

We are pleased to invite you to LatCrit X, the Tenth Annual LatCrit (Latina and Latino Critical Theory) Conference, which kicks off in San Juan, Puerto Rico at 3:00 p.m. Friday, October 7 and concludes Saturday, Oct 8, 2005. This year's conference theme is "Critical Approaches to Economic In/Justice." As usual, we also will hold our Third Annual New-Junior Faculty Development Workshop, sponsored jointly with the Society of American Law Teachers (SALT) beginning at 6:00 p.m. Thursday, October 6 (the day before the conference program kicks off). Please make your advance plans and use the attached LCX Program Proposal Form to send us your paper and panel proposals via email or fax ASAP!

The Theme: During the past dear decade, the LatCrit project has encouraged the deployment of multidimensional analyses in our collective efforts both to better understand the processes of subordination and to develop effective interventions to restructure societal institutions to achieve greater, if not genuine social justice. During this time, LatCrit theory and analysis have been employed in illuminating the flaws inherent in the neoclassical economic method and in describing the various ways in which neoclassical inspired policy further and support the institutions of subordination both domestically and in the evolving globalized economic community. LatCrit theory and scholarship perhaps have also been particularly useful in demonstrating the ideological relationships between the neoclassical economic paradigm and the forces of social retrenchment in this era of kulturkampf. Thus, LatCrit theorists and programs (including the LatCrit V conference theme) have interrogated both "class" and its relationship to other forms of identity in law and society. As a whole, the LatCrit community of activist scholars has recognized time and again the importance of confronting the analyses and policies advanced by the neoclassical economic paradigm and by adherents of contemporary law and economics jurisprudence.

Of course, contemporary economic theory and practice are very much products of their early intellectual and historical environment. However, the economic ideologies now inspired by the neoclassical economic paradigm has been so firmly embedded in legal and political thought pf the moment that the project of decentering and replacing that philosophy necessarily becomes a very long term mission. To that end, LatCrit now turns our collective energy and attention to the deployment of mainstream economic theory, the neoclassical economic paradigm, and the policy instruments generated by that theory as instrumentalities of subordination to construct a long term enterprise that builds upon existing LatCrit scholarship to nurture the development of a "new" law and economics legal scholarship. Given social and legal realities, we view the LatCrit X conference as a venue for interested scholars and activists to come together for an introductory discussion to a much larger and extended conversation and project - a conversation that ultimately aims to advance LatCrits" efforts to displace all ideologies of subordination while increasing opportunity and justice across the world. Please take a moment now to review the attached LCIX Program Proposal Form; please return it ASAP, and no later February 1, 2005!

The Standing Guideposts: In addition to the above Theme, the following four Standing Guideposts are offered as possible points of reference for re-evaluating familiar issues (e.g., affirmative action and bilingual education) and encouraging critical forays into additional substantive areas (e.g., communications and corporate law), which we have collectively utilized over the past eight years:

1) Papers or panels that focus on the multidimensionality of Latina/o identity and its relationship to current legal, political and cultural regimes or practices. The ideal is to explicate aspects of the Latina/o experience in legal discourse, both domestically and internationally. Nonetheless, you are free to address identity issues that do not specifically touch upon Latina/o identity or the law.

2) Papers or panels especially salient to this region (the Caribbean). Regional emphasis ensures that the Conference's geographic rotation will illuminate local issues, helping us understand how local particularities produce (inter)national patterns of privilege and subordination.

3) Papers or panels that elucidate cross-group histories or experiences with law and power, such as those based on the intersections of class, gender, race, sexuality and religion. In this way, each Conference aims to both elucidate intra-Latina/o diversities and contextualize Latina/o experience within inter-group frameworks and Euro-Heteropatriarchy. Accordingly, we constantly ask how we can create progressive movements, communities and coalitions that meaningfully recognize difference.

4) Papers or and panels that connect or contrast LatCrit theory to other genres of scholarship, both within and beyond law and legal theory, including but not limited to the various strands of critical outsider jurisprudence (critical race theory, feminist legal theory, queer legal theory) that critique class, gender, race, sexuality and other categories of social-legal identities and relations.

The Site: As in past years, the conference site is designed to be accessible, comfortable, self-contained and affordable in order to promote both formal and informal interaction, and to foster a relaxed community ambiance even as we engage in our serious work. As usual, child care services will be facilitated, and partners and family members are welcome. LatCrit X will be held at the Normandie Hotel in the hear of San Juan's Condado district. The Normandie is a historical and full service hotel with conference facilities, business center, gym and a heated pool that provides a rustic and relaxing setting. San Juan's many sights and great restaurants are also an easy walk (or drive) away. And to facilitate your air travel arrangements, the Normanide is about 20 minutes from the San Juan International Airport. Additional details on facilities and logistics will follow in March, after receiving your responses to this Call, so that everyone can make advance reservations directly with the Normandie reservations staff.

We look forward to your response to this Call for Papers and Panel Proposals by February 1, 2005 ... please use the attached LCX Program Proposal Form to let us know your preferred form of participation in the conference program ... and, for more information about LatCrit programs and projects, please visit our website: www.latcrit.org .