

Section Reports

Asia and the Americas, formerly “Latin America and the Pacific Rim” Neanthro Saavedra-Rivano, Chair

The Section Business Meeting was called to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, October 7, 2010, with Neantro Saavedra-Rivano presiding as Chair. After verifying the presence of thirteen Section members, including the Secretary-Treasurer (Vladimir Rouvinski) and all five members of the Executive Council, the Chair proposed the following meeting agenda: Section's Chair report on the Section activities; Secretary-Treasury's report on the Section's finances; Election of new Chair(s) and members of Executive Council.

Professor Saavedra-Rivano commented on his participation as the Section's Chair for three (non consecutive) terms and emphasized the need for renewal of the leadership. He indicated that the work of the Section after the Rio Congress had been mostly concerned with two issues, the organization of the Section's panel at the Toronto Congress and the Section's web page. The Section's panel “Responses to the Financial Crisis in East Asia and Latin America: Lessons from a Comparative Analysis,” was chaired jointly by Neantro Saavedra-Rivano (University of Tsukuba) and Adrian H. Hearn (University of Sydney); Professor Ricardo Ffrench-Davis (Universidad de Chile) served as discussant. The session was attended by 20 people. Saavedra-Rivano reminded attendees that the Section has a page at Facebook, which, however, does not attract enough attention. Since other LASA Sections have shared similar concerns, it was decided that LASA would be in charge of hosting a number of Sections' pages. The webpage is important in order to have a space for interaction among members, and it was expected that a web page template common for all Sections will be ready by November 2010.

Secretary-Treasurer Vladimir Rouvinski informed Section members that currently the Section has 57 members and that there had been no spending between the Rio and the Toronto Congresses. The participants then proceeded to the nomination and election of the Chair. Dr. Enrique Dussel Peters (Universidad Nacional, México) and Dr. Adrian Hearn (University of Sydney) were accepted as Co-chairs with unanimity by those present. Professor Vladimir Rouvinski (Icesi University) will continue as Secretary-Treasury until the next LASA Congress. Elections of the Executive Council will take place by email, and the new Co-chairs will be responsible for conducting those elections according to LASA rules.

Members of the Section then talked about their activities and current academic interests: Vladimir Rouvinski (Colombia), the study of the emergence of new actors in the Andean region (China, South Korea and Russia); Adrian Hearn (Australia), the promotion of collaborative research on Chinese communities in Mexico and Cuba, Hong Kong and Chinese foreign policy, security issues, perceptions of the Chinese on foreign relations; Neantro Saavedra-Rivano (Japan) commented on his research on official development assistance of China at the University of Tsukuba; Kathleen M. López (USA), continuing research on Asian Diasporas in Latin America; Ursula Prutsch (Germany) collaborative research on Japanese immigration to Brazil; Kevin Gallagher (USA), his new book *The Dragon in the Room: Chinese and Latin American Business*; Enrique Dussel Peters (Mexico), changing the way of sharing information among the Section members; Benjamin Creutzfeldt (Colombia) discussed his translation book project *Construyendo el Pacífico* and his particular interest in researching Colombian relations with China; Ricardo Ffrench-Davis (Chile) conducted research on economic development policy,

comparative work on trade and financial experience, and development finance; Ariel Armony (USA, advancing a research agenda on China at the Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Miami); Julia Strauss (UK) talked about her work as editor of *China Quarterly* and her interest in organizing a workshop on China and Latin America; Simon Shen (Hong Kong), establishing contacts with researchers in Latin America, in particular, with regard to courses on China; and Wo-Hon Kim (South Korea), research on policymaking in the Korean government related to Latin America.

The following members of the Executive Council were subsequently elected: Ariel Armony (University of Miami); Benjamin Creutzfeldt (Universidad Externado de Colombia); Jorge di Masi (Universidad de La Plata); Ricardo Ffrench-Davis Muñoz (Universidad de Chile); Kevin Gallagher (Boston University); Won-Ho Kim (Hankuk University of Foreign Languages); Kathleen López (Rutgers University); Gonzalo Paz (George Washington University); Neantro Saavedra-Rivano (University of Tsukuba and Universidade de Brasília); and Simon Shen (Hong Kong Institute of Education).

Bolivia Chris Krueger, Chair

La Sección fue formada después del Congreso de 2009 en Rio y tuvo su primera reunión en el Congreso de Toronto. Ha sido coordinada por un Comité Interino formado por Chris Krueger (Consultant); Miguel Buitrago (German Institute of Global and Area Studies); Miguel Centellas (University of Mississippi); Martín Mendoza (Tulane University); y Victor Unda (Utepsa University). Actualmente cuenta con cerca de 100 miembros; unos 37 de ellos estuvieron presentes durante la reunión en

Toronto. La Sección está en proceso de elegir formalmente a un consejo con la ayuda del Secretariado de LASA.

Desde las primeras conversaciones, los interesados en la Sección han expresado su interés en colaborar en lo posible con la Asociación de Estudios Bolivianos y otras instituciones bolivianas o internacionales que promueven estudios e intercambios entre estudiosos. Otro objetivo es poder ofrecer publicaciones digitales de documentos profesionales sobre Bolivia, especialmente las de los socios de la Sección. Existe la esperanza de contar con una pasantía desde la Universidad de Pittsburgh para ayudar en este sentido.

En el período 2011-2012, se apunta a consolidar la Sección, ampliando tanto la membresía como el intercambio y la colaboración entre los socios. Una vez formalmente definido el Comité Coordinadora, se planificarán las actividades para el período, priorizando la colección y publicación de materiales, el reclutamiento de miembros, y la preparación para LASA San Francisco con eventos previos/posteriores en San Francisco y otras ciudades.

Brazil

César Braga-Pinto and Eduardo R. Gomes, Co-chairs

The Brazil Section Business Meeting was held on October 8, 2010 and conducted by the Co-chairs. The Treasurer Emanuelle Oliveira presented the annual report about the membership and financial situation of the Section. As of September 15, the Section had approximately 381 members.

After considering other proposals on how to improve Section performance in the LASA meetings, the members who were present (about 40) came to the conclusion that it should keep its "prize policy," but substitute the student term prize for a best dissertation prize, with the same value as the prize for best article, i.e., US\$200.

The Executive Council had three vacant positions. After the nominations, Karl Erik Schollhammer (Pontificia Universidade

Católica do Rio de Janeiro); Pedro Erber (Rutgers University); and Amy Chazkel (City University of New York/Queens College) were elected to these positions.

The Brazil Section offered its traditional reception to its members and guests on Thursday, October 7th, when the prizes for best book, and for best article on Brazil were announced: Amy Chazkel won the latter with "Social Life and Civic Education in the Rio de Janeiro City Jail," (March 2009 edition of *Journal of Social History*); Jan Hoffman French was awarded the prize for the best book, *Legalizing Identities: Becoming Black or Indian in Brazil's Northeast* (The North Carolina Press). The Executive Committee decided to offer a special Award of Merit to Professor James Green for the publication of his book *Apesar de vocês – Oposição à Ditadura no Brazil* (Companhia das Letras Press). The members had decided to keep the reception on a Thursday, rather than at the same day as the other Sections (Friday/Saturday).

Central America

Chris Chiappari, Co-chair

The Central America Section held its Business Meeting on Friday, October 8, 2010, at 6:30 pm. Thirty-one Section members attended the meeting, along with Section Co-Chair Chris Chiappari (Co-Chair Yajaira Padilla could not attend the conference), Section Secretary Ellen Moodie, Section Treasurer Aaron Schneider and Advisory Board member Héctor Perla. At the time of the meeting, Section Membership stood at 238 members, entitling the Section to four panel sessions.

The first item on the agenda was an update concerning the CAS website. Chris Chiappari informed Section members that LASA would be in charge of designing and maintaining a new webpage for the Section. In light of this change, the Section will need to reevaluate the current position designated for a Section Webmaster and how best to manage the Section listserv.

The second item was the organization and finances of the Section, including possibly raising membership dues. Members

indicated that they wanted clearer explanations regarding the specific tasks of each officer of the Advisory Board, as well as information on the total amount of Section funds available, and how they have been used in recent years. It was felt that this information needed to be circulated before members could contemplate whether or not membership dues should be increased. This information would also facilitate the planning of future activities and projects. Chris Chiappari offered to look for this information and send it to all members via the listserv, along with a link to the *LASA Manual on Sections*.

Arturo Arias requested that Section members vote for candidates to the LASA Executive Council that would best represent the interests of our Section. And he reminded us that as a Section, we also have a right to nominate candidates for the Executive Council.

