LASA Voluntary Support

by Sandy Klinzing

The LASA2010 Congress was a major success on many levels. One very important measure was the number of colleagues, Latin American, Caribbean, and student, who were able to participate through some level of travel support. Of the 420 eligible requests for funding, 306 individuals were selected for travel grants provided by one of the various sources of support, including the LASA Endowment ($323,848), foundation grants ($156,230), and the LASA Travel ($6,263), the Student ($6,204), and the Indigenous and Afro-descendant Funds ($14,642). In addition, LASA contributed $25,000 in $500 grants to facilitate student participation in Toronto.

A most sincere thank-you to the generous contributors to the success of the Congress and to LASA funds during the past year!

The LASA Endowment continues to grow, thanks to a somewhat healthier return on investment in recent months and new contributions. One chief source of new support for the Endowment is LASA Life Memberships, where a full $2,000 of the $2,500 total is a contribution to either the General or the Humanities Endowment Fund. During the past year, six LASA members have committed to a Life Membership: Timothy Scully, Kathryn Sikkink, Kenneth Roberts, John Stephens, Brian Loveman and Terry Karl. Adding the honorary Life Membership provided to Kalman Silvert Award recipient Edelberto Torres-Rivas brings the number of current paid and honorary Life Memberships to 88. An effort to attract more Life Memberships was undertaken during the past 18 months by the members of the LASA Fundraising Committee. Many of the newest commitments came as a result of contacts made by Committee members. Again, thank you!

We gratefully acknowledge the following donors for their contributions to one or more of the LASA funds since the previous report in the spring issue of the LASA Forum. (Note that in the interest of conserving space, donors are named only once, regardless of the number of contributions or gifts to multiple funds. A special thank-you to those donors who frequently designate more than one fund for their support!)

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