

UCLA Blum Center on Poverty and Health in Latin America

PAST
2012-2014



PRESENT
2015-2016



FUTURE
2017-beyond



UCLA BLUM CENTER
on Poverty and Health
in Latin America

February 2016

Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to present the UCLA Blum Center on Poverty and Health in Latin America Report: Past. Present. Future.

Since 2012, we have emerged from a fledgling organization into a vibrant and forward-thinking Center dedicated to reaching our mission to improve the health and wellbeing of Latin American communities.

As you read through this report, you will find evidence of the bold and on-target work of faculty, researchers, students, and supporters through the years. And, you will notice our renewed energy for a future brimming with potential for increased programming on three tiers: training, research and policy.

Thank you for taking this journey with us. Together, we will train the next generation of researchers to use their expertise for the betterment of Latin American populations, we will turn research into action, and we will develop policy initiatives that bring equity to all Latin American communities.

Warm regards,

Michael A. Rodríguez, MD, MPH



UCLA Blum Center

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Across Years, Across Borders, Across Disciplines

Since 2012, the UCLA Blum Center has touched many lives and has begun to make progress in addressing the social determinants of health that position communities and populations at-risk of health inequities. Follow us as we walk through time on the next few pages – you will see where we have been and where we would like to go.



UCLA BLUM CENTER
on Poverty and Health
in Latin America

July
UCLA Blum Center mission, goals and planning underway

June
UCLA Blum Center established; Rodríguez appointed founding director

June
The Nicaragua Project – working with Schools of Medicine in Leon and Managua to build research and training opportunities across borders

May
Inaugural UCLA Blum Center Spring Symposium

Fall
Support of the Inter-American Development Bank's conference: Innovation in Development

October
First, Do No Harm: The US Sexually Transmitted Disease Experiments in Guatemala. Rodríguez and Garcia. American Journal of Public Health. 2013; 103(12): 2122-2126.

Fall 2013, Spring 2014
Freshman Cluster Course on Poverty and Health in Latin America begins – Two semesters, 90 students enrolled

2012

2013

Fall 2012, Spring 2013
Freshman Cluster Course on Poverty and Health in Latin America begins – Two semesters, 120 students enrolled

June-August
Summer Scholars Program: Los Angeles (6) and Latin American (2) field studies



June
Research program: human trafficking, in collaboration with the London School of Medicine

June
Partnership, the Mesoamerica Initiative 2015 – SM2015 Policy Dialogue Plan

June
Haiti Research and Service Project



Across Years, Across Borders, Across Disciplines



June
Salud Mesoamerica
2015 program
collaboration

April
UCLA on-campus events
to create awareness for
poverty and health in
Latin America



June-August
Summer Scholars
Program: Latin American
field studies (6 students
in Nicaragua, Peru,
Panama, Mexico)

Winter
Universidad Nacional
Autónoma de Nicaragua
(UNAN) consultation on
workforce strengthening
and medical education

2014

March
Haiti: Students (3)
participate in the
Dr. Henri Gerard
Desgranges Foundation
program on diabetes
education

July
Research published:
Civil Rights Laws and
Health Disparities



May
Second Annual UCLA
Blum Center Spring
Conference (130
participants)

July
Research papers
supporting the Culture
of Health Initiative:
Values and Social
Cohesion, Multi-Sector
Collaboration, Equity
and Quality



Across Years, Across Borders, Across Disciplines



Creating conditions to support healthy people:

April
 Research released: *Creating Conditions to Support Healthy People: State Policies that Affect the Health of Undocumented Immigrants and Their Families*

June
 10th Annual Summer Institute on Migration and Health



Fall
 UCLA Global Health Minor Introduced

August
 Research begins: Impact of Affordable Care Act on Community Health Centers

Fall
 Rodríguez appointed faculty advisor for the Office of Residential Life's Global Health Theme Group

February
 Workforce and infrastructure strengthening – COMISCA (Consejo de Ministros de Salud de Centroamérica y República Dominicana)

August
 Social Cohesion Laboratory II in Oaxaca and San Luis Potosi, Mexico – UCLA Blum Center appointed to serve as advisor

2015

March
 Research gets underway for "Evidence-Based Prevention for Youth Risk Behaviors" targeted to youth in Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay

Summer
 International Centre for Health Equity – UCLA Blum Center serves in advisory role

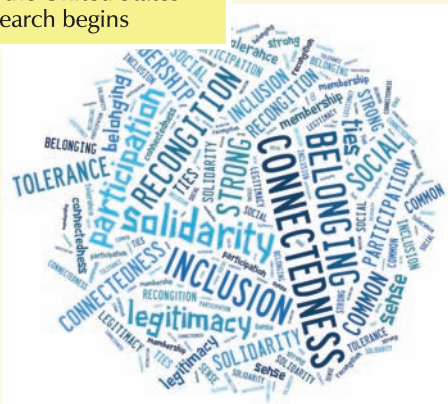
September
 von Ehrenstein appointed associate director of UCLA Blum Center

January
 Social Cohesion in Latin America: Implications for the United States – research begins

June-August
 Summer Scholars Program: Latin American field studies (6 students in Mexico, Panama, Nicaragua, Guatemala)

September
 Central America's Child Refugees and Families: Human Rights Conference

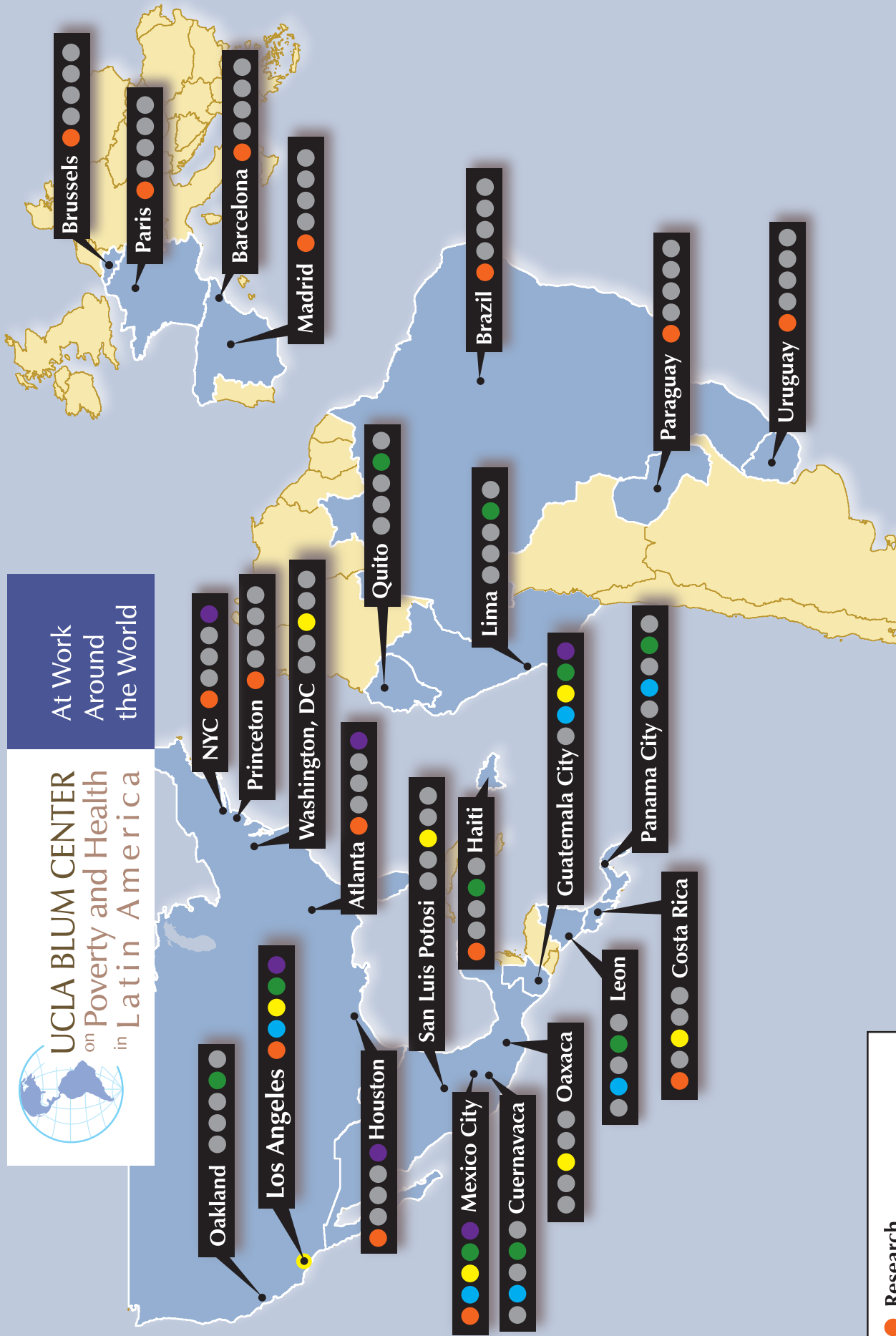
October
 David Mayer-Foulkes joins the Center as visiting professor from Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE), México





