

Carina Olaru

426 Waldron. • West Lafayette, IN 47906
telephone. 765.494.9660 • e-mail. colaru@purdue.edu

Education

All But Dissertation, Doctorate of Philosophy in Latin American Literatures & Cultures
Minor: Gender and Women's Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
May 2012

Masters of Art in Hispanic Literatures
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
May 2006

Bachelor of Arts in English and Latin American/Latino/a Studies
Minor: Spanish, June 2002
DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois

Professional Experience

Director, Latino Cultural Center, Division of Diversity and Inclusion, Office of the Provost, Purdue University

July 2016-Present

Director, Student Advocacy and Education, Division of Diversity and Inclusion, Office of the Provost, Purdue University

July 2020-Present

Responsibilities:

LCC: Set budget, goals and planning and program assessment. Evaluate and assess programming based on mission, learning objectives and goals of the center and the division of diversity and inclusion and the university. Coordinate reports for internal and external use. Hire, supervise and evaluate team of two FTE employees, two graduate assistants, one intern, five student employees and various volunteers. Responsible for grant-writing and development activities. Engage in recruiting efforts of students, faculty and staff on and off campus. Establish innovative programming and services that create cultural understanding and awareness of Latinx culture and communities and that support U.S. domestic Latinx students and international Latin American students. Set mission and strategic plan for the Latino Cultural Center. Collaborate across campus with academic units, departments and student organizations to create an inclusive and equitable environment that positively affects recruitment, retention, graduation and student success of Latinx students. Foster relationships with and serve as a resource for local and state organizations, community centers and high schools. Advise Latinx-based student organizations. **SA&E:** Serve as contact person, advocate and resource for DACA and Undocumented Students, and faculty and staff across Purdue institutions. Create and lead immigration task force. Design programming for DACA/Undocumented students, and allies including DREAMZone.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Reestablished the Latino Cultural Center as a vibrant community and resource for all faculty, staff and students through branding, marketing, programming, services and collaborative efforts.
- Affiliated faculty within the Latin American & Latino Studies program

- Mentored the Latinx Graduate Student Organization, Latinx Student Union, Latino Faculty & Staff Association and Purdue Latino Alumni Organization to a point where all organizations are newly active
- Reestablished the center's library as a resource for public use; and secured 2,300 plus text donation for Latino Cultural Center library
- Responsible for the expansion, renovation and relocation of the Latino Cultural Center in 2017 to a new facility and added additional square footage, office space, workspace for student employees
- Received \$20,000 recurring funding for institutional presence at the annual Indiana Latino Expo
- Responsible for activities and campus presence for 30x30 booth at Indiana Latino Expo
- Partnered with Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance (IUYA) to host to Indiana the Youth Empowerment Program of the New York State Youth Leadership Council at Purdue University
- Provide support for Indiana Undocumented Youth Alliance Scholarship Banquet
- Responsible for institutional presence at Indiana Latino Institute annual events
- Responsible for Major Speakers at Purdue University: *Jenine Capó Crucet, Denice Frohman, Cherríe Moraga, Erika Sánchez, Yosimar Reyes & Ellen Ochoa*
- Re-Branded LCC signature events including *El Puente* Open House and *Conexiones* Latinx Student Retreat
- Established ACE food pantry presence at the LCC to combat food insecurity
- Built partnerships with Admissions to raise visibility of support services for Latinx students
- Provide cultural competency training for faculty, staff and community partners
- Partnered with cultural centers, student organizations, departments and academic units to develop recurring programming
- Created and maintained the LCC Community Garden and developed ongoing programming
- Created and implement training on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) for faculty & staff

Assistant Professor, Department of Modern Languages, Monmouth College

July 2012-July 2016

Responsibilities:

Teach a three-three course load for beginning, intermediate and advanced Spanish and Portuguese language courses. Advise student majors and minors. Contribute to Integrated Studies sequence by creating and implementing course taught in English. Serve on one committee per semester. Attend monthly faculty meetings and graduation ceremony. Demonstrate scholarly commitment to area of expertise.

