

Special TCD & TCDsg Seminar



# *Launching a Sustainable Development Clinic in Colombia*

By Juan Pablo Sarmiento, Universidad del Norte, Barranquilla, Colombia

**Thursday, November 20 @ 12:45**

**Grinter Hall, Room 471**

Sarmiento has recently begun a “sustainable development clinic” at his University. He will describe one project he and his students are working on at the intersection of human rights and the environment. It involves a small and impoverished community of stilt houses in a large wetland eking out a subsistence living from the resource. There are currently some significant threats to the wetland from drainage and discharge, which is affecting the community fishery. The wetland is listed under the Convention for the Protection of Wetlands of International Importance (RAMSAR). Working with the UF Law Conservation Clinic and the Inter-American Alliance for the Defense of the Environment, Sarmiento and his students are building a case to bring the site to the attention of the RAMSAR Secretariat and Government of Colombia, including possible listing as a threatened site under the Montreaux Record to the Convention.

