

Progress of the Capital Construction Campaign Jesús T. Piñero Library

by: **María Isabel De Guzmán Vendrell**

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On October 1st construction began on the Jesús T. Piñero Library project and it is estimated that the process should last approximately 18 months. The inauguration of the library will take place in April of 2014 and should coincide with the celebration of Governor Piñero's birthday. The library will change the appearance of the University and will provide the UNE with the opportunity to host visiting professors who will be part of the Project for social research at the library. In addition the library will impact the communities of the northeast region of Puerto Rico through its educational and cultural programs.

The Capital Campaign is very near its goal of \$3,000,000 having already collected some \$2,900,000. Major donations include a commitment of \$100,000 by Oriental Bank and a fourth contribution by the Government Development Bank under Law 290 (Special Fund for Depositories of Documents and Materials of ex Governors and ex First Ladies of Puerto Rico). On the other hand, the National Endowment for the Humanities has also made a major contribution to this project. The Piñero family has also made a substantial contribution to the library and this will be recognized in the atrium of the new structure. The Cartier establishment of fine jewelry has also made a second contribution to this campaign.

AREAS AVAILABLE FOR SPONSORSHIPS

Multi-media and Social Research Center

Outdoor cinema plaza

Ornamental fountain

"Sugar Cane" sculpture

Reading Room and Archive

Piñero Film Collection

Bookstore/Café

The Universidad del Este is firmly committed to the development of Puerto Rico and the enrichment of our historic patrimony. For more information on how to cooperate with the Capital Campaign write to or call María Isabel De Guzmán Vendrell, Assistant Vicechancellor for Institutional Development, 787-910-7917 or by e-mail: ac_mguzman@suagm.edu.



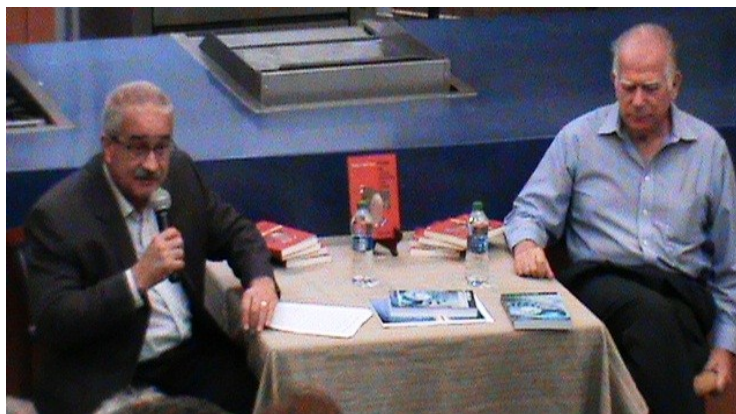
Book Presentation



During the month of September, the text *Polifonía caribeña y otros breves ensayos* by Dr. Carmen Centeno Añeses was formally presented in the Piñero Reading Room. In the photograph, from left to right: Dr. Mildred Huertas, Vicechancellor of UNE, Professor Centeno Añeses, Dr. Manuel Almeida, Director of *Ámbitos de encuentro*, UNE's academic review, and Dr. María I. Báez Arroyo who made the presentation.

Presentation of *Promesa rota*

Commitment and loyalty



Professors Juan Lara (left) and Francisco Catalá Oliveras during the presentation of *Promesa rota* at UNE.

What resources does Puerto Rico possess that can allow us to face the economic crisis of the moment? What obstacles appear on the route to a viable economy? Is there a way out of this situation? These questions were part of the discussion that took place during the presentation of the book *Promesa rota: una mirada institucionalista a partir de Tugwell* (The Broken Promise: An Institutionalist Perspective since Tugwell) by Dr. Francisco Catalá.

The presentation was made by professor and economist Juan Lara. During his talk, Dr. Lara described the figure and the importance of Governor Tugwell within the context of Puerto Rico's twentieth century economic processes. He pointed out that in reality Catalá's work is an invitation to search for new and viable alternatives to the Island's present situation as did Tugwell and his generation.

Catalá described out two historical moments in which governmental administrations brought about innovations on the Island: the administration of the Alejandro Ramírez in the 19th century and that of Tugwell in the 20th. In both cases, the administrators took advantage of their circumstances to introduce structural changes to the government to help bring about significant economic growth.

During the discussion that followed the presentation, Catalá named fear as the principal obstacle to economic change in Puerto Rico and described how "economic ceremonialism" (the refusal to look beyond previous solutions to present problems) has become the norm for different administrations in Puerto Rico.

For future development, Catalá emphasized the need to promote a sense of loyalty and commitment to Puerto Rico and the development of a greater social consciousness that can work toward solidarity and community-based alternatives.



8 1/2 (Otto e mezzo) cumple 50: Cine-foro en torno al clásico de Federico Fellini

Presentación a cargo de:

Ezequiel Rodríguez Andino

Coordinador de Producción y Operaciones Técnicas, Radio Universidad,
Universidad de Puerto Rico, Recinto de Río Piedras

Organizadores/Moderadores: Glenda I. García Meléndez (Instructora, Escuela de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas, UNE) y Manuel S. Almeida (Catedrático Asociado, Escuela de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas, UNE)

jueves, 14 de noviembre de 2013, 5:30pm

Salones Multi-Usa 207 y 208, International School of Hospitality and
Culinary Arts José A. Santana Universidad del Este, Carolina

Auspician: Sala Jesús T. Piñero, Instituto de Investigación Transdisciplinaria, el Multi Language Learning Center, Escuela de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas y la revista *Ámbito de Encuentros*.

