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# URGENT ISSUES FORUM/FORO URGENTE: The Assassination of Berta Cáceres and the Future of Indigenous and Afrodescendant Environmental and Land Rights in Honduras

Friday, April 8, 2016

9 AM - 2 PM

Presentation Room,  
Charles E. Young Research Library

On March 2, 2016, award-winning Lenca environmental and indigenous rights activist Berta Cáceres was assassinated in her home in Honduras. She had received multiple threats from military and paramilitary groups linked to the mining and dams interests that she opposed. Gustavo Castro, a Mexican activist who was in Berta's home and was injured in the attack, is now being held illegally in Honduras and there are international concerns that he is being framed for the attack. This urgent forum explores the issues of resource extraction and state violence and their impact on the future of indigenous and environmental rights activism in Honduras.

Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided.

Participants include:

**Olivia Zúniga Cáceres** (Lenca)  
*Activist and daughter of Berta Cáceres*

**Rony Castillo** (Garifuna)  
*PhD student UT Austin, Advisor on Education Issues OFRANEH, President of the Garifuna Education Council and Co-founder of the Garifuna Intercultural University*

**Suyapa Portillo**  
*Pitzer College*

**Chris Loperena**  
*University of San Francisco*

**Joseph Berra**  
*UCLA Law School*



UCLA Institute of American Cultures



Yuji Ichioka and Emma Gee  
Endowment for Social Justice  
and Immigration Studies



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