

The **President Néstor Kirchner Fellowship** is inspired by the legacy and achievements of former President Néstor Kirchner during his term as President of Argentina (2003-2007), coupled with his important work as the first Secretary General of UNASUR (2010).

The Fellowship focuses on the training of young leaders in South America working in public service and in academia. The Fellowship takes place at The New School and consists of an exchange of ideas and experiences between the Fellow and academics, politicians, and civil society leaders in the city of New York.

The **Observatory on Latin America (OLA)** of The New School, and the **Universidad Nacional de San Martín**, Argentina, have joined together to launch and develop this initiative.

In 2011, three Fellows and six honorable mentions were selected by an international jury consisting of 56 representatives from academia and public service, from nine South American countries and the United States. This selection was made among the 103 candidates from 11 South American countries who applied for the Fellowship.

The jury emphasized the academic excellence, commitment to public service and relevance of the issues raised by candidates. It also highlighted the broad spectrum of professional fields of the candidates and the originality of their approach on issues such as international economic management, regional integration, UNASUR, human rights, social movements, media, democracy, education, local development, health, activism, the fight against drugs, violence, NGOs among others.

In 2011, Fellowships were awarded to: **Lucila Rosso**, from Argentina, who completed her Fellowship in New York in November 2011. Today, we welcome to The New School **Erika Paredes Sánchez**, from Ecuador, and **Mauricio Santoro Rocha** from Brazil. Each individual was awarded a Fellowship after demonstrating academic excellence and a commitment to public service.

Erika Paredes Sánchez holds a Masters in Development Studies from the Graduate Institute of International Development Studies (IHEID), Geneva, and is currently working with the Government of Ecuador where she is focused on the environmental initiative, Yasuní-ITT. Previously, she worked at UNDP in Quito as a consultant on Capacity Development and Aid Effectiveness, as well as a Program Analyst in Monitoring and Evaluation. She also co-authored the book *The Application of UNDP/ART's governance and local development methodology in Latin America*.

Mauricio Santoro Rocha is a journalist and holds a PhD in Political Science. Previously, he was a reporter for the Brazilian newspaper *O Globo* and was an International Cooperation Officer in the Brazilian Institute of Social and Economic Analysis (IBASE). He has worked in the Ministry of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade and was a member of the National Youth Council of the Secretariat-General of the Presidency of the Republic. Additionally, Mr. Rocha is the author of *Contemporary Dictatorships* (forthcoming, in Portuguese) and of 20 academic papers and book chapters.

6:00pm ♦ **Welcome**
Margarita Gutman
*OLA Director of the
President Néstor Kirchner Fellowship*

♦ **Introductions**
David Scobey
*Executive Dean, The New School for Public
Engagement*

José Luis Pérez Gabilondo
*Ambassador, Consul General of Argentina in
New York*

6:30pm ♦ **The Union of South American Nations:
At the Onset of Socio-Regional Integration**
Erika Paredes Sánchez
Second President Néstor Kirchner Fellow

6:55pm ♦ **Democracy and Foreign Policy in Brazil**
Mauricio Santoro Rocha
Third President Néstor Kirchner Fellow

7:25pm ♦ **Discussion**

The program will be in English

**The 2012 - 2013 President Néstor Kirchner Fellowship
Call for Applications is open.**

Applications deadline: May 28, 2012.

For details on how to apply, please visit:

www.observatorylatinamerica.org