



A JOINT PROJECT OF



Study Space

Evaluations of Human Habitats and Habits in the 21st Century

Multicultural Colombia:

Urban & Rural Lands, Rights of Self-Governance and Cultural Difference

a joint project of

**The Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth,
Georgia State University College of Law &
Latina & Latino Critical Legal Theory, Inc.**

Following our successful inaugural Study Space I in Panama City, Panama,

Please join us for Study Space II in

Bogotá, Colombia

March 9-16, 2008

Study Space is an intensive series of workshops, held at diverse locations around the world, the goal of which is to acquire a deeper understanding of the legal, policy and human challenges posed by the global growth of mega-cities. **Study Space** intends, at various times and in different places, to provide a vehicle for progressive scholars and graduate students from varied backgrounds and disciplines to study, learn and seek to understand experientially this trend in all of its implications – for identify and self-determination, for participatory democracy, for equality and social justice, for human health, for the environment, for livable cities and for manageable land use.

Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia will take place in the vibrant Colombian capitol, Bogotá. For has in the last 17 years, Bogotá has undergone a celebrated transformation under the leadership of a series of mayors focused on radical changes to the city's built and physical environment. Under their leadership, the city has worked in a continuous, consistent and systematic manner to define and realize a new urban project for Bogotá. Partly as a result of these efforts, in November 2006, Bogotá received the coveted Golden Lion Prize at the 10th Venice Architecture Biennial.

At the same time, the city's transformation has forced it to confront a series of old and new challenges, both theoretical and practical. In particular, many heated conflicts have arisen over the concept and use of property as an individual, private right, leading to pressures for a series of measures to protect social order, environmental quality and cultural diversity.

Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia will give participants a bird's eye view of some of the most compelling and intractable of these conflicts. Specifically, **Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia** will examine three groups of public policies, legal norms and social data that are central to understanding Bogotá in the 21st century, all of which are in tension with the sanctity accorded private property in the Western tradition: (1) extralegal property and efforts to eliminate it; (2) limitations on private property to secure social and environmental justice ends; and (3) legal protections accorded to indigenous people in urban Colombia, and especially those living under collective property regimes.

The coordinator of **Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia** will be Dr. Daniel Bonilla Maldonado, Professor of Law at the University of the Andes in Bogotá. Dr. Bonilla is the author of the leading monograph on the constitutional protection accorded multiculturalism under the Colombian constitution of 1991. Dr. Bonilla, who received his S.J.D. from Yale Law School, supervises continuing projects studying law and multiculturalism, both theoretical and applied, gathering data in inter-disciplinary research in the extralegal communities of Bogotá's rapidly-growing periphery.

The schedule for **Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia** will require participants to observe two daily commitments: (1) attend the morning lectures and field study experience and (2) attend the evening's study dinner. In addition, participants will be required to read a packet of background legal and other materials prior to the session, and will be assigned the task of leading one or more structured discussions on the readings and the day's field visits during one or more study dinners.

COST AND TRAVEL DETAILS

The total cost for this week, which includes accommodations (six nights total), breakfast daily, events admissions, gratuities, speaker honoraria, translation, airport ground transportation in Colombia and all ground transport while in Colombia is \$1,300.00 US. Airline tickets must be purchased separately.

Persons from the Global South or those with no or limited institutional support may apply for limited subsidies to help off-set the cost of participation. To be considered for such a subsidy, or if you have special concerns or circumstances, contact Professor Colin Crawford at ccrawford@gsu.edu.

LANGUAGE

Spanish language ability is strongly encouraged. Although translators will be engaged to assist the group, where presentations are in Spanish, translation will not always be encouraged.

SECURITY

In recent years, the U.S. media has focused inordinately on Colombia's drug-fueled civil war to an extent that many believe does not accurately reflect life as it is lived in many parts of the country. By contrast, mainstream publications such as *The New York Times* recently have written positively about Bogotá's urban renaissance. The U.S. Department of State's most up-to-date travel warning on Colombia, issued on June 4, 2007 noted that "violence has continued to decrease markedly in most urban areas, including Bogotá" and other cities. **Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia** anticipates no safety problems; participants will on all scheduled excursions be in the company of Bogotanos who know the city well. More information on travel advisories can be obtained from the State Department website. <http://travel.state.gov>.