There was a discussion of plans and activities for the coming term. These include: offering graduate student scholarships (it was resolved that members of the Section's Advisory Board would be responsible for outlining the specific requirements for these scholarships as well as evaluating applications); preparing the CFP for LASA2012 in San Francisco; and updating the Section's Statement/Declaration concerning Honduras.

Other announcements included the news that Dr. Edelberto Torres-Rivas had garnered the Kalman Silvert Award (following his nomination by Section members), and that there had been an on-line election for Section Officers (1 Co-Chair, 2 Advisory Board Members, 1 Student Representative). As of November 23, 2010, the newly elected officers of the Section are: José Juan Colín (University of Oklahoma), Co-chair; William Clary (University of the Ozarks) and Sonja Wolf (UNAM), Advisory Board Members; and Verónica Ríos (University of Texas/Austin), Student Representative.

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Colombia

Virginia M. Bouvier, Chair

The Colombia Section Business Meeting took place on Friday, October 8, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. with some 39 Section members present. The meeting opened with words of welcome from Virginia (Ginny) M. Bouvier, Chair of the Section. She noted the increased participation of members in Section activities, the establishment of new committees, and the vibrant Colombian scholarship represented in more than a dozen panels at LASA2010. She reviewed the development of a Constitution and By-Laws over the last two years that outlines the roles and responsibilities for the Section leadership, and encouraged Section Members to find ways to bring their graduate students into LASA and Section activities. She noted that the Section currently had 150 members.

Officers discussed the work of the various committees. The Program Committee (chaired by Vice-Chair María Clemencia Ramírez) had reviewed LASA proposals and recommended 3 panels for Section sponsorship; Juana Suárez ably oversaw publication of 17 editions of the Section's monthly *Boletín*; Leah Carroll discussed anticipated changes in the Section website that she has maintained for many years; Ana María Bidegain presented a proposal by the Human Rights Committee (chaired by Winifred Tate) for the Section to continue its activities on the Palace of Justice case; and Juana Suárez and Lina del Castillo presented a proposal from the prize committee to improve the functioning and capacity of that committee. Section members were invited to add more funds to the Michael Jiménez Book Prize, which has exhausted its initial donation. These activities will be continued and recommendations acted upon in the coming term.

New officers elected at the Business Meeting include: Juana Suárez (University of Kentucky) Chair; Lina María Del Castillo Senn (Iowa State University) Vice Chair; Virginia M. Bouvier, (U.S. Institute of Peace) Secretary/Treasurer and Advisory Council; Brian Joseph Burke (University of Arizona), Webmaster; Leah Carroll (U.C. Berkeley), Listserv maintenance; Patricia Tovar Rojas

(CUNY John Jay College) Advisory Council; Marc Chernick (Georgetown University) Chair, Human Rights Committee; Elvira Sánchez-Blake (Michigan State University) and Brett Troyan (State University of New York/Cortland) Chairs of the Montserrat Ordóñez and Michael Jiménez Prize Committees. Additional members of the committees were also elected.

Hayley Froyland, Juan Guillermo Gómez García, and Lina del Castillo served as Committee members for Book Prizes for 2009-2010. They elected Debra Castillo, Caterina Vallejo, and Carmen Elisa Acosta as jurors for the Montserrat Ordóñez Prize, and James Sanders, Patricia Londoño, and Michael LaRosa (who withdrew before completion of the process due to technological issues with book retrieval), as jurors for the Michael Jiménez Prize. Based on the review of approximately one dozen entries for the two prizes, the Section awarded the \$500 first prize for the 2010 Montserrat Ordóñez Book Prize to Marta Elena Montoya Vélez (autora), Françoise Escarpit (trans.), *Rompre le silence, Je t'accuse Pinochet: Chroniques du 11 septembre 1973 au Stade national de Santiago* (Elytis, 2009); second prize to Lucy Guamá, Avelina Pancho, Elena Rey, *Antigua era más duro: hablan las mujeres indígenas de Antioquia*, Colección Autonomía Indígena, No. 3 (Bogotá, D.C.: Centro de Cooperación al Indígena-CECOIN; Organización Indígena de Antioquia-OIA, 2009); and third prize to Mónica Espinosa Arango, *La civilización montés: la visión india y el trasegar de Manuel Quintín Lame en Colombia* (Bogotá: Universidad de los Andes, Departamento de Antropología, Centro de Estudios Socioculturales-CESO, 2009). First place for the Michael Jiménez Book Prize was won by Alejandro Reyes Posada and Liliana Duica, *Guerreros y campesinos: el despojo de la tierra en Colombia* (Bogotá: Norma, 2009), with honorable mentions to Francisco Gutiérrez Sanín, *¿Lo que el viento se llevó? Los partidos políticos y la democracia en Colombia, 1958-2002* (Bogotá: Norma, 2007), and Carlo Nasi, *Cuando callan los fusiles. Impacto de la paz negociada en Colombia y en Centroamérica* (Bogotá: Grupo Editorial Norma – Universidad de los Andes, 2007).

Cuba

Sheryl Lutjens, Co-chair

The Cuba Section has continued to face the challenges of maintaining academic relations among Cuban, U.S., and other scholars in the face of U.S. governmental regulations and restrictions. The Section worked actively to promote the participation of academics and intellectuals resident in Cuba in the October 2010 Toronto Congress. The efforts of individuals, organizations, and the Section are seen in the total of 76 Cubans who traveled to Toronto for the Congress, funded wholly or in part by LASA, the Ford Foundation, SSRC, and the Reynolds Foundation, among other institutions. A special thanks to Carmen Castillo and Lourdes Pérez for the tremendous contribution they made this year!

On the eve of the Congress, the Section had more than 400 members! The Section Business Meeting in Toronto was attended by approximately 100 members. Highlights of the Business Meeting included: the presentation of Fidel Castro's new book, *La victoria estratégica* (2010), by Miguel Barnet, President of UNEAC; the posthumous celebration of the life and work of Dr. José Juan Arrom, a noted philologist who studied and taught at Yale University, with a letter honoring Arrom written by Roberto Fernández Retamar and read by Esteban Morales; and the awarding of the Section prize for lifetime contribution to Cuban Studies to Dr. Jorge I. Domínguez of Harvard University. The resolution calling for a change in U.S. policy in general and with regard to academic exchanges, prepared by Reid Reading and others for adoption and dissemination by LASA, was shared with the membership. The first stage of Section elections was conducted at the end of the Business Meeting, followed by the Section reception.

The Section sponsored four panels at the Toronto Congress, some of which had standing-room only attendance: "La sociedad cubana y la crisis global: impactos, estrategias y perspectivas"; "Cultura, comunicación y esfera pública cubanas"; "Cuba-U.S. Academic Exchange: Experiences and Expectations"; and "El Conflicto Bilateral Cuba - Estados Unidos."

Other activities undertaken by the Section between the Rio and Toronto Congresses include the maintenance and upgrading of the Section website and planning with the leadership of *Revista Temas* for a “best essay in Cuban Studies” competition for young scholars. Initiatives for the coming year include further work with new generations of scholars in the area of Cuban Studies as well as organizing for the celebration of 35 years of Cubans’ participation in LASA.

Electronic voting by those unable to participate in Toronto constituted the second stage of the Section elections. Three members of the Section Executive have completed their three-year terms; the service to the Section of Phil Brenner (Executive Committee), Milagros Martínez (Executive Committee), and Iraida López (Treasurer) is greatly appreciated. The Section recognizes, with great gratitude, the deep dedication and longstanding contributions of Milagros Martínez to the development of academic exchanges with Cuba and the Section’s efforts to sustain Cuban participation in LASA Congresses. Milagros has played a vital role in the life of the Cuba Section and her leadership will be missed! The results of the 2010 elections are: Jorge Mario Sánchez (Co-chair/in Cuba); Sheryl Lutjens (Co-chair/outside of Cuba); Carlos Alzugaray Treto (Executive Committee/in Cuba); Iraida López (Executive Committee/outside of Cuba); and Douglas Friedman (Treasurer). The continuing members of the Section Executive are Miren Uriarte (Executive Committee/outside of Cuba) and Mayra Espina (Executive Committee/in Cuba).

Culture, Power and Politics (CPP)

Sylvia Escarcega, Chair

The Section Business Meeting took place on Saturday October 9, 2010 at 2:30 p.m. with the presence of three members. Attendees talked about the need to encourage member participation, how to better use LASA’s resources, and the convenience of having LASA host the Section website. Members also discussed CPP’s sponsored sessions which were well attended and successful as well as the implications of having an annual LASA Congress hosted in Canada, the United States, Spain, or Latin America.

