

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Elections 2011

Nominating Committee Slate

The LASA Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates for vice president and members of the Executive Council (EC). The winning candidate for vice president will serve in that capacity from June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013 and as president from June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014. The three winning candidates for EC membership will serve a two-year term from June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2014.

Nominees for Vice President

Reid Andrews
University of Pittsburgh

Merilee Grindle
Harvard University

Nominees for Executive Council

Daniel Balderston
University of Pittsburgh

Ruth Collier
University of California, Berkeley

Robin Derby
University of California, Los Angeles

Graciela Montaldo
Columbia University

María Clemencia Ramírez
Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia

Catalina Romero
Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú

The Candidates

George Reid Andrews is Distinguished Professor of History, UCIS Research Professor, and Chair of the Department of History at the University of Pittsburgh. He received his university degrees from Dartmouth College (BA, 1972) and the University of Wisconsin-Madison (MA 1974, PhD 1978). He began his academic career at the Social Science Research Council, where he was Staff Associate for Latin America and the Caribbean (1978-81). He then moved to the University of Pittsburgh, where he has taught Latin American history since 1981. While carrying out research in Latin America, Andrews has been affiliated as a visiting researcher with the Instituto de Desarrollo Económico y Social (IDES, Buenos Aires), the Centro de Estudios de Cultura Contemporánea (CEDEC, São Paulo), and the Centro de Estudios Interdisciplinarios Latinoamericanos (CEIL, Montevideo). His research was supported by fellowships awarded by the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Rockefeller Foundation, the Social Science Research Council and the U.S. Department of Education. In his research and writing, Andrews has concentrated on the study of race in Latin America, and in particular on the history of African-descent peoples in the region. His books include *The Afro-Argentines of Buenos Aires, 1800-1900* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1980), *Blacks and Whites in São Paulo, Brazil, 1888-1988* (University of Wisconsin Press, 1991), *Afro-Latin America, 1800-1900* (Oxford University Press, 2004), and *Blackness in the White Nation: A History of Afro-Uruguay* (University of North Carolina Press, 2010). All those books have been published in Spanish and/or Portuguese translation: *Los afroargentinos de Buenos Aires, 1800-1900* (Ediciones de

la Flor, 1989), *Negros e brancos em São Paulo, 1888-1988* (EDUSC, 1998), *Afro-Latinoamérica, 1800-2000* (Iberoamericana-Vervuert, 2007), *América Afro-Latina, 1800-2000* (EDUFSCar, 2007), *Negros en la nación blanca: Historia de los afro-uruguayos, 1830-2010* (Linardi y Risso, 2011). He is also the author of numerous articles in professional journals published in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States. Within LASA, Andrews has served on the Program Committee (1986), the Nominating Committee (2001), and the Mellon-LASA Selection Committee (2009-11). He was General Editor of the University of Pittsburgh Press Latin America Series (2002-07) and currently serves, with his colleagues Alejandro de la Fuente and Lara Putnam, as Senior Editor of *Hispanic American Historical Review*.

Andrews Statement

There has never been a better time to be a student of Latin America. Continued advances in scholarship have sharpened and deepened our discussions of such widely varied topics as race, gender, socioeconomic inequality, models of economic development, state- and institution-building, cultural studies, and environmental change. Rapidly advancing communication technologies have transformed and intensified trans-regional scholarly collaboration; electronic databases, searchable newspaper archives, and the digitalization of archival materials are starting to have similar impacts on research. Perhaps most important of all, the democratic openings of the 1980s and 1990s have gone on to produce, in recent years, an extraordinary wealth of new political, social, and economic experiments. None of these experiments is perfect, but all of them represent serious, purposeful efforts to break centuries-old patterns of social hierarchy and injustice and to live up

