

LASA FORUM

Latin American Studies Association

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LASA Forum

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How to contact LASA

William Pitt Union, Room 946, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Telephone: (412) 648-7929 Fax: (412) 624-7145 Internet: LASA+@PITTEDU
<http://www.pitt.edu/~lasa/>

President's Report

by Franklin W. Knight

Johns Hopkins University

fknight@jhu.edu

Introduction and Acknowledgments

My term of office as your new president coincides with a significant chronological phase—the start of a new millennium—and I am quite aware of that. I am also quite mindful of the possible symbolism of my being elected at this particular period in the history of our dynamic association, but others may have more to say about this. I am not an excessive *aficionado* of the merely symbolic. Practically, spiritually and psychologically all sorts of new things will be happening all across our hemisphere and around the world over the next few years. Most of these things will have nothing to do with us, and will occur whether we like it or not. But I think that LASA, like all academic associations, will inevitably have to make continual adjustments, forging new instruments to combat successfully whatever new challenges the future brings.

LASA has always been a vigorous and adaptable association, with highly qualified and dedicated leaders taking office in regular succession. As I assume my responsibilities, I must begin by thanking a number of extraordinary individuals whose work has contributed to the present remarkable success of LASA, and whose support is greatly appreciated as we continue in the future. The past presidents have set exceptionally high standards of competence, flexibility, and achievement in many fields. It will be very hard to duplicate their success. Immediate Past President Susan Eckstein was especially gracious, collegial, and patient in helping me as Vice President, and has continued her spontaneous generosity and support. I truly am grateful to her.

I had just begun to realize how incredibly talented and unselfish Arturo Arias, Carlos Iván Degregori and Rose Spalding were when their terms on the Executive Council expired. I shall miss their delightful and valuable presence at our meetings, but the new Executive Council will, I hope, continue to tap their inexhaustible stream of wisdom throughout my term of office. I must also pay special thanks to Herbert L. Kessler, Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences at Johns Hopkins University. He generously agreed during his very first month in office to provide additional space, as well as a truly significant material contribution and a positive public institutional endorsement of the Association.

LASA Resolutions

In her final presidential report Susan Eckstein noted what many had already suspected, that the Chicago meeting was the largest ever. As the Association grows and increases in complexity, its administration becomes ever more challenging. Planning and executing operations like the Congress in Chicago in 1998—and Miami in 2000—are major undertakings taxing the energy and creativity of all participants. Normally things go very well, but occasionally lapses do occur. Chicago had a few—none more disconcertingly prominent than the matter of resolutions.



LASA President Franklin W. Knight

I take full responsibility for the resolutions-related problem that developed in Chicago. As vice president and chair of the resolutions subcommittee, I was in charge of shepherding the submitted resolutions through the Executive Council and on to the business meeting. Four proposed resolutions were submitted for the Chicago meeting, two arriving in time for publication in the *Forum*; these two also could have been discussed in

specialty-designed Congress sessions prior to the day of the business meeting (a procedure suggested by Jane Jaquette and approved by the Executive Council).

Early on I referred the first two proposed resolutions to the members of the Executive Council for their reactions. It seemed to me that there was a lack of a clear mandate to proceed with either of them at that time. These two, plus the two later arrivals, were, however, discussed at the Executive Council meeting in Chicago. The Council voted not to refer one resolution, on the Multi-Lateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), to the business meeting and it was suggested that the authors prepare an article for the *Forum* and resubmit the proposal for consideration at the meeting in Miami.

I regret that the authors of the two first proposed resolutions were not informed of the initial decision to postpone consideration of their documents until the Chicago Executive Council meeting and that Michele Weber and others supporting the MAI proposed resolution were not apprised of Council's decision not to refer it to the business meeting. The other three were approved with minor editing, and were made available to LASA98 attendees just as soon as possible after the Council meeting. All three would

have been discussed at the business meeting had there been a quorum, i.e., had the number of members attending the meeting been equal or exceeded ten percent of the number of members registered for the meeting (the "ten percent rule").

The entire matter of resolutions has been an issue for LASA over decades. An ad hoc committee to once more examine the issue was formed in Chicago; it has been accepting suggestions and has submitted a preliminary report. That report will be discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Council, probably in September 1999. It is unlikely that any changes to the rules and procedures recommended by the EC could be instituted before the Miami meeting in 2000; thus the standard procedures for submitting proposed resolutions will be followed for that meeting. Please refer to the LASA by-laws and other published materials about the process. In order for proposed resolutions to be considered for official publication in the *LASA Forum*, they must reach the Secretariat by November 1, 1999. They will, of course, be referred to the resolutions subcommittee immediately upon receipt. [Editor's Note: See page 14 for a notice to the membership of a rule change relative to the submission of resolutions]

The quorum issue has been thoroughly aired in the Association over the last two years. The by-laws originally called for the ten percent rule, the Executive Council approved a five percent rule but at its next meeting it reconsidered the issue and returned to ten percent. In all cases the LASA membership was both informed of the decisions via official notices in the *LASA Forum* and given an opportunity to object to the rulings. Had at least 100 members objected to the change to five percent, the entire membership would have been asked to vote on the matter. Fewer than 100 objected. When the decision was made to return to the original rule, again fewer than 100 objected. In light of these events, I am recommending that the LASA Executive Council not revisit this issue, and that the ten percent rule apply at least during my presidency.

LASA and the ACLS

For the next two years I will serve as the LASA delegate (and a member of the Executive Committee of the Delegates) to the American Council of Learned Societies. The ACLS is an organization of more than 50 constituent groups with interests primarily in fields in the humanities that meets at least twice each year. I shall report frequently through these columns to the LASA membership on those activities and deliberations of the Council that may be of relevance to the membership. Of course, I would welcome any specific suggestions about ways in which the relationship between LASA and the ACLS may be made more effective.

Goals for the New Millennium

LASA will continue to be primarily an association of academics whose major interest rests in expanding the available pool of useful knowledge and skills in and about Latin America and the Caribbean. That is LASA bedrock. Yet from its inception LASA was never narrowly conceived, and its mission has steadily widened. Today its members include many outside academia, and its goal has always been to serve as broad a community as possible. It will continue to do so vigorously in the years ahead. To serve this changing constituency requires LASA to constantly modernize to meet new challenges, as well as initiate new ways to be more effective and more responsive. The LASA of 1999 is quite different from that of its founders in 1966. It should be even more distinct in the future. It has, however, been quite recognizable all through the years: it has retained what is valuable and adapted pragmatically as it endeavored to energize the seamless incorporation of individuals and institutions across the hemisphere.

I am proposing that in the next two years LASA focus on the following priorities.

- **Strengthening the Endowment.** It is absolutely necessary to continue to build on the solid foundation already established. An adequate endowment fund for LASA will enable the Association to reduce the time-consuming fund raising for Congress participants from Latin America and the Caribbean it undertakes every 18 months—an activity that hobbles LASA presidents and the Secretariat as well. It is an encouraging sign that the proportion of those who attend without support continues to grow, but LASA must always remain open to help those from the region whose economic resources are not yet the equal of their intellectual might.

Income from a sufficiently large endowment also will allow LASA to support other projects, including miniconferences and small working groups, as well as transregional research initiatives organized by Sections and other sub-groupings. LASA also will have the means to assist in international research programs as well as engage in various other inter-institutional arrangements and programs. In sum, a large endowment will be the security blanket and certificate of independence of the Association in the years ahead.

In the short term, I will be expending considerable energy to ensure that travel funding needs are met for LASA2000. LASA funded 180 LASA98 participants from Latin America and the Caribbean and we can assume that funding requests for the Miami meeting will equal or exceed those for the Chicago Congress.

- **Special Projects.** The nature of participation in LASA constitutes far more than the discussion of academic themes

and there is a host of other scholarly endeavors which LASA can support. The Association has always facilitated regional art and book exhibits and LASA 2000 will encourage special sessions on the popular and classical musical repertoire of the Americas as well as many activities that illustrate the complementarity, complexity, and variety of the hemisphere. It will also continue, and seek to broaden, the Junior Lecturing Fellowship Program. This program allows a number of young scholars to visit U.S. campuses around the time in which the Congress occurs.

- **Archival Support Services.** The time has come for LASA to take an active part in the conservation and preservation of the vast, enormously rich, but currently jeopardized archival resources throughout the Americas: For the next two years LASA will join the efforts of institutions like the Historic New Orleans Collection, the Johns Hopkins University, and the Northeast Document Conservation Center in their laudable efforts to help conserve and preserve the extraordinarily valuable resources in the *Archivo Nacional de Cuba* and the regional archives of Cuba. The services provided to Cuba will eventually be extended to other national and local archives throughout Latin America and the Caribbean.
- **Formalizing Regional Institutional Cooperation.** LASA will move toward greater formal institutional cooperation regionally by creating new ways for its institutional members to communicate and avail themselves of the considerable resources of the membership. This consideration already forms a dimension of the 21st Century Task Force. More can, and should, be done. Initially LASA will meet formally with the *Red Latinoamericana de Cooperación Universitaria*, a consortium of private universities throughout Latin America and the Caribbean to explore efficacious methods of mutual engagement over the coming years. Later LASA might expand the arrangement as it sees a need or an opportunity to other academic and non-academic institutions.
- **Cooperative International Research.** The time has come for LASA members to think seriously of LASA-sponsored research projects, possibly involving individuals from institutions across the hemisphere. This is not a new idea, but an idea deserving new boldness. With almost thirty percent of its members living and working in Latin America and the Caribbean it is inevitable that LASA should have perspectives different from the conventional north-south orientation of the past. Under LASA auspices it is hoped that excellent ideas, regardless of national source, will have an equal chance to be ventilated, promoted, and brought to

fruition. LASA should be ready to sponsor research between any two or more states across the region as well as across the world. In short, LASA will be proactive in advancing what, in the words of Dr. Avelino Porto, the Rector of Belgrano University in Buenos Aires, could conceivably be described as "an intellectual NAFTA for Latin America."

These are some of the goals I foresee in the years ahead. Whether we finally accomplish all of them remains to be seen. It is important, however, that we establish these goals and that we do everything in our power to pursue them energetically. Anything less would be totally unacceptable.

LARR and the Secretariat

The *Latin American Research Review* and the Secretariat have changed venues over the years, and we soon will engage in discussion about these critical matters. I am happy to report that LASA has agreed to extend the mutually rewarding relationship with the University of New Mexico. LARR will continue to be produced from Albuquerque under the excellent direction of Gilbert Merckx and his equally excellent staff until the year 2004. Bids will be let for a new venue in 2002. The matter of the location of the secretariat will soon occupy our attention, so you will eventually hear more about that in a future issue of the *Forum*.

LASA 2000

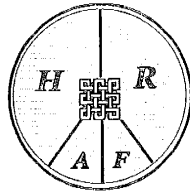
We are now giving a great deal of attention to LASA 2000 in Miami. The Call for Papers was included with the mailing of the fall issue of the *Forum*. The theme of this XXII International Congress is *Hands Across the Hemisphere: Cooperation and Connections in the New Millennium*. Program co-chairs Anthony Maingot and Marysa Navarro are ready to begin the process. Please see the Call for more information.

Excitement is mounting. We are capitalizing on what we have learned from our very successful past meetings and hope to make the Miami Congress among the most productive and memorable ever. Help us make it so.

LASA Sections

Finally, I am most pleased that LASA Sections are swinging into high gear. Please take note of their accomplishments in their brief reports filed in this *Forum*.





Pinochet Case Opens New Human Rights Opportunities

by John L. Hammond, Chair

LASA Task Force on Human Rights and Academic Freedom

Hunter College and Graduate Center, City University of New York

jhammond@hunter.cuny.edu

The arrest of General Augusto Pinochet in London on October 16, 1998, has changed the relation of human rights to international law and to national politics—in Chile or in any other country with a history of extreme state-perpetrated violence. The case has not reached a conclusion; as this is written, British Home Secretary Jack Straw has just ruled against Pinochet's claim of diplomatic immunity, but further court proceedings on extradition to Spain (or other countries) will precede any actual trials. Even if Pinochet is never brought to trial, however, actions already taken in the case will change international human rights law and practice and affect the prosecution of other violators, past and future.

The following two articles discuss the implications of the Pinochet case. Reed Brody, Advocacy Director of Human Rights Watch, discusses the question of prosecution under international law, especially of heads of state and other high officeholders. Ariel Dorfman, Chilean author who worked for the Popular Unity government, writes from a Chilean perspective and asserts that Chile has not found reconciliation with the past or among its people precisely because it has refused to acknowledge that past.

Scholars of the recent transitions to democracy in Latin America disagree strongly about impunity. Those who argue for impunity claim that the history of abuses is so pervasive, and responsibility so widely shared, that reconciliation is possible only if violators are not singled out. They further argue that if members of the military and security forces are prosecuted, they may well upset a fragile democratic order. Some see threats to national sovereignty in trial and punishment carried out under international auspices.

In the view of their opponents, justice cannot be served unless violators are identified and punished, including not only the direct perpetrators but those who encouraged them and gave them orders. Impunity not only does gross injustice to victims and their survivors but makes a mockery of the rule of law which must be the basis of any genuine democracy. Like Ariel Dorfman, they believe that true reconciliation can only occur if a nation with a history like Chile's, rather than trying to ignore the past, finally faces up to it.

Pinochet's Arrest Challenges Impunity for Heads of State

by Reed Brody, Advocacy Director

Human Rights Watch

hrwnyc@hrw.org

The House of Lords' historic decision that General Augusto Pinochet does not enjoy immunity for thousands of murders and disappearances in Chile is destined to change the equation of political repression. The general's arrest—and the race by European countries to try him—shows how far we have come from the days when tyrants could terrorize their own populations, secure in the knowledge that at worst they would face a tranquil exile on the world's golf courses.

Until now, it seemed that if you killed one person, you went to jail, but if you had the power to murder thousands, you also had the power to arrange or impose your immunity, as General Pinochet did in Chile. The post-war Nuremberg trials of Nazi

leaders established the principle that there should be no immunity for perpetrators of the gravest outrages, no matter who they are or where their crimes were committed. That principle was recognized by the General Assembly of the United Nations as international law and repeated in the Genocide Convention, in the statutes establishing tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, and in the treaty for the new permanent international criminal court adopted this summer in Rome.

In October, the High Court for England and Wales held, however, that Pinochet's arrest for possible extradition was barred by Britain's State Immunity Act which gives immunity to "the sovereign or other head of state acting in his public capacity."

The panel held the term "public capacity" to include torture and murder carried out in exercise of the power Pinochet had by virtue of being head of state. One of the judges remarked that "unfortunately, history has shown that it has indeed been state policy sometimes to suppress particular groups."

A three-to-two majority in the House of Lords rejected that argument in no uncertain terms. Said Lord Nicholls: "international law has made plain that certain types of conduct, including torture and hostage-taking, are not acceptable conduct on the part of anyone. This applies as much to heads of state, or even more so, as it does to everyone else; the contrary conclusion would make a mockery of international law." Lord Steyn agreed: "international law condemn[s] genocide, torture, hostage-taking and crimes against humanity...as international crimes deserving of punishment. ...[I]t seems to me difficult to maintain that the commission of such high crimes may amount to acts performed in the functions of a Head of State."

Switzerland, France and other European countries are lining up behind Spain to seek Pinochet's extradition for crimes committed against their nationals. But the United States has been stubbornly silent, a silence that has been interpreted around the world as support for Pinochet's impunity. On the surface, the U.S. would seem to have more reason than most to want to bring the dictator to trial. Two Americans were murdered in Chile, including Charles Horman, about whom the movie *Missing* was made. A 1976 terrorist car-bombing by Pinochet's secret police killed former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier and his American assistant Ronni Moffitt in the heart of Washington D.C.

The U.S. position, however, is driven by three factors: its economic and political relations with the Frei government, which under pressure from Chile's right wing is seeking to have him returned; the United States' connivance in Pinochet's abuses; and, perhaps most importantly, the U.S.'s fundamental fear of any international legal mechanism that it does not totally control.

What about other blood-stained tyrants? Spain's Pinochet prosecution has triggered criminal suits there by the victims of Morocco's King Hassan, Bolivia's former dictator (and then elected President) Hugo Banzer and Cuba's Fidel Castro. The crimes of these men even appear modest compared to those of Sudan's Omar Hassan al-Bashir, Congo's Laurent Kabila, and Syria's Hafez al-Asad, to name just a few. Idi Amin sits comfortably in Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia's deposed Mengistu Haile Mariam enjoys a quiet Zimbabwe retirement, while "Baby Doc" Duvalier is said to have gone through the millions he took to France. Stroessner lives on calmly in Brasilia. Rios Montt is again a political figure in Guatemala. Suharto was forced out of power in Indonesia, but may never be brought to book for an estimated 200,000 deaths since the invasion of East Timor. Emmanuel "Toto" Constant, the CIA-funded leader of Haiti's FRAPH death squad, is a free man in New York City.

Should all these men be brought to trial? Absolutely. Can we capture them and deliver them to justice? No. For the moment, most countries—including Spain and France which gave the visiting Kabila a free pass in November—are taking the view that

sitting leaders do enjoy immunity. Those ex-tyrants short-sighted enough to contemplate vacations in Europe may find themselves in trouble, however. But this system places an unfair burden on those countries—like Spain—which are prepared to conduct such trials. Last month, after Chile withdrew its ambassador to Madrid, Spanish Foreign Minister Abel Matutes complained that no one state should have to play the "world's avenger," (*justiciero del mundo*) and called for rapid establishment of the international criminal court, which will require ratification by 60 states. That court will be able to try future cases of genocide, serious war crimes and crimes against humanity when national courts are unwilling or unable to do so. Lord Slynn, who presided at the Pinochet hearings (and dissented from the ruling), similarly remarked that "the sooner the Rome court is in existence the better." Unfortunately, the United States continues to oppose the new court because it did not win an iron-clad guarantee that it could block the investigation of U.S. soldiers or policymakers.

Some commentators have argued that "interfering" with the self-amnesty which the Chilean military imposed as a condition of leaving power would set a dangerous precedent. It "would simply encourage a despot to maintain power until his death" said one of Pinochet's lawyers. It may occasionally appear convenient in the short run to let this or that tyrant off free, so he'll step down, but impunity breeds contempt for the law, and in the long run, the world is not going to stop these horrible crimes if no one ever gets punished.

