Weissman Introduces ISLA

ISLA’s mission is to actively promote and nurture the interdisciplinary study of Latin America – its languages, literatures, arts and cultures; its politics, societies, and economies; its geography and environment – on the Baruch campus. Based in the Weissman School of Arts and Sciences (WSAS), ISLA aims to engage Baruch’s students, faculty, staff, and alumni and our local community in academic, co-curricular, and public programming that enhances the understanding and appreciation of this vital world region.

ISLA@WSAS was made possible by the generosity of Mrs. Hedwig Feit and is dedicated to the memory of her grandfather, Valentín Lizana y Parragué.

“On the academic side, ISLA will work with WSAS departments and faculty to raise the profile of our course offerings on Latin America across the School, bringing more students into our classrooms to study Latin America and bringing new energy to the Latin American and Caribbean Studies (LACS) Minor”, Dr. Golob explained. ISLA will promote collegial exchange among the community of faculty who study Latin America and will facilitate co-teaching opportunities via the interdisciplinary Feit Seminars. ISLA will also serve as a platform to connect students interested in Latin America with academic, research, cultural and internship opportunities, by partnering with student organizations and with Baruch’s rich network of on-campus resources: the Newman Library, the Mishkin Gallery, the Honors Program (for Honors Theses), the Starr Career Center, the Office of Alumni Relations and Volunteer Engagement, the Baruch Performing Arts Center, the Harman Writer in Residence Program, the Fellowships Office and (in the future) the Study Abroad Office. Finally, ISLA will generate excitement and raise the profile of Latin American Studies at Baruch through public programming, including author readings, concerts and performances; through its own student-oriented monthly calendar of events; and through an annual one-day conference that will welcome the wider Latin American Studies community in NYC to our campus.