By May 2011, two digital murals reflecting the Latino experience at Millersville University and in Lancaster city had been installed. Students from Dr. Christine Filippone’s Contemporary Art class and Dr. Kimberly Mahaffy’s Latina/o Studies Senior Seminar and African American and Latino Educational Experiences class interviewed local Latina/o community members and obtained imagery for the murals. Artist in residence, Michelle Angela Ortíz, met weekly with the students to enhance their understanding of the community arts project and develop the design.

The work can be seen at the SMC Atrium on campus and the Clipper Stadium in Lancaster city (East Clay and North Prince Street).

The SMC mural reflects Latino students’ experiences at Millersville University while the mural at Clipper Stadium illustrates Lancaster Latino community members’ experiences.

The printing of the Clipper Stadium mural was supported in full by Lamar Advertising, York/Lancaster, PA, and the printing of the SMC mural was supported in full by Sign-a-Rama on Columbia Avenue, Lancaster.

Three generations of Dominican women: Abigail Ayala-Caballero (L) stands with her mother who is the infant in the mural image.
17th U.S. Surgeon General Visits MU

Dr. Richard Carmona’s public lecture on March 31, 2011 appealed to a variety of attendees. A son of Puerto Rican immigrants, Dr. Carmona’s life story reaffirmed the importance of hard work and dedication. Entitled, “Only in America: From High School Drop-out to Surgeon General,” Dr. Carmona reminded listeners that perseverance is key. He also credited the U.S. Army with changing his life. His discussion of health care reform provided insights into endemic structural problems. The following day, Dr. Carmona visited McCaskey East High School in Lancaster, PA to address the health careers small learning community. Approximately 200 students filled the auditorium to hear his words of encouragement and to ask questions. Sponsors of the lecture were: Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, The Commission on Cultural Diversity and Inclusion, the Society on Latino Affairs, The School of Science and Mathematics, The University Theme Committee, The Development Office, The Office for Social Equity and Diversity, Rosario Caminero Latino Celebration Committee and Lancaster General Health.

Fall 2011 Latino Cultural Celebration Events

9/15  7:00 pm
McComsey Hall
“Which Way Home” film screening and discussion in Myers Auditorium.

9/17  7:00 pm
Millersville University Quad
Plena Libre will perform.

9/19  7:30 pm
Pucillo Gymnasium
Author Sonia Nazario discusses immigration issues.

10/18  1:00-5:00 pm
*SMC - Multi-Purpose Room
Latino Food & Music Festival

10/14  3:00 pm
MU’s downtown campus
Eduardo Chama gives a master class to vocal performance students.

10/11  7:00-9:00 pm
*SMC - Multi-Purpose Room
Café Latino Poetry Reading and Music

11/17  7:00 pm
*SMC - Multi-Purpose Room
Bobby González’s public lecture “We Are Not Spanish.”

11/19  7:30 pm
MU’s downtown campus
Grupo Fuego Latin Dance performance

Check the cultural events calendar on MU’s homepage for more information.

*SMC = Student Memorial Center
Latina/o Studies Minors Speak

Within the next month, we will have an updated brochure that describes our program.

Graduates were asked to explain why they chose the minor. Two of their responses are reproduced:

“I decided to minor in Latina/o Studies because I wanted to learn more about the culture of my country and the rest of the other countries in Latino America. I did not just want to say that I am a proud Latino but I wanted to say that I am a knowledgeable Latino and know my culture, proud of my roots and my people.” Luis Benites, English major

“One thing that you learn as part of your Spanish Education coursework is that language and culture are linked— one does not exist without the other. It is my goal to have the students in my classroom understand that Spanish is not just the memorization of nouns and verbs. Spanish is at the heart of a culture whose history and presence in the world is intricate and beautiful. The Latina/o studies minor provides the background to make this essential part of your teaching possible.” Cortney Shearer Herman, Spanish Education major

Curriculum Changes to Latina/o Studies Minor

Beginning with the Fall 2011 semester, Latina/o Studies minors will have new capstone options to complete their 18 credit degree requirements.

Introduction to Latina/o Studies will still provide the grounding for the curriculum. As their capstone experience, students choose to complete senior seminar, a three credit internship, or an independent study.

Other changes include a greater variety of courses to fulfill the remaining 12 credits. These changes were initiated at the recommendation of our external reviewer. They will enhance the marketability of our minors.

For a complete listing of the courses available, speak with the Director of Latina/o Studies or visit the Academic Advisement website and click on the curriculum sheet for Latina/o Studies.

Pennsylvania’s Latino Population Grows Substantially

The 2010 U.S. Census data reveal that every county in Pennsylvania except one experienced a growth in its Latino population from 2000 to 2010.

The five counties that experienced the greatest percent increase in the Latino population were: Forest (597%), Luzerne (479%), Clearfield (305%), Lackawanna (261%), and Franklin (184%).

Numerically, the counties with the largest Latino populations are still Philadelphia (187,611), Berks (67,355), Lehigh (65,615), and Lancaster (44,930).

Cameron county lost 44% of its Latino population.

The shift in Pennsylvania’s demographics affirms the relevance the Latina/o Studies minor as a complement to any undergraduate major. Moreover, Millersville is the only PASSHE institution with a minor in Latina/o Studies.

The U.S. Census data can be found at http://pewhispanic.org/data/census2010/
The purpose of the Latina/o Studies Minor is to teach undergraduate students about Latina/o experiences, cultures, and contributions to the United States.

The 18 credit minor was approved in 2003 and offers courses from a variety of disciplines. Spanish fluency is not required.

We’re on the Web!
http://www.millersville.edu/latinostudies

Our largest cohort to date graduated on May 7, 2011!

The following students received baccalaureate degrees.

**Sandra Aguilera**  
(Communications/Theatre)

**Briana Bolin**  
(International Studies)

**Margret Bowman**  
(Anthropology)

**Patricia Brito**  
(Economics)

**Shaina Collazo**  
(Social Work)

**Dana Beth Cornett**  
(Communications/Theatre)

**Cristina Castillo-Herrera**  
(Business Administration)

**Lizbeth Quintana**  
(Communications/Theatre)

**Katherine Cruz-Rodríguez**  
(Secondary Education-Spanish)

**Neidin López**  
(Secondary Education-Spanish)

**Nilmarie Mayol**  
(Sociology)