UCLA BLUM CENTER on Poverty and Health in Latin America

At Work
Around
the World



- Research
- Student Research
- Collaboration/Consulting
- Training
- Policy

Throughout 2015, the UCLA Blum Center worked in many nations toward its goal of improving the health and wellbeing of Latin American communities. We conducted training, research and other programming involving 15 countries in five regions: North America, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Europe.

Los Angeles

Training

- Global Health Minor introduced in Fall 2015
- New Health Equity and Civil Rights Course
- 6 UCLA Blum Summer Scholars study abroad
- 22nd Annual Raza Conference
- Central America's Child Refugees and Families: Human Rights Conference
- Advisory role for UCLA Office of Residential Life and Global Health Theme Group

Policy

- Special report: Creating Conditions to Support Healthy People: State Policies that Affect the Health of Undocumented Immigrants and their Families
- Child migrant health advocacy for policy reform
- Exploring the impact of Affordable Care Act on Community Health Centers (Atlanta, Houston, NYC)

Research

- Social Cohesion in Latin America – Implications for the United States
- UC-Mexico Initiative on Violence Prevention
- Youth Behavior Study in South America

Washington DC

Collaboration/Consulting

Inter-American Development Bank, Demand Solutions and other programming for improving quality of life

Research

Social cohesion research, funded by Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, brought the Center's work to meetings with RWJF collaborators

Costa Rica

Consulting

Advisor to International Centre for Health Equity that will influence values, lifestyles and policies at global, national, local and individual levels

Training

10th Annual Summer Institute on Migration and Health

Mexico City

Research

- Social cohesion interviews with experts at Social Cohesion Laboratory (I), Ministry of Social Development, and United Nations
- Violence prevention research exploring interpersonal violence among migrants
- Analysis of urban form on mobility patterns in cities throughout Mexico (student research)

Publication

Improving access to health care for undocumented immigrants in the US. *Salud Publica de Mexico*

Cuernavaca

Research

- Evaluation of performance and cost-effectiveness of screening and triage strategies for high-risk HPV+ women in Mexico (student research)
- Evaluation of food labeling policies to improve nutrition and prevent obesity (student research)

Haiti!

Research/Training

UC Haiti Initiative to create educational and research partnerships for health and social development

Leon

Research

Examination of current and past interventions in Nicaragua for reducing teen pregnancy (student research)

San Luis Potosi Oaxaca

Consulting

Advisor to Social Cohesion Laboratory (II), implemented by the Mexican government

Panama City

Research

Analysis of factors associated with teenage pregnancy and risky behaviors (student research)

Madrid

Barcelona

Brussels

Research

Social cohesion research interviews with directors, program coordinators, and government officials, and health experts working to develop social cohesion initiatives in Latin America

Brazil

Paraguay

Uruguay

Research

Youth behavior study in South America to determine best practices for youth violence prevention programming

Lima

Training

International study course developed as part of the UCLA Global Health Minor

Quito

Training

Medical observanship for student from Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador School of Medicine

Guatemala

Collaboration/Consulting

Workforce and infrastructure strengthening initiative kicks off at the request of COMISCA

Research

Evaluation of Guatemalan maternal and child health programs (student research)

Policy

Petition for restitution to Guatemalan victims of venereal disease experiments conducted by the US and Guatemalan governments