Others, such as State Department spokesperson Jamie Rubin, argue that just as South Africa had its Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Chile has "wrestled" to "balance justice and reconciliation." Indeed, every country must come to terms with its own past. The international criminal court will not preclude those kinds of legitimate arrangements—its statute gives clear preference to national prosecutions. There was a big difference, however, in how these two countries came to terms with their repressive pasts. South Africa formed its commission based on broad consensus within society that included victims of apartheid. Chile's 1978 amnesty law that protects Pinochet was forced on society, including his victims.

Pinochet may yet return to the safe haven he created for himself in Chile. But future dictators are on notice: the next time they try to get away with mass murder, they may not be so lucky.

[Reed Brody submitted briefs as an intervener in the Pinochet hearings in the House of Lords. He was present during all arguments and at the verdicts in London.]

FALLA LECTURE PUBLISHED

The Martin Diskin Memorial Lecture "Investigación y Acción Social," given by Ricardo Falla, S.J. at LASA98, has been published in English by *Envío*. Inquiries about the availability of copies of the lecture should be sent to María López Vigil, editor, at envio@ns.uca.ni, or to Revista envío, Apartado A-194, Managua, Nicaragua.

Hostage

by Ariel Dorfman
(from Santiago)

He was always here, here in Chile. For twenty-five years, it was always General Pinochet at the dark center of our history. Since the coup in which he overthrew President Salvador Allende and inaugurated seventeen years of terror, it was his will that mattered, his desires, his words. And when we defeated him in a plebiscite in 1988 and forced him out of office in 1990 to give way to democratically elected President Aylwin, it was still his presence which mattered most. As Commander-in-Chief of the Army for eight years he continued to dominate the political scene, kept watch over us to make sure we did not take our freedom too seriously, set himself as the limit of that freedom, its outer restricting boundary. And when he left the Army seven months ago and took up a post he had created for himself, Senator for Life, a post which gave him immunity against the crimes he had committed, he went on perversely determining our psyche and our sovereignty, reminding us by his everyday appearances in that Senate he had himself closed, how much power he still retained, how far we were from our goal of a nation where all its citizens are equal and none is above the law.

Flying back to my country after a month's absence, I told myself excitedly that this time it would be different: it's the first time I travel to Chile in so many years, I murmured to myself, that I will not have to breathe the air he breathes, the first time the General will not be present. I repeated it like a mantra, almost a prayer, as if the mere transgressive possibility of thinking it were a way of reconquering a moment in history when we did not even know that name, Augusto Pinochet, when my country was free.

Yet there is a puzzling paradox that greets me on returning to Chile from the United States where I live: never has General Pinochet been more omnipresent in this country than now that he is in London under temporary arrest and trapped by his own misdeeds, never has he been more present now that he is physically absent, still at the very core and crux of our existence.

This is a country obsessed with General Pinochet. His picture hounds me from a thousand windows full of patriotic flags that demand his release, his eyes scrutinize me from the newspapers ("The Most Important Chilean of the Century," a right wing rag proclaims in a special supplement about his life), his name is smeared on every wall ("Pinocchio—your crimes have no frontiers"), his case is on every lip, each person I meet discusses his future as if it were ours, as if there were no other theme in the universe. The remote and old and sick General is entangled in our dreams and desires as never before, floating in our minds, dividing us in ways that seemed to have been overcome since democracy returned to Chile and the right and the left decided to coexist. Part of the country is indignant at what is called an affront to national pride and independence; a larger part sees Pinochet's arrest as a final reckoning, long overdue, a form of divine justice; and many feel uncomfortable and ambiguous, their heart saying they want him on trial while their reason suggests that democracy might be undermined, worried that such a critical issue in our destiny is being decided elsewhere, in

England, in Spain.

People here are trying to get on with life, but it is not easy. Just the other day, as I strolled with my wife through the center of the city, I heard loud drums beating, saw faraway red banners waving in the warm spring breeze, guessed it was some sort of march to demand the General's extradition from England to Spain. Not so: a motley crew of around one hundred students, dressed like medieval buffoons, their faces painted all sorts of colors, several of them on gigantic stilts, were parading through one of Santiago's main streets inviting the public to a Festival of University Theatre, a sort of Edinburgh Fringe here in our nation's capital. I loved how they jumped, they juggled, they played the foom, dancing their joy at being alive, taking over the rather staid Chilean public space with their carnivalesque celebration of art.

When they had passed, however, not twenty yards behind them, another sort of group appeared, marching slowly and solemnly over that very same cement; the mothers and daughters and wives of the disappeared, the association of relatives of prisoners who had been executed without a trial, the movement against torture. These were the women whom I had witnessed for the last twenty or so years: day after day, keeping the flame of memory burning, unwilling to forget their murdered, damaged loved ones, what had been done to those loved ones in some slippery unspeakable cellar in this same city. They have waited for the day when the man who has mocked them, insulted them, arrested them, beaten them up, refused to apologize for what he did, when that man would have to answer for his deeds. They have waited for this day when they would be free to accuse him and he would not be free to ignore their existence. They were singing quietly down the street, hands locked, photos of their dead pinned to their dresses, reminding me and the other bystanders who were out shopping or licking an ice cream or about to take in a movie, that there was an abyss between the rollicking multi-colored University students who had just careened through these very streets drumming and whistling, and the unbearable pain of these women who would not forget, a distance that needs to be traveled and bridged. Chile is a country where something as normal and wondrous as the young delighting in their own energy and merriment is being challenged by a traumatic past that refuses to be buried. A country where we cannot get on with life until the life that was destroyed right here has been acknowledged.

The distance between these two Chiles, how far we have to journey as a collective until the day when we can be an integrated and unbroken land, was accentuated and complicated almost immediately by the presence of a third Chile. A middle-aged woman pushed by me as I watched the Mothers of the Disappeared march grimly by, and muttered under her breath, but loud enough for many to hear: "Communist garbage! Liars! Mentirosos. We should have killed the lot of them."

Here was a supporter of General Pinochet, someone who no doubt saw him as a savior of the fatherland, fuming at the idea that the man who had created the foundation for a free-market Chile

should be in jail. She is part of an extremely vocal, indeed vociferous, right-wing minority, who have taken to the streets in feverish numbers. Listening to her spit out those words, the rigid fury in her body, her recalcitrant inability to understand what those victims of the dictatorship had been through, I was taken back to the worst moments of the fascist protests against the democratic government of Salvador Allende in the early seventies, I felt a knot of fear coil inside my stomach. I had seen what that anger could do, where it could lead to, I was remembering the long years of Pinochet's rule where people like this belligerent woman had all the power and believed they could do whatever they wanted and never be held accountable. To whom the General was the anchor of their identity.

There are many like her in Chile and they still wield an extraordinary influence. They have threatened to paralyze the country unless Pinochet is returned safe and sound, they have sent death threats to artists and politicians warning them that if their hero dies abroad blood will run, they have chanted abuse at the British and Spanish embassies for hours, proclaiming themselves the defenders of the nation against foreign aggression, and, yes, ridiculous as this may sound, colonialism. Using their enclaves in business, in the Armed Forces, in Parliament, to pressure the present government of Chile to do more, to recall the Ambassadors, to defend not only Pinochet's diplomatic immunity but his innocence as well. Or else.

These are the turbulent waters the democratic, center left government of President Frei must navigate and we are left with the absurd spectacle of men who were persecuted and exiled by Pinochet, who in their deepest heart would like nothing more than to see him punished and put on trial here in Chile, we see these officials trapped into arguing his cause and the need for Chile to take care of its own affairs, we see these men trying to keep alive a consensus that has made the nation governable, trying to preserve the unity of a country that is being pulled apart at the seams.

Given the situation I have just described (and there are so many more incidents I could recount), it would seem that Judge Garzón who has brought the charges in Spain and the English government that has arrested General Pinochet on those charges have not done Chile a favor at all, that they have interfered in our history and troubled it. Some might even say (and there are many right wing politicians in Chile, accomplices of the crimes of the dictatorship, who say so as well) that the British High Court, by respecting General Pinochet's right to kill as many people as he wanted as long as he was doing so as Head of State, is in fact helping Chile to return to a transition that so far has gone smoothly.

My own opinion is that the General's detention and the possibility that he could be judged in a faraway country for the desolation and death he spread in my own land, is extremely crucial to the moral well-being of Chile. It reminds us, slaps us into understanding, the deepest truth about our recent history, the truth we have been hiding from: we have been, we still are, hostages of General Pinochet. He has perversely determined our national agenda, restricted our democracy and, what is worse, limited how much we dared to remember as a nation, what we dared to think out loud.

The time has come to change this intolerable situation, this sham reconciliation which demanded that one group of citizens forget the suffering visited upon them while nobody demanded that another group of citizens have to seek forgiveness for that suffering inflicted on their fellow men and women. This is the lesson to be learnt from this national crisis which reveals how fragile our transition really was, that can test how secure that transition really is. This is the extraordinary gift sent to us by foreign countries: if they have intervened in our internal affairs, it is because we have not intervened in them ourselves with enough integrity and courage. If they can remind us so shockingly of the terror of the victims, it is because we have not, as a nation, remembered that terror sufficiently and made it an indelible and unrepeatable part of our history. If they believe it is legitimate to judge Pinochet, it is because we have not judged our own criminals. And though I believe that we need a trial with Chilean judges, more elementary and fundamental is a previous sort of judgement of our own humanity, carried out by all of us. As a community, we have to confront our past and look it in the face, strip that past naked even if it leaves us trembling and troubled. We have to look each other in the eyes even if it aches. We have to tell each other the truths we have hidden, the joy we felt at the pain of our fellow countrymen. We have to exhibit our fears, take the sorrow of our bruised victims into our lives, assign responsibilities for the tragedy we have lived, demand that those who killed be banished from public office, and, what may be, at least for me, the most difficult duty of all, recognize how profoundly General Pinochet is part of our history, represents something deep and terrible in our identity. It was what the foreign nations who are suddenly so crucial to my nation's life are telling us: Chile must find the moral strength, once and for all, to truly complete its transition to democracy.

It may well be that the House of Lords will remit General Pinochet to his homeland. Or they could agree to overturn the High Court's ruling and allow extradition proceedings to Spain to proceed. The latter is certainly what I personally prefer because it would unequivocally notify all dictators that there are no safe havens, that humanity is truly advancing towards a new World Order.

And yet, whatever the outcome of this judicial review, Chile is inevitably left with the same urgent task, one that has been postponed far too often: we need to extract Pinochet from our lives, from inside our minds, we need to start living as if he were a relic from an ancient past. We need to turn him from an incessant meddling presence in our existence to a terrible memory that we know will not return, so that those young students prancing through downtown Santiago need never be followed by the footsteps of sorrow of the relatives of the Disappeared and Dead. A task nobody can do in our stead, a task that neither the English nor the Spanish can save us from.

Whether the General is there or not he ends up back here.

The time has come to take back the country he stole from us, the country we allowed him to steal.

[Chilean writer Ariel Dorfman's latest book is Heading South, Looking North, a memoir about surviving Pinochet.] ■

Enhancing Grant Proposals for Study and Research Abroad

by Edward A. Riedinger

Ohio State University

riedinger.4@osu.edu

For over two decades, in several countries of the Western Hemisphere, I have participated in numerous committees reviewing grant proposals. From 1979 to 1988, I was an officer of the Fulbright Commission in Brazil. In 1996 I was a Fulbright Scholar in Brazil. I now serve on the Fulbright Student Grants Interview Committee at Ohio State University. I have had the rare opportunity to observe grant requests from the perspective of a reviewer and a participant, and from within and outside the US.

The essay is a key component of a proposal requiring that candidates demonstrate the originality or uniqueness of their projected work and verify how they will thoroughly and efficiently carry it out.

Two types of deficiencies often appear in these essays. First, candidates do not specify how their work is distinct or original in relation to what others have done. They have not known of or used library resources that could have refined and detailed the nature of their work and that of others in relation to their project. Secondly, candidates often do not detail how their work will be done, in what libraries, research centers, museums, or archives, with what other specialists, etc.

Guides, handbooks, and manuals for soliciting financial aid rarely mention library information resources that can very significantly aid such requests. Simply consulting a few books and articles and a few colleagues will prove woefully inadequate in the increasingly competitive environment for grants.

Fortunately, there are several basic, standard print and electronic library information resources that can very significantly aid grant seeking efforts for international study and research. These can guide one to contacts with specialized expertise and to research materials in libraries, research centers, organizations, museums, and archives in the U.S. and throughout the world. (For overseas readers, many of these works can generally be found in local U.S. libraries or the reference department of a university library.) What are these resources and what is their relevance to a grant proposal?

General

- *The World of Learning*, 48th ed., 1998, London: Europa Publications. This work is organized by country, each entry then subdivided by institutions: learned societies (subdivided by disciplines); research institutes (by disciplines); libraries and archives (by cities); museums and art galleries (by cities); universities, colleges, and schools of architecture, art and music (by name).

This work is useful for identifying institutions in one country across a spectrum of disciplines. For example, a

grant candidate wanting to do research on the history of the Dominican Republic can identify learned societies, research institutes, museums, and universities relevant to a project in that country. Entries provide the name of an institution's director, address, phone and fax numbers, and increasingly, e-mail addresses and/or a URL. Some entries have notes on contents of collections. Candidates can check with local institutions about both the uniqueness and originality of proposed research and for contacts with colleagues with whom they might collaborate.

Libraries

- *Directory of Special Libraries and Information Centers*, 21st ed., 1998, Detroit: Gale. (*DSL*) Covering the U.S. and foreign countries, *DSL* has a subject index leading to entries arranged in alphabetical order by institution name. It also has a geographical index by country. For example, someone wishing to do research in Spanish history can find special collections in the U.S., Spain, and other countries. Allowing worldwide searching by research topic, *DSL* is especially useful for those confronting a close grant deadline and having very limited time for consulting resources.
- *Guide to Special Book Collections and Subject Emphases as Reported by University, College, Public, and Special Libraries and Museums in the United States and Canada*, 7th ed., 1993, New Providence, New Jersey: R.R. Bowker. This work has no subject index but organizes its entries of special library collections by subject. Subdivision within subject is by U.S. state and Canadian province. Entries do not include information about staff but give address and communication numbers and also include notes on contents of collection. This is a good complement to *DSL* to ensure a wider gathering of sites.
- *World Guide to Special Libraries*, 3rd ed., 1995, Munich: K.G. Saur. (*WGSL*) This guide organizes its entries by subject and then subdivides by country. Entries are sparse, usually having an address and some communications information.
- *World Guide to Libraries*, 12th ed., 1995, Munich: K.G. Saur. (*WGL*) Organized by country, *WGL* subdivides entries by type of library, i.e., national, university, government, ecclesiastical, corporate, special, etc. Offering information similar to that of *WGSL*, it is also a synergistic complement to that work. Through these two resources one can check not only for special libraries in one country but for all libraries in a country that may have an ancillary relationship to one's subject. Thus, for example, one can find in *WGSL* agricultural history libraries in Chile and then

in *WGL* Chilean ecclesiastical libraries that may contain sources relevant to historic demographics.

An electronic complement to the above print resources is Libweb (<http://sunsite.berkeley.edu/Libweb/>), an Internet site that accesses academic and research library catalogs in over 70 countries. See below.

Research Centers

- *Research Centers Directory*, 23rd ed., 1998, Detroit: Gale. (*RCD*) Like many Gale publications, *RCD* has a subject index that leads one to main entries focusing on U.S. research centers. Entries include the name of the head of a center, address, and contact numbers, and a description of a center's research interests. Entries also include a note on a center's library, including the name of the librarian.
- *International Research Centers Directory*, 10th ed., 1998, Detroit: Gale. (*IRCD*) *IRCD* provides the same type of information the *RCD* does, but for research centers outside the United States.
- *Encyclopedia of Associations*, 33rd ed., 1998, Detroit: Gale. (*EA*) The title of this work has often seemed to me to belie its extraordinary usefulness in identifying specialized expertise. Through an index of keywords in the name of an association, a grant candidate can find associations, centers, some foundations, societies, and organizations that focus on her/his area of specialization. Someone interested in African music can identify an association or center that concentrates on this in the United States. Each entry provides standard information for the name of the head of an association, the address, and communications numbers.
- *Encyclopedia of Associations: International Organizations*, 33rd ed., 1998, Detroit: Gale. *EAIO* is the complement to *EA*, describing associations outside the U.S., and is organized much like *EA*. The two works together offer an excellent opportunity for contacts that will allow one to assess worldwide how one's projected work fits into the current status of a field of research and about where and with whom one might be able to collaborate.
- *Yearbook of International Organizations*, 33rd ed., 1996, Brussels: Union of International Associations. This work is a further complement to *EAIO*. The names of associations are organized under subject classifications. From these one goes to the entry for an association, which includes full information regarding the head of an organization, mailing address, and contact numbers. It includes a section, "activities," giving the range and focus of topics on which the association concentrates.

Archives

- *Directory of Archives and Manuscript Repositories in the United States*, 2nd ed., 1988, Phoenix: Oryx Press. This

work has a subject classification of archives, often subdivided by place or subject. The index leads to entries organized by state, then further subdivided by city. Entries include mailing address and phone number. Notes include information on the size, chronological coverage, and collection types of each archive.

- *International Directory of Archives*, vol. 40 of the *Review on International Archives*, 1992, Munich: K.G. Saur. Organized by country, entries for archives are then organized by type: government, libraries, museums, universities, associations, art and literature, private archives for religious, medical business, and other concerns. Entries are very brief, providing only a mailing address and contact numbers. There is no subject or name index.

In relation to the above basic resources, it is important to note that many other countries publish directories of their own libraries, research centers, associations, museums, and archives. These additional resources can be retrieved, for example, through subject searches such as: Associations—Japan—Directories; or Libraries—Great Britain—Directories; or Museums—Russia—Directories; etc.

Regarding electronic resources, grant candidates can utilize local library computer catalogs as well as regional ones such as Melvyl (University of California system), or OhioLINK (academic and research libraries in Ohio); or national ones, such as OCLC (Online Computer Library Center) or RLIN (Research Libraries Information Network).