Participants suggested making a call to the membership to make decisions about how the Section can better allocate its funds given the new circumstances and CPP’s interests.

As per the Section’s customs, Benjamin Ardit (UNAM, Mexico) left his post as vice-president and began his term as president during the Business Meeting. Due to scarce member participation during the Business Meeting, the elections for two new board members will take place on November 30, 2010.

Given the rising costs of travel, the reduction in university budgets for conference travel, and to ensure better funding for prizes and travel awards for the next LASA Congress, the 2009-10 board decided to save the Section’s financial resources this year. For this reason, the Section did not offer prizes or awards.

Decentralization and Sub-national Governance

Tyler Dickovick, Chair

The Decentralization and Sub-national Governance Section meeting in Toronto counted 11 participants, representing the approximately 75 members in the Section as of October 2010. The meeting centered on discussion of recent activities, new initiatives for the Section, and the election of new officers.

Activities over the past year included the organization of two panels for LASA2010. The panels reflected Section members’ research on sub-national politics and governance, decentralization policy, and consequences of these for social policy. The first panel held was on Sub-national Governance and featured Jacqueline Behrend, Julian Durazo-Herrmann, Imke Harbers, Al Montero, and Sandi Chapman Osterkatz, with Kent Eaton serving as discussant. The second panel focused on Social Policy in Sub-national Perspective. Panelists were: Tulia Falleti, Laura Flamand, Veronica Herrera, and Maria Teresa Miceli Kerbauy, with Nancy Thede serving as discussant. The Section will be offering a paper prize for a top paper presented at LASA2010, to be announced prior to the

next LASA Congress. Besides taking into account the merit and quality of the paper, the selection committee will consider a preference for supporting young scholars, particularly graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

Moving forward into 2011, the Section will prepare its website and strengthen avenues of communication among its members. This will include the creation of an open-source bibliographic reference, with particular attention to working papers and conference presentations.

The final item of business was the election of new officers. Julian Durazo-Herrmann (Université du Québec à Montréal) was elected Section Chair for 2010-2012, and Tyler Dickovick (Washington and Lee University) will be the Secretary-Treasurer.

Defense, Public Security and Democracy

Bertha García-Gallegos and Orlando Pérez, Co-chairs

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was established with the presence of 23 members of the Section. The co-chairs informed the membership that as of 9/15/10 the Section had 97 members. The Section awarded two travel grants of \$350 each to participate in the Toronto meeting, to Bertha García-Gallegos from Ecuador and Ciro Alegría from Peru. Selection was made by the executive council after the co-chairs consulted regarding Section members who had applied but had not received LASA travel funding. The Section did not award the best paper prize from the Rio Congress because of insufficient submissions. Efforts will be made to encourage greater participation in this competition from participants at the Toronto meeting.

Bertha García-Gallegos (Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador) and Orlando J. Pérez (Central Michigan University) were reelected as co-chairs to serve until the San Francisco meeting. The executive council was selected as follows: David Pion-Berlin (University of California/Riverside) and Maria Celina D’Araujo (PUC-Rio) will continue to serve until the San Francisco meeting; Deborah Norden

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(Whittier College) and José Manuel Ugarte (Universidad de Buenos Aires) were elected for a three-year term. The Section thanked Kristina Mani and Hector Saint Pierre for their service on the executive council for the past three years.

The co-chairs reported that the Section sponsored two well-attended workshops at the Toronto meeting: *Nuevos y recurrentes interrogantes en las relaciones civil-militares: defensa y seguridad en América Latina I*; and *Nuevos y recurrentes interrogantes en las relaciones civil-militares: defensa y seguridad en América Latina II*. Participants and the Section co-chairs will seek to continue and enhance the dialogue initiated at the conference by pursuing suitable publications from the presentations.

Discussion ensued about ways of communicating more effectively among members and attracting additional members. It was agreed that the Section would participate in the LASA-sponsored webpage for Sections. The co-chairs will report to the members as the process for selecting the webpage template proceeds. It was agreed that the Section would continue to seek engagement with organizations such as RESDAL (Red de Seguridad y Defensa de América Latina), as well as the RC24, Armed Forces & Society, of IPSA. Members were encouraged to participate in the RC24-sponsored conference in Ankara, Turkey, June 17-19, 2011.

Discussion ensued about the relation between the Section and the thematic tracks for the LASA Congress. Some members expressed consternation at the limitation of panels available to the Section. It was agreed that the Section will continue efforts to increase membership so as to increase the number of panels it may sponsor. Nevertheless members recognized the increased number of panels in areas of interest to the Section members that resulted from the change of title for the "Defense, Violence and (In) security" track. The addition of "defense" enabled the track to accept more panels related directly to the research focus of Section members. It was agreed that the co-chairs, as well as individual members, will pursue greater cooperation between the Section and the

track chairs for the upcoming meeting. Fortunately, one of the track chairs for the San Francisco meeting also is a member of the Section, which hopefully will facilitate dialogue and cooperation.

Economics and Politics

Diego Sánchez and Andrew Schrank, Co-Chairs

Economics and Politics is dedicated to the promotion of policy-relevant dialogue as well as pure scholarship at the intersection of economics and politics. The Section therefore organized two roundtables for the 2010 LASA Congress. The first roundtable focused on "policy space" in Latin American in the wake of the global crisis. Panelists with experience in government and academia discussed the prospects for heterodox policies in areas like trade and capital flows in the years to come. The second roundtable addressed the question of institutional analysis in Latin American politics. Panelists discussed the contributions and limitations of a number of different approaches to institutional analysis and entertained an array of questions and comments from a crowded and vibrant audience.

The Section Business Meeting was attended by seven members. Members discussed the Section's history and goals; the year's activities and achievements; the possible uses of Section resources; and Section governance. Mahrukh Doctor (University of Hull) was nominated to serve as Section chair for the coming year; Diego Sánchez (Oxford) agreed to serve as secretary-treasurer; and Paul Haslam (University of Ottawa), Andrew Schrank (University of New Mexico), and Ken Shadlen (London School of Economics and Political Science) agreed to serve on the advisory council. Officers were later approved by the Section membership via email.

Ecuadorian Studies

Carmen Martínez Novo, Chair

As of September 15, 2010, the Ecuadorian Studies Section had 107 members, a few more than the previous term. In 2010 the Section sponsored two invited panels at the Toronto Meeting, one on "Race, Gender, and Sexuality," organized by Manuela Picq and the other on "Neoliberalism, Post-neoliberalism, and Social Movements," organized by Carmen Martínez. Distinguished scholars in Ecuadorian studies participated in each of the panels, both of which were well attended. The Section also organized the Business Meeting with approximately 20 people present, and a reception. Ecuadorian Studies gave a travel grant to Alejandra Zambrano, a graduate student in literature at the University of Texas, Austin. The travel grant was advertised to the Ecuadorian Studies and general LASA list. The directory chose among participant student proposals. Marc Becker updated the Section website for another year. Section plans for the next term are: 1) to have a Section-sponsored conference in Quito, Ecuador in June 2011; 2) to sponsor a prize for the best monograph on Ecuadorian Studies. Rudi Colloredo of University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill will write a proposal for the prize; and 3) to have two sponsored panels for the next LASA Congress, with tentative topics of "Cultural Expressions of the Bicentenary" and "Ecuadorian Literature." Other proposals will be accepted. The Section decided to continue with the same directory for one more year with the addition of Alejandra Zambrano (University of Texas/Austin) as a liaison with graduate students. The directory is as follows: Chair, Carmen Martínez (FLACSO-Ecuador); Vice-Chair, Manuela Picq (Amherst College); and Secretary/ Treasurer, Julianne Hazelwood (National University of Ireland, Galway). The vocals are: John Walker (St. Charles Community College); Victor Breton (University of Lleida, Spain); Ketty Wong (University of Kansas); and Alejandra Zambrano.

Educación y Políticas Educativas en América Latina

Danilo R. Streck, Martha E. Nepomneschi and Elias Garcia Rosas, Co-chairs

The Section Meeting at the LASA Congress took place as scheduled and was attended by 41 members. Presently, the Section counts a total of 101 members. The Section presented two sessions at the Congress in Toronto, which reflected some of the basic interests of the participants at LASA: “Educación y crisis en América Latina en el contexto del bicentenario: Matriz histórica y política” and “La formación docente en la crisis financiera latinoamericana: realidad y perspectivas.” The planning for the new term includes a greater integration of its members through cooperation in research projects and participation in specific activities developed by institutions in the regions. There will also be an incentive for the development of comparative studies. The website, in preparation by the LASA office, is considered to be an indispensable instrument for communication among members and other researchers on education in Latin America. For the next Congress, the Section sessions will emphasize the issues of integration and social inclusion, as well as the role of some personalities and authors important in the Independence movement and in the promotion of public education in Latin America, such as Simón Rodríguez, Domingo Faustino Sarmiento and José Martí.

