

**Charles Phelps Taft Research Center**  
**at the University of Cincinnati**  
**Graduate Summer Fellowship Award**

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Each section (I-III) should be placed at the start of a new page. All required materials must be included in a single document, uploaded to the electronic submissions system, no later than 5PM on the published day of the deadline. Departmental review is required for this program, as well as a letter of support. Applicants should submit their application with enough time to receive review prior to the close of the deadline. Taft does not accept an obligation to review applications that have not received intradepartmental review by the close of the deadline.

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## I. General Information

- a. Name: Juan C Galeano Sánchez
- b. M#: 0xxxxxxx
- c. Department: Romance Languages and Literatures
- d. Project title: **An Intersectional Approach to Colombia's *La Violencia* Literature: The Works of Soraya Juncal, Flor Romero, Fanny Buitrago, and Albalucía Ángel.**
- e. Project Location: Cincinnati, OH.
- f. Probable Results of a Grant (such as publications, working papers, and presentations). First, publishing at least one article on a peer-reviewed journal for Hispanic/Latin American literature inside the U.S; and eventually, publishing a second article on a peer-reviewed, internationally indexed, journal in Latin America. I will also attend two conferences in Spring-Summer 2016, each with different papers derived from this project.
- g. Have you already or will you in the future apply for other grants for this travel, including departmental support? I have applied to University Research Council Award, and I am waiting for their response; I will also be applying to the Taft Graduate Enhancement Award, before its deadline, if I do not get either URC's Award or this Fellowship.

## II. Taft Grant History

**Project Title:** *Antioquia, a Persona Rather Than a Vivid Social Space in the Works of Fernando Vallejo*. Grant Type: Taft Graduate Enhancement Award. Grant Date: 06-2014/08-2014. Amount of Award: \$2,000. Project Development: Two articles currently under review by reputable journals. I was also accepted to read a paper derived from this project in the SLLC Graduate Student Conference, University of Maryland, March 27 - 29; and I am waiting for a response from CUNY's and Asociación de Colombianistas' upcoming conferences.

### III. Project Narrative: An Intersectional Approach to Colombia's *La Violencia* Literature: The Works of Soraya Juncal, Flor Romero, Fanny Buitrago, and Albalucía Ángel

#### Statement of Purpose

Latin American Literature is no stranger to the concept of *violence* in narrative. From the romantic novels of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century to the *Narco-novelas* of the 21<sup>st</sup>, with the essential phase of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century *Bananera Novel*, *violence* is a keystone of the narrative written in the Spanish-speaking regions of the Americas. Given the undeniable tradition of the topic, one might think that research in this field is completely jaded. However, today, when Colombian civil war is, apparently, coming to an end and when the whole country is endeavoring into rescue the memories lost from its culture, to recapture the narratives from its origins is imperative.

The genesis of the conflict, or at least of its current dynamic, is historically located in the death of Jorge Eliécer Gaitán, a liberal social-democrat leader, who embodied the paradigm of "the people's man", and was running with advantage in the presidential campaign of 1948. On April the 9<sup>th</sup>, the same year, he was killed near Bogota's Plaza de Bolívar, starting the biggest riot ever witnessed by the Colombian capital; a riot that, instead of decreasing as the years went by, became the starting point of a period known as *La Violencia* where liberals and conservatives started killing each other, just because the other praised either red or blue (their colors). *La Violencia* was politically settled in 1958, but its social consequences would remain among many Colombians who decided to start a guerrilla's war against the old oligarchy.

Many Colombian novelists from late 20<sup>th</sup> Century gave their personal perspectives of this conjuncture; they became the voices of *Literatura de la Violencia*, an all male, 'white', urbanite, and upper-middle class, group who spoke about Colombia's struggles with the polarization of its politics. A historical study of the specific causes to exclude women from this group is in order; the focus of this particular exploration is to regain a space in academia for a group of female authors who talked about *La Violencia* in their works. To achieve this purpose, I analyze the novels: *Jacinta and the Violence* (1967), by Soraya Juncal; *Fox's Tail* (1970), by Fanny Buitrago; *Crackling Tropic* (1972), by Flor Romero; and *The Red Bird Sitting on the Green Lemon* (1975), by Albalucía Ángel. These novels are devoted to portray the gradual decay of the country from the

perspective of a subordinate in a patriarchal society: the daughter, the wife/partner, and the countryside dweller as well as their condition of victims, witnesses, or accomplices in the facts of violence that surrounded them.

The project I am presenting here constitutes a keystone to my dissertation: it does not only provide a big portion of the socio-historical context where I will be locating the narratives I am studying; it also defines the hierarchy of 'intersectional values' (race/class/sex-gender/nationality) in the construction of a fictional text, with *La Violencia* as background, by Colombian women, which is what ultimately comprises my whole perception of the topic. Likewise, the expected outcomes of this project (see below) will grant significant feedback in the process of refining the results of my research.

