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INDIANA UNIVERSITY

## Technology workshop to focus on Latin America

By Mike Leonard  
August 24, 2012

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When Ivan de Costa Marques led computer technology companies in Brazil in the 1970s, he encountered a mindset among some that the new technology was like magic imported from a foreign place.

Times have changed, and scholars from around the world will converge on Indiana University this weekend for a workshop titled “Studying Science and Technology in Latin America: Beyond Imported Magic.” Sessions will take place Friday and Saturday at the Indiana Memorial Union and the School of Informatics and Computing.

Friday’s sessions, including presentations by high-profile scholars referred to as luminaries, will be open to the public and will be in the IMU Dogwood Room beginning at 10 a.m.

“We’re challenging the idea that science and technology only come from the industrial centers of the world, which in most cases means the U.S. and Europe,” said Eden Medina, an organizer of the workshop and associate professor of informatics and computing. “So this workshop is bringing to light scientific and technological production in Latin America and using these insights as a way to understand science and technology more broadly.”

Included among presenters are da Costa Marques, associate professor in the Graduate Program for the History of Sciences, Techniques and Epistemologies at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro. He will speak about ways of framing the study of science and technology in Latin America.

Others include:

Julia Rodriguez, associate professor of history at the University of New Hampshire. Her talk, “Study the Skulls and Bones: Latin America as a Site of Inquiry Into the Origins of Humanity,” will focus on early anthropologists who studied the fossil record and human remains in Argentina.

Dominique Vinck, professor in sociology and Science and Technology Studies at the University of Lausanne and a member of the Institute for Social Sciences in Lausanne, Switzerland. His research concerns the sociology of sciences and innovation, including micro and nanotechnology, and creation of technology policy in Latin America.

David Hess, professor of sociology at Vanderbilt University. His talk, “The New Developmentalism: Brazil, the U.S. and Green Transitions,” will examine the emergence of new ideologies of global trade at work in U.S. conflicts with Brazil and China over energy markets.

For information about the workshop, go to [magic.indiana.edu](http://magic.indiana.edu).



Eden Medina

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