Selected Accomplishments:

- Infused campus community with programming aimed at creating a welcoming environment and more inclusive and equitable atmosphere
- Partnered with Intercultural Life to develop Hispanic Heritage Month programming and small-scale programming
- Raised visibility of the Modern Languages Department (MOL) as evidenced by increase in major and minor students
- Designed .50 semester course and implemented MOL study abroad trip to Argentina
- Introduced, designed and implemented Advanced Grammar for Spanish for Heritage Speakers and US Latino Literature course (in English) as a resource for growing Latinx student population and enrolled maximum number of students each semester
- Introduced, designed and implemented Portuguese language course and tied to Brazil in Chicago student trip for greater impact

- Designed and taught 2nd year course for Integrated Studies program. Collaborated across campus and received multiple funding opportunities to create programming related to Latinx communities
- Received funding for MOL student employee position. Supervised MOL student employee
- Strengthened institutional understanding of first-generation college students via creation of professional development workshops and with data collected via focus groups
- Coordinator of International Student Exchange Program (ISEP) for entire campus and increased study abroad from two participants to twelve in the span of one year
- Collaborated with Knox College to sponsor María Hinojosa's visit; raised \$8,000 for this visit
- Responsible for programming: Teatro Luna, Free Street Theater, Teatro Vista, María Hinojosa, Jenine Capó Crucet, and José Angel N..

Courses Taught:

Spanish for Heritage Speakers	Elementary Portuguese, first semester
Elementary Spanish, first semester	Elementary Spanish, second semester
Spanish Conversation	Spanish Composition
Spanish American Literature Survey	Global Perspectives: Can the Dead Speak?
U.S. Latino Literature	Introduction to Literary Analysis in Spanish
History & Memory in Post-dictatorial Chile and Argentina	

Research Assistant, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

August 2011-December 2011

Collected and copied research materials for Dr. D. Goldman. Assist in planning a preconference for The Latin American Studies Association Conference coordinated by Sexuality and Gender and Feminist Sections. Provide meeting minutes for each meeting.

Adjunct Faculty, Communications/Foreign Languages/Literature Department, Moraine Valley Community College

June 2011-August 2011

Developed an accelerated course syllabus as the sole instructor of Intermediate III and IV Spanish levels for over 60 students. Incorporated visual culture into the course to enhance the cultural readings. Designed unit exams to measure student progress. Developed final exam for both courses. Created short writing assignments and extra credit activities that related to on campus events. Graded all student work and used *Engrade* to facilitate grades and student communication. Voluntarily held tutoring sessions once a week.

Instructor, Brazil in Chicago, Chicago, Illinois

June 2011

Taught several Spanish classes to native speakers of Portuguese. Developed individual classes that highlighted the differences and similarities between Spanish and Portuguese in order to facilitate heritage speakers' learning process.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

August 2007-December 2008 and January 2011 to May 2011

Individually in charge of teaching and preparing lesson plans for approximately 20 students for *Spanish Composition*. Planned daily writing activities geared towards developing Spanish language writing and Spanish reading comprehension skills. Designed paper topics for all long and short compositions. Solely graded all writing assignments which ranged from one to four pages. Met with students one on one to discuss their progress as writers.

Educational Testing Services

June 2009-Present

Participate in group training to prepare for individual grading of standardized tests. Responsible for grading the written portion of the Advanced Placement exam for Spanish Language credit at the university level.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

January 2010- December 2010

Facilitated the discussion portion of the lecture/discussion course *Introduction to Literary Analysis* in Spanish. Evaluated 40 students' understanding of the material by reading and grading their weekly commentaries, as well as four critical responses and all exams. Attended all lectures pertaining to this class as well as presented a lecture on *La Casa de Bernarda Alba*.

