities and to situate Latinas/os in larger inter-group frameworks, both domestically and globally, to promote social justice awareness and activism. LatCrit’s basic functions are: the production of critical and interdisciplinary knowledge; the promotion of substantive social transformation; the expansion and interconnection of antistatist struggles; and the cultivation of community and coalition among outsider scholars.

Emerging from the legal academy of the United States following a 1995 colloquium in Puerto Rico on Latina/o Communities and Critical Race Theory, “LatCrit theory” is relatively recent genre of critical “outsider jurisprudence” – a category of contemporary scholarship including critical legal studies, feminist legal theory, critical race theory, critical race feminism, Asian American legal scholarship and queer theory. This Latina/o-identified genre of outsider jurisprudence was conceived as a movement closely related to and is a “close cousin” to Critical Race Theory. LatCrit theory is an intervention designed to highlight Latina/o concerns and voices in legal discourse and social policy. LatCrit theory self-consciously endeavors both the creation of scholarship through community and the creation of community through scholarship. It has undertaken the construction of structural conditions conducive to these twin objectives, and LatCrit theory expresses this

commitment to the production of both knowledge and community specifically as a means toward an end – the attainment of social justice. LatCrit theory attempts to balance multiple factors that conjoin the production of knowledge and cultivation of community, which in turn serve jointly as the theoretical frame for social transformation through LatCrit discourse and legal reform. LatCrit theory's substantive scope and focus have been shaped by a firm resolve to center "Latinas/os" in social and legal discourse, but in a way that foregrounds the multiple diversities of Latina/o communities and that contextualizes these issues within a broad critique of intergroup relations and outgroup positions.

Ideally, the drive for diversity and particularity will help to create an intellectual and social culture which enables the LatCrit community collectively to overcome Latina/o and other essentialism, which sometimes stand in the way of critical outgroup and OutCrit coalitions. This incremental critical effort is intended to promote and ground intra- and inter-group antisubordination coalitions by ensuring the representation and investigation within the LatCrit community of various power hierarchies and their interplay.

4. a) Explain how you carry out these aims.

A dual and coequal commitment to expansive substantive programs and community-building structures and events underpins LatCrit, the organization. The configuration of LatCrit's interventions, both written and physical, is guided by a solid conviction that the social or legal position of multiply diversified Latina/o populations from both the North and the South may be understood best when approached from multiple perspectives in collaborative but critical and self-critical fashion. In both structural design and substantive scope, LatCrit's approach to outsider jurisprudence is calculated to nurture cross-group communities and coalitions spurred by intersectional discussions and projects that broaden, deepen and contextualize self-empowerment quests both within and beyond Latina/o contexts. LatCrit emphasizes a collective yet individual commitment to continuity and progression and while the form of that commitment may vary over time, it generally encompasses not only attendance and participation but also planning. While balancing continuity and development, LatCrit anticipates and accommodates the varying levels of knowledge and experience that individual scholars, advocates and activists bring to LatCrit events. This accommodation, both substantively and structurally, is reflected in programs, which seek to blend the familiar with the novel and to represent both newcomers and veterans. LatCrit's perpetual task is to create an environment where all can participate and contribute to the betterment of the condition of subordinated populations both in the core and peripheral states. And finally, since its inception, LatCrit has sought collaboration with print media, including law reviews (especially those of color) in order to provide support, information, and community both to scholars and activists while igniting the creation of a new field in legal literature. By producing a similarly diversified printed record of its gatherings and exchanges, this feature of LatCrit advances the movement's antiessentialist principles and antisubordination aims with respect both to community and to theory.

b) Please give examples of recent projects and activities.

- **Annual LatCrit Conference:** now in its tenth year, spurs critical, cross-disciplinary study of Latinas/os as a multiply diverse and transnational social group, and in relationship to other social groups subordinated socially and/or legally; most notably, consciously elucidates intra- and inter-group diversities across multiple identity axes, including those based on perspective and discipline; consciously centers not only Latinas/os and our many diversities in a manner that minimizes privileging any one Latina/o interest over another, but also ensures critical discussion of Latinas/os as part of the larger social schematics formed in part through law -- to constantly and perpetually balance diversities and specifies there is a rotation of centers; year to year, objective remains constant -- to incorporate manifold intra Latina/o diversities and intergroup issues that affect outgroup social justice quests.
- **Annual LatCrit Planning Retreat:** inaugurated in conjunction with LatCrit VI, and

