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## Press release : 2009 :09 : 14 :International Colloquium Explores Research on the Otopame

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## International Colloquium Explores Research on the Otopame



Filed under [eNews Newsletter](#) on Monday, September 14, 2009 by Author: Melanie Marquez.

**(St. Petersburg, Fla.) September 14, 2009** - In a colloquium being held this week at USFSP, professors from Mexico and around the world are presenting research and discussing the history and culture of Otopame indigenous groups.

Members of the Otopame of Mexico have migrated to various parts of the United States. One group, the Hnahnu/Otomi, settled in Clearwater and Ella Schmidt, assistant professor of anthropology, has been working with this group and studying them for the last three years. This sparked interest from the academic community that studies the Otopame to hold their 12th annual colloquium at USFSP. More than 40 participants from Mexican institutions and researchers from Japan and France are in attendance.

The migration of these indigenous populations is a recent phenomenon, Schmidt said, with the trend taking hold in the last 20 years. The colloquium explores current research of the culture's linguistics, religion, myth, folklore, social structure and history.

The colloquium included a panel discussion with leaders from Clearwater's Hnahnu/Otami community, moderated by Schmidt.

To learn more about the international colloquium, please [click here](#) to visit the group's Web site.

**-USF St. Petersburg-**

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