

L A T I N A M E R I C A N S T U D I E S A S S O C I A T I O N

Newsletter

Vol. 1 No. 3

July - August, 1969

NOMINATIONS OF OFFICERS: The Nominations Committee, which includes ROBERT MEAD (Chairman), WILLIAM E. CARTER and CLARK E. REYNOLDS, has presented its slate of scholars for Vice-President for 1970 (President - 1971) and the Executive Council (1970-72). The candidates are:

- Vice-President: FEDERICO GIL, University of North Carolina (Political Science).
ROBERT J. ALEXANDER, Rutgers University (Economics).
- Executive Council: SEYMOUR MENTON, University of California at Irvine (Literature).
JOHN THOMPSON, University of Illinois (Geography).
THOMAS F. McGANN, University of Texas (History).
ERIC N. BAKLANOFF, University of Alabama (Political Science).

LASA's By-Laws prescribe that nominations be submitted to the membership six weeks prior to the formulation of the official ballot. This interim permits additional nominations by the membership at large during the six-week period. Sections I and II of By-Laws on Nominations and Elections may be found in LARR, Volume II, No. 1, Fall, 1966, pages 77-78.

This newsnote constitutes notification to the membership of the official slate as it will appear on the ballot. Additional nominations from the membership at large are open during the period from September 1 to October 15th. Ballots will be sent to members in good standing about November 1st. Please vote promptly and return the ballot to the Secretariat in order that the Ad-Hoc Committee on Elections may complete its count by mid-December.

SECOND NATIONAL MEETING: The site of the Second National Meeting is the Statler Hilton Hotel in Washington, D. C., and the dates are April 16-17, 1970. The Program Chairman is DR. RICHARD M. MORSE, Department of History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520. Details on registration and housing will be sent to the membership in early October.

NEW EDITOR FOR LARR: THOMAS F. McGANN, professor of Latin American History at the University of Texas, Austin, Texas 78712, becomes Editor of the *Latin American Research Review* in September, succeeding RICHARD P. SCHAEDEL, who remains on the faculty of the Texas institution.

LAAR TO PUBLISH SCHMITTER ARTICLE: The many scholars and students who have expressed interest in obtaining PHILIPPE SCHMITTER'S paper, *New Strategies for the Comparative Analysis of Latin American Politics*, which was given at the First National Meeting, will be pleased to know that it will appear in the forthcoming number of LARR, Volume IV, No. 2, which will be mailed to members in September.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY RESIGNS: DR. F. TAYLOR PECK, who has served as Executive Secretary of LASA since February 15, 1968, presented his resignation to the Executive Council to be effective August 31, in order to accept an appointment as Professor of History (and Latin Americanist) at the Naval War College Center of George Washington University at the Naval War College, Newport, Rhode Island 02840. The Secretariat will continue to function in the Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

CONTEMPORARY LATIN AMERICAN WRITING: In December, 1969, *Mundus Artium: A Journal of International Literature and the Arts*, produced at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio 45701, will publish a special, expanded bilingual number devoted to contemporary Latin American poetry and fiction. A major advisor has been OCTAVIO PAZ. Two young Mexican poets, HOMERO ARIDJIS and SERGIO MONDRAGON, are co-editors and have helped in the selection of poets, writers, essayists and artists. Translators who have agreed to work on this special issue include: BEN BELITT, MURIEL RUKEYSER, WILLIS BARNSTONE, ALAN BRILLIANT, DONALD YATES, MICHAEL HAMBURGER, ANTHONY EDKINS, DAVID TIPTON and others. Among the poets and writers to be included are: OCTAVIO PAZ, NICANOR PARRA, VICENTE HUIDOBRO, JULIO CORTAZAR, JUAN RULFO, PABLO NERUDA, and JORGE LUIS BORGES.

NEW JOURNAL AT SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY: *SPECIALIA (Interamericana)* is a multi-disciplinary publication of articles, seminar reports, conference papers and similar items presented, according to the introductory letter accompanying this first issue, for use primarily in permanent library-depositories. It achieves a wider dissemination of research which might otherwise go unnoticed and unprinted, an important result for Latin American Studies. The second issue, honoring Rubén Darío (1867-1967), will contain twelve articles by some of the best-known scholars of Literature. Queries should be directed to A. W. BORK, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901.

BOLIVIAN PUBLICATION: The Instituto Boliviano de Estudio y Accion Social (IBEAS) announces the publication of a journal, *Estudios Andinos*, in the Social Sciences, focusing principally on the Andean region. Queries should be addressed to: CHARLES W. DAHM, IBEAS, Casilla 3277, La Paz, Bolivia.