Through Libweb, a grant candidate can examine the catalogs of academic libraries around the world, whether for a project in Argentina, Mexico, or Portugal, for example. Efficiency of access and connection will vary from country to country together with the types of access points within a particular library computer catalog. Nevertheless, using these resources can be an excellent way of refining a statement on the purpose, possibility, and execution of a project.

It is also important to note that certain index and/or abstracting databases have a more international focus than others. The *Humanities Index* or the *Social Sciences Index*, for example, have an English-language focus for their citations. In contrast, *MLA* [Modern Language Association of America] *International*, *PAIS* [Public Affairs Information Service] *International*, and *Sociofile* have greater foreign language sources.

* * * * *

Several basic reference and electronic resources, then, can significantly enhance the substance and viability of a grant request. Such strengthening is critical in the highly competitive contemporary arena of grantseeking, and resources cited here could be crucial aids for specialists in Latin America or Iberia studies in obtaining financial support for their projects and in advising others on their proposals. ■



The Call is Out for LASA2000 Miami!

The Call For Papers for LASA2000 was mailed to all members with the Fall 1998 issue of the *LASA Forum*, and should have been received by now. Please notify the Secretariat if your copy has not arrived. Proposals are due on or before *April 2, 1999*.

Proposal forms in three languages soon will be accessible on the LASA website. They may be printed out, completed, and submitted in hard copy. See the instructions page of the Call For Papers for complete details about submitting LASA2000 proposals. Remember to follow all directions faithfully to ensure valid submissions.

Deeply Discounted Preregistration Rates

To encourage preregistration for LASA2000, there will be marked differences between the fees for preregistration and on-site registrations. Please take note of that when you receive your packets, which will become available within the next few months.

Track Chairs Named

For your information, the following individuals are responsible for evaluating proposals in their respective tracks, as they are received from the LASA2000 co-chairs, Anthony Maingot and Marysa Navarro. Remember to send your completed forms **ONLY** to: Anthony Maingot, LASA2000/FIU, DM 359B, Florida International University, MIAMI FL 33199. Proposals sent to any other location may be lost, and the applications nullified.

- Agrarian and Rural Life:** Cornelia Butler Flora, Iowa State University; Billie R. DeWalt, University of Pittsburgh
- Art, Music and Culture:** Ana López, Tulane University
- Cities, Citizenship and Quality of Life:** Vivienne Bennett, California State University; Lawrence Herzog, San Diego State University
- Democratization:** Rosario Espinal, Temple University
- Economic Issues and Development:** Victor Bulmer-Thomas, London University
- Environmental Issues:** Laura L. Murphy, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
- Family and Community:** Joan Supplee, Baylor University
- Gender and Sexuality:** Veronica I. Schild, University of Western Ontario
- History and Historical Processes:** Lowell Gudmundson, Mount Holyoke College
- International Relations:** Michael E. Shifter, Inter-American Dialogue
- Labor and Class Relations:** Guillermo J. Grenier, Florida International University
- Latinas/os in the U.S.:** Pedro Cabán, Rutgers University
- Law, Jurisprudence and Crime:** Joseph S. Tulchin, Woodrow Wilson Center; Hugo Fruhling, Universidad de Chile
- Literature:** Andrés Avellaneda, University of Florida
- Mass Media: Local and International:** Frank Manitzas, LAC News
- Migration and Transnational Issues:** Rubén G. Rumbaut, Michigan State University
- Politics and Public Policy:** David Scott Palmer, Boston University
- Race and Ethnicity:** Kevin A. Yelvington, University of South Florida, Tampa
- Religiosity and Organized Religion:** Daniel H. Levine, University of Michigan
- Rethinking Latin American Studies:** Jorge I. Domínguez, Harvard University
- Social Justice, Social Movements and Revolution:** Velma García, Smith College
- Technology and Scholarly Resources, and Pedagogy:** David Block, Cornell University ■



CALLING ALL MEMBERS

HURRICANE MITCH

LASA urges its members to make contributions to agencies of their choosing, in the countries of their choice to support the relief effort in Central America.

Oxfam America is accepting donations to help the survivors of Hurricane Mitch. Contributions to its Central America Relief and Reconstruction Fund are being channeled directly to its on-the-ground partners in Honduras, Nicaragua, Guatemala and El Salvador. Donations may be sent to Oxfam America (26 West Street, Boston, MA 02111) or charged to your credit card by phone (800-77-OXFAM) or on line (www.oxfamamerica.org). Information on Oxfam's program is also available on the website. Anyone wanting to organize fund-raising events for the Fund should call 800-597-3278 for event support and materials.

Also, the Red Cross tells us that donations sent to P.O. Box 37243, Washington DC 20013 are quickly converted to material aid for the victims. See also www.redcross.org to donate on line or call 1-800-HELP NOW. Be sure to indicate that your donation is for the Central American relief effort, specifying a country if you wish.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies reports frequently on the Central American situation. A situation report dated 16 November 1998 is typical, and notes that the number of people affected by the storm is now estimated at 3,771,000, with 10,502 dead and nearly as many missing. Evacuations number more than 1.3 million. See www.ifrc.org for updates and for how to contribute on line or by mail via the Federation in Geneva.

Thanks for responding to this call!

NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR 1998 SLATE

Deadline: *June 1, 1999*

LASA members are invited to suggest nominees for Vice President and three members of the Executive Council, for terms beginning May 1, 2000. Criteria for nomination include professional credentials and previous service to LASA. Candidates must have been a member of the Association in good standing for at least one year prior to nomination. Biographic data and the rationale for nomination must be sent by *June 1, 1999* to: Professor Frances Hagopian, chair, Nominations Committee, Weatherhead Center for International Affairs, Harvard University, 1737 Cambridge St., Cambridge, MA 02138. E-mail: hagopian@cfia.harvard.edu.

The winning candidate for Vice President will serve in that

capacity until October 31, 2001, and as President for an additional eighteen months. Executive Council members will serve a three-year term from May 1, 2000 to April 30, 2003.

Members of the Nominations Committee in addition to Professor Hagopian are: Lynn Bolles, University of Maryland; Miguel Centeno, Princeton University; Marifeli Pérez-Stable, SUNY-Old Westbury (EC Liaison); Steven Topic, University of California-Irvine.

CALL FOR SILVERT AWARD NOMINATIONS

Deadline: *May 20, 1999*

The Kalman Silvert Award Committee invites LASA members to nominate candidates for the year 2000 award. The Silvert Award each 18 months recognizes senior members of the profession who have made distinguished lifetime contributions to the study of Latin America. Past recipients of the Award were John J. Johnson (1983), Federico Gil (1985), Albert O. Hirschman (1986), Charles Wagley (1988), Lewis Hanke (1989), Victor L. Urquidi (1991), George Kubler (1992), Osvaldo Sunkel (1994), Richard Fagen (1995), Alain Touraine (1997), and Richard Adams (1998). The selection committee consists of Susan Eckstein, (chair), immediate past president; Jane Jaquette and Cynthia McClintock, past presidents; and Gilbert Merckx, editor of *LARR*. Nominations should be sent to LASA Executive Director Reid Reading at the LASA Secretariat by *May 20, 1999*. Please include biographic information and a rationale for each nomination.

CALL FOR BRYCE WOOD BOOK AWARD NOMINATIONS

Deadline: *July 15, 1999*

At each International Congress, the Latin American Studies Association presents the Bryce Wood Book Award to the outstanding book on Latin America in the social sciences and humanities published in English. Eligible books for the March 2000 LASA International Congress in Miami, Florida will be those published between January 1, 1998 and June 31, 1999. Although no book may compete more than once, translations may be considered. Anthologies of selections by several authors or re-editions of works published previously normally are not in contention for the award. Books will be judged on the quality of the research, analysis, and writing, and the significance of their contribution to Latin American studies. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers. Those nominating books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy directly to each member of the Award Committee, at the expense of the authors or publishers. All books nominated must reach *each member* of the Award

Committee by *July 15, 1999*. By the month preceding the International Congress, the committee will select a winning book. It may also name an honorable mention. The award will be presented during the LASA2000 business meeting or in a special session, and the awardee will be publicly honored. LASA membership is not a requirement to receive the award. The chair of the Bryce Wood Book Award Committee for 2000 is Sara Castro-Klarén (Johns Hopkins University), 1614 East Avenue, McLean VA 22101. Committee members include: Ida Altman, History, University of New Orleans, New Orleans LA 70148; Jorge Balán, The Ford Foundation, 320 E 43 St, New York NY 10017; Juan Manuel Marcos (Universidad del Norte), Avenida España 762, Asunción, Paraguay; Joyce Rappaport (Georgetown University), 4531 46 St NW, Washington DC 20016; and Mary Kay Vaughan, (University of Illinois-Chicago), 875 N Dearborn St, #16C, Chicago IL 60610.

**CALL FOR
PREMIO IBEROAMERICANO
BOOK AWARD NOMINATIONS**

Deadline: *July 15, 1999*

The *Premio Iberoamericano* is presented at each of LASA's International Congresses for the outstanding book on Latin America in the social sciences and humanities published in Spanish or Portuguese in any country. Eligible books for this March 2000 award must have been published between January 1, 1998 and June 31, 1999. No book may compete more than once. Normally not in contention for the award are anthologies of selections by several authors or reprints or re-editions of works published previously. Books will be judged on the quality of the research, analysis, and writing, and the significance of their contribution to Latin American studies. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers. Those nominating books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy directly to *each member* of the award committee, at the expense of those submitting the books. All books must reach each member of the committee by *July 15, 1999*. LASA membership is not a requirement for receiving the award. The award will be presented during the LASA2000 business meeting or in a special session, and the awardee will be publicly honored. The chair of the *Premio Iberoamericano*

Book Award Committee for 2000 is Blanca Silvestrini, Department of History, 241 Glenbrook Rd, U-103, University of Connecticut at Storrs, Storrs, CT 06269-2103. Other members of the Committee are Arturo Arias, Humanities, San Francisco State University, 1600 Holloway, San Francisco CA 94132; Maria Fernanda Bicalho (Universidade Federal Fluminense-Rio de Janeiro), Avenida Epiácio Pessoa 3872, #904, Rio de Janeiro RJ 22471-001, Brasil; and Teresita Martínez-Vergne, History, Macalester College, St Paul MN 55105.

**CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
LASA MEDIA AWARDS**
Deadline: *September 15, 1999*

The Latin American Studies Association is pleased to announce its competition for the year 2000 LASA Media Awards for outstanding media coverage of Latin America. These awards are made every eighteen months to recognize long-term journalistic contributions to analysis and public debate about Latin America in the United States and in Latin America, as well as breakthrough journalism. Nominations are invited from LASA members and from journalists. Journalists from both the print and electronic media are eligible. The Committee will carefully review each nominee's work and select an award recipient. The winner will be honored at the XXII International Congress in Miami. LASA will invite the awardee to speak at a session and to submit materials for possible publication in the *LASA Forum*. Recent recipients of the awards have included Gustavo Gorriti of *Carretas* (1998), Julio Scherer of *Proceso* (Mexico City) (1997); Horacio Verbitsky of *Página 12*, Buenos Aires, and David Welna of National Public Radio (1995); Kathy Ellison of the *Miami Herald* and *Caretas*, Lima, Peru, Enrique Zileri, editor (1994); Alma Guillermoprieto of *The New Yorker* (1992); John Dinges of National Public Radio (1991); and Pamela Constable of *The Boston Globe* (1989). The committee consists of: Leonor Blum (Chair), College of Notre Dame; Lelen Bourgoignie, University of Miami; Frank Manitzas, LAC News; and Anne Pérotin-Dumon, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile. To make a nomination, please send one copy of the journalist's portfolio of recent relevant work, by *September 15, 1999* to: Leonor Blum, College of Notre Dame, 4701 N Charles St, Baltimore MD 21210.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO LASA BY-LAWS

At its meeting on September 23, 1998, the LASA Executive Council approved the following change in the By-laws of the Association:

That the first sentence of item 7 under Article VI. ["International Congress"] be amended to read: "Resolutions for consideration by the International Congress must be signed by *at least thirty members* and received by the LASA Secretariat thirty days prior to the beginning of each Congress." (The italicized portion

presently reads "...at least five members...").

Amendments proposed by the Executive Council go into effect 90 days after the LASA membership is notified provided that no more than 100 persons object in writing to the Executive Director within the interim period. Objections can be directed to Reid Reading, Executive Director, LASA, 946 William Pitt Union, University of Pittsburgh, PITTSBURGH PA 15260. E-mail: lasa+@pitt.edu. The cutoff date is *June 1, 1999*. ■



NEWS FROM LASA

LASA ENDOWMENT REACHES HIGH MARK

The LASA Endowment Fund was created primarily to ensure that scholars and practitioners residing in Latin America and the Caribbean have the opportunity to present the products of their research to their colleagues at LASA's International Congresses.

We are very pleased to be able to report that the Fund now exceeds \$850,000. Generous gifts, careful management by the Secretariat, and expert advice from the newly-formed LASA Investment Committee, co-chaired by Richard Weinert and LASA President Franklin Knight are among the factors

responsible for the striking growth of the Fund, which stood at \$16,000 just 12 years ago.

As Franklin Knight has noted in his report to the membership, LASA has reason to believe that a significant contribution to the Endowment may be forthcoming, allowing LASA to begin drawing income from the Fund in support of Congress travel and other programs.

Meanwhile, thanks to all who have responded to our requests for support of the Fund.

LASA REPRESENTED IN BUENOS AIRES SEMINAR

At the invitation of the Fondo Nacional de las Artes of Argentina, LASA President Franklin Knight and Executive Director Reid Reading participated in the "Seminario Internacional Sobre Economía de la Cultura: Mecenazgo," held in Buenos Aires, August 18-20, 1998. The seminar was organized by Saúl Sosnowski, Director of the Latin American Studies Program at the University of Maryland, and active LASA member for 25 years.

Knight and Reading addressed the opening ceremony of the event, familiarizing the audience with LASA and its diverse efforts in the production and diffusion of knowledge about Latin America and the Caribbean. Possible areas of collaboration between LASA and diverse institutions in Argentina also were discussed.

Among the 18 presenters in the next day's sessions were William Glade, who served as LASA President in 1979 and gave a paper for the panel "Mecenazgo cultural en economías avanzadas," following remarks made by Harriet Mayor

Fulbright, Executive Director of the (U.S.) President's Committee on the Arts and the Humanities, entitled "Government and the Arts: An Alliance of the People, For the People and By the People." Manuel Antonio Garretón of the Universidad de Chile and a member of LASA's Executive Council, delivered a paper entitled "Institucionalidad política y política estatal en el financiamiento cultural en Chile" on a panel "Sector público: financiamiento de instituciones y proyectos culturales." LASA member Enrique Saravia of Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Brazil, gave a paper "¿Qué financiamiento para qué cultura? El apoyo público a la actividad cultural."

The seminar papers are expected to contribute to an ongoing research project, coordinated by Sosnowski, that explores the relationship between regime type and the kinds and extent of cultural activities produced in the respective governmental periods. Of particular interest are the cultural dimensions of democratization in the Southern Cone.

XXI CONGRESS PAPERS AVAILABLE

Papers from LASA98 may still be ordered. See *LASA Forum*, Fall 1998, for the base list, and for instructions on how to order. Since that list was published, the following titles have become available:

Babb, Sarah, Neoliberalism and the Rise of the New Money Doctors: The Globalization of Economic Expertise in Mexico.
Churchill, Nancy Ellen, El Paseo del Río San Francisco: Urban Development and Social Justice in Puebla, Mexico.
Davis, Corinne M., *Favela Justice: A Study of Dispute Resolution in a Rio Slum.*

González-Cueva, Eduardo, Political Representation and National/Ethnic Identities in the Peruvian Public Sphere.
Hoffmann, Bert, The Helms-Burton Law and Its Consequences for Cuba, the United States and Europe.
Méndez, José Luis, *Vieja o nueva administración pública? Una propuesta ante los dilemas de la modernización administrativa.*

Mitchell, Jeffrey, Political Decentralization: A New Tool for the Segregation of Urban Space? The Case of Chacao in Caracas, Venezuela.

Peniche Rivero, Piedad, El feminismo socialista de Elvia Carrillo Puerto y la lucha por el sufragio en el seno del partido socialista del sureste[mexicano], 1915-1926.

Repetto, Fabián, Capacidad de gestión pública y gobernabilidad: las políticas frente a la pobreza en Chile y Argentina (1990-1997)

Robles, María Teresa y Oscar Manuel Núñez, Pequeños propietarios y agricultores en la nueva política y legislación forestal guatemalteca. ■



LETTERS

ON THE U.S. EMBARGO AGAINST CUBA

[*Note: The following proposed resolution arrived at the LASA Secretariat in time to be considered at the Chicago Congress. It was referred by the LASA Executive Council for a vote at the business meeting, but was not presented for a vote because the number of members attending did not constitute a quorum. We reproduce it here at the request of 94 signatory LASA members, whose names appear after the document. The Secretariat has been advised that the signers intend to circulate this document to various individuals and institutions under their own names, including the United States Department of State and the Cuban Foreign Ministry.*]

WHEREAS the people of Cuba have borne the brunt of the U.S. embargo, and

WHEREAS the U.S. embargo against Cuba includes food and medicine, and no other U.S. embargo constricts the sale of these two items essential for the satisfaction of basic human needs, and

WHEREAS the Cuban Democracy Act (1992) and the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act (1996) have been condemned by the international community, leaving the United States isolated from its principal allies on the subject of Cuba policy, and

WHEREAS Cuba was a signatory to the joint statement issued by the heads of state gathered at Viña del Mar, Chile for the sixth Iberoamerican Summit in November 1996, and

WHEREAS this joint statement affirmed a common belief by Iberoamerican nations that "the separation of powers, checks and balances, an adequate representation and participation by the majority and the minority, freedoms of expression, association and of assembly, full access to information, the free, periodic, and transparent elections of the political leadership, constitute essential elements of democracy,"

BE IT RESOLVED that we the undersigned members of the

Latin American Studies Association support lifting the ban on the sale of food and medicine to Cuba, urge the U.S. government to open negotiations with the Cuban government aimed at normalizing relations between the two countries, and urge the Cuban government to adhere to the democratic principles of the joint declaration signed by its president at the sixth Iberoamerican Summit.

