## **Latin American Studies Association**

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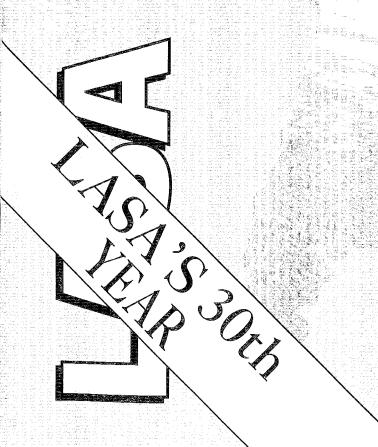
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## President's Report

by Jane Jaquette Occidental College

The LASA Executive Council (EC) has just held its mid-term meeting and I want to share some of the highlights with you.

Our main topic was the 1997 Congress, to be held next April 17-19. Program Chairs Victoria Rodríguez and Peter Ward, and LASA's Executive Director Reid Reading, had just come back from Guadalajara. They returned enthusiastic about the site itself (the Hotel Continental Plaza, the Expo Center and three nearby hotels) and about the plans for several events, including the opening ceremonies, the *Gran Baile*, and a Saturday evening *corrido* concert, some of which will be held in the historic center of the city. Panel and paper submissions are at about the same level as those for LASA95 in Washington. The Program Chairs are adjusting to having less

space by lengthening the sessions and increasing the number of panelists on each, which should result in accommodating nearly 500 panels. They report strong interest on the part of local institutions and anticipate substantial local, Mexican and Central American attendance.

An outreach committee to "friends of LASA" would link individuals who could assist the Association in developing its membership,

investment and fundraising strategies.

An important innovation planned for Guadalajara is a "PC Room" where Congress participants can receive "user friendly" training on how to use e-mail and the Internet, and how to access websites, data banks, and other resources of special interest to Latin Americanists that are available on-line and on CD-ROM. The pilot project to put Congress papers on-line will be expanded to include all sessions and all participants who wish their papers to be circulated electronically. (Hard copy papers will be available on site, as in the past.) Keep an eye on the *Forum* and LASA's website for further information on LASA97.

The EC also made progress on other issues. Reid and Treasurer Charlie Hale have worked on developing a set of budget categories that will better reflect the impact of EC decisions on LASA's income and expenditures, and make it possible to develop budget projections over the next few years. The Council approved an initiative proposed by Peter Cleaves, John Coatsworth, Michael Conroy, Richard Fagen and Cole Blasier to develop an outreach committee to "friends of LASA." This group would link LASA to key individuals who are by and large not academics, but who are interested in Latin America and could assist LASA, where appropriate, in developing its membership, investment and fundraising strategies. It also approved the formation of a Working Group on Business and Politics, as proposed by Eduardo Silva of the University of Missouri at Kansas City and Francisco Durand of the University of Texas at San Antonio. A call for participants in the Working Group appears in the "Calling All Members" section of this issue. A full mission statement will

be made available in a subsequent issue of the Forum.

The Executive Council also wrestled with the resolutions issue. After a long and constructive discussion, it agreed on an experiment for LASA97 that can be implemented under the rules set out in LASA's Bylaws. The plan addresses four recurring criticisms of the current system: the relatively low quality of resolutions, the lack of member participation in the discussion of resolutions, the quality of debate during the Business Meeting, and the follow-through necessary to ensure that resolutions have an impact.

Although the formal deadline for submitting proposed resolutions will continue to be one month before the Congress,

as the Bylaws stipulate, those who wish to propose resolutions can submit them for inclusion in the issue of the *Forum* that comes out prior to the Congress. These proposals will be reviewed by the EC, as required by the rules, and be published as approved so that members can have them in hand.

Those proposed resolutions submitted between the Forum deadline and the resolutions deadline (one month before the Congress) will be reviewed by the EC before the Congress so that copies can be made available to members when they arrive. In addition, proposed resolutions—taken singly or in groups of similar topics—will be open to debate in special sessions convened at the Congress, in advance of the Business Meeting. The results of those discussions will be reported back to the Business Meeting by the coordinators of the sessions (to be named by the EC resolutions subcommittee) for a vote. These sessions can also be used to discuss ways to improve the impact of the proposed resolution(s).

We hope this process will encourage more member involvement, including the participation of relevant task forces and working groups, and create the conditions for better resolutions and more substantive, focused debate.

Finally, I want to thank those of you who sent us your ideas and thoughtful proposals on the resolutions process. We encourage all members to communicate their comments or concerns about these or other issues.



## LASA's Ten Years at Pittsburgh An Interview with the Executive Director

[On May 7, LASA marked its thirtieth year as the world's largest community of scholars and practitioners with professional interests in Latin America and the Caribbean. LASA Executive Director Reid Reading looks back at the last decade—a period in which LASA has experienced significant growth both in its membership and in the scope of its activities]

Forum: As you look back on the last ten years, what aspects of LASA stand out in your mind?

Two things, especially. I have been struck by the number of LASA people who have been willing to spend countless hours in service to the Association while attending to other tasks-professional, family and otherwise. LASA presidents and vice presidents have been particularly immersed over the last few years, dedicating many hours to devising strategic plans for the Association; raising money for travel of Latin American scholars and practitioners to LASA's international congresses; struggling with thorny issues like the best way to resolve the question of resolutions and the shape of the LASA business meeting, and formulating approaches for strengthening the LASA Endowment and its financial base in general. Counted among these "LASA people," of course, are the staff members who have served the Association since the Secretariat moved to Pittsburgh. LASA has enjoyed exceptionally good fortune to be served by such a dedicated group of people.

Secondly, when I first took this job, I had no preconceived notions about the extent to which the LASA membership could grow. Early on we ran out of issues of the LASA Forum because we underestimated membership growth for that particular year. We committed to making sure that would never happen again, but 1995 took us by surprise: membership jumped to 4,398—30 percent over 1994—and we ran out again! The Washington DC meeting was in large part responsible for this spurt, but even prior to that LASA membership was experiencing significant expansion. For example, LASA had 3,038 members in 1993, the most recent non-Congress year, and this topped the 1987 (non-Congress year) figure by 29 percent. Needless to say we are all very pleased with this upward trend.

Forum: To what can you attribute LASA's growth at a time when the membership level of similar associations seems to be leveling off, or even declining?

I think several things are responsible. Both impressionistic evidence and data from a recent survey show that LASA members have confidence in the leadership and administration of the Association and that their hard earned monies are being put to good use. Fortunately for us in Pittsburgh, we were able to build on the degree of trust that had been created by

past LASA Executive Directors and their staffs. The reputation of the central administration, it seems to me, is a key factor in retaining and expanding membership. Reputations "get around."

Another long-term factor in LASA's growth is the prestige of the Latin American Research Review (LARR), LASA's official journal. LARR has a more autonomous position than the journals of other associations, and there is a bit more potential for misunderstandings. However, I am very pleased that over the last 10-year period relations between LASA and LARR have proceeded smoothly, and that there has been a high degree of collaboration and goodwill. That LARR is a solid and noteworthy enterprise is in no small part responsible for LASA's ability not just to hold on to its members but to grow substantially. Of course, if LASA had not managed to maintain a solid reputation as an association, its growth would have been impaired in spite of the quality of the Review.

The rather dramatic recent growth in membership can be attributed in no small part to the hiring of Sandy Klinzing as Assistant Director for Institutional Advancement. Sandy's efforts have been directed to both fund-raising and membership development. She has worked hard to encourage renewals of both individual and institutional memberships, as well as to recruit new members.

Thanks to the extreme dedication and effort of LASA Program Committees as well as Local Arrangements and Finance Committees, LASA is managing to produce ever larger International Congresses which include an increasingly more diversified group of Latin Americanist scholars and practitioners. This also is playing a significant role in LASA's growth.

Finally, the fact that LASA is exploring new ways to take advantage of the revolution in electronic communications—see the reports of LASA President Jane Jaquette on this score—I think has inspired confidence in the Association.

Forum: You spoke briefly about the administration of LASA. What more can you say about the operation of the Secretariat, and how would you describe your own management style?

I think most people would agree that however sturdy its declared policies and practices, however impressive its projects, and however realistic and sound its goals, none of these things can be appreciated fully if the central administration of an organization is perceived as not functioning well. If the LASA Secretariat were considered to be inattentive, careless, or slow; if it did not fill orders expeditiously or mail notices, ballots, or publications on time; if it put outdated notices in the *Forum*; all this would detract from, if not nullify, the hard work of the elected officers and

other Association representatives.

I am fortunate that my staff has the attitude that all the tasks they fulfill for LASA—at various levels—are critical to the success of the organization. For example, those who have shouldered the responsibility for doing the (apparently) routine job of entering membership data on the computer have known that if this is not done with expertise, care, common sense, and good linguistic skills that help decipher sometimes difficult-to-read application forms, the entire operation is set back as precious time is consumed rectifying errors.

Sometimes, admittedly, there is pressure in the office, and our small staff feels the burden. When all is said and done, though, I think we all agree that it has been better to have everybody very busy than to ever have to invent work. Believe me, this has never been a problem, and LASA members should be pleased that the work of such a large

organization can be carried on by a small staff with such a high degree of productivity. I also have been proud of the collegiality of LASA staff people and the willingness they all show to roll up their sleeves and pitch in when we have something that needs to be done with great dispatch, like big mailings, for example.

Books (and manuals!) have been written about the built-in tensions between association boards and executive directors. Some of the problems occur because boards propose schemes that would either be impossible to carry out administratively, or if feasible

in theory, might be so cumbersome that the projects would sink from the weight and complexity of the administrative apparatus invented to implement them. At these times head administrators are wont to put their heads in their hands and mutter something like "give me strength!" It is to the credit of LASA's elected officers over the last decade, in contrast to the hit-and-run style of other boards I have heard about, that they have been extremely reluctant to propose programs without a good grasp of the feasibility of administering them. Another blessing!

Back to headquarters. I have committed to be an *available* administrator, and hope I have been successful in keeping this commitment. I personally get quite angry when I can't reach someone I need to talk to urgently, and I don't wish people to be angry at me for the same reason.

Forum: What are your goals for LASA?

Setting the overarching goals, objectives and priorities for a

professional association is the responsibility of the elected officers. As I see it, they are entrusted with "shaping" the organization. In LASA the Executive Director is not a voting member of the Executive Council (EC), and it will be the EC, in conjunction with the membership, that will decide such critical issues as the future political role of the Association, for example. As for me, I have set a couple of goals that are more administrative in nature.

Although I came to the directorship under no particular mandate other than fulfilling the traditional duties, it was apparent to me that given the declining fiscal health of most U.S. universities, to whom LASA looks for support for the Secretariat, the Association faced an uncertain future. I resolved that LASA would build its reserves to help assure its viability down the road. The latest financial review, conducted for the fiscal year ending September 1995, shows not only that LASA has built its reserves eight-fold over the

last ten years, but has even managed to transfer \$150,000 in operating funds to the LASA Endowment. When I first took this job I wasn't thinking a lot about endowment; it seemed like a luxury until we created stronger reserves. But now, due to the generous support of many contributors, we could see the LASA Endowment grow to a half-million dollars very soon.

A second, and perhaps broader, goal was to establish a reputation for LASA at our host institution that would inspire the confidence of top University of Pittsburgh decision-makers in the LASA

central administration, and in the Association more broadly. The rather remarkable level of direct and indirect financial support represented in the 1995 bid of the University of Pittsburgh to host LASA for another five years is partial testimony to our success in achieving this goal. Among other things that characterize LASA, the extent of our internationalization has especially impressed University of Pittsburgh administrators. LASA finds itself paired with a university and a Center for International Studies that is making great strides in its effort to achieve a global reach.

The strong advocacy of Pitt's Center for Latin American Studies and, individually, its present and past directors and distinguished faculty members who teach and research Latin America and the Caribbean has been responsible in no small part for the support the University has been willing to extend to the Association. In sum, I cannot say enough about how supportive the University of Pittsburgh community has been of LASA.



Forum: You make everything sound so rosy. Come on—level with us.

There have been some rough spots along the way, and there may be some bumps ahead. All in all, though, LASA has come close to leading a charmed life! Note a bit of our past.

Hurricane Hugo was rough. Three days before we were to have launched the 1989 LASA International Congress—the largest to date—San Juan was hit head-on. Lisa Guare, my assistant (whose first day on the job with LASA coincided with her arrival in San Juan!), I, and a few other unfortunates who had arrived early, were there for the big event. I wrote about it in the Fall 1989 issue of the Forum, but Lisa wrote about it much more eloquently in the Winter 1989-90 issue of Clásicos, the newsletter of the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Latin American Studies. Her piece, Observations from the Eye of the Storm, is reproduced in this issue, under "LASA in History."

I got a plaque from Mark Rosenberg, LASA 1989 Program Chair, for my efforts in turning around the meeting so we could meet just six weeks later, in Miami. I always felt a bit guilty about that, since a whole group of people worked furiously to convene the meeting in Miami with such short turnaround time. Mark himself became the new Local Arrangements Chair as well as Program Chair, and he and his staff really excelled. I was trying to keep a commitment to myself to not name names in this interview, since many people who should be thanked would be left out. But the plaque incident was most memorable, and had to have a name attached to it.

When I think about what several hundred LASA members did in the aftermath of Hugo, it makes me emotional. In response to an appeal from us, the great share of the participants who had paid preregistration fees and could not attend the Miami meeting did not take refunds of the fees. This most generous gesture allowed us to finance the costs associated with relocating this event. That is what LASA members are made of!

As for other near-tragedies, there are none, thankfully. The divorce from the Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) in 1994 was painful and produced some hard feelings, but both LASA and CLASP have survived it in good stead.

The next most serious disappointment may have been experienced by LASA student members who won a lottery for air travel coupons that we had been sent by a marketing firm. The firm did not make good on the coupons, in spite of personal assurances to me that they would. We did write cautionary language in the article that announced the lottery, i.e., that lottery winners should have backup plans, but there still was lots of resentment. It was something that we thought would be nice to do, but it didn't work.

I can truthfully say that aside from these trastornos, and the stress that accompanies bouts of overwork, things have indeed

been quite rosy. We have not been overtaken by events that we have not been able to manage.

We do have one ongoing struggle, though: we would like to convince more LASA members to renew sooner, and to support the Association in non-Congress years as well as years in which we hold meetings. We send out customized invoices in October or November, and would appreciate receiving them back as early as possible. Most LASA members respond well to our call for on-time renewal, but those who don't make it necessary for us to do special—and more costly and delayed—mailings of back issues of LARR and the Forum. But even this has been rosy of late: more and more members are renewing earlier, and supporting us in Congress off-years. Pardon the "commercial."

Forum: What of the Future? What Are the Challenges for LASA?

Of course, the future of area studies itself is now a hot topic of conversation, especially among many social scientists. As area studies goes, so goes a significant sector of LASA, most likely. Meanwhile, if area studies is outmoded, that would seem to be lost on our membership. LASA just keeps growing.

There is a strong tendency to always be looking for something new—that's healthy. With all due respect to the sophistication of many of the recent analyses dedicated to showing that the post-Cold War order compels a new approach to the study of international phenomena, it seems to me that the perspective of the area studies specialist, i.e., that you cannot hope to learn (enough) about some object of research that is operant in a given society until you learn about the culture and learn the language, will prove enduring and irresistible. One sentence like that cannot do justice to the complexities of the matter, I realize. At any rate the full-fledged controversy—although certainly not entirely new—is stimulating. See Jacob Heilbrum's fine piece, however brief, in the May/June issue of Lingua Franca to add to the contributions of Gil Merkx and Ken Prewitt, featured in previous issues of the Forum.

I recently saw the draft of a proposal to a renowned foundation from two prominent institutions that have been involved heavily in area studies. The attempt was to present a fresh approach that embraced global thinking, but I was pleased to see just how much there was in the proposal that was tied closely to perspectives that have always been embraced by area specialists.

Well, this will all be played out in time. Meanwhile, all else equal, LASA has lots going for it. Although LASA is still seen by some to be dominated by leftists (not just "liberals"), I see us as becoming more diversified. Like many others, I am invigorated by energetic debate, and I think LASA's ability to entertain such debate is growing. It is heartening to see that the percentage of women in the LASA membership has grown steadily over the last few years—from 40.6 percent in 1992 to 45.6 percent at this point in 1996. The number of

students has grown faster than any other category of membership—and *that* bodes well for the future of the Association: only 437 students were members in 1992, but there were 882 students in 1995—more than double the 1992 number.

There are several kinds of challenges ahead. Perhaps the most critical of these is shared by our fellow/sister area studies associations: to keep area studies vital to the research and teaching endeavor.

The rapid advance of electronically-based communication poses challenges to all professional associations. These challenges are sometimes a bit intimidating, but a patient yet persistent approach will assure that we can take maximum advantage of all the exciting possibilities that already are here as well as the ones to come. For Latin Americanists with access to the Internet a wealth of information already is online in the form of databases, and David Block of the LASA Task Force on Scholarly Resources has agreed to write updates about on-line opportunities for the LASA Forum.

More and more items are coming on-line, among them leading bibliographies. LASA has been the envy of the other U.S.-based area studies associations, since the major hard-copy bibliography in our field, the *Handbook of Latin American Studies (HLAS)*, has been produced over the years by the Library of Congress, with *public* funds. As can be seen from recent notices in the *Forum*, individuals with access to the Internet soon will be able to undertake cumulative searches of both present and past *Handbook* data. Because the data are in the public domain, this service will be provided free, and complete text versions of all editions of the *Handbook* are expected to be available on-line in the near future. For more about *HLAS*, see a note in this issue.

A major challenge is to both create and be able to find meaningful material on the Internet and not get distracted by the flashiness. A promise to our members: we will keep in mind the priority of substance over form as we do our "posting."

Finally, many LASA people are engaged in trying to solve the resolutions/business meeting issue. See Jane Jaquette's report in this and the last issue of the *Forum*, and letters written about this on LASA's website. Although there are several angles to this and some rather firm positions among the membership, what impresses me is the goodwill from all parties as we move toward a solution. Again, typical LASA—as I have come to see the Association over the last decade.

Forum: Any final thoughts?

Only that it is hard not to write an entire volume here, given all that has transpired in a whole decade. But have I gone on long enough?

Forum: Pretty much, yes. But you can go on a bit more.

Then I will simply thank those who have served loyally in the Secretariat over the last ten years, and mention by name the present staff, in whom we all can take pride: Mirna Kolbowski, Assistant to the Executive Director, and presently on leave in her native Argentina, where she is accompanying her husband, Ariel, as he gathers data for his doctoral dissertation; Sandy Klinzing, whom I already have put in bold relief, above; Stacy Loughner, Communications Specialist, who guides our cyberspaceship; and Lucía Casabó, who so graciously agreed to assume Mirna's duties until she returns. A great staff, indeed!

LASA members also should be aware of the very generous contributions that outside organizations, especially foundations, have made to LASA over the years. This has been especially true for the support they have extended to LASA's efforts to promote the travel of Latin American scholars to LASA's international congresses. The Ford Foundation stands out in this regard, although it should not be forgotten that Ford also supported the operating costs of the Association in the early years, provided nearly \$15,000 to launch LASA's Endowment about 15 years ago, gave LASA a grant to launch its endowment campaign, provided a grant to and has financed the Task Force on Scholarly Relations with Cuba over the past few years as well as the Task Force on Higher Education in Latin America. In addition, Ford has financed several projects on Women in Latin American Studies, and the United Nations Development Fund for Women also has made grants to LASA.

Significant additional support for travel grants over the last decade has been forthcoming from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, the Inter-American Foundation; the North-South Center, the Agency for International Development, the Tinker Foundation, Inter-American Development Bank, the Arca Foundation, the Boehm Foundation and Genevieve Vaughan.

Forum: Anything else, pray God?

Just that LASA is now thirty, but can be trusted anyway. It does a lot. Every 18 months LASA members can meet face to face with colleagues whose work they know, and with others whose work they will discover. Many will personally encounter flesh and blood individuals they have known only on the other end of their e-mail or as names on books and articles. I think there always will be call for that, and people will even make substantial sacrifices to be a part of it.

Become a Life Member of this fine association if you are at all able! Give generously to the Endowment Fund! And thanks to all of you who are making LASA a successful endeavor.

[The Forum thanks Sam Thong, caricaturist, who insisted that this serious piece be lightened up a bit]

## Women's Visibility at LASA

#### A Retrospective

by Helen I. Safa University of Florida

Many radical scholars saw feminism as just

another U.S. invention designed to divert

them from the anti-imperialist and class

[This article by Helen Safa, and the one to follow, by Thomas Skidmore, are the third and fourth in a series of personal recollections by LASA's past presidents which the LASA Forum plans to publish during its 30th birthday year. These recollections constitute an important contribution to a narrative history of LASA as seen through the eyes of its chief elected leaders. See the Winter and Spring 1996 issues of the Forum, respectively, for contributions from Henry Landsberger and Cole Blasier.]

Anyone attending one of the recent LASA Congresses would be impressed (or dismayed) at the significant visibility of women at all levels: the large number of panels dealing with gender issues; of women participating and attending, including students and younger scholars and participants from Latin America and the Caribbean; and of women elected to office,

both on the Executive Council (EC) and as President. The recent election of Susan Eckstein as Vice-President makes her the fourth consecutive woman to be elected to the LASA Presidency, starting with Carmen Diane Deere in 1992, Cynthia McClintock in 1994, and Jane Jaquette in 1995. Some would even complain of a LASA matriarchy, and even those

of us who have long lobbied for better women's representation at LASA are astounded at this record.

struggle.

But it was not always thus. Those of us who are old enough remember when gender issues were not discussed at LASA, nor did many women participate, nor were they nominated for office. Two women, Karen Spalding and Diane Holloway-Vest, were elected to the EC in 1972, but the nominees for 1973 included no women candidates. This resulted in a flurry of phone calls and a meeting in New York that resulted in the organization of the Women's Caucus of Latin Americanists (WOCLA), a coalition of east and west coast feminists including Elsa Chaney, Meg Crahan, Jane Jaquette, Ruby Leavitt, June Nash, Laura Randall, and myself. WOCLA organized a network of feminists, both women and men, published a newsletter, and sponsored colloquia on gender issues. Much of its focus was on opening up LASA to women and it successfully organized a write-in campaign to include Meg Crahan as a 1973 nominee. Meg was elected and began serving in 1973. I joined them in 1974.

It was not until the 1973 Congress at the University of Wisconsin, however, that we became aware of how much support we had from the membership as a whole. There

WOCLA introduced a series of resolutions calling for the creation of a committee on women's issues, increased incorporation of women into all levels of LASA's operations and greater attention to gender issues in the programs and scholarly activities of the Association. Much credit for this initiative must be given to this dedicated group of women, who did so much to get the women's movement within LASA off the ground. Felicity Trueblood was always a loyal supporter and wise adviser while Executive Director of the Association during the time the Secretariat remained at the University of Florida in Gainesville from 1972 to 1978. I shall never forget when Felicity invited me to her room for an after-dinner drink at the Wisconsin meetings, only to find the entire EC assembled there to meet this new nominee. John Saunders, from Mississippi State University and a member of the EC, confessed his dismay at not offering me a seat that day when,

during the packed business meeting, I had entered late with a group of women and sat on the floor. As an old Southern gentleman, Saunders noted that this was appropriate for some of the younger women, but not for a "lady".

Other factors contributed to increasing gender awareness at LASA during the 1970s and 80s.

One important element was clearly the growth of the women's movement in the United States and in Latin America and the Caribbean. The First United Nations World Conference on Women in Mexico City in 1975 spurred a great deal of interest in the region, but in 1973 when June Nash and I travelled to six Latin American countries to look for possible participants in a Social Science Research Council (SSRC) conference on women to be held the following year, it was sometimes difficult to get women in the region to identify with gender issues. This was a tense political period in Latin America, with the U.S. threatening to undermine the Allende government in Chile and Perón's anticipated return to Argentina, and many radical scholars saw feminism as just another U.S. invention designed to divert them from the anti-imperialist and class struggle. Nevertheless, many of the Latin American and Caribbean women who participated in the 1974 SSRC conference held in Buenos Aires and entitled Feminine (not Feminist) Perspectives in the Social Sciences have gone on to become internationally known scholars on gender issues, including Neuma Aguiar, Elizabeth Jelín, Heleieth Saffioti, Isabel Picó, Vivian Mota, Michele Mattelart and Ximena Bunster, all of whom have articles in Sex and Class in Latin America, edited by June Nash and myself. In terms of longterm effects, this has to be one of the most productive conferences the SSRC has sponsored, as was the eight-week workshop for younger scholars and graduate students with the same theme which Elsa Chaney and I co-organized in the summer of 1974 in Cuernavaca, Mexico. So much conflict over ideology and personality developed at this workshop that I honestly thought I would never work on gender issues again. But the workshop taught me the importance of retaining a long-term perspective, because again some of our most prominent feminist scholars who have held leadership positions in LASA, including Carmen Diana Deere, Marianne Schmink, Lourdes Arizpe, and Marta Tienda, participated in this workshop. The SSRC conference and workshop stimulated much scholarship on women in the region and promoted greater understanding and respect between sisters in the North and South.

All of these conferences have built up a network of scholars and activists from the U.S. and Latin America and the Caribbean who collaborate on research and action projects, on mobilizing solidarity around gender issues (such as the assassination of the popular Peruvian leader María Elena

Moyano by Sendero), and by organizing panels at LASA and elsewhere. Networking has been furthered by numerous conferences in Latin America and by the biannual feminist encuentros held since 1981 in various Latin American cities, which have grown from 200 to nearly 3000 participants, including women from grassroots movements or "popular feminism", as it is known in Latin America. Some of these grassroots women, including the well-known Guatemalan indigenous leader, Rigoberta Menchú, have participated in LASA Congresses, along with growing numbers of Latin American and Caribbean scholars. The Latin American and Caribbean Confederation of Household Workers was first initiated as the result of a panel organized by Elsa Chaney and Mary García Castro at the 1983 LASA Congress in Mexico City, and formed the basis for the landmark study, Muchachas No More. The Confederation continues to grow and function in ten countries of the region today and has had some success in pressuring for minimum wages, set working hours, vacation pay and other benefits.

As the visibility of Latinamericanist women scholars increased, their participation in the program committees, nominating committees, and various task forces grew. WOCLA disbanded with the creation in 1982 of the Task Force on Women in Latin American Studies, which is the only task force which elects its own co-chairs, who have always included women from Latin America and the Caribbean. Three Latin Americans, Larissa Lomnitz, Marysa Navarro and Lourdes Arizpe, and three Latinas, Carmen Diana Deere (who later became President), Marta Tienda and Sonia Alvarez, have been elected to the EC, while Edna Acosta-Belén moved from being co-chair of the Women's Task Force to program chair for the 1994 Congress in Atlanta and candidate for the Vice-

Presidency in 1995.

As women have become more active, the number of women nominated and awarded LASA book awards or media awards also grew. Evelyn Stevens (recently deceased) was elected President of LASA in 1976, followed by myself in 1983 and Jean Franco in 1989. It was not only women who elected me or other women to the LASA Presidency, though they now represent 45 percent of the membership, but a "rainbow coalition" including Latin Americans, Latinos, and the left. I shall never forget their support as LASA faced a major crisis over the placing of an ad for the CIA in the newsletter on the eve of our first meeting in Latin America in September 1983. The crisis proved that LASA had built up enough respect and trust among its members, men and women, North and South, to withstand such an onslaught.

I think women of the older generation are eager to be replaced by a younger generation, who already are taking on much of the responsibility.

Where do we go from here? I think women of the older generation are eager to be replaced by a younger generation, who already are taking on much of the responsibility. But we should never become complacent. Although feminism is no longer identified in Latin

America and the Caribbean with U.S. imperialism, and the women's movement now includes not only middle-class academics, but women from trade unions, community associations and religious groups, peasants and rural workers, as well as Afro-American and indigenous women, it still has a long way to go. Women's studies departments in universities are still weak, women's representation in political parties and government is poor, and issues such as abortion, family planning, and divorce are still bitterly opposed by the Catholic Church hierarchy and other conservative elements. The great mass of women in the region is engaged in a bitter fight for survival as the economic crisis and structural adjustment programs take their toll. Women in the North are also coping with cuts in government services, rising unemployment, and higher costs of living. Women academics in both regions face continued discrimination. Scholars can help, with documentation, resources and knowledge, but women are a long way from changing the global economic and political forces threatening the survival and dignity of many Latin American peoples today. Despite the overwhelming courage, energy and tenacity which women from the South (including 1200 from Latin America and the Caribbean) showed at the recent Fourth U.N. World Conference on Women in Beijing, there are strong global market and political forces attempting to silence our voices. These forces see women largely as a source of cheap labor or as a manipulable political constituency. LASA is a tool in the informed struggle for greater social justice; it brings us together, it furthers our knowledge and it deepens our respect for one another. As women, we must make sure LASA remains true to this mission.

[My thanks to Meg Crahan, Elsa Chaney and Carmen Diana Deere for their assistance with this piece.]

### The LASA Presidency in the Early '70s

by Thomas E. Skidmore Brown University

When I served as President of LASA in 1972 the Association was still experiencing growing pains. A primary concern was finances. At the time, we were receiving free infrastructure (office space, telephones, etc.) from the Hispanic Foundation at the Library of Congress. Our major fundraising target was the Ford Foundation where William Carmichael proved sympathetic to our appeal. We argued successfully for funding for the task forces and for special publications. The point we emphasized was the need to maintain maximum communication within a field where costly duplication (of research projects) could easily occur.

The second primary issue was the growing political polarization within LASA. This reflected the intense debate over Vietnam and was soon to be amplified by bitter controversy over the coup in Chile and the role of American intervention. I feel that we were fortunate in not experiencing a breakaway by radicals from LASA. That occurred in the case of African Studies and has resulted in two separate organizations. Part of the cost of maintaining a "large tent" was the tension and conflict described eloquently by Henry Lansberger in the Winter 1996 Forum. The benefit is the large and strong organization we have today.

The era also raised difficult questions about the relationship with the U.S. government. Those were the days when many still believed U.S. policy in Latin America to be decisive for every trend in the region. We now realize that forces within Latin American society are more important than many of us once assumed.

Also, we were concerned with gaining disciplinary diversity in LASA, especially attracting more participants in the area of literature ("cultural studies" was hardly on the scene in those days). We enlisted help from Executive Council members such as Seymour Melton, a specialist in Latin American literature. Unfortunately, we made little progress in the short run. I am happy to see how much the participation by those in the humanities has grown in the last few years.

Finally, we were aware of the need to increase Latin American participation but had barely started on the financial and logistical problems which that entailed. We were primarily dependent on university lecturing invitations that coincided with the LASA meetings. In 1996 LASA is clearly a stronger and more vital organization than it was 25 years ago. If nothing else, it demonstrates that area studies are far from passé.

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## ON LASA97

#### Guadalajara, Guadalajara! A Note from the LASA97 Program Committee by Victoria Rodríguez and Peter Ward, Co-chairs University of Texas at Austin

Preparations for the LASA97 Congress in Guadalajara, April 17-19, 1996, are proceeding well. As always, there is good news and bad news. The bad news is that the May 1st deadline has come and gone and that we have received over 500 panel proposals and some 750 individual paper proposals. Given the space limitations of the Guadalajara Congress site, this means that we will have to ask section heads to be fairly tough during the review process and that many good proposals will not be able to be accommodated. Nevertheless, we hope that as many of you as possible will participate, and will be able to find travel support even if you are not giving a paper. The proposals will be reviewed during the summer, and towards the end of September all final decisions concerning accepted and rejected sessions will be reached. All of you will be notified at that time.

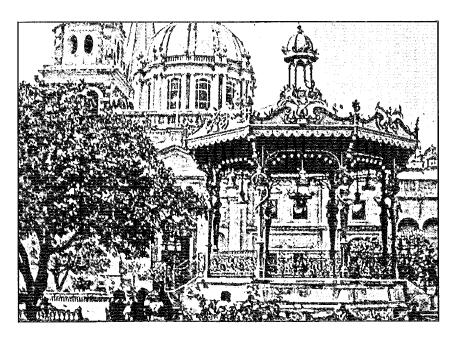
The section heads have a particularly difficult task ahead of them in selecting the papers that will be presented at LASA97, given the high quality of most submissions. We were also most pleased to observe how many of you have sought to think imaginatively around the Conference themes—Latin America towards the *Fin de Siècle* and the Local in the National in the Global—and incorporated them into your proposals. However, adherence to these themes, naturally, will not be a necessary criterion for selection.

The good news is that Guadalajara promises to be a great hit.

Along will Executive Director Reid Reading, we have recently visited the installations at Guadalajara and talked with local institution heads. The hotels and Expo site are perfect for our purposes and within five minutes walking distance of each other. No meeting place will be more than a 7-10 minute walk from all of the other conference units.

Further details about plenary speakers and major events, in addition to information about accepted panels, will be included in the next issue of the *Forum*. In the meantime, we will also begin to expand the Congress website with details about the city, the region, and of course, conference preparations and news. This will be available from mid-November onwards, and will be updated right up until the Congress itself. Also, several task forces and other LASA research groups, along with sister associations, are planning side meetings and visits along the LASA Congress. We hope to include a list of these in the fall issue of the *Forum* and, of course, on the website and in the final program.

On behalf of the Program Committee we wish all of you a pleasant and productive summer and we look forward to seeing you in Guadalajara, whether you are giving a formal paper presentation or not. LASA Congresses are convened so that LASA members can exchange ideas and information and renew friendships and professional contacts. We invite you to join us!



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#### CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS IN BUSINESS WORKING GROUP

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researchers, and circulate findings. Please contact Eduardo Silva (Co-chair), Department of Political Science, University of Missouri-St. Louis, 8001 Natural Bridge Rd., St. Louis, MO 63121-4499. Tel: 314-516-5836. Fax: 314-516-6757. E-mail: sgesilv@umslvma.umsl.edu; and Francisco Durand (Co-chair), University of Texas at San Antonio, Division of Social and Policy Studies, Political Science, 6900 North Loop 1604 West, San Antonio, TX 78249-0655. Tel: 210-691-5647. E-mail: fdurand@lonestar.utsa.edu.

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### LASA in History

#### Observations from the Eye of the Storm by Lisa Guare University of Chicago

Former Assistant to the Executive Director

Arriving in Puerto Rico on 15 September 1989, my first day on the job with the Latin American Studies Association, San Juan was as humid as I recalled from the time I spent there during my junior year in college. As the afternoon of meetings in preparation for LASA's XV International Congress lapsed into a beautiful, full-mooned evening, there was no hint that I would soon become an "accidental tourist" in a federal disaster area, an incidental witness to the brutality of nature and the resilience of a people.

Everyone who experienced Hurricane Hugo has their own story. The collective sense of powerlessness in the face of natural disaster becomes fragmented into the personally relevant. Unlike the victims of the San Francisco quake, the victims of Hugo from St. Croix to Charleston were warned of the hurricane's impending strike. Unlike Hurricane Santa Clara, which devastated an unwitting Puerto Rico in 1928 and resulted in great loss of life, hourly forecasts charting Hugo's course and measuring its strength prevented such losses. The waiting, however, was torturous. As the swirling lava-like mass on the TV radar screen advanced on the islands of the Caribbean, the civil defense, residents, and relief organizers hurriedly prepared for the worst.

The rest of us who were visiting San Juan—conference organizers, tourists, and businesspeople—moved to shelters as instructed. Sealed in our hotel microcosm, some played cards while others gathered around portable radios for updates on the storm's progress. Peering through the cracks of boarded windows, the adventurous sought a visual image to connect to the sounds of raging wind and rain that enveloped our beachfront hotel. For those of us taking refuge in the Caribe Hilton ballroom on Monday morning, Hugo's passage was marked by the sudden implosion of glass and wood as the hurricane's pressure ripped the windows from their frames.

The gaping hole revealed a furious grey sky as guests and staff were pelted with splintered glass and rain. The silence that followed the frantic exit from the room, punctuated by screams and cries, signaled the recognition of the danger we faced and of the destruction being waged beyond the boarded windows that remained intact. One could only think of the fragile wooden houses with their tin roofs and of Puerto Rico's lush rainforest, El Yunque. What would remain? As evening fell and Hugo headed toward the Carolinas, we were allowed to return to our rooms. Awestruck, we surveyed the damage and by candlelight contemplated the task of reconstructing *la isla del encanto* as Puerto Rico is warmly regarded.

Stories of pianos flying out of penthouses, the prospect of weeks without water, and the sight of airplanes tossed about runways and once majestic palm trees felled by the storm will doubtless be woven into Hugo's lore. Those of us who could simply pack up and go home, whether it be the day or week after the hurricane, were but illegitimate survivors of Hugo. The true victims are still rebuilding their lives. The initial frenzy to return to normalcy was fueled with optimism and good humor. As the months wear on, such efforts can be easily frustrated. The experience of Hurricane Hugo, and more recently the San Francisco earthquake, affirm our interdependence with nature—which we cannot dominate—and with neighbors—whom we cannot forsake.

[Editor's note. LASA made contacts with several organizations set up to aid victims of Hurricane Hugo. Dale la mano a Puerto Rico of San Juan was highly recommended and notices were posted in issues of the LASA Forum published after the storm inviting members to contribute to that fund. Although LASA did not receive a formal report from Dale la mano, it is our understanding that LASA members responded generously to this and other appeals for material aid].

#### LASA ENDOWMENT FUND SUPPORT

Our thanks again to all who have so generously contributed to the Endowment Fund since our last report in the spring *LASA Forum*. A special thank you to all who have responded to President Jane Jaquette's appeal on behalf of the Fund-thus far 63 donors and \$2,838 in contributions.

Many members choose to "round off" when paying membership fees or congress registration. This is a relatively painless way to show your support for the Fund and help the Campaign reach its goal that much sooner. Why not give it a thought the next time you renew your LASA membership?

The Endowment Fund currently stands at over \$434,000, thanks in part to the generous support of these donors to the Humanities Endowment Fund:

Maureen Ahern Miguel A. Asensio Aura Marina Boadas Viviane Brachet-Márquez Elsa Cardozo De Da Silva

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The Winter issue of the *Forum* will carry a full report on the status of the Endowment Fund to date, including the number of donors, total contributions to the Fund, and the number of individuals in each giving category. If you have any questions about the Fund or how you can participate, please give the LASA Secretariat a call.

## OPPORTUNITIES ON-LINE

## Argentine Government Publications on the Internet By David Block Cornell University

This is the third in a series of summaries of Latin American government sites on the Internet. Readers should keep in mind that Argentina's connections date only from 1994.

#### Directory Listings:

The standard directory, Guía Senior, ceased publication at the end of the 1980s, leaving the "Organismos Oficiales" pages of the Buenos Aires telephone directory, Guía Telefónica Buenos Aires Capital Federal, as the most reliable guide to the national government until the World Wide Web provided accurate and up-to-date directory information. The Presidential site <a href="http://www.presidencia.ar/admin.html">http://www.presidencia.ar/admin.html</a> is the most important of these World Wide Web locations. It features a diagram of the executive departments with links to documents loaded on the presidential server itself or on servers maintained by the departments.

Department and Agency Publications: Ministries of the Executive branch issue periodic reports and documents of the "annual message" type. Because of the frequent change in ministers and ministry responsibilities, these have always been difficult to acquire in paper format, and their appearance in electronic form has been well received. Among recently released executive agency publications are: Ministerio del Interior, Memoria anual año1994 <a href="http://www.presidencia.ar/minint.html">http://www.presidencia.ar/minint.html</a>; Ministerio de Defensa, Memoria del ejército argentino, 1992-1995 <a href="http://www.presidencia.ar/defensa/ejercito/resenia.html">http://www.presidencia.ar/defensa/ejercito/resenia.html</a>;

Ministerio de Economía y Obras y Servicios Públicos, El mercado eléctrico disperso de la República Argentina http://www.mecon.ar/energia/espanol/argen.htm; and Boletín fiscal http://www.mecon.ar/boletin/texto/indice.htm.

Legislative Reports and Judicial Proceedings: The Argentine official record appears within the pages of Boletín Oficial de la República Argentina (C.P. 1008, Capital Federal, Argentina). Summaries of legislation and administrative decrees are also available through the Ministerio de Justicia's WWW site, http://www.jus.gov.ar/, along with a searchable index

http://www.jus.gov.ar/servi/boletin/sumarios.shtml that allows queries by date, issuing body, type of record, and key word.

#### Statistical Sources:

A number of ministries produce statistical sources. INDEC, the national statistical bureau, has established a website at <a href="http://www.indec.mecon.ar">http://www.indec.mecon.ar</a>. Here the agency describes its products and services and allows users to search a number of its databases by keyword at

http://platon.mecon.ar/indec/dbindecp.htm. The Ministerio de Salud y Acción Social's Programa Nacional de Estadísticas de Salud. An electronic version of the latest edition of their data is available at

http://www.presidencia.ar/salud/index.html.

## HANDBOOK OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES (HLAS) COMING SOON TO THE WORLD WIDE WEB!

The Hispanic Division of the Library of Congress is currently working to provide a more user-friendly Internet version of the Handbook. Once completed, this project will provide a Handbook home page on the World Wide Web, called HLAS Online, which will enable cumulative searches of all existing HLAS data, both current and retrospective. We have recently finished with alpha testing, the first phase of testing for the project. It was extremely successful; we received many valuable suggestions from our testers. We are currently seeking beta-testers for HLAS Online, the final testing phase, after which the page will become available. If you have a basic understanding of your own computer's configuration and its access to the Web, and would like to volunteer, please contact Tracy North at tnor@loc.gov. This project, generously supported by the family of Lewis U. Hanke, the Handbook's late founder, is expected to be completed by

August 1996. Tax-deductible donations are being accepted by the Hispanic Division to help defray additional costs of development. The *Handbook* is currently available in a variety of other formats.

A new CD-ROM containing all *Handbook* volumes published to date (volumes 1-53, dating from 1936-1994) is now available. This one-disc title contains approximately 20 million words in 250,000 records—corresponding to all annotated bibliographic entries and scholars' introductory essays in the print edition of the *Handbook*. Published by the Fundación MAPFRE América (Madrid), with additional financial support from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the *HLAS/CD* features context-sensitive help in both English and Spanish, as well as both novice and expert search capabilities. Full-text searches may be conducted on any combination of fields (author, title, description, annotation, subject, etc.) and

may also be restricted to type of record (bibliographic citations, introductory essays, or both). The HLAS/CD interface uses the BRS Search engine which allows users to select from eight Boolean and proximity operators. Search results may be saved or printed for later use, and the HLAS/CD may be installed on an institution's local network at no extra cost. The minimum requirements for using the HLAS/CD are a 386 personal computer (486 highly recommended) with 4 MB of RAM (8 MB recommended), DOS 5.0 or higher, Windows 3.1 or higher, a hard drive with at least 1 MB of free disk space and a CD-ROM drive. Both the HLAS/CD and the print volumes may be purchased from The University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819; toll free 800-252-3206; telephone 512-471-7233; fax (512) 320-0668. (To request offprints of the HLAS 54 history chapter, see order form on p. 34).

The Handbook of Latin American Studies (HLAS) is also available from the Library of Congress catalog on the Internet. This working file contains bibliographic records corresponding to HLAS vols. 50-58, in various stages of the editorial process. The Handbook data is contained in the Library of Congress's Generalized Bibliographies (GenBib) file, a shared file

available via the Internet by telnetting to locis.loc.gov. Once you are connected, select the "Library of Congress Catalog" and then select "Books Cataloged since 1968" (i.e., the LOCI file). Type in your search, being sure to append; f=gb at the end of each search string. (Without this file qualifier, you will be searching in the general LC books catalog.)

For further information on searching HLAS on LOCIS, please see the "LOCIS Quick Search Guide" for the Handbook of Latin American Studies which can be accessed by pointing your gopher client to marvel.loc.gov, port=70. Select "Library of Congress Online System," then "LOCIS Search Guides," and then select the guide for the Handbook of Latin American Studies. Note: Due to security concerns, in October 1995 the Library of Congress eliminated public telnet access to LC MARVEL.

If you have difficulty accessing LOCIS, please contact your system administrator. If you are still unable to access *HLAS*, please contact Sue Mundell at smun@loc.gov. Be sure to include your platform type (DOS, Windows, OS/2, or Mac) and type of telnet emulation (3270, VT100, etc.).

#### **LETTERS**

To the Editor:

The advocates of a unilateral U.S. end to trade sanctions against Cuba and the establishment of full diplomatic relations ignore the basic principles of international relations. No American Congress, President, or public opinion will accept any kind of deal with the Castro regime unless there is a clear quid pro quo. Nor should they.

What is the possible basis for such a reciprocal deal? The U.S. in exchange for its two major concessions could insist that Cuba do the following: 1) release all political prisoners within a stipulated period; 2) guarantee the establishment of independent newspapers, magazines, and radio and TV stations; and 3) allow the formation of independent political parties with dates set for competitive, multi-party elections.

No doubt some will maintain that this is gross interference in Cuban affairs. Yet it is no more than what the U.S. and other Latin American states have done vis-a-vis a number of independent countries including Russia and Nicaragua.

These suggestions may not be palatable in either Havana or Washington. However, it will take a quid pro quo and not a one-sided, non-reciprocal concession. Why not openly discuss what the U.S. and Cuba should ask of each other instead of assuming that foreign policy should be driven by guilt?

Professor Aaron Segal Political Science University of Texas at El Paso April 27, 1996 To the Editor:

The LASA Forum has a series going, perhaps launched by Richard Fagen's address at the 1995 Congress, in which past presidents of the organization recall issues faced in their day. Most controversies have arisen from differing understandings of the relations between knowledge and power, scholars and the state. Those who find such history interesting will wish to know about Under Northern Eyes: Latin American Studies and U.S. Hegemony in the Americas 1889-1990 by Mark T. Berger (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1995).

Berger traces the "profoundly complementary relationship between Latin American specialists and the U.S. imperial state," alternating summaries of U.S. policy toward that region with summaries of interpretations offered by influential U.S. scholars of each epoch. Its encyclopedic quality makes this book valuable whether or not one agrees with its overall interpretation, which is that the dominant professional discourse on Latin America always has and continues to contribute to "the strength and resilience of U.S. hegemony."

I think Berger underestimates the transformations the discourse has undergone in recent decades, but this is not the place to launch a book review. I merely wish to alert readers of the *Forum* to a well-documented study of our profession over its lifetime.

Eldon Kenworthy Whitman College June 12, 1996

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

American University's Department of Language and Foreign Studies, part of the College of Arts and Sciences. invites applications for an instructor of Spanish, non-tenure track appointment for AY 1996-97, beginning Fall semester. This position may be renewable for up to five years contingent upon performance and annual budgetary review. Responsibilities: Teach 21 credit hours of Spanish-language courses per year, advise students, and serve in the Department, College and University. Qualifications: M.A. degree in the field (position limited to candidates with an M.A); native or near-native fluency; previous college-level teaching experience. Experience in teaching translation is preferred. Salary is commensurate with qualifications and experience. Position is subject to final budgetary approval. Send a letter of application, CV and three letters of reference to Professor Frank Graziano, Chair, Spanish Instructor Search Committee c/o LFS, American University, 4400 Massachusetts Ave., NW. Washington, DC 20016-8045. Applications will be reviewed until the position is filled. American University is an EEO/AA University committed to a diverse faculty, staff, and student body. Women and minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

La Universidad de San Andrés, Buenos Aires, Argentina, ha iniciado la búsqueda de un director para su departamento de humanidades. El cargo, a asumir desde febrero de 1997, es de dedicación exclusiva—full-time—e implica asimismo el ejercicio de la actividad docente y de investigación dentro de la universidad. El candidato deberá poseer una relevante trayectoria académica en alguna de las disciplinas que se enseñan dentro del departamento: historia, derecho, ciencia política, relaciones internacionales, sociología, filosofía o conexas. Deberá poseer experiencia en dirección universitaria, que traduzca capacidad para conducir y coordinar las actividades de un claustro de profesores básicamente establecido, y para atraer y retener nuevos integrantes alrededor de la generación de proyectos, tanto en la docencia de pregrado y posgrado así como en actividades de investigación. El director será responsable de organizar los recursos asignados al departamento y de impulsar la generación de recursos adicionales a través de la docencia, la investigación o la consultoria, de manera de alcanzar las metas fijadas para el propio departamento y contribuir al logro de los objectivos institucionales. Deberá expresarse con propiedad y fluidez en castellano y en inglés, en forma oral y escrita. Posiblemente los candidatos ideales no sean menores de 35 años. La remuneración será acorde con la experiencia y antecedentes. Se ruega enviar curriculum detallado, una selección de sus principales publicaciones, y hacer conocer pretensión económica básica. El plazo de recepción vence el 31 de agosto. Para cualquier ampliación o consulta contactar a Carlos Strasser al fax 54-1-746-5090 o e-mail strasser@udesa.edu.ar.

Columbia University Libraries announces its search for a Latin American and Iberian Studies Librarian. The Librarian is responsible for development of a strong research collection of materials from and about Latin America and the Iberian peninsula; and provision of information services to faculty, students, researchers and other Latin Americanists in the Columbia University community. The Librarian will coordinate collection development within the Libraries in this interdisciplinary subject area, and will represent the Libraries at appropriate meetings of the Research Libraries Group. Association for Research Libraries, SALALM, LAMP, etc.; act as liaison with Columbia's Institute of Latin American and Iberian Studies (ILAIS), Department of Spanish and Portuguese, and the School of International Affairs; provide specialized Latin American reference services and general reference service in the Social Science Library, and bear responsibility for the management, preservation, and evaluation of the collection. Collection development responsibilities entail close involvement in the academic activities of individual scholars of Latin America and members of ILAIS and the Spanish and Portuguese Department (including grant writing initiatives). Reporting to the Director of Area Studies, the Librarian is also the Latin American area studies liaison with the other units of the Libraries. Public service responsibilities focus on Latin American studies, and include reference consultations by appointment, bibliographic and library use instruction, in-class lectures, preparation of publications, Internet resource development, and database searching as needed. Requirements are significant experience as a Latin American studies librarian (including acquiring Latin American research materials from a wide variety of sources) or comparable academic experience; excellent language skills in Spanish and a reading knowledge of Portuguese; intimate knowledge of the history, politics, economics, literatures and cultures of Latin America, Spain and Portugal; ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing; and ability to work effectively and creatively in a complex environment. A Ph.D. in a relevant subject area or an accredited MLS degree are strongly preferred. Salary ranges (which will increase 7/1/96) are currently as follows: Librarian I: \$32,500-\$42,250; Librarian II: \$34,500-\$46, 575; Librarian III: \$37,500-\$56,250. An excellent benefits package includes assistance with University housing and tuition exemption for self and family. Send cover letter and curriculum vitae, listing names, addresses and phone numbers of at least three references to Jane Hunt, Human Resources Office, Box 35 Butler Library, Columbia University, 535 West 114th Street, New York, NY 10027. Applications will be considered until position is filled. Early applications will receive priority consideration. State title of "Latin American and Iberian Studies Librarian" in cover letter. Columbia University is an Affirmative Action, Equal Opportunity employer.

## RESEARCH AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

The J. Paul Getty Postdoctoral Fellowships in the History of Art and the Humanities Program, part of the J. Paul Getty Trust, was established to foster work of exceptional merit in the visual arts and the humanities for which resources are otherwise limited. It supports a wide range of projects involving research in the history of art, advancement of the understanding of art, and the conservation of art and architecture. Grants are awarded to institutions and individuals throughout the world. To date, \$58 million has been awarded to benefit over 1,400 projects in 135 countries. The purpose of the fellowships is to release scholars from academic responsibilities at a critical point early in their careers when professional expectations of them are high but research time is extremely limited. The fellowships will be used to undertake interpretive research projects that make an

original contribution to the understanding of art and its history. Projects to be researched by the 1996-97 Fellows reflect a broad range of topics, including Russian consumer culture in the 1920's, Buddhist sculpture in Japan, and popular Islamic art in urban Senegal. The application deadline for the 1997-98 Postdoctoral Fellowship competition is *November 1, 1996*. Information and application forms are available from the Getty Grant Program, 401 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1000, Santa Monica, CA 90401. Tel: 310-393-4244.

The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars announces the availability of fellowships in the humanities and social sciences 1997-98. Located in the heart of Washington, DC, the Center awards approximately 35 residential fellowships each year for advanced research in the humanities and social sciences. Men and women from any country and from a wide variety of backgrounds (including government, the corporate world, the professions, and academe) may apply. Applicants must hold a doctorate or have equivalent professional accomplishments. Fellows are provided offices, access to the Library of Congress, computers or manuscript typing services, and research assistants. The Center publishes selected works written at the Center through the Woodrow Wilson Center Press. Fellowships are normally for an academic year. In determining stipends, the Center follows the principle of no gain/no loss in terms of a Fellow's previous year's salary. However, in no case can the Center's stipend exceed \$61,000; the average yearly support is \$47,500, inclusive of travel expenses and 75 percent of health insurance premiums for Fellows and their immediate dependents. The application deadline is October 1, 1996. For application materials write to the Fellowships Office, Woodrow Wilson Center, 1000 Jefferson Drive SW, SI MRC 022, Washington, DC 20560. Tel: 202-357-2841. Fax: 202-357-4439. E-mail: wcfellow@sivm.si.edu.

The Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, NJ, announces

the availability of memberships in the School of Historical Studies. The School is concerned principally with the history of western and near-eastern civilization, with particular emphasis upon Greek and Roman civilization, the history of Europe, Islamic culture, and the history of art. Qualified candidates of any nationality specializing in these fields are invited to apply for memberships for one or two terms (September to December, January to April). The George F. Kennan Chair carries with it several annual memberships to be awarded to scholars in the area of modern international relations. Under a special program funded by the Mellon

Foundation for the academic year 1997-98, up to three

memberships are available in the field of Iberian and Latin

American cultural history. Approximately forty visiting Members are appointed each year. The Ph.D. (or equivalent ) and substantial publications are required of all candidates. They may receive Member awards funded by the Institute for Advanced Study or by other sources. Application may be made for one or two terms. Further information and application materials may be obtained from the Administrative Officer, School of Historical Studies, Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, New Jersey 08540 and should be returned to the Administrative Officer by November 15, 1996. A limited number of non-stipendiary Visitorships will be available for periods of one month or longer at any time except August 15-31. Applicants for Visitorships should write directly to the Executive Officer by February 1, 1997 with the proposed dates of residence, curriculum vitae (with list of publications), and plan of research.

The National Endowment for the Humanities announces a new program for the support of original research in the humanities. Collaborative Research Grants support original research undertaken by two or more scholars and projects coordinated by individual scholars, which because of their scope, complexity, or duration, cannot be accomplished through one-year fellowships. Eligible activities include the editing of works or documents that are of value to humanities scholars and general readers and have been either previously inaccessible or available only in inadequate editions; translating into English works that provide insight into the history, literature, philosophy, and scientific and artistic achievements of other cultures; basic research in the humanities, especially research that promises to break new ground or offer fresh perspectives; and research conferences designed to advance the state of research in a field or topic of major importance in the humanities. Applicants must make a convincing case for the importance of the project, describe sound research methods and a practical plan of work, and demonstrate that staff and institutional resources appropriate to the goals of the project are available and committed. Grants support full-time or part-time activities

for periods of up to three years. Support is available for various combinations of scholars, consultants, and research assistants; project-related travel; and technical support and services. All grantees are expected to publish or disseminate in other ways the results of their work. Awards normally range from \$10,000 to \$200,000, and the use of federal matching funds is encouraged. Federal matching funds are released when a grantee secures gift funds from eligible third parties. Due to the limited funds available for support of research, the Endowment normally can contribute only part of the funds needed to carry out projects. Individuals and nonprofit institutions and organizations in the United States are eligible for support. To be eligible to receive NEH funding, institutional applicants must have obtained tax-exempt status from the Internal Revenue Service. U.S. citizens are eligible to apply as individual applicants, as are foreign nationals who have been legal residents in the United States or its jurisdictions for a period of at least the three years immediately preceding the submission of the application. Deadline for applications is September 1, 1996. Information and application guidelines and forms are available at the NEH website www.neh.fed.us or by contacting the program office: Division of Research and Education Programs, 1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20506. Tel: 202-606-8210. E-mail: research@neh.fed.us.

The National Humanities Center is a residential institute for advanced study in history, languages and literature, philosophy, and other fields of the humanities. Each year the Center awards fellowships to scholars of demonstrated achievement and to promising younger scholars. Fellows are expected to work at the Center. Applicants must hold a doctorate or have equivalent professional accomplishments. Younger scholars should be engaged in work significantly beyond the revision of a doctoral dissertation. Most fellowships are for the academic year (September through May), though a few may be awarded for the fall or spring semester. Scholars from any nation may apply for fellowships. In addition to scholars from fields normally associated with the humanities, representatives of the natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life may be awarded fellowships if their work has humanistic dimensions. Fellowship stipends are individually determined, the amount depending upon the needs of the Fellow, and upon the Center's ability to meet them. While the Center provides an environment for individual study, it is also designed to encourage the exchange of ideas among scholars. Each year interdisciplinary seminars are organized by Fellows, and lectures by Fellows and visitors provide further opportunities for collegial discourse. The Center also sponsors occasional conferences, and Fellows are invited to take part in Soundings, a weekly national radio program of conversations among scholars in the humanities. For application material, write to Fellowship Program, National Humanities Center, Post Office Box 12256, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina 27709-2256. Materials may also be requested via e-mail at nhc@uncecs.edu. Applicants submit the Center's forms supported by a curriculum vitae, a 1000-word project proposal, and three letters of recommendation. Applications and letters of recommendation must be postmarked by *October 15, 1996*. The National Humanities Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national or ethnic origin, handicap, sexual orientation, or age.

Through the support of the Ford Foundation, the LASA Task Force on Higher Education is pleased to announce a second competition for the LASA-FORD Prize for Scholarly Work on Latin American Higher Education. The prize will be awarded for an outstanding scholarly contribution in the field of Latin American higher education. Contributions may be from any field (History, Political Science, Sociology, Management, etc.) although preference may be given to works informed by substantial interdisciplinary research. The prize is targeted for scholars in the early stages of their academic careers, especially those residing in Latin America. Prize money would be used to foster the recipient's professional development and international contacts as an academic specialist on Latin American higher education. Total prize money, \$4,000 will go to one recipient or will be divided

between two recipients. The competition is open, but not restricted to members of LASA.

Applicants must hold at least a Master's degree. The first competition resulted in a prize to Sol Serrano of Chile. Submissions

may be journal articles, chapters in edited books, monographs or accepted professional conference papers. They may also be chapter(s) from an authored book or doctoral dissertation. However, they may not be drafts, works in progress or miscellaneous papers. Date of publication or delivery of paper must be 1993 or later. Papers must be a maximum of 75 double-spaced pages, and may be written in English, Spanish, or Portuguese. In addition to the submitted piece, applicants should provide a) a curriculum vitae; b) a one-page statement of research interests, and c) a plan for expenditure of Prize funds (i.e., travel to research libraries and other institutions, participation at conferences, research assistance, purchase of books or journal subscriptions, etc). All materials should be submitted in triplicate to the Chair of the Prize Committee, Dr. Sol Serrano, no later than November 1, 1996. The committee expects to announce its decision by January 30, 1997. Send submissions or requests for more information to Dr. Sol Serrano, Instituto de Historia, Universidad Católica de Chile, Av. Jaime Guzmán 3300, Santiago de Chile, Chile. Tel/fax: 562-204-8666. E-mail: sserrano@puc.cl.

The Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project has a number of grants available. The Project is a tenyear research undertaking to identify, locate, preserve, make accessible and publish works of primary literary sources written by Hispanics in what is now the United States, dating from the Colonial Period to 1960. The project develops and administers the following programs: Archival preservation; Curriculum; Grants-in-aid for scholars; Master bibliographic database; Periodicals recovery; and Publications. The Grants-in-aid program is designed to provide release from summer teaching duties to a scholar by funding expenditures such as photography, photoduplication, microfilming, travel to

collections, translation, transcription, indexing, scanning, or any such expenses connected with research that would advance a project to the next stage or to a successful conclusion. Scholars at different stages of their careers and advanced graduate students are encouraged to apply for a stipend of up to \$3,000 for investigative work in one of the following areas: Identification, location and recovery of any of a wide variety of literary genres, including conventional literary prose and poetry, and such forms as letters, diaries, memoirs, testimonies, periodicals and written expressions of oral traditions, folklore and popular culture. Documents which could prove relevant to the goals of *literary recovery* promoted by this project will also be considered. The emphasis is on works by Cuban, Mexican/Chicano, Puerto Rican, Spanish and other Hispanic residents of what has become the United States,

from the Colonial Period to 1960; we especially encourage projects recovering Hispanic women's voices; bibliographic compilations, indexing projects pertaining to any of the above; compilation of reference works, e.g. biographical dictionaries; study of recovered primary source(s) for potential publication, editing and/or translation; identification, evaluation, acquisition, cataloguing and preservation of archival materials in private and/or public collections, that meet the aforementioned criteria. Proposals must be postmarked no later than *October 1*, 1996. For application and guidelines, call or write Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage, University of Houston, 4800 Calhoun, E. Cullen Performance Hall, Room 254, Houston, Texas 77204-2172. Tel: 713-743-3128. Fax: 713-743-3142. E-mail: artrec@jetson.uh.edu.

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

The fifth annual conference of the Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing will meet July 4-7, 1997 at the University of Cambridge. SHARP welcomes proposals for papers dealing with the creation, diffusion, or reception of script or print in any historical period. There are no limitations on topics. Proposals for either individual papers (20 minutes in length) or full panels (comprising a chair and three papers) may be submitted. We may also sponsor workshops devoted to shorter, more informal presentations of works in progress. Proposals (one page maximum per paper) and inquiries about the conference itself should be sent to the Acting Secretary, SHARP Conference Programme Committee, 51 Sherlock Close, Cambridge CB3 0HP, United Kingdom. The absolute deadline for receipt of proposals is November 20, 1996. All participants, including presenters, will be expected to pay their own expenses, including the registration fee; so please submit proposals only if you can arrange for your own funding.

El Quinto Congreso Internacional de Literatura Centroamericana se realizará en Heredia, Costa Rica, el 19-21 de febrero de 1997. Para más información, póngase en contacto con Jorge Román-Lagunas, Foreign Languages and Literature, Purdue University Calumet, Hammond, IN 46323-2094. Tel: 219-989-2632. Fax: 219-989-2581. E-mail: roman@nwi.calumet.edu.

The Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies (PCCLAS) would like to report the completion of another successful joint PCCLAS-RMCLAS meeting, held March 20-24, 1996 at the Inn of Loreto in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Attendance was very good and the papers presented clearly demonstrated the high scholarly caliber of our colleagues and students. The third joint meeting will be held in San Diego under the campus auspices of San Diego State University from February 12-15, 1997. We look forward to seeing you at that meeting. The *Proceedings* from the Las Vegas meeting will be available soon. For further information, contact Donald Castro, Pacific Coast Council on Latin American Studies

Secretariat, Latin American Studies Program, H&SS Dean's Office, California State University, Fullerton, Fullerton, CA 92634. Tel: 714-773-3526. Fax: 714-449-5898. E-mail: dcastro@fullerton.edu.

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese and the Center for Latin America of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee are planning a conference for Fall 1998, entitled "The 1898 Cuban-Spanish American War: Nationalism, Imperialism and Colonialism in 20th Century Hispanic and American Cultures." Keynote speakers will be José Luis Abellán, Arcadio Díaz Quiñones and others. For more information write to Professor Julio Rodríguez-Luis, Chair, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

Florida International University and the University of Miami announce the first Conference on Iberian/Iberian-American Literatures, entitled "1898-1998: Nation, Culture, and Identity," to be held October 23-25, 1997. The year 1898 represents the end of the Spanish colonial experience and gives its name to a new generation of Spanish writers. This conference will attempt to cross the divide between the cultural and literary productions on both sides of the Atlantic, and will specifically deal with Modernismo, 1898, and issues relating to Iberian/Iberian-American Nation, Culture, and Identity. Possible panels include, but are not limited to, the following: Reconsidering 100 Years of Hispanic Intellectual History: Rethinking Modernismo in an International Context; Conquest and Resistance: European and Indigenous Versions; Post-Colonial Issues of Cultural Identity; Making Canons: 1898-1998; Independence and the Conflict of National Inheritances; Problematics of the Emergence of Criollismo; Chronicles of the Conquest and Golden Age Literature; Mestizos, Mulattoes, Moriscos and the Construction of Race; Hispanic Literatures and the Postmodernism Debate; Concepts of the Nation in Spanish and Latin American Cinema. Theoretical and interdisciplinary approaches are especially welcome. Papers may be written in Spanish, Portuguese or

English. Length should not exceed 10 double-spaced pages (reading time: 20 minutes). Please send a one-page abstract accompanied by a title page with the author's name, address, and phone, and postmarked no later then *January 1, 1997*, to the following: Conference on Iberian/Iberian-American Literatures, Florida International University, Department of Modern Languages, University Park, Miami, FL 33199. Fax: 305-348-1085 and to the Conference on Iberian/Iberian-American Literatures, University of Miami, Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, P.O. Box 248093, Coral Gables, FL 33124-4650. Fax: 305-284-2068.

