



REVERBERATIONS OF MEMORY, VIOLENCE, AND HISTORY

THE CENTENNIAL OF THE 1919 CANALES INVESTIGATION

AN NEH CONFERENCE



NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE

Humanities

THE BULLOCK TEXAS STATE HISTORY MUSEUM W E L C O M E S A L L P A R T I C I P A N T S

At the Bullock Texas State History Museum, we tell the continually unfolding story of Texas. We recognize that our understanding of history is always changing and are committed to presenting that history dynamically, responding to new discoveries, research, and scholarship. Our galleries are made richer by connections to institutions and individuals who loan the physical remnants of that past to us, to share with the public through new exhibitions. Just as we are committed to presenting the best scholarship on Texas's rich history in our exhibitions, we are equally committed to sharing that scholarship with the public in programming—taking the narrative from the walls and offering context and conversation about history's ongoing relevance to our lives.

We are pleased to co-host this conference for the centennial of the Canales investigation and hope that it will continue to further the dialogue on a critical portion of our state's history.

MARGARET KOCH
Museum Director

KATE BETZ
Deputy Director of Interpretation

WELCOME TO A NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES CONFERENCE

REVERBERATIONS OF MEMORY, VIOLENCE, AND HISTORY

THE CENTENNIAL OF THE 1919 CANALES INVESTIGATION

A century ago in our beloved state of Texas, border native José Tomas “J.T.” Canales, the only Mexican American serving in the state legislature, called for an investigation into the violence unleashed by the Texas Rangers on the predominantly Mexican-origin community along the state’s southern border with Mexico. The call for an investigation by the Brownsville attorney and member of the Tejano elite was prompted by the widespread extralegal killings of Mexican Americans and Mexican nationals during the 1910s. The 1919 Texas legislature’s investigation of this state-sanctioned violence, along with its legacy for civil rights, is finally being publicly recognized by this historic conference. With major funding from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH), this conference recognizes importance of the Canales investigation as a significant turning point for civil rights in modern U.S. history.

We hope that by reflecting upon this violent past that we can shift the public conversation today about the way in which we study state violence, civil rights, and community resilience. We thank all of our sponsors and we thank you for attending.

CONFERENCE CO-ORGANIZERS



John Morán González
University of Texas



Sonia Hernández
Texas A&M University

S P E A K E R S



Phillis Barragán-Goetz
Assistant Professor
Texas A&M University
San Antonio



Carlos Blanton
Professor
Texas A&M University



Walter Buenger
Professor
University of Texas



Christopher Carmona
Assistant Professor
University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

S P E A K E R S



William Carrigan
Professor
Rowan University



Trinidad Gonzales
Professor
South Texas College
McAllen



Gabriela González
Associate Professor
University of Texas
San Antonio



Andrew Graybill
Professor
Southern Methodist University

S P E A K E R S



Kathrine Hite
Professor
Vassar College
Poughkeepsie, New York



Jonathan Inda
Professor
University of Illinois

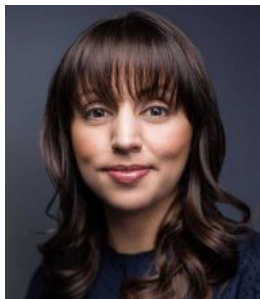


Benjamin Johnson
Associate Professor
Loyola University
Chicago



Beth Lew-Williams
Assistant Professor
Princeton University

S P E A K E R S



Monica Muñoz Martinez
Assistant Professor
Brown University



Cynthia Orozco
Professor
New Mexico University
Ruidoso



Richard Ribb
Historian, Lead Achievement Consultant
Academic Answers



James Sandos
Professor
University of Redlands

S P E A K E R S



Gema Santamaría
Assistant Professor
Loyola University
Chicago



Kidada Williams
Associate Professor
Wayne State University



Kirby Warnock
Independent Filmmaker
Baylor University

DAY 1: THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

S C H E D U L E

8:00 - 8:30 Coffee and Breakfast

8:30 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Master of Ceremonies: Kate Betz, Deputy Director of Interpretation, Bullock Texas State History Museum

Margaret Koch, Museum Director, of the Bullock Texas State History Museum

Dr. John Morán González (University of Texas,Austin)
& Dr. Sonia Hernández (Texas A&M University, College Station), Conference Co-Organizers

Carlos González Gutiérrez, Consul General of Mexico

9:00 - 9:15 **Opening Act of Remembrance**

"Readings from the 1919 Canales Hearings" by Donna Independent School District High School Students;
moderated by Mr. Juan Carmona

9:25 - 10:15 **Opening Plenary**

"The Legacies of Violence: The Mexican American Community and the 1919 Canales Investigation of the Texas Rangers"

Dr. Trinidad Gonzales, South Texas College; Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Loyola University Chicago; Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez, Brown University

Moderator: Dr. C.J. Alvarez, University of Texas at Austin

10:15 - 10:30 **Break**

10:30 - 11:30 **Panel 1: *Mexican Americans, Race Relations, and José Tomás "J.T." Canales***

"Race Relations in Texas during the Early 20th Century"
Dr. Walter Buenger, University of Texas at Austin

"J.T. Canales, LULAC Founder and Civil Rights Activist, 1920-1976"

Dr. Cynthia Orozco, Eastern New Mexico University

Moderator: Dr. Emilio Zamora, University of Texas at Austin

11:30 - 1:00 **Lunch Break (On your own)**

Moderators commentary and audience questions
will take part in the last 15 minutes of each panel.