The Section elected the following officers: Section Chair, Danilo Streck (UNISINOS/Brazil); Co-chair, Martha E. Nepomneschi (UBA/Argentina); and Council members María Ester Mancebo (Universidad de la República/Uruguay), Mark Abendroth (SUNY Empire State College/US), Felipe de Jesús Pérez Cruz (Universidad de la Habana/Cuba) and Pat Somers (University of Texas at Austin).

Environment

Sherrie Baver and Kate McCaffrey, Co-chairs

At the Environment Section Business Meeting there was a lengthy discussion among about fifteen attendees. The Co-Chairs Sherrie Baver (CUNY) and Kate McCaffrey (Montclair State) reported that as of the last tally before the Congress, the Section had 121 members. Second, the Section Travel Grant awardees were recognized—Erin Finzer (University of Arkansas) and Christine Beitel (University of Georgia).

This year, the Section sponsored one panel and one workshop. The panel was on “Environmental Democracy” and the workshop was titled “Emerging Research Issues in Latin American Environmentalism.” This was the second Congress in which we used this topic in a workshop format, and we agreed to try it again. Unlike the standard panel approach, the workshop allows several more scholars to present their work, to present it in an abbreviated form, and to receive significant feedback from the workshop members as well as the audience.

A proposal that came out of the meeting was to set up the Environment Section’s own networking site to support interactive discussions with members, if this feature was not already on the website being created by LASA for each Section. Finally, the Co-chairs decided to step down after serving for two terms and were replaced by Jennifer Horan (UNC-Wilmington) and Gregory Cushman (University of Kansas).

Ethnicity, Race and Indigenous Peoples

Douglas Carranza Mena, Chair

The Ethnicity, Race and Indigenous Peoples (ERIP) Section held its Business Meeting on Friday, October 8, 2010. Fourteen members attended the meeting along with Section Chair Douglas Carranza Mena, and Council Member Richard Stalhler-Sholk. At the time of the meeting, Section membership stood at 284 members, entitling the Section to four LASA sessions.

The Agenda included an Introduction that welcomed the members present at the

Business Meeting. The second item included a brief report on membership, an approximate financial balance and lastly, the next ERIP election.

According to the Sections manual “... Sections with over 100 members must have a quorum consisting of 10 percent of their paid membership.” This lack of quorum led members to postpone the internal election until November. This electoral process will include the election of the Chair, the Secretary/Treasurer and three Council members. It was also suggested to consider the election of a Co-chair to maintain continuity and to establish a gender balance, but the decision was postponed due to the logistical difficulties in the procedures.

The third item included a discussion on the importance of the Second ERIP Conference. One of the issues discussed was the site of the next Conference. In the previous report it was stated “The current proposal is for the next ERIP Conference to be held at the California State University, Northridge, in 2011.” However, in the Business Meeting there was a suggestion to accept other proposals including one from the UCSD, the place where the first Conference was held. Other important elements to be included in the proposals are funding, institutional support and possible dates.

Europe-Latin America (ELAS)

Miriam Gomes Saraiva, Secretary-Treasurer, and Carlos Quenan, Chair

The ELAS successfully participated in the Toronto Congress with two panels: “Latin American and European Experiences with Populism;” and “Learning from Latin America.” The discussion brought forth new ideas about the two subjects. Many people attended the first session; the room was full and some people sat on the floor. For the second one, the audience was smaller. The Section also sponsored two other panels in the International Relations Track: “Theoretical Implications of the New Regional, Interregional and Extra-Regional Relations of Latin America;” and “Spain-Latin America Relations: Challenges and Opportunities while Commemorating the Bicentennials.”

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The two Section grantees, Susanne Gratius and Carlos de la Torre, received their grants without any problem and contributed to the discussion in the panel with new reflections.

There were just 16 members present at the Business Meeting, due to the departure of several members prior to the meeting. The activities and expenses of the Section from June 2009 were presented. The only expense of this period was the two travel grants (a tradition of the Section). No dissertation prize was awarded for 2009-2010. The number of Section members increased a little during the period (to 92 members in September 2010). Several members have submitted proposals to establish links between the ELAS and other networks working on international relations and regional integration (like the Institut des Amériques in France, European Union Studies Association and World International Studies Committee). Some news about the procedure and organizational responsibility for proposing a panel (as a chair) were mentioned. Several topics were suggested during the meeting, notably the relevance of the summit between the EU and Latin America and comparing migration policies in both regions.

Section members showed preference for two co-chairs (one in the EU and the other in Latin America). Elected as co-chairs were Carlos Quenan (University de la Sorbonne Nouvelle) and Miriam Gomes Saraiva (Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro). The elected members of the Executive Committee include Bert Hoffmann (GIGA German Institute of Global and Area Studies, Hamburg); Anna Ayuso (Cidob, Barcelona); Sebastián Santander (Université de Liege, Liege); and Erica Simone A. Resende (Universidade Federal Rural do Rio de Janeiro).

Film Studies

Dorian Lugo-Bertrán and Cynthia Tompkins, Co-chairs

En la reunión celebrada el sábado 9 de Octubre de 2010, con la asistencia de 15 miembros, se leyó el balance de la gestión: Pese a la crisis la Sección aumentó un 40 por ciento a 156 miembros. Se profundizó el

diálogo internacional sobre el estado del cine con propuestas de beca (LASA/Mellon), presentaciones (Marcela Parada sobre Chile) y sesiones (Emperatriz Arreaza Camero sobre Cine Latino en la diáspora). Lauro Zavala (México, SEPANCINE) difundió su publicación y Andrea Molfetta (ASAECA, Argentina) organizó un dossier (Imagofagia).

Para explorar áreas innovadoras Dorian de Lugo y Aída Pagán distribuyeron una bibliografía sobre "Intermediality and Cinema".

Se acordó cambiar los términos de los co-directores, para proveer continuidad, de modo que uno permanezca y el otro sea vocal. Realizadas las elecciones los nuevos integrantes del comité son Dorian Lugo-Bertrán (Universidad de Puerto Rico) y Beatriz Urraca (Widener University), Co-chairs; Isabel Arredondo (SUNY Plattsburgh), Javier Campo (Doctorando en la Facultad de Ciencias Sociales, FCS-Universidad de Buenos Aires y becario del Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas (CONICET) sede, Instituto de Investigaciones Gino Germani (FCS-UBA), Eduardo Ledesma (doctorando, Harvard) y Cynthia Tompkins (Arizona State University), Council Members.

Para las mesas de la Sección se decidió promover talleres y refrendar los temas. Los elegidos son: Talleres: Industry and History in Latin American Cinema y Intermediality and Latin American Cinema. Panel: National Identities and Migrant Subjectivities in Latin American Cinema.

Gender and Feminist Studies

María Amelia Viteri and Clara Araujo, Co-chairs

On October 8, 2010, Gender and Feminist Studies held its Business Meeting. Section Co-chair María Amelia Viteri presided, with some 50 of the 285 dues-paying members of the Section in attendance.

The Business Meeting started with an homage to Helen Safa. For this event the Section invited Carmen Diana Deere, Edna Acosta Belén, and Alice Colón as speakers who celebrated the important contributions

of Helen to the field of Gender and Feminist Studies. The homage was followed by a brief presentation of the Section Members' book entitled "Women's Activism in Latin America and the Caribbean: Engendering Social Justice, Democratizing Citizenship," coordinated by Elizabeth Maier and Nathalie Lebon, an important collection of articles of many of the Section Members including Helen Safa.

Sara Poggio announced and presented first place for the Elsa Chaney Award, awarded to "The Role of Women in the Tupamaros and the Greater Uruguayan Left," by author Lindsey Churchill, Ph.D., Mount Holyoke College who was present to receive the prize (\$700). Both the second place and the honorable mention were declared 'deserted' as those remaining submissions didn't have the requirements nor the quality expected. It was decided that the Section will include Ph.D. candidates (ABD) for the next *convocatoria*. The Elsa Chaney Award started in 1998 thanks to an UNIFEM grant brought by Sarah Poggio who has been coordinating these efforts throughout the years.

