

2014-2015 LAIS Annual Awards Ceremony

By Salvador Garcia Vigil

This year marked the culmination of Professor David Lopez-Carr's three year term as Program Director for Latin American Iberian Studies (LAIS). This year's Awards Ceremony reflected on the highlights of the program in the past three years and celebrated the achievements of faculty, staff, and graduating LAIS majors. An eclectic mix of contemporary and classic Latina music was presented by MA student, Alexander Scarlett.

Outstanding Faculty Advisor- Professor Teresa Figueroa and Dr. David-López-Carr

Professor Teresa Figueroa and Dr. David-López-Carr were recognized for their exemplary work, tireless enthusiasm, and dedication to the department and its students.



Undergraduate Vaedictorian- Karina Aseret Lopez

Professor David López-Carr presented Aseret Lopez with the 2015 LAIS academic Vaedictorian award recognition for her high achievement in completing the LAIS degree.



Academic Excellence- Steve Dustin Guzman & David Andrew Eredia

In recognition of their outstanding scholarship in the LAIS Undergraduate Program, Steve Dustin Guzman & David Andrew Eredia were presented with awards for Academic Excellence.

LAIS Outstanding Service Award- For Exemplary Contributions to the Development of the LAIS program – Professor Inés Casillas

This special award was given in recognition of Professor Inés Casillas's outstanding contributions to the advancement of the LAIS Program through her leadership of our graduate program.

LAIS Outstanding Lifetime Service Award: For Inspirational Mentoring and Exemplary Service - Professor Frank Dutra

The final award was an emotional homage to Professor Frank Dutra for his lifetime mentoring and service contributions to the LAIS program. Former LAIS Director, Professor Sarah Cline, presented the award along with a moving citation that brought all in attendance to a standing applause.



2015 LAIS Staff recognition

Carol Flores, Andrea Johnson, Denise Lucas, and Mary Anderson were recognized for their contributions to the LAIS program. Professor López-Carr thanked each individually for their outstanding performance managing the Phelps office during a time of unusual staff turnover.