

The University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies &
The Tropical Conservation and Development Program proudly present

The Bacardi Lecture Series
Envisioning a Sustainable Tropics

**Landscape changes in the Sierra de
Zongolica: significance & management
of timber trees by Nahua campesinos**

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Abstract

The Sierra de Zongolica inhabited by Nahua people is located in the central part of Veracruz, Mexico. In the last 25 years the planting of timber trees has been part of endogenous actions for gaining control over land and forest resources previously exploited by outsider loggers and as part of government forestry programs. Through field observations, open interviews and documenting local narratives, we identified multiple timber tree uses and values and a range of adaptive tree management practices within small and privately owned agriculture and agroforestry plots. The reforestation process has important environmental and social impacts on the forestry – agricultural landscape and in the day to day life at the household level. This study forms part of the interdisciplinary and intercultural project “Forest Community Management in Central Mexico” carried out by Nahua under graduate students and researchers of the Universidad Veracruzana and People and Plants International.

Bio

Citlalli López Binnqüist is an anthropologist who works primarily with local people and natural resource management. She worked with CIFOR (Center for International Forestry Research) in Bogor, Indonesia for four years, where she focused on non-timber forest products (NTFPs), traditional knowledge, and pluralism as a basis for forest cooperation. Afterward, López returned home to her native Mexico where she is now a professor with CITRO, a highly interdisciplinary and applied graduate program within the Universidad Veracruzana. Her teaching and collaborative learning focuses on NTFP management and integrated forest management, reaching diverse audiences: CITRO graduate students, forest technicians, local artisans, and students of different ethnic origins via the Intercultural Program (for Indigenous students) at UV. She is a global expert on the production of amate bark paper, conducting an in-depth historical analysis on species use from the Pre-Hispanic period to modern times where amate bark paper is used today as a handicraft product.

February 26 @ 10:40 am
Grinter Hall, Room 376

Light refreshments to follow the Lecture