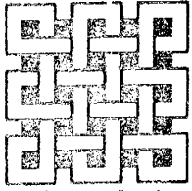


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# LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

## Newsletter

Vol. 1 No. 2

May — June, 1969

**LASA — EWA RESEARCH STUDY COMPLETED:** The Secretariat has received from the Council on Educational Cooperation with Latin America, Education and World Affairs, copies of the study of U.S. research in Guatemala, Chile and Paraguay, which was jointly sponsored by LASA and EWA. RICHARD N. ADAMS, Past-President of LASA is the editor and author of the Introduction. The three country studies were written by CALVIN P. BLAIR, RICHARD P. SCHAEDEL, and JAMES H. STREET. Bibliographic sections of the studies will be especially valuable, while the introduction and recommendation have been called to the attention of the other area associations at a recent meeting of Executive Secretaries in New York at which time a copy of the publication was distributed to them.

The full title of the 100 page, 8x11 inch document is: *Responsibilities of the Foreign Scholar to the Local Scholarly Community: Studies of U.S. Research in Guatemala, Chile and Paraguay.* The report will be circulated without cost to Institutional and other members in good standing.

The Council is bringing out Spanish and Portuguese translations of the introduction and recommendations. The Portuguese translation is being published by BADOS in Brazil. A Spanish translation of the study on Guatemala is being published by the University of San Carlos. The Council hopes that the other two Spanish sections on Chile and Paraguay will also find Spanish translators and publishers. Inquiries on the report should be directed to: MR. JOEL JOHNSON, Council on Educational Cooperation with Latin America, Education and World Affairs, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10036.

**AREA STUDIES PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MEETS:** The University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, was the scene of the second meeting this year of the Area Studies Programs Committee. Attending were: DRS. WILLIAM E. CARTER (Chairman), CHARLES ANDERSON, JOAN E. CIRUTI, ROBERTO ESQUENAZI-MAYO, JOHN HOAG, CHARLES BENNETT (representing JOHANNES WILBERT), MARTIN NEEDLER, ROBERT A. POTASH, and TAYLOR PECK. DR. D. LEE HAMILTON of the Office of Education had been invited by the Committee to take part in the first session of the meeting and discussed with it general and specific relationships and, problems arising between the Federal Government and Area Studies Programs.

A report was presented on the meeting at the University of Nebraska, which was co-sponsored by the University of Kansas and the University of Wisconsin (Milwaukee), the purpose of which was to determine ways of establishing cooperation between the some thirty-two institutions attending on the exchange of students and faculty, on library resources and acquisitions, and on overseas programs. A second meeting is scheduled for April, 1970, and the report on main library resources is due in June. For additional information write: DR. ROBERTO ESQUENAZI-MAYO, Director, Institute of Latin American and International Studies, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508.

Dr. Needler reported on the formation of a new consortium of universities of the border states, including institutions in California, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. The foci are border problems, themselves: i.e., trade, transportation, movement of populations, etc. The institutions also expect to cooperate in Latin American technical assistance, in research and overseas programs. At overseas campuses there is mutual recognition of credits. An agreement has been reached on the sharing of library resources. The headquarters of the consortium will be at the University of Texas at El Paso.

The Chairman reported on the result of the inquiry into recommended priorities. Priority No.1 relates to "Program and/or roster of scholarly visitors, with the thought of sharing such people on a regional basis." A letter is being sent to Institutional Representatives of the Consortium, asking that information on visiting scholars scheduled for their institutions, or known to be in or coming to the United States, be sent to the Executive Secretary. The Secretariat, meanwhile, has established contact with a number of foundations, organizations and agencies which sponsor scholarly visits by Latin Americans. The Newsletter will serve as the information vehicle when feasible, or the members of the Consortium will be informed by separate bulletin.

To deal with Priority No.2 which concerns legislation related to area studies, the Committee unanimously approved the following Resolution and Explanation which are addressed to the Executive Council:

The Area Studies Programs Committee recommends as a matter of urgent concern that the Executive Council of LASA undertake the formation of a committee of representatives of as many area studies associations as demonstrate interest for the purpose of increasing the effectiveness of language and area studies in U.S. higher education.

Among the functions of such a committee shall be: (1) assumption of a spokesman's role for international studies within American higher education; (2) the representation of such activities and needs of such programs before appropriate private and public agencies; (3) the accumulation and dissemination of information concerning the achievements and needs of language and area programs; and (4) the promotion of a greater comprehension of the need for a concept of American higher education that includes an understanding of civilizations and cultures other than our own.

**EXPLANATION:** In the late 1950's the United States became aware of the need for a citizenry educated to a global comprehension of culture and civilization. To achieve this goal the Government, the private foundations and the universities created programs in language and area studies. The National Defense Education Act (NDEA) of 1958, the Fulbright-Hayes legislation, and the Foreign Area Fellowship Program are testaments, among others, to this concern.

