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Gabriel Meléndez has been a Professor of American Studies since 2002. He is a literary, social and cultural critic with research interests in ethnic and cultural representations in film, autobiography, ethnopoetics and ethnocritical theory. His teaching and research interests overlap three American Studies concentrations: Cultural Studies, Southwest Studies and Race, Class and Ethnicity. He has been the recipient of a Rockefeller Humanities Fellowship and several other research grants including awards from the New Mexico Endowment for the Humanities, Center for Regional Studies (UNM) and the Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project (University of Houston). He is the recipient of a Faculty Mentor Award from the Project for New Mexico Graduates of Color, and a 2009 recipient of the “State Historian’s Award for Excellence in New Mexico Heritage Scholarship” for the *Pasó Por Aquí Series* issued by the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs.

His first book, *So All is Not Lost: The Poetics of Print in Nuevomexicano Communities, 1836-1958* (UNM, 1997) was reprinted by the University of Arizona under the title, *Spanish-Language Newspapers in New Mexico, 1836-1958* (2005). In addition, he is co-editor of *The Multicultural Southwest: A Reader* (Arizona, 2001), *Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage: Volume VI* (2006) and *Santa Fe Nativa: A Collection of Nuevomexicano Writing* (UNM, 2010). His other works include *Reflexiones del Corazón* (1993) [a portfolio of images and texts produced with Miguel Gandert and María Baca for the Tamarind Institute] and *The Biography of Casimiro Barela* (UNM, 2003). A forthcoming book (with Francisco Lomelí of UCSB) *The Writings of Eusebio Chacón*, will be available from UNM Press in the spring of 2012.

The author of several articles and chapter-length studies, Meléndez is currently engaged in new work on ethnic film representations and readying a new manuscript, “Hidden Chicano Cinema: Film Dramas in New Mexico” for publication. Meléndez is on the board of directors of the *Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project*, serves on the editorial board of *Aztlán: A Journal of Chicano Studies*. Meléndez has been a General Editor of the *Pasó Por Aquí Series* at UNM Press for over a decade. During this time *Pasó* has published some twenty books on the Nuevomexicano Literary Heritage, a list that includes the works of current and former SHRI scholars.

Meléndez teaches graduate seminars on autobiography and ethnic life writing, Latino/a-Chicano/a film, critical regionalism and the politics of identity in the Southwest.