[Signed by Jeremy Adelman, Luis E. Agrait, Felipe Agüero, Barry Ames, Silvia Arrom, Andrés Avellaneda, Jorge Balán, Laird W. Bergad, Charles Bergquist, Nancy Bermeo, John Beverley, John A. Booth, Luiz Carlos Bresser Pereira, Bruce Calder, Barry Carr, Marcelo Cavarozzi, Max Castro, Miguel Angel Centeno, John H. Coatsworth, Ruth Berins Collier, Wayne Cornelius, Astrid Cubano, Diane Davis, Uva de Aragón, Alejandro de la Fuente, Carlos Iván Degregori, Torcuato S. Di Tella, Larry Diamond, Arcadio Díaz-Quñones, Jorge I. Domínguez, Paul Drake, Alex Dupuy, Marc Edelman, Laura Enríquez, Rosario Espinal, Mark Everingham, Julie M. Feinsilver, Damián Fernández, Mauricio Font, Jean Franco, Carmenza Gallo, María Cristina García, Manuel Antonio Garretón, Barbara Geddes, Gary Gereffi, Jeffrey Goodwin, Paul Gootenberg, Jeffrey L. Gould, Wolf Grabendorff, Tulio Halperin Donghi, Frances Hagopian, Jonathan Hartlyn, María Cristina Herrera, Eric Hershberg, Thomas Holloway, Evelyne Huber, Jane Jaquette, Alan Knight, William M. LeoGrande, Francisco León, Héctor Lindo-Fuentes, Abraham Lowenthal, Anthony Maingot, Florencia Mallon, Douglas S. Massey, Cynthia McClintock, Teresa Meade, Gilbert W. Merckx, Carmelo Mesa-Lago, Kevin Middlebrook, Richard L. Millet, Christopher Mitchell, Manuel Pastor, Robert Pastor, Leigh A. Payne, Marifeli Pérez-Stable, Alejandro Portes, Adam Przeworski, Lars Schoultz, Michael Shifter, Paul Sigmund, Peter H. Smith, Wayne Smith, William Smith, Saúl Sosnowski, Rose J. Spalding, Steve J. Stern, María de los Angeles Torres, Arturo Valenzuela, Samuel Valezuela, Phillis Greene Walker, Timothy Wickham-Crowley, Laurence Whitehead, and Andrew Zimbalist.]

LASA QUORUM DEBATE

[*Note: Although LASA President Franklin Knight will ask that the LASA Executive Council not revisit the quorum issue—see page 4 of his report—the Forum has consented to publishing the following letter at the author's request. Also, see page 14 for the official notice about the change in the number of signatories required for proposed resolutions.*]

To the LASA Executive Council:

As you know the resolutions handling at the last LASA meeting was something of a mess. The vast majority of the procedures for resolutions were not followed. In addition, no members of a resolutions subcommittee showed up at the time scheduled on the program for the committee to meet.

There is no doubt in my mind that the cumbersome procedures adopted in regard to resolutions were designed to keep the members of LASA from passing resolutions, despite the fact that the vast majority if not all the resolutions voted for at the business meetings over the past years have been approved by an overwhelming majority in the subsequent required mail ballot. The idea that non-representative resolutions have been or would be pushed through by an unrepresentative minority is thus a non-issue. The real problem is that resolutions which are representative of the membership are opposed by a small minority which has managed to weaken the democratic procedures and derail the whole resolution process.

At the Guadalajara Congress a quorum was called, and since we did not have the 10 percent of LASA members registered at the congress present, no resolutions could be voted on to be sent out for mail ballot. The same thing happened at the Chicago Congress. Though the quorum was reduced to 5 percent after Guadalajara, the new Executive Council returned it to 10 percent

and gave us from early May, when the *Forum* reached members' hands, only until August to get 100 members to object in writing to the secretariat to require reconsideration of that decision. None of the members we contacted had noticed that information in the *Forum*. By the time I realized that, it was Summer and we were able to get only about half that number. Then, to add insult to injury, the number of members required to present a resolution was increased from 5 to 30, a policy to go into effect, according to my information, for the next LASA Congress after Chicago.

At the Chicago Congress, I circulated a petition urgently requesting the Executive Council to change the required quorum from 10 percent to 5 percent of members attending the Congress. In two days I was able to gather 149 signatures of members in the midst of my other busy activities at the meeting; more have signed on since that time. Virtually every member who saw the petition signed it. I have forwarded those petitions to the Secretariat to be presented to the Council. At the business meeting, I presented a sense-of-the-meeting resolution which had the same content (regular resolutions were not allowed because of a quorum call), and it passed by an overwhelming majority of those present.

I therefore call on the Executive Council to change the quorum back to 5 percent. In addition, I ask that the number of members required to present a resolution be reduced again to 5. What is at stake here is the ability of LASA to speak out on important policy questions affecting Latin America through reasonable and democratic procedures.

Timothy F. Harding
California State University, Los Angeles

ON THE INTIMIDATION AND HARASSMENT OF RESEARCHERS IN CHIAPAS

[*The following letter, a copy of which was sent to the LASA Secretariat, was written by the Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility of the American Association for the Advancement of Science to Mexican President Ernesto Zedillo.*]

23 noviembre 1998

Su Excelencia Ernesto Zedillo
Presidente de México
Los Pinos
México, DF

Estimado Sr. Presidente:

La AAAS, con 282 organizaciones científicas afiliadas y 143,000 miembros individuales, es la organización mas grande

de científicos en los Estados Unidos de América y la federación de organizaciones científicas más grande del mundo. La AAAS publica la revista *Science* y se preocupa no sólo de los problemas directos de la ciencia sino también del papel de la ciencia en el mundo, así como de los derechos y las responsabilidades de los científicos. El Comité para la Libertad y Responsabilidad Científica de la AAAS, formado en 1976, vela a nivel mundial por la defensa de los derechos humanos de los científicos, incluyendo ingenieros y profesionales de la salud. El trabajo del Comité se basa en la Declaración Universal de los Derechos Humanos, adoptada por las Naciones Unidas en 1948.

En nombre del Comité nos dirigimos a usted para comunicarle nuestra preocupación sobre el hostigamiento y las sanciones impuestas contra ciertos investigadores y educadores en el estado de Chiapas, México, desde mediados de abril de 1998.

El Comité ha sido informado que el ejército, la policía de seguridad estatal, los tribunales estatales, la policía judicial estatal, y las autoridades federales de inmigración, y fuerzas extraoficiales, que trabajan con el organismo de seguridad federal, han sido involucradas en lo que ha sido referido por los individuos que conocen los incidentes como una campaña oficial de hostigamiento e intimidación dirigida específicamente a los académicos que realizan su trabajo normal de investigación en la zona de conflicto.

El Comité está particularmente preocupado por Sergio Valdés Ruvalcaba, un profesor de sesenta años que trabaja en la Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, el cual fue detenido con otras ocho personas. Es conocimiento del Comité que el profesor Valdés fue arrestado el 11 de abril durante una incursión militar y policial cuyo objetivo era desmantelar el municipio autónomo de Ricardo Flores Magón.

Aparentemente el profesor estaba en el municipio participando en un proyecto académico. Entendemos que el profesor Valdés Ruvalcaba fue acusado de robo, despojo, y rebelión, delito que tiene dos acondicionamientos según el Código Penal estatal: la posesión de armas de fuego y la comisión de actos violentos. Nos preocupa que el profesor siga encerrado y que si es condenado, corre el peligro de pasar los próximos nueve años en prisión. Tememos que fuera detenido para mandar un mensaje a otros investigadores que trabajan con la población indígena en el área de conflicto.

También hemos sido informados que el día 5 de mayo un estudiante del Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social del Sudeste fue arrestado y golpeado. El estudiante estaba haciendo un trabajo para su curso de etnografía, por lo cual estaba tomando fotos de la vida cotidiana de la comunidad. Aparentemente fue arrestado por tener en su posesión una cámara e información bibliográfica que obtuvo en un taller impartido por la Comisión Nacional de Derechos Humanos. Nos han informado que fue declarado sospechoso de promover tomas de tierra y que fue liberado después de pagar una fianza, la cual no fue devuelta a pesar de las irregularidades del caso.

El Comité también fue notificado que solo días después del incidente con el estudiante, el distinguido antropólogo y profesor Ulrich Kohler de la Universidad de Friburgo, Alemania, fue detenido por agentes de inmigración cuando regresaba de la comunidad de Pantelho donde fue a entregar ejemplares de su libro más reciente, *Santa Catarina Pantelho*. Después de varias horas de interrogatorio, el prof. Kohler fue multado por haber "realizado actividades diferentes a las autorizadas en un documento migratorio de no inmigrante turista, y por realizar investigaciones en el país de las cuales ha hecho publicaciones en México y en el extranjero sin la autorización de la Secretaria

de Gobernación."

También nos preocupan informes sobre la intimidación y hostigamiento contra el Dr. Andrés Aubry, historiador y antropólogo residente de San Cristóbal, de nacionalidad francesa, y su esposa, Angélica Inda, archivista y escritora. Los ataques contra el matrimonio incluyen intentos de detención por fuerzas de seguridad, el robo de computadoras, notas, y manuscritos, y el vandalismo de su hogar y del archivo que mantienen.

El Comité también considera preocupante la publicación en periódicos de un lista de extranjeros que supuestamente están siendo investigados por las autoridades federales. La lista incluye científicos notables como el Profesor Brent Berlin, que está trabajando en el colegio de la frontera sur en San Cristóbal, y otros científicos del extranjero.

Estos incidentes, además de las visitas de militares y oficiales de seguridad entre febrero y mayo buscando información sobre actividades de investigación en la región, a bibliotecas, archivos, y centros de investigaciones en el centro de Chiapas y el robo en las casas de investigadores donde entre las cosas robadas se incluyen computadoras y disquetes, forman lo que aparenta una campaña oficial de hostigamiento y sanciones contra investigadores en el estado de Chiapas.

Quisiéramos recordarle que el arresto arbitrario, la detención, el golpeamiento, y el hostigamiento de investigadores en el estado de Chiapas por las autoridades Mexicanas constituyen violaciones graves de las normas internacionales de los derechos humanos incluyendo el derecho a la vida, a la libertad, y a la seguridad de las personas; el derecho de no ser objeto de injerencias arbitrarias en la vida privada, la familia, el domicilio o la correspondencia; el derecho a la libertad de opinión y de expresión; el derecho a la libertad de reunión y de asociación pacífica; y a circular libremente en el territorio de un estado. Como Estado Parte de la Convención Americana de los Derechos Humanos (ratificado por México el 24 de marzo de 1981), México está legalmente obligado a garantizar estos derechos.

De parte del Comité, le pedimos la liberación inmediata y sin condiciones de Sergio Valdés Ruvalcaba. También le pedimos que asegure que los oficiales de seguridad cesen de intimidar y hostigar a investigadores en el estado de Chiapas y le pedimos que los oficiales cesen sus interferencias en los proyectos académicos y de investigación en el área. El Comité le pide que investigue los incidentes contra los investigadores y que los perpetradores de los actos sean juzgados.

Sinceramente,

Mary Gray and Irving Lerch, Co-chairs
AAAS Committee on Scientific Freedom and Responsibility ■



IN MEMORIAM

Robert H. Dix

Robert H. Dix died on October 3, 1998 in Houston, Texas, at the age of 68, from complications arising from multiple sclerosis and cancer. Bob carried on courageously as an inspiring teacher and exacting scholar long after his disease had left him in a wheelchair.

Bob earned a BA (magna cum laude) and MA at Harvard, then entered the Foreign Service. After a tour of duty in Bogotá, Colombia, he concluded that he loved the study of Latin America, but preferred a career that would allow him greater independence. He returned to Harvard for a Ph.D., taught political science at Yale from 1962-1966, then, in 1968, after a year of research in Chile and another as associate at the Harvard Center for International Affairs, joined the political science department at Rice University, where he served until retirement in 1994. From 1987 to 1994 he was the Lena Gohlman Fox Professor of Political Science.

As a Latin Americanist, Bob is perhaps best known for his work on Colombia, including the books *Colombia: The Political Dimensions of Change* (Yale, 1967) and *The Politics of Colombia* (Praeger, 1987), and a number of articles. He also had a close familiarity with politics and society in other Latin American countries. While studying political parties in Chile, he was invited by an informant to attend a party conference. Midway through the session, his acquaintance asked if he would address the gathering, then proceeded to introduce him as a "leading American Christian Democrat." The empathy of a skilled interviewer was mistaken for ideological agreement. Bob served as a

member of the Editorial Board of the *Latin American Research Review* from 1992-1995. In 1985, he received the Hoover Institution Prize for the best article of the year on Latin American politics.

As a political scientist, Bob sought to make sense of the Latin American experience in four broad areas: political parties, populism, revolutionary movements, and the conditions of democracy. Using some of the theories and methods of mainstream political science, combined with an extensive knowledge of Latin America, he made important contributions to our understanding of the conditions under which revolutions succeed, populist movements emerge, and democracies take hold. It is not surprising that Dix was asked to contribute the chapter on Latin America to Robert Dahl's volume, *Regimes and Oppositions* (Yale, 1967). It is also noteworthy that one of his last publications, building on his work with Latin American revolutions, dealt with the overthrow of communism in Eastern Europe.

Bob never gave up, even when health prevented him from conducting field research. He turned instead to a broad, comparative analysis of some of the big questions. Comparative politics generally, and Latin American politics in particular, were enriched by the results of his work. He was a man of high integrity and great courage. He will be sorely missed.

*Submitted by John S. Ambler
Rice University*

J. Cordell Robinson

J. Cordell Robinson is dead at 58. A fatal automobile accident took his life. He was professor and administrator at California State University where he held the office of Associate Vice President for Faculty Personnel. Well respected for his skill as a negotiator, he most recently served as a member of the management collective bargaining team in current negotiations for a faculty contract. A member of LASA since 1988, he was a well respected historian and specialist in Colombian history. While best known for his work on the *bogotazo* and Jorge Gaitán, he recently devoted much of his scholarly activity to writing his family history as

it relates to the Colombian island of Providencia located off the coast of Central America. He was an active participant in the Gran Colombian Association and a former Fulbright visiting scholar to Colombia. He is survived by his wife Peggy Atwell; his children, son Hilton, daughter Lisa; and a granddaughter. His many friends, colleagues and students will miss his wit and comradeship.

*Submitted by Donald S. Castro
California State University/Fullerton*

PROFESSIONAL NOTE

Sociologists Diane E. Davis (New School for Social Research) and Arturo Alvarado (El Colegio de México) won a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Grant for study of "State

Reform, Public Insecurity, and Deteriorating Rule of Law in Mexico." The 18-month project, funded under MacArthur's Program on Global Security and Sustainability, will begin in January 1999. ■



ON AND BY LASA SECTIONS

LASA Sections are required to file brief reports each year in the Winter *Forum*. The reports, as edited, follow:

BRAZIL IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

During the XXI LASA Congress held in Chicago (September 24-26, 1998), Section members who attended the business meeting elected the following officers for the 18-month period beginning September 1998: Lúcia Helena Costigan (The Ohio State University) and Robert M. Levine (University of Miami), co-chairs; Leopoldo Bernucci, Secretary-Treasurer (University of Colorado-Boulder). Council members include: Severino Albuquerque (U. of Wisconsin-Madison), Ana Mae Barbosa (Universidade de São Paulo), Tânia Carvalhal (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul), Sara Castro-Klarén (Johns Hopkins University), Randal Johnson (University of California-Los Angeles), Thomas Holloway (Cornell University), David Lehmann, (Cambridge University), Kenneth Maxwell (Council on Foreign Relations), Renato Ortiz (Universidade de São Paulo-Campinas), Edward Riedinger (Ohio State University), Thomas Skidmore (Brown University), Jon M. Tolman (University of New Mexico), Ivete Walty (Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais), George Yúdice (New York University).

The Section currently has 265 members. To promote communication and collaboration among scholars, students and non-academics, a website and a listserv are presently available. The website address is: www.as.miami.edu/las The listserv is: braslasa@lists.colorado.edu.

Based on suggestions presented at the business meeting, officers of the current term plan to take advantage of the opportunity and resources offered by LASA in order to promote the following activities: 1) to solicit and post reviews of new books on Brazil and on comparative studies involving Brazil and Latin America; 2) to coordinate and select a theme for the Section panels and/or tables for the next LASA International Congress; 3) to offer awards for research and publications that respond to the goals of the Section; 4) to disseminate information about research programs and institutional events among members. Members are encouraged to join special subcommittees that will take charge of the above activities. LASA members interested in joining the Brazil in Comparative Perspective Section should contact Leopoldo Bernucci, University of Colorado, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, Telephone: 303-492-8320, Fax: 303-492-3699. Campus Box 278, Boulder, Colorado, 80309. E-mail: bernucci@spot.colorado.edu.

BUSINESS AND POLITICS

By acclamation, the Business and Politics Section retained Eduardo Silva and Francisco Durand as Section co-chairs. Over the past year the Section devoted itself to several tasks. A membership drive more than tripled the number of people who have joined us. Throughout the year, the Section concentrated on setting up and maintaining a listserv and on the publication of an electronic newsletter. The newsletter, published quarterly, is structured to function as the primary source of interchange among Section members. Its topic headings call on members to share their research, bibliographies, conference and meeting schedules, and other subjects with the rest of the Section. We also focused on organizing the single panel our membership entitled us to for LASA98: "Business Cleavages and Institutional Change: Organized Business, Economic Reform, and Democratic Consolidation in Mexico and Brazil." Happily, we are now in a position to submit up to three panels for the XXII LASA International Congress. Much of this year's activities will focus on topic selection for those panels.

CENTRAL AMERICA

During the 18 months ending with the Chicago LASA Congress the Central American Section engaged in the following activities:

1. We continued to organize ourselves and slowly cobbled together an e-mail list that facilitated communication among a growing number of Central Americanists. The list eventually numbered more than two hundred and extended throughout the world;
2. Messages from and about Central America were disseminated through e-mail;
3. The membership was involved in the process of suggesting and organizing panels for the LASA Chicago Congress;
4. At the 1998 International Congress we organized:

SEC 06, "Political Space in a Time of Neoliberalism: Central America."