2015 UCLA Blum Center: Research

15

Number of countries where UCLA Blum Center research was conducted

53

Faculty participated in UCLA Blum Center-driven research efforts

5

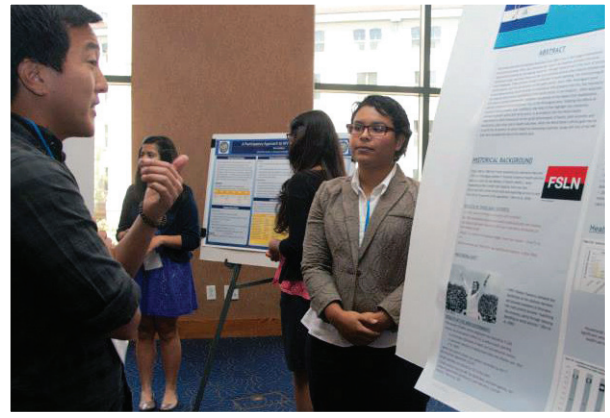
Global areas reached: North America, Central America, South America, the Caribbean, and Europe

8

Research articles underway on immigrant health in the United States — to be published in the special supplement of *Family and Community Health*

2

Countries involved in the UC-Mexico Initiative, with the UCLA Blum Center leading the Violence Prevention work group of the initiative



2015 Highlights

Social Cohesion in Latin America – Implications for the United States. Our research on social cohesion has identified effective strategies that may be replicable in the United States. Funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, this research will support RWJF’s Culture of Health initiative.

UC-Mexico Initiative: Violence Prevention. Center Director Michael Rodríguez and Center staff have begun planning steps to build research efforts that focus on social cohesion as it relates to interpersonal violence in the migrant landscape.

Evidence-Based Prevention for Youth Risk Behaviors (Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay). The UCLA Blum Center, in collaboration with UC San Francisco colleagues, is conducting research designed to guide South American institutions as they build programs to prevent high-risk behaviors among youth - especially in the areas of sexual and reproductive health, youth idleness, violence, and substance use.

Scholarly Publication Underway: *Family and Community Health* Special Supplement on Immigrant Health. This special issue will feature eight original reports on health status, health care, and the social determinants of health for immigrants to the United States. Center leadership Rodríguez and Wallace serve as guest editors.

2015 UCLA Blum Center: Policy

The UCLA Blum Center develops and promotes evidence-based policies that create sustainable health improvements. With a focus on applying innovations in research and creating sustainable actions, the UCLA Blum Center works with stakeholders across diverse sectors to identify and recommend effective policy interventions.



8

Number of US states scoring as having inclusive policies that support health and wellbeing of immigrants

42

Number of US states scoring as having exclusive policies that harm the health and wellbeing of immigrants

4

States being examined for impact of Affordable Care Act on community hospitals

1.3

thousand

Victims of the US- and Guatemalan-led STD experiments will benefit from UCLA Blum Center-driven awareness of the atrocity, resulting in petitions for restitution

2015 Highlights

Report: Creating Conditions to Support Healthy People: State Policies that Affect the Health of Undocumented Immigrants and their Families. Concerned for the wellbeing of undocumented immigrants, the UCLA Blum Center partnered with colleagues to publish this report that found only a handful of states had policies to support the wellbeing of immigrants.

Exploring the Impact of the Affordable Care Act on Community Health Centers. With colleagues from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, the UCLA Blum Center is investigating the impact of the Affordable Care Act on community health centers in states that have the highest rate of uninsured — California, New York, Texas and Georgia.

Child Migrant Health Advocacy. The UCLA Blum Center serves on a national coalition that is mobilizing health professionals to advocate for child migrants arriving from Central America.

Justice for Victims of Forced STD Experiments in Guatemala. In December, a petition for the Guatemalan victims of venereal disease experiments was filed in the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights. Two years earlier, Center Director Rodríguez co-authored an article published in the *American Journal of Public Health* to create awareness of this human injustice.

2015 UCLA Blum Center: Training

Faculty, post-doctoral, graduate and undergraduate students participated in an array of trainings, coursework and field studies sponsored by the UCLA Blum Center.