to equally longstanding promises, dating back to the independence period, of social, political and economic equality. The nations of the region have broken emphatically with the neo-liberal orthodoxies of the 1980s and 90s to craft new policy initiatives: the Oportunidades and Bolsa Familia programs in Mexico and Brazil, multicultural constitutions in Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador, Plan Ceibal in Uruguay, Bolivarian socialism in Venezuela, and many others. This flood of creativity gives the title of Oscar Guardiola-Rivera's recent book, *What If Latin America Ruled the World? How the South Will Take the North into the 22nd Century*, far more plausibility than it might have had ten or twenty years ago. LASA's members have shared in and contributed to all of these recent developments. An association founded in 1966 by U.S. academics, over the last forty-five years LASA has been thoroughly internationalized. Almost half its members, including its current president, live and work outside the United States; and its last four International Congresses have all been held outside the U.S.. Such a transformation could easily have been traumatic for the organization; but my sense is that LASA's institutional experience has been almost exactly the opposite. The Association's internationalization has occurred in an atmosphere of great good will and collegiality; LASA members from around the globe recognize the enormous benefits to be derived from free, open, and egalitarian intellectual exchange and the incorporation of new experiences, perspectives and ideas. LASA's growth and diversity are its great strengths, but they also come with an imperative to make sure that the voices and needs of different constituencies are heard. Regional diversity is one vital component of this, and removing barriers to full participation by members based across the hemisphere has

been and will continue to be a central concern. But our members also come from a diversity of disciplines, whose academic conventions create divergent expectations and needs. Meanwhile, we range from beginning graduate students to emeritus professors, and from those who have chosen to concentrate their energies within academia to others who have chosen paths of activism, policy-making, the arts and journalism. What structures should LASA strengthen, or where might we innovate, to make our organization a productive home base for all? If elected to the vice-presidency, I will consult closely with the current and in-coming presidents, Maria Hermínia Tavares and Evelynne Huber, with the Executive Council, and with the LASA staff, on the organization's most pressing current needs and how best to address them. I will also be pleased to hear and learn from LASA members at any time. Thank you for your attention and for the honor of this nomination, and don't forget to vote!

Merilee Grindle is Edward S. Mason Professor of International Development at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government and Director of the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard University. A political scientist with a B.A. from Wellesley College, an M.A. from Brown University, and a Ph.D. from MIT, she has focused much of her work on the politics of policy reform. She has recently completed a book on issues of public sector reform in historical contexts and the development of professional public services in Latin America. Currently, she is engaged in research on scholarly engagements between the U.S. and Latin America in the 19th and early 20th centuries. More broadly, she is a specialist on the comparative analysis of policymaking, implementation, and public

management, the policy process, and the politics of reform, with a particular focus on countries in Latin America. Grindle has been at Harvard since 1983. In addition to her teaching and research activities, she has held a number of administrative positions and served on many committees at Harvard and in the academic world. She served for ten years as the faculty chair of the MPA programs and on the faculty steering committee at the Kennedy School. She serves on several University-wide committees on international engagement and has played an active role in the promotion of international student activities at Harvard. She has been a member of the editorial boards of a number of journals and has been actively engaged in promoting graduate education in public policy in Mexico and Bolivia. She was LASA Congress Program Chair in 1986 and served on the LASA Executive Council and was Treasurer from 2004-2006. She teaches courses on the political economy of development policy making and implementation and in 1991 received the Manuel C. Carballo Award for Excellence in Teaching at the Kennedy School and in 2007 was recognized by Harvard University as an outstanding teacher. She has received research grants from the Social Science Research Council and the Tinker, Ford, and Rockefeller Foundations, among others. Grindle is the author of *Jobs for the Boys: The Politics of Public Sector Reform* (Harvard 2012); *Going Local: Decentralization, Democratization, and the Promise of Good Governance* (Princeton 2007); *Despite the Odds: The Contentious Politics of Education Reform* (Princeton 2004); *Audacious Reforms: Institutional Invention and Democracy in Latin America* (Johns Hopkins 2000); *Challenging the State: Crisis and Innovation in Latin America and Africa* (Cambridge 1996); *Searching for Rural Development: Labor Migration and Employment in Mexico*

