

The Center for International Studies presents

# *A Portrait of the Latino Immigrant Population in the United States at the Turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*

By Dr. Nadia Y. Flores

November 8 (Saturday) 2008, 4:00 pm  
National Hispanic Cultural Center, Wells Fargo Auditorium

According to a recent report from the Pew Hispanic Center, Latinos in the United States in 2005 already accounted for 14% of the total U.S. population and represented the largest minority group in the United States. The same report projected that by the year 2050 the Latino population will triple its size and will make up 29% of the U.S. total population. The lecture will provide the answers to the questions of why the Latino immigrant population has increased during the past two decades, what have been the most recent demographic dynamics of the Latino immigrant population during the past two decades, and will address the issue of whether the Latino immigrant population currently represent a social and economic threat to the rest of the United States.



Born in Mexico City, **Nadia Y. Flores** migrated with her family to the United States at the age of 15. After being a teenage mother and while pregnant with her third child in 1993, she returned to school. She became a U.S. Citizen in 1997. She received her B.A. degree in Social Science from the University of California – Irvine in 1999 and her M.A. degree in Demography from the University of Pennsylvania (UPENN) in 2001. In 2004 she became a visiting student fellow at Princeton University. She received her Ph.D. in Sociology in May 2005 from UPENN.

While at UPENN, she worked as a Research Assistant for the bi-national *The Mexican Migration Project* co-directed by Dr. Douglas Massey (now at Princeton University) and Dr. Jorge Duran (University of Guadalajara). Supported by a pilot grant from the Mellon Foundation and the Mexican Migration Project, Flores did the fieldwork for her dissertation in four communities in the State of Guanajuato, Mexico and in the U.S.

Her doctoral dissertation was entitled: “The Interrelation between Social Context, Social Structure and Social Capital in International Migration Flows from Mexico to the United States: The Case of Guanajuato, Mexico.”

After finishing her doctoral degree in 2005, she joined the Sociology department at Texas A&M University where she is an Assistant Professor of Sociology. While at Texas A&M, Flores has received a planning grant award from the Mexican American and U.S. Latino Research Center (MALRC) to develop a collaborative study comparing the social networks of Mexican immigrant segregated communities versus that of non-immigrant (African American) segregated communities in Houston, Texas. She has also been awarded an International Research Travel Assistance Grant to begin a collaborative research project on international migration in El Salvador. Recently, Flores received a grant from the Mexican American Latino Research Center at Texas A&M to complete a pilot study on international migration from El Salvador to the United States and to other parts of the world. Flores currently teaches both undergraduate and graduate courses on International Migration and Demography at Texas A&M.

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