- continuing annually; provides a space for short, medium and long term planning.
 - **Annual LatCrit Symposium:** currently in the process of producing its ninth volume, memorializes annual conference proceedings, creates a literature on Latinas/os and the law, and supports outsider legal journals.
 - **LatCrit Primer, Flyer, and Brochure:** created in response to requests for such materials to help those interested in LatCrit theory become acquainted with LatCrit's works, projects, plans and hopes; available in English and Spanish.
 - **LatCrit Monograph Series:** supplements the Primer, the Flyer and the Brochure; a series of substantive yet short essays on various aspects of LatCrit theory written by different LatCritters and posted to the website.
 - **LatCrit Law Journal (CLAVE):** peer-reviewed, two issues per year, edited by Contributing Editors and a LatCrit Board of Editors; features both collective works, such as symposia based on various LatCrit programs, and individual unsolicited submissions.
 - **K-12 Education Project:** adapts outsider texts, like those on LatCrit theory, for use in K-12 settings.
 - **LatCrit-SALT Faculty Development Workshop:** one-day event, in association with the Society of American Law Teachers; supports progressive junior faculty in teaching, scholarship and service aspects of professional success.
- See other planned activities and projects as outlined in Question 5(b) below.

5. a) How do you intend to contribute to the work of ECOSOC and/or its subsidiary bodies?

LatCrit's activities qualifies it to make a significant contribution to the work of the Council. LatCrit has unique, special and expert competence in the area of critical, activist and inter-disciplinary discourse on law and policy towards Latinas/os and other social groups marginalized historically in societies across the globe, including those in developing countries and in countries with economies in transition. Because LatCrit's goals for social justice are concerned with most of the activities of the ECOSOC and its subsidiary bodies and focus on economic, social, and cultural foundations of inequality and subordination, LatCrit can contribute to the discussion and analysis pertinent to studies or reports on economic, social, cultural, educational, health, race, and related matters. Consultative status would permit LatCrit to be readily available to provide expert information or advice to the Council or one of its bodies. Moreover, given its focus on and expertise in North/South debates, LatCrit may be able to propose new items for consideration by ECOSOC. As such, LatCrit's presence at international conferences convened by the United Nations would be of benefit.

Significantly, LatCrit has recognized standing within its particular field of competence and is unique in its character. No other organizations exist with similar objectives, interests and basic views in LatCrit's specific given field. Additionally, LatCrit, as an established regional and international nongovernmental organization, represents important elements of public opinion and provides a means for expression of those views. LatCrit, as far as possible, reflects in a balanced way the major viewpoints or interests in its field in all areas and regions of the world.

b) Please give details on planned activities and projects.

In addition to those activities/projects outlined in Question 4(b) above, the following are planned:

- **LatCrit NGO Project:** inaugurated several years ago as part of LatCrit participation in the World Conference Against Racism as a formal vehicle through which to interject LatCrit analyses into international policymaking on issues of concern to subordinate populations in the North and the South.
- **LatCrit Colloquium on International and Comparative Law:** meets every other year in locations ranging from Miami to Malaga to Santiago de Chile to foster trans-national and inter-disciplinary interaction with scholars, activists and policymakers.
- **Critical Global Classroom (CGC):** unique study-abroad program in law, policy and social

justice activism, offered in partnership with the University of Baltimore School of Law, where students earn graduation credits through academic activities organized around five key themes: (1) Colonialisms & Consequences, (2) Minority Groups & Relations, (3) Economics & Stratification, (4) Constitutionalism & the Rule of Law, and (5) Globalization & Alternatives; met for the first time in Chile and Argentina (Summer 2003) and will meet in Chile, Argentina, and South Africa in Summer 2004.

- **Student Scholar Program (SSP):** two-year writing-and-mentoring program initiated in 2002 for students world-wide in any discipline and based on submitted papers on race, ethnicity and law.
- **Cyber Classroom Project:** established in 1998, in connection with the Primer (see 4(b) above), electronic discussion that provides access to critical legal education by connecting geographically dispersed students to likeminded peers and faculty to create substantive educational opportunities not provided by their "home" institutions' formal curriculum.
- **South-North Exchange on Theory, Culture and Jurisprudence Meeting:** new program, held at the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico School of Law, that brings together theorists from various disciplines and regions of the hemisphere (and beyond) to discuss problems in the application of theory to current social problems and policy issues.
- **LatCrit Chicana/o Studies Project:** highlights Chicana/o communities and issues in LatCrit theory, and builds connections between established discourses in Chicana/o studies and LatCrit theory.
- **Social Justice Externship Program:** experiential learning project providing legal assistance to local communities or activists working on social justice efforts in rural and urban sites both across the United States and across the Americas.

6. a) Has your organization participated in any UN-conference(s)?
If yes, explain in detail.

While not an accredited entity, members of LatCrit attended and participated in the Race Conference in Durban, promoting racial justice goals.