Elections were conducted and the newly elected officers of the Section are: Co-chairs Millie Thayer (University of Massachusetts) and Montserrat Sagot (Universidad de Costa Rica); Secretary-Treasurer, Elizabeth Jay Friedman (University of San Francisco); and Advisory Board Members María Amelia Viteri (FLACSO-Ecuador), Christina Ewig (University of Wisconsin), Sara Poggio (University of Maryland/Baltimore County), Elizabeth Maier (El Colegio de la Frontera Norte), Graciela Monteagudo (University of Massachusetts/Amherst) and Constanza Tabush (University of London) with Web Manager Gabriela Torres (Wheaton College).

María Amelia Viteri reminded the audience that the Section had four sponsored sessions that looked at gender, democracy, inequality in Latin America. Two of these panels looked at feminists and Sandinistas in Nicaragua from a historical perspective.

María Amelia Viteri then summarized the Section activities of the previous 18 months emphasizing the organization of the

Pre-Conference, the first time in which the Section joined efforts with the Sexualities Studies Section to work in an interdisciplinary way inviting academics and activists working in these fields to discuss issues that affect women and LGBT communities in Latin America and the Latino/a population in the United States and Canada. Among the most important 'lessons learned' discussed by many members was the difficulty of attending the Pre-Conference as it was scheduled two days before LASA started. María Amelia highlighted how the Pre-Conference's organizers equally weighted gender issues and sexualities issues. Members that attended the Pre-Conference as well as those that didn't agreed on the need to have a discussion/debate space that was left pending from the Pre-Conference. Together with the Sexualities Section, the Section will have a continuation phase at the LASA Congress in San Francisco that will take the form of a half-day workshop, as proposed by Elizabeth Friedman. In this sense, newly-elected co-chair Millie Thayer spoke about the importance of side streaming feminism: how feminism intersects with other fields such as sexualities, race and ethnicity. Generally speaking, it was agreed that the Pre-Conference was a big success and that working in an interdisciplinary way provides excellent possibilities to continue much-needed debates in the areas of Gender, Feminism and Sexualities Studies.

Sara Poggio and María Amelia Viteri invited all members working on issues around immigration to, and from, Latin America, to join their group. Following the meeting a reception was held, where members and their guests socialized and enjoyed drinks and *hors d'oeuvres*

Some of the pending issues to be discussed/decided by the new board are the following: the use of funds to finance the pending book publication of the seven articles that won the Elsa Chaney Award during the past two years; the use of Facebook and Twitter in order to further spread the word about the Section and forthcoming activities such as the Pre-Conference; possibly a new election format (in particular an electronic format); the selection of a new board prior to the next Business Meeting at San Francisco; and the continuation of the interdisciplinary

format of the Pre-Conference (looking at 2014) and the possible joining of forces with the Latino Studies Section since many areas and interests overlap.

Haiti/Dominican Republic Henry (Chip) Carey, Chair

The Haiti/Dominican Republic Section has new leadership. Emelio Betances and Chip Carey, who have served as Section coordinators, happily handed over the leadership to April Mayes of Pomona College and Kiran Jayaram of Columbia University. They will continue the tradition of leadership with expertise in each country, the Dominican Republic and Haiti respectively, while staying committed to the goal of the merger of the two Sections eight years ago, designed to foster scholarly exchange and cooperation.

The Section qualified for a panel at the Toronto Congress, which produced interesting papers and discussion on "Perennial Challenges of Democracy and Development in Haiti and the Dominican Republic." The papers presented were: "Boca del chivo: Demonic Animals and the Poetics of Deforestation in the Haitian-Dominican Borderlands," Robin Lauren H. Derby (University of California/Los Angeles); "Circumventing the Barriers to Democratization: Civil Society and Reforms in the Dominican Republic," Christopher Mitchell (New York University); "The Return on NGO Development: Haiti and the Dominican Republic Compared," Henry (Chip) F. Carey (Georgia State University); "Third Space: Gender and Women's Rights in the Struggle for Democracy in the Dominican Republic," April J. Mayes (Pomona College); and Jonathan Hartlyn (University of North Carolina.) et al., "Civil Society Attitudes in Haiti and the Dominican Republic." The discussant was Emelio Rafael Betances Medina (Gettysburg College).

The Section will be announcing various plans for scholarly cooperation. The first initiative will be a conference at Georgia State University on 2 February 2011 entitled "Haiti after the Apocalypse: International, including Dominican Responses to the Earthquake and the Cholera Epidemic and

the Future of Hispanola." Among the speakers participating are Robert Fattou (University of Virginia), Alex Dupuy (Wesleyan University), Karen Richman (University of Notre Dame), Bob Maguire (Trinity College, Washington, DC), Elizabeth Zeahmeister (Vanderbilt University), Gregory Love (University of Mississippi), Leara D. Rhodes (University of Georgia School of Journalism), Leslie Desmangles (Trinity College, Hartford), Patrick Sylvain (Brown University) "Haiti's Structural Vulnerability and the Junction of Ineptitude," Joanna Mendelson Forman (Center for Strategic and International Studies), Kiran Jayaram (Columbia University), Kathleen Felix (Fonkoze, Haiti), Guyma Noel (Georgia State), Barbara Lynch (Georgia Institute of Technology) discussant, Cornelia Butler Flora (Iowa State University), April Mays (Pomona College), Ryan Carlin (Georgia State), Chip Carey (Georgia State), Tess Kulstead (University of Florida), Matthew Kaye (University of Florida), and Ira Lowenthal, anthropologist.

Health, Science, and Society

Adam Warren and Mariola Espinosa,
Co-chairs

At the 2010 Congress in Toronto Health, Science, and Society held two Section sessions: "Between Foreign Approaches and Domestic Priorities: The Forging of International Health in Twentieth-Century Latin America," and "Construyendo Solidaridad a Través de las Fronteras: Creando una Comunidad sobre Salud y Sociedad entre América Latina y los Estados Unidos."

The Section also co-sponsored a one-day workshop at the University of Toronto, "The History of Science and Medicine in Cold War Latin America." This event brought together experts from Latin America, Canada, and the United States and was made possible through collaboration with two co-sponsors at the University of Toronto: the Institute for the History and Philosophy of Science and Technology and the Latin American Studies Program. Many current Section members attended. The Section owes a special thank you to Raúl Necochea, Anne-Emanuelle Birn, and

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Nikolai Kremontsov for their hard work in organizing the event. Anne-Emanuelle and Nikolai also kindly held a party for Health, Science, and Society members at their home during the LASA Congress.

Health, Science, and Society held its Business Meeting on October 8, 2010 with 21 people present. The Section elected Alexandra Puerto (Occidental College) and Mariola Espinosa (Yale University) to serve as co-chairs, and Pablo Gómez (Texas Christian University) to serve as secretary/treasurer. Tânia Salgado Pimenta (Fundação Oswaldo Cruz) and Rebecca Hester (University of Texas Medical Branch) were elected to the board, where they join continuing board members Marcos Cueto (Instituto de Estudios Peruanos) and Nielan Barnes (CSU—Long Beach).

Historia Reciente y Memoria

Peter Winn, Chair

Historia Reciente y Memoria/Recent History & Memory Studies is a new Section, so most energy was directed to establishing and consolidating the Section, including stabilizing its membership, creating its internal governance and establishing a means of communication among its members. However, the Section did begin to address the ambitious agenda suggested at the first Business Meeting at LASA-Rio in 2009. The major new initiative was to organize a competition for best Master's Thesis, a priority of the Section's many Latin American members, with the goal of encouraging young Latin American scholars just entering this emerging field. The response demonstrated that the Section had made the right choice: 25 MA theses were submitted and juries were chosen for the phased evaluation process, completed in 2010. In addition, the Section organized a panel for LASA-Toronto on "Recent History and Memory in Latin America: Between the National and the Regional Gaze," which was well attended and provoked a lively and insightful discussion.

Some of the issues in that discussion were present as well at the Business Meeting of the Section at LASA-Toronto, including the suggestion that the Section sponsor a

workshop on the theory and methodology of Historia Reciente and Memory studies. Other proposals adopted at the Business Meeting were to create an interactive website with the help of LASA and to organize a competition for best book published in the field, which would alternate with the best master's thesis competition. There was also support for improving ties with European scholars and institutions, and sponsoring sub-regional workshops between LASA Congresses.

Lastly, the Section elected new officers at Toronto; the choices were confirmed by email consultation with Section members who were unable to come to LASA-Toronto. The officers of the Section for 2010-12 are: Claudio Barrientos (Universidad Diego Portales, Chile) and Peter Winn (Tufts University, USA), Co-chairs; Hillary Hiner (Universidad Diego Portales, Chile/USA), Secretary; and Pablo Yankelevich (Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia, México), Vania Markarian (Universidad de la República, Uruguay), Denise Rollemberg (Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brasil), and Florencia Levín (Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento, Argentina), Council Members.