Today we are experiencing a shift of priorities and concerns to domestic programs. However, although the focus and interest of national attention may be temporarily elsewhere, it is not in the best national interest that the public and the scholarly community return to a parochial world view. The professional organizations that have been created to promote international education must assume responsibility for this continued emphasis on the concept that higher education include an understanding of civilizations other than one's own. The potential of language and area studies has not yet been fully realized within the American academic enterprise. What has been constructed with enthusiasm must now be maintained and extended. Funding for foreign studies under current legislation has remained at essentially the same dollar level for the past several years, while educational costs have risen considerably. No new funding initiatives are now in the process of development. Moreover, foundation funds have largely been withdrawn from support of language and area studies programs. If these conditions are not remedied, or alternative programs of action are not developed, the future of all such programs will be placed in severe jeopardy.

Individual colleges and universities cannot fulfill this responsibility without support and encouragement at the national level. Only the national professional areas studies associations are organized to speak exclusively for education in foreign cultures and civilizations. However, separately they do not have the capacity to advance their common concerns for continued national commitment for these undertakings. For this reason, it is imperative that some entity take the initiative to bring these associations together to formulate and promote appropriate action. We seek to have LASA assume this role.

"Development of curriculum guidelines for schools initiating and/or developing Latin American Studies Programs," was selected by the Institutional Representatives as Priority No.3. Action has been initiated by a request to the Chairman of the Program Committee of the Second National Meeting to schedule a session, or sessions on guidelines for which the Committee will undertake the planning. Special attention will be given to the participation of representatives of institutions of varying sizes and different academic "mixes." DR. MARTIN NEEDLER, Director, Division of Inter-American Affairs, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106, is in charge of the organization of the session and in the development of resources. Inquiries, suggestions and materials should be directed to him, and Institutional Representatives are asked especially to forward to him any brochures, curricula, programs of courses, and other pertinent materials that their institutions prepare for area studies and courses.

**LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES CENTERS:** Meeting in Miami, Florida, under Office of Education sponsorship, thirteen NDEA center directors or their representatives were joined by representatives from four other universities, officials from the Office of Education, education specialists and LASA staff, who organized the meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the problems of Latin American language and area centers as such problems relate to Spanish and Portuguese speaking minorities. The program included visits on May 1 to a variety of local educational institutions and to the University of Miami for discussion of the special role that university has played in the Spanish-speaking community. May 2 and 3 were devoted to wide-ranging discussion of the centers' individual situations; bi-linguality in elementary and secondary education, access of minorities to higher education, programs and opportunities in graduate study, the impact of area knowledge and experience upon the development of education, legislation, funding, and a variety of related topics.

In addition to the insights into the dimensions of the problems and variations that exist in requirements placed upon centers in relation to these problems, the directors and representatives formulated a resolution to the Executive Council of LASA on the general topic, which will be circulated separately, and drafted a second resolution on the support of related area graduate study that is being circulated to Members of Congress, the Office of Education, the concerned foundations, and interested individuals. The resolution reads:

- 1) An inherent relationship exists between major minority groups in the United States and the study of the ethnic groups and cultures abroad from which these minorities originate.
- 2) Trained representatives of these minority groups are likely to be accepted by others of similar backgrounds and may be effective when working with them. Such representatives may also have special qualifications for dealing with the larger community.
- 3) It follows that the graduate study of Latin America by representatives of those groups may create a special competence in matters related to Spanish-speaking minorities in the United States.
- 4) For these reasons, it is especially urgent to provide assistance to, and to develop programs for, the graduate training of young scholars from these major minority groups of Latin American backgrounds who want to emphasize study of Latin American society and problems in their graduate programs. For this group, financial support is needed especially for overseas dissertation research which, because of the high unit costs, poses a particular problem for the students in question.

**FORMATION OF CESAA:** At the June 4th meeting at ACLS, the Executive Secretaries of the various area studies associations constituted themselves as a Council for the purpose of planning future cooperation in scholarly and professional activities. Such activities will include: exchange of newsletters, reviews and journals, some ex-officio representation on such functional committees as the Automated Bibliographic Control Committee of the Association of Asian Studies, joint panels at national meetings, representation of non-Western/Third World interests in Washington, D. C., and joint fund-raising for projects. A meeting of the Executive Secretaries is projected for December to assess the progress of the SSRC-OE (Lambert) Review of language and area studies. Taking part now in CESAA (pronounced see-saw by one observer!) are: LASA, ASA, AAASS, AAS, and MESA.

**REGIONAL MEETINGS:** Midwest (MALAS), which decided at St. Louis last October to transform itself into an association, instead of a council, meets on October 30 and 31, 1969, at Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana. The conference theme is "Cultural Change in Brazil." Scholars interested in presenting papers should write to PROFESSOR TOM L. MARTINSON, Coordinator, International Studies, Ball State University, Muncie, Indiana 47306.

