The Iberian Studies Initiative in the Department of Spanish & Portuguese Studies Presents:

"Catalonia: Present and Future"
An International Conference

Monday, April 20
2:30 — 5:30 p.m.
Lindahl Founders Room, Northrop, University of Minnesota

Light reception following the conference

This International Conference brings together scholars from various disciplines to analyze the ongoing historical developments in Catalonia, one of Spain’s 17 autonomous regions, in light of the mass civic movement that has emerged within Catalonia calling for independence from Spain.

The conference analyzes the Catalan case highlighting broader issues, relevant to other national contexts. These include the unstable nature of many modern nation states comprised of communities with different historical and cultural trajectories; the strengths and pitfalls of nationalist discourses, especially in times of growing globalization and economic crisis; the limits of the democratic process; the power of mass civic mobilization; and the struggle for the right to self-determination.

SPEAKERS

• Andrew Davis, Delegate of the Generalitat, the Catalan Autonomous Government, in Washington, DC
  “Catalonia’s Political Future: A Perspective on September’s Plebiscitary Elections and Beyond.”

• Jordi Mondria, Professor of Economics, University of Toronto
  “The Economics of Catalan Independence”

• Francesc Torres, American artist born in Barcelona
  “Being a Catalan as a Contact Sport”

• Miquel Strubell i Trueta, Sociolinguist, and cofounder of the Catalan National Assembly
  “Why now? What has brought the Catalans this far?”

• Imma Cabotí, Secretary of the Catalan National Assembly in the US
  “From a Grass-Roots Movement to Independence”

• Bill Viestenz, Professor of Iberian Studies, University of Minnesota
  “The Community to Come: Catalan Studies and the Possibility of the Political”

Co-sponsored by the Institute for Global Studies; the Institute for Advanced Study; French and Italian; the Catalan National Assembly; Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, U of M Duluth; and Spanish Discipline, The Division of Humanities, U of M Morris