

Report from the Program Chairs

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In late August we were fortunate enough to travel to Montreal to meet with the local organizing committee for LASA2007. We had a very productive trip and saw some additional benefits of moving the Congress to Canada. One of the most important is the strong collaboration that has emerged between LASA and the Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS), which in 2006 is celebrating its 30th anniversary. (See www.can-latam.org.) Holding LASA2007 in Montreal also allows for greater participation of French-speaking communities and a unique feature of this Congress will be the addition of French as an official language, alongside Spanish, Portuguese and English. Papers may be presented in French and some panels may be conducted entirely in French.

The two Congress hotels are situated in the city center, within walking distance of the beautiful old town and a variety of restaurants and cafes. Meeting rooms are conveniently located on a single floor in each hotel and the all-important bars are spacious and perfect for informal meetings.

We also decided to reinstate the “single time slot” or *espacio único* for one special session each day. These sessions will address the general Congress theme, “After the Washington Consensus,” and will be scheduled so that they will not compete with the regular panels. We are in the process of inviting guest speakers for these sessions and hope that they will appeal to the largest possible number of attendees.

The program will also include several invited sessions on a variety of topics, including comparative perspectives on indigenous autonomy, economic alternatives to neoliberalism, and collaborative research methodologies. In addition, there will be special events to mark the 50th anniversary of the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO) and the 25th anniversary of El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (COLEF) of Mexico.

We are looking forward to finalizing the program in the spring and working with the LASA Secretariat and the local organizing committee in ensuring a very successful Congress. ■

Target Dates for LASA2007

September 8, 2006	Deadline for proposal submission and travel funding requests
March 2, 2007	Notifications of acceptance/rejection
May 11, 2007	Deadline to submit changes/corrections for Program Book
May 30, 2007	Notification of travel grant requests
June 15, 2007	Pre-registration deadline
June 15, 2007	Deadline for canceling pre-registration without penalty
August 1, 2007	Deadline to submit electronic paper for conference proceedings