

SECTION NEWS

## Report of the Fifth Meeting of the Ecuadorian Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association

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The fifth meeting of the Ecuadorian Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association took place from June 1 to June 3 in the headquarters of FLACSO-Ecuador in Quito.

We had 295 presenters in 63 panels. The presenters came from universities and other institutions from the United States and Europe and from a variety of such organizations as well as nongovernmental organizations from Quito, Cuenca, Guayaquil, Ambato and the rest of Ecuador in addition to other Latin American countries. FLACSO gave six scholarships to researchers from the Ecuadorian provinces and three to graduate students from outside Ecuador so that they could attend the meeting. The Section is grateful to FLACSO for its support of this meeting.

There were two keynote speeches: the first was co-presented by Carmen Diana Deere from the University of Florida and Jaqueline Contreras from FLACSO, Ecuador; and the second was delivered by Marc Becker from Truman State University. Deere and Contreras spoke about “rights to property and accumulation of patrimony by women in Ecuador” and emphasized the existence of patrimonial violence in the country. Becker spoke about Dolores Cacuango as a political symbol. Relevant

topics such as the political situation of Ecuador, popular economies, race and ethnicity, the situation of the elderly, literature, culture, and history were discussed at this meeting. There was also a book fair and an Ecuadorian documentary festival.

The encounter was quite successful as a space for the exchange of ideas and scholarship about Ecuador and the Section plans to continue with these biannual meetings in the future. ■