(Cornell 1988); *State and Countryside: Development Policy and Agrarian Politics in Latin America* (Johns Hopkins 1986) and *Bureaucrats, Politicians, and Peasants in Mexico: A Study in Public Policy* (California 1976). She is co-author, with John Thomas, of *Public Choices and Policy Change: The Political Economy of Reform in Developing Countries* (Johns Hopkins 1991), which won an award as the best book in public policy in 1991. She is also the editor of *Politics and Policy Implementation in the Third World* (Princeton 1980); *Getting Good Government: Capacity Building in the Public Sectors of Developing Countries* (Harvard/HIID 1997); and co-editor of *Proclaiming Revolution: Bolivia in Comparative Politics* (Harvard/DRCLAS 2003). In addition, she has written numerous articles about policy management, implementation, capacity building, and institutional reform in developing countries as well as other articles about political economy theory and practice, social policy, and rural poverty. Most recently, articles related to “good enough governance” have focused on the difficult agenda of public sector and state reform in developing countries.

Grindle Statement

I have been an avid participant in LASA Congresses for a very long time and have had the pleasure of working closely with the leadership and administration of the organization on several occasions. Despite the multiple and insistent demands that set constraints on all of us, I work to find time for LASA. I do so because of the values that LASA represents for Latin American studies and academic research more generally. First, I am increasingly aware that LASA is truly a multigenerational space for scholars and students to compare notes, develop professional relationships, generate research ideas and findings, and

increase the space for Latin American studies across the world. A LASA Congress served as my first professional activity as a newly-minted Ph.D., and now, many years later, I see that experience reflected in the presence of so many younger scholars who search each other out and reconnect with their mentors to pick up on discussions interrupted by time and space. It is impossible to know how many projects and how many careers were inspired and encouraged through LASA, but the number has to be very significant, stimulated at least in part by the transmission of passion about Latin America across generations of scholars. Second, as a social scientist, I am impressed that LASA has remained so interdisciplinary. Especially in the United States, disciplines seem to have become progressively more narrow even as issues for scholarship have become more complex and multifaceted. But in LASA, we share a commitment to Latin America—past, present, and future—as well as to our disciplines. How better to be engaged in discussions about politics and public policies, my particular interests, but also to incorporate understanding of the region’s literature, its cultures, its environmental challenges, its cities, and its art and science? Third, I have seen LASA grow in inclusiveness and in an exceptional effort to engage scholars and scholarship from Latin America. The clear dedication of LASA’s leadership and membership to facilitate travel and interaction is inspiring. In a world increasingly connected by virtual relationships, the face-to-face nature of interactions at LASA Congresses are especially important in sparking new professional relationships and deepening ongoing collaborations. Fourth, I find time for LASA because it is active in the world. The organization’s long-time commitment to enhanced scholarly relations with Cuba and to improved U.S. policy toward that country, its outspoken concern for human

rights and immigration reform, and its clear interest in the rights of those who are ignored or oppressed or who live daily with violence and intolerance speaks loudly to its relevance in the real world. I am proud of this history of social and political activism and I believe it makes a difference in the world. I am also drawn to LASA because of its professionalism. Its leadership has consistently set a standard for accountability and service and its administration is admirably efficient, effective, and responsive. I have had opportunities to see how it works and how it responds to challenges and I want to see it continue to set a standard for excellent performance. The values I find in LASA—multigenerational connections, interdisciplinary dialogue, inclusive scholarship and membership, active engagement in the world, and a professional mission—are the values I want to sustain and continue to build if given a chance to help lead the organization. It is critical to engage younger scholars in the organization, to ensure that our Congresses always represent the best of a multiplicity of disciplines and collaboration across them, to reach out to scholars of diverse background and facilitate their participation in LASA activities, to remain a pillar of conscience for U.S.-Latin American relationships, and to continue to operate with truly professional norms and standards. I believe that LASA is a strong and important organization and I am committed to contributing what I can to its scholarly and professional future in ways that enhance its relevance and its capacity to reach, engage, and build its membership.

