



Cornell University

Latino Studies Program

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June 8, 2009

Dear Cornell Latino Alumni,

I'd like to take this opportunity to introduce myself as the incoming Director of the Latino Studies Program beginning July 1, 2009 and to briefly update the Cornell Latino Alumni on a recent meeting between Renee Alexander, Director of Alumni Affairs Minority Programs at Cornell, Marti Dense, Program Administrator for the Latino Studies Program, Sasha Lopez '10 Alumni Liaison for La Asociaion Latina, and myself.

Topics of our discussion included the upcoming CLAA Reunion in 2010 and how the Latino Studies Program can get involved, fundraising initiatives for the Latino Studies Program, Latino Living Center, and by-line funding for the Latino Student organizations, Alumni panel, and the upcoming Latino Studies Program Unity Dinner, now in its 17th year.

This year's Unity event, that marks Latino Heritage Month, is scheduled for Friday, October 16. It is attended by more than 225 students, faculty, alums, and staff from the Cornell and surrounding community. We wanted to give you plenty of notice in order for you to mark your calendar in hopes that you can join us.

We anticipate that we'll have further developments toward the end of August -- early September that we will be updating you on.

On behalf of the Latino Studies Program have a nice summer and I look forward to working with many of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sofia Villenas".

Sofia Villenas, Director  
Latino Studies Program  
Associate Professor of Education and Latina/o Studies  
<http://education.cornell.edu/cals/education/people/faculty/profile.cfm?netId=sav33>  
<http://latino.lsp.cornell.edu/>

cc: Marti Dense  
Renee Alexander  
Sasha Lopez