COOPERATIVE ACQUISITIONS OF LATIN AMERICAN MATERIALS: MARIETTA DANIELS SHEPARD, Chief, Library Development Program of the Pan American Union, has prepared a highly informative article on the background of cooperative acquisitions programs in the United States. The article was recently issued as No. 50 (English) of *Cuadernos Bibliotecológicos*. Inquiries should be addressed to: Library Development Program, Department of Cultural Affairs, Pan American Union, Washington, D.C. 20006.

PACIFIC COAST CONFERENCE ON LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES: The Conference meets this October 23-25 on the campus of the California State College at Fullerton. Inquiries should be addressed to: DAVID M. FELDMAN, President, Pacific Coast Council for Latin American Studies, Department of Foreign Languages and Literature, California State College at Fullerton, 800 North State College Boulevard, Fullerton, California 92631.

CONVERSATIONS IN THE DISCIPLINES, SUNY, NEW PALTZ: The annual SUNY Conversations in the Disciplines for Latin American Studies will be held at University College, New Paltz, October 17 and 18. The general theme will be "*Current Issues in the Economic, Social and Political Development of Latin America.*" The Center for Inter-American Studies at SUNY, Albany will be a co-sponsor.

The Conversations will be organized around the following topics: The planning and implementation of economic development, political problems of development, and structural problems in development.

Many outstanding Latin Americanists have been invited to present papers and participate in the Conversations. In addition, DR. FELIPE HERRERA, President of the Inter-American Development Bank, and MR. ROBERT E. CULBERTSON, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Latin American Affairs, will address the group.

SUNY, New Paltz, will also have a Latin American Festival this fall in the period from October 16 to November 11, dedicated to Mexico and Brazil:

The festival includes presentations in the fine arts, literature, and current issues in economic, political, and social affairs. The program will include six art shows, four musical concerts, nine films, and fourteen lectures. The lecturers will include DR. LUIS ALBERTO SANCHEZ; PROFESSOR JOHN WOMACK, JR., of Harvard University; FRANK KNIGHT of SUNY, Stony Brook; SENHOR MARCOS KONDOR REIS; DR. CARLETON SPRAGUE SMITH; DR. LEOPOLDO CASTEDO; and DR. JAMES PETRAS of Pennsylvania State University.

ESSEX FELLOW: SIMON COLLIER, Director of Latin American Center, University of Essex, England, writes that the first Senior Fellow to be appointed by the Center is MARCO ANTONIO MONTES DE OCA of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico. The Center also awarded post-doctoral fellowships in the Social Sciences to ADOLFO GURRIERI, University of Buenos Aires, and EDELBERTO TORRES RIVAS, University of San Carlos and FLACSO.

WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE: The Secretariat has learned that the Chilean novelist, ENRIQUE LAFOURCADE, is interested in coming to the United States and hopes for an appointment as Writer-in-Residence in a university in the vicinity of metropolitan New York. The English-speaking writer may be reached through JOHN P. NETHERTON, The Ford Foundation, Victoria Subercaseaux 121, 6^o Piso, Santiago, Chile.

LANGUAGE AND AREA STUDIES REVIEW: An Explanatory Note —

Non-western area studies have undergone vigorous development in American colleges and universities over the last twenty years. Growing pains, particularly since the mid-sixties, have led to a concern for the identity, the role, and the future of area studies within the academic community and American society as a whole. With increasing frequency, the state of the art in area studies is discussed among scholars, students, and administrators. Too often such discussion relies solely on speculation, projection of one individual's experiences, wishful thinking, or vested interests. The time is overdue for informed opinion and precise empirical data on which government, foundations, and universities can base their planning. Against this requirement has emerged a nation-wide project to survey language and area studies in the United States.

The Institute of International Studies, Office of Education, initiated in June, 1968, a comprehensive Language and Area Studies Review. The project is administered by the Social Science Research Council and the Council of Executive Secretaries of Area Associations. The latter is comprised of six area-oriented professional organizations: the Association for Asian Studies, African Studies Association, American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, American Oriental Society, Latin American Studies Association, and the Middle East Studies Association. The project is directed by Richard D. Lambert of the University of Pennsylvania.

The Language and Area Studies Review will provide 1) an overview of the impact of area studies as a whole on the American educational polity, and 2) the first comprehensive compilation of the human resources available to the United States in non-western studies.

This complex review has many aspects. A major focus of the study is on the language and area studies centers supported under the National Defense Education Act, Title VI. For these centers, there will be a review of the organization of the program, its relation to the disciplinary departments, the place of language in the program, and the place of area studies in the overall curriculum.