Daniel Balderston, Mellon Professor of Modern Languages, University of Pittsburgh, and director of the Borges Center. B.A. in English, University of California-Berkeley, M.A., Ph.D. in

Comparative Literature, Princeton. Taught at Tulane and Iowa before coming to Pittsburgh, and was a visiting professor at the Universidade de São Paulo, Universidad Javeriana, Bergen, Havana, Georgetown, Berkeley, Campinas, Antioquia, Buenos Aires, La Pampa, Universidad de la República (Montevideo). Books: *El precursor velado: R. L. Stevenson en la obra de Borges* (1985), *The Literary Universe of Jorge Luis Borges* (1986), *The Latin American Short Story: An Annotated Guide* (1992), *Out of Context: Historical Reference and the Representation of Reality in Borges* (1993, Spanish edition 1996), *El deseo: enorme cicatriz luminosa* (1999, second expanded edition 2004), *Borges, realidades y simulacros* (2000), *Innumerables relaciones: cómo leer con Borges* (2010). Co-authored book (with José Quiroga): *Sexualidades en disputa* (2005). Edited books: *The Historical Novel in Latin America* (1986), *Sex and Sexuality in Latin America* (with Donna Guy, 1997, Spanish edition 1998), *Sexualidad y nación* (2000), *Encyclopedia of Latin American and Caribbean Cultures* (with Mike Gonzalez and Ana López, 2000), *Voice Overs: Translation and Latin American Literature* (with Marcy Schwartz, 2002), *Encyclopedia of Latin American and Caribbean Literature, 1900-2003* (with Mike Gonzalez, 2004), *The Noé Jitrik Reader* (2005), *Las lecciones del maestro: Homenaje a José Bianco* (2006), *Approaches to Teaching Puig's The Kiss of the Spider Woman* (with Francine Masiello, 2007), *Novelas cortas* by Juan Carlos Onetti (critical edition, 2010), *Cartografías queer: activismo LGBT y sexualidades en América Latina* (with Arturo Matute Castro, 2011). Articles in *Revista Iberoamericana*, *MLN*, *Discurso Literario*, *Hispanamérica*, *Texto Crítico*, *Revista Canadiense de Estudios Hispánicos*, *Modern Language Review*, *Hispania*, *La Torre*, *Bulletin of Hispanic Studies*,

Symposium, *Nuevo Texto Crítico*, *Chasqui*, *Cuadernos Hispanoamericanos*, *Variaciones Borges*, *Revista de Crítica Literaria Latinoamericana*, *Tramas para la literatura argentina*, *Estudios*, *Social Text*, *Ibero-Americana Pragensia*, *Cuadernos Americanos*, *Casa de las Américas*, *Río de la Plata*, *Fragmentos*, *América*, *Anclajes*, *Hofstra Hispanic Review*, *A contracorriente*, *Lejana*, *Taller de Letras* and others. Book chapters in *Utopías del Nuevo Mundo*, *Borges the Poet*, *Ficción y política: la narrativa argentina durante el Proceso militar*, *Literatura e história na América Latina*, *Cambridge History of Latin American Literature*, *Histórias da Literatura: Teorias, Temas e Autores*, *¿Entiendes? Queer Readings/Hispanic Writings*, *En torno a la obra de Virgilio Piñera*, *Cet obscure objet de désir: Représentations homosexuelles, Borges and Europe Revisited*, *El siglo de Borges*, *Literatura política y sociedad: construcciones de sentido en la Hispanoamérica contemporánea*, *Robert Louis Stevenson: Writer of Boundaries*, *Escrito por los otros: Ensayos sobre Luis Gusmán*, *Virgilio Piñera: La memoria del cuerpo*, *Hispanisms and Homosexualities*, *Changing Men and Masculinities in Latin America*, *Ricardo Piglia: una poética sin límites*, *Literary Cultures of Latin America: A Comparative History*, *Otros cuerpos, otras sexualidades*, *Entre ficción y reflexión: Juan José Saer y Ricardo Piglia*, *Zona de prólogos*, *In memoriam JLB*, *Jorge Luis Borges: Políticas de la literature*, *Cambridge Companion to the Latin American Novel*, *Elena Garro: un recuerdo sólido* and others. Encyclopedia articles in the *Encyclopedia of the Novel*, *Modern Spanish American Poets*, *Latin American Writers*, *Encyclopedia of Latin American Literature*, *Latin American Writing on Gay and Lesbian Themes*. Translator of fiction by José Bianco, Sylvia Molloy, Juan Carlos Onetti, Ricardo Piglia, Silvina Ocampo,

