

DR. SARAH OSTEN

University of Vermont, History Department

Wheeler House, Room 303, 133 S. Prospect Street, Burlington, VT 05405

sarah.osten@uvm.edu / 773-629-3556 (mobile) / www.sarahosten.com / pronouns: she/her

EMPLOYMENT

2019-present	ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR Department of History, University of Vermont
2013-2019	ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Department of History, University of Vermont
2012-2013	VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR Department of History, Northwestern University
2010-2012	MELLON POSTDOCTORAL FELLOW IN LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES Department of History, Northwestern University

EDUCATION

2010	PH.D.: HISTORY, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. Dissertation: "Peace by Institutions: The Rise of Political Parties and the Making of the Modern Mexican State, 1920-1928"
2004	M.A.: LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO. Thesis: "‘Beautifying the Revolution’: The Origins and the Significance of Women’s Suffrage in Chiapas, Mexico, 1920-27"
2000	B.A.: LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, BROWN UNIVERSITY.

GRANTS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2025	University of Vermont, Humanities Center, Summer Research Grant
2025	University of Vermont, College of Arts and Sciences, Small Research Grant
2024	Finalist, UVM Kroepsch-Maurice Award for Excellence in Teaching
2023-4	University of Vermont Lattie Coor Collaborative Fellowship, Immigration Justice (Organizing Fellow)
2023	University of Vermont Humanities Center Publication Subvention Grant
2022	University of Vermont Faculty Research Support Award
2021	Honorable Mention, Best Article in the Social Sciences, Mexico Section of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA), for "Out of the Shadows: Violence and State Consolidation in Postrevolutionary Mexico, 1927-1940" (<i>The Latin Americanist</i> , June 2020)
2019-2020	University of Vermont Humanities Center Faculty Fellow

2019	Honorable Mention, Best Book in the Social Sciences, Mexico Section of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) for <i>The Mexican Revolution's Wake: The Making of a Political System</i> (Cambridge, 2018)
2018	Finalist, UVM Kroepsch-Maurice Award for Excellence in Teaching
2009-2010	Doris G. Quinn Foundation Dissertation Year Fellowship
2009	University of Chicago Doolittle-Harrison Travel Fellowship
2009	Latin American Studies Association Conference Travel Grant
2008	University of Chicago Doolittle-Harrison Travel Fellowship
2008	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Latin American Research Travel Grant
2008	University of Chicago Ignacio Martín Baró Prize Lectureship
2006-2007	Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship
2005-6, 2007-9	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship in Latin American History
2005 and 2006	University of Chicago Latin American Studies Field Research Grant
2005	University of Chicago Kunstadter Travel Research Grant
2005	Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Latin American Research Travel Grant
2004	Tinker Foundation Field Research Grant

BOOKS

The Mexican Revolution's Wake: The Making of a Political System, 1920-1929. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University Press, 2018.

Spanish language edition: *Secuelas de la Revolución: El nacimiento de un sistema político, 1920-1929*. San Cristóbal de Las Casas, México: Centro de Investigaciones Multidisciplinarias Sobre Chiapas y la Frontera Sur, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (CIMSUR-UNAM), 2024.

ARTICLES AND BOOK CHAPTERS

- (2026) "I Embody Revolution: Mexico's Gay and Lesbian Left and Central American Revolutionary Solidarity, 1978-1985." Peer reviewed article forthcoming in August 2026 with *The Hispanic American Historical Review*.
- 2025 "‘For the Government to Become Good’: The Political Vision and National Significance of Felipe Carrillo Puerto." *Radical Americas*, Volume 10, Issue 1, 2025. Peer reviewed.
- 2024 "Lawyers, Guns and Money: Revolution, Religion and Authoritarianism in Tabasco, Mexico, 1920-1936." Chapter in an edited volume entitled *Anti-Catholicism in the Mexican Revolution*, eds. Jurgen Buchenau and David Dalton, University of New Mexico Press, 2024. Peer reviewed.