Rocky Mountain Met at the University of Denver on May 8-1, the weekend before the University's two-week program, "International '69: Latin America." That ambitious program brought to the campus RISIERI FRONDIZI, HORACIO FLORES DE LA PENA, FERNANDO BELAUNDE TERRY, and the HON. GALO PLAZA LASSO, among others. Rocky Mountain plans to hold its 1970 meeting at the American Institute for Foreign Trade, Thunderbird Field, Phoenix, Arizona. For additional information write: DR. WESLEY CRAIG, Latin American Studies, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah 84601.

Southeast (SECOLAS) will have the University of South Carolina as host for its Spring, 1970, meeting.

While the needs and situations of each institution vary, in general it is the feeling of the Committee that Latin American Studies programs and centers as presently constituted should not become the primary vehicle for programs concerned with the problems of Spanish-speaking minorities in the United States. However, we believe that faculty members working in Latin American Studies programs will often have the special skills and interests needed in the development in these minority programs, and we encourage participation on an individual basis. Spanish-speaking students may often have a special interest in Latin American Studies, and we urge that their participation be encouraged through financial aid and other means.

The Committee discussed the thorny problems related to the rationalization of research at both graduate and undergraduate levels. In relation to the latter, continued caution on the adverse impact on the countries and communities abroad will be issued to responsible institutions and organizations, especially the destruction of all research opportunity through the sheer burden of numbers. For graduate study problems relate to waste of scarce resources through costly duplication of effort, to the alienation of the foreign scholar and institution, to the research saturation of certain areas, fields and topics, and to the failure to involve the local scholar. To this end the LASA membership and especially the Institutional Representatives of the Consortium are asked to send the Chairman their ideas and opinions on "saturated" research topics. Address: DR. WILLIAM E. CARTER, Director, Center for Latin American Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

The Executive Secretariat was asked to prepare a listing for the Consortium and for LASA of instructional programs overseas in the area for U.S. students which are sponsored and organized by U.S. institutions. Such programs would not include independent study or research activities but rather formally organized teaching programs. Members are asked to assist the Secretariat in this listing by forwarding the name and address of the institutional sponsor and any such programs known to them.

The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for the University of Nebraska on October 24—25, 1969.

**LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES REVIEW:** Representatives of the Social Science Research Council and the American Council of Learned Societies met in New York on June 4th with the Executive Secretaries of five area studies associations and DR. RICHARD LAMBERT of the University of Pennsylvania to discuss the survey questionnaire which Dr. Lambert plans to use in the SSRC—Office of Education review and evaluation of language and area studies in the United States. The questionnaire has various purposes: to furnish data for a general analysis of the impact of language and area studies on higher education and to provide the area studies associations with information for automating, wherever possible, routine and recurrent business activities, among others. The membership total to be surveyed is estimated to be about 15,000 persons. This figure includes academicians, non-academicians, students and foreign nationals. While a single questionnaire will be used for all groups, certain portions will not apply to all individuals. A cover letter from the Social Science Research Council will explain the purpose of the Review and the use of the questionnaire, and each area association will also utilize its own cover letter to members and others included in the survey.

LASA expects to survey the 2,600 scholars to be listed in the new edition of the *National Directory*, plus 600 persons among the non-academic, "interested public," and another 600 graduate students. While expectation of a 100 per cent response is unrealistic, LASA hopes that as many recipients as possible will complete the questionnaire when it is received, and return it to the Executive Secretary. The Secretariat expects to receive the first questionnaires in early October and expects to begin the mailing by the 15th. A reminder will be sent, if the questionnaire is not returned in 30 days. Scholars who have provided biographic information for the *Directory* will not need to repeat that information in the questionnaire.

Funds are being provided the Secretariat to cover the basic costs of mailing and handling. Scholars, members of the "interested public" and students, who wish to take part in the survey, which has important implications for the future of all language and area studies but who feel that their names and addresses might not otherwise be available to the Secretariat, are urged to write to: DR. F. TAYLOR PECK, Executive Secretary, Latin American Studies Association, Hispanic Foundation, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

**LATIN AMERICAN DATA BANK:** In 1966 the University of Florida (Gainesville) established a Latin American Data Bank. It is an inter-disciplinary, social science data archive concerned with gathering significant statistical information from Latin America. Today the Bank contains more than 10,000,000 cards, or card images, dealing with: individual records of population, housing, industrial, commercial and agricultural censuses, election returns and some economic time series.

The information gathered covers the countries of Central America, and the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Chile, Argentina, and Brazil.

