Panel 2:  2:00pm-3:00pm

Dwight David Watson, Associate Professor of History, Texas State University
“A Home in Dat Rock” African American Migration in 19th century Texas

Jason Oliver Chang, Lecturer, the University of Texas at Austin, Center for Asian American Studies
“Race Before and After Crossing: A Comparative Look at Chinese and Mexican Lives in La Frontera.”

Panel 3:  3:00pm-4:30pm

Sergio M. Martinez, Assistant Professor of Spanish, Texas State University
“The Conditions of Mexican Farm Workers in the United States as Represented in Fiction Literature”

Gary A. Hartman, Professor of history, Texas State University
“Texas Music and the Cross-Pollination of Cultures in the Southwest”

Michelle Sotolongo, Academic Advisor, Texas State University
“In Limbo—Challenges Facing Undocumented Students”

Concluding Remarks:  Paul Hart

Please visit the Exhibit
BITTERSWEET HARVEST
At the Wittliff Collections Alkek Library
6:30 PM Friday February 25, 2011
Presented by the Wittliff Collections and the Public History Program
"Harvest of Loneliness: The Bracero Program"

Film Screening and Discussion
Thursday February 24th at 7pm

Filmmakers: Gilbert Gonzalez, University of California Irvine and Vivian Price, California State University Dominguez Hills.

Hidden within the historical accounts of minorities, workers and immigrants in American society is the story of the millions of Mexico's men and women who experienced the temporary contract worker program known as the Bracero Program. Established to replace an alleged wartime labor shortage, research reveals that the Program intended to undermine farmworker unionization. Harvest shows how several million men, in one of the largest state managed migrations in history, were imported from 1942 to 1964 to work as cheap, controlled and disposable workers. The documentary features the men speaking of their experiences and addresses what to expect from a new temporary contract worker program.


Gilbert Gonzalez is Professor Emeritus in the Chicano Latino Studies Department at UC Irvine. He specializes in Chicano History and has focused on labor, community formation, education, migration and the Bracero Program.

Vivian Price is Assistant Professor of Interdisciplinary Studies and Coordinator of Labor Studies at California State University Dominguez Hills. Her research and films focus on labor, gender, and activism, in the US and internationally. You can read more about her films and work at http://hardhatvideo.com.