- 2023 “‘To Defend the Nicaraguan Revolution is to Defend Mexico’: Mexican Solidarity with the Sandinista Revolution, 1974-82.” *Cold War History*, November 30, 2023. Peer reviewed.
- 2023 “La formación del estado posrevolucionario en el sureste.” Chapter in an edited volume entitled *Economía política de la reconstrucción nacional, 1917-1938: Estado, economía y sociedad en el México posrevolucionario*. Eds. Leonardo Lomelí Vanegas y Ricardo Gamboa. Ciudad de México, México: Grano de Sal, 2023. Peer reviewed.
- 2021 “Murder, Impunity and the Mexican State,” / “Asesinato, impunidad y el estado mexicano,” *The Mexico Violence Research Project*, May 27, 2021.
In English: <https://www.mexicoviolence.org/votingamidviolence/murder-impunity>
In Spanish: <https://www.mexicoviolence.org/votingamidviolence/asesinato-impunidad>
- 2020 “Out of the Shadows: Violence and State Consolidation in Postrevolutionary Mexico, 1927-1940,” *The Latin Americanist*, June 2020, Volume 64, Issue 2, 169-99. Peer reviewed.
- 2016 “Mexico’s Political Laboratory: The Revolutionary and Postrevolutionary Southeast,” article for the *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History* (online). Peer reviewed.

In print in *The Oxford Encyclopedia of Mexican History and Culture*, Oxford University Press, December 2018.
- 2014 “A Crooked Path to the Franchise: Women’s Suffrage and the Legislation of Citizenship in Post-revolutionary Mexico, 1925-1937.” *The Latin Americanist*, June 2014, Volume 58, Issue 2, 97-117. Peer reviewed.
- 2013 “Trials by Fire: National Political Lessons From Failed State Elections in Post-revolutionary Mexico, 1920-5.” *Mexican Studies/Estudios Mexicanos*, Winter 2013 (February), Volume 29, Number 1, 238-279. Peer reviewed.
- 2010 “Vida y muerte del general Carlos A. Vidal: Significado e interpretación regional y nacional, 1915-1927,” chapter in an edited volume entitled *La revolución mexicana en Chiapas un siglo después* (PROIMMSE-IIA-UNAM, 2010), 395-428. Peer reviewed.
- 2007 “The Implications and Legacies of Chiapas’ 1925 Women’s Suffrage Decree,” *Pueblos y Fronteras* (PROIMMSE-IIA-UNAM), 2007, Núm. 3 (online). Peer reviewed.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

- Book manuscript in progress: *Exit to the Future: Mexican Solidarity with Central American Revolutions, 1975-1985*.
- Edited volume in development, with co-editor Jurgen Buchenau (UNC Charlotte): *Mexican Politics and Society, 1973-1985*.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2025 Review of Eline Van Ommen, *Nicaragua Must Survive: Sandinista Revolutionary Diplomacy in the Global Cold War*, for an H-DIPLO roundtable on the book.
- 2022 Review of Paul Gillingham, *Unrevolutionary Mexico: The Birth of a Strange Dictatorship*, for the *Hispanic American Historical Review*, 102 (3), 568-9.
- 2022 Review of Eric Zolov, *The Last Good Neighbor: Mexico in the Global 1960s*, for *The Middle Ground Journal*, Number 23, Spring 2022, 7-8.
- 2020 Review of Colby Ristow, *A Revolution Unfinished: The Chegomista Rebellion and the Limits of Revolutionary Democracy in Juchitán, Oaxaca*, for *The Americas*, April 2020, Volume 77, Number 2, 326-8.
- 2020 Review of Benjamin T. Smith, *The Mexican Press and Civil Society, 1940-1976: Stories from the Newsroom, Stories from the Street*, for the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, Volume 39, Issue 2, 275-6.
- 2018 Review of Amelia Kiddle, *Mexico's Relations with Latin America During the Cárdenas Era*, for the *Bulletin of Latin American Research* Vol. 37, No. 4, pp. 493-533, 2018.
- 2012 Review of Aaron W. Navarro, *Political Intelligence and the Creation of Modern Mexico, 1938-1954*, in *The Historian*. Volume 4, Issue 2, Summer 2012.