### **The Role of the Proposed Project in my Degree Program**

The topics I will deal with in the development of this project are already included in the dissertation prospectus I have been working on with Professor Patricia Valladares-Ruiz as my advisor. Therefore, its results will end up somehow making part of the whole research process; and even if they do not end up as an actual section of the thesis, they will certainly contribute to a more efficient debug of the raw material I will have to consider in it. With this advantage, it will be so much easier to start working directly on a final product rather than just improving the prospectus, in order to have a solid base to start with. Needless to say, this will enhance my possibilities of graduating by end of my fourth year at UC, as well as the opportunities to find a job for the next school year.

### **Current Status and Expected Outcomes of the Project**

With the purpose of setting a historic framework of the events of *La Violencia*, I have selected the works: *Chronicle of Four Decades of Politics in Colombia* (Daniel Pécaut 2006), *Between Legitimacy and Violence: A History of Colombia, 1875-2002* (Marco Palacios 2006), and *The Making of Modern Colombia: A Nation in Spite of Itself* (David Bushnell 1993). Likewise, an outline for the concept of violence as a literary object must be provided in order to establish linkages between the works in analysis and their context of production. For this particular matter I have consulted: *Violence and the Sacred* (René Girard 2005), *Masculine Domination* (Pierre Bourdieu 2002), and *Trauma: A Social Theory* (Alexander 2012). It is necessary to set a background for the literary tradition, *Literatura*

*de la Violencia*, where these works are circumscribed, thus the following sources have been subjected to analysis: *Violence and Literature from Colombia* (Tittler 1989), *Violence and Marginality in Hispanic-American Literature* (Osorio 2005), and *Literature and Culture. Colombian Narrative From the 20<sup>th</sup> Century* (Jaramillo et al. 2000). Finally, in order to ascertain a common ground between the complexities of the fictionalized stories, this research is methodologically guided by intersectional studies, with special focus on: *Emergent Writing Methodologies in Feminist Studies* (Livholts, ed. 2013), *Gender in Modernism: New Geographies, Complex Intersections* (Scott, ed. 2007), and *Gender, Sexuality, and Power in Latin America since Independence* (French, Bliss eds. 2006).

Expected outcomes: publishing at least one article on a peer-reviewed journal for Hispanic/Latin American literature inside the U.S; then, publishing a second article on a peer-reviewed, internationally indexed, journal in Latin America; finally, I will attend two conferences in Spring-Summer 2016, each with different papers from this project.

### **Specific Anticipated Impacts on One's Intellectual Development**

From the academic perspective, *La Violencia* Literature has had several studies in Colombia as well as in the U.S. and Europe; nevertheless the names that are being considered here, as well as the linkages between text and context, and the Intersectional approach that will be used as theoretical support of the whole research will provide cutting-edge perspectives not only on studies about Colombia or its (Female) Literature, but also about society, politics and *violence* in general. The biggest difference of this research with previous studies about *La Violencia* Literature is its encompassing of the historical elements that narratives display, and their attribute of cultural products, with the goal of setting them as living memories in Colombia's post-conflict.

### **Timeline**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Collecting information from the texts	May 25 <sup>th</sup> - June 12 <sup>th</sup>
Processing input from	June 13 <sup>th</sup> - June 26 <sup>th</sup>
Compilation of results	June 27 <sup>th</sup> - July 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Development of a draft	July 4 <sup>th</sup> - July 11 <sup>th</sup>
Advisor reading	July 12 <sup>th</sup> - July 19 <sup>th</sup>
Applying corrections	July 20 <sup>th</sup> - July 27 <sup>th</sup>
Final draft delivered	July 30 <sup>th</sup>

## Annex 1: Vita

### Academic and Research Achievements:

#### Publications:

##### Peer Reviewed Publications:

- (2011). El género ensayístico: autofiguración y autorrepresentación de la niñez en "Diario" de Hernando Téllez. *Estudios De Literatura Colombiana*(29), 99.
- (2011). Repensando a "María": esclavismo, antisemitismo y machismo en la obra de Jorge Isaacs. *Ratio Juris*, 6(13), 17.
- (2012). Identidad femenina, cultural y nacional en "Caramelo" de Sandra Cisneros. *Revista De Educacion Y Pensamiento*(19), 184.
- (2012). Una reflexión en torno a "Oración por la paz" de Jorge Eliécer Gaitán. *Conflicto Y Sociedad*(1), 6.
- (2015). "El ensayo de interpretación nacional: su problemática y el caso de *Nosotros* de Luis López de Mesa. *Catedral Tomada* 2 (3), 183.

