Call for Abstracts

*Cambio De Colores* (Change of Colors) 2004
Latinos in Missouri: Gateway to a New Community

March 10 - 12, 2004
Millennium Center
University of Missouri-St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

www.cambiodecolores.org

Deadline for submitting abstracts is October 27, 2003
Send abstracts to ValdiviaC@missouri.edu or JeanettaS@missouri.edu

*Cambio de Colores* is an annual conference that brings together researchers, practitioners, and community members to discuss the issues that Missouri faces as a result of demographic changes reflected in the 2000 Census, especially related to the increase of Latino population in most state counties. *Cambio de Colores* is a collaboration among the campuses and Outreach & Extension of the University of Missouri system, other educational institutions in the state, as well as government and private organizations, that brings together those working in Latino/a communities to address critical needs and promote networks, so that the resources and capabilities available can be accessible to Missouri’s communities and organizations.

The conference program builds on the sharing of university and community resources ranging from academic studies to the practice perspective of those working at “ground zero” as well as the everyday experiences of non-professionals. In 2003, the conference program vividly captured the scope of the problems and crucial immigration and cultural issues that communities encounter. It clearly demonstrated that Missouri and other proximate Midwestern states need to acknowledge the opportunities and challenges that are presented by the ongoing arrival of Latinos.

The 2004 conference will strive to provide a space to discuss, learn and identify critical areas of need in developing information and best practices to facilitate the successful transition of Latino newcomers into Missouri's communities.

This is a call for abstracts for research and best practice presentations. There are five themes (explained later in this document) that provide the framework for the deliberations:

1. Change and Well Being: Economic, Social, Cultural, and Political Participation
2. Civil Rights
3. Education
4. Health
5. Youth, Families and Communities

All submitted abstracts should relate broadly to one or more of the themes and specifically to the theme issues outlined below. Those with selected abstracts will submit papers to be published on the Cambio de Colores 2004 website. Some of the submitted papers will also be published in Cambio de Colores 2004 Proceedings. For a sample of the 2003 proceeding go to Cambio de Colores 2003 website at http://www.cambiodecolores.org/. In addition, certain academic articles will be considered for a peer edited journal (see below the call for papers).

**Papers selected for the program will be submitted in electronic format by the 15 of February, 2004.**

The conference will be composed of four different learning tracks. There will be plenary sessions addressing each of the themes. Breakout sessions will provide a forum for sharing research, best practices, and workshops. In addition, on the last day learning stations will provide presenters an opportunity to share their research or practice with small groups in 15 minute presentations. Each learning station will repeat their presentations three times.

**Please indicate whether your abstract is:**

- Research Paper Presentation (15 minutes)
- Best Practice Paper Presentation (15 minutes)
- Workshop (up to 75 minutes)
- Learning Station: (15 minutes)

**Abstract content:**

*Please indicate the following in the abstract*

1. Contact information of the author(s): Name, Address, Phone, Email, Institutional Affiliation
2. The theme the abstract is designed to address more closely
3. Whether the presentation is research or best practice; if research, please specify methodology (qualitative, quantitative, case study, etc.)
4. Summary of the presentation
5. Missouri, St Louis, Midwest focus, other
6. Intention to have the paper considered for publication in a conference proceedings publication or as part of a special volume of a peer-reviewed journal
7. Indicate if you agree to set up a poster display if your paper is not selected for oral presentation
Committees have been formed around each theme, and they will evaluate and select the abstracts based on the theme descriptions provided below.

Please submit abstracts electronically to one of the following people:

Stephen Jeanetta:  JeanettaS@missouri.edu
Corinne Valdivia:  ValdiviaC@missouri.edu

Deadline for submitting abstracts is October 27, 2003. Selection of presentations will be completed by the end of November.

Description of the Conference Themes:

**Change and Well Being: Economic, Social, Cultural, and Political Participation**

Economic, social, cultural, and political factors affect Latinos' inclusion in communities in Missouri. These include economic vulnerability in its relation to poverty; job insecurity and legal status; cultural differences that shape the attitudes of newcomers and receiving communities; institutions in terms of understanding the rules of U.S. society, as well as the concepts of institutions that newcomers bring with them; and leadership and representation. This first theme addresses the demographic, economic and socio-cultural changes that are experienced by Missouri's communities. Also to be discussed are the aspects that make St. Louis unique as compared to other cities in Missouri, Missouri at the state level, and the Midwest region.

Some of the questions to be addressed are the following:

- What are the sources of exclusion (vulnerabilities such as legal documentation, inadequate literacy skills, and inadequate access to economic institutions) or inclusion of Latino newcomers and their impact on economic and civic participation?
- How the new Missourians presence is contributing to the state and the local economies?
- What are the basic economic institutions (rules of the game) limiting economic security for Latinos and their families?
- What is unique about the demographics of Latinos in St Louis?
- What are the issues among Latino groups in St. Louis?
- How are demographic changes being reflected in community decision making, for example, do Latino groups have a political voice reflected in decisions that address their issues?
- How do we assess census undercounts in our communities to get a better reflection of who is there? What are the implications of an undercount on public policy (funding, program development, public priority setting, etc)?
What are the “pull” forces attracting newcomers to St. Louis and other areas in the state?
What are the cultural traits of the newcomers: national and regional origin, language particularities, age and sex, and other anthropological issues?

Civil Rights Call for Abstracts

With the dual goals of raising awareness about the legal challenges that Missouri Latino immigrants face and of finding the best tools to address these challenges, the civil rights panel of the 2004 Cambio de Colores conference invites the submission of abstracts that further these goals. The abstracts may be about topics to be presented at the conference, research to be published as part of the conference proceedings, or resources to be shared with conference participants.