COURSES TAUGHT

- **Introductory/survey:**
 - Colonial Latin America
 - Modern Latin America
 - Latin American Indigenous History
 - Migration Studies (interdisciplinary co-taught course)
- **Intermediate:**
 - History of Drugs in Latin America
 - Latin American Populism
 - Latin American Indigenous History
 - Modern Mexico
 - Women and Revolutions in Latin America
- **Seminar/advanced/graduate:**
 - Latin American Revolutions (first year seminar)
 - Latin American Authoritarianism (first year Honors College seminar)
 - Latin America: History and Memory (advanced research and methods seminar taught at both undergraduate and graduate levels)
 - Asylum case research seminar (undergraduate service-learning seminar)

CONFERENCE PAPERS AND OTHER PRESENTATIONS

- (2025) “100 años del sufragio femenino en Chiapas: pasado – presente.” Keynote lecture, Centro de Investigaciones Multidisciplinarias Sobre Chiapas y la Frontera Sur (CIMSUR-UNAM), San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, September 19, 2025.
- 2025 “‘Portillo, Somoza, Son la Misma Cosa’: Mexican Solidarity with Central America, 1975-1985.” Presented at the Southeastern Conference of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS), Mexico City, April 26, 2025.
- 2025 Roundtable presentation: “Anti-Catholicism in the Mexican Revolution, 1913-1940, by Jürgen Buchenau and David S. Dalton (Editors): A Book Presentation and Roundtable Discussion. Presented at the Southeastern Conference of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS), Mexico City, April 26, 2025.
- 2025 Roundtable presentation: “Riddles, Mysteries and Black Swans: Strange Data in Latin American Studies.” Presented at the Southeastern Conference of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS), Mexico City, April 24, 2025.
- 2025 Roundtable presentation: “Doing Expert Witness Work on Latin American Asylum Cases.” Rocky Mountain Conference on Latin American Studies (RMCLAS), Ottawa, Canada, April 10, 2025.
- 2024 “El socialismo del sureste: sus significados y legados para todo México.” Presented at the Coloquio Internacional, “Aquellas Ideas: El socialismo en México durante la primera mitad del siglo XX,” Colegio Mexiquense, Toluca, México, August 13, 2024 (via Zoom).
- 2024 “Secuelas de la Revolución: El nacimiento de un sistema político, 1920-1929,” book presentation, Universidad Veracruzana, Xalapa, Mexico, May 29, 2024.
- 2024 “Secuelas de la Revolución: El nacimiento de un sistema político, 1920-1929,” book presentation, Centro de Investigaciones Multidisciplinarias Sobre Chiapas y la Frontera Sur (CIMSUR-UNAM), San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, May 23, 2024.
- 2024 “Secuelas de la Revolución: El nacimiento de un sistema político, 1920-1929,” book presentation, Librería Fondo de Cultura Económica, Tuxtla Gutiérrez, Chiapas, Mexico, May 21, 2024.
- 2024 “They are Here Because We Were There: Migration from the Northern Triangle.” Invited lecture at the Windham World Affairs Council, Brattleboro, VT, March 21, 2024.
- 2024 “‘For the Government to Become Good’: The Political Vision and National Significance of Felipe Carrillo Puerto.” Presented at University College London, conference on Socialism and Indigeneity in the Americas, January 9, 2024.
- 2024 “‘I Embody Revolution’: Mexico’s Gay and Lesbian Left and Central American Revolutionary Solidarity, 1978-1985.” Presented at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association (AHA), San Francisco, CA, January 6, 2024.

