The Center for Iberian & Latin American Studies
● “All Trails Lead North: Impacts of the Failed Drug War from Colombian to the United States” Featuring Jani Silva—campesina leader for the Association of Holistic Sustainable Development (ADISPA) Putumayo, Colombia

**Date:** Wednesday, November 9, 2011  ● **Time:** 12:30 to 2:30 pm  ● **Place:** Deutz Room in the Copley International Conference Center, Institute of the Americas Complex, UCSD

**Jani Silva** is a community organizer that has been promoting human and civilian rights in her home community of La Perla Amazonica, Putumayo Colombia for 30 years. Despite the demands of raising four children on her own, she is a very charismatic leader who once grew coca, but voluntarily eradicated it after years of dealing with fumigations and in search for other alternatives. She has led her community in reconstructing their social fabric, as well as their farms so that they once again can have food sovereignty. She is a staunch defender of human rights and the environment—speaking out against fumigations, failed alternative development projects and the violence committed by the paramilitaries and the U.S. funded and trained Colombia military.

**The War on Drugs** Since the year 2000 when the United States launched the largest military funding package in Latin American history through Plan Colombia, we have seen billions of US tax dollars invested in the so called “War on Drugs” Not any of the $7 billion of Plan Colombia nor the current 2 billion of drug war funding to Mexico and Central America include strategies or funds that address the demand side of the drug trade. The demand side being the Unites States of America. The home of the largest market for narcotics in the world. In the 10 years since Plan Colombia we have not only seen a rise in drug production but a massive human rights crisis emerge region wide. The US funding of Latin American militaries and police with poor human rights records has led to the displacement, torture and deaths of millions of people. Meanwhile in the US, drugs are sold at elementary schools, prisons are overflowing with drug offenders and there are constantly new and more potent drugs that enter the market every day. It is clear the US drug war model has failed and continues to fail communities in the US and communities in Latin America. Join us as we come together to discuss better solutions to the war on drugs.

● For more information on upcoming events, please go to [http://cilas.ucsd.edu/events/lectures/](http://cilas.ucsd.edu/events/lectures/)