- b) Has your organization contributed to any areas with substantive UN concern and participated in any activities of the United Nations? If yes, explain in detail.

Issues of social, cultural, and economic inequities are central to the LatCrit mission. Members of LatCrit, through other organizational ties, have attended and participated in the Beijing Conference on Women, the Copenhagen Conference or "Social Summit," the Cairo Population Conference, and the Race Conference at Durban. LatCrit members' writings, as represented in the eight annual Symposium volumes collecting works representative of discussions at the annual meeting, as well as other symposia reflecting the work presented and discussed at colloquia and South/North exchanges, provide a rich literature addressing human rights issues ranging from civil and political rights and responsibilities to social, economic and cultural rights, as well as rights to peace, democracy and a healthy environment. Thus, LatCrit's work and its mission have rich synergies with the United Nation's concerns and purposes.

7. Would you broadly categorize your organization as a research organization, an advocacy/lobbying organization, a grass-roots project implementation organization or any other? **All three – a combined research, advocacy, and grass-roots organization. See response to 5(b) above.**

PART II

Application Form

8. Date of registration or, if no registration is required in your country, date of establishment
(See item B on front page)
March 15, 1999 (as corporation); April 2, 1999 (registration of fictitious name)
9. Country (or countries) of registration/establishment and nature and title of authorities with which registered
USA, State of Florida / Certificate of corporation by Florida Department of State, Registration of fictitious name by Florida Department of State
10. Registered/established as:
Latina and Latino Critical Legal Theory, Inc. (LatCrit, Inc.), a not-for-profit corporation
11. Do you consider your organization to be national, regional or international and explain why?
Although LatCrit is registered only in the United States (State of Florida), its activities have a regional and international reach as reflected in the following activities:
- **South/North exchange brings together scholars from the South and the North to engage in dialog and interventions about social justice issues**
 - **The Critical Global Classroom is held outside the United States. To date, venues have included Chile, Argentina, South Africa, and Spain. In the future, there will be additional venues such as Brazil.**
 - **The Social Justice Externship includes work in rural and urban sites both within the United States and throughout the Americas.**
12. Describe the structure and the decision-making-process of your organization, including all administrative bodies.
LatCrit operates as a not-for-profit corporation with 501(c) (3) status. Any individual who supports the purposes of LatCrit may become a member. There are two classes of members: voting members (those on the Board of Directors) and non-voting (associate) members.
The Bylaws (Appendix 2) provide for a diverse Board of Directors and four or five corporate officers. The Board is charged with management and control of all business and property of LatCrit. At all meetings of the Board, a majority of all Directors constitutes a quorum, and any act of the majority present under a quorum shall be the act of the Board. The co-chairs preside at all meetings and have general charge and supervision of business and affairs, subject to the direction of the Board.
The various events, activities, and projects are operated by self-selected Project Teams composed of interested scholars, activists and students. Participation in LatCrit projects is generally open to all students, scholars, activists, policymakers and other interested persons, and is warmly invited on the basis of ethical solidarity.
13. a) List the names and nationalities (in parens) of current members of your executive bodies and describe how they are elected/nominated.
Officers (and Directors):
Co-Chairs:
- **Berta E. Hernandez-Truyol, Univ. of Florida College of Law, Florida, USA (USA)**
 - **Angela P. Harris, Univ. of California, Berkeley School of Law, California, USA (USA)**
 - **Francisco X. Valdes, Univ. of Miami School of Law, Florida, USA (USA)**
- Secretary: Roberto L. Corrada, Univ. of Denver College of Law, Colorado, USA (USA)**

Treasurer: Steven Bender, Univ. of Oregon School of Law, Oregon, USA (USA)

Board of Directors:

- **Sumi K. Cho, DePaul Univ. College of Law, Illinois (USA)**
- **Frank R. Cooper, Villanova University School of Law, Pennsylvania (USA)**
- **Nancy Ehrenreich, Univ. of Denver College of Law, Colorado (USA)**
- **Guadalupe T. Luna, No. Illinois Univ. College of Law, Illinois (USA)**
- **Beth Lyon, Villanova University School of Law, Pennsylvania (USA)**
- **Pedro A. Malavet, Univ. of Florida Levin College of Law, Florida (USA)**
- **Tayyab Mahmud, Cleveland State Univ., Cleveland-Marshall College of Law, Ohio (USA)**
- **Hugo Rojas, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago (Chile)**
- **Celina Romany, Esq., REG Justice Project, American Univ., Washington College of Law, Washington, D.C. (USA)**
- **Mary Romero, Arizona State Univ. School of Justice Studies, Arizona (USA)**
- **Martin Saavedra, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Buenos Aires (Argentina)**
- **Charles Venator Santiago, Ithaca College, Department of Politics, New York (USA)**
- **Carolina Stefoni, Facultad Latina Americana de Ciencias Sociales, Santiago (Chile)**
- **Belkys Torres, Univ. of Miami, Literature, Florida (USA)**
- **Robert S. Westley, Tulane Univ. School of Law, Louisiana (USA)**