SEC 07, "Round Tables on Central America." These grew out of an idea of President Susan Eckstein that encouraged us to organize eight, simultaneous round tables on various topics of

interest, including: mayors and local government; women; migration; cultural studies; political space; and regional integration. Many more Central Americans and Central Americanists were able to be on the program in this way. The round tables also provided opportunities for small group interaction with invited guests from the region, including mayors and diplomats.

SEC 08, "Governing from Below: The Rise of Local Government in Central America." In what may have been a first for LASA, we were able to bring the mayors of San Salvador, El Salvador, and Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, as well as a representative from the Municipal Association of Honduras for a discussion of the major issues confronting local government in the region.

A reception, which was attended by over seventy five.

A business meeting, at which the following issues were discussed and agreed to: that the slate of officers should represent gender balance, Central Americans, and at least one graduate student; that electronic mail and possibly a website should be used to increase communication; that a listserv be set up for the Section and Central American news; that the possibility of posting articles of interest be explored; that every effort be made to interface with Central American institutions, through all means available, including sending representatives to regional meetings like those of the Central American Historians, Sociologists and Anthropologists; and that some effort be made to develop a comprehensive communication system that all those interested in Central America could use. Initial nominations for new officers were made and plans were made to send out an official ballot by e-mail.

COLOMBIA

The Colombia Section has had a productive term. Although we had existed since the 1994 Congress as an informal group ("*El grupo inmarcesible*"), we decided at the April 1997 congress in Guadalajara to formalize and become a LASA Section. By the September 1988 Congress in Chicago, we had 112 members and had organized a very successful Section panel focusing on human rights.

At our business meeting in Chicago, attended by an all-time high of about 100 people and presided by Section chair Andrés Franco (now Colombia's ambassador to the UN), we elected a new chair, Marco Palacio of the Colegio de México. Steering committee members include Andrés Guhl, Joanne Rappaport, and Michael Jiménez, and the section's secretary continues to be Leah Carroll (e-mail addresses listed below). At the meeting and in subsequent deliberations over our e-mail listserv, we decided to organize two panels for LASA 2000: one on the Colombian peace process in international comparative perspective, another on new social movements and ethnicities in Colombia.

Our e-mail listserv and member directory has continued to grow in size and take on new functions. It facilitates the organization of panels, circulates job announcements and calls for papers. It

has also served as a newlist and a means to collect signatures for several letters regarding human rights published in the U.S. and Colombian press.

E-mail addresses of officers:

Leah Carroll: leah@music.stlawu.edu

Marco Palacio: mpalacio@colmex.mx

Michael Jiménez: mfj3+@pitt.edu

Andres Guhl: guhl@students.uiuc.edu

Joanne Rappaport: rappapoj@gusun.georgetown.edu

CUBA

The Section on Cuba had 197 members at the last pre-Congress count. Our business meeting was held on September 24, with more than 70 persons attending. Sheryl Lutjens and Lourdes Tabares were elected co-chairs, Jean Weisman as Secretary-Treasurer, and Esteban Morales, Juan Luis Martín, Kimberly Stanton, and Michael Erisman as members of the Executive Board.

Beyond its creation—a central task between Guadalajara and Chicago Congresses—and efforts to facilitate communication among our members (that include the creation of an e-mail distribution list), the Section has a number of notable accomplishments. In regard to the Section goal of facilitating Cuban participation in LASA Congresses, there was a broad dissemination of information in Cuba, including a seminar in Havana for interested scholars, and the Section benefited from the efforts of the LASA Executive Council—and Susan Eckstein in particular—to secure funding for the travel of Cuban scholars. In addition to its support for travel, the MacArthur Foundation provided funds for 50 new Cuban memberships in LASA and the Section, as well as for the first-ever presence of Cuban publications in the Congress book exhibit (though visas were denied to those who were to manage the exhibit). A record number of Cubans (more than 75) applied for visas to participate in the Chicago Congress!

Envisioning a democratic and inclusive structure, the Section called for volunteers and then organized its work through subcommittees constituted by Cuban and non-Cuban chairs and members. These subcommittees and their achievements include: Newsletter Subcommittee—produced an extensive and well-received first issue; Elections Subcommittee—designed an election process (within the LASA guidelines); Research Subcommittee—identified one potential source of funding and six possible thematic areas for collaborative research projects, efforts to be continued in the post-Chicago period; Award Subcommittee—created a process for recognizing creative scholarship, and named Miguel Barnet as the first recipient during the MacArthur reception for Cuban scholars in Chicago; Panels Subcommittee—coordinated two very successful Section panels, one on U.S.-Cuban academic exchange and a second on U.S.-Cuban relations; and Freedom of Travel Subcommittee—organized an "introduction-to-research" trip to Cuba open to all LASA members, April 2-11, 1999.

CULTURE, POWER, AND POLITICS

Nuestro business meeting se realizó el jueves 24 de septiembre de 8 a 10 am como estaba previsto. Aunque nuestra Sección tenía más de 295 miembros al 23 de agosto de 1998) solo concurrimos al mismo 13 miembros.

Entre los allí presentes especulábamos que la escasa asistencia podía deberse entre otros factores a: a) el salón era casi imposible de encontrar y además aparecía en el plano del hotel con un nombre distinto al que le atribuía el programa de LASA; b) era la primera mañana del congreso y a primera hora, mucha gente aún no había llegado, o aún estaba registrándose en el congreso, otros quizás aún estuvieran repondiéndose del viaje; d) no mucha gente suele concurrir a los business meetings.

En base a lo anterior, así como a otras consideraciones, los allí presentes estuvimos de acuerdo en lo siguiente:

1) Solicitar al Secretariado de LASA que en los próximos congresos los business meetings sean programados para el último día del congreso, o al menos para el segundo, y que en cualquier caso sean programados para más tarde de las 8 a.m.*

*Transmití esta posición al Secretariado de LASA durante la reunión que este sostuvo con los chairs de las Secciones el día sábado 26 de septiembre

2) No elegir un nuevo board de la Sección en ese Business Meeting—como prevee el manual de secciones de LASA—debido a que no considerábamos que los 13 miembros allí presentes fuéramos representativos de los más de 295 miembros de la Sección;

3) Solicitar a LASA arbitrar los medios necesarios para que las elecciones de la Sección se realizaran de la misma manera que se realizan las de LASA, es decir por correo aéreo (los presentes tampoco respaldaron la posibilidad de hacerlo por e-mail por razones de: asegurar transparencia, asegurar la privacidad del voto, no saturar los e-mails de todos los miembros).

En relación a esto:

a) en el business meeting se enfatizó que era necesario que al realizar estas elecciones se tuvieran en cuenta los tiempos reales de movimiento del correo aéreo internacional. Se consideró que éste era un aspecto muy importante ya que en opinión de la mayoría de los presentes la manera en que LASA organiza las elecciones para presidente y miembros del Executive Council no da oportunidad de votar a los residentes en América Latina. Como se dijo: cuando llega el material para votar ya pasó el deadline.

b) al día siguiente del business meeting tuve oportunidad de solicitar opinión sobre esta decisión a dos miembros del Board que por razones ajenas a su voluntad no habían podido concurrir al business meeting (Mary García-Castro y Sonia Alvarez) y ambas expresaron su acuerdo con lo decisión tomada en el business meeting.*

*Transmití esta posición al Secretariado de LASA durante la reunión que este sostuvo con los Sections' chairs el día sábado 26 de septiembre y estamos a la espera de su respuesta

4) Crear una website de la Sección, en la cual fuera posible: a) sostener un news-group, b) circular información sobre los miembros de la Sección, sus publicaciones, intereses y actividades, y c) circular información sobre novedades bibliográficas, y en especial de sobre publicaciones originarias de América Latina.

EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA

1) Durante el encuentro de la Sección realizado en Chicago se decidió mantener la línea de acción desarrollada hasta ahora, sin privilegiar ningún campo en concreto del amplio espectro que cubren las relaciones entre Europa y América Latina. Sin embargo, se vió la posibilidad de implicar más a los países de la Europa del Este en el conjunto de actividades de LASA en general y de la Sección en particular. A tal efecto se pretende que la Sección apoye alguna acción de este tipo en el próximo Congreso de Americanistas a celebrarse en Varsovia.

2) Los presentes en el meeting de trabajo decidieron reelegir como Chair de la Sección a Carlos Malamud.

3) La Sección fue el sponsor del panel "The Role of International Actors in Promoting Democracy in Cuba."

GENDER AND FEMINIST STUDIES

Relatoria de la reunión de negocios de la Sección de Género y Feminismo que se llevó a cabo en el congreso de LASA en Chicago el pasado 25 de septiembre de 1998. Aproximadamente 75 personas se encontraban presentes.

Informe de actividades de Regina Cortina (New York University) y María Luisa Tarrés (Colegio de México), presidentas salientes de la sección, que incluye:

1. La creación del website de la Sección y la eficiente comunicación via e-mail con todos los miembros de la Sección.
2. Presentación del programa de la conferencia sobre educación y género en América Latina que se llevó a cabo en los días previos al congreso de LASA en Chicago recomendándose publicar un libro incorporando las ponencias de esos eventos. En esta ocasión ya se cuenta con un contrato para publicación con Garland Publishers.

3. Se destacó la creación del premio Elsa Chaney LASA98 para premiar los mejores artículos y trabajos de investigación relacionados con el tema de género y feminismo en América Latina. El comité estuvo formado por: Sara Poggio (University of Maryland-Baltimore County), Chair; Helen Safa (University of Florida); Alicia Martínez (FLACSO, México); y Narda Henríquez (Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú). Las ganadoras del primero, segundo y tercer premio respectivamente

son: Karen Kampwirth (Knox College); Sara Makowski Muchnick (FLACSO, México); y María Cecilia MacDowell dos Santos (University of California at Berkeley).

4. Presentación del libro *Género y Cultura en América Latina* por María Luisa Tarrés (Colegio de México) y Linda Stevenson (University of Pittsburgh).

La secretaria tesorera saliente (Victoria Rodríguez, University of Texas at Austin) presentó el estado financiero de la sección y el resultado de las elecciones de la Sección. La nueva mesa directiva está formada por: Sara Poggio (University of Maryland-Baltimore County) y Montserrat Sagot (Universidad de Costa Rica), co-chairs de la Sección; Alice Colón Warren (Universidad de Puerto Rico), Secretaria/Tesorera; Florence Babb (University of Iowa); Amy Lind (Arizona State University); Carmen Ramos (CIESAS, Occidente, México); Emma Zevallos (CEDEP, Perú); Elizabeth Maier (Colegio de la Frontera Norte, México); y Elizabeth Friedman (Western Michigan University).

En la toma de posesión de la nueva mesa directiva, las nuevas presidentes electas de la Sección, Sara Poggio y Monserrat Sagot, delinearón el programa que intentan seguir durante su período en tres áreas específicas:

- 1) Continuar y aumentar el número de publicaciones de la Sección;
- 2) Organizar una preconferencia para el congreso LASA 2000;
- 3) Aumentar la membresía a la Sección, especialmente la de América Latina; y
- 4) Publicar los trabajos premiados en un volumen especial.

HAITI

1. During the business meeting those in attendance voiced the desire to expand the Haiti Section to include persons interested in the Dominican Republic. This would constitute a broadening of what is currently a very small Section (30 members). Subsequent conversations with other Section members as well as Dominican representatives at LASA98 revealed a positive response. The chair and various other Section members have agreed to pursue this initiative further, pending input by the Section as a whole (especially those who did not attend LASA98).

2. Other ways were discussed to expand our membership. This included outreach to other Haiti-related groups such as the Haitian Studies Association and the Caribbean Studies Association. Joint sponsorship of a roundtable, or panel, with an interested organization was suggested.

3. Creation of a Haiti Section membership directory was discussed at the business meeting. The chair agreed to put a directory together as a new Section activity.

4. The Haiti Section Roundtable, "21st Century Challenges,"

provided a forum for discussion. Attendance was very good and dialogue between roundtable participants and the audience was vigorous. The Haiti Section extends a special thanks to all who participated. The Section business meeting, however, was sparsely attended: only four people were present. Michele Zebich-Knos (Kennesaw State University) was chosen to remain chair. The low attendance was unforeseeable, otherwise the election would have been held prior to the business meeting. A secretary-treasurer was not chosen. The chair will contact Section members for nominations, and subsequently, for a vote. Because of low attendance at the business meeting, the chair suggests that this approach be used for the election of the next chair prior to LASA2000. This will ensure greater member participation.

5. While the Haiti Section presentation "Justice-Justis: Political Conscience in Haitian Art" was unable to materialize because of copyright problems, we are hopeful that it will be attempted again at LASA2000.

LABOR STUDIES

Thirty-seven people were present at the business meeting. The Section coordinator reported on membership size and composition of the Section, finances, 1998 congress activities, interim activities, and elections and results. This report was followed by announcements about publications, organizations, research projects, and upcoming meetings, including a report from Ben Davis of the AFL-CIO's American Center for International Labor Solidarity. New business involved a discussion of how best to support the Latin American Labor News (LALN), and a discussion of activities during the interim period and for the next LASA congress. Members voted to establish a website for the Section and to alter the dues structure to remove the dues waiver for Latin American residents but maintain it for students and low-income members.

Elections for new officers were held by email in the weeks prior to the LASA congress. The new officers are: chair, Barry Carr; secretary-treasurer, Henry Frundt; council members, Nadya Araujo Castro, Marcela Cerrutti, Rainer Dombois, Cliff Welch.

Term activities included producing a research database of members, (including research interests, recent publications, current projects), and developing an e-mail discussion list/listserv to facilitate communication among members and others interested in Latin American labor issues. Congress activities included a Section-sponsored panel, "International Labor Standards and Hemispheric Integration," and a reception co-hosted with the Asociación Latinoamericana de Sociología del Trabajo. Plans for the coming term include developing the website and expanding the informational, service, and advocacy functions of the Section.

LAMA is a natural extension of the electronic conference ELAN (Environment Latin America Network), which in turn emerged from the LASA working group on natural resources. ELAN has become a major international bulletin board on environmental problems. About 1,000 people participate. Discussions are multilingual; several books and more than a dozen collaborative research projects have emerged from ELAN. It is hosted by the University of Colorado's Communications for a Sustainable Future conferencing group.

From the beginning, LAMA has used ELAN for communication. This is in part out of necessity, as we have no other institutional support. In part because the Section meeting was not announced in the main program book, only 17 people attended the business meeting. ELAN will be used to recruit candidates for a new slate of officers and balloting will take place, for the most part, by the same means; a special effort will be made to incorporate those people without e-mail into decision making. There was a widespread feeling that ELAN will serve the purposes of LAMA, as was effectively illustrated during the past year, by the way in which it was used to help organize the environment Section of the 1998 LASA meetings in Chicago and to organize the Section panel, using the "author meets the critics" format.

LAW AND SOCIETY IN LATIN AMERICA

The first meeting of the Law and Society in Latin America Section, chaired by Gilbert Joseph and Carlos Aguirre, gathered an enthusiastic audience of about 25 members. After welcoming them, Gil Joseph announced his decision to step down from his co-chair position due to numerous other commitments. Attending members then confirmed Carlos Aguirre as co-chair and elected Ricardo Salvatore to replace Gilbert Joseph.

Several ways for improving communication among our members were discussed. It was suggested that we add an electronic forum to our website. Other members asked that we collect and share more information about our members' scholarly work. We also discussed the possibility of establishing an award to honor scholarship and/or activism in Latin American legal issues. We will make a more specific suggestion shortly. Finally, we spent time discussing the activities that our Section will organize for the next LASA Congress. Several ideas were presented. We formed a Committee of three members (Linn Hammergren, Marcelo Bergman, and Lilia Ferro Clérico) that will be in charge, together with the co-chairs, of coordinating those activities. The Section's most visible accomplishment so far is the creation of a website that offers important information to our members and all interested parties, as well as a "Papers Online" Section that offers the possibility of effective scholarly exchange. We have now six papers available at the following address: <http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~caguirre/lawandsociety.htm>. We have also created an electronic distribution list that has been used to disseminate news among our members. Our Section has continued to grow, and currently we have 127 registered members.

We began our meeting at LASA98 with the election of new officers. The following people were elected as Section co-chairs for the next term: James Green, History, California State University at Long Beach; and Jill S. Kuhnheim, Spanish and Portuguese, University of Wisconsin-Madison. Víctor Torres from the University of Puerto Rico was elected secretary and Severino Albuquerque from the University of Wisconsin-Madison was elected treasurer.

After concluding the elections we discussed issues relating to the Section's e-mail list; dues and the sliding scale matter; what we might use our funds for at future LASA meetings. We discussed the next LASA meeting in Miami and planned to get early financial support to allow lesbian and gay scholars from Latin America to participate in the meeting (the Junior Lecturer Fund was mentioned); we mentioned names of possible people we might encourage to participate and discussed getting local activists in Miami involved in the conference there. We then went through different topic categories in the program and discussed integrating gay and lesbian perspectives in these, reviewed panels we had participated in this year and how they went. The meeting concluded with an opportunity for informal conversation among members.

PARAGUAYAN STUDIES

There were 24 of 43 members in attendance at the Section business meeting in Chicago, including seven members who traveled from Paraguay and one member attending from The Netherlands.

During the meeting, three new officers were elected: Christina Turner, chair, Virginia Commonwealth University, cturner@saturn.vcu.edu; Teresa Méndez-Faith, vice chair, St. Anselm College, tmfaith@anselm.edu; and Frank O. Mora, Secretary/Treasurer, Rhodes College, mora@rhodes.edu.

A number of plans for the current LASA cycle were decided upon in the meeting:

The Section approved the institution of a Paraguayan Studies Student Paper Award of \$125. Teresa Méndez-Faith, Frank Mora, and Betsy Partyka (Ohio University) volunteered to chair the paper committee.

Scott Van Jacob (University of Notre Dame) volunteered to be the Section's Research Librarian and with his help the Section now has a Paraguayan Bibliography of "Working Papers," difficult to find sources, and new publications that can be accessed from the Internet. It can be reached at <http://www.nd.edu/~kic/Paraguay/paragbib.html>.

The Paraguayan Studies Section will sponsor an interdisciplinary linguistic panel at LASA2000. Juan Manuel Marcos (Universidad del Norte, Asunción) and Tracy Lewis (SUNY-Oswego) are organizing this panel as co-chairs.

An Environmental Issues Panel is being planned for LASA2000 with Luis Villalba (University of Kansas) and Blanca Masulli (Universidad Nacional de Asunción) serving as co-chairs.

A third panel, Social Justice, Social Movements and Revolution, is also planned with an emphasis on work being produced with data gathered from the infamous "Archive of Terror" in Asunción. Christina Turner will be chair for this panel.

All Section members are encouraged to contribute news and information to Christina Turner (cturner@saturn.vcu.edu) for inclusion in the new Section electronic newsletter, *News from the Chair*.

SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Thirteen Section members attended the business meeting in Chicago. Chair David Block introduced the agenda and gave a gloss to the Section-enabling documents. All attending expressed satisfaction that some 72 LASA members had chosen our Section in dues checkoff.

The agenda was two items: what is to be done, and who is to do it? The first produced an interesting set of exchanges. Sandy Thatcher gave a publisher's précis of the implications of electronic publication—the divided opinion on whether a document on a website constitutes "prior publication," the worry that electronic availability will greatly reduce sales, the importance of peer review and editing. Sandy's remarks began our consideration of digital publishing as a topic worth developing in a panel or round table for the next LASA conference. Our Section, composed as it is of scholars, publishers and librarians, is well positioned to tease out several issues of importance and, as Sandy put it, "bring a set of ideas to ground-level for the membership."

A second idea that deserves attention on a future program is that of archiving the materials that appear, and disappear, on the World Wide Web. Carolyn Palaima of UT-LANIC revealed that her project has some ten thousand links in place. LANIC staff regularly check and repair these connections but archive only that information that they, themselves, produce.

Next we turned our attention to evaluation of the Web for Latin Americanists. The LASA into the 21st Century Committee has proposed an ongoing project that vets the Web, i.e., recommends certain sites as authoritative (or useful) for certain purposes and places its stamp on these selections. The Section's regular contributions to Opportunities Online in the *Forum* marks a first step in this direction. Carolyn discussed upcoming site evaluation as part of a grant that LANIC has received from the Ford Foundation. This turned our discussion to ways that the Section could aid this enterprise, rather than beginning its own.

Finally, as a project for the Section to consider, Paula Covington proposed the writing of a proposal to digitize Latin American paper resources that currently reside in various repositories

around the country. We discussed several possible unifying themes—travel accounts, national statistics, regional newspapers—as targets. Paula reminded us that her *Latin America and the Caribbean* in its "Resources" Sections provides a handy starting place.

It was agreed that David Block would continue to chair the Section through the next LASA conference and Adán Griego (Stanford) and Benita Vasallo (IADB) would become, with David, a program committee.

SOCIAL STUDIES OF MEDICINE

The first official meeting of the Section convened at LASA98 on Thursday, September 24 with almost twenty people in attendance. David Sowell offered a brief history of the Section's organization, which emerged as a by-product of a 1995 NEH Summer Seminar on the Contributions of Social History to the History of Medicine. LASA members in that seminar, led by Donald Stevens, helped to organize two sessions at the 1997 Congreso de Americanistas in Quito, and laid the groundwork for the Section at the 1997 LASA meeting. Organizers of the Section desired to create a forum that promotes the interdisciplinary study of medicine, with a focus upon its social dimensions. The Section now numbers sixty-nine members.

Members introduced themselves and offered a brief synopsis of their research and reasons for interest in the Section. A spirited discussion of the Section's future produced suggestions of a listserv, a vitae bank, the promotion of regional and national conference sessions, collaborative research, and overtures toward similar organizations. Members agreed that some Section dues will be used to facilitate travel by Latin Americans to LASA meetings. Possible topics for sessions at the next meeting included Public Health, the social history of medicine, and current health care issues. All Section members are urged to send a brief biography to the chairs for distribution to Section members. They were also urged to seek out new members.

VENEZUELAN STUDIES

At the business meeting held at the LASA Congress in Guadalajara, members of the Venezuelan Network (VenNet, an ad hoc interest group) decided to become a LASA Section. A coordinating committee for the transition was formed. The Committee suggested objectives and activities, circulated information on these among members of the VenNet, assessed feedback, and obtained 33 signatures of LASA members to support the petition for Section status. LASA approved the petition in the second semester of 1997.

The Section on Venezuelan Studies (SVS) seeks to foster interdisciplinary communication and collaboration among scholars, students, and non academics whose work considers Venezuelan culture, politics, economy, ecology, social issues and other aspects of Venezuela and works to facilitate

dissemination of information among members and non members through public events and the media. Through September 1998, the SVS has addressed these objectives through circulation of announcements, surveys and survey results to members and other interested parties enrolled in the Section's listserv; through a meeting of Venezuelan-based members called in Caracas in December 1997; and through a comprehensive website which includes, among others, a short bio on current and prospective members; the statement of purpose and Section news; and links to other websites and news sources on/in Venezuela. In September, a discussion forum was inaugurated for SVS members; enrollment and use were explained at the business meeting in Chicago.

SVS sponsored one panel at the LASA Congress in Chicago. In total, there were seven panels and 60 papers on the program which dealt explicitly with Venezuela.

Nominations for officers were solicited, processed, and disseminated by e-mail in the second quarter of 1998. Efforts

were made to ensure balanced representation of candidates residing in Venezuela and outside. Bios of candidates and the ballot also were distributed by e-mail (with four sent by post to members without e-mail). Results were presented and discussed at the business meeting in Chicago and approved by the members present. Between 45-47 members attended the business meeting. Officers for the 18-month period beginning September 1998 are: Cathy A. Rakowski, Ohio State University, chair; Angel Alvarez, Universidad Central de Venezuela, secretary-treasurer. Venezuelan-based council members: Emperatriz Arreaza Camero, Universidad del Zulia; Gabrielle Guéron Josko, Universidad Central de Venezuela; María Cristina Parra, Universidad del Zulia; Rosa Amelia González, IESA (Alternate). U.S.-based council members: Michael Coppedge, Notre Dame; Brian Crisp, University of Arizona; Michael Duodoroff, University of Kansas (Alternate). Two website managers were appointed to an 18-month term: Margaret Martin, United States, Main website; Janet Kelly, Venezuela, mirror site. As of October 13, the Section had 102 members.

CHAIRS OF LASA SECTIONS AND TASK FORCES, 1999

Sections

BRAZIL IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE

Co-chair: Lucia Costigan; costigan.2@osu.edu; 614-292-0833 (ph); 614-292-7726 (fax)

Co-chair: Robert Levine; rlevine@miami.edu; 305-284-5963 (ph); 305-284-3558 (fax)

BUSINESS AND POLITICS

Co-Chair: Eduardo Silva; e.silva@umsi.edu; 314-569-1724 (ph); 314-516-6757 (fax)

Co-Chair: Francisco Durand; f.durand@utsa.edu; 210-458-5613 (ph); 210-458-4629 (fax)

CENTRAL AMERICA

Co-chair: Harry Vanden; vanden@luna.cas.usf.edu; 813-974-2683 (ph); 813-974-0832 (fax)

Co-Chair: Shelley McConnell; smecon2@emory.edu; 404-420-5186 (ph); 404-420-5196 (fax)

COLOMBIA

Chair: Marco Palacios; mpalacio@colmex.mx; 011-525-449-3000 (ph); 525-645-0464 (fax)

CUBA

Co-chair: Sheryl Lutjens; sheryl.lutjens@nau.edu; 520-523-6918 (ph); 520-523-6777 (fax)

Co-chair: Lourdes Tabares; ltabares@rect.uh.cu; 011-537-708-490 (ph); 537-335-774 (fax)

CULTURE, POWER AND POLITICS

Chair: Daniel Mato; dmato@reacciun.ve; 011-582-979-8448 (ph & fax)

EUROPE AND LATIN AMERICA

Chair: Carlos Malamud; carlos.malamud@iuog.fog.es; 011-341-310-4412 (ph); 341-564-9202 (fax)

GENDER AND FEMINIST STUDIES

Co-chair: Sara Poggio; poggio@umbc7.umbc.edu; 410-455-2133 (ph); 410-455-1025 (fax)

Co-Chair: Montserrat Sagot; msagot@cariari.ucr.ac.cr; 506-207-4019 (ph); 506-234-1495 (fax)

HAITI

Chair: Michele Zebich-Knos; mzebich@ksumail.kennesaw.edu; 770-423-6499 (ph); 770-423-6312 (fax)

HIGHER EDUCATION

Chair: Virgilio Alvarez; viralara@tba.com.br; 011-55-61-349-5770 (ph); 55-61-242-5000 (fax)

LABOR STUDIES

Chair: Barry Carr; b.carr@latrobe.edu.au; 011-613-9479-2038 (ph); 613-9479-1942 (fax)

LAMA-LATINOAMERICA-MEDIOAMBIENTE

Chair: David Barkin; barkin@cueyatf.uam.mx; 011-525-724-5100 (ph); 525-724-5235 (fax)

LATIN AMERICA AND THE PACIFIC RIM

Co-chair: Peter Smith; phsmith@weber.ucsd.edu; 619-534-6043 (ph); 619-534-7175 (fax)

Co-chair: Shoji Nishijima; nisijima@rieb.kobe-u.ac.jp; 011-81-78-403-0403 (ph & fax)

LATINO STUDIES

Co-chair: Suzanne Oboler; suzanne_oboler@brown.edu; 401-863-1653 (ph)

Co-chair: Pedro Caban; pcaban@erols.com; 908-445-0011 (ph); 609-466-3335 (fax)

LAW AND SOCIETY IN LATIN AMERICA

Co-chair: Carlos Aguirre; caguirre@oregon.uoregon.edu; 541-346-5905 (ph); 541-346-4895 (fax)

Co-chair: Gilbert Joseph; gilbert.joseph@yale.edu; 203-432-1380 (ph); 203-432-7587 (fax)

LESBIAN AND GAY STUDIES

Co-Chair: James Green; jgreen@csulb.edu; 310-985-4410 (ph); 310-985-5431 (fax)

Co-chair: Jill Kuhnheim; kuhnheim@facstaff.wisc.edu; 608-262-2392 (ph); 608-262-9671 (fax)

PARAGUAYAN STUDIES

Chair: Christina Turner; cturner@saturn.vcu.edu; 804-828-7289 (ph); 804-828-1027 (fax)

PERU

Co-chair: James Rudolph; jrudolph@msp.org.pe; 011-511-346-3000 (ph); 511-346-2669 (fax)

Co-chair: Julio Carrion; julio-carrion@worldnet.att.net; 302-831-2355 (ph)

POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS

Co-chair: Brian Crisp; crisp@arizona.edu; 520-621-7600 (ph); 520-621-5051 (fax)

Co-chair: Mark Jones; mark.jones@ssc.msu.edu; 517-432-3527 (ph); 517-432-1091 (fax)

RURAL STUDIES

Chair: Ronald Waterbury; waterbury@qc.edu; 718-997-2898 (ph); 718-997-2928 (fax)

SCHOLARLY RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

Chair: David Block; db10@cornell.edu; 607-255-9480 (ph); 607-255-9346 (fax)

SOCIAL STUDIES OF MEDICINE

Co-Chair: Donald Stevens; stevens@post.drexel.edu; 215-895-2464 (ph); 215-895-6614 (fax)

Co-chair: David Sowell; sowelld@juniata.edu; 814-641-3180 (ph); 814-641-3185 (fax)

VENEZUELAN STUDIES

Chair: Cathy Rakowski; rakowski.1@osu.edu; 614-292-6447 (ph); 614-292-7007 (fax)

LASA Task Forces

TASK FORCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM

Chair: Jack Hammond; jhammond@hunter.cuny.edu; 212-772-5573 (ph); 212-772-5645 (fax)

TASK FORCE ON LASA AND THE 21ST CENTURY

Chair: Mark Rosenberg; rosenber@fiu.edu; 305-348-2894 (ph); 305-348-3593 (fax) ■



Environmental E-Resources for Latin America

by Rhonda L. Neugebauer

Wichita State University

rhonda@southwind.net

This column highlights seven websites notable for their environmental concerns. The sites have an activist perspective, advocate preserving and respecting natural resources, and have identified the Internet/WWW as a tool to be used in carrying out new forms of education, information dissemination, coordination, and networking. The development of these web resources is an extension of their sponsors' efforts to build and publicize alternative and sustainable development.

1. Eco Travels in Latin America (<http://www2.planeta.com/mader/>). This elaborate, beautifully designed and rapidly-expanding website is published and maintained by Ron Mader, freelance environmental writer and journalist who has an extensive background of study, reporting and travel in Latin America. The site, initiated in 1995, aims to connect travelers, writers, researchers and tour providers and to provide current information and selected archives about environmentally friendly travel and socially responsible tourism in Latin America. A majority of the information at this site is original material, but there are also links to relevant sites with travel and environment news and resources. The overall writing and coverage of ecotourism topics at this site is in-depth, creative and sometimes provocative. The focus is on Mexico, the U.S.-Mexico border region, and Central America (especially Honduras), with lesser coverage of South America.

2. Environment and Latin America Network (ELAN) (<http://csf.colorado.edu/elan/index.html>). This open, unmoderated listserv was created in July 1994 to facilitate discussion and promote dissemination of information/news among diverse groups—scholars, environmental activists, practitioners, and others—interested in environmental issues and their impact in Latin America. It is a project of Latinoamerica-Medioambiente (LAMA), a Section of the Latin American Studies Association. Its editors, David Barkin, an economist, and Timmons Roberts, a sociologist, are university professors. Information and messages are contributed by the almost 1000 subscribers in various professions and disciplines, which makes ELAN the nexus of a diverse group of committed, creative, energetic, opinionated, learned individuals, many of whom seem to have serious, long-standing, and ardent interest in understanding the environment and its sustainability. Moreover, whether their slant is biological, ecological, political, economic, sociological or recreational, the discussants' apparent enthusiasm for sharing resources and information about scholarship, activism, news, and announcements, is matched by the collective agreement for the need to protect or, at least cautiously, utilize the disparate ecosystems of Latin America.

3. EnviroLink Network (<http://www.envirolink.org>). EnviroLink is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing information on all aspects of the environment. Its site has archived and/or indexed a significant amount of full-text material on environmental issues in Latin American countries. The EnviroLink Network was created in 1991 by university student (now Executive Director) Josh Knauer as a mailing list on environmental issues, and has developed into a vast resource and forum for community sharing, discussion, resource-sharing, and unified planning/action. This site functions as a clearinghouse of information resources on the environment, and confidently proclaims itself "the largest on-line environmental information resource on the planet."

4. The Latin American Alliance (LAA) (<http://www.latinsynergy.org>). This site is published under the auspices of the World Stewardship Institute, a nonprofit environmental education and advocacy organization established in 1995 by Warren Linney and Richard Coates, longtime educators and activists. The Latin American Alliance has as its mission the development of environmental and educational business information about sustainable commerce in Latin American countries. It contains much original material and reprints from other news sources.

5. In addition to the above-mentioned sites, readers should be aware that the world's "mainline" environmental groups—EcoNet, Greenpeace and Rainforest Action Network—also present Latin American information. These three groups are among the strongest and best-known environmental action groups/networks in the world. While their programs and emphases may differ, their information resources are meant to inform, expose, motivate and create new models of advocacy and grassroots empowerment. Through these websites, many small groups (including several from Latin America) have found an Internet presence.

EcoNet (<http://www.econet.apc.org/>). EcoNet is one of five divisions of the Institute for Global Communications (which is the U.S. member of the Association for Progressive Communications (APC), a global network of independently operated progressive networks). The EcoNet section brings together organizations and individuals that work on environmental issues (including environmental justice, global warming, energy policy, rainforest preservation, legislative activities, water quality, toxics and environmental education). It is a massive undertaking to collect, archive and disseminate electronic information worldwide. With 10 APC member

networks in Latin America, there is a large amount of information on Latin American environmental issues generated locally and given international access through EcoNet. Some features of EcoNet and IGC are available only to IGC members, while others are accessible by both members and non-members.

Greenpeace (<http://greenpeace.org>). This website lists the mission and goals, policies, history, organization, research agenda, funding sources, and advocacy projects of the renowned activist environmental group. The site's coverage of Latin American topics is limited to information that overlaps with Greenpeace projects and concerns. Searches of this site by country name (Mexico, Peru, Cuba) produced a total of 200 hits related to global warming, nuclear power and fuel dumping,

pollution, and habitat protection.

Rainforest Action Network (RAN) (<http://www.ran.org/>). The mission of RAN is to protect the world's tropical rainforests, and support their inhabitants' rights through education, grassroots organizing and non-violent direct action; they also work with consumers and community groups to increase the public's awareness of how their choices may effect the rainforest and its inhabitants. One of RAN's major projects is the preservation of the Amazon, and there is plenty of information here on the struggle to protect that region and its native forest-dwelling people. RAN has developed action, campaigns and information resources on several Latin American countries, including Brazil, Central American countries of Belize, Honduras, and Costa Rica, and Ecuador.

NEW DISCUSSION LISTS IN SPANISH AVAILABLE FOR PROFESSIONALS AND STUDENTS

Programación-Java deals with programming in Java and related tools in this language. For more information: <http://www.egroups.com/lists/programacion-java>. Subscribe by sending an empty mail in plain text (not HTML) to: programacion-java_subscribe@egroups.com.

programacion-clipper_subscribe@egroups.com.

Sistemas deals with the processes involved in the systems development life cycle in this language. For more information: <http://www.egroups.com/lists/sistemas>. Subscribe by sending an empty mail in plain text (not HTML) to: sistemas_subscribe@egroups.com.

Objetos- deals with distributed objects technologies (CORBA, DCOM, etc.) and related tools in this language. For more information: <http://www.egroups.com/lists/objetos-distribuidos>. Subscribe by sending an empty mail in plain text (not HTML) to: objetos-distribuidos_subscribe@egroups.com.

Programación-Clipper deals with programming in CA-Clipper, previous versions of Clipper, CA-Visual Objects, and related tools, in this language. For more information: <http://www.egroups.com/lists/programacion-clipper>. Subscribe by sending an empty mail in plain text (not HTML) to:

Programación-Visual-Basic deals with programming in Microsoft Visual Basic and related tools in this language. For more information: <http://www.egroups.com/lists/programacion-visual-basic>. Subscribe by sending an empty mail in plain text (not HTML) to: programacion-visual-basic_subscribe@egroups.com.

Once you subscribe, feel free to join in the chat by introducing yourself to the list!

SITE ON EL SALVADOR AN EXAMPLE OF COLLABORATIVE PARTICIPATORY STUDY

Access <http://www.conectando.org.sv/> for a website detailing a knowledge and development exercise in El Salvador, called "Conectándonos al futuro: Building a Learning Society in El Salvador." This participatory study is sponsored by the World Bank and the Salvadoran government, and is intended to involve all sectors of civil society in learning circles, case study analysis and pilot-building. The products are expected to be actionable

knowledge-based development strategies, pilot projects and local champions better trained to use knowledge tools for their social and economic ends. The sponsors invite visits to the site and comments. The site is primarily in Spanish, but all core documents are in an English section and links are concentrated in easily-understood pages. ■



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Cornell University's Department of Government announces a new tenure-track position in U.S. Latino Studies. Ph.D. in hand by August 1999 is preferred, but ABD's will also be considered. Candidates are requested to send a curriculum vitae, letter of interest, references and examples of recent work to Michael Busch, Administrative Manager, Department

of Government, McGraw Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4601. Cornell is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and underrepresented minorities are especially encouraged to apply. Deadline for application is *February 15, 1999*.

Smith College
Department of Sociology and Latino/a American Studies Program

The Department of Sociology and the Latin American and Latino/a Studies Program invite applications for a shared, entry-level, tenure-track appointment at the rank of Assistant Professor to begin in the Fall of 1999. We seek a strong teacher and a productive sociologist whose primary teaching and research interests are in the area of Latino/a populations and communities in the United States. The successful candidate will also be expected to teach an intermediate-level sociology course on race and ethnic relations and/or identity in the U.S. and periodically, an interdisciplinary introduction to Latin American Studies course. The person hired will be a regular voting member of the Department of Sociology, and will share administrative responsibilities in the Latin American Studies Program on a rotating basis. Preference will be given to candidates who will have a Ph.D. in hand by the time of appointment. The salary is competitive and the teaching load is 2:2. Smith is a highly selective undergraduate liberal arts college for women with about 2,500 students, located in a small, but cosmopolitan city, two hours from Boston and three hours from New York City. Faculty members have easy access to the combined resources of the Five College consortium, which includes Amherst, Hampshire, and Mount Holyoke Colleges, and the University of Massachusetts. Applicants should send a cover letter describing teaching and research interests, a curriculum vita, three letters of reference, writing samples, and teaching evaluations to SOC/LAS Search Committee, c/o Barbara Day, Wright Hall 12, Smith College, Northampton, MA 01063. Smith College is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action institution. Minorities and women are encouraged to apply.

The David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at **Harvard University** is in search of candidates for the position of financial officer. This position reports to the Executive Director. Responsible for internal administrative operations; financial management, including oversight of grant proposals and reports, preparation of budgets and monitoring of day-to-day expenses of the Center; providing strategic planning in the areas of Center staffing, budgets and major equipment; assisting in coordinating the Center's Title VI application and other foundation and outreach initiatives; overseeing the physical site, including coordination of renovation projects, space allocation and furnishings; and special projects as assigned. Requirements include a BA or comparable experience, and at least five years of progressively responsible relevant administrative and financial experience. An MBA or advanced degree is preferred. Financial experience is necessary. Preferred are demonstrated written and oral communication skills, the ability to work independently while establishing effective working relationships with a wide variety of constituents, strong computer skills (familiarity with both PC and Macintosh preferred), familiarity with Harvard or the academic environment, and ability in Spanish or Portuguese. This position is Harvard Salary Grade 56, and amounts to 35 hours per week. Send resume to Debra-Lee Hagopian, Human Resources Administrator, David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies, 61 Kirkland Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

or fax (617) 496-2802. No phone calls please.

The Program in American Culture at the **University of Michigan** is hiring a qualitatively-oriented scholar trained in anthropology, history, political science, or sociology whose work studies the experiences of Latinos in the United States who originated in Puerto Rico, Cuba, and/or the Dominican Republic. The successful candidate should be able to teach the history of these population groups with emphasis on relationship to the U.S., migration, and community development within the U.S. as well as courses examining issues of citizenship, language, racialization, and the maintenance of cultural identity. The appointment is open at all ranks. ABD candidates must have substantial portions of their dissertation available for reading and must complete their dissertations by the beginning of the appointment period. To apply, please send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and letters of reference to Chair, Caribbean Populations Search Committee, Program in American Culture, G410 Mason Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1027. Review of applications will begin on March 1, 1999, and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Michigan is committed to a policy of nondiscrimination and equal opportunity for all persons regardless of race, sex, color, religion, creed, national origin or ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, or veteran status.

The Gallatin School of Individualized Study at New York University announces the availability of a Professorship of Individualized Study, with emphasis on Latin America. This is a tenure-track position for experienced teacher/ scholars, beginning Fall 1999. Latin American studies concentration will include the history, politics, and cultures of Latin America as well as theme-based courses making cross-cultural connections. Gallatin courses bridge debates from the great books tradition with current scholarship, contemporary issues, and alternative canons, and seek broadly trained interdisciplinary teachers with additional interests, e.g., psychology, global studies, urban studies, diaspora studies, and ethnic studies. Gallatin offers BA and MA in individualized study: student-created concentrations, intensive advisement and mentoring, experiential learning, and student-centered teaching. Students combine course work from most NYU schools with Gallatin seminars, independent studies, internships. Qualifications include a Ph.D.; commitment to non-traditional education, especially advising and mentoring; excellent teaching; and the ability to develop cross-cultural, interdisciplinary courses; quality scholarship. Gallatin's website can be found at www.nyu.edu/gallatin. Review of applications began Dec. 15, 1998. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Apply to Chair, Search Committee, Gallatin School of Individualized Study, New York University, 715 Broadway, NY, NY 10003. Applications should include a letter connecting background and experience to position and School's mission; curriculum vitae; teaching evaluations; actual and potential course descriptions; relevant publication samples; and three reference letters. NYU encourages applications from women and members of minority groups. Gallatin is strongly committed to building a diverse community among our faculty, staff, and student body.

The Program of Cultural Studies in the Department of Educational Studies at Ohio University announces a tenure-track assistant/associate professorship to be appointed in September 1999. We invite applicants in any of the research areas of cultural studies and the related disciplines of history, philosophy and sociology of education. The new faculty member will teach undergraduate and graduate education courses in his or her area of specialization as well as courses related to issues of diversity, and to school and society. Responsibilities also will include dissertation advising, program development and participation in university governance. Faculty interests in the cultural studies area include the Institute for Democracy and Education, the Center for the Study and Development of Literacy and Language, the Institute for the African Child, and rural, urban, and international education. Candidates must have an earned doctorate by September 1999; K-12 and/or higher education teaching experience preferred. Send applications and

nominations (including letter of application, current C.V., and the names, addresses and three letters of reference to Dr. Sandra Turner, Chair, Department of Educational Studies, College of Education, 210 McCracken Hall, Ohio University, Athens, OH 45701. Ohio University is additionally soliciting applications for two other positions for which a Latin Americanist could apply: 1) Director of Women's Studies, at the associate level. In addition to directing this interdisciplinary program, the selected candidate would also be responsible for teaching a course within his/her discipline. For details, please contact Professor Julie White at whitej@ohio.edu; 2) Entry-level position, international marketing. For more information, please contact Professor Glenn Corlett, Dean, College of Business at corlett@ohiou.edu.

Applications are invited for an appointment to the Directorship of the Argentine Studies Programme at the Latin American Centre of Oxford University. The appointment will be for five years in the first instance, with the possibility of renewal for a further five. The successful candidate will be expected to conduct scholarly research and teaching, and to take an entrepreneurial role in building Argentine studies. Appropriate fields of specialisation may be any of the social sciences, including twentieth century history. The post is attached to a Governing Body Fellowship at St Antony's College. Applications, naming three people who have agreed to act as referees, should be received not later than *January 31, 1999* by the Director, Latin American Centre, St Antony's College, Oxford OX2 6JF, United Kingdom, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

The Department of History at Tel Aviv University, Israel, announces a position in Latin American history, effective October 1999. Preference will be given to candidates whose main field of research is twentieth-century history of Latin America. The candidate should have completed all requirements towards Ph.D. degree by the time he or she begins work. Teaching responsibilities include introductory courses in Latin American history and specialized courses for both undergraduate and graduate students. The position, which is tenure-track, requires the teaching in Hebrew, within two years of appointment. Salary and conditions will conform to Israeli University regulations. Appointment procedures will be carried out according to the rules and regulations of Tel Aviv University and are subject to the approval of the University authorities. Appointees will be required to reside in the Tel Aviv area. Appropriate candidates should send their applications, including a curriculum vitae and samples of publications or other written work, and also arrange for three letters of recommendation to be sent directly to Professor Marcelo Dascal, Dean, Faculty of Humanities, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv 69978, Israel, by *January 31, 1999*. ■



RESEARCH AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

The Latin American Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars announces the continuation of a training program for junior or mid-level scholars or practitioners from Latin America involved in public policy issues to enhance their research and analytic skills through study at a public policy research or academic center in the United States. The objective of this program is to contribute to the design and practice of public policy in Latin America. The Program seeks applicants who are Latin American citizens and reside in Latin America who are currently engaged in public policy research or implementation on the following themes: governance and the formation of citizenship; the social consequences of economic restructuring under democratic regimes, with a special focus on urban poverty; or the redefinition of national interests and security after the Cold War. Candidates must be Latin American citizens; should have at least one university degree (but not a Ph.D. from a U.S. or European university); should be between the ages of twenty-five and forty-five; and should be capable of conducting research and participating in seminars in English. Affiliation with a research center or university, or explicit support from a government agency in Latin America is required. Students currently enrolled in a college or university, in Latin America or elsewhere, are not eligible. Special consideration will be given to those who have not or otherwise would not have the opportunity to conduct research in the United States. Completed applications, including all supporting material, must arrive at the Latin American Program by *May 1, 1999*. All awards will be announced by June 15, 1999. For further information about the fellowship competition, including application materials required to be submitted, contact the Junior Scholars Training Program, Latin American Program, The Woodrow Wilson Center, One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW (South), Washington, D.C. 20523. Tel: 202-691-4030. Fax: 202-691-4076. E-mail: lap@wwic.si.edu.

Virginia Tech University is sponsoring a course in Urban Design and Planning in Cuba, to take place in Cuba June 9-23, 1999. This program facilitates research and studies for selected graduate and undergraduate students, professional journalists, and researchers who are studying some aspect of contemporary Cuba. The program addresses a wide array of social, economic and political issues unfolding in contemporary Cuba. All curious participants are welcome and should not feel that this program is only for planners and architects. We will meet largely "outside the classroom," which includes meetings with community organizations, government offices and NGO headquarters. This year marks the ninth organized trip to Cuba by Virginia Tech. The program will focus on urban design and planning under colonial, republican, and revolutionary rule. The academic focus will also examine housing; the role of non governmental

organizations in Cuba's changing political economy; and the new private/mixed market. The trip consists of seven days in Havana and seven days traveling to and staying in Trinidad and Varadero. Mini-grants of up to \$200 are available to students on a competitive basis. Students are encouraged to seek a variety of funding sources. Students from other universities or persons enrolling as special students in Virginia Tech summer school may receive transfer credit. All participants are subject to approval by the U.S. Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control. The professor will secure a "group" license for all participants. For more information, contact Joseph L. Scarpaci, Urban Affairs & Planning, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0113. Tel: 540-231-7504. Fax: 540-231-3367. Cuba study-abroad program information, application form and video are available through the program's website at <http://www.arch.vt.edu/CAUS/UA/faculty/Scarpaci.html>.

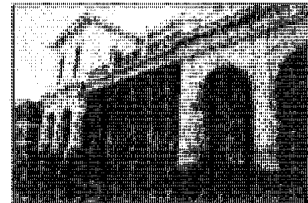
The National Coordinating Office on the Refugees and Displaced of Guatemala (NCOORD) seeks candidates for training for the Guatemala Accompaniment Project (GAP). Training will take place in February in the Bay Area of California, and other training throughout the year will be announced soon. GAP matches trained human rights accompaniers with U.S. sponsoring communities, which can be faith-based networks or Central America support coalitions. These communities sponsor the accompaniers' stay in a returned refugee village or community of displaced people in Guatemala and undertake education and lobbying work around Guatemala in the United States. Participants' presence provides a vital link to the outside world for recently resettled villages as these families rebuild their communities after years of living in refuge or as displaced persons. The accompaniers share in everyday life, observe and report on conditions as a means of monitoring the peace process and help to develop an ongoing community-to-community relationship between the U.S. sponsoring community and the Guatemalan village. Prospective candidates should have Spanish proficiency or demonstrated ability to develop proficiency within two months; the ability to live and work under pressure, in rudimentary conditions and in situations that may involve some risk; ability to write reports and undertake human rights monitoring; availability for a minimum of three months; and previous experience in Guatemala or Latin America (preferred). Benefits include accommodation and food in the community, a small stipend, and health insurance. Accompaniers are expected to contribute towards the cost of their stay through fund raising. For information on the upcoming training session and future sessions, please contact NCOORD Guatemala, 1830 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20009. Tel: 202-265-8713. Fax: 202-265 0042. E-mail: ncooordgap@igc.org.

OVERSEAS SEMINARS FOR FACULTY

Brazil, Chile, and Mexico: June 1999

The Council on International Educational Exchange is pleased to offer three International Faculty Development Seminars to Latin America in June 1999. The seminars are designed for U.S. university faculty and administrators, in an effort to help stimulate initiatives toward internationalizing curricula. "Brazil: The Emerging Giant" will take place June 8-16, 1999 and is hosted by the University of São Paulo (taking place in São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and Parati); seminar fee is \$1,995. "Economic Reform, Free Trade, and Democratization in Chile" will take place June 20-28, 1999, and is hosted by FLACSO, Chile; seminar fee is \$1,950. "Mexico: The Societal, Political, and Economic Impacts of NAFTA" will take place May 30-June 8, 1999, and is hosted by the University of Guadalajara; seminar fee is \$1,600. The application deadline is *March 15, 1999*; (applications may be accepted on a space-available basis after that date). For further information, please contact the IFDS Department at Council, by telephone at 212-822-2747 or by e-mail at ifds@ciee.org. You may also refer to our website at: www.ciee.org/ifds.

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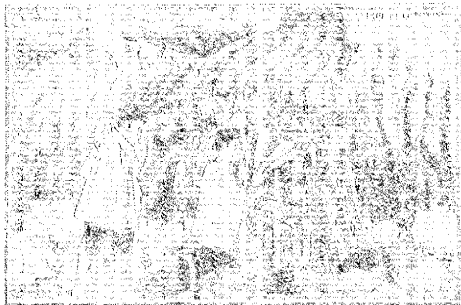
QZGF39A@prodigy.com

<http://pages.prodigy.net/nss-pmc/>

AYMARA AND QUECHUA COURSES SUMMER 99

Intensive introductory Aymara and Quechua courses will stress speaking, grammatical, and cultural structures. Meets FLAS requirements. Aymara is offered at the University of Chicago (June 21-August 20). For information, call Center for Latin American Studies, University of Chicago, 773/702-8420 or email clas@uchicago.edu. Quechua is offered at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (June 14-August 7). The professor, Clodoaldo Soto, is a native speaker of Quechua. He graduated from the Universidad de San Marcos in Lima, Peru, and he earned a M.A. from the Linguistics Institute of the State University of New York at Buffalo. For information, call the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, UIUC, 217/333-8419 or e-mail nvolinsk@uiuc.edu or s-soto3@staff.uiuc.edu.

*"Pagapu"
by the
Association of
Popular Artists
of Sarhua.*



The Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at the University of California, San Diego announces its 1999 competition for participants in the Summer Seminar in U.S. Studies for Latin American Social Scientists and Non-Academic Professionals. The Seminar, to be held June 20-July 30, 1999, is designed for Latin American scholars and non-academic professionals who want to understand, teach, and do research on the United States. The Seminar immerses participants in the most recent research on U.S. political and economic history, the U.S. Constitution and judiciary, Congress, the presidency, political parties and elections, the mass media, the economy, organized labor, environmental and other nongovernmental organizations, foreign policy making, and the U.S. role in the global economy. Citizens of any Latin American country may apply. Seminar participants must be able to speak and read English. The criteria for selection are as follows: professors or researchers who seek to improve their capacity to teach or do research on the United States, and to update their knowledge of that country; students who have completed at least one year of study at the graduate level, in any of the social sciences or history, at their home institution; students who have been accepted for graduate study in the social sciences or history at a U.S. university during the coming academic year; non-academic professionals working in private research institutes, government, business, journalism, law, and nongovernmental organizations, as well as other individuals involved in such fields as economic development, ecology, human rights, and poverty alleviation and whose responsibilities relate to the United States or require contact with U.S. counterparts. A limited number of scholarships will be available to participants. These awards cover tuition and fees, housing on the UCSD campus, a limited meal allowance, access to personal computers and libraries, reading materials required for the Seminar, and limited medical insurance. Budget limitations do not allow for transportation expenses. We invite applications from individuals who can provide their own financial support to cover all or part of the expenses described above. We also encourage applicants to seek support from their home institutions or from other sources. The total amount needed to cover all costs is \$5,500, plus

airfare. The selection of all participants is based on merit. For further information and application materials, please contact Graciela Platero, External Affairs Coordinator, at tel: 619-534-4503. Fax: 619-534-6447. E-mail: gplatero@weber.ucsd.edu. Application forms can be downloaded from the Center's website: <http://weber.ucsd.edu/Depts/USMex/welcome.htm>. The absolute deadline to submit applications for this competition is *March 12, 1999*.

The National Endowment for the Humanities announces its 1999 Summer Seminars and Institutes for College and University Teachers. Participants receive between \$2,800 and \$3,700, depending on the length of the seminar or institute, to cover the costs of travel, books and other research expenses, and living expenses. Detailed information on programs and eligibility, and application procedures can be obtained from project directors. When using e-mail, please include your regular mailing address, since directors will send application materials through the mail. The application deadline is *March 1, 1999*. The following programs of relevance to Latin American studies are offered: 1) "Nature and Human Societies on Three Continents: North America, South America, and Africa" (June 7-July 16, 1999). Directors: Donald E. Crummey and Cynthia Radding, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Dept. of History, 309 Gregg Hall, 810 S. Wright St., Urbana, IL 61801. E-mail: decrummey@uiuc.edu or radding@uiuc.edu; 2) "Cultural Differences and Values: Human Rights and the Challenge of Relativism" (June 21-July 30, 1999). Director: Andrew J. Nathan, Continuing Education and Special Programs, Columbia University, 303 Lewisohn Hall, Mail Code 4110, 2970 Broadway, New York, NY 10027-6902. Tel: 212-854-3771. E-mail: nehnathan@columbia.edu; 3) "New Sources and Findings on Cold War International History" (July 11-August 6, 1999). Director: James R. Millar. Information: Heather Freedman, The George Washington University Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, 2013 G St. NW, #401, Washington, DC 20052. Tel: 202-994-6342. E-mail: freedman@staff.esia.gwu.edu. ■



FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

The **Second Annual Conference on Caribbean Literature (ICCL)** will be held November 3-5, 1999, in Bermuda. Abstracts are due by *May 28, 1999* to one of the following: Melvin Rahming (English), Dept. Of English and Linguistics, Morehouse College, 830 Westview Dr. SW, Atlanta, GA 30314. Tel: 404-681-2800, ext. 2512. Fax: 404-215-3481. E-mail: mrhming@morehouse.edu; OR Jorge Román-Lagunas (French and Spanish), Dept. of Foreign Languages and Literatures, Purdue University Calumet, 2200 169th St., Hammond, IN 46323. Tel: 219-989-2632. Fax: 219-989-2165. E-mail: roman@calumet.purdue.edu.

Birmingham-Southern College announces a Call for Papers for its **Seventh Annual Latin American Studies Symposium**, to be held April 23-24, 1999. Every spring, the College's Latin American Studies Program gathers students, faculty, and professionals for two days of intense discussion about current Latin American topics. This conference has two main objectives: to promote undergraduate student research and to increase dialogue among faculty members. If you are an undergraduate student with an interest in Latin American Studies, we encourage you to submit a *one-page abstract* for a paper involving original research. All topics relating to Latin

America are welcome. Professors are also invited to propose and lead round table discussions, organize panels, or serve as chairs/discussants. This is an excellent opportunity for you to "showcase" the best and brightest from your institution. There is no registration fee to attend the conference. However, participants will be asked to preregister in order to be included in the luncheons and special receptions that the College will host during the conference. Please send your paper proposals or panel ideas to: Dr. Gamaliel Perruci, Director, Latin American Studies Program, Birmingham-Southern College, 900 Arkadelphia Road, Birmingham, AL 35254. E-mail: gperruci@bsc.edu. The deadline for proposals is *January 29, 1999*.

The **Fifth Annual Working for Global Justice Conference on Careers and Activism in International Development** will be held March 26-29, 1999 at American University in Washington, DC. Activities include over thirty panels and workshops, career counseling, a networking session, international film festival, and activism for human rights. For more information, contact Visions in Action, 2710 Ontario Rd. NW, Washington, DC 20009. Tel: 202-625-7403. E-mail: Visions@igc.org. Website: www.visionsinaction.org.

The **Fourth International Congress of the Americas** will be held Wednesday, September 29 to Saturday, October 2, 1999, at the Universidad de las Américas in Puebla, Mexico. Papers on Mexican history, literature, or culture, as well as popular culture issues related to the U.S. and Mexico, are invited. Latin American papers should be referred to Paul Rich of UDLA at rich@rico.pue.udlap.mx. Popular culture papers should be referred to Peter Rollins at RollinsPC@aol.com. More information may also be obtained from the Congress website: <http://www.udlap.mx/congress/>.

The **Instituto Literario y Cultural Hispánico** is issuing a Call for Papers for its XVIII Simposio Internacional, to be held in Ciudad de Guatemala de la Asunción, Guatemala, from August 9-14, 1999. The conference theme will be "Mito, Nación e Identidad: Centenario del nacimiento de Miguel Angel Asturias y Jorge Luis Borges. The event is sponsored by the Embajada de la República Argentina en

Guatemala, the Ministerio de Cultura, the Instituto Sanmartiniano and the Universidad Rafael Landívar de Guatemala. The deadline for one-page abstracts is *March 15, 1999*. Selected papers will be published by Alba de América. Please send submissions or inquiries to Dr. Juana A. Arancibia, Instituto Literario y Cultural Hispánico, 8452 Furman Ave., Westminster, CA 92683. Tel/fax: 714-892-8285. E-mail: ilchja@aol.com. Papers may not exceed 20 minutes presentation time; papers and abstracts must be submitted in duplicate.

The **44th Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM)** will be held in Nashville, Tennessee on May 30-June 3, 1999, hosted by the libraries of Vanderbilt University. Conference sessions and lodging will be provided by the Loew's Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel, conveniently located near the Vanderbilt University campus. "Documenting Movements, Identity and Popular Culture" will be the conference theme. The meeting will examine the various challenges facing librarians as they collect materials on social issues across a broad span of cultures, time frames, and topics. Panels will include researchers in many diverse areas who will report on NGO's, sustainable development, native peoples, religion, land, rural and urban poverty, and other wide-ranging matters. Book dealers will discuss ways they understand and manage the rapidly changing nature of research in light of non-commercial and non-governmental publishing. Exhibits by book dealers and publishers that specialize in Latin America and the Caribbean will showcase materials in print and electronic formats. Tours of campus libraries will be available. Invitations and registration materials for SALALM XLIV will be mailed in January 1999. For information on the program's content, please contact Richard Phillips, SALALM President, University of Florida Libraries, Latin American Collection, Gainesville, FL 32611. Tel: 352-392-0360. Fax: 352-392-7251. E-mail: ricphil@mail.uflib.ufl.edu. Details concerning local arrangements are available from Paula Covington, Chair, Local Arrangements Committee, c/o Vanderbilt University Libraries, 419 21st Ave. South, Nashville, TN 37240-0007. Tel: 615-322-6282. Fax: 615-343-7276. E-mail: covington@library.vanderbilt.edu. ■



PUBLICATIONS

Cynthia Tompkins and David W. Foster invite you to contribute to a dictionary on 75 twentieth-century Latin American women. Entries cover women noted in politics, visual arts, literature, religion, government, education, popular culture, and science. Each entry consists of a narrative discussion of the subject's biographical data, family background, education, career highlights, obstacles encountered and overcome, and influences of the subject's personal life on her accomplishments. Each entry concludes

with a short list of sources in English for further reading. We would like to have individual contracts signed by January, 1999. Entries need to be completed by June, 1999. Length of entries: approx. 1600 words, 6.5 pages. Photographs: a plus. Final English version to be submitted in IBM compatible diskettes, WordPerfect, preferably 5.1 or any version of Word. Interested parties should e-mail Cynthia.Tompkins@asu.edu. ■

Colombian Market Reforms: Economic & Social Implications

Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA

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Because of recent political and economic events both in Colombia and internationally, this is an opportune time for an extensive discussion about market reform and the future of Colombia.

Similar to our 1991 and 1994 conferences, this gathering will serve as a forum for critical evaluation of current strategies, theories and models as well as influence the future direction of research and policy making in the economic development of Colombia. Marc Chernak of Georgetown University and Miguel Urrutia Montoya, Director General of the Central Bank of Colombia, will deliver the keynote addresses for the conference.

The major themes of the conference include:

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To reserve your place at the 1999 conference, please mail or fax the form below to: Rosemary Krauss, Martindale Center, 621 Taylor Street, RBC #37, Lehigh University, Bethlehem, PA 18015. Fax: (610) 758-6549. Or email rhk0@lehigh.edu.

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Please send information about the conference to the following person(s):

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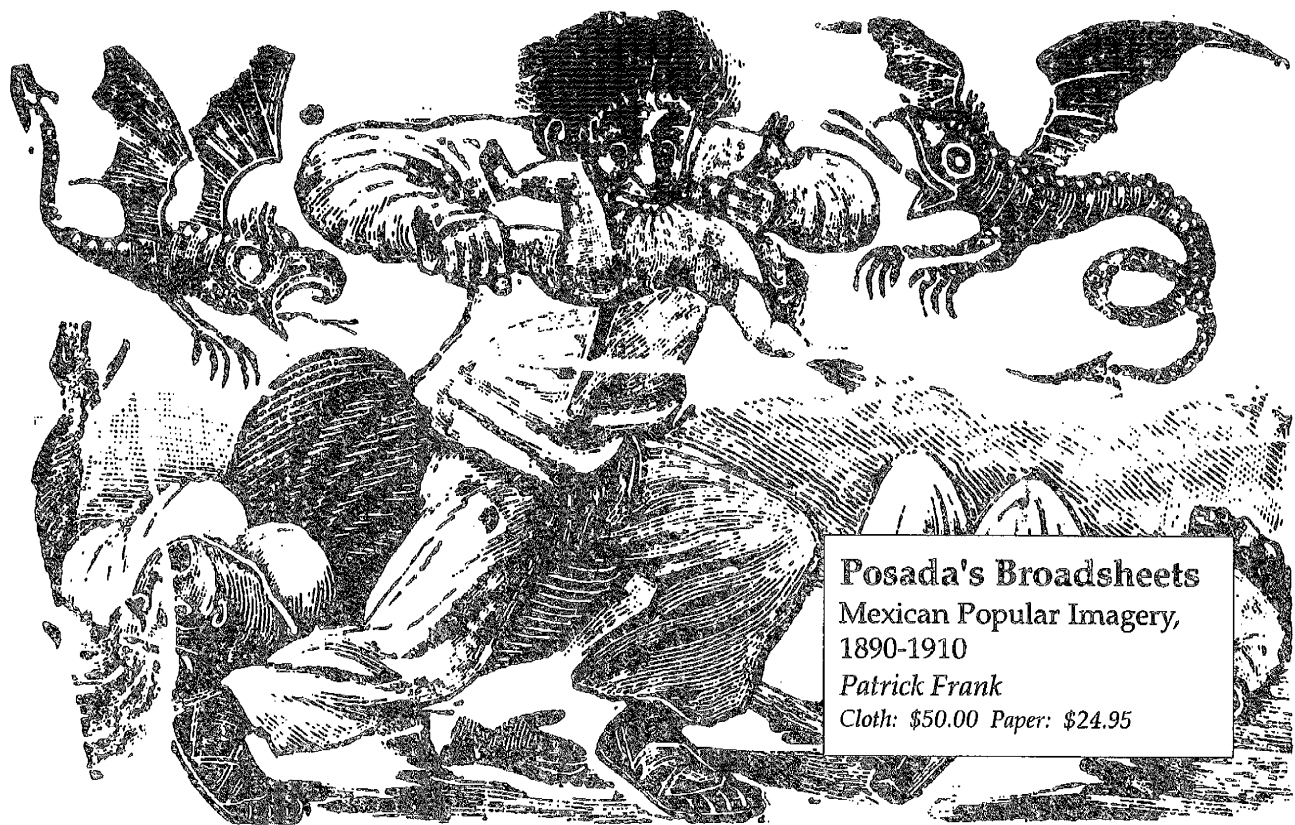
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FORTHCOMING

Sustainable Development in San Diego–Tijuana: Environmental and Social Implications of Economic Interdependence

edited by Mark J. Spalding

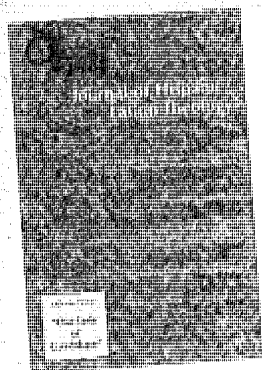
The authors examine factors affecting the prospects for sustainable development in San Diego–Tijuana: the environmental implications of economic integration; links between demographic growth, quality of life, and the environment; post-NAFTA institutional and policy directions; and the roles of NGOs, universities, and the private sector in providing positive input toward long-term sustainability in the region.

Myths and [Mis]Perceptions: Changing U.S. Elite Visions of Mexico

Sergio Aguayo Quezada

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The Modern Language Association has published a list of annual prizes with competitions in 1999 for books published in 1998. The following are MLA prizes which may be of interest to LASA members (MLA membership not required):

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The magazine *Vuelta* has been, for the last 21 years, one of the most important publications in the Spanish language, contributing to the free discussion of ideas in all countries where Spanish is spoken. Its reputation has been based not only on its support for democracy, pluralism and tolerance but also because it has been one of the most important literary and cultural magazines in the world. *Vuelta* was founded and directed by the Mexican Nobel laureate, Octavio Paz, and its final issue (an anthology of some of the most distinguished

articles published in its pages) came out in August of 1998. The editors, collaborators and friends of the magazine made the decision that it was simply not possible to continue the publication of *Vuelta* after the death of Paz, because the magazine was so closely connected with his name and his specific stature. Nevertheless, it continues to be important, for the Spanish-speaking intellectual world, to have the kind of forum that *Vuelta* has represented. In response to this need, the historian Enrique Krauze, who was for many years subdirector of *Vuelta*, decided to purchase Octavio Paz's shares in the magazine and launch a new publication, which will be called *Letras Libres*. The new magazine will be faithful to the intellectual impetus of *Vuelta* but it will not merely be the old publication under a new name. Among the important changes planned is the decision that each monthly issue of *Letras Libres* will emphasize a particular theme of vital importance to contemporary Mexican and Latin American society. The first issue of *Letras Libres* will be coming out in January.

The **Oral History Association** invites applications for three awards to be presented in 1999 that will recognize outstanding work in the field. Awards will be given for a book that uses oral history to advance an important historical interpretation or addresses significant theoretical or methodological issues; for a completed nonprint media project that addresses a significant historical subject or theme and exemplifies excellence in oral history methodology; and an award will be made to a precollegiate educator who has made outstanding use of oral history in the classroom. In all cases, awards will be given for work published or completed between April 1, 1997 and March 30, 1999. Awards are honorific and will be announced at the Association's annual meeting, to be held October 6-8, 1999, in Anchorage, Alaska. The Association welcomes entries and nominations from all who practice oral history, including academic scholars and educators, public history institutions and practitioners, independent professionals, libraries and archives, community-based groups and individuals, and others. For guidelines and submission information, write the Oral History Association, Baylor University, P.O. Box 97234, Waco, TX 76798-7234. E-mail: OHA_Support@Baylor.edu. Website: <http://www.baylor.edu/~OHA/>. The deadline for receipt of all nomination materials is *April 1, 1999*. ■

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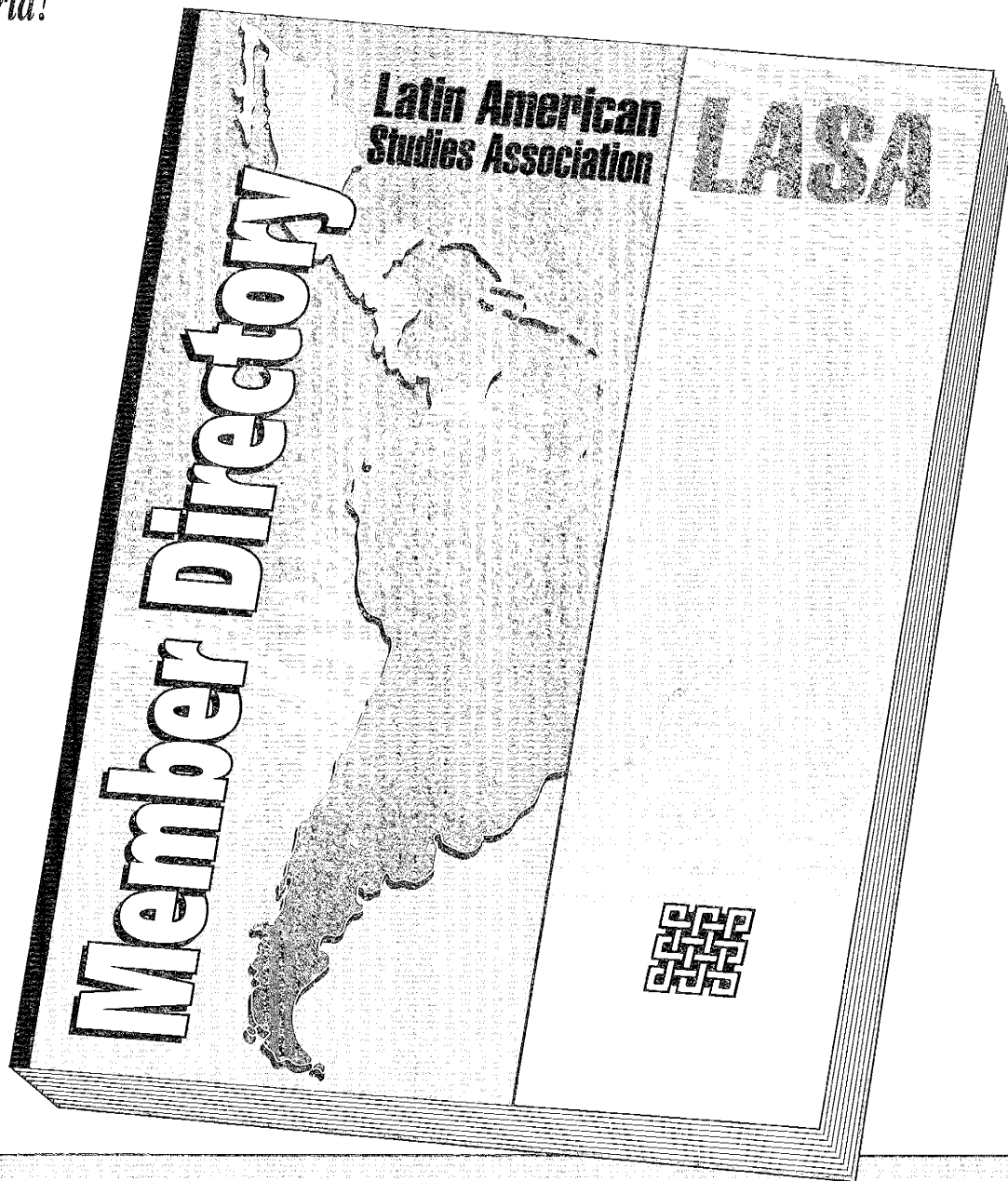
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