



## Long-time UAC-CP Educators Receive Franciscan Mission Service Award



Sisters Damon Nolan, Jean Morrissey, and Chris Cullen smile after each receiving the Anselm Moons Award, presented by Franciscan Mission Service (FMS) on May 5, 2017.

At an event held in Washington, D.C., on May 5th, Franciscan Mission Service (FMS) presented the Anselm Moons Award to Missionary Franciscan Sisters Damon Nolan, Jean Morrissey, and Chris Cullen in honor of their work founding and supporting the

College. FMS, which sends lay missionaries across the world, offers this award to individuals who exemplify Franciscan values.

The Sisters accepted their award on behalf of the many people who helped them build the College. Fr.

Joe Nangle, long-time Director of FMS who worked with the Sisters in the 1980s, was there to congratulate them.

Sr. Damon thanked missionaries who, over the years, brought their technical skills, their love, and their willingness to work alongside Bolivian educators and students. Sr. Jean said her 12 years in Carmen Pampa were the most challenging yet fulfilling of her religious life. Sr. Chris joked about secretly squirreling away money and surprising College co-founder Dick Leahy with a basketball court. She also thanked all the volunteers who have been so supportive of her.

FMS has brought 14 volunteers to Carmen Pampa over the past 20 years. Among the 130 people who attended the event were graduates and former volunteers of the College, CPF donors, FMS staff and board members, friars, and leaders of different Franciscan orders. +

## José Luis Mamani Named Academic Director

In January, José Luis Mamani was named the new Academic Director of the UAC-CP. He replaces Andrés Pardo, who transitioned to a new position at the College as Coordinator of the 2020 Vision Initiative.

José Luis has earned multiple advanced degrees, and received recognition from abroad for his commitment to the development of education in vulnerable sectors of Bolivia. In addition to teaching in the College's Education Department since 2016, he had

also been on the faculty at the Salesian University of Bolivia in La Paz.

In this new role, José Luis is committed to the students. "It is my goal to create a dynamic academic environment that responds to student needs and makes them proud to be a part of this university," he says.

José Luis values the support of the many volunteers and donors of the Carmen Pampa Fund. "The work carried out by the Carmen Pampa Fund and various volunteers is truly Christian, as it is in the service of



New UAC-CP Academic Director  
José Luis Mamani

the most needy, our young people," he explains. "And I am thankful for the solidarity of our donors to make the dreams of our youth a reality." +

## Princeton in Latin America Fellow Completes Student Survey, Shows Diversity

Former UAC volunteer Adam Barton (July - December 2016), who worked at the College as a Princeton in Latin America Fellow, conducted hundreds of interviews

with students on campus, asking about their lives and experiences. In January, he filed a final report that paints a picture of the needs and challenges of current UAC-CP students.

Adam traveled Bolivia to speak to UAC-CP graduates about how the academic and spiritual teachings of the College have affected their lives.

“Going off-campus to find graduates was eye-opening,” Adam says. “More impressive than any statistic is the genuine love that the alumni share for each other and for the UAC. Whether talking to an administrator in La Paz or a farm technician in a rural village, the message was the same: the College is transforming the lives of young Bolivians who most need support.” +



Former volunteer Adam Barton visits graduate Emilio Mamani (Agronomy, '08) in Caranavi.

Adam's research shows that of the College's 683 students in 2016, 84% come from rural areas, and nearly 95% of the students are first-generation college students. Forty-five percent of students live in houses with dirt floors, and 40% lack plumbing at home.

Apart from his on-campus survey,

## CPF's 2017 Ayni Fundraiser Event a Success

CPF's annual Fiesta de Ayni was held on May 18th in Minneapolis. Throughout the evening, \$24,000 was raised for general operating costs at the College.

At the event, CPF board chair Mark Leahy reviewed the past 24 years of the College, and its work to prepare young leaders for success. Looking forward, CPF board member Tara Nolan and long-time administrator of the College Andrés Pardo presented 2020 Vision, a three-year initiative funded by Inter-American

Development Bank and the Katherine B. Andersen Fund to promote rural entrepreneurship at the College.

Sarah Mechtenberg was presented with the 2017 Spirit of Ayni Award for her contributions over the past 14 years as both a UAC-CP volunteer and CPF staff person.

Thanks to everyone who attended, and special thanks to Kimberly Lane and Diana Medina for donating raffle items. +



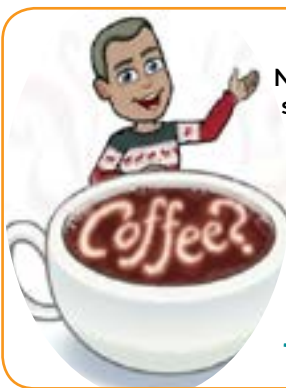
Community leader and former UAC-CP Education student Nenry Vasquez Rey

### Stories from the UAC-CP

Current thesis student Nenry Vasquez Rey (Education, '07) was born in the Afro-Bolivian community of Tocaña. Since completing her coursework, she founded CONAFRO, a national advocacy organization uniting Afro-Bolivians; has consulted on educational matters for UNICEF; and today works with the Ministry of Education to develop regional, indigenous curricula in schools.

To learn more about Nenry's story, and those of other students and graduates, visit:

<http://uaccpstories.blogspot.com>



### Bolivian Coffee Break with Hugh Club

Named in recognition of Hugh Smeltekop and his years of service at the College, anyone who makes a regular monthly donation to Carmen Pampa Fund – whatever the amount – is an automatic member of the club.

#### Membership Benefits Include:

- Special, coffee-themed welcome gift
- Monthly “Bolivian Coffee Break With Hugh” video
- Listing of membership in the CPF Annual Report

**JOIN TODAY!**

[www.carmenpampafund.org/coffee-club](http://www.carmenpampafund.org/coffee-club)



**Carmen Pampa Fund**  
P.O. Box 131145  
St. Paul, MN 55113  
Phone: 651-641-1588  
[www.carmenpampafund.org](http://www.carmenpampafund.org)