

Symposium: Venezuelan Elections

Symposium & Luncheon

RSVP REQUIRED

when: December 3rd, 2015 at 12:30PM

where: 100A Jones Hall, Greenleaf Conference Room

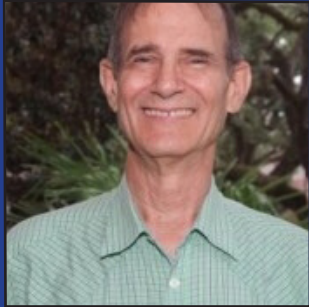
Please join us for a symposium with three Venezuela scholars as they discuss the upcoming legislative elections in Venezuela. Lunch will be served.

On December 6, Venezuelans will vote in an election that will mark a turning point, no matter what its outcome. Polls suggest that the opposition could take the National Assembly, marking the first time in fifteen years that the socialist party founded by late-President Hugo Chavez has lost its legislative majority. But if the government does better than expected, keeping control of the legislature, it will likely generate accusations of fraud and protests in the streets. The situation has been complicated further by the Venezuelan government's refusal to accept robust international observation. This symposium features three Venezuela scholars who will discuss current polling, electoral observations, and likely future scenarios.

Steve Ellner is a distinguished visiting professor and research fellow at CIPR. Since 1977, he has taught economic history and political science at the Universidad de Oriente in Venezuela. He has also taught at the Universidad Central de Venezuela and has been a visiting professor at Georgetown University (2004), Duke University (2005), Universidad de los Andes (Venezuela, 2008), Universidad de Buenos Aires (2010) and the Australian National University (2013). He has published numerous books on politics in Venezuela, is a regular contributor to NACLA: Report on the Americas, and has published on the op-ed page of the New York Times and the Los Angeles Times as well as the Nation.

Francisco J. Monaldi, is a leading scholar on the politics and economics of the oil industry and oil wealth management in Latin America and developing countries. He is currently the fellow in Latin American energy policy at the Center for Energy Studies, the Mexico Center and the Latin America Initiative at the Baker Institute and an adjunct professor of political economy of oil at Rice University. Monaldi is also the founding director and a professor at the Center for Energy and the Environment at IESA in Venezuela. He has consulted with numerous international institutions, governments and companies, including The World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Inter-American Development Bank, CAF Development Bank of Latin America, among many others.

David Smilde is the Charles A. and Leo M. Favrot Professor of Human Relations at Tulane University and Senior Fellow at the Washington Office on Latin America. He is Editor-in-Chief of the journal Qualitative Sociology and curates the blog Venezuelan Politics and Human Rights. He was Chair of the Venezuelan Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association from 2010-12. He is author or editor of four books, and is co-editor of the 2014 special issue of Latin American Research Review called "Lived Religion and Lived Citizenship in Latin America's Zones of Crisis." He has written opinion articles in the Washington Post, US New & World Report and has been quoted by the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, The Guardian, Mother Jones and many other outlets.



Dr. Steve Ellner
Universidad de Oriente



Dr. Francisco Monaldi
Rice University



Dr. David Smilde
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