- 2022 “‘Defender la revolución nicaraguense es defender a México’: solidaridad mexicana con la revolución Sandinista.” presented at the XVI Reunión Internacional de Historiadores de México, Austin, Texas, October 30-November 2, 2022.
- 2022 Comment on Paul Gillingham’s *Unrevolutionary Mexico: The Birth of a Strange Dictatorship*, Howard Cline Prize in Mexican History panel, Latin American Studies Association (LASA) congress (online), May 7, 2022.
- 2022 “El Partido Socialista Chiapaneco: su formación y actuación en las fronteras de Chiapas, 1917-1927.” Presented at the “Aspectos sociales-políticos-económicos en la conformación de las fronteras de Chiapas, 1528-1996” seminar (online), Centro de Investigaciones Multidisciplinarias Sobre Chiapas y la Frontera Sur (CIMSUR-UNAM), San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, January 4, 2022.
- 2021 “El Partido Socialista Chiapaneco: un análisis sociodemográfico y político, 1917-1927.” Presented at Congreso Centroamericano de la Historia (virtual), Universidad de las Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas (UNICACH), Tuxtla, Mexico, August 18, 2021.
- 2020 “ICE Detention in the Age of COVID,” Panelist. Brown University, Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies webinar, April 15, 2020.
- 2020 “Live from the Border.” Invited lecture at Education and Enrichment for Everyone (EEE), South Burlington, VT, February 28, 2020.
- 2020 “La formación del estado posrevolucionario en el sureste.” Invited keynote lecture at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Economic History Colloquium, Mexico City, February 5-7, 2020.
- 2019 “Asylum, Detention and Migration on the US Southern Border.” Invited presentation with Rebecca Wasserman at the University of Vermont Honors College Faculty Seminar, Burlington, VT, August 12, 2019.
- 2019 “Violence, Memory and State Formation in Mexico, 1926-1940.” Presented at the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) International Congress, Boston, MA, May 24-7, 2019.
- 2019 “The Mexican Revolution’s Wake: The Making of a Political System, 1920-1929.” Invited talk given at the Katz Center for Mexican Studies, University of Chicago, Chicago IL, May 14, 2019.
- 2019 “Reasonable and Unreasonable Fears: The Central American Migrant Exodus in Historical Perspective.” Address given at the UVM Phi Alpha Theta ceremony, Alpha Alpha Psi Chapter, Burlington VT, April 15, 2019.
- 2019 “Credible Fear: A Panel Discussion on Work with Asylum Seekers in Dilley, Texas.” Invited presentation with Katherine Goldman at the Watson Institute of International and Public Affairs, Brown University, Providence RI, January 25, 2019.
- 2019 “Out of the Shadows: Mexico’s Reckoning with State-led Violence in the Recent Past, 1927-40.” Presented at the Conference on Latin American History (CLAH), Chicago IL, January 5, 2019.

- 2018 "An Iron Fist in a Red Glove: Socialism and Authoritarianism in Postrevolutionary Mexico." Presented at the conference of the Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS), Montreal, May 17, 2018.
- 2018 "A Nation of Parties." Invited book presentation/student meeting, Dartmouth College, Hanover NH, February 16, 2018.
- 2017 "Political Violence and State Consolidation in Postrevolutionary Mexico, 1927-40." Presented at the Social Science History Association Conference (SSHA), Montreal, November 3, 2017.
- 2014 "Los significados de la reinvestigación oficial de la matanza de Huitzilac, 1935-1939." Presented at the XIV Reunión Internacional de Historiadores de México, Chicago, September 19, 2014.
- 2013 "A Surfeit of Heroes: Political Violence and the Foundations of the Modern Mexican Political System, 1920-1929." Presented at the Latin American Studies Association International Congress (LASA), Washington DC, May 30, 2013.
- 2012 "Traitors, Dreamers and Statesmen: Military Rebellions and the Shaping of the Post-Revolutionary Mexican State, 1920-1929," Talk given at Northwestern University, Buffett Center Faculty and Fellows Colloquium, April 27, 2012.
- 2012 "Before There was One: Early Post-revolutionary Political Parties in Mexico, 1920-1929," presented at the annual meeting of the Conference on Latin American History (CLAH), Chicago, January 6, 2012.
- 2011 "A Brief History of Mexico and Thoughts on Teaching Modern Mexican History." Invited lecture at the social science department retreat of Northside College Preparatory High School in Chicago, Evanston IL, November 18, 2011.
- 2011 "Which Mexican Revolution Was Institutionalized? A Reexamination of the Origins of Mexico's Party of the State," presented at Northwestern University, Latin American Graduate Students Group, November 4, 2011.
- 2010 "Peace by Institutions: The Rise of Political Parties and the Making of the Modern Mexican State, 1920-1928," Northwestern University, Latin American Studies Center Colloquium, November 4, 2010
- 2009 "Callismo in Chiapas, 1920-1927: Mexico's Forgotten Revolution," presented at the Latin American Studies Association International Congress (LASA), Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, June 12, 2009.
- 2009 "The Disappearance and Reappearance of Powers: Federal Responses to the Chiapas Electoral Crisis of 1924-5," presented at the Latin American History Workshop, University of Chicago, February 19, 2009.
- 2008 "Los Significados Regionales y Nacionales de la Vida y Muerte del General Carlos A. Vidal, 1915-1927," presented at the annual Encuentro Pueblos y Fronteras of PROIMMSE-IIA-UNAM, San Cristóbal de LC, Chiapas, Mexico, June 13, 2008.

