

**T**he Department of Romance Languages, La Casa Hispánica and the Latin American Studies Program have, for the last four years, organized an annual conference on Hispanic issues. This fifth year we have chosen the fascinating subject of LINGUISTIC FRONTIERS AND CONTACT ZONES IN THE FORMATION OF HISPANIC CULTURE. Future fora will continue to examine and explore diverse areas and issues of the Hispanic World.

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## THE FIFTH ANNUAL HISPANIC FORUM

*Organizer:  
Juan Francisco Maura*

*Co-organizers:  
Tina F. Escaja  
Timothy Murad*

THE DEPARTMENT OF ROMANCE LANGUAGE  
LA CASA HISPÁNICA  
& THE LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM

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## THE FIFTH ANNUAL HISPANIC FORUM

# Linguistic Frontiers and Contact Zones in the Formation of Hispanic Culture

**Thursday, Oct. 1, 3:00 p.m.**  
**Special Session (in English):**  
**Prof. Rowena Rivera,**  
**New Mexican Author,**  
**"Cultural Identity & Language of**  
**Hispanic New Mexicans."**

**October 1-2, 1998**  
**University of Vermont**  
**Memorial Lounge,**  
**Waterman Building**

## LINGUISTIC FRONTIERS AND CONTACT ZONES IN THE FORMATION OF HISPANIC CULTURE

Spain today, one hundred years after the Spanish American war, is but a province, albeit an important one, of a much larger Hispanic World. If we follow the popular claim "La lengua la hace el pueblo" "The people make language" at the present time the largest number of Spanish speakers in the world is concentrated in Mexico. If on the other hand we look for the most representative writers of the Hispanic World, we see that population and geography have little to do with the fact that some of the most prominent writers of our culture come from the smallest of countries or the most modest of circumstances. Such is the case of the Nicaraguan Rubén Darío, perhaps the most representative Hispanic poet of the last 100 years. If we look for a feminine example, we find that Gabriela Mistral, the first Hispanic woman Nobel laureate, came from a small Chilean town. Hispanic writers born in the United States prove that even today inside another, dominant, linguistic culture, Spanish can blossom. This Fifth annual Forum explores linguistic and geographical frontiers of the dynamic and varied Hispanic World.

## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Thursday, October 1.

11:00 a.m. Opening Remarks. Prof. Juan F. Maura, University of Vermont.

Session 1 (in Spanish): Prof. Ligia Rodríguez, Trinity College, Moderator.

11:15 a.m. Prof. Beatriz de Alba-Koch, McGill University, "Lenguaje y nación en el siglo XIX mexicano".

11:45 a.m. Prof. A.J. Figueroa, The College of New Jersey. "Puerto Rico y la defensa del español: cien años de resistencia".

12:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Lunch

Session 2 (in English): Prof. Tina Escaja, Moderator.

2:00 p.m. Prof. Salomé Castellanos, Honduran Ambassador to Canada. "The Linguistic Experiences of a Woman Diplomat in the Hispanic World".

3:00 p.m. Special Session (in English):

Prof. Rowena Rivera, New Mexican Author, "Cultural Identity & Language of Hispanic New Mexicans".

5:00 p.m. Open (Leaf Peeping)

Friday, October 2.

Session 3: Prof. Gayle Roof-Nunley, Moderator.

10:15 a.m. (In English): Prof. María Castellanos, Museo del Hombre (Honduras). "Women and Mass Communication in Honduras".

10:45 a.m. (In <sup>spanish</sup> ~~English~~): Prof. Fernando de Diego, University of Ottawa. "La cultura hispánica en una sociedad bilingüe: el caso de Canadá".

12:00 Lunch

Session 4: Prof. Timothy Murad, Moderator.

2:00 p.m. (in Spanish) Mr. Gerardo Behori, (Author) Equatorial Guinea. "Lengua y literatura española en el corazón de Africa: el caso de Guinea Ecuatorial".

2:30 p.m. (in English) Tale. "The Turtle, King of Dwarfs" by Mr. Gerardo Behori.

3:00 p.m. Round Table: "The Future of Spanish in the United States: Towards a Bilingual North America?" Moderator: Jim Vigoreaux, University of Vermont.

5:30 p.m. Closing

6:00 p.m. Entertainment