

## The female as allegory of nation

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**Dr Shelley Godsland** (</staff/profiles/hispanic/godsland-shelley.aspx>) from Hispanic Studies, Department of Modern Languages, recently gave a keynote paper at an international academic conference on crime and detective fiction organised by the University of Antioquia. The event took place at the botanical garden in Medellín, Colombia, as part of the wider Fiesta del Libro (book fair) held each year in that city.

Dr Godsland's paper offered a reading of the female as allegory of nation in a number of recent Argentinian crime novels. The College of Arts and Law at the University of Birmingham was a co-owner of the congress, having sponsored it via the Research and Knowledge Transfer Fund, and Dr Godsland's travel was supported by a British Academy Overseas Conference Grant. The photograph shows Dr Godsland with the conference organiser, Dr Gustavo Forero Quintero, of the University of Antioquia.