Teaching Assistant, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

January 2009- December 2009

Met with students weekly to discuss online material of *Spanish Readings* course. Presented students with explanations of difficult points in the readings and plan discussions of texts. Troubleshot problems concerning online materials and update/answer questions on the course's discussion board. Collaborated with the course coordinator to create midterm and final exams.

Editor, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Edited book chapter: Rocha, Carolina. *The Many Faces of Buenos Aires: Migrants, Immigrants and Foreigners in Contemporary Argentine Cinema (1996-2008)* in Denize Araujo & David W. Foster. *Images and Visual Communication: Urban Representations in Latin America*. Porto Alegre: Ed. Plus, 2008.

Translator, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Translated a forthcoming book chapter from Brazilian Portuguese to English. Moser, Robert Henrey and Tosta, Antonio. Eds. *Luso-American Literature: Writings by Portuguese-Speaking Authors in North America (Multi-Ethnic Literatures of the Americas (Mela))*. New Jersey: Rutgers University Press, 2011.

Grader, Latino/a Studies Program, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

January 2007-May 2007

Attended all classes and was responsible for grading student's essays and exams for the course titled

Global Women and Desperate Housewives: Images of Latinas in Contemporary Literature, Film and Culture.

Graduate Assistant, McNair Scholars Program, DePaul University, Chicago, Illinois

August 2002-2004, June-August 2005, May-August 2006, July-August 2007, August 2008

Advised individual scholars to discuss future goals, present opportunities and help develop their summer research project. Established and maintained a network of graduate school contacts. Organized graduate school campus visits including departmental visits for each scholar, as well as led each visit. Coordinated presentations at national conferences for students and supervised students at these conferences. Edited scholars' research for content and grammar and met to discuss research. Created and facilitated professional workshops on resume writing, presentation skills, survival skills for graduate school. Planned and co-taught classes on how to conduct research papers. Currently mentor DePaul McNair Scholars who attend doctoral programs at University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement program is a federal TRIO program that prepares undergraduate students for doctoral programs and aims to increase graduate degree awards for students from underrepresented groups. McNair scholars are either first-generation college students with financial need, or members of a group that is traditionally underrepresented in graduate education.

Research Assistant, Department of Spanish, Italian and Portuguese, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

August 2006-December 2006

Researched and contacted publishing houses and individuals for permission to utilize images in Dr. D Goldman's forthcoming book and assisted in making corresponding changes in text.

Instructor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Summer 2006

Co-taught a course titled *Intensive Foreign Language Instruction Program* for beginning level students of Spanish. Created a lesson plan for true beginners of Spanish and those who had some interaction with the Spanish language. Lesson plans revolved around building vocabulary, learning grammar, and speaking.

Personal Tutor, Spanish

August 2005-May 2006

Focused student's attention on commonly misunderstood grammar points to aid successful understanding of the subject matter. Reviewed written assignments and suggested methods to improve writing skills.

Awards/Recognition

March 2021	Indiana Latino Institute, Latino Leadership Circle, Member
January 2020	Indiana Latino Institute, Latino Legislative Committee, Member
December 2019	Indiana Latino Expo, Educator of the Year
May 2017	Campus Partner Award, Latino Cultural Center, Purdue University
May 2016	Honoree, Honor Walk, Monmouth College
May 2016	Hatch Service Award, Monmouth College, Received \$1,000
May 2016	Outstanding Career Mentor, Monmouth College
August 2011-12	Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois, Fellow, Received \$14,000

August 2008-11	Diversifying Higher Education Faculty in Illinois, Fellow, Received \$20,000
May 2005-2011	Teacher Ranked as Excellent by Students, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
August 2007-8	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Received tuition remission and living stipend of \$15,000
May-July 2007	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Study Abroad, Salvador da Bahia, Brasil Program, Received tuition remission and living stipend, \$2,500
February 2007	The National Scholars Honor Society, Member
August 2006-7	Foreign Language Area Studies Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Received tuition remission and living stipend of \$15,000
May 2005	Tinker Field Research Grant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Received funding to support travel to and research in Argentina
August 2004-6	Graduate College Fellowship, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, \$20,000
August 2004	Summer Pre-doctoral Institute Participant, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Selected Institutional and Community Service

