

LASA2010 Awards and Recipients

Kalman Silvert Award

The members of the 2010 Kalman Silvert Award Committee include Chair Eric Hershberg (American University), Charles R. Hale (University of Texas/Austin), Sonia E. Álvarez (University of Massachusetts/Amherst), Philip D. Oxhorn (McGill University) and Alfred Stepan (Columbia University).

The recipient of the 2010 Award is **Edelberto Torres-Rivas**. For more than half a century, Dr. Torres Rivas has been an intellectual leader in Latin American social science and a driving force behind the establishment and consolidation of institutions that are central to LASA's mission. His path-breaking publications, focused largely on Central America but influential far beyond the Isthmus, have shaped numerous sub-fields, encompassing pressing concerns of development and democracy, as well as peace-building and social justice. His impact on the institutional landscape of Latin American social science, including a highly successful period as Secretary General of FLACSO, is equally noteworthy, as has been his remarkable service to the profession as a mentor and advocate for successive generations of Central American intellectuals.

In making its selection, the Award Committee considered numerous nominations submitted by members in response to the call issued by the Secretariat in the *LASA Forum*. In addition, the committee reviewed nomination materials presented in support of candidates who were considered but not selected by previous committees. Each member of the committee was asked to identify up to five candidates whose candidacies were especially compelling. An iterative discussion ensued over e-mail, and while there were other candidates who the committee also deemed worthy of this prestigious prize, the

committee reached a unanimous decision that Edelberto Torres Rivas should be designated the 2010 Kalman Silvert award recipient.

Bryce Wood Book Award

The members of the 2010 Bryce Wood Book Award Committee include Chair Shannon O'Neil (Council on Foreign Relations), James Dunkerley (Queen Mary University of London), Robert Pastor (American University), Catherine Conaghan (Queen's University), Scott Mainwaring (University of Notre Dame), Frances Aparicio (University of Illinois-Chicago), Michael Shifter (Georgetown University), Hillel Soifer (Temple University), and James Mahoney (Northwestern University).

The 2010 recipient is **Brian DeLay**, for *War of a Thousand Deserts*. In his exploration of the inter-relationships between Mexico, the United States, and the native American 'states' in the Southwest, DeLay's ambitious work offers a new way of thinking about the U.S.-Mexican war. Written in the tradition of Frederick Katz's book on the Mexican revolution, DeLay's depth and diligence of primary research and accessible prose present an interpretation that all actors are agents of their own destiny. *War of a Thousand Deserts* is an outstanding historical study that impresses well beyond the field of Latin American studies, however; in exploring the dynamic interaction between the local, regional and international, it also enriches one's sense of the global.

An Honorable Mention goes to **Lauren Derby** for *The Dictator's Seduction: Politics and the Popular Imagination in the Era of Trujillo*. Derby's rich cultural history of the Trujillo regime offers an important contribution to the comparative study of populism in Latin America. *The Dictator's*



Seduction departs from the traditional study of dictatorship and the Trujillo regime to present a novel study of the General's complex and intriguing persona, how he created power, and how the public was a part of that journey. Derby's careful study of the origins, subtle mechanisms and consequences of autocratic power quietly yet tellingly trespasses across sundry disciplinary and analytical borderlines, giving her work relevance across the plurality of social science disciplines.

In making their decision, the committee chair divided up all entries between the members: each person was given 8-10 titles to read. From these books, each committee member recommended one or two titles that were then read by the entire committee. From this list, each member recommended a finalist and semifinalist, and their rationales for the selection were submitted to the rest of the committee via email. Finally, a conference call among all members of the committee made the final decision for the winner and the honorable mention.

Premio Iberoamericano

Los miembros del Comité de Selección 2010 son Co-chairs Judit Bosker M. Liwerant (UNAM) y Donna Guy (Ohio State University), con Guillermo Alonso (UNSAM) and Luis Roniger (Wake Forest University).

El título del Libro Seleccionado es *Religión y poder en las misiones de guaraní* por **Guillermo Wilde**. Editorial: Serie Historia Americana, Paradigma Inicial, Argentina, 2009. (512 p.)

El premio se otorga al Profesor Wilde en reconocimiento de su trabajo sistemático, profundo y riguroso. En el libro confluyen la mirada histórica y la aproximación etnográfica en el ejercicio de una



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

Kalman Silvert Award Recipient
Edelberto Torres-Rivas

John Coatsworth congratulates
Premio Iberoamericano
recipient Guillermo Wilde

Charles A Hale Fellowship
recipient Carlos Bravo Regidor
is congratulated by John
Coatsworth

historiografía original, comprensiva de la experiencia vital de las misiones jesuíticas.

El libro reconstruye la experiencia guaraní en su inserción en el sistema colonial entre los siglos XVII y XIX, discerniendo la trama de redefiniciones en la relación entre religión y poder a lo largo de la experiencia reduccional.

Tanto en sus acercamientos conceptuales así como en la metodología desarrollada, Wilde permite ver que los pueblos indígenas jugaron un papel activo en el proceso cultural llevado a cabo a partir de la conversión al cristianismo. Los pueblos indígenas aparecen en el trabajo de Wilde jugando un rol activo y negociando su concepción de tiempo y espacio de frente a los miembros de la orden jesuíta.