##### Book Chapters:

- in collaboration with Carlos Andres Salazar Martinez (2011). "La infancia vista desde la autofiguración y la autorrepresentación en "Diario" de Hernando Téllez". *Memorias, XVII Congreso de la Asociación de Colombianistas, Narrar Colombia, Colombia Narrada*. Bucaramanga: Universidad Industrial de Santander, División de Publicaciones.
- (2014). "La cita del Sheraton", epítome de la puesta en abismo, la ecfrosis y la perversión en Mario Vargas Llosa. Efrén Giraldo, Liliana López (Eds.), *Dos Tintas*. Medellín: Fondo Editorial Universidad Eafit.
- in collaboration with Bibiana Bías and Ana María Cano (2015). (Under Review). Análisis Hermenéutico de *Clemencia*, de Ignacio Manuel Altamirano. In Bibiana Díaz (Eds.), *Taller de Escritores ITM* Fondo Editorial ITM.



### **Conference Papers and Presentations:**

*'La Princesa', paradoja feminista en 'Putas asesinas' de Roberto Bolaño. Rereadings: intellectual, literary and cultural exchange in Luso- Hispanic world, Tulane University, New Orleans, 2014.*

*The Construction of the Femme Fatale Figure in Contemporary Latin American Literature."* 34th Cincinnati Conference on Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Cincinnati: 2014.

*Entre la brujería y la mística: la locura como representación social del placer femenino en 'La Celestina' y 'La mujer doble'.* XL Congreso Instituto Iberoamericano de Literatura Iberoamericana: La literatura Iberoamericana entre dos orillas, México D.F: 2014.

*La familia Minetti y la familia Barletta: ficción y difamación en "Memorias de una dama" de Santiago Roncagliolo,* I Seminario Internacional de Narrativas, Medellín: 2013.

*Homosexualidad, disidencia y persecución, claves de lectura en "Antes que anochezca" de Reinaldo Arenas,* III Congreso Internacional de Literatura Latinoamericana Mesa de Literatura y Género, Bogotá: 2012.

*El pensamiento global desde la identidad regional. "Nosotros" de Luis López de Mesa.* X Jornadas Andinas de Literatura Latinoamericanas, Cali: 2012.

*El matrimonio homosexual: ¿avance jurisprudencial o utopía social?.* Catedra Abierta Versión XX, Bello: 2010.

*La disforia de género: una mirada desde el Derecho Comparado.* Cátedra Abierta Versión XIX, Bello: 2009.

### **Teaching Experience:**

Spanish 3042 – 20<sup>th</sup> Century Latin American Literature - A Survey (Teaching Assistant), University of Cincinnati, 2015

Spanish 1001 (Instructor), University of Cincinnati, 2013-2015

Spanish 1001-Online (Instructor), University of Cincinnati, 2014-2015

Spanish 1002 (Instructor), University of Cincinnati, 2014

“Prácticas Textuales” (Adjunct Teacher), Universidad Eafit, Colombia, 2012-2013

“Edición Textual” (Adjunct Teacher), Universidad Eafit, Colombia, 2012

### **Research Experience:**

*Antioquia, a Persona Rather Than a Vivid Social Space in the Works of Fernando Vallejo.* University of Cincinnati, 2014. Researcher. This research was funded by Taft and its results, with the corresponding inform, were delivered on time to the Director of Graduate Studies of the Romance Languages and Literatures Department. This research approached five narrative texts by Colombian author Fernando Vallejo, using Humanistic Geography and Self-Fiction as framework to demonstrate that the author characterizes territory as an actual person within his narrative. Publications from this project are currently in peer-reviewing.

*Imágenes de la nacionalidad y la continentalidad. La representación del ser nacional y continental en el ensayo literario colombiano de los siglos XIX y XX,* Universidad Eafit, Colombia, 2012. Adjunct Researcher. Principal Researcher: Efrén Giraldo. This research was devoted to the analysis of national and continental identity, as portrayed by the most representative Colombian essayists.

*La autofiguración en la obra ensayística de Fernando González y Hernando Téllez,* Universidad Eafit, Colombia, 2011. Research Assistant. Principal Researcher: Efrén Giraldo. The emphasis for this research was put on the discursive strategies applied by Colombian essayists Fernando González and Hernando Téllez in their works in order to create an *alter ego*, a persona, that can talk on its own, without compromising the beliefs of the authors.

### **Service to the Profession:**

(2012) Peer reviewer, *Estudios de literatura colombiana.*

(2012) Peer reviewer, *Holística Jurídica*

(2013) Editorial Assistant, *Cincinnati Romance Review*

(2014) Internal Reader, *Cincinnati Romance Review*

(2014-2015) Graduate Students' Representative to the Faculty, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures.