

L A S A

LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

Newsletter

VOL. III, No. 1 (January 1972)

Diane Holloway-Vest, Editor

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ELECTION RESULTS

The Ballot Counting Committee, Dr. Mary Kahler (Hispanic Foundation) and Prof. Harold Davis (American University), has completed its count of the ballots for the Executive Council and Vice Presidential elections. Henry Landsberger has been elected Vice President (president-elect for 1973), while Lewis Hanke and Karen Spalding were elected for three year terms to fill the two posts on the Council formerly held by Ralph Beals and Robert Freeman Smith, whose terms expired at the end of 1971.

Below is the tab sheet for the 746 ballots returned to the Secretariat.

Vice President:

Henry Landsberger (Soc., U.N.C.)	436
Marshall Nason (Lit., U. N. Mex.)	277
[abstentions]	33

Executive Council:

Lewis Hanke (Hist., U. Mass.)	384
Karen Spalding (Hist., Columbia U.)	247
James Petras (Pol. Sci., Penn State)	219 (1st Alternate)
Daniel Goldrich (Pol. Sci., U. Ore.)	184 (2nd Alternate)
John Brushwood (Lit., U. Ks.)	157
George Collier (Anthro., Stanford)	149
Markos Mamalakis (Ec., U. Wisc.-Milwaukee)	117
Write-in	1
Abstentions	34

CORRECTION AND APOLOGY

The LASA Secretariat wishes to apologize for an error on the Executive Council election ballot. Professor Markos Mamalakis' institutional affiliation was given as the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. Correction: Professor Mamalakis is Director of the Latin American Center at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee!

SECRETARIAT FINDS NEW HOME

The Executive Council is pleased to announce the unanimous decision to accept the University of Florida's invitation to house the LASA Secretariat.

Official invitations were received from eleven institutions. The Council was thus faced with the difficult task of choosing among a number of proposals, all of which had considerable merit. Both the range of facilities and the qualifications of the persons involved had to be weighed.

With the decision made, plans will soon be underway for the transfer to

Gainesville, to be completed by September 1, 1972. Space will be made available in the offices of the Center for Latin American Studies located in the University's new Graduate School and International Studies Building.

The Executive Secretary-designate, Felicity M. Trueblood, has been on the staff of the Journal of Interamerican Studies for several years, was an outstanding success as secretary-treasurer of the Southeastern Conference on Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) for five years, developed the South-eastern Latinamericanist into a highly respected regional publication, and has been co-editor of the Latin American Urban Research (Latin American Urban Annual) for the past two years. She has been a member of the Latin American Faculty of the University of Florida since 1959.

RESOLUTIONS APPROVED AT NATIONAL MEETING

The following three resolutions were passed at the LASA business meeting in Austin. The original text of each resolution was submitted to the Executive Council two weeks before the National Meeting (as required by the By-Laws) by LASA member Joel Edelstein, on behalf of the Union of Radical Latin Americanists (URLA). All three resolutions were amended by other LASA members during the course of debate. A fourth resolution, calling for a study of U.S. private investment in Latin America, was tabled.

According to Section VI, Article 3 of the LASA By-Laws, "Any legislative action of the members taken at a National Meeting shall be submitted to a mail ballot of all the Members upon receipt by the Executive Secretary of written requests for such ballot from one hundred or more Members or Graduate Student Associates within ninety days of the date of the business session." Thus, unless a petition is submitted, the resolutions passed will stand.

RESOLUTION: ON THE FREEDOM OF SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION

Whereas the Association, by mail ballot following the Second National Meeting, expressed its support for the free access of Cuban scholars to the U.S. libraries, archives, universities and scholars; and

Whereas the intent of the Association would be furthered by inviting a Cuban scholar to participate in the Fourth National Meeting of the Association;

Be it resolved that the Program Planning Committee is directed to make every effort to see that a Cuban scholar resident in Cuba is invited to participate in a panel or to address the assembled body of the Fourth National Meeting;

And be it further resolved that the Committee on Scholarly Relations with Cuba is directed to pursue by all appropriate means the acquisition of a visa for the Cuban scholar invited, inform the general public of its effort through letters to major U.S. newspapers, and to inform the membership of the Association periodically through the News-letter.

RESOLUTION: ON TERROR IN GUATEMALA

Whereas the state of semi-official and official rightist terror in Guatemala has reached unprecedented proportions; and

Whereas the brunt of this terror has fallen heavily on university professors and students; and

Whereas, moreover, the Arana regime has implicitly and explicitly threatened the autonomy of the national University of San Carlos; and

Whereas this continual violation of human rights in Guatemala has been condemned by the OAS; and

Whereas it is impossible to ignore the complicity of the U.S. in this repression, through its support of the Arana regime, and most particularly through its police and military assistance programs;

Therefore, be it resolved that, as the principal organization of U.S. academics concerned with Latin America, LASA condemns this situation in Guatemala;

And that LASA hereby instructs its Government Relations Committee to further investigate this situation and to keep its members informed;

And that LASA calls for a full investigation of this situation, through public hearings by the relevant U.S. Senate and House Committees. These hearings should be open, should include non-government witnesses, and should place special emphasis on the role of the U.S. in Guatemala since 1954;

And that LASA calls for a cut-off of U.S. military and police assistance to Guatemala.

RESOLUTION: DEMOCRATIZATION OF THE PROGRAM PLANNING PROCESS AND THE PROGRAM

Whereas most of the membership currently does not have an opportunity to participate in the Program Planning Process; and

Whereas lack of knowledge concerning selection of panel topics and selection of panel participants tends to limit opportunities for participation, especially among younger members;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Program Planning Committee for each National Meeting is hereby directed to:

I. Issue a report in some detail that summarizes the program proposals received, includes a tentative program and explains the reasoning behind its formulation. The report should be circulated to the membership for their reactions.

II. Issue to the membership a second report in some detail that summarizes the reactions to the first report, includes a final program, explains the reasoning behind its formulation, and announces the selection of panel coordinators (in so far as possible).

III. Require panel coordinators to issue a report summarizing the suggestions they have received, stating the final topics and panelists on which they have decided, and the reasons for their decisions. All reports should be issued as expeditiously as possible, whether via the Newsletter or otherwise.

IV. Provide facilities for panels desired by a significant portion of the membership which have not been included in the program set by the Program Planning Committee. A petition signed by at least 50 members of the Association shall be accepted as evidence of desire for such panels, provided that no member shall sign more than one such petition. The number of such panels shall be limited to a proportion as close to but no more than 1/3 of the number of panels presented by the Program Planning Committee and shall be in addition to the previously planned program. Such panels shall be listed in all editions of the program. The deadline for receipt of such petitions shall be no less than 60 days following the mailing of the announcement of topics selected by the Program Planning Committee. Panel coordinators shall follow the same procedure as accepted by other panel coordinators.

* * * * *

\$1000 PRIZE OFFERED BY UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS PRESS

Frank Wardlaw, director of the University of Texas Press, and LASA President Federico Gil have announced the establishment of a joint LASA-UT Press sponsored contest. A prize will be offered for the best manuscript in any field dealing with Latin America. Manuscripts will be submitted to a LASA Prize Committee headed by John J. Johnson of Stanford University. The Prize of \$1000 and publication of the manuscript by UT Press will be awarded annually. Further details about the contest will be announced soon by the Committee.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING

The LASA Executive Council met Thursday, December 2, and Sunday, December 5, at the Villa Capri Motel in Austin, Texas. Those attending were: Federico Gil, President; Thomas Skidmore, Vice President; John Johnson, Past President; Seymour Menton; Ralph Beals; Robert Freeman Smith; John Saunders; Richard Fagen; Paul Doughty (1st Alternate); and Diane Holloway, Executive Secretary.

It was agreed to deny a request by Professor Joel Edelstein (U. of Wisc., Green Bay) to attend the Council meeting as an observer. The denial was made on the basis of an April 1970 Executive decision that such meetings would not be open to non-Council members.