Caio Fernando Abreu and others. President of the Instituto Internacional de Literatura Iberoamericana, 2004-2008. Member, Division of Twentieth Century Latin American Literature, MLA, 1994-1998. Texts and Translations Board, MLA, 2004-2009. Chair, Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Issues, LASA, 1994-1997. Editor, *Variaciones Borges*, 2005-present. Serves on editorial board of *Les Cahiers d'Ilcea*, *Itinerarios*, *Arquitrave*, *Anclajes*, past service on boards of *PMLA*, *Revista Iberoamericana* and *Hispania*.

Balderston Statement

I have been a LASA member since 1983 and have attended nearly all of the Congresses since then. The Association has been vital to my professional development, and to the development of new fields within Latin American studies including sexuality studies. I was privileged to lead the Task Force on Gay and Lesbian Issues (now the Sexuality Studies Section) from 1994 to 1997, and have been involved in this group since its inception. More generally, I have found LASA an important place for collaborative work across the disciplines; two of my co-edited books, Sex and Sexuality in Latin America and Voice Overs: Translation and Latin American Literature, were conceived and planned during LASA meetings. I envision the Association as a place for continuing intellectual innovation, for collaboration between activists and academics, and for the fostering of close working relationships among scholars based in different parts of the Americas and elsewhere in the world. One area that I think could be a new initiative would be to use part of the LASA webpage to provide links to online research and publications, such as CLAM, the digital journals housed at the University of Pittsburgh library, IILI and the many digital journals and research websites in Latin America.

Ruth Berins Collier is Heller Professor of the Graduate School, Department of Political Science, University of California, Berkeley. Her research has focused on the interplay of regime change and forms of popular participation. Her books include: *Shaping the Political Arena: Critical Junctures, The Labor Movement, and Regime Dynamics* (co-authored); *The Contradictory Alliance: State-Labor Relations and Regime Change in Mexico: Paths Toward Democracy: the Working Class and Elites in Western Europe and South America*; and *Reorganizing Popular Politics: Participation and the New Interest Regime in Latin America* (co-edited).

Collier Statement

While I support broad interdisciplinary approaches that bridge the social sciences and humanities, my goal within LASA would be to advance social science research on Latin America. One of the great traditions within research on Latin America has been an approach that crosses the social sciences: sociology, political science, history, anthropology, and economics. Though disciplinary perspectives often seem to be increasing in importance, I would try to ensure that LASA continue what has been a very fruitful cross-disciplinary perspective, which has historically made Latin American studies an innovative, theory-exporting field of study. I am particularly interested in making a variety of data more readily available to scholars: researchers' own field data and archival data as well as government data, GIS data, survey data, satellite data, and so forth.

