

Association for Borderlands Studies

Journal of Borderlands Studies

Volume XIV, Number 2, Fall 1999

Contents

Raúl Saba

From Peace to Partnership: Challenges of Integration and Development along the Peru-Ecuador Border

The common needs and aspirations of those living on both sides of the Peru-Ecuador border have challenged the central government of these two "distant neighbors" to achieve a peaceful solution to their long-standing border dispute. These similar hopes and necessities provide impetus for a socio-economic partnership benefiting the transborder region in the near term, as well as the national economies as the relationship consolidates over the longer term. This study examines the developmental needs, opportunities, and projects relevant to the integration of the Peru-Ecuador borderlands. Not only will new roads and bridges link populations once separated by armies, minefields, and neglect, but they will also serve as conduits for cultural, educational, and commercial exchange and integration. An incipient transborder culture and partnership await this border region in the new millennium.

Doric Wastl-Walter and Andrea Ch. Kofler

The Dynamics of Economic Transborder Cooperation between Austria/Carinthia and Slovenia

In the context of the changing relationships among local, national, and supranational entities, this study looks closely at the evolving Austrian/Carinthian-Slovenian border region. The independence of Slovenia and the expansion and consolidation of the European Union have introduced new political and economic conditions to the region, forcing the local population to adapt its lifestyle. These new circumstances have spurred new patterns of transborder cooperation in the region, which are discussed in this study. The history of this border region, levels of cross-border economic interaction, and transborder traffic patterns are examined in this effort.

G.R.M. de Beer, R.A. Mrnatli, A.C. Mahumane, S.C. Nyathi, and F.H. Soares

The Future Development of the Southern African Borderlands

This essay examines the importance of border development within the context of development initiatives in South Africa and the Southern African region that emerged with the end of apartheid in 1994. This study focuses on the Spatial Development Initiatives program and looks specifically at the increase competitiveness and levels of growth, outlining its benefits and limitations within the region. It also concentrates on the increased levels of cooperation across borders needed to support these economic goals, looking at the Ressano Garcia-Komatipoort border region for both advantages and challenges that are found in cross-border relationships in Southern Africa.

Richard V. Adkisson and James Peach

Voting for President: Elections along the U.S.-Mexican Border

Historically, political discussions in the United States have been laced with phrases such as "the solid South," "the Bible belt," and "the industrial Northeast." The ongoing use of these and similar phrases implies a wide-spread recognition that there are regional patterns of political behavior. To date, studies examining regional effects on voting behavior have been confined to state level data and broad regional definitions such as "the South," which hide intrastate variation and obscure regional effects that cross state boundaries. Regional differentials in voting behavior are also apparent in other nations, including Mexico.

This paper focuses on U.S. presidential voting behavior in the region surrounding the border with Mexico. Its purpose is to determine whether there is a border effect on voting that goes beyond any economic or social peculiarities of the border region. Three basic questions are asked: (1) Is there a statistically significant difference between border and nonborder voting behavior, after controlling for differences in demographic, social, and economic variables? (2) If there is such a border influence, does it extend beyond the immediate border region? (3) Are differences in border voting behavior consistent across elections? Hypotheses based on these questions are tested using economic, social, and presidential voting data from 1992 and 1996. The units of observation include the 360 counties of the four border states of California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

The paper provides an overview of border voting patterns, which is followed by a review of the literature on statistical and econometric models of presidential voting patterns. This literature review provides the basis for the third section in which a model is specified to allow statistical tests of various hypotheses regarding presidential voting patterns. Finally, the results are presented and conclusions drawn.

Paul F. Englert, Christopher Brown, Carol Placchi, and Richard M. Gersberg

Geographic Information System (GIS) Characterization of Metal Loading in the Binational Tijuana River Watershed

This paper describes a geographic information system (GIS)-based, land use runoff model that estimates the annual mass emission of copper (Cu), lead (Pb), and zinc (Zn) from the binational Tijuana River watershed (TRW). This model estimates that the urbanized portion of the City of Tijuana, Mexico, accounted for 37 to 47 percent of the actual downstream loading of these metals to the Tijuana Estuary and coastal ocean. The fraction of loading contributed by open space was about the same (31-44%), although this land use comprised about 90 percent of the total watershed area. Modeled estimates of the annual mass emission of heavy metals are in reasonable agreement with actual measurements, particularly for zinc (within about 10%), thereby suggesting that GIS-based modeling may be useful for predicting nonpoint source pollutant loading in a variety of border development scenarios.

David Piñera Ramírez*Higher Education along the Northern Border of Mexico: A Historical Approximation*

The development of institutions of higher education along the northern border of Mexico reflects the growth of the border region as a whole. Traditionally, higher education in Mexico was concentrated in Mexico City. The settlement and rapid growth of the border region, however, increased the demand for higher education. Its expansion, then, has allowed students to stay within their home region to be educated and later employed there, contributing to the development of the region. In recent decades, northern Mexico has experienced the accelerated development of higher education and its diversification. Although studies within the border region have traditionally focused on issues relating specifically to the Mexican side, the study of binational issues is on the rise. In contrast, Mexico's southern border has endured a quite different trend in the expansion of higher education. Its few institutions were founded much later and have been greatly neglected by the central government. The relative abundance of institutions along the northern border can be attributed to its economic importance to the central government. This study looks at the extension of higher education to the northern border in terms of national regional development and policies, social and political movements, and the move to understand the complexities of this border region.