Purdue University, West Lafayette, and Indianapolis

- Volunteer, Tippecanoe County Health Department Vaccine Clinic, January 2021
- Latinx Graduate Student Organization Advisor, January 2021-Present
- Women's Leadership Institute, Logistics Committee Member, January 2021-Present
- Interpreter, Tippecanoe County Health Department Covid-19 Vaccination Clinic, January 2021-Present
- Team Leader, Equity Task Force, Board of Trustees Purdue University, September 2020-Present
- Indiana Latino Institute Latino Legislative Committee, January 2020-Present
- Indiana Latino Expo, Education Committee, July 2019-Present
- Alumni Sharing Knowledge (ASK) volunteer, July 2019-Present
- Latino Center for Wellness and Education Scholarship Committee, May 2019-Present
- Supporting our LGBTQ+ Students: The Value of Conscious Mentoring, Panelist, February 2019
- Division of Diversity and Inclusion Master Planning Committee, 2018-Present
- Intensive Workshop Planning Committee, Women in Leadership Institute, 2018-2019
- Advisory Committee for Diversity and Inclusion, Office of the Provost, 2016-Present
- Campus Safety Relations Committee, 2016-Present
- Multicultural Minority Program Directors, 2016-Present
- Delta Phi Mu Sorority, Inc. Advisor, 2018-Present
- Latinx Student Union Advisor, 2016-2018
- Latinx Graduate Student Organization Advisor, 2016-2017
- Puerto Rican Student Association Advisor, 2016-Present
- Latino Faculty & Staff Association Member, 2016-Present
- Indiana Latino Institute Higher Education Summit Committee Member, 2016-2018
- Destination Purdue Parent Panel Participant, 2016, 2017, 2019
- Boiler Tracks Meet the Family Session, Participant, 2016, 2017, 2018
- Sigma Lambda Beta Founder's Week *Walkout* discussion facilitator

