

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

Elections 2013 Nominating Committee Slate

The LASA Nominating Committee presents the following slate of candidates: two candidates for vice president and six candidates for three open positions on the Executive Council (EC). The winning candidate for vice president will serve in that capacity from June 1, 2014, to May 31, 2015, and as president from June 1, 2015, to May 31, 2016. The three winning candidates for EC membership will serve a two-year term from June 1, 2014, to May 31, 2016.

Nominees for Vice President

Gil Joseph
Yale University

Nora Lustig
Tulane University

Nominees for Executive Council

Carmen Martinez Novo
FLACSO and University of Kentucky

Alberto Moreiras
Texas A&M University

Angela Paiva
Catholic University of Rio de Janeiro

Gina Saraceni
Universidad Simón Bolívar (Venezuela)

Jorge Vargas Cullell
Estado de la Nación, Costa Rica

Chuck Walker
University of California, Davis

The Candidates

Gil Joseph

Gilbert M. Joseph received his PhD from Yale University in Latin American history in 1978. In 1993, after 15 years at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he returned to Yale, where he is presently the Farnam Professor of History and International Studies. In 2005 he finished an 11-year term as director of Latin American Studies (Yale's Title VI Center). He has also been a visiting professor at Duke University, Florida International University, and the University of Connecticut.

Joseph's research and teaching interests focus on the history of Mexico and modern Latin America, revolutionary and social movements, and U.S.–Latin American relations. He is the author of *Revolution from Without: Yucatán, Mexico, and the United States, 1880–1924* (1982; rev. ed. 1988; trans. 1992); *Rediscovering the Past at Mexico's Periphery* (1986); (with Allen Wells) *Summer of Discontent, Seasons of Upheaval: Elite Politics and Rural Insurgency in Yucatán, 1876–1915* (1996; trans. 2011); and (with Jürgen Buchenau) *Mexico's Once and Future Revolution: Social Upheaval and the Challenge of Rule since the Late Nineteenth Century* (2013). He is working on a new book project, *Transnational Lives in the American Century*, and is the convenor of Yale's Latin American Cold War History project. The author of numerous articles on modern Mexico, social movements, rural crime and protest, and urban history, he is also the editor or coeditor of 13 books, including *Everyday Forms of State Formation: Revolution and the Negotiation of Rule in Modern Mexico* (1994; trans. 2002); *Close Encounters of Empire: Writing the Cultural*

History of U.S.–Latin American Relations (1998); *Fragments of a Golden Age: The Politics of Culture in Mexico Since 1940* (2001); *Crime and Punishment in Latin America: Law and Society since Late Colonial Times* (2001); *Reclaiming the Political in Latin American History* (2001); *In from the Cold: Latin America's New Encounter with the Cold War* (2008); *A Century of Revolution: Insurgent and Counterinsurgent Violence during Latin America's Long Cold War* (2010); and *Peripheral Visions: Politics, Society, and the Challenge of Modernity in Yucatán* (2010).

Joseph edited the *Hispanic American Historical Review* (with Stuart Schwartz) from 1997 to 2002 and has served on the editorial boards of journals in the United States, Mexico, Venezuela, and the UK. With Emily Rosenberg, he edits the series *American Encounters/Global Interactions* for Duke University Press (over 50 titles published). He sits on the Editorial Advisory Board of Oxford Bibliographies Online: Latin American Studies. He has advised on a PBS television series on the Mexican Revolution, served on the Latin American Regional Advisory Committee of the Social Science Research Council and the Twenty-First Century Committee of LASA, and is the former North American Chair of the Joint Organizing Committee of the Conference of Mexican, U.S., and Canadian Historians. Joseph has sat on screening and selection committees for SSRC, ACLS, and the Fulbright program. He was nominated for the presidency of the Conference on Latin American History (American Historical Association) and served as president of the New England Council on Latin American Studies.

Among Joseph's academic honors are the Sturgis Leavitt Prize (twice awarded for the best article on a Latin American subject); induction into the Academia Yucatanense

de Ciencias y Artes; the Tanner Award (for excellence in undergraduate teaching at UNC-CH); the inaugural Graduate Mentor Award from Yale University; and the Marshall Mentoring Award, bestowed by the Northeastern Association of Graduate Schools. He has directed 52 PhD students (44 at Yale and 8 at UNC). He has been awarded resident fellowships at the National Humanities Center, the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, and the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton. His research has been supported by a multiyear NEH Interpretive Research Fellowship, and yearlong research grants from SSRC, Fulbright, and the OAS, among others.