- 2008 "Chiapas' Forgotten Revolutionary: The Early Career of General Carlos A. Vidal, 1913-1920," Presented at the Latin American History Workshop, University of Chicago, May 22, 2008.
- 2008 "State Level Women's Suffrage Measures in Southeastern Mexico, 1920-1925," presented at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting (AHA), Washington, D.C., January 4, 2008.
- 2007 "'Para Embellecer la Revolución': Los Orígenes y los Significados del Sufragio Femenil en Chiapas, 1920-1927," presented at PROIMMSE-IIA-UNAM, San Cristóbal de Las Casas, Chiapas, Mexico, May 7, 2007.
- 2007 "Callismo and the Radicalism of Southeastern Mexico, 1920-1929," presented at the Fulbright/COMEXUS 2007 Midyear Conference, Mexico City, March 2, 2007.
- 2006 "Callismo and the Radicalism of Southeastern Mexico, 1920-1929," presented at the Mellon Foundation Latin American History Conference, Yale University, New Haven, CT, April 27, 2006.
- 2006 "'Beautifying the Revolution': The Origins and the Significance of Women's Suffrage in Chiapas, Mexico, 1920-27," presented at the Latin American Studies Master's Student Conference, University of Chicago, February 11, 2006.

CONFERENCE PANELS: CHAIR, ORGANIZER, DISCUSSANT

- 2019 *Chair*: "Violence, Dissidence and Resistance in Postrevolutionary Mexico." Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Boston, MA, May 24-7, 2019.
- 2017 *Discussant*: "Images in Mexico and Abroad of Plutarco Elias Calles." Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Conference (RMCLAS), Salt Lake City, UT, April 5-7, 2017.
- 2014 *Discussant*: "Party Formation in Latin America: Opposition, Mass, and Authoritarian Parties in Comparative and Historical Perspective." Social Science History Association Conference, Toronto, November 7, 2014.
- 2013 *Panel Organizer and Chair*: "The Once and Future Party?: The Long Career of Mexico's Institutional Revolutionary Party (1929-2013)." Latin American Studies Association International Congress, Washington DC, May 30, 2013.
- 2012 *Panel Organizer*: "Mexico in the 1920s: New Historical and Historiographical Perspectives." Annual meeting of the Conference on Latin American History, Chicago, January 6, 2012.

SERVICE

- 2025- **University of Vermont, Faculty Senate**
Curricular Affairs Committee (3-year elected term)
- 2025- **Vermont Asylum Assistance Project (VAAP), Burlington, VT**
Board Member; Fundraising Subcommittee Member

- 2023- **University of Vermont, College of Arts and Sciences, Migration Studies Project**
Co-Founder and Lead Organizer
- 2022- **University of Vermont, Department of History**
Director of Graduate Studies
- 2022- **University of Vermont, Latin American and Caribbean Studies Program**
Director
- 2022- **University of Vermont, Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Program**
Steering Committee Member
- 2022-3 **University of Vermont, Department of History**
African American History Search Committee Member
- 2021-2 **Mexico Section of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA)**
Prize Committee, Best Article in the Social Sciences
- 2020- **Expert witness for asylum cases for Mexican nationals (8 cases since 2020)**
- 2018-20, 21-2 **University of Vermont, Department of History**
Graduate Studies Committee
- 2019-22 **University of Vermont, College of Arts and Sciences**
Honors Committee (3-year elected term, interdisciplinary studies)
- 2020 **University of Vermont**
Global Citizenship General Education Requirement ad hoc committee
- 2019-20 **Mexico Section of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA)**
Prize Committee, Best Book in the Social Sciences
- 2016-9 **University of Vermont, College of Arts and Sciences**
Honors Committee (3-year elected term, at-large member)
- 2014-8 **University of Vermont, Department of History**
Communications and Social Media Committee (chair)
- 2014-5 **University of Vermont, Department of History**
Undergraduate Studies Committee
Faculty Senator (Spring 2015)
- 2013-4 **University of Vermont, Department of History**
Faculty Recorder
- 2008 **University of Chicago Mellon Foundation Latin American History Graduate Student Conference**
Student Coordinator, May 2-3, 2008
- 2006-2008 **Archivo General de la Nación (México)**
Conducted the first inventories of the General Carlos A. Vidal personal papers collection
- 2006 **University of Chicago Latin American Studies Master's Student Conference**
Founder and Student Coordinator, February 11, 2006

2005-2006 **University of Chicago Latin American History Workshop**
Coordinator

LANGUAGES

English (native)

Spanish (fluent: reading, writing, speaking)