Monmouth College and Monmouth, IL

- Advisor and Mentor, *Graduate School Exploration Fellowship*, May 2016
- Organizer, *Surviving Argentina's Dirty Wary: Events with Alicia Partnoy*, October 2016. \$2,500 funding secured.
- Presenter, Developing Prompts for Effective Writing Workshop, April 2016.
- Organizer, Graduate School Information Panel for Spanish Majors/Minors, March 2016.
- Organizer, Student Trip to *Being Down, Being Brown: Performances of Spic & Span* Symposium at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 2016. Awarded with funding to provide dinner and transportation for 29 students.
- Organizer, *Romeo & Juliet, A Teatro Vista production*, April 2016. Awarded \$3,700 funding.
- Interviewer, Monmouth Fellows Competition, February 2016.
- Organizer, International Student Exchange Program Student Presentations, March 2016.
- Member, Quality Initiative for the Higher Learning Commission Committee, Monmouth College, 2015-Present.
- Advisor, Modern Languages Major and Minor students, Monmouth College, 2013-Present
- Co-Organizer, Jennine Capó Crucet, First-Generation College Students Lecture and Class Visit, Latino Heritage Month, Intercultural Center, Monmouth College, 2015. Awarded \$4,000 funding.
- Leader and Organizer, Student oriented trip to Buenos Aires and Mar de Plata Argentina, 2015. Traveled with 6 students with a \$18,600 budget.
- Member, Search Committee, Tenure-Track, Assistant Professor in the Department of English, Monmouth College, 2014-2015.
- Co-organizer, María Hinojosa, *Latinos in the Media Lecture* and Class Visits, Latino Heritage Month, Intercultural Center, Monmouth College, 2014. Awarded with a \$4,000 budget. Collaborated with Knox College and raised \$4,000 more to complete event.
- Co-organizer, José Ángel N., *Undocumented Immigrants in our Communities* Lecture and Class Visits, Latino Heritage Month, Intercultural Center, Monmouth College, 2014.
- Co-chair, Admissions and Academic Status Committee, Monmouth College, 2014-2015.
- Modern Foreign Languages Representative, Admissions Open House, 2014-2015.
- Panel Participant, New Beginnings for Students of Color, Monmouth College, August 2014.
- Co-organizer, 5k Mummy Run, Latinos Unidos de Monmouth, Monmouth, IL 2014. Raised Scholarships for two local high school Latino students.
- Organizer. *Share your Story: First Generation College Student*. Monmouth College. 2014-2016.
- Presenter, *First Generation College Students*. A presentation for Monmouth College faculty and staff. 2014.
- Co-organizer, Alternative Spring Break via Borderlinks, traveled with six students to Tuscon/Nogales border, Monmouth College, March 2014.
- Member, Admissions and Academic Status Committee, Monmouth College, 2013-2014.
- Interviewer, Midwest Scholars, Monmouth College, 2014-2016.
- Co-organizer, *Teatro Luna* for Modern Foreign Languages Week, Monmouth College, 2013-2014. Awarded a \$4,000 budget.
- Interviewer, Midwest Scholars, Monmouth College, 2013.
- Co-organizer, *Cuba and the U.S. and Operation Pedro Pan* with Dr. Félix Masud-Piloto and Maria Masud. Latino Heritage Month, Intercultural Center, Monmouth College, 2013.
- Discussant, New Beginnings for Students of Color, Monmouth College, August 2013.
- Participant, Puerto Rican High School Counselors Information Session, Monmouth College, May 2013.
- Faculty Advisor, Summer Orientation Advising and Registration, Monmouth College, Summer 2013.
- Off-Campus Studies Representative and Program Coordinator, International Student Exchange Program, Monmouth College 2013-2016.

- Faculty Advisor, Raíces, Latino Student Organization, Monmouth College, 2012-2014.
- Faculty Advisor, Associated Colleges of the Midwest Costa Rica Program, 2012-2013.
- Co-Coordinator, *Understanding the Implications of Latinos in Academia and Why it Matters, A Talk with Dr. Rufina Cortez*, Spring 2013.
- Interviewer, Midwest Scholars, Spring 2013.
- Coordinator, Monmouth-Roseville High School Spanish Club College Day Visit, Fall 2012
- Coordinator, Ballet Folklórico Dance class by Celia Campos, Fall 2012.
- Chaperone/Participant, Visit to Iowa City with Local Heroes Citizenship class to attend Pulitzer Prize award winning authors and MacArthur Fellow Junot Diaz lecture, Fall 2012
- Coordinator, International Luncheon Sessions, 2012-2013.
- Member, Search Committee, Tenure-Track, Visiting Assistant Professor and Adjunct. Positions in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, Monmouth College, 2012-2013
- Co-Founder and Secretary, Latinos Unidos de Monmouth, 2012-2015.
- Organizer, The Political Song in Latin America, a lecture by William Hope, Fall 2012.
- Organizer and Leader, Latino College Day, informational sessions for high school students and their parents, Monmouth College, Fall 2012.

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

- Member, Committee for the Professional and Student Development Conference, ILACHE, 2011-12.
- Volunteer, Latino Youth Conference, La Casa, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2009
- Tutor, Booker T. Washington Elementary School, 2010-2011.
- Vice President, Spanish Italian and Portuguese Graduate Student Organization, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2006-7.
- Translator, Champaign School District, Champaign, Illinois, 2008-2011.
- Volunteer, Habitat for Humanity Champaign, Illinois, 2004-5.