6

Summer scholars trained under supervision of 6 faculty mentors at 6 Latin America host universities or organizations



1

thousand

Students, faculty researchers participated in UCLA Blum Center-sponsored trainings

37

Students enrolled in new Global Health Minor

9.9

thousand

Potential number of students reached by UCLA Blum Center on-campus activities

26

Student organizations collaborating with UCLA Blum Center

2015 Highlights

Global Health Minor. UCLA launched its newest academic program in 2015: the Global Health Minor, built upon a growing interest for global health academic coursework on institutional, economic, logistic, legal, social, and artistic challenges facing global health.

2015 UCLA Blum Summer Scholars. In its third year, our scholars completed field studies on topics including: teen pregnancy; maternal and child health care; high-risk HPV screening strategies; food labeling; and the impact of urban form on mobility patterns.

Health Equity and Civil Rights Course. The UCLA Blum Center, along with faculty from the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health, the Charles Drew University of Medicine and Science and The City Project, collaborated to create a course on health equity, civil rights, and health impact assessments.

Medical Observership for the Department of Family Medicine. Facilitated an observership for Dr. Daniela Guevara, a third-year resident from Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador School of Medicine.

2016 and Beyond: UCLA Blum Center of the Future

With work begun in 2015, several new programs are expected to emerge during 2016 and will be in operations for the following 2-3 years.

University of California, Office of the President: The Blum Federation

This program will advance research and training among the 9 UC Blum Centers. UCLA Blum Center will take lead on several activities, including: development of a health equity curriculum for undergraduate students; expansion of the UCLA Blum Center Summer Scholars program; efforts to develop the UC Blum Research Action Network.

Center of Expertise on Migration and Health

The UCLA Blum Center is part of a team proposing a four-pronged initiative focusing on: health services; chronic disease; climate and the environment; and violence prevention. When funded, the Center will take the lead on the violence prevention core to produce policy reports, training and educational opportunities for students and junior faculty.

CBRE Shared Advantage Plan

The UCLA Blum Center will conduct research to support CBRE's effort to become a world-class organization in corporate responsibility. Our research will assist CBRE in building a thoughtfully coordinated program of sustainability and environmental actions.

AltaMed Health Equity Institute

In partnership with AltaMed, the Center will lead an emerging Institute for Health Equity, which is designed to improve the health of the underserved populations while achieving other health benefits.

Cross-Border Program with UNAN

The UCLA Blum Center and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua have joined forces for 2016 and beyond with collaborative efforts that will allow for student and faculty exchanges and training along with joint research efforts.



Dr. Michael Rodríguez and Dr. Freddy Maynard, dean, UNAN School of Medicine, Managua.

Endowment for the Future

While the future looks bright with these specific programs, the Center witnesses the need for additional funding to support the increasing demand of undergraduate, graduate and other trainees. We are intent on training the next generation of students to become leaders in development, public health and research to improve health and reduce poverty in Latin America.

We seek endowment support to ensure that future generations can make an impact on health inequities and wellbeing of all Latin American populations. With an endowment fund in perpetuity, the UCLA Blum Center will expand its reach into the next generation of scholars, increase its influence among health leaders, and continue to build its reputation as a leading training and research Center dedicated to improved health outcomes and poverty mitigation in Latin America.

UCLA Blum Center

Partners

At the core of our Center's mission is collaboration and innovation with our partners around the United States and throughout the world.

Through the insights, commitment, energy and spirit of our partners, we achieve our shared vision of improved health for all Latin Americans. We look forward to both continued and new partnerships in 2016.

Founding Contributor
Mr. Richard Blum,
UC Regent



AltaMed Health Services
CBRE Group
Centro De Investigación y Docencia Económicas, A.C. (CIDE)
Charles H. Drew University of Medicine and Science
The City Project
Consejo de Ministros de Salud de Centroamérica y República Dominicana (COMISCA)
David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA
El Colegio de la Frontera Norte National Institute of Geriatrics (México)
FNE International
Health Initiative of the Americas, Inc.
Dr. Henri Desgranges Foundation
Instituto Mexicano de Seguro Social
Instituto Nacional de Salud Pública
Inter-American Development Bank
Pan American Health Organization
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador School of Medicine
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Salud Mesoamérica 2015
UC Global Health Institute
UC, Office of the President
UCLA, Chancellor's Office
UCLA Anderson School of Management
UCLA Fielding School of Public Health
UCLA International Institute
UCLA School of Nursing
UCLA School of Public Affairs
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua, León



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