

LASA SECTIONS

Section News

LASA2009: Call for Travel Grant Applications

The Environment Section of the Latin American Studies Association is pleased to announce that it will award *two* US\$ 800.00 grants to help defray the costs of travel to LASA2009 in Rio de Janeiro (June 11–13). Awardees will be selected by a three-person committee composed of current members of the Environment Section's executive board.

Eligibility

Applicants must have been accepted as paper presenters at the LASA Rio Congress and be permanent residents of a country in Latin America or the Caribbean. Commentators or panel chairs will not be funded. Priority will be given to junior researchers (pre-tenure academics or their equivalent for non-academic professionals). *Membership in LASA and the Environment Section is required.* Visit <http://lasa.international.pitt.edu/eng/membership/> for membership information.

How to Apply

Eligible candidates must apply *no later than Monday, January 5, 2009*, submitting via email a brief (350-word maximum) statement. This should include information about the applicant's participation in LASA2009; the date and institution of the highest degree obtained; current professional position; and country of permanent residence.

The following supporting materials are required as attachments: 1) an abstract of the paper accepted for delivery at the LASA2009 meeting; 2) a one-page curriculum vita; and 3) a budget detailing expected costs and other potential sources of funding. All application materials (in English, Portuguese, or Spanish) must be sent via email to

Environment Section co-chairs Sherrie Baver (SBaver@GC.CUNY.edu) and Kate McCaffrey (McCaffreyk@mail.Montclair.edu). Attachments may be sent in Microsoft Word, Adobe PDF or plain text format. ■

Increase in Section Membership Fees

For the first time since LASA Sections were established in 1998, the fee for Section membership will increase from \$8 to \$10 commencing with the 2009 membership year. For each \$10 individual payment, \$6 will be placed in the account of the Section, and \$4 will be kept with the Secretariat to help defray the cost of service to the Sections. The dues increase approved by the LASA EC at its June 2008 meeting is meant to assist Sections in raising funds for travel grants to the LASA Congress. Sections are encouraged to use some portion of their funds for this purpose whenever possible. ■