

March 19, 2021

Re: *Lonches con CCAS*: Spring 2021 Virtual Job Market Series

Dear Prof. Leisy Abrego and Prof. Charlene Villaseñor-Black,

Lucy Leon, Audrey Silvestre, and I are pleased to be writing to you as organizers of what we hope will be the 2021 Spring quarter job market series hosted by *Lonches con CCAS*. We imagine this virtual series consisting of three 2-hour salones with CCAS faculty “hosts,” CCAS alum, and graduate students beginning Friday April 30th. Together these salones will: 1) further professionalize our graduate students, 2) offer them skill-building opportunities to succeed on the job market, and 3) build on the job market workshops offered by UCLA’s Graduate Writing Center and Career Center by tailoring such workshops to our graduate students’ interdisciplinary and ethnic studies background and training.

Each salon will cover a distinct topic related to demystifying the academic job market from an ethnic studies perspective:

1. “Job Market 101” (Week 5: Friday April 30th, 11-12:30 p.m.): This salon roundtable with CCAS faculty hosts will cover the nuts and bolts of the job market. Possible topics include: readiness and entry into the job market, finding job calls, overview of the application process, timelines, how to demonstrate familiarity with job call campuses, “dos and don’ts” when navigating departmental inner politics and communication with search committees, etc. The goal of this salon is to demystify the application process, search committee protocols, and the selection process of the candidate. **Requested Hosts: Dr. Leisy Abrego, Dr. Abel Valenzuela, Dr. Gaye T. Johnson**
2. “Roundtable: Chicana/o Studies Alumni” (Date/Time Pending): This salon will serve as a roundtable space for recent CCAS Alumni to demystify and share their experience with the job market. Panelists will be asked to discuss how they marketed their Chicana/o Studies degrees and how they navigated the process based on their most salient identities. **Requested Hosts: Dr. Brenda Nicolas, Dr. Kaelyn Rodriguez, Dr. Silvia Rodriguez-Vega, Dr. Jack Caraves**
3. “What does it take to be a successful candidate?” (Date/Time Pending): This salon roundtable will provide an overview of the interview process, campus visits, job talk, and teaching demo, “dos and don’ts” after the interview/visit. It will also speak to different institutions (R1, State, Community College) and their style of interview process and campus visits. Will also cover how to successfully negotiate an offer, such as salary negotiations and other incentives (relocation funds, research funds, and home buying assistance). **Requested Hosts: Dr. Matt Barreto, Dr. Flori Boj-Lopez, Dr. Charlene Villaseñor-Black**

This proposed series builds on a similar job market series initiated by the 2012-13 cohort in 2018. We believe this precedent and our own organizing efforts demonstrate that a formalized job market series tailored to CCAS is both crucial and needed in our department. Our goal, then, is twofold: 1) to use this Spring 2021 series as a pilot program for an annual Spring job market series, and 2) to open this series to all CCAS graduate students—regardless of their year in the program. This proposed series will therefore prepare our graduate students for the job market well before their final year in the program—which will be an asset to the overall success of this department. In the

more immediate sense, this virtual 2021 series contributes to the mission of *Lonches con CCAS* to enhance our intellectual merit and community commitments to care for one another as scholars, students, and persons while we are all social-distancing and sheltering in place.

We hope to count on your support to help us begin the very early stages of implementing this virtual program (by encouraging faculty buy-in) and formalizing it for future generations of UCLA CCAS scholars.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Alana de Hinojosa". The script is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends under the first part of the name.

Alana de Hinojosa, 2020-21 Graduate Student Representative

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Lucia Leon". The script is cursive and elegant, with a distinct flourish at the end of the last name.

Lucy Leon

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Audrey Silvestre". The script is cursive and somewhat compact, with a clear initial 'A' and a distinct 'S'.

Audrey Silvestre