

In This Issue

Long before the advent of digital film production, companies used the term “in the can” to signal the completion of a project and its readiness for distribution. Volume 18 of the *Arizona Journal of Hispanic Cultural Studies* is now “in the can.” It signals the latest milestone in a long and exciting journey in which this publication has played a significant role in the production of scholarly knowledge and has helped redefine the nature of scholarship Hispanists produce. Along the way, the journal has helped transform Hispanic studies conceptually and, through our series of pedagogical perspectives, the latest of which we publish in this issue, the undergraduate and graduate curricula in our neighborhood of the humanities and humanistic social sciences. We are particularly happy to have launched the publishing trajectories of many younger scholars in Hispanic Cultural Studies and aided in the transformative scholarly trajectories of older scholars.

Now attentive readers may say, this sounds like the first verse of a “swan song” and are waiting for the next sentence when the other shoe drops and I announce the journal is stopping production. Well, nothing could be further from the truth. This column offers me another opportunity to announce another phase in the exciting process of overseeing a publication that we believe has made a difference in our field.

First and foremost, there are a number of changes that are taking place on the editorial side. Agustín Cuadrado, who was the Assistant Editor while completing his PhD at Arizona, returns now to take the reins as Managing Editor. Moreover, the journal’s other former managing editors, Susan Larson and Benjamin Fraser, have rejoined us as Senior Editors, aiding Agustín and myself envision the strategic directions the journal will take over the next five years. I will lean heavily on their expertise, their loyalty, and their experience over the next few years. Daniel Calleros, who has served a substantial term as Assistant Editor, is passing that important job on to Joaquín Pérez Blanes and María Montenegro. They will share those responsibilities next year. Now when you email or call the journal it will most likely be María or Joaquín who will be your first contact and will direct your inquiries to either Agustín (most likely) or myself. I thank Daniel for his diligence and his hard work that has helped lighten the load for the managing editor and for me. He will continue to be active with the journal in another capacity at the same time I welcome Joaquín and María to the staff.

In the next few months we hope to have a much more active digital footprint. This should enable us to interact and transform how we conduct business along the lines that Ben and Christine Henseler point out in their manifesto that we publish here in our Interview section.

The rest... is the same as always, a commitment to push the envelope and publish special sections on topics at the boundaries. The collection of essays “Asia in the Hispanic World:

The Other Orientalism,” edited by Yeon-Soo Kim and Kathleen E. Davis, does just that in an admirable way. The seven other rigorously peer reviewed essays that we publish in Volume 18 are equally impressive for the variety of materials drawn from cultural manifestations throughout the Hispanic world and the variety of approaches to cultural studies that they use as frames. We also continue to publish interviews that we think will be of interest to our readers. What is more, with Volume 19 we will add a new publication type to our submissions, Short-form articles. These should be 2,500-4,000 words and might undertake a variety of types of analytical positions including critically oriented review articles of a series of important new books in the field, discussions of theoretical debates or the uses of new technologies and a myriad of other innovative shorter contributions to our dialogues about Hispanic Cultural Studies.

As always, if you have ideas or suggestions, contact Agustín or me and we will be happy to discuss them with you. If we are slow to respond at times, please remember all of us at the journal have day jobs, but we will try to get to your messages as soon as possible. If we have been remiss, I apologize, because most likely it has been a lapse on my part. We thank all of you, our readers, for your loyal support and hope you will share the next long phase of this journal’s development and evolution with us.

Malcolm Alan Compitello
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