At present the Bank is interested in acquiring detailed sets of data from governmental agencies in Latin America. Also it is hoped that enough interest can be stimulated to encourage the future development of data archives in various Latin American locations.

The use of the Data Bank is limited to the general academic community. Those wishing to use the Bank, who are not affiliated with the University of Florida, should direct all inquiries to: THOMAS L. PAGE, Director of the Latin American Data Bank, Department of Political Science, 107 Peabody Hall, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida 32601.

**AREA STUDIES PROGRAMS:** The Association has available to it a memory unique in the history of area studies. Beginning with Jorge Basadre's 1948 study of Latin American offerings, immensely strengthened and expanded by the Hispanic Foundation's 1958 analysis of work related to Latin America in institutions of higher education in the U.S., one of the projects currently under consideration by the Committee on Area Studies Programs is a comparative study of courses offered in 1968 by American colleges and universities. The comparative study for Latin America may be a part of a larger inventory of world area studies to be made in conjunction with the Lambert Project and the cooperative activities of the various area studies associations with that Project. Without too much effort the frontier of our comparative memory in Latin American Studies might be pushed back to 1948, or, according to Dr. Allen D. Bushong of the University of South Carolina, to 1869 — Any takers or volunteers?

**NDEA LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM RESEARCH REPORTS:** The Language and Area Research Section, Division of Foreign Studies, Institute of International Studies, Office of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202, has published a short bibliography of 42 research reports related to Spanish-speaking minorities. Some reports deal with attitudes, the development and maintenance of self respect, and other cultural problems of bilingualism. Others concern linguistic details of problems related to the attempt to "dominate" English. Items are keyed to indicate source of availability. Bibliography reported available upon request.

**THIRD MEETING OF UNITED STATES — MEXICAN HISTORIANS:** Scheduled for November 4—9, 1969, Oaxtepec, Morelos, Mexico, under the general chairmanship of DANIEL COSIO VILLEGAS, the provisional general academic program lists eleven sessions on Historiography plus three evening roundtables on "*New Directions and Methods in Historical Investigation*," "*Problems in the History of Ideas*," and "*Social Content of Literature and the Arts*." Additional information may be obtained from the Conference on Latin American History, Hispanic Foundation, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

**CLEARING HOUSE:** The Secretariat has been advised that a group of intellectuals are setting up a "clearing house" in Mexico, for the express purpose of processing academic inquiries from the United States concerning Mexico and Latin America. Those wishing further information concerning this recently organized venture may wish to write to: SRTA. ELENA RODRIGUEZ, Rivera 131, Las Aguilas, Mexico 20, D.F.

**UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO TO HOST CONFERENCE:** The XIV Conference on Ibero-American Literature will meet at the University of Toronto from August 24 through 28. Further information from: PROFESSOR KURT L. LEVY, Italian and Hispanic Studies, University of Toronto, Toronto 5, Canada.

**SOCIETY FOR SPANISH AND PORTUGUESE HISTORICAL STUDIES:** At a plenary meeting on April 19, 1969, which followed a Symposium at Wesleyan University, Middletown, Connecticut, entitled "La emigracion espanola ante si misma: historia y literatura," some twenty scholars gathered and set in motion a new society to foster Spanish and Portuguese historical studies. The Permanent Committee for a one-year term is composed of: NICOLAS SANCHEZ-ALBORNOZ (N.Y.U.), EDWARD MALEFAKIS (Northwestern), IRIS M. ZAVALA (SUNY - Stony Brook), CARLOS BLANCO-AGUINAGA (U. of California - La Jolla), JUAN MARICHAL (Harvard), CLARA E. LIDA (Wesleyan), THOMAS GLICK (U. of Texas - Austin). Professor Lida is Secretary, and Tom Glick has volunteered to prepare a semi-annual newsletter. Further information from the Secretary.

**RESEARCH PROJECT:** This is a plea for help! The Secretariat of the Latin American Studies Association has been directed to compile a listing of all grants, scholarships, fellowships, etc. available to U.S. nationals (educators, students, and institutions) concerned with the study of the social sciences and the humanities in Latin America.

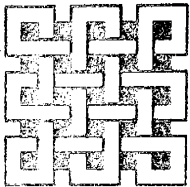
As the deadline for compiling data on this project is September 1, 1969, it would be greatly appreciated if readers of this *Newsletter* with a knowledge of such grants, fellowships or programs as described above, would write to: JAMES MEARS, LASA/Hispanic Foundation, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

**NEWSLETTER REQUESTS:** LASA is interested in receiving selected news articles from its members, concerning future academic events, to be published in succeeding issues of the *Newsletter*. Publication is by discretion of the editors.

We have had many requests from non-members to receive the *Newsletter*. However, the publication is currently limited to the membership of LASA and is not being distributed to the general public.

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LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION  
Hispanic Foundation  
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Washington, D.C. 20540



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