Lauren (Robin) Derby is associate professor of Latin American history at the University of California, Los Angeles. Her work engages issues of memory, violence, dictatorship and rumor in the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Puerto Rico; she has

also conducted research in Cuba. Her publications include: *The Dictator's Seduction: Politics and the Popular Imagination in the Era of Trujillo* (Duke University Press, 2009) which seeks to explain race, masculinity and the culture of consent under the Trujillo dictatorship. It won the Gordon K. and Sybil Lewis award, the Bolton-Johnson Prize, and received honorable mention for the Bryce Wood Book Award from LASA. She also co-edited *Activating the Past: History and Memory in the Black Atlantic World*, Cambridge Scholars Press, 2010. She is currently writing a book on demonic animal narratives in Haiti and the Dominican Republic and co-editing a reader on the Dominican Republic for Duke University Press.

Derby Statement

I have been a member of LASA for two decades, and my research has focused on frontiers and peripheries over the long durée. I think I would bring a sensitivity towards the non-core regions of Latin America to LASA, since with the exception of Cuba, the Caribbean has been an outlier to Latin American studies. I would also like to enhance the presence within LASA of some approaches which have not been central to the field of Latin American studies in the past, such as oral and environmental history, as well as interdisciplinary dialogues. Teaching at a large public university has made me concerned with relevance and outreach, which inspired me to develop an oral history training course in Haiti on life narratives of the 2010 earthquake funded by a LASA-Ford special project grant.

Graciela Montaldo. I enrolled at the University of Buenos Aires in 1978, during the Argentine military dictatorship. Everyone who studied in those years had to

resort to non-institutional alternative spaces at the same time that they attended the university. My alternative space was a study group that operated in Buenos Aires in the late 1970s and throughout the 1980s. These circumstances lent my work a certain eclecticism, as well as an early interdisciplinary formation, a clear understanding of the risks inherent in critical knowledge, and a strong political engagement with my objects of study. I draw on this experience in my books, in the sense that I understand knowledge to be a form of critical participation. From my first book, *De pronto, el campo* (1990), to my later study *Ficciones culturales y fábulas de identidad en América Latina* (1993), and even to my most recent work, *Zonas ciegas. Populismos y experimentos culturales en Argentina* (2010), I am interested in analyzing the ways that culture intersects with politics. I seek also to reflect on the ways that lettered knowledge in Latin America is articulated from an early date through the practices of native cultures and, in modern times, through products of the culture industry. I began my academic career in 1984 in the Department of Philosophy and Letters of the University of Buenos Aires. In 1990, I began teaching at Simón Bolívar University in Caracas, Venezuela, where I served as Director of the Graduate Program and also as Humanities Coordinator in the Dean's Office of Research. I was a professor at Rutgers University briefly and, in 2005, joined the Columbia University faculty to participate in the renovation of the Spanish and Portuguese Department, now known as the Department of Latin American and Iberian Cultures. At Columbia, I served as Director of Graduate Studies for four years and have been Department Chair since 2010. Since my arrival in 2005, I have played an active role in restructuring the Department and redesigning all of its programs. Since 2007, I have been a member of the Latin

American Literature from Independence to 1900 Division of the Modern Language Association (MLA). I have also been, and will be again this year, a member of the Executive Committee of the Institute for Latin American Studies (ILAS) at Columbia.

Montaldo Statement

A member of LASA for some twenty years, I have participated consistently and in varied ways throughout that time. As I have lived and built my academic career in Latin America (Argentina and Venezuela) and in the United States, I have, like many of my colleagues, a perspective on the intellectual and institutional changes of the last two decades. I believe LASA's efforts in recent years to foster a global community of "Latin Americanists" have had positive impacts. The most important of these has been the integration of different academic communities and intellectual traditions, an integration that is evident at conferences and in the journal but also in the growing institutional interest in LASA outside of the space of its founding. One of the challenges that this growth and professional development pose to our field, however, is how to maintain the diversity of our communities and traditions in open dialogue and permanent debate. LASA as an institution can foment the expansion of Latin American Studies within Global Studies but must at the same time emphasize and conserve the diversity that characterizes the field and the variety of intellectual traditions that comprise it. I personally feel the weight of this challenge, in my teaching and research as well as in academic administration. Every institution tends to colonize the knowledge that it administers. When institutions conserve their diversity and move forward in accord with their own rhythms, they can generate disciplinary change. My personal notion of LASA's role is to serve as a space that not

only unites its members but also permits our discipline to develop effectively and along a new course.