Aunque se explora un período de larga duración, a lo largo de los once capítulos se lleva a cabo una reconstrucción de acontecimientos o eventos críticos en los cuales, lo más importante no es el orden cronológico, sino el modo como se define la acción indígena a partir de las interacciones y las modulaciones del espacio misional.

La escritura clara y fluida nutre una estructura sólida y de destacada densidad, con múltiples líneas analítico-reflexivas articuladas simultáneamente.

El libro contribuye, de esta forma, a una comprensión más profunda del proceso de transformación cultural de las Américas, constituyendo un aporte tanto al estudio de la historia como al análisis de las ciencias sociales.

El autor tiene un doctorado de la Universidad Buenos Aires y es profesor asociado del Instituto de Estudios Sociales Avanzados de la Universidad de San Martín, en Argentina. Es investigador del Conicet. Ha sido profesor visitante Fulbright en

Brown University, en los Estados Unidos y Fellow del British Council del Museo Nacional en Río de Janeiro, Brasil y de la Wenner- Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research.

Media Award

The members of the 2010 Media Award Committee are Chair John Dinges (Columbia University), Josh Friedman (Columbia University), Alma Guillermoprieto (Independent Scholar), Peter Winn (Tufts University), and Julia Preston (*New York Times*). **Carlos Dada** is the 2010 recipient of the Media Award. He is the founder and editor of *El Faro*, a groundbreaking on-line publication in El Salvador, and author of a compellingly written investigative report with new first-hand information on the assassination of Archbishop Romero.

LASA/Oxfam America Martin Diskin Memorial Lectureship and the LASA/Oxfam America Martin Diskin Dissertation Award

The members of the 2010 committee are Chair Laura Enríquez (University of California at Berkeley), Cecilia Blondet (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos), Cecilia Menjivar (Arizona State University), Greg Grandin (New York University), Kathryn Sikkink (University of Minnesota), Kimberly Theidon (Harvard University), and Jonathan Fox (Oxfam America and University of California at Santa Cruz).

The committee reviewed the materials submitted for the Lectureship, especially bearing in mind that **Carlos Ivan Degregori** had been a close runner-up prior to LASA's last International Congress. Upon reflection and discussion, the committee unanimously agreed that Professor Degregori should be the Lecturer. Professor Degregori is the

Director of the Instituto de Estudios Peruanos and is on the faculty of the School of Anthropology at the Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos (Lima). He has also been a Principal Investigator at the Inter-American Dialogue and is a former Guggenheim Fellow. Professor Degregori is author of numerous books—including his most recent *El nacimiento de los otorongos. El Congreso de la república durante los gobiernos de Alberto Fujimori (1990-2000)*. IEP, Lima (2007)—on Peruvian politics, anthropology, and agrarian issues. Of equal importance, he was a member of the Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación de Perú (CVR), as well as chairing the committee that wrote up the final report of the CVR.

The 2010 committee reviewed the multiple nominations for the LASA/Oxfam America Martin Diskin Dissertation Award and unanimously agreed that **Louis Esparza** should be the recipient. Mr. Esparza's research has studied grassroots human rights activism in contemporary Colombia at length, with an eye to asking the question: why is it that activists stay active, even when the risks entailed in this endeavor become apparent? Much social science research analyzes why activists become active in the first instance; Esparza's work looks at the issue of activism from a new angle. His selection of the Colombian case, which highlights the factor of risk, is ideal for such an analysis. Of equal importance, Esparza has launched various exhibitions in Colombia of his photography depicting rights violations there, as well as being active in a number of organizations such as Humanitarian Corps and Sociologists without Borders, geared toward improving the lives of those who have no voice within their societies.

ON LASA2010

Photos from LASA2010

LASA2010 AWARDS AND RECIPIENTS
*continued...***Charles A. Hale Fellowship
for Mexican History**

The Charles A. Hale Fellowship for Mexican History is offered at each LASA Congress to a Mexican graduate student in the final phase of his/her doctoral research in Mexican history. Candidates are evaluated on the scholarly merit of their work and the extent to which it contributes "to the advancement of humanist understanding between Mexico and its global neighbors." The members of the selection committee for 2010 include Chair John Coatsworth (Columbia), Javier Garciadiego (El Colegio de México), Charles R. Hale (University of Texas/Austin), Mary Kay (University of Maryland, College Park), and Mauricio Tenorio (University of Chicago).

The first recipient of this Fellowship is **Carlos Bravo Regidor**, now completing a dissertation at the University of Chicago under the direction of Professor Emilio Kourí. Bravo Regidor's dissertation focuses on electoral politics during the Porfiriato (1876-1910). According to established understanding, elections during the dictatorship served at most as scripted political rituals, with little impact on the distribution and contestation of political power. Bravo Regidor challenges this view, arguing that elections—and democratic deliberation more generally—had high stakes and required the intense involvement of establishment politicians, including Díaz himself. This research will contribute to a revitalization of the study of internal politics during the Porfiriato, while also revisiting questions of political continuities between the Porfiriato and the subsequent revolutionary era. These were both central concerns in Hale's life work on 19th and 20th century Mexican politics. ■



OXFAM-LASA Diskin Lectureship recipient Terry Karl and Committee Chair Kimberly Theidon



Claudia Ferman, Film Festival Director, is thanked by John Coatsworth



The Honourable David C. Onley, Lieutenant Governor of Ontario



LASA2010 Program Co-chairs Nina Gerassi-Navarro and Javier Corrales thanked by John Coatsworth