

FACULTY DEVELOPMENT ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Eleanor Lane Endowment Fund

Award Date: Fall 2017

Proposal Title: Spain, Latin America, and the Trans-Atlantic Cold War.

Principal Investigator: Andrea Davis

College of Liberal Arts and Communication

Department of History

ABSTRACT

Spain, Latin America, and the Trans-Atlantic Cold War is a series of panels (AHA, 2017; AHA, 2018; LASA, 2018), which will serve as the foundation for a future edited volume that I will co-edit. The panels argue that the trans-Atlantic relationship between Spain and Latin America not only persisted far beyond the nineteenth century wars of independence, but strengthened during the Cold War. They do so by examining the crossing of peoples, ideas, conflicts and social movements, thus addressing a critically-neglected field of study. At the Latin American Studies Conference we will present three linked panels. I will chair one panel on Trans-Atlantic Authoritarianism and Culture and present a paper in second panel on Third Way Politics. My paper, "Latin America on their Minds: Progressive Politics and the Trans-Atlantic Imaginary in Spain, 1968-1986," argues that Latin America served as an important reference point for leftwing activists in Spain during the late Cold War as they negotiated their country's transition from dictatorship to democracy at the local level. Specifically, it contends that relations with activists in Latin America shaped local perceptions of US democracy promotion in Spain, fueling the sustained campaign against membership in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in favor of a neutral Third Way.