David William Foster (1940–2020)

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Dr. David William Foster, Regents Professor of Spanish at Arizona State University, passed away on June 24, 2020, at the age of seventy-nine. Dr. Foster was a pioneering scholar in Latin American studies, with a scholarly interest in gender and sexual identity, women's literature and cultural production, and Jewish culture. Over the course of his career, Dr. Foster published over fifty books on a wide range of subjects, including *Gay and Lesbian Themes in Latin American Writing*, which was one of the first books on the subject in Latin American literary studies (if not the first), *Sexual Textualities: Essays on Queerling Latin American Writing*, *Queer Issues in Contemporary Latin American Cinema*, and *El ambiente nuestro: Chicano/L*

Latino Homoerotic Writing. In recent years, he had turned his attention to photography and produced several monographs on the subject: *Picturing the Barrio: Ten Chicano Photographers*; *Argentine, Mexican, and Guatemalan Photography: Feminist, Queer, and Post-Masculinist Perspectives*; *Urban Photography in Argentina: Nine Artists of the Post-Dictatorship Era*; and the forthcoming *The City as Photographic Text: Urban Documentary Photography of São Paulo*. Additionally, he authored important books in film studies, such as *Gender and Society in Brazilian Cinema, Mexico*

City in Contemporary Mexican Cinema, and *Latin American Documentary Filmmaking*. Dr. Foster was also the editor of *Chasqui: Revista de literatura latinoamericana*.

Aside from his nearly insatiable curiosity, which helped shape Latin American studies, particularly in the field of cultural production, Dr. Foster was a mentor and friend to many students and colleagues around the world. He was a model of generosity and kindness, virtues that perhaps too often are not at the forefront of how we imagine academic work. He was a champion of voices that too often remained unheard or were silenced, and he brought these voices to the center.

As the editors of the *Journal of Bodies, Sexualities, and Masculinities*, we mourn the death of David William Foster. He was an early supporter of the journal, and we are honored that he agreed to be a member of its editorial board. His commitment to the journal was deeply valued, and we are thankful for the role he played in helping to establish it.