

Human Rights Know No Borders

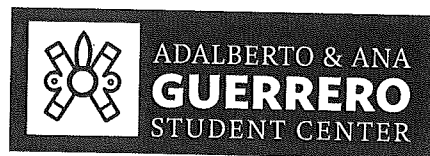
Los Derechos Humanos No Reconocen Fronteras

Saturday, October 7, 2017
9am-3pm

Modern Languages Building, Rm 350
University of Arizona
1423 E University Blvd. | Tucson, AZ



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WELCOME

Human Rights organizations in our communities in Phoenix and Tucson, collaborating with community organizations in Guerrero, Mexico, D.F., Washington, D.C. and Sonora bring international treaties, federal, state and local policies to life in order to pursue justice for those peoples whose human rights are violated. First, laws must be established that recognize Human Rights, then these laws must be enforced. This is the difficult part. When someone's human rights are violated the corresponding government must investigate and proceed according to the results. However the road to justice develops many obstacles. This is the time when all must mobilize demanding proper and impartial investigations following them to whomever they lead. Laws recognizing Human Rights must be enforced in order for justice to prevail.

Today the Binational Migration Institute, in collaboration with various community groups, brings to the fore several cases where grass-roots community groups organize to demand accountability of government actions. As community organizers they build networks calling upon people of conscience, people with expertise, people with resources, people who can stand with them in the search for life and justice. It is difficult and dangerous to challenge state violence. Resistance calls for courage, for solidarity, for truth to be told. So today we bring people who are in the struggle for justice so we can hear their stories.

The EMPTY CHAIRS PROJECT based on an idea by Chris Tanz, interprets the hopes and dreams of the still-missing 43 undergraduates of Ayotzinapa Rural Teacher's College in Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico. Community members and local groups created dozens of chairs that honor the lives and aspirations of the 43 innocent young men. Each chair was decorated and personalized with biographical information about each student. The Empty Chairs Project is an art-based campaign that support the world premiere of the play, Digna by Patricia Davis in February 2017 and sponsored by a grant from Digna Theater Incorporated.

Welcome to the Binational Migration Institute's Symposium

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Moderators: Michelle Tellez Ana Isabel Cornide

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome---Anna O'Leary, Head of Department of Mexican American Studies

9:15 – 9:30 Isabel Garcia-Co-Founder, "A Short Summary of Binational and International Human Rights Work of Coalicion de Derchos Humanos"

9:30 – 9:45 Raquel Rubio-Goldsmith, "Communities, Human Rights, and Immigration"

9:45 – 10:30 Carlos Beristain, "How the International Human Rights Community investigated the Disappearance of 43 Students from the Escuela Normal Raul Isidro Burgos in Ayotzinaga, Guerrero.(English)

10:30 – 11:15 Anabel Hernandez "How I as a Journalist Investigate and Report on the Disappearance of 43 students of the Escuela Normal Raul Isidro Burgos in Ayotzinaga, Guerrero.

11:15 – 12:00 Margo Cowan, "How the Government Actions regarding the Disappearance of 43 Students of Ayotzinaga brought an asylum case to Arizona and the role Human Rights have in Asylum cases today(ENGLISH)

Noon to Lunch for participants and attendees

1-2 Panel The Search for Our Sons (Tontierra)(SPANISH)

Moderator: Tupac Enrique

Panelists: Evie Reyes Aguirre, Mario Cesar Gonzalez Contreras, Parent, Vidulfo Rosales Sierra, Attorney for Centro de Derechos Humanos de la Montana TLACHINOLLAN

2-3 Panel Yoemi Women organizing to demand Water Rights for their Pueblo. (Jumut Boo)

Moderator: Aracely Rivera Cohen

Panelists: Casilda Flores Alvarez, Francisca Vazquez Molina, Laura Manuela Hernandez Urzua

*Some presentations will be in English, others in Spanish. Translation services are available. Please sign up for translation.

The **Binational Migration Institute (BMI)**, located in a border region with a millennial history of human migrations, was established within the **Department of Mexican American Studies**. BMI scholars use multidisciplinary methods to conduct research on immigration that:

- **Responds** to community needs for information and research on immigration.
- **Develops** projects that focus on research needs as presented by residents especially regarding the short and long term impacts of immigration police and its enforcement.
- **Promotes** collaborative research with scholars from universities and activists in human rights non-governmental organizations in Mexico and the United States.
- **Places** the training of students at the center of research projects.

BMI's mission is to generate binational collaborations that produce and disseminate scientific data on how the implementation and enforcement of immigration policies impact the health, education, economic progress, and constitutional, civil, and human rights of communities, regardless of citizenship or national origin.

The **Department of Mexican American Studies** is committed to contemporary applied public policy research on Mexican Americans. As the leading public policy research center addressing issues of concern to this minority group in Arizona, the Department works collaboratively with key community agencies in promoting leadership and empowerment of Mexican Americans within the state and the nation.

Panelist Information

Isabel Garcia – Coalición de Derechos Humanos, Co-Chair

Raquel Rubio Goldsmith – Binational Migration Institute, Co-Director

Anabel Hernandez – Award-Winning Investigative Journalist from Mexico City, D.F.

Dr. Carlos Beristain – Expert of the investigative team appointed by the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights.

Margo Cowan – Immigrant Rights Advocate, Immigration Attorney, Keep Tucson Together

Tupac Enrique, Tonatierra

Evie Reyes-Aguirre, Tonatierra

Mario Cesar Gonzalez Contreras, Parent

Vidulfo Rosales Sierra, Attorney for Centro de Derechos Humanos de la Montaña TLACHINOLLAN

Yaqui Women of Jamut Boo, A.C.

Casilda Flores Alvarez

Francisca Vazquez Molina

Laura Manuela Hernandez Urzua