

Campaign for Bequests for the LASA Endowment

by CYNTHIA MCCLINTOCK and KEVIN MIDDLEBROOK | Co-chairs, LASA Fundraising Committee

LASA is launching a major campaign to build its endowment fund through bequests from its members. Specifically, we are seeking bequests of a minimum of \$10,000 (or a percentage of an estate that will produce a bequest of \$10,000 or more) to benefit LASA's permanent endowment. We emphasize that this initiative is about bequests, not current gifts to LASA.

The endowment fund is the principal source of travel grants to LASA Congresses. It also supports many of the Association's special projects. The generosity of donors to the endowment benefits future generations of Latin Americanists by nurturing their scholarship for many years to come.

Between now and the Washington, D.C., annual meeting (May 2013), we hope to

attract a group of donors who will be identified as the founding members of a new Kalman Silvert Society. The names of Silvert Society members will be inscribed on a plaque on permanent display at the LASA Secretariat.

We have already received commitments from sixteen LASA members: Cole Blasier, Ronald Chilcote, John Coatsworth, Carmen Diana Deere, Cornelia Butler Flora, Merilee Grindle, Evelyne Huber, Jane Jaquette, Cynthia McClintock, Kevin Middlebrook, Marysa Navarro, Scott Palmer, Helen Safa, Lars Schoultz, Barbara Stallings, and George Vickers. We hope that other members who attach high professional and personal importance to our association will join in this important initiative.

President Evelyne Huber and President-elect Merilee Grindle will host a special reception at the upcoming LASA Congress (Thursday, May 30, 8:00 p.m.) to honor contributors to this campaign.

We hope that many of you will join this effort. For further information and the practical steps involved in making a bequest to LASA, please contact either of us (mcclin@gwu.edu; kevinmiddlebrook@aol.com) or Sandy Klinzing at the LASA Secretariat (sklinz@pitt.edu).

We look forward to seeing you in Washington in May. ■

SECTION NEWS

Haiti/Dominican Republic Award

The Haiti/Dominican Republic Section is proud to announce the creation of an award for the best paper presented at LASA2013 on Haiti, the Dominican Republic, or both. Section members and nonmembers alike are eligible to submit their work; all disciplines are welcomed. The winner will be announced at LASA2013 in Washington, D.C. ■