Welcome from the Director

“Emerging” may just be the keyword for this spring 2020 issue of La Voz. The emerging COVID-19 pandemic forced us to cancel all events after Spring Break. On the minds of every member of our community is the emerging reality that COVID-19 affects Blacks and Latinxs much more than other racial/ethnic groups. Also emerging with growing clarity is the toll this disease takes on essential workers, so many of whom are undocumented. As we all begin to repopulate our offices, the UConn community is faced with an emerging duty to call out the inequalities that stem from our various work environments, with special regard for those with underlying health conditions.

All these dangers duly noted, the word “emerging” also holds hope. This issue of La Voz celebrates faculty and student achievements during the past academic year. Whatever format our programming may take, El Instituto will re-emerge this fall as a platform for diverse Latinx voices. We will continue to enhance our online presence and move forward with major events on our calendar, including this spring’s postponed Eyzaguirre Lecture and the fall Mead Lecture. To find out more about our Instituto events, keep an eye out for future newsletters and follow us on Facebook.
Samuel Martínez
Director of El Instituto and Professor of Anthropology

Recent News

MA Student Randy Torres Awarded Mead Fellowship

The fellowship recognizes UConn's most outstanding first-year Latin Americanist graduate student.

MA Student Spotlight: Victoria Almodóvar

Almodóvar describes her experience as a graduate assistant for UConn’s Center for Fraternity and Sorority Development and Teaching Assistant for El Instituto.

Mark Overmyer-Velázquez to Publish Updated Translation

The professor of history and El Instituto and director of UConn Hartford is revising and expanding his book, Beyond la Frontera: The History of Mexico-US Migration.

Can Inclusive Programs Reduce
Labor Market Discrimination?

In Latin America, the poor are heavily underrepresented in their access to higher education, writes economics professor Jorge Agüero.

Exploring Mexico’s Industrial Revolutions

Professor Rodolfo Fernández discusses the contents of his new manuscript, *Mexico’s Industrial Revolutions: Capitalism and the State in Monterrey, 1600-1915*.

Anti-Haitian Stereotypes in Dominican Media

El Instituto researchers explore how Haiti and the Dominican Republic share the Caribbean island of Hispaniola but are divided by a history of mutual conflict.

Writing Puerto Rican History at UConn’s Humanities Institute

History professor Emma Amador describes her work as a 2019-2020 Faculty Fellow of the UConn Humanities Institute.
New State Course in African American, Latino, And Puerto Rican Studies

Professor and Associate Director of El Instituto Anne Gebelein worked with the State Education Resource Center to develop a new course for high school students.