Among the many items discussed at the meeting were the agenda for the National Meeting business session and the process of admitting and registering new members. The major item of business was, of course, the transfer of the Secretariat. Each bid was discussed (the two Florida Council members were absent from the discussion of Florida's bid) and a decision made on Sunday.

Editor Thomas McGann reported on the financial and editorial situation of LARR. It was decided to increase the print order substantially for Volume VII in order to avoid running an issue out of print.

Vice President Skidmore reported that he would circulate draft copies of a proposal to the Ford Foundation to Council members before sending them to

Ford. Funds will be requested for LASA's committee activities and for an expanded Newsletter.

The Executive Secretary furnished membership figures and financial statements. A complete financial report for 1971 will be supplied as soon as all the books are closed for the year.

Vice President Skidmore presented a budget for 1972 [included in this issue of the Newsletter] which was approved by the Council.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Council would be in March in Washington, D.C., and the fall meeting would be held at the location of the Secretariat in Gainesville, Florida.

LASA BUDGET FOR 1972

Estimated Income

a.	Membership dues (based on membership figures as of Nov. 1971)		
	950 Members @ \$13.00	\$12,350	
	190 Associates @ \$10.00	1,900	
	300 Grad. Student Assoc.	2,400	
	190 CLASP Members @ \$50.00	<u>9,500</u>	
		\$26,150	\$26,150
b.	Grant Funds (Balance of Ford Foundation grant expiring June 30, 1972)		\$10,000
c.	Interest		<u>\$ 100</u>
		TOTAL	<u>\$36,250</u>

Estimated Expenditures

a.	LARR share payments (based on above membership estimates) ¹		\$11,960
b.	CLASP activities (half of estimated total member dues of \$9,500) ²		\$ 4,750
c.	Secretariat ³		
	Jan. 1-Aug. 31, 1972 (8 mos.) at Hispanic Foundation		
	Salaries	\$ 8,000	
	Misc. (postage, printing, etc.)	<u>\$ 2,000</u>	
		\$10,000	\$10,000
	Aug. 31-Dec. 31 (4 mos.) at new location		
		<u>\$ 2,000</u>	
	TOTAL for Secretariat 1972	\$12,000	\$12,000
d.	Secretariat Move		\$ 1,000
e.	Executive Council Meetings		\$ 4,000
	Misc. Travel		\$ 300

(Budget Con't.)

(1972 Budget, Continued)

f. Committees (limited expenses primarily for the two new committees on Scholarly Relations with Cuba and Scholarly Exchange in the Social Sciences)	\$ 1,500
g. Miscellaneous	\$ 740
	<hr/>
TOTAL	<u>\$36,250</u>

Footnotes to Budget:

1. LARR Share payments: The total amount has been calculated by adding the amounts that would be due for LARR shares from each of the membership categories at the project levels. The formula for the share division is:

	<u>Dues</u>	<u>LARR Share</u>	<u>Net to LASA</u>
Members	\$13	\$8	\$5
Associates	10	7	3
Grad. Student Associates	8	4	4
CLASP members (1/2 of all dues, i.e., \$25 per member, are retained for CLASP activities)	50	10	15
950 Members at \$8 LARR share			\$ 7,600
190 Associates at \$7 LARR share			1,260
300 Grad. Students at \$4 LARR share			1,200
190 CLASP members at \$10 LARR share			<u>1,900</u>
TOTAL LARR shares			\$11,960

2. CLASP activities: By agreement at the time of the formation of CLASP, its Steering Committee has control over expenditures of half of the revenues from CLASP dues. In the past these funds have gone primarily to cover the expenses of Steering Committee meetings and publications.

3. Secretariat: The \$8,000 salary item for the Jan. 1 - Aug. 31 period is based on the salary expenditures at the Hispanic Foundation for the third quarter of 1971. The \$2,000 item for Miscellaneous (printing, postage, accounting service, etc.) during the same period is an estimate based on actual expenditures during 1971. An equal item of \$2,000 has been allowed for the last four months (although it covers only half as long a time) in order to allow for greater telephone expenses and an expanded Newsletter.

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Executive Council announces the appointment of John Thompson (University of Illinois, Urbana) as chairman of the Nominating Committee. Anyone with suggestions for Vice Presidential and/or Executive Council nominees is urged to write to Professor Thompson, c/o Department of Geography, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois 61801. Please send suggestions by March 1, 1972.

REPORT OF LASA COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY EXCHANGE IN THE SOCIAL SCIENCES

Meeting held Dec. 3, 1971, in Austin, Texas.

Chairman: Daniel Goldrich, Dept. of Political Science,
University of Oregon, Eugene, Ore. 97403

Only three members of the committee were able to meet in Austin: Richard Adams, Dale Johnson, and Daniel Goldrich. The following program was formulated and presented as a tentative one to the LASA business meeting.

The Committee has two projected activities, one having to do with traveling lectureships on U.S. campuses by Latin American scholars, and the other having to do with promoting interchange of scholarly materials.

The lectureships are designed to provide U.S. universities access to the work of particularly creative Latin American scholars concerned with crucial problems affecting the Americas. Some examples include presentation of models of the Inter-American political economy defining the Latin American dependency situation, or the manner in which particular societies are mobilizing to change that situation; description and analysis of such compelling programs as the Cuban production and distribution of public health and medical care; or presentations within the arts. The aim is to provide U.S. intellectual audiences a point of view that is important and not generally available in this country, and that involves some contribution to human development in the Americas.

Such lecturers might spend up to a week on a given campus to allow a fairly intensive experience of communication. How many such lectureships ought to be aimed for, with what plan, and at what cost remain to be worked out, but soon. Suggestions are welcomed regarding any aspect of the program including prospective lecturers.

Regarding exchange of materials, a series of proposals was made. The first is a subsidy for a number of Latin American scholarly journals on currently shaky financial ground. This subsidy would mean an agreement to finance a certain number of subscriptions for a period of a few years to be distributed to Latin American and U.S. institutions that cannot otherwise buy them, thus contributing to the journals' exposure and to scholarly communication and giving some time for the enterprises to establish themselves financially. The second proposal is to work through the set of U.S. university presses focusing especially on Latin American materials to develop a recommended policy, whereby authors agree to take a certain proportion of their royalties for purchase of the books to be distributed to Latin American institutions. The same might be done regarding institute publication series on Latin American topics. Finally, if the Committee can recruit the organizing help, it may aim at a recommended author's policy regarding his purchase of a certain number of reprints of his articles on Latin American topics that could be distributed to appropriate Latin American institutions by some central agency, perhaps through the aforementioned university presses or institutes.

REPORT OF LASA COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY RELATIONS WITH CUBA

Meeting held Dec. 3, 1971, in Austin, Texas

Chairman: Ivan Schulman, Dept. of Hispanic Languages, SUNY-Stony Brook, Stony Brook, N.Y. 11790

The Committee on Scholarly Relations with Cuba met for the first time on December 3, 1971, at 9:00 p.m. in the LBJ School of Public Affairs, Austin, Texas. The Committee whose membership consists of Richard Fagen, James O'Connor, Richard Graham, Marvin Leiner, Maurice Zeitlin, and Ivan Schulman (Chairman), was represented by Professors Fagen, Leiner, Graham, and Schulman.

Following a brief discussion of the main objectives of the Committee as well as the difficulties which normally present themselves when scholarly relations with Cuba are concerned, the committee members present first examined the items pertaining to Cuba included in the last report of the LASA Government Relations Committee: 1) importation of Cuban research materials 2) postal regulations 3) visa problems 4) currency regulations 5) travel to Cuba 6) exchange of scholars, including trips by American academics to Cuba, and by Cuban researchers to the United States. It was felt that many if not most of the government regulations regarding these matters have been fully explored. In view of the fact that official policy or tradition on these questions was a matter of public record, and that little appeared to be gained by further LASA pressure, it was suggested that it might be the proper moment to go one step further and secure legal counsel to cut through government bureaucracy as the means to insure a freer flow of resources and individuals between Cuba and the United States.

The major complaint of American scholars seems to be the difficulty of obtaining materials published in Cuba, either directly from Cuba or through individuals and libraries receiving them. The cooperation of the Library of Congress and the more recent circulation of Cuban Studies Newsletter have partially solved this problem. But, in the absence of an untrammelled, more abundant flow of materials, the Committee felt that a Resource Center for Cuban Materials should be created. Such a Center would identify Cuban materials, circulate lists of their location and availability in the United States and provide a copying service of multiple dimensions: microfilming projects of long runs of periodicals and newspapers whenever needed; or of books and occasional papers; xerox or microfilm reproduction of short runs of magazines, books or newspapers. The administration of such a Center might be housed in the Secretariat of LASA, and in its formation and/or operation the cooperation of the Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress and the Cuban Studies Newsletter should be obtained. As part of this Center, in order to insure the fullest possible availability of Cuban materials, funds should be provided in order to purchase materials for Cuban libraries and institutions in those cases in which such materials specifically requested by Cubans are not available for shipment to Cuba under an existing exchange arrangement. In order to organize such a Center and implement its activities, the Committee felt a one or two day meeting should be organized early in the Spring of 1972, possibly in New York.

On a related item, the Committee expressed its approval in principle with the circulated Resolution on the Freedom of Scholarly Communication, particularly with the participation of a Cuban scholar in American academic activities. With this end in mind, the Committee would like to explore the possibility of organizing specialized meetings as functions of LASA, either in the United States or abroad, to which the Cubans would have an interest in attending. It was even suggested that a section of the annual LASA meeting be held abroad as a means of attracting Cuban scholars to our activities. The Committee also agreed to study the question of the presence of Cuban scholars here in the states in connection with legal explorations of these problems.

REPORT OF LASA COMMITTEE ON SCHOLARLY RESOURCES, 1971

Chairman: Mary Ellis Kahler, Assistant Director, Hispanic Foundation, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540

The Committee on Scholarly Resources suffered a severe loss in the death of its dynamic and imaginative Chairman, Howard F. Cline. This report will cover two of the several projects that were undertaken under his leadership.

The preparation of a guide to basic bibliographic resources, designed to aid in the building of balanced library collections to support the teaching of Latin American studies, is moving ahead under the direction of Earl J. Pariseau, Hispanic Foundation, Library of Congress. Many individual LASA members have provided assistance by recommending titles for inclusion in their fields of special competence; suggestions have been returned by all but two of 51 consultants.

The organization of the acquisitions manual has been planned and over 2,000 titles have been gathered. These titles are in various stages of editing and annotation and about half are ready for editing prior to final typing. The copy is expected to be ready in the early part of 1972; after that, ways and means to publish the guide must be sought.

The Out-of-Print Program undertaken by LASA and the Xerox Corporation, through its University Microfilms subsidiary, continues with the gradual filming of additional titles, as copyright holders are located and clearances granted.

LASA members are invited to make suggestions for worthy, useful, and feasible projects that would increase the availability of pertinent scholarly resources. Suggestions can be made to the Chairman at the address given above.

EXTENSION OF CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS TO FAFP SUMMER PROGRAMS

The Foreign Area Fellowship Program is extending the closing dates for submission of applications for the Collaborative Research Training Fellowships

and Inter-American Research Training Seminars to be held in the United States and Latin America in the summer, 1972. Applications for both programs will now be received up to March 1, 1972.

The extension of the closing date is to enable as many qualified graduate students as possible to apply for these newly-offered fellowships. Special announcements of these programs have already been sent to the members of LASA; further information and application forms may be obtained by writing to: The Foreign Area Fellowship Program, 110 East 59th St., New York, N.Y. 10022.

FOURTH NATIONAL MEETING

Professor Martin C. Needler (Political Science) of the University of New Mexico will serve as Program Chairman for the Fourth National Meeting.

The combined campuses of the University of Wisconsin will host the meeting to take place in Madison in May 1973. Local arrangements will be handled through the combined efforts of the Center for Latin American Studies in Milwaukee and the Ibero-American Studies Program in Madison. The individual who will serve as Chairman of the Local Arrangements Committee has not yet been determined.

Any suggestions for topics, panels, panelists, etc., should be sent to Professor Martin Needler, Division of Inter-American Affairs, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, N.M. 87106. Your advice, interest, and participation will indeed be appreciated.

NDEA, TITLE VI

In early August of 1971 the Senate passed an omnibus higher education bill which incorporates the provisions for support of international studies into a title which is concerned broadly with strengthening graduate education. Within that context, separate mention has been made of foreign area and international studies at both graduate and undergraduate levels.

On November 5, 1971, the House passed its version of the higher education bill. Title VI of the House higher education bill provides for extension through fiscal year 1976 of the International Education Act and Title VI (the "language and area studies title") of NDEA. In both cases no specific authorization figures for future appropriations have been mentioned, only "such sums as may be necessary."

Some significant changes in the language of NDEA Title VI have been included in the House bill (Brademas Amendment). Among them: the use of "programs" as well as "centers", implying rotating federal support of different programs in different institutions rather than continuing assistance of the same programs in the same institutions; a broadening of the title to include comparative and problem-oriented international studies, rather than just

language and area studies, and study of any modern foreign language; an explicit reference to undergraduate level programs; and preparation of individuals for teaching elementary, secondary and higher education levels and for "other service of a public nature". Separate authorization for an International Education Act was not repealed, and so it will remain on the books, extended until 1976.

The Senate returned its version of the higher education bill to the floor to consider the House desegregation and anti-busing amendments. Thus, the bill was returned to Committee for review and will come to the Senate for a vote sometime after Congress re-convenes January 18, 1972. The Committee inserted an amendment to provide training for federal foreign affairs employees through graduate and undergraduate scholarships and in service training education and research programs (not part of NDEA VI).

In February the House/Senate Conference Committee will meet to compromise and merge the two versions of the bill.

[Information provided by David Merchant, Committee on the Future of International Studies, 1755 Mass. Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.]

CLASP ELECTION RESULTS AND NEWS

Election results for the Steering Committee are now complete. The Secretariat received 92 ballots before the Jan. 15, 1972, deadline. [*Elected]

Seat No. 1 (for 3 yrs.)

*Charles Hale, Iowa U. (Hist.)	47
James Cunningham, Ohio U. (Hist.)	41
(5 abstentions)	

Seat No. 2 (for 3 yrs.)

William Simonson, Temple U. (Poli. Sci.)	32
*Robert Alexander, Rutgers U. (Ec.)	60
(1 abstention)	

Seat No. 3 (for 3 yrs.)

*Mary E. Stephenson, Mary Washington College (Lit.)	53
Stanley Hilton, Williams College (Hist.)	34
(5 abstentions)	

Seat No. 4 (for 2 yrs.)

Ruth Kossof, U. of Rhode Island (Lit.)	44
*Miriam Williford, Winthrop College (Hist.)	45
(4 abstentions)	

Seat No. 5 (for 1 yr)

*Richard Baker, U. of Okla. (Poli. Sci.)	52
Ellis Sandoz, E. Tex. State U. (Poli. Sci.)	35
(6 abstentions)	

The Steering Committee met in Austin during the National Meeting and elected Professor Paul Doughty (Anthro., U. of Fla.) to the Chairmanship for 1972, replacing Professor Robert Potash of the University of Massachusetts.

CLASP Publication Number 4 is still in the preparatory stages. Entitled "Opportunities for Study in Latin America: A Guide to Group Programs", the pamphlet should be ready for distribution in the spring. The Committee also approved plans for Lewis Hanke and Jane Loy to publish a guide to audio-visual materials as a new CLASP project.

CHARTER FLIGHTS TO LATIN AMERICA

Reduced rates are now available for three flights to Latin America this summer (provided a minimum of 25 people make reservations). This jointly sponsored LASA/CLASP project for group travel will provide LASA members with an opportunity to save a considerable sum on round-trip air fares to the following locations:

New York - Rio de Janeiro - New York on Pan American Airways
June 8-Aug 21, 1972, \$463 (regular economy fare: \$684)
Miami - Santiago - Miami on Braniff International
June 10-Aug. 25, 1972, \$423 (regular economy fare: \$560)
Los Angeles - Lima - Los Angeles on Braniff International
June 9-Aug. 24, 1972, \$483 (regular economy fare: \$604)

Only those who have been members of LASA for at least 6 months will be eligible. Retroactive membership will be granted to those who are willing to pay 1971 and 1972 dues (but receive only the 1972 issues of LARR). Institutional representatives of CLASP must also be LASA members in order to qualify.

Reservations should be made early in order to give the airlines an idea of how many LASA members will be participating. All correspondence should be directed to: National Center for Educational Travel, Inc., 1601 Conn. Ave., NW, Washington, D.C. 20009.

REPORT FROM THE SECRETARIAT

Since the close of the National Meeting in Austin, the LASA Secretariat has been in the process of transferring the membership list from a manual Address-O-Graph system (time-consuming and, as many of you well know, subject to human error!) to a computer at the University of Texas Press. Hopefully, this will straighten out many of the problems we have had in the past and coordinate the LASA/LARR mailings more efficiently.

We appreciate the cooperation and patience of members in locating mistakes in addresses, billing, and receipt of publications. As a New Year's resolution, we promise better service for 1972!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

The following tables indicate membership growth and distribution as of November 1971.

LASA MEMBERSHIP BY DISCIPLINE

	Member	Associate	Grad. Stud.	TOTAL
History	264	59	118	441
Political Science	133	28	52	213
Economics	113	20	10	143
Language & Literature	109	17	9	135
Anthropology	63	8	15	86
Sociology	58	13	8	79
Geography	47	6	10	63
Education	26	3	9	38
Library Science & Bibliography	23	5		28
Law	14	1	2	17
Other & Unknown	87	39	54	180

GROWTH OF LASA MEMBERSHIP 1969-1971

	3/69	3/70	8/70	11/71
Members				
Paid	469	674	829	949
Unpaid	269	246	173	248
Associates				
Paid	97	186	208	186
Unpaid	69	112	93	95
Graduate Student Associates				
Paid	110	203	257	290
Unpaid	87	66	51	112
TOTAL Individuals				
Paid	676	1063	1294	1425
Unpaid	425	424	317	455
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
SUM	1101	1487	1611	1880
CLASP				
Paid			189	181
Unpaid			43	138

THE STATE OF THE ASSOCIATION: A PRESIDENTIAL VIEW

LASA is now in its sixth year. It has held three National Meetings and is preparing for the fourth, to be held in the spring of 1973. Our membership has grown significantly. As of November 1971, LASA had 1425 individual members, including 949 full Members, 290 Graduate Student Associates, and 186 Associates. The Consortium of Latin American Studies Programs (CLASP) had 181 members. Although we must work to expand our membership further, especially in those disciplines that are under-represented (see figures in previous article), progress has been made in enlisting a significant percentage of the Latin Americanists in the United States.

After six years at the Hispanic Foundation of the Library of Congress, LASA's Secretariat will move to the University of Florida (Gainesville) for a three-year term beginning in September 1972. LASA has been fortunate in receiving the hospitality of the Hispanic Foundation, where its late Director, Howard Cline, served as the first Executive Secretary (pro tem), and did much to help launch LASA and give it continuity through the early years. The location in the Library of Congress was always regarded as temporary, however, and the Executive Council was pleased to receive invitations from eleven universities in response to our search for a new home. The willingness of LASA members at so many institutions to arrange an official invitation was gratifying. By moving to a university, LASA will put its Secretariat on a footing comparable to the other area studies associations, which are housed at universities. (The African Studies Association is at Brandeis, the Middle East Studies Association is at New York University, the Association for Asian Studies is at Michigan, and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies is at Ohio State.)

The transfer of the Secretariat will make it possible for LASA to finance essential services out of dues income, because the salaries of secretariat personnel will be covered by the host institution. Our Association must move onto this basis, since our present Ford Foundation grant which ran for five years and has helped to defray secretariat expenses, will expire on June 30, 1972. This grant has been indispensable in facilitating LASA's growth through the difficult early years.

Our two new committees have met and copies of their reports are included in this Newsletter. Members should write directly to the Chairmen with their suggestions and comments. The Committee on Scholarly Resources has also been active. It should be noted that lack of funds has severely limited committee activities since early 1970. Should new outside funding become available, LASA committees would have a high priority in their allocation.

What is LASA's condition as a professional membership association? I think the Association has increasingly become an authentically pluralistic organization. The Executive Council has made clear its desire to see that LASA continually strives to achieve a consensus of opinion without representing exclusively the views of any one position or group. The success of our Third National Meeting last December in Austin indicated a level of understanding and communication that was much less evident at the Second National Meeting in Washington, D.C., in April 1970. Our constitution has

been amended to grant Graduate Student Associates the vote and the right of membership on committees and the Executive Council; the By-Laws have been amended to provide legislative powers (and their limitation) for the business session of the National Meeting; and a concerted effort has been made to insure a broad participation of members in all LASA activities. The Council and officers have been guided in their actions by members' opinions, as expressed personally and in the mail ballots on constitutional amendments and resolutions.

These changes have not pleased all members. In serving a membership organization with established rules of democratic procedure, the Executive Council has sought to meet the legitimate wishes of as many members as possible, while at the same time preserving the professional character which we believe most members regard as essential to LASA. Disagreements about what is "professional" and which is "political" will undoubtedly continue within LASA, as in other scholarly associations. Yet there is reason to hope that the margin for dialogue will remain large enough to accommodate the wide range of opinion of Latin Americanists who have shown their loyalty to LASA through their continued membership.

The new Executive Council members, Karen Spalding and Lewis Hanke, along with the two alternates for 1972, James Petras and Daniel Goldrich, will play an important role in channeling members' opinions, just as Council members have in the past. It should be noted that Karen Spalding is the first woman ever elected to the Council (Beverly Gibbs was an alternate in 1971), thus suggesting the continuing need to pay greater attention to the role of women within LASA. Lewis Hanke gained election as a write-in candidate from New England, where LASA members felt that region had been under-represented in recent nominations. Their success is further evidence that the means for action are at hand if members feel dissatisfied.

Where is LASA going? We need your suggestions, criticism, and support. Ideas on such topics as the National Meeting, the Newsletter, LARR, committee activities and secretariat procedures will be welcome. Several suggestions, such as an "Opinion" section in the Newsletter (financial considerations make a completely separate publication impractical at present), have been endorsed by the Council and now must await outside financing for their implementation.

As the incoming President of LASA I am acutely aware of the limitations on the Association. LASA can count only on a "secondary" loyalty from Latin Americanists whose time and money are the targets of many conflicting appeals. The primary loyalty of most scholars lies with their disciplinary association. Nonetheless, LASA has an important role to play. Its success in showing the flexibility to respond to a wide range of members' interests should be proof that LASA can accomplish even more in the years ahead.

Thomas E. Skidmore
LASA President for 1972

Some of you are receiving this Newsletter although your 1972 dues have not yet been paid! Please send your checks to the Secretariat as soon as possible. Spring issues of IARR will be out soon and you must be paid in order to receive them on time.

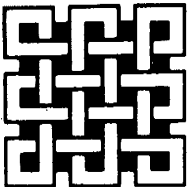
\$\$\$ REMINDER \$\$\$

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