María Clemencia Ramírez joined the Colombian Institute of Anthropology and History-ICANH as a researcher in 1977 and was appointed Director in 2005, a position she held until July 2007, when she became an Associate Researcher. She attended the Universidad de los Andes, where she earned a B.A. in Anthropology; the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, where she earned an M.A. in History, and Harvard University, where she earned a Ph.D. in Social Anthropology. She received a John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship for the year 2009-2010 and was the 2004-2005 Santo Domingo Visiting Scholar at the David Rockefeller Center for Latin American Studies at Harvard. She has been a Professor of Anthropology at the Universidad Nacional de Colombia and the Universidad de los Andes in Bogotá, where she is a member of a research group that focuses on the ethnography of the state, citizenship, and armed conflict in Colombia. Dr. Ramírez's work explores the intersections of violence and identity through the lens of public policy, politics and state/citizen relations, focusing on the Amazon Region of Colombia and specifically on the department of Putumayo, where the presence of illegal crops and armed conflict led to the implementation of Plan Colombia beginning in 2000. Dr. Ramírez is currently coordinating a research team of the Historical Memory Group of the National Commission of Reparation and Reconciliation of Colombia, conducting research in Putumayo within the framework of a major project focused on gathering memories and experiences of women in order to recognize and make visible their agency in the midst

of the Colombian armed conflict and the war on drugs. She is author of *Entre el estado y la guerrilla: identidad y ciudadanía en el movimiento de los campesinos cocaleros del Putumayo* (2001); an updated and revised English-language edition has been published by Duke University Press and released in July 2011 under the title *Between the Guerrillas and the State: the cocalero movement, citizenship and identity in the Colombian Amazon*. She also is author of *Frontera Fluida entre Andes, piedemonte y selva: el caso del Valle de Sibundoy, siglos XVI-XVIII*; and co-author of the *Atlas cultural de la Amazonia Colombiana: la construcción del territorio en el siglo XX*. Dr. Ramírez has published several book chapters and journal articles on her research interests which range from the politics of global security and the war on drugs in Colombia to the impact of Plan Colombia on the small-scale coca growers of Putumayo. Dr. Ramírez has held three research grants from the Colombian Institute for the Advancement of Development, Science and Technology-Colciencias (1998, 2003, and 2007), a Peace Scholar Award from the United States Institute of Peace, a Wenner-Gren Foundation Grant for dissertation research (1997-1998) and a Fulbright Scholarship for graduate studies as a Colombian student in the United States (1994-1997). In 1994 her M.A. thesis in ethno-history was awarded Honorable Mention (Mención Meritoria) and Special Distinction by the Universidad Nacional. She was also given a Special Distinction by the Chapter of Anthropology of the Ex-alumni Association of the Universidad de Los Andes in Bogotá, Colombia in September 2003 and a distinction as Honorary Researcher by the Colombian Institute of Anthropology and History in 2007. Dr. Ramírez has served as member of the editorial board of the journal *Revista*

Antípoda of the Department of Anthropology at Universidad de los Andes and as editor, editorial board member, and currently as a member of the scientific committee of the journal *Revista Colombiana de Antropología* of the Colombian Institute of Anthropology. In 2009 and 2010 she served as co-chair of LASA's Colombia Section.