Selected Presentations

Purdue University and Local Institutions

- Olaru, Carina. Resources & Strategies for Latinx Student Success, Faculty Senate. March, 2019.
- Olaru, Carina. Spectrum: How to be an Ally. Krannert Graduate Student Association. February, 2019.
- Olaru, Carina. Latino Cultural Center as a Resource for the *Entire* Campus. University Residences Professional Development. January 2019.
- Olaru, Carina. “Diversity & Inclusion at Indiana Institutions.” Indiana Latino Institute Higher Education Consortium. October 2018.
- Olaru, Carina. Supervising from a Social Justice and Inclusion Lens. Residence Life Staff. September 2018.
- How to Engage Latinx Students presentation for Krannert School of Management Faculty, Staff and Students. December 2017.
- Olaru, Carina. “The First Year: Taking Advantage of Opportunities.” Indiana Latino Institute Education Summit. October 2017.
- Olaru, Carina. “Everything you wanted to know about college, but were afraid to ask!” Indiana Latino Institute Education Summit. October 2016.

- Olaru, Carina. “Strengthening your Voice.” North White High School Latino Student Union. November 2016.
- Olaru, Carina. “What to know about DACA.” Workshop for Diversity and Inclusion Ambassadors, November 2017.
- DACA Day of Action Planning with Greater Lafayette Immigrant Allies to the Greater Lafayette community, October 2017.
- Olaru, Carina. “DACA Workshop” Purdue Academic Advising Association Brown Bag Lunch Series, October 2017.
- Olaru, Carina. “DACA Presentation” Purdue Academic Advising Association Campus Meeting, October 2017.
- Olaru, Carina. Minority Technology Association Hispanic Heritage Month Presentation. September 2016 and 2017.

National

Olaru, Carina and Juan Robles. “Defining Latinidad at your Institution: A Toolkit for Dynamic Engagement.” Hispanic Association for Colleges and Universities Annual Conference. October 2019.

Olaru, Carina. “Assuming Identities: Exploring collective memory and trauma in *Alicia Partnoy’s The Little School: Tales of Disappearance and Survival*.” Mid America Conference on Hispanic Literatures: Book Culture and Beyond. November 2016.

Olaru, Carina. “Accommodating the Growing Latino Student Population in Small Liberal Arts Colleges.” *El Mundo Zurdo 2015: Memoria y Conocimiento, Interdisciplinary Anzalduan Studies—Archive, Legacy, and Thought* Conference. May 2015, Accepted and Declined.

Olaru, Carina. “Deviant Women, Defeated Families: The role of memory and sexual desire in Marcela Serrano’s *Para que no me olvides*.” Latin American Studies Association Convention. May 2015.

Olaru, Carina. “Consuming Death: Normalizing Ciudad Juarez’s Death Toll through American Fashion, Television and Gaming.” A paper accepted to be presented at the Death in American Culture Conference by the Mid-Atlantic Popular and American Culture Association. November 2013.

Olaru, Carina. “Fictional Realities and Narrative Fetishisms in Albertina Carri’s *Los rubios* and Lucia Murat’s *Que Bom te Ver Viva*.” A paper accepted to be presented at the Framing the 21st Century: A conference on Latin American and US Latino Film. October 2013.

Olaru, Carina. “What can I do with a Degree in Latin American/Latino Studies?” A panel discussion for DePaul University Students. April 2013.

Vásquez, Carina. “Queering Space in Hector Babenco’s *Carandiru*” A paper presented at the Latin American Studies Association Conference. May 2012.

Vásquez, Carina. “How Nice to See You Have Children: Trauma and Memory in Lúcia Morat’s *Que Bom Te Ver Viva*” A paper presented at the Midwest Modern Languages Association Conference. November 2010.

Vásquez, Carina. “La mirada delatora en ‘Above All a Family Man’ de Achy Obejas” A paper presented on the panel “Passing” Battles: Constructions of Race, Gender and Sexuality in Latin American and Latina Text at the Kentucky Foreign Language Conference. April 2007.

Vásquez, Carina. "Images, Memory and Space in Post-Dictatorial Argentina." A paper presented at the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. October 2005.

Languages

Native: Spanish and English

Advanced Mid: Portuguese