How Elected/Nominated:

As detailed in Appendix 2, key criteria used for nominating and selecting candidates to fill officer and board positions are: (1) LatCrit memory, community knowledge and programmatic continuity; (2) gender balance, demographic diversity and multidimensional praxis; (3) substantive platform, particularized goals and overall congruence; (4) increased institutional support and enhancement of community resources; and (5) special or circumstantial considerations in specific times and situations. All Officers must be Directors, and are elected annually by an affirmative vote of a majority of the Board. Officers serve three-year terms, with no limit to the number of terms an Officer may serve. Any person of legal capacity who has attended or participated in at least two LatCrit Annual Conferences and who makes a commitment to further the stated purposes of the corporation may hold a position as a member of the Board. Individuals may be nominated by any Director to serve on the Board and are elected by majority vote of the Board at the Annual Meeting. Board members serve for a period of three years with no limitations on the number of terms.

b) Are any governments officials members of your board or executive staff? If so, please specify.
No.

14. How many members does your organization have and in which countries are they located? Please list the number of members by country and continent.
(All documents must adhere to the United Nations terminology with respect to territories and countries.)
Argentina: 5; Chile: 5; South Africa: 2; Spain: 3; United States of America: 100.
15. Do the membership rules of your organization allow both individuals and organizations to be members? If so, please provide a list of the member organization(s).
No, only individuals may be members.
16. Does the organization charge membership fees? Is the fee the same for all members and charged to all members? If not, please explain
No fee.
17. a) Does your membership include organizations that have ECOSOC consultative status? If so, please list them.

No.

b) Is your organization a member of one or several organization(s) that are applying for or already have ECOSOC consultative status? If so, please provide name(s).

No.

18. Are other organizations affiliated with your organization? If yes, please provide a list of these organizations.

No.

19. a) Does your organization have any relationship to a government? If yes, please describe the nature of this relationship.

No.

b) In the past five years, did your organization receive money or other contributions from a government? If yes, please specify and provide the dates and amounts received, as well as an explanation of how the funds were used.

No.

20. Has your organization previously applied for ECOSOC consultative status. If so, please indicate year of previous application.

No.

21. a) Does your organization already hold accreditation with any organs, funds, programmes or specialized agencies of the United Nations? If so, please specify.

No.

b) Was your organization's accreditation with any organs, funds, programmes or specialized agencies of the United Nations ever withdrawn or suspended? If so, please specify.

No.

PART III**Application Form**

Please summarize the income and the expenditure from the last calendar or fiscal year of your organization using the following table:

| Source of Income | Income in home currency | Income in US dollars |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Membership dues | 0 | 0 |
| Contributions from Members | 548 | 548 |
| Funding from Governments <i>(Please specify below)</i> | 0 | 0 |
| Funding from International Organizations <i>(Please specify below)</i> | 0 | 0 |
| Funding from Private Sector <i>(Please specify below)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$2,500 University of Florida College of Law • \$9,000 Cleveland State Univ. College of Law • \$12,465 University of Miami School of Law | 23,965 | 23,965 |
| Funding from other NGOs <i>(Please specify below)</i> | 0 | 0 |
| Income generated through contracts <i>(Please specify below)</i> | 0 | 0 |
| Other sources <i>(e.g. philanthropic contributions, sales of publications)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LatCrit VIII Conference registrations | 27,533 | 27,533 |
| Total income | 52,046 | 52,046 |

| Expenditure | Expenditure in home currency | Expenditure in US dollars |
|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Administration <i>(If the expenditures for administration exceed 30% of the total expenditure, please explain these costs in detail)</i> | 705 | 705 |
| Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$31,313 LatCrit VII Conference • \$7,736 Critical Global Classroom | 39,049 | 39,049 |
| Other expenditure | 0 | 0 |
| Total expenditure | 39,754 | 39,754 |

PART IV

Application Form

I/we declare that I/we have answered the questions contained in this form to the best of my/our knowledge.

I/we declare, that if granted consultative status, my/our organization will act in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and ECOSOC resolution 1996/31.

The undersigned signature/es is/are duly authorized to sign this declaration.

(Signature)

Name(s) and position(s): Berta E. Hernández-Truyol
Co-Chair, LatCrit, Inc.

Date: _____