

Real Colegio Complutense Cambridge, MA (USA)



**August 2006
Bulletin #11**

Welcome to the monthly electronic bulletin of the Real Colegio Complutense at Harvard University. Its purpose is to provide, past and future researchers and interested friends, a sense of what is going on at the RCC, and to maintain the contact with our Alumni.

We invite your comments and suggestions at rcc-info@camail.harvard.edu (Elizabeth Kline)

Angel Saenz-Badillos, Director



Major Activities in August

Summer is in full swing here. The place is overflowing with researchers and seminar participants. Others come by to say hello.

During July and August, there are no public lectures or films. On Friday nights, one of the researchers (Alejandra Bernabei, chooses a DVD to show to anyone from RCC who wants to watch.

In August, the Advanced Research Group sponsored twice-weekly seminars.



RCC Patio: Summer Look

Current Researchers

RCC Researchers who Left in July/early August

Jesús De Miguel, Sociology, U. of Barcelona

Raquel Galindo, Gobierno Corporativo, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

Marisa Ruiz-Gálvez, History, UCM (for one month)

Ferrán Rodà, Ecology, Autónoma de Barcelona

Ruth Ana Stoner Nieves, Language and Literature, U. de Málaga.

Joan Rosselló, Economics, U. Illes Balears.

Rafael Leal Arcas, Law, Instituto Universitario Europeo

José Luis Ramos, Economics, UCM

Continuing Researchers

María Frías, African American Literature, U. of Coruña.

Judit Targarona Borrás, Hebrew and Medieval Literature Studies, UCM.

Miguel Vázquez, Linguist, UCM and Northeastern U.

Paloma Díaz Soloaga, Communications, UCM

Maria Luisa Gómez Jiménez Housing, U. de Málaga

Eva Botella Ordinas, History, U. Autónoma de Madrid

José María Morán, Sociology, U. Pablo de Olavide

Alejandra Bernabei, Law, UCM

Carlos Vargas Vasserot, Law, U. Almeria

Marisa del Pozo, Communications, UCM

M. Victoria Rivas López, Business, UCM

Pedro Alberto de Miguel Asensio, Law, UCM

José Manuel Cortés Martín, Public Law, U. Pablo De Olavide de Sevilla
Celia Martínez Escribano, Law, U. de Valladolid (for one and a half months)

Advanced Group of Researchers

Most of the members of the Advanced Research Group on Listed Corporations arrived in early July: Carmen Alonso, Carmen Galán, Javier Arias, Francisco Garcimartín, José González Vázquez, Elena Pérez, Jorge Viera, and Javier Gutiérrez. Two more, **Guillermo Guerra Martín and Diana Sancho**, arrived in August.

New Researchers

Carmen López Escribano, Education-Psychology, UCM
Gloria Corpas Pastor, English Philology, U. of Málaga
Pablo Diaz Gridilla, Law, ICADE/Garrigues
Carmen Alba Pastor, Education, UCM
Demetrio Castro Alfin, History, U. Pública de Navarra

Summer/Fall Courses

Real Colegio Complutense is hosting a number of courses this summer and fall for economists, accountants, lawyers, poets, managers, and political thinkers:

Past Seminars:

The first seminar (Fourth Executive Seminar) was held in May. Director: Marisa del Pozo.

The Third Seminar “Government restructuring: privatization, regulation and competition” was held at the end of June (June 26-30). Directors: Anton Comas; Germà Bel, UB.

The Business Management Seminar took place at RCC from July 10-19. Director: Alvaro Cuervo; Coordinator: Mauro Guillén.

Second Accounting Research Symposium: Current trends on Capital Markets, Corporate Governance, Public Sector and Managerial Accounting Research was also held in July (July 24-28). Director: Leandro Cañibano; Coordinator: Raquel Galindo.

August Seminars:

(August 2-9) For the second time, the annual Summer Seminar on Sociological and Political Research will be held at the Real Colegio Complutense. The main goal is to expose faculty and researchers, mainly from Spain, to top quality academic social researchers who work in the Boston area (primarily from Harvard University and MIT). The small seminar format of 20 to 30 participants allows for an intense academic exchange in English, with the maximum personal and academic benefits.

The seminar was directed by Jesús M. de Miguel (Professor at the University of

Barcelona, Spain) and Emilio J. Castilla (from MIT). The seminar was sponsored by the Centro de Investigaciones Sociológicas, of the Presidency of the Spanish Government. Second Summer Seminar on Sociological and Political Research Director: Jesús de Miguel; Coordinator: Emilio Castilla. Program information: Website with final schedule: <http://www.mit.edu/~ecastill/2006seminar/>



Sociology & Political Research Seminar Group

August 27-29 “Medieval Hebrew Poetry Colloquium”: Angel Saenz-Badillos and Jonathan Decker, Organizers. Sponsored by Brandeis University, the Real Colegio Complutense, and the Center for Jewish Studies at Harvard University. About 30 scholars from Israel, United States, and Europe (among the most distinguished ones in the whole world) came to RCC for this important gathering. Much of the Colloquium was dedicated to the poetry of Islamic and Christian Spain during the Middle Ages. It is the fourth time that this kind of colloquium takes place, and the first one in the United States. The level of the papers has been top quality.