Labor Studies

Kirsten Sehnbruch, Chair, and Maggie Gray, Secretary/Treasurer

The Labor Studies Section offered a diverse selection of papers and panels at the 2010 Congress including excellent panels on labor markets, gender, youth, precarity, corporate social responsibility, and the financial crisis, among others, including country-specific panels. The Section is grateful for the rich work of its members.

Kristen Sehnbruch just completed her term as Chair and the Section is pleased to announce that Fernando Groisman was recently elected the new Chair. Fernando is a researcher at the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas de Argentina (CONICET) and a Professor at la Universidad de Buenos Aires (UBA). In addition, Section council members are Mark Anner (Penn State), Carolina Bank-Muñoz (Brooklyn College), Andrew Shrank

(University of New Mexico, Albuquerque), and Cecilia Senén González, CONICET, University of Buenos Aires, UNLAM. Maggie Gray serves as the Secretary/Treasurer.

The Toronto meeting offered an opportunity to brainstorm about panels for the next Congress and much of the discussion was focused on the increasing casualization of work and the deepening economic crisis. Members also agreed at the meeting to once again offer an award for the best published paper in labor studies.

Finally, members are sad to report that long-time member of the LASA Labor Section, Hank Frundt, died on September 16th. He was the author of books on worker rights in Latin America, including *Refreshing Pauses: Coca-Cola and Human Rights in Guatemala*, and *Fair Bananas: Farmers, Workers and Consumers Strive to Change an Industry* (2009). He will be sorely missed and fondly remembered.

Latina/o Studies (LSS)

Katynka Z. Martínez and Nancy R. Mirabal, Co-chairs, and Carlos Alamo, Secretary

The Latina/o Studies Section of LASA sponsored three panels at the 2010 Toronto Congress, and presented the following awards. The Best Book Award was presented to Arlene Dávila for *Latino Spin* (\$500). Honorable Mentions went to Lionel Cantú for *The Sexuality of Migration* (Edited by Nancy A. Naples and Salvador Vidal-Ortiz); Laura Loma for *Translating Empire*; and Deborah Paredez for *Selenidad*. The Best Article Award was presented to Pat Rubio-Goldsmith et al. for "Ethno-Racial Profiling and State Violence in a Southwest Barrio" (\$400). The Best Dissertation Award went to Rebecca Hester for "Embodied Politics: Health Promotion in Indigenous Mexican Migrant Communities in California" (\$300).

The Book Award Committee was comprised of Sergio de la Mora (UC Davis) Chair, with Ruth Behar (University of Michigan), Alejandro Madrid (University of Illinois at Chicago), and Lisa Sánchez González (University of Connecticut). The Best Article

Award Committee consisted of Ana Patricia Rodríguez (University of Maryland) Chair, with Maribel Álvarez (University Arizona), Cynthia Duarte (University of Notre Dame), and Tania Triana (University of Oregon). The members of the Dissertation Award Committee were Dolores Inés Casillas (UC Santa Barbara) Chair, with Karina Céspedes (Colorado State University) and Omar Valerio-Jiménez (University of Iowa).

Approximately 25 people attended the LSS Business Meeting. The discussion at the meeting included the importance of bringing back the LSS Public Intellectual Award as well as concerns regarding LASA's policy of requiring LSS-sponsored panelists to be LASA members. This requirement could have a negative impact on prospective participants, including artists, students, and scholars not familiar with the organization. Themes and topics for the next LASA Congress LSS Section panels include how to make the website/listserv more effective and how to expand LSS membership.

The new Section Co-Chairs were introduced. They are Gabriela Núñez (University of Louisville) and Michael Innis-Jiménez (University of Alabama). Katie Dingeman is the graduate student representative.

The Section reception was a joint reception with nine other LASA Sections and also co-sponsored with Palgrave, the publisher of Latino Studies, edited by Suzanne Oboler. Four awardees were present at the reception.

Law and Society in Latin America

Kif Augustine Adams

At its Business Meeting in Toronto, the Law and Society in Latin America Section elected Cath Collins (Universidad Diego Portales) to serve as a new Co-chair. Collins will work with Mauricio Rojas, whose term as Co-chair continues to the San Francisco Congress.

The Section awarded its Maggi Popkin Award to two projects: 1st place (\$400), "Human Rights Abuses in Guatemala: How Cultural and Forensic Anthropologists Work Together to Document Crimes," by Victoria Sanford and Heather Walsh-Haney; and 2nd place (\$300), *Las voces de la justicia: Delito*

y sociedad en Concepción (1820-1875), a book by Mauricio Rojas. Sanford and Walsh-Haney presented their project in Toronto. Rojas presented various parts of his book at previous LASA Conferences. The Section sent out several calls for nominations for the Maggi Popkin Award, each of which included the criteria by which the selection committee would judge submissions. The criteria are that the paper 1) be written by a current Section member; 2) be presented at LASA, and 3) reflect scholarly excellence and a commitment to the values Maggi Popkin exemplified, broadly understood. Popkin was a tireless scholar and activist who dedicated her life to promoting human rights in Latin America. Kif Augustine-Adams and Mark Ungar, who in the past served together as co-chairs for the Section, acted as the selection committee.

The Section sponsored two panels in Toronto and identified one person on each of the panels to receive a travel grant. On the "Disciplining Migrants through Law" panel, the individual who was to receive the travel grant ultimately did not attend the Toronto conference. On the panel "Construyendo hegemonías y articulando resistencia: sociedad y políticas de desarrollo estatales en América Latina," Mauricio Rojas received a travel grant of \$500. As a co-chair of the Section, Rojas recused himself from decisions regarding travel grants.

Mexico

Nohemy Solórzano-Thompson, Secretary/
Treasurer

The Mexico Section was officially established in 2010 and has 448 members, making it the largest within the organization. In its first year of activity, the Section sponsored three panels for the Toronto Congress; these were on Chiapas, the Iniciativa Mérida, and contemporary Mexican politics. The Section also co-sponsored the Presidential Session on the Mexican Revolution.

For 2010, the Section established four prizes to recognize the best scholarship on Mexico by its members, awarding prizes for the best essays and books in the humanities and

social sciences. At its Business Meeting in Toronto, the Section approved the creation of two new prizes: a best dissertation award to be given to a Section member and a travel award for graduate students who are Section members and Mexican citizens based in Mexico to help them travel to the next Congress. A listserv for the Mexico Section was established through Whitman College. Currently the list is managed by the Secretary/Treasurer of the Section. The listserv is open to current members only and is for Section business, announcements of conferences, publications, fellowships, or other issues pertinent to the Section.

The Section Essay and Book Awards winners were: Humanities (essay): Ignacio Sánchez Pardo (Department of Romance Languages and Literature, Washington University in St. Louis), "Claiming Liberalism: Enrique Krauze, Vuelta, Letras Libres and the Reconfigurations of the Mexican Intellectual Class," Mexican Studies / Estudios Mexicanos (Winter 2010). The Committee was co-chaired by Cynthia Steele (University of Washington, Seattle) and Nohemy Solórzano Thomson (Whitman College). The Humanities (book) Award went to Ignacio Sánchez Pardo for *Naciones intelectuales: las fundaciones de la modernidad literaria mexicana, 1917-1959* (Purdue University Press, 2009). The Committee was chaired by Gladys Ilarregui (University of Delaware). The Social Sciences (essay) Award was presented to Paul Gillingham (University of North Carolina-Wilmington) for "Maximino's Bulls: Popular Protest after the Mexican Revolution, 1940-1952," Past and Present (Fall 2009). The Committee was chaired by Sallie Hughes (University of Miami). And lastly, the Social Sciences (book) Award went to Edward Wright-Rios (Vanderbilt University) for *Revolutions in Mexican Catholicism: Reform and Revelation in Oaxaca, 1887-1934* (Duke University Press, 2009). The Committee was chaired by Nora Hamilton (University of Southern California).

Since no candidates were put forward for Section co-chairs, Kevin Middlebrook and Sandra Kuntz Ficker will continue in those roles for another term. The new members of the Mexico Section Council include Nora

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Hamilton (University of Southern California), Wil G. Pansters (University of Groningen and Utrecht University, The Netherlands), and Guadalupe Rodríguez Gómez (Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social, Guadalajara).

