

OUR MISSION

This is a crucial time in human history to focus on the mechanisms and implications of global migration. With cross-cultural understanding, we have an unprecedented opportunity to strengthen the bonds of the global community and improve the quality of life for all its members. Without it, the consequences are dire.

The Research Center of the Americas (RCA) brings together scholars in Chicano, Latino, Latin American, and migration studies. We find common ground for exchange between people, departments, institutions, countries, and cultures. We take a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted approach to complex issues, and develop new solutions to wide-ranging problems. We are a hub for inquiry, exploration, and creativity. We bring new and unexpected approaches to promoting community involvement and mutual understanding.

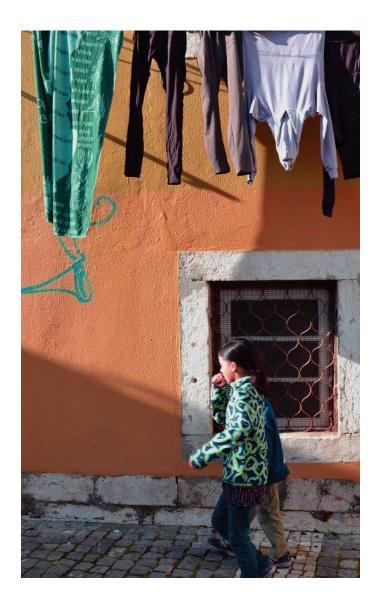


OUR WORK

The RCA provides and shares knowledge about Latinos, Latin America, and a world on the move. We promote scholarly dialogues based on evidence, rather than emotion or prejudice. Our work includes:

- Funding globally minded and innovative research
- Training and mentoring students
- Hosting public events, such as conferences, seminars, lectures, and film screenings
- Collaborating with individual scholars and institutions in other parts of our world who have an interest in the many issues related to migration and citizenship

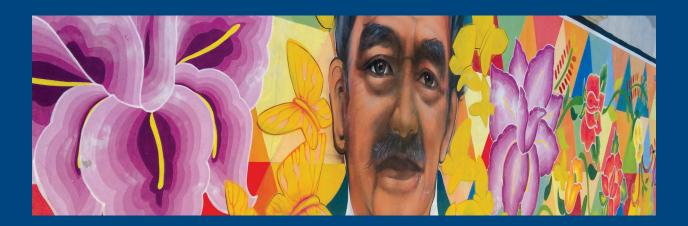
The RCA also provides vital research opportunities to students and professors. RCA affiliates share their findings in classrooms, at conferences and art exhibitions, in print and digital media, and in academic publications and policy briefs.



RCA INITIATIVES MAKING AN IMPACT

Nuestras Historias: CLRC/RCA Archive Project

Participants in our Undergraduate Research Apprenticeship Program learned archival, oral history, and digital research methods as they built the CLRC/RCA archive and curated digital and physical exhibits for the university library. "The CLRC (now RCA) works with a long-term perspective," notes undergraduate researcher Vicente Lovelace. This project offers a crucial window to view and understand the past, present, and future of Latinos and the RCA at UC Santa Cruz and beyond.



Transnational Tobacco Companies' Usage of Trade Agreements

Politics graduate student Eric Crosbie was able to use a RCA grant to support his dissertation about transnational tobacco companies that use international trade agreements to constrain government regulatory authority. With support from the grant, he traveled to Uruguay to interview health advocates and government officials, including former President Tabaré Vázquez, an oncologist who has been instrumental in advocating tobacco control in Uruguay. Crosbie used this work to extend his networks in the field of tobacco regulation, joining other students whose RCA-sponsored experience has built a platform for future scholarly and policy work.

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation John E. Sawyer Seminar on Non-citizenship

This year-long series of events explored what it means to be a citizen and non-citizen in a world of migrants, refugees, guest workers, permanent residents, asylum-seekers, the stateless, and other denizens (residents who do not hold the same rights as citizens). With the support of the Mellon Foundation, the RCA has awarded one postdoctoral fellowship and fellowships to two UCSC graduate students working on the issue of non-citizenship.

THE DIFFERENCE IS YOU

With your help, the RCA will accomplish these goals:

- Expand opportunity through grants and scholarships for undergraduate apprenticeships
- Build greater support for faculty and graduate student research
- Attract and host visiting scholars
- Host regular public events, including conferences
- Collaborate with community partners on a student photo competition focusing on an RCA theme
- Establish an endowed chair and attract a center naming endowment
- Raise matching funds for grant applications
- Hire permanent staff

We depend on private donations to fund the vital work we do. Thank you for your support!





The RCA brings together scholars from multiple departments, disciplines, institutions, and countries to share research and insights about some of the most pressing social issues facing our world. We mentor students to become the next generation of leaders and we support research that makes a valuable contribution to our society.



— Dr. Sylvanna M. Falcón, RCA Director

FUND A CENTER, CHANGETHE WORLD. Contact the Social Sciences Development Office at 831-459-3857 or by email at socsci@ucsc.edu.

