Announcing Recipients of the Annual LeoGrande Prize and LeoGrande Award

American University’s School of Public Affairs and Center for Latin American & Latino Studies are pleased to announce the 2017 recipients of the William M. LeoGrande Prize for the best book on U.S.-Latin American relations, and the William M. LeoGrande Award for the best scholarly book or article on Latin American or Latino Studies published by a member of the American University community, for 2016–2017.

Tore C. Olsson, Assistant Professor in the Department of History at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville, is this year’s winner of the LeoGrande Prize. With this prize Dr. Olsson is recognized for his book, *Agrarian Crossings: Reformers and the Remaking of the US and Mexican Countryside* (Princeton University Press, 2017). Dr. Olsson’s book is a conceptually innovative re-interpretation of US-Mexico farming history during the early and mid-twentieth century. His book explores the entangled histories of the reformers who reinvented farming in both countries, while planting the intellectual seeds of rural development across the US-Mexico border. Olsson demonstrates the extent to which binational interactions among politicians and bureaucrats from the US South and Mexico were an important source of ideas for policy development in both nations, including the influence of Mexican agrarian reform on New Deal reformers, the impact of US-funded rural development programs on the Mexican Agricultural Program of the 1940s, and the manner by which both countries made political choices that resulted in the destruction of smallholder agriculture. In the process, this book effectively breaks down the intellectual barrier between “US history” and “Latin American history,” and views shared rural histories through a truly transnational lens.

Michael Bader, Assistant Professor in American University’s Department of Sociology, is the recipient of the 2017 LeoGrande Award. Prof. Bader receives this award for his peer-reviewed article, “The Fragmented Evolution of Racial Integration since the Civil Rights Movement” co-authored with Siri Warkentien and published in *Sociological Science* (2016). Prof. Bader’s article innovatively employs growth mixture models to challenge prevailing wisdom since at least the Civil Rights era about a major question in sociological approaches to cities in the United States: the relationship between race and community patterns of residential segregation or integration over time. The authors distinguish durable integration from what they call gradual racial succession, at once tempering optimism about racial integration while questioning the assumption of white flight to explain residential segregation for the cases of New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and Houston. Importantly, the article examines distinct trajectories of integration or segregation for each group, while identifying novel ways to think about durable forms of integration, such as suburban “quadrivial neighborhoods.” It also differentiates among demographic trajectories for Latino communities, characterized by significant dispersion and new in-migration, in contrast to African-Americans communities, exhibiting slow but steady patterns of gradual succession. Prof. Bader’s work, therefore, contributes to policy debate about persistent segregation by highlighting the need to account for the distinct demographic trajectories of ethnic groups as part of urban development.

The William M. LeoGrande Award and the The William M. LeoGrande Prize were established in 2012 to honor William M. LeoGrande’s tenure as Dean of American University’s School of Public Affairs from 2003 to 2012. The endowed award was made possible through the financial support of alumni, friends, and colleagues of Professor LeoGrande. One of the world’s most accomplished scholars in Latin American politics and U.S. foreign policy, Professor LeoGrande continues to serve as a professor of government at American University.