In addition, the survey will examine the characteristics of individual faculty members. Among the faculty an attempt will be made to differentiate among degrees of area specialization and to assess the role and importance of language training, training and research in foreign countries, and the relationship of later research and teaching experience to earlier area training.

Students, too, are important in the study. An indicator of the success of an area studies program is the quality of students it draws, the training it gives them, placement after completion of training, and the future career line of its graduates. Data on students will be drawn largely from questionnaires and on-site visits to area centers.

Another academic gauge of the impact of area studies is the scholar's published product. Evaluation of area specialists' journal articles will cover their use of innovative concepts, empirical data, methodology, and non-western language materials. The interaction of area studies and academic disciplines will be investigated in publications through an analysis of whether area specialists draw on, contribute to, amend, or refute disciplinary generalization, comparativist theory, or descriptive and analytical work done by other area specialists.

Playing an intermediary role between all area specialists are the area professional associations. The Review will seek to define the precise role of these associations in the development of the field. The role of the area association as it serves the scholar, the academic community, and the advance of area studies will be examined in comprehensive case histories written by each of the six participating area associations or their respective organizations. Their contributions through publishing journals, newsletters, and bibliographic aids, forming task force committees, sponsoring research conferences, helping to fund scholars in research abroad, and the pooling of resources in many areas will be discussed, examined, and finally compared in an analytical overview.

The initial phases of the Language and Area Studies Review are now in progress. Site visits have already been made to a number of NDEA language and area centers. A questionnaire is being prepared for mailing in the fall to the 15,000 area specialists holding membership in the six area associations. In addition, a sample will be taken of persons identified as having pertinent area studies skills or interests employed by business, government, or other non-academic institutions. The questionnaire has the dual purpose of providing the participating area associations with information for their own internal purposes (such as publishing a directory and administrative processing of membership dues, subscriptions, etc.) and for providing significant data for the survey as a whole. The first fruit of joint participation and cooperation of area associations in the project was the formation in June, 1969, of the Council of Executive Secretaries of Area Associations. The Council is now looking into such future avenues of cooperation as automated bibliography and joint representation of international studies in Washington, D.C.

The final product of the Language and Area Studies Review will be a thorough report analyzing the role and impact of area studies. The government will be provided with a national manpower survey in area studies, a standard for measuring effectiveness of past and present funding, and criteria for determining priorities in future funding. The information gained on membership and their respective organizations will enable area associations to expand and improve services for the area studies community. The academic community as a whole will have a profile of area studies with which to plan future development. For the individual faculty member and student, the review will provide an assessment of past accomplishments and future needs of the field.

UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO GRADUATE SCHOOL OF LIBRARIANSHIP: Classes began on August 11, 1969, at the new Graduate School of Librarianship on the Rio Piedras campus of the University of Puerto Rico, with 56 registered students.

The Graduate School has been authorized to grant the degree of Master of Library Science (M.L.S.) upon completion of 36 semester hours of graduate studies, of which 6 semester hours may be taken outside of librarianship.

Classes are taught in Spanish, but since most of the literature of librarianship is in English, all students are required to have a functional knowledge of both Spanish and English.

FREDERICK E. KIDDER, Director of the School, received his Ph.D. in Latin American Area Studies from the University of Florida in 1965, following graduate study in librarianship and political science at the University of California (Berkeley). Other faculty members received their library training at Columbia, Illinois, Michigan, Pittsburgh and Rutgers library schools.

Those wishing further information may write to: Graduate School of Librarianship, University of Puerto Rico, Box 21906, San Juan, Puerto Rico 00931.

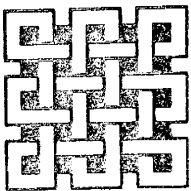
NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF LATIN AMERICANISTS: HELEN H. MILLER of the Hispanic Foundation informs the Secretariat that the bio-bibliographies to be included in the new edition of the *Directory* will be mailed to scholars for final correction and up-dating about October 6th. Latin Americanists are urged to check their entries and return them to the Hispanic Foundation as soon as possible. The new edition, which is expected to contain between 2,500 and 2,700 entries, is expected to be off the presses of the Government Printing Office early in 1970.

ARRIVAL OF LATIN AMERICAN VISITORS:

JOSE JOAQUIN RAMIREZ BARRERO,
Theater Director, Cafe La Mama; Bogota. Here on a 45 day
Department of State grant; programmed by the Council on
Leaders and Specialists. Scheduled arrival date: August
23rd.

JOSE LEON SANCHEZ ALVARADO,
Writer and Cultural Advisor, *Editorial Costa Rica*; San Jose.
Here on a 30 day Department of State grant; programmed
by the Governmental Affairs Institute, Washington, D.C.
Scheduled arrival date: August 18th.

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION
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