Ramírez Statement

My interest as a candidate for the Executive Council of the Latin American Studies Association stems from being a Latin American anthropologist who has had the opportunity to study in the United States and work in both the United States and Colombia on an ongoing basis. As a result of this experience I am interested in further promoting alliances between Latin American, United States, and Canadian scholars. LASA's promotion of transregional research initiatives such as those funded six times by the Ford Foundation is a concrete example of this kind of alliance. The increasing proportion of LASA members residing outside of the United States reached 45 percent of the organization's membership in 2010, and it is important to promote these initiatives among Latin American scholars in order to elicit more research and Congress proposals from the South. My experience as co-chair of LASA's Colombia Section taught me that in order to achieve this goal, it is necessary to educate Latin American scholars and develop more outreach activities so that they will be more active in the organization and maintain longer-term affiliations. Moreover, I hope to represent Latin American scholars on the Executive Council, expressing their perspectives in order to deepen their participation.

Catalina Romero, a Peruvian sociologist, got a M.S. in Sociology at Iowa State

University, and a Ph.D. in Sociology at The New School for Social Research, N.Y., in 1989. Her main fields of research are in religion and politics, value change, democracy and civil society. A professor at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP), she has been Chair of the Social Sciences Department, and Dean of the School of Social Sciences. She created the Masters Program in Political Science, and later, the Political Science and Government Undergraduate Program. She has been Director of the Institute Bartolomé De Las Casas in Lima, Fellow of the Kellogg Institute for International Studies (1982, 2001), Public Fellow at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars (2010), and Latin American Fellow of the Guggenheim Foundation (2011-2012). Member of the Executive Council of the World Values Survey Organization, and Principal Investigator in Peru, she has been also a PI of the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems, CSES, and as a member of WAPOR she participated in the Academic Committee to organize the Lima-WAPOR Congress in 2008. A member of a Latin American project to study the Quality of Democracy, she is also member of a Working Group at CLACSO on religion, politics and society. Among her more recent publications are: "Entre la Tormenta y la Brisa. Desafíos al Catolicismo en América Latina" in Romero and Peirano's *Entre la Tormenta y la Brisa. Homenaje a Gustavo Gutiérrez* (2010); "Cambio social, religión y secularización: una mirada desde la Encuesta Mundial de Valores" in Orlando Plaza's *Cambios Sociales en el Perú 1968-2008. En Homenaje a Denis Sulmont* (2009); "La importancia de los valores para el desarrollo humano" in Ruiz Bravo et al.'s *Desarrollo Humano y Libertades. Una aproximación interdisciplinaria* (2009); "Religion and Public Spaces: Catholicism and Civil Society in Peru" in Frances

Hagopian's *Religious Pluralism, Democracy and the Catholic Church in Latin America* (2009); "Religión y espacio público: Catolicismo y sociedad civil en el Perú" in her own *Religión y Espacio Público* (2008); "Movimientos ciudadanos urbanos y desempoderamiento en Perú y Venezuela" (w/ Daniel Levine) in Mainwaring et al.'s *La crisis de la representación democrática en los países andinos* (2008); and "La Democracia en el Perú: una terca voluntad" in *América Latina Hoy*, Vol. 45 (2007).

Romero Statement

The mission of LASA is to foster intellectual discussion, research and teaching on Latin America and the Caribbean and to encourage civic engagement. These two mandates could be joined in one, if our intellectual discussion, research and teaching contribute to build a contemporary empowered vision of Latin America, promoting more interdisciplinary discussions, cross-track encounters, and inter-country's Section meetings, to foster new ways of looking at Latin American countries and the region after two centuries of independent life, and at its more recent research and teaching. I ask for your support as a member of the Executive Council when we are going through a time of crisis, because as the Latin American Studies Association, formed by North American, South American, Caribbean and international scholars we all live at least in two worlds, and Latin America scholars could still represent its subject of study as a space and a history of opportunities. I offer my interdisciplinary background, my interest in different methodological approaches to enrich research questions, to look at old problems with new perspectives, and willingness to find opportunities for innovation through LASA's spaces for encounter and conversation. ■