Medieval Hebrew Poetry Colloquium (RCC Conference Room)

Future Seminars:

October 2 (to be confirmed): Seminar on Commerce Law. Directors: David Kennedy, Juan Sánchez-Calero.

End of October Seminar on Finance Law. Director: Francisco Cabrillo.

Interview with Carmen López Alonso



Carmen López Alonso (blonde with blue shirt) with Advanced Research Group

Carmen Alonso, Catedrático of Commercial Law and Director of the Department of Commercial Law at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, organized an Advanced Research Group of seven of her academic colleagues in commercial and corporate law and three additional professors in international private law. They come from UCM and Universidad Rey Juan Carlos. They competed and were awarded, by the Academic Council of RCC, a summer research grant.

“It was very important to us, as a group and as individual researchers, to know about each other’s works and ideas. We are concerned about cross-border (trans-national) subjects such as take-overs, voting, and other subjects related to corporations; we need and want to learn from each other”.

The group’s goal is to do comparative research on “listed corporations”, meaning those corporations that buy and sell on the Stock Market. By joining together researchers who specialize in these two different aspects of the law, the researchers are taking advantage of “the wonderful opportunity to share our knowledge and experiences.” They are comparing approaches of the European Union and the United States.

“At RCC this summer we work very hard. We’ve organized 12 seminar sessions where the 10 of us in the group plus two Harvard Law professors hear, discuss, and debate working papers. My working paper is about reforming corporate law in Europe, especially focused on the Second European Directive. In my session, I explained the problems and critiques comparing the EU and USA. I talked about the possibility of

adopting some aspects of the US legal system dealing with protection of creditors outside legal capital; for instance, by fraudulent transactions. The opinions of my colleagues were very important in improving my paper.”

Carmen’s time at the RCC and in Cambridge has been “very, very pleasant.” “The atmosphere at the Real Colegio is comfortable for studying and for work. However, more important, to me, are the people. They – the Director Angel Saenz-Badillos, his wife Judit Targarona, the other researchers, and Program Coordinator Elizabeth Kline – are marvelous. Elizabeth was very helpful from the first moment that I arrived in Cambridge. Carmen Galan and I ended up staying in her house the first night until our apartment was ready. The relationships with the fellows have been very friendly and fruitful. All of them are great people and I’m very happy to have met them. I hope that we will be in touch in the future.”

“Harvard is an amazing university. I have spent many days in the Law School Library. The cafeteria is fantastic. My impression of American people is that they are so kind. When I stop on the street, someone asks if I would like help.”

Although Carmen spent some time at Harvard University and in the Cambridge/Boston area several times before, this time “I have opportunities to really get to know some of the USA better. I’ve gone to the Museum of Fine Arts and the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston; visited Portland, Maine; seen beautiful mansions in Newport and Providence, Rhode Island; travelled to Chicago; experienced Niagra Falls; and often walked along the Charles River.”

“I especially enjoy nature in New England – very green and full of lakes and rivers. I hope to return some day with my husband.”

“When I, and most of the group returns to Spain at the end of August, we will bring with us many memories. I expect that, from our research time together at RCC, we will write a book and many articles. I now have enough material for two articles.”

Like many other former RCC researchers, Carmen will also bring with her a desire to use some of the American style of teaching (i.e., interactive discussions) in her classes. She will also incorporate some of the new knowledge that she learned into the content of her presentations.

Carmen will also return with an increased understanding of English and ability to speak English. Although conversations at the RCC tend to be in Spanish, Carmen has advanced herself by taking an English course. She gained not only more proficiency, but also met some friendly Korean and Japanese students and exchanged her contact information with the very nice and helpful teacher.

“I don’t regret my decision to come here. It has been a great experience and a wonderful time here in Cambridge and at Harvard.”

From Our Alumni/ae Association

We encourage all RCC alums to email us information about their research projects, articles, books, and other related activities. We really encourage former RCC researchers to view their contact information on our website, under “Antiguos Colegiales”, (www.realcolegiocomplutense.harvard.edu) and email Elizabeth Kline of any desired

changes (rcc-info@camail.harvard.edu). We also want to publicize any articles and/or books based on your research while at RCC. Email these references and they will appear in the next monthly bulletin.

There is an official **Asociación de Colegiales del Real Colegio Complutense en Harvard:**

Presidente: Ignacio Rodríguez-Alfageme

Vicepres.: Octavio Ruiz-Manjón

Secretaria: María Pérez-Ugena

Tesorera: Elena Gallego

Vocales: José Luis de Castro, Emilio García Silvero, Tiscar Lara,
Esteban Moro, Judit Targarona

Alumni/ae News:

Irene Ramos Vielba (RCC & J.F. Kennedy School of Government in 1999 and 2000) is currently a post doctoral Visiting Scholar during 2004-2006, in the Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. Her email address is: iramosvi@indiana.edu.

Matias will be returning to RCC in the fall for a month.