The Puerto Rican Studies Association announces a

conference to be held September 26-29, 1996 in



San Juan, Puerto Rico. The theme of the conference will be "Transcending Boundaries: Fostering Dialogues Between the Island and Its Diaspora." The Program

Committee will give priority to proposals dealing with any of the multiple circuits—intellectual, cultural, political, and economic—between Puerto Ricans on the island and the diaspora.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Call For Papers: "A Twice-Told Tale: Contemporary Reinventions of the Old World-New World Encounter" will be an interdisciplinary anthology of essays examining contemporary reconstructions of the age of "discovery," exploration and conquest vis-à-vis fifteenth and sixteenthcentury sources (letters, histories, chronicles, and relaciones). Articles should address the problem of interpreting the old world-new world encounter during historical periods that foster radically different perspectives (the "imperial eye" of European colonial discourse and the historical revisionism of contemporary culture). Theoretical, interdisciplinary, and comparative approaches are especially welcome. Length of essays should be 5,000-10,000 words (15-30 pp). Send inquiries or application materials (a c.v. and a 4-page abstract) by November 1, 1996 to Santiago Juan-Navarro, Dept. of Modern Languages, Florida International University, University Park, Miami, FL 33199. Fax: 305-348-1085. Email: navarros@servax.fiu.edu. Initial publication decisions will be made by January 1, 1997.

Spindle Publishing Company, publisher of the International Student Guide to the United States of America, announces a NEW Latin American edition of the guide to be published in October 1996. The International Student Guide to the United States of America, Latin American edition is an exciting new annual resource publication for Latin American students planning to pursue higher education in America. The publication, which will be in Spanish, provides information and resources to foreign students, helping them become acclimated to life in the United States. Articles include information about English language programs, culture shock, money and banking, tax obligations, the American Educational System, international student services, health insurance, and more. Twenty-five thousand copies of the International Student Guide, Latin American edition will be distributed free of cost to students in 17 Latin American countries. They are distributed to students by the Advisory Services of the United States Information Service (USIS), Fulbright, Education Exchange programs, U.S. consulates, and university libraries in those countries. For more information about the International Student Guide to the United States of America, Latin American Edition (in Spanish) or the regular

International Student Guide (in English), please contact the Spindle Publishing Company, 4136 Library Road, Pittsburgh, PA 15234. Tel: 412-531-9742. Fax: 412-531-2004.

The editors of *Latin American Issues* invite contributions on all aspects of Caribbean culture for the monographic issue "Caribbean(s) Redefined." Manuscripts of 20-30 typewritten pages (double-spaced and in MLA style) should be mailed along with a 3.5" disk in WordPerfect format to both editors at the following address before *December 1, 1996*: Fernando Valerio AND Jaume Marti-Olivella, Department of Modern Languages, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335.

The Society for the History of Authorship, Reading and Publishing is launching a new juried scholarly journal, Book History. It will be a hardcover annual edited by Ezra Greenspan and Jonathan Rose, and published by Penn State Press. Book History is devoted to every aspect of the history of the book, broadly defined as the history of the creation, dissemination, and reception of script and print. It will publish research on the social, economic, and cultural history of authorship, editing, printing, the book arts, publishing, the book trade, periodicals, newspapers, ephemera, copyright, censorship, literary agents, libraries, literary criticism, canon formation, literacy, literary education, reading habits, and reader response. Book History will be published in English, but it welcomes articles dealing with any national literature. Publication of the first issue is scheduled for early 1998. Articles dealing with any part of the American hemisphere or the Middle East should be submitted to Prof. Ezra Greenspan, Department of English, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208, USA. Articles dealing with other parts of the world should be submitted to Prof. Jonathan Rose, Department of History, Drew University, Madison, NJ 07940, USA. Send one hard copy and a WordPerfect diskette for each article. Membership in SHARP includes subscriptions to Book History, SHARP News, and the annual SHARP Membership and Periodicals Directory. SHARP News is a quarterly newsletter reporting on developments in book history throughout the world. It features book reviews, calls for papers, conference announcements, course syllabi, notes and queries, employment notices, and listings of new publications.

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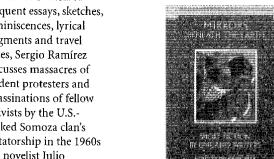
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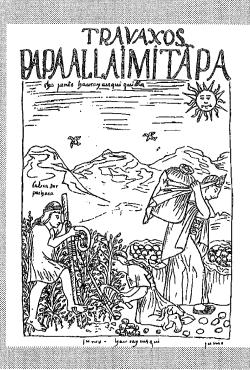
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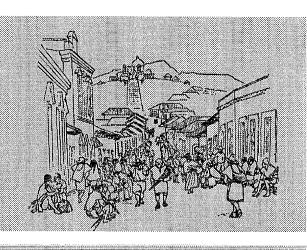
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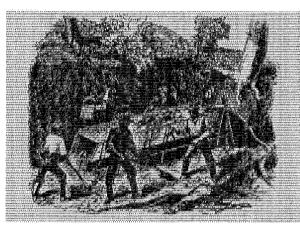
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contact the Membership Secretary, Dr. Linda Connors, Drew University Library, Madison, NJ 07940, USA. E-mail: lconnors@drew.edu.



#### GENERAL

The Department of Fine Arts and The Committee for Latin American and Caribbean Studies at St. John's University announces a Call for Entries for an exhibition titled "Latin American Art in the 90's." The exhibition is open to professional Latin American artists or artists having direct lineage to a Latin American birthplace. Painting, sculpture, works on paper, photography, and mixed media will be considered. Artists may submit up to three slides. Slides must be 35mm, color, and in a 2" x 2" cardboard or thin plastic mount. Glass slides or slides with tape on them will not be accepted. Each slide must be clearly marked on the blank side with the following information: artist's name, title of image, media, dimensions (height precedes width). Top of image must also be indicated. All slides of accepted artwork will become the property of the University Gallery. Work may not exceed 44" in any dimension, including frame. Selected works must be display ready, suitably framed and wired for hanging. Any work differing from slide will be disqualified. Artwork accepted for exhibition must be delivered by hand carrier by October 1. All shipments must be sent prepaid. Late or damaged shipments will be returned collect. Shipping and delivery instructions will be mailed to artists with accepted entries. Entries are handled with professional care. Work accepted will be insured while on exhibition. Artists should insure their own work during shipment to and from the

University Gallery. The University Gallery does not assume responsibility for damage or deterioration incurred before or after the exhibition or for possible loss in transit. A nonrefundable entry fee of \$15 is charged to each artist. This fee entitles the artist to a maximum of three entries. Check or money order should be made out to St. John's University. The University will retain 20 percent commission on all sales; the price indicated on the Official Entry Form will be considered the retail price of the work. Your entry grants permission to photograph your work and use your slides for promotional and educational purposes only. Submission to this exhibition constitutes acceptance of stated conditions. The exhibition calendar is as follows: deadline for submitting slides-August 15, 1996; notification of accepted work by September 1; deadline for receiving work—October 1; exhibition opens October 1 and closes November 15. Before you mail your submission, be sure to include the following: an entry form; slides, correctly labeled; entry fee, jury notification form; long, self-addressed stamped return envelope. Mail these materials to St. John's University, Latin American Art in the 90's, University Gallery, 109 Bent, 8000 Utopia Parkway, Jamaica, NY 11439. For further information, please call the University Department of Fine Arts at 718-990-6250 or the Committee for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, 718-990-1932.

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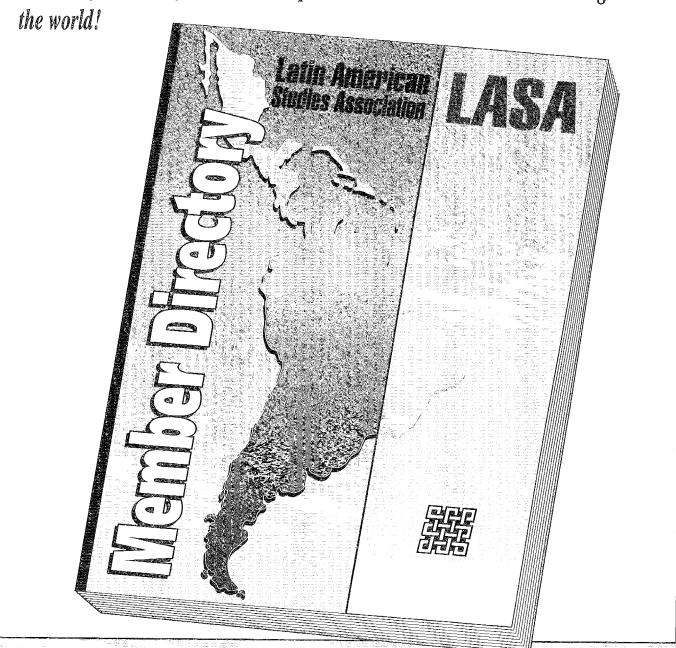
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