Peru

Elena Álvarez, Chair

Twenty-nine members of the Section were in attendance as the meeting was called to order. Those present discussed the report sent to the membership on activities from June 2009 to October 2010. The main activities had been selecting panels for the LASA Toronto Congress, managing the Book and Article Awards, developing a quarterly bulletin, and providing travel grants to three professionals.

The Book and Article awards were presented. The Flora Tristan Book Award was granted to Lucy Conger, Patricia Inga, and Richard Webb for *El Árbol de la Mostaza*. Dr. Richard Webb (Director, Instituto del Perú--Universidad San Martín de Porres) attended the Toronto Congress to receive the certificate. He became a LASA and Peru Section member. Dr. Webb is a well-known Peruvian economist who has been the Chair of the Board of Governors of Peru's Central Reserve Bank for at least two different Peruvian governments. The José María Arguedas Article Award was presented at the Business Meeting to Tracy Devine Guzmán (University of Miami) for her article "Rimanakuy' 86 and Other Fictions of Dialogue in Peru."

A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Dr. Carlos Ivan Degregori, a distinguished Peruvian anthropologist who, among other issues, has studied the Shining Path movement in Peru and was a Committee member of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in Peru that was established by Interim President Valentín Paniagua. Professor Cynthia McClintock read a letter sent from Dr. Degregori thanking the Section for the award. He was unable to attend the Congress this year.

Also discussed were changes to the criteria for travel grants. Support for young professionals was continued.

The Peru Section organized three panels for LASA2010: "Peru in Comparative Perspective: New Directions in Political Science in Peru," organized by Alberto Vergara Paniagua (University of Montreal); "El Qosco: On Becoming Cosmopolitan," organized by Aviva Sinervo (Ph.D. candidate); and "Environmental and Public Health Issues in Peru," organized by Elena Álvarez (Empire State College-SUNY).

Elena Álvarez will continue as Co-chair for an additional term. Iliana M. Carrasco-Díaz (CIES, Consorcio de Investigación Económica y Social) was elected Co-chair. Angelina Cotler (University of Illinois) was elected Secretary and Enrique Mayer (Yale University), Treasurer. Council Directors include Laura Balbuena González (Institute for Study Abroad, Butler University), continuing; Elena Sabogal (William Paterson University); Diana Avila Paulette (Consultant, Human Rights, Lima, Peru), continuing; and Rocío Quispe-Agnoli (Michigan State University), continuing.

Continuing Ex Oficio Members/ Miembros Ex Oficio include Mark Cox (Presbyterian College) and Óscar Espinosa (Universidad Católica del Perú). Enrique Mayer will chair the Book and Article Awards Committee and will revise the current guidelines.

In regard to the Peru newsletter, it was discussed that CIES (Consorcio de Investigaciones Económicas y Sociales) would be a great resource to put together the future bulletins.

Following the meeting many members attended the common reception.

The Section was able to collect \$1180 from member donations to the Peru Travel Fund. The Section received five applications for travel grants and the selection committee made up of Elena Álvarez, Angelina Cotler and JoAnn Burt selected three grantees based on merit and the criteria agreed upon during the Peru Section Business Meeting at LASA2010. Each candidate was required to present a budget and each received a partial

grant to cover travel and other expenses. Grantees included Dr. Sergio Recuenco (Peruvian citizen MD, MPH Ph.D. in Public Health—Centers for Disease Control and Prevention); Jacqueline Fowks (Peruvian citizen; Catholic University of Peru); and Carlos Gálvez (Peruvian citizen; Ph.D. Candidate in Latin American and Early Modern European History, Columbia University).

Political Institutions (LAPIS)

Todd Eisenstadt, Chair

The Latin American Political Institutions Section in 2010 inaugurated a book award named after deceased LAPIS colleague Donna Lee Van Cott, and awarded two works that high honor. We also elected new Section leadership at the October 8, 2010 meeting in Toronto (attended by some three dozen people), announced the Section paper award, as well as several travel awards, and established a couple of policy positions for deliberation over the course of this year.

On September 15, 2010 the Section had 145 members, which was a slight increase over one year ago, when the membership was 131.

The 2010 Van Cott Award Winners were Tulia Falleti (University of Pennsylvania) for *Decentralization and Subnational Politics in Latin America* (Cambridge University Press, 2010) and Gisela Zaremberg (FLACSO (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales/Mexico) for *Mujeres, Votos, y Asistencia Social en el México PRIísta y la Argentina Peronista* (FLACSO-Mexico, 2009). The award committee, consisting of Todd Eisenstadt (American University), Agustina Giraudy (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales/ Buenos Aires), and Aníbal Pérez-Liñán (University of Pittsburgh) thought very highly of both books.

Other Awards included the LAPIS Best Paper Award for a paper presented at the 2009 LASA Congress. This was presented to Tulia Falleti, for "Infiltrating the State: The Evolution of Health Care Reforms in Brazil, 1964–1988." The committee was chaired by Bruce Wilson (University of Central Florida,

last year's winner), and also included Flavia Freidenberg (University of Salamanca) and Charles Kenney (University of Oklahoma).

Travel grants were judged by a committee consisting of Felipe Botero (Universidad de los Andes and last year's winner), Committee Chair; Miguel Centellas (University of Mississippi); and Joy Langston (CIDE Mexico City). Recipients of the 2010 LASA travel grants were Santiago Basabe Serrano (FLACSO/Ecuador), Víctor Leonel Juan Martínez (Universidad Autónoma Benito Juárez de Oaxaca), Tânia Pinc (University of São Paulo), and Julieta Suárez-Cao (Northwestern University).

Two measures were approved by the Section members in attendance at the Business Meeting: 1) LAPIS should solidify a relationship with the *Journal of Politics in Latin America* (JPLA), although the exact nature of that relationship is to be established through consultation via the listserv this year, and perhaps via further discussion at the next LASA meeting; and 2) LAPIS should consider broadening the name of the Section to perhaps encourage affiliation by political scientists beyond those whose work is formally on institutions. Suggestions for Section names will be sought during the course of the year via the listserv.

Executive Council Member Miguel Centellas (University of Mississippi) was unanimously elected Section Chair. Former Section Chair Todd Eisenstadt (American University) passes to Secretary/Treasurer, and three new members joined the executive council: Ryan Carlin (Georgia State University), Matthew Cleary (Syracuse University), and Tulia Falleti (University of Pennsylvania). The new officers were welcomed. The Section also extends hearty thanks to the 2010 LAPIS executive council members who are stepping down: Felipe Botero (Universidad de los Andes), Kirk Hawkins (Brigham Young University), and Aníbal Pérez-Liñán (University of Pittsburgh).

Rural Studies

Kirsten Albrechtsen de Appendini, Chair

The Rural Studies Section's activities have focused mainly on the events around the LASA2010 Congress. Throughout the year the Section members have continuous contact through the Section email list, sharing information and news.

The Rural Section Business Meeting was held Friday October 8th, with a quorum of 19 members. Elections of the new council for the 2010-2012 period were held with the following results: Steve Zahniser (USDA Economic Research Service), Chair; Kerry Preibisch (University of Guelph), Chair-Elect; Clifford Welch (Universidade Federal de São Paulo), Secretary; and Yolanda Massieu (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana/Xochimilco), Eduardo Baumeister (Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios del Desarrollo), Roberto Diego, and Kerry Preibisch (University of Guelph), Council Members.

At the meeting Kirsten Appendini reported on the membership and financial status of the Section and activities held during the term. Members present then had a general discussion on activities and issues of concern, such as increasing Section membership, increasing proposals for the AGR track, and enabling consultation with the Program chair for next LASA Congress. These concerns will be addressed during the next term; also agreed was to participate more actively in the *LASA Forum*, contribute to the new LASA Sections website; and continue to sponsor activities at the next Congress, such as Section sessions and a fieldtrip. Also agreed was to support a travel grant for a participant to attend LASA2012, which the Section was not able to do at the past Congress. After the meeting a reception was held.

At LASA2010 the Section sponsored two sessions: a workshop on Agrarian Reform in Latin America, chaired by Carmen Diana Deere; and a panel "The Food Crisis under the Neoliberal Regime and Impact in Latin America," chaired by Gerardo Otero. Both panels were well attended and gave rise to lively debate on the floor.

The Section has now established a Congress-related tradition of undertaking a fieldtrip to a rural region to visit local agricultural activities with the opportunity of looking first hand at issues of interest. On October 6th the trip was to the Niagara region to visit two Greenhouses that employ migrant workers, as well as to stop at the regional office for the Agriculture Workers Alliance. Thirty-two people participated.

