

Dara E. Goldman is Associate Professor of Spanish at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Her main areas of specialization are Caribbean and Latin American literatures and cultures, gender and sexualities studies, and cultural studies. She is the author of *Out of Bounds: Islands and the Demarcation of Identity in the Hispanic Caribbean* (2008), which examines how discourses of identity evolved as the relationship between island and nation shifted over the course of the 20th century. Her current book project examines how 21st-century Cuban literatures and cultures rework classic tropes of Cuban national identity and, in doing so, grapple with a period of significant change and uncertainty. The research for this book has evolved through numerous trips to Cuba and extensive collaborations with colleagues and institutions in Havana. She is also the author of numerous articles about Caribbean self-representation in literature, films, music, and in cyberspace that have been published in journals such as *Revista iberoamericana*, *Hispanic Review*, *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies*, *Latino Studies*, *Revista Hispánica Moderna* and *SAQ*. Her teaching encompasses a broad range of courses on Latin American and the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and she has directed or co-directed numerous dissertations on Latinx, Latin American, and Caribbean literatures and cultures.

Her work with LASA started when she first began attending the conferences (then held every 18 months) in graduate school. Professor Goldman has regularly attended and presented at LASA conferences ever since and has been a member of several of the sections (Cuba, Gender and Feminist Studies, Puerto Rico, Latino Studies, Sexualities Studies, and Venezuelan Studies). She has been particularly active in the Sexualities Studies section—serving as secretary-treasurer, co-chair, pre-conference chair, and on the Carlos Monsiváis and Sylvia Molloy prize committees. Dr. Goldman also served on the selection committee for the best book in Latinx Studies last year, which she describes as a challenging and rewarding opportunity to collaborate with some new colleagues and discover some exciting new work by scholars in the field.

Goldman has also taken on administrative and leadership roles in Latin American Studies, both with and outside of LASA. She became a life member of LASA a number of years ago and was on the organizing committee for the 50th anniversary celebration in New York City. She served as director of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Illinois for 5 years and has performed advocacy work for Title VI, FLAS, and Fulbright Hays funding in Washington, D.C. She brokered several new and renewed institutional partnerships with Latin American universities and was part of the team that forged the partnerships which—in turn—led to the creation of the Lemann Center for Brazilian Studies.

Professor Goldman is also very involved in other major professional associations in her field. In the case of the Modern Language Association in particular, she has supported engagement with Latin America and Latin American Studies, through her involvement in the Puerto Rican Discussion Section, the Cuban and Cuban American Diasporic Forum, and the MLA Delegate Assembly. In the wake of Hurricanes Irma and Maria, she advocated for the organization to actively support scholars affected by the storms and to leverage the resources of the association to promote recovery efforts and maintain commitments to academic institutions whose longevity was threatened by the conditions of the aftermath.

At the University of Illinois, Professor Goldman is affiliate faculty in several departments (Comparative and World Literature, Gender and Women's Studies, Global Studies, Jewish Culture & Society, Latin American and Caribbean Studies, Latina/o Studies, Unit for Criticism and Interpretative Theory, Women and Gender in a Global Perspective) in addition to her main appointment in Spanish and Portuguese. She

currently directs the Program in Jewish Culture and Society, as well as having directed the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and has led several shorter-term research initiatives and task forces.