Negotiating Empire:

The Cultural Politics of Schools in Puerto Rico, 1898–1952

Solsiree del Moral

University of Wisconsin Press, 2013.

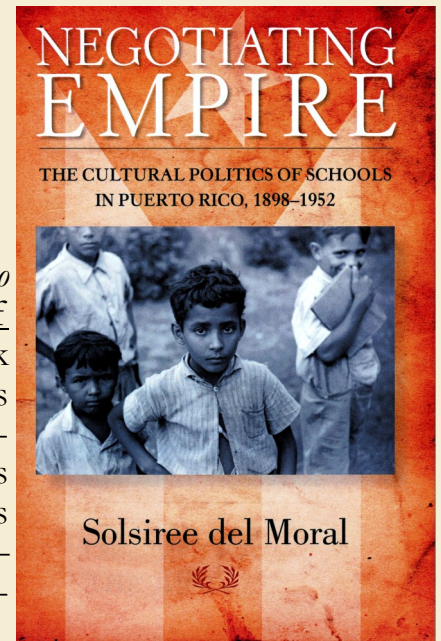
In 1976, Dr. Aida Negrón de Montilla published *La americanización de Puerto Rico y el sistema de instrucción pública, 1900—1930* (The Americanization of Puerto Rico and the Public School System, 1900—1930). In time the work became a point of reference for anyone interested in cultural developments in Puerto Rico during the first half of the 20th century. Negrón documented the different ways in which administrators sought to bring about changes in the cultural patterns of the Island. Without a doubt, Solsiree del Moral's work, *Negotiating Empire: The Cultural Politics of Schools in Puerto Rico, 1898—1952*, will become in the near future a necessary reference for anyone studying the role of public education in the “Americanization” of Puerto Rico.

In this work, the author takes on all the complexity of the cultural and political debates that characterized the first decades of the past centuries and the impact that these had on the organization of a system of public schools. Del Moral pays particular attention to the participation of teachers, students and parents in this process. For this study she creates a general scheme of historic stages: from 1898 to 1917 the “encounter” of different cultures, from 1917 to 1930 “Americanization” and reform, from 1930 through the 1940s, crisis and reconstruction which will lead to an era of a struggle to defend the “right to a free education” in the 1950s.

Fortunately, del Moral places her analysis of these debates within the wider context of several international intellectual currents that impacted the pedagogical debates of the time. Among these she emphasizes eugenics and racial psychology with their use of race as a fundamental factor for explaining human intelligence. Both of these tendencies exercised enormous influence on American education during the 19th and 20th centuries as is evidenced in the creation of separate educational institutions for African Americans (i.e. the Tuskegee Institute) and Native Americans (the Carlisle Indian Industrial School). It should be noted that a large number of Puerto Rican children were sent to the Carlisle School as part of the American administrators' attempts to “civilize” them.

When analyzing the actions undertaken by teachers during the first decades of the past century, del Moral underlines the dynamics of their resistance to the attempts of American administrators to impose cultural norms while at the same working within colonial structures to, as they themselves stated, “regenerate *la raza*” and “save *la patria* “. Their work served to both question and strengthen the attempts to bring about cultural change in Puerto Rico. To illustrate this process the author makes ample use of the archives of the *Asociación de Maestros de Puerto Rico* (Puerto Rico Teachers' Association). She illustrates how within the teaching profession dramatic changes took place, changes that were heavily influenced by class, gender and race.

Perhaps the most important contribution that the author makes with this work is the example she has set of how to study a complex cultural and political process with all its contradictions and conflicts without reducing the study to simple explanations and characterizations. The example of this examination of how teachers, students and parents worked to both question and strengthen colonial structures serves as an invitation to fellow researchers and writers to assume in their own work the ambiguities that are part and parcel of cultural studies.



Institute of Caribbean Studies—UPR Caribbean Conferences 13

The Institute of Caribbean Studies at the University of Puerto Rico in Río Piedras continues to hold its series of “Caribbean Conferences”. The program for the month of November includes:

Dr. Lily Díaz-Kommonen
School of Art, Design and Architecture, Media Lab,
Aalto University, Finland; Invited researcher ICS
The Facsimile Digital Map of Mexico City, 1550
Thursday, November 7, 1:00 — 3:00 pm

Dr. Dion E. Phillips
University of the Virgin Islands-St. Thomas
A Look at the Popular Revolutionary Force of Granada,
1979-1983
Thursday, November 12, 1:00 — 3:30 pm

Dr. Ivelaw Lloyd Griffith
President, Fort Valley State University, Georgia
Dynamics of Geopolitics and Geonarcotics in Contemporary United States-Caribbean Relations
Thursday, November 14
1:00 pm — 3:30 pm

Lorena Palacios
Ph.D. candidate, Business Administration, UPR-RP
Profundización financiera y creación de empresas:
un análisis regional de Colombia
Thursday, November 21, 1:00 — 3:30 pm

All the conferences will be held in CRA-108,
Social Sciences Faculty, UPR Río Piedras.

Thank you!

The Piñero Collection recently received a donation of hundreds of historic slides and photographs from Mr. José Piñero. We appreciate Mr. Piñero's continued commitment and generosity.



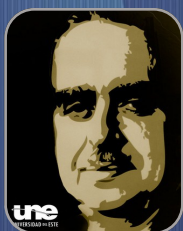
The ***Carta Informativa*** is the work of:
Leticia Delgado, Norayma Celpa and Jaime Partsch



Piñero Reading Room

Monday thru Friday
7:00 am to 5:00 p.m.

Tel. 787-257-7373 ext. 3025



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