

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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PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL NOTES

In Memoriam

David Scott Palmer
 Erika Pani
 Manuela Picq Lavinas
 Leandro Pinheiro
 Adlin de Jesus Prieto Rodríguez
 Peter Ranis
 Alejandro Razzotti
 Graciela Clotilde Riquelme
 Frank Salomon
 Victoria Sanford
 Mojana Silva
 Pedro Simonard
 Silvia Tandeciarz
 Denise Tavares da Silva
 Analisa Taylor
 Sergio Toro Maureira
 Stefano Varese
 Arnold Vela
 Matthias Vom Hau
 Robert Wasserstrom
 Barbara Weinstein
 Timothy Wickham-Crowley
 Stephen Henry Wilkinson
 Heather Williams
 Anna Zalik
 Neyer Zapata Vásquez
 Katherine Zien
 Eric Zolov

(For information on how you may make a contribution to any of the funds please contact the LASA Secretariat at 412-648-1907.) ■

Scott Van Jacob, the Iberian-Latin American bibliographer at the University of Notre Dame, died on October 10 at the age of 53 after a 21-month battle with melanoma. The Notre Dame community and the wider community of bibliographers who worked on Latin America will miss an extraordinary friend and colleague.

Scott came to Notre Dame in 1995, after serving as a bibliographer at Dickinson College. He was an innovative librarian whose skills ran the gamut from identifying invaluable and rare historical documents and archives to being on the forefront of electronic developments in library work. He worked assiduously to purchase and catalogue many unusual collections. Early on in the development of electronic library materials, he recognized the importance of this medium and heralded its use.

Scott was a pioneer in promoting and pursuing collaboration among libraries, especially collaboration in the Latin American collections of research university libraries. A leader in the international association SALALM (Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials), he was well known and esteemed nationally and internationally for his innovative work. He was project director of the Brazilian Government Document Digitization Project, a pioneering large-scale digital scanning effort that brought some 700,000 pages of 19th and early 20th century national and provincial documents to the Internet. He also served as chair of the Latin American Research Resources Project (LARRP), which began as a pilot project within the Global Resources Program, a joint effort of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL) and the Association of American Universities (AAU). A major goal of LARRP has been to expand access for scholars to research materials from Latin America, and Scott was

instrumental in establishing two of its major components: the LAPTOC serials indexing project (Latin American Periodicals Tables of Contents), a web database that provides access to more than 800 periodicals; and the LAOAP (Latin American Open Archives Portal) digital archive.

Scott forged strong professional relationships with Latin American bibliographers around the country and with librarians and book dealers in Argentina, Uruguay, and Spain. To his great personal delight, he oversaw the acquisition and study of an important collection of manuscripts by his favorite writer, Jorge Luis Borges, and many other special collections. At Notre Dame, he won both the President's Award and the Foik Award, presented in recognition of exemplary contributions by a Notre Dame librarian.

Scott grew up on cattle ranches in Oregon and never lost his love of the outdoors. He earned BA and MA degrees at Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) and his Master's in Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He taught at an American school in Medellín, Colombia, after studying at the Oregon College of Education. An outstanding runner, he won the Harrisburg Mile at the age of 38 and had a personal best time of 4:07 for the mile and 30:50 for ten kilometers.

Through his final days, Scott exhibited the same wonderful spirit and kindness that characterized his life. We benefited hugely from Scott's outstanding work, deep humanity, and unsurpassed generosity.

Scott Mainwaring, University of Notre Dame ■