DAY 1: THURSDAY, JANUARY 31, 2019

S C H E D U L E

1:15 - 2:15 **Panel 2: *Violence, the 1910 Mexican Revolution, & the Canales Hearings***

"José Tomás Canales and the Paradox of Power"

Dr. Richard Ribb, Lead Achievement Consultant, Academic Answers

"Recovering" the 1919 Canales Investigation into the Texas Ranger Force in 1975 & its Consequences"

Dr. James Sandos, University of Redlands

Moderator: Dr. Paul Hart, Texas State University San Marcos

2:15 - 2:30 **Break**

2:30 - 3:30 **Panel 3: *State Making & Violence in the Borderlands and Beyond***

"Lynching and Violence in Mexico"

Dr. Gema Santamaria, Loyola University Chicago

"Reckoning with the Past Toward the Here and Now"

Dr. Katherine Hite, Vassar College

Moderator: Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Loyola University Chicago

3:30 - 3:45 **Break**

3:45 - 4:45 **Panel 4: *Testimonials, Public History, and Activism***

"Hermanos En La Lucha (Siblings in the Struggle): The Human Rights Journalism of Jovita and Eduardo Idar"

Dr. Gabriela González, University of Texas at San Antonio

"A Parallel Universe"

Mr. Kirby Warnock, Independent Filmmaker

Moderator: Dr. Sarah Zenaida Gould, Director of the El Museo del Westside (San Antonio)

4:45 - 5:00 **Break**

5:00 - 6:00 **Panel 5: *"The Weight of History: Family Preservation and Commemoration Efforts in Texas"***

Family Descendants Speaking:

Norma Longoria Rodriguez,

Melba Coody,

Arlinda Valencia, and

Elsie Albarado

Mr. Daniel Blue Tyx, Investigative Journalist

Moderator: Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez, Brown University

DAY 2: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

S C H E D U L E

8:00 - 8:30 Coffee and Breakfast

8:30 - 9:30 **Panel 6: *Mob Violence, State Violence and/In Defending the Frontier***

"Anglos, Mexicans, and Rangers in Texas, 1850-1900"

Dr. Andrew Graybill, Southern Methodist University

"The La Hora de Sangre in Comparative Perspective"

Dr. William Carrigan, Rowan University

Moderator: Dr. Omar Valerio-Jiménez, University of Texas at San Antonio

9:30 - 9:45 **Break**

9:45 - 10:45 **Panel 7: *Literary Production as Cultural Resistance, Legacies of Violence & Memory***

"Resilience in a Time of Terror: Writing El Rinche and the Telling of the Unrecorded History of La Matanza, 1910-1920"

Dr. Christopher Carmona, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

"The Violence of Chinese Exclusion"

Dr. Beth Lew-Williams, Princeton University

Moderator: Dr. George Díaz, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

10:45 - 11:00 **Break**

11:00 - 12:00 **Panel 8: *Gender, Violence, and Legacies of Institutional Violence***

"The Killing of Anastasio Hernández Rojas"

Dr. Jonathan Xavier Inda, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

"African American Lynching and Trauma"

Dr. Kidada Williams, Wayne State University

Moderator: Dr. Nancy Plankey-Videla, Texas A&M University, College Station

12:00 - 1:30 **Lunch Break (On your own)**

Moderators commentary and audience questions will take part in the last 15 minutes of each panel.

DAY 2: FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2019

S C H E D U L E

1:45 - 2:45 Panel 9: *Legacies of Mexican American Resistance through Cultural Production and Education*

"The World of Education Among Mexican Immigrants and Mexican Americans in J. T. Canales's South Texas"
Dr. Carlos Blanton, Texas A&M University, College Station,
and Dr. Phillis Barragan-Goetz, Texas A&M University, San Antonio

Moderator: Dr. Angela Valenzuela, University of Texas, Austin

2:45 - 3:00 Break

3:00 - 3:45 Dramatic Reading: *Testimonials from the Canales Investigation*

As performed by Donna High School Students & Mr. Juan Carmona

3:45 - 4:00 Closing Remarks

Dr. John Morán González (University of Texas, Austin)
& Dr. Sonia Hernández (Texas A&M University, College Station),
Conference Co-Organizers

Refusing to Forget Members

Dr. Trinidad Gonzales, South Texas College

Dr. Benjamin Johnson, Loyola University Chicago

Dr. Monica Muñoz Martínez, Brown University

Texas State Representative Terry Canales

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