The focus of the 2004 civil rights panel will be on positive legal changes that Latino immigrants and their advocates can and should strive for. In this post 9/11 environment of anti-immigrant sentiments, we believe it is important to move forward with an agenda to improve the legal rights of immigrants, rather than just play defense to preserve the legal status quo. In particular, we are interested in building a legislative agenda based on the priorities established by Latino immigrant communities and supported by current research. Because more than one-third of the legislators in Missouri are in the St. Louis region, we believe that the 2004 civil rights panel will be a valuable opportunity to inform these legislators about the legislative priorities of immigrants living in their communities.

Other topics that the panel would be interested in addressing:

- Acceptance of “martícula consular” cards by banks and other institutions and ways to encourage their acceptance
- Possible state legislation to grant drivers’ licenses to undocumented persons (similar to the legislation recently passed in California)
- Legislation, increased training, and other efforts to address racial profiling by Missouri law enforcement officials (in tandem with a discussion about the growing practice of local law officials to enforce federal immigration laws)
- Legislation and efforts on the community level to insure that immigrant workers are treated fairly

This list of topics is not exhaustive, and we welcome abstracts related to any aspect of immigrants’ civil rights in Missouri.

Education
Education plays an important role in assisting Latinos/as with their transition to life in Missouri. *Cambio de Colores* is interested in exploring education issues that impact Latino/a learners of all ages.

Key research themes include:

- The impact of cultural differences, and competencies in evaluating student performance
- The implication of budget cuts on the education of Latinos, young and adults.
- Addressing the educational needs of students in diverse classrooms (diversity as ethnicity, language proficiencies and cultures) and on student retention
- Identification of the barriers that prevent Latinos from accessing higher education and how to prepare them for post-secondary education
- Differences in the educational program approaches between rural and urban school districts.
- How are Missouri colleges of education preparing their students who will most likely be the mainstream teacher for LEP students?

We are seeking best practices on the following:

- Exemplary schools with Limited English Proficiency Students
- Instructional approaches for young English language learners
- Comprehensive services for children with special needs
- Parent involvement programs
- Successful after school programs
- Higher education recruitment and retention

**Health**

Panels, presentations and workshops will focus on physical and mental health as they relate to rural and urban Latino communities. The 2003 conference examined issues of cultural competency and their impact on the quality of translation at health care facilities, health risks for Latino women, and the impacts of federal and state law on providing health care services to people with limited English proficiency. The 2003 Mental Health panel, separate from the Physical Health panel, looked at working with Latino men and their relationship to domestic violence, establishing shelter services for Latinas, and the legal remedies available to victims of domestic violence.

Key Research themes include:

- Identifying the barriers encountered by Latinos (children, families and the elderly) with regard to access to Health Care
What are strategies to overcome barriers to access?
What are the barriers to and perception of quality of health care by Latino newcomers?
How do issues of cultural competency impact the access and quality of health care?
Policy and legislative issues affecting health care access and quality for Hispanics/Latino newcomers

We are seeking best practices on the following:

How to build effective local, regional, and statewide networks, to address health care of economically vulnerable diverse populations
Effective methods for communicating improving communication between health care practitioners and people of different cultures and languages
How are community-based health care programs effectively addressing the needs of their clients?

Youth, Families, and Communities

From a framework recognizing theory and knowledge related to human behavior in the social environment, this track seeks presentations in the following areas:

Emerging issues related to individuals at various lifecycle stages

Family formation including dating, marriage and childbearing issues
Peer relationships across ethnic and racial categories
Identity formation and its relationship to mental health, risk behaviors, and other issues
Juvenile delinquency, gang involvement

Family Functioning

Intergenerational relationships, especially related to generational variation in assimilation
Distribution of roles in the household as related to individuals and the community, as well as culture
Differences between high and low functioning families
Adaptation of consumption patterns in new communities (child care, food preparation and consumption, purchasing patterns, housing, etc.)

Community Responses to the needs of youth and families and the impact of communities on youth and families
Specific programs that work
Sustainability of programs
The roles of community-based institutions in receiving communities (churches, financial institutions, social service agencies, civic organizations, etc.)
- Specific responses to any of the above individual and family issues
CALL FOR PAPERS
for a monographic issue of a peer-reviewed journal on
Hispanics in the Midwest Research

Aims:
 dez The aim of this monographic issue is to collect, in one publication, current research developments, research challenges and associated debates on the issues that Missouri confronts as a result of demographic changes reflected in 2000 Census.

Frame:
 dez Research centred in Missouri will be given priority but comparative studies that include other Midwestern states will be considered.

Orientations:
 dez Papers can cover any of the five conference themes.
 dez Both qualitative and quantitative approaches will be welcome.
 dez Comparisons between Hispanics and other population groups will also be welcome.
 dez Specific innovative research and/or orientations will be given priority for publication.

Suggestions:
 dez Papers that are planned for presentation at the Cambio de Colores Conference 2004 could be designed in a way that could be included in this monographic issue.
 dez However, other papers are also welcome.

Requirements for authors:
 dez Same as that for any paper sent to a peer reviewed journal.

Evaluation:
 dez External blind evaluators will report on acceptability of the papers.

Application:
 dez Please, announce your intention to send a paper for this monograph to the editor of this volume before October 27, 2003, with a 200 word summary via e-mail.
 dez Send the complete paper to the editor before May 1, 2004

Editor:
 dez Dannerbeck, Anne M. University of Missouri. Columbia, MO.
 dez dannenbecka@missouri.edu

Journal:
 dez To be identified based on the nature of papers submitted.