Scholarly Research and Resources (SSRR)

Holly Ackerman, Interim Chair

The Section examines issues that enable scholarship. Membership is drawn from faculty members, publishers, independent researchers, archivists and librarians. Section activities allow LASA to keep abreast of trends in publishing, alert the membership to new sources of information and spot emerging issues. Led by Interim Chair Holly Ackerman, the Section is currently comprised of fifty-six members of whom only six could attend this year's Business Meeting.

In 2010 the Section focused on the damage to university libraries and archives in Chile and Haiti. Brooke Wooldridge, Florida International University, summarized efforts to coordinate aid to Haitian institutions and Holly Ackerman from Duke University summarized the situation in Chile. In the coming year the Section plans to: 1) act as a clearinghouse on best practices for aiding university libraries in disaster recovery; 2) offer support to LASA staff and officers on this subject; 3) coordinate with other organizations to assist institutions in Chile and Haiti; 4) organize the SSRR panel at LASA2012 around the theme of library/archival recovery in Haiti and Chile; 5) use Section funds to support the travel of a Chilean and a Haitian librarian to LASA2012; and 6) ask each member of LASA to poll their University Librarian about whether the institution is willing to assist Haitian and Chilean universities.

The Section wants to form a network of library administrators willing to make collective requests of publishers regarding the need for extended free or below cost

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access during emergencies and post-disaster recovery and to stimulate exchange between staff at affected libraries and U.S. institutions through the use of Fulbright awards, Title VI travel grants and other institutional resources.

Sexualities Studies

Shawn Schulenberg, Co-chair, and Guillermo de los Reyes, Secretary-Treasurer

This year the Section had two panels at the conference in Toronto: "Latin American Sexualities: Past, Present and Future," and "Contemporary Ethnographic Approaches to the Study of Latin American Sexualities." Both panels were well attended and good discussions took place. During the business meeting, members discussed the fact that the Section needs to recruit more members in order to have more panels in the future since some good proposals had to be rejected due to lack of space.

At the business meeting, members evaluated the pre-conference and decided that the Section would like to continue the tradition of organizing a pre-conference at LASA2012. In addition, members discussed the success of the panels sponsored by the Section and agreed that the themes for next year's conference should be in tune with the LASA main theme.

Members elected the new board of directors for the next cycle: Shawn Schulenberg (Marshall University) and Dara Goldman (University of Illinois-Urbana Champagne) were elected as co-chairs. Guillermo de los Reyes was reelected secretary/treasurer. In addition, the recipients of Section awards were named.

The Sexualities Studies Section gave two awards this year recognizing outstanding scholarship on gender, queer and LGBT: Sylvia Molloy Award for the Best Academic Essay in the Humanities; and Carlos Monsiváis Award for the Best Academic Essay in the Social Sciences. The winners received an award certificate and a small cash prize of \$200. The award winners were announced at the Section's business meeting in October 2010. The winner of the Sylvia Molloy Award was David William Foster

(Arizona State University) for his article "Of Gay Caballeros and Other Noble Heroes," in *Visual Communication: Urban Representations in Latin America* *Comunicación visual: representaciones urbanas en América Latina/Comunicação visual: representações urbanas na América Latina*, ed. David William Foster and Denize Correa Araujo. Porto Alegre: editora-plus.com, 2009. Ramón Gutiérrez (University of Chicago) received an honorable mention for his article "A History of Latina/o Sexualities," in Marysol Asencio, ed., *Latina/o Sexualities: Probing Powers, Passions, Practices, and Policies*, New Brunswick, N.J.: Rutgers University Press, 2010. The winners of the Carlos Monsiváis Award were Salvador Vidal-Ortiz (American University), Carlos Decena (Rutgers University), Héctor Carrillo (Northwestern University), and Tomás Almaguer (San Francisco State University) for their article "Revisiting Activos and Pasivos: Toward New Cartographies of Latino/Latin American Male Same-Sex Desire," in *Latina/o Sexualities: Probing Powers, Passions, Practices and Policies*, Marysol Asencio, ed., New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 2010. Julieta Lemaitre Ripoll received an honorable mention for her article, "Anticlericales de nuevo: La iglesia católica como un actor político ilegítimo en materia de sexualidad y reproducción en América Latina," en *Derecho y sexualidades*, Marcelo Alegre et al. 1a edición. Buenos Aires: Librería, 2010. The prize committee members were Dara E. Goldman, Chair (University of Illinois-Urbana Champagne), Yolanda Martínez-San Miguel (Rutgers University), and María Amelia Viteri, (Catholic University of America).

Southern Cone Studies

Luis E. Cárcamo-Huechante, Chair, and Leila Gómez, Treasurer

Led by the Section's former chair, Professor Álvaro Fernández Bravo, the Business Meeting of the Southern Cone Studies Section (Toronto, October 2010) brought together a significant group of members (35 attendees). Previous officers of the Section designed and oversaw an electronic voting procedure, which produced a new Chair and

Treasurer. The Chair is Luis E. Cárcamo-Huechante (University of Texas, Austin).

One of the peculiar strengths of the Section has been its transnational nature, establishing debates which incorporate scholarship on Argentina, Chile and Uruguay. In the 2010 LASA Congress, the Section organized three sessions around the following themes: the State, everyday practices and urban spaces in the Southern Cone; readings and cultural representations of the Independence in the Centennials' narratives in South America; and territories, borders and visual representations in contemporary Argentina.

In the coming years, the Section plans to further strengthen its transnational scope while at the same time developing its interdisciplinary potential. Specific areas of debate to be considered are: first, poverty, as an economic, social and ethical issue in the region; second, immigrant communities in the major urban centers of the Southern Cone; third, the status of indigenous peoples, their self-representation and their rights, especially in Chile and Argentina; and fourth, the Bicentennials and the "transnational shift" or the emergence of other "imagined communities" in the realm of social, aesthetic and cultural imagination, including the role and impact of the Internet in this process.

A more specific goal for the 2011-2012 period is to establish a space for the Section on the web, a virtual tool that will increase communications and dialogue. Finally, the Section agreed to institute the granting of awards for books and articles in Southern Cone Studies in order to recognize the intellectual and academic production in the regional field.

Venezuelan Studies

By Daniel H. Levine, Chair

The Section is in reasonably good shape, in terms of membership, despite the growing difficulty that Section members resident in Venezuela face in getting access to dollars. The problems of access to foreign currency affect members' ability to pay for membership in LASA and in the Section, not

to mention covering the costs associated with participating in LASA Congresses, which can be substantial if we combine the costs of getting a visa, airfare and lodging. This is a growing problem and addressing it was the central item of business in the meeting.

The Section Business Meeting was held on Friday October 8. The agenda of the meeting included the announcement of elections for officers and council of the Section, the announcement of awards for prizes (given at every LASA meeting for best paper) and a discussion of ways to address the economic hurdles the Section's members resident in Venezuela are encountering.

The electoral results were: David Smilde (University of Georgia), Chair of the Section for the next period and Jana Morgan (University of Tennessee), Secretary-Treasurer. Newly elected members of council for the next period include: 1) Members resident in Venezuela, Ángel Álvarez (University of Notre Dame), whose term has not expired and who joins continuing members Verónica Zubillaga (Universidad Simón Bolívar), Francisco Rodríguez, and Tomás Straka (Universidad Católica Andrés Bello); and 2) Members resident outside Venezuela including David Hellinger, Sujatha Fernandes (City University of New York/Queens College), Jun Ishibashi (University of Tokyo), Kim Morse (Washburn University), Elizabeth Nichols (Drury University), and Alejandro Velasco (New York University). Continuing members are Charles Briggs, Luis Gómez Calcaño, Patricia Márquez, and Jennifer McCoy.

The prize for best paper in the Humanities was awarded to Luis Duno for "Geographies of Fear in Venezuelan Cinema: *Soy Un Delincuente* (1976) and *Secuestro Express* (2008)." There was no award this year for best paper in the Social Sciences.

Most of the time in the meeting was dedicated to a discussion of economic difficulties facing members resident in Venezuela and an exploration of possible strategies for addressing these problems. The problem has several facets. First, as mentioned above, members experience

notable difficulties in getting access to foreign currency. Second, members at autonomous universities report that university budgets are very restricted and funds to support research and conference travel are no longer available.

These problems have been with us for some time. The Section created a fund in support of travel by members resident in Venezuela but this fund has not drawn support. David Smilde is exploring other alternatives including the possibility of foundation support. The experiences of various other LASA Sections were also discussed as possible models to emulate. The discussion centered on these problems and on various possibilities for solution. There was also discussion on the prospects of involving staff at the Bolivarian universities in joint panels as a way of stimulating a broader participation in the Section, and in LASA. ■