POST-PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENT

In addition to the participation requirements outlined above, **Study Space** participants are expected to produce a piece of writing (minimum 2,500 words), suitable for publication, within 90 days of the group's return from Bogotá, or June 15, 2008. Participants are encouraged to experiment with innovative formats and styles (including, e.g., images or artwork) that depart from the most traditional forms of scholarship. The pieces produced will, as were those for **Study Space I: Entering the 21st Century: Challenges and Opportunities of Panama's Explosive Urban Growth**, be collected together and published in symposium format either in hard copy print (in a suitable review for this subject) or published in electronic form on the websites of the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, Georgia State University College of Law, and/or that of Latino & Latina Critical Theory, Inc.

DAILY SCHEDULE

Sunday, March 10

9 am: Breakfast and Welcome. Presentation of study schedule for week. Tour of city center and orientation and location of Bogotá; explanation of new urban project.
6:00 pm: Group study dinner.

Monday, March 11

8:30 am-10:00 am: Lecture on transformation of the city and the changing consciousness of Bogotá's citizenry in 1995-2007
10:30 am-12 noon: visit to public libraries and schools and Simón Bolívar park to understand some of the most important examples of Bogotá's social and physical transformation.
6:00 pm: Group Study dinner.

Tuesday, March 12

8:30 am-10:00 am: Lecture on extralegal property and legal pluralism in Colombia
10:30 am-12 noon: Visit to Ciudad Bolívar- Casucá, which is one of the poorest neighborhoods in Bogotá and where an extralegal property system rules.
6:00 pm: Group study dinner

Wednesday, March 13

8:30 am-10:00 am: Lecture on the social function of property and recuperation of Bogotá's public space.
10:30 am: Visit to the park of the 3rd millennium to examine an important example of the social consequences generated by limiting the right to private property.
6:00 pm: Group study dinner.

Thursday, March 14

8:30 am-10:00 am: Lecture on the ecological function of property and the environmental transformation of Bogotá
10:30 am-12 noon: Visit to Cerros Orientales and the wetlands of Ciudadela Colsubsidio to study first hand the consequences of implementing legal norms based on the property's ecological function.
6:00 pm: Group study dinner.

Friday, March 15

8:30 am-10:00 am: Lecture on collective property and cultural diversity
10:30 am-12 noon: Visit to the indigenous reservation Muisca and speak with reservation leaders about the relationship between cultural integrity and political autonomy in urban settings.
6:00 pm: Group study dinner.

Saturday, March 16

9 am: Group meeting over breakfast.
12 noon: Goodbye lunch at a farm on Bogotá's outskirts
6 pm: Participants depart.

If you wish to be considered as a participant, please fill out the application below and send **it no later than January 7, 2008** to: Professor Colin Crawford, Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, Georgia State University College of Law, PO Box 4037, Atlanta, GA 30303. You may also email the application to him at: ccrawford@gsu.edu.

APPLICATION

Name:

Position:

Institutional Affiliation:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone (Business):

Telephone (Other):

Email address:

On a separate sheet, please indicate in 250 words or less why you wish to participate in **Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia**. Please attach it securely to this page.

In addition, in order to participate you must read and sign the release below.

I understand and agree that if I am selected to participate in **Study Space II: Multicultural Colombia** will be required to (a) read the study materials provided in advance of the trip, attend (b) all morning field trips and (c) evening group study dinners, and (d) lead one or more structured group study dinners and that, upon return, I will write for publication a piece of at least 2,500 words that reflects some of the professional lessons and observations acquired during my **Study Space** week. I further agree to give permission to the Center for the Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, Georgia State University College of Law and/or Latina & Latino Critical Theory, Inc. full and unrestricted rights to publish my effort in any form whatsoever, providing that my authorship is appropriately acknowledged.

Sign above and print name here:

Date: