

Report on Ford-LASA Special Projects

LASA is pleased to announce the outcome of the most recent LASA/Ford Special Projects competition. Maria Hermínia Tavares de Almeida, LASA Vice President/President Elect, chaired the review and selection committee and the following LASA colleagues served on the committee: Carlos Acuña, ACEESA; Graciela Ducatenzeiler, Université de Montréal; and Rosemary Thorp, Oxford University. The committee had an award fund of \$25,000.

In response to a request for proposals issued in 2009, fifty-six applications were submitted for consideration by the September 1, 2009 deadline. Of these, two projects were selected for funding at \$12,500 each:

The Emergence of Civil-Society-Led Corporate Governance in Latin America: Building an Interdisciplinary Trans-regional Network of Researchers

Charles Hale, University of Texas at Austin, project director

Inequality: forms of legitimation and conflict in Latin American societies

Francisco Zapata, El Colegio de México, Project director

This fifth cycle of the Ford-LASA Special Projects competition was made possible by a contribution from the Ford Foundation to the LASA Endowment Fund. Proceeds from that contribution provide support for such activities as transregional research initiatives, conferences, working groups, the development of curriculum and teaching resources, and similar projects of LASA Sections or ad hoc groupings of LASA members. ■

LASA Voluntary Support

by SANDY KLINZING

The Association is grateful to the hundreds of donors who made contributions to LASA during the past year (many to multiple funds at the same time), to donors to two new designated funds, and to the LASA Fundraising Committee for its tireless efforts to increase support for the Endowment.

One of the chief sources of support for the LASA Endowment continues to be the LASA Life Membership. Since our last report, three more members have become Life Members: **Erik Langer** (Georgetown University, history); **Mark Ratkus** (La Salle University, economics); and **Brian Turner** (Randolph Macon College, political science). This brings the total of Life Members to 81. Thank you for your noteworthy commitment!

The following individuals have made generous contributions to one or more Association funds since our last report:

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