

## KEYNOTE ADDRESS



### **Youth cultural agency, community engagement, and political participation: Puerto Rican experiences in dialogue with current approaches in Latin American research**

**Prof. Mareia Quintero Rivera**  
University of Puerto Rico

Friday, May 6, 2016

11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

234 York Lanes

#### **Bio**

**Mareia Quintero Rivera** is a professor in the Interdisciplinary Studies Program and the Masters in Cultural Agency and Administration at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus. She holds a doctorate in social history from the University of São Paulo, Brazil. Her research has focused on cultural criticism in the Hispanic Caribbean and Brazil; articulations between cultural practices, politics, and social imagination in contemporary Puerto Rico; and cultural policies and social agency. Her publications include the book *A cor e o som da nação: A idéia de mestiçagem na crítica musical do Caribe Hispânico Insular e o Brasil* (2000). She has been a visiting professor and lecturer in Brasil, Argentina, Chile, and Colombia, among others. She served as president of the Puerto Rican Commission for Cultural Development and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Puerto Rican Culture.

#### **Abstract**

Recent approaches to the study of youth in Latin America have questioned the widespread characterization of contemporary youth as individualistic, apathetic, and politically disinterested. In the face of the disillusionment and rejection of institutionalized politics, a wide-range of alternative forms of youth social participation have being recognized. Culture appears as a very productive zone for the constitution of new kinds of political subjectivities. In light of the Latin American debates, this presentation explores how contemporary experiences of youth cultural agency in Puerto Rico are generating new ways of social organization, economic sustainability, public participation, and critical discussion of hegemonic socio-economic models.

#### **Discussant**

Prof. Nombuso Dlamini