During the 1980s, Joseph participated in several interfaith delegations to Nicaragua (one of which gave rise to Witness for Peace). He has directed the Mellon Fellowship Program in Latin American History at Yale and served on the advisory boards of the Roothbert Educational Fund, Yale's Center for Public Service and Social Justice, the New Haven/León Sister City Project, and Yale's Program in Agrarian Studies. He currently sits on the boards of Yale's Lamar Center for the Study of Frontiers and Borders, the Gilder-Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition, the Albert Schweitzer Institute for International Human Rights, and Just Foreign Policy.

Joseph Statement

I am deeply honored by the nomination to serve as vice president and president of LASA, and I would relish the opportunity to work closely with LASA's seasoned Secretariat and diverse and far-flung membership. Since my days as a grad student of Latin American history, LASA has been my principal affiliation; the *Latin*

American Research Review has been the outlet for my most widely disseminated essays; and Latin American studies has been at the very center of my efforts to build institutions, foment intellectual border crossings, and promote social justice. My participation on the Social Science Research Council's Latin American regional advisory board; my role in building and directing Yale's Title VI Center for 11 years; my experience in crafting cross-campus academic and social justice programs in the North Carolina Triangle and later in the Greater New York and New England areas; and my commitment over decades to create interdisciplinary hemispheric discursive communities through the editing of journals, anthologies, and a popular book series have all helped prepare me for the challenge of leading the world's largest and most robust area studies association as it approaches its 50th anniversary.

My intellectual and activist commitments have always focused on broad interdisciplinary problems (state and nation formation; social movements and forms of resistance and survival; the United States's multi-stranded involvement in Latin America; changing notions of "the political"); and my ideas have always been nurtured by colleagues in neighboring fields and disciplines, particularly political economists, anthropologists, and international relations and cultural studies scholars. My conferences and editing projects have similarly been international affairs, arranged in collaboration with Latin American and European universities, research institutes, and NGOs. These partnerships have enabled me to engage with colleagues across national borders, disciplines, and generations. For example, when LASA moved to create sections, I was one of the North American organizers of the hemispheric working group dedicated

to law and society. In 2000, I helped found the Latin American Cold War History Project (initially based at Yale and CIESAS-Mexico City), which has identified colleagues in the North and South (as well as in the former eastern bloc) who are wrestling with new ways of researching and narrating Latin America's cold and dirty wars and their legacies.

My leadership of LASA would be guided by this abiding commitment to cross borders, integrate knowledge and practice, and build community. Owing to the impressive efforts of LASA's recent officers and Secretariat, our association has never been in better financial shape nor embodied so well its goal of constituting a broad umbrella for scholars, professional practitioners, and activists working in and on the region. LASA's website and *Forum* serve as outlets for a wide range of discussions and debates that I would do my best to encourage and to move in new directions (I would hope to promote a deeper comparative discussion of immigration policy and reform, within the hemisphere and globally). Like my predecessors I would seek ways to encourage the free flow of ideas and fund the participation of younger Latin American scholars in our sections and at annual Congresses. I would also endeavor to incorporate members of less-represented fields (e.g., music, visual culture, and archaeology) and nonacademics into our discussions and events. I would feature more plenary sessions at our Congresses that bring state leaders, journalists, and activists into dialogue with scholars. Over the course of the past year I have visited the meetings of the Middle Eastern Studies Association and the American Studies Association to inform my broader goal of encouraging LASA to contribute to a cross-fertilization of area studies approaches. My presidency would give

special attention to the 2016 Congress in New York (my own base of operations), which will mark LASA's 50th anniversary. As a historian I would promote a conference theme that would facilitate an assessment of the evolution of Latin American studies over the past half-century, paying special attention to how the locus of the field has changed in terms of transnational actors and flows, and the shaping of new identities. At the same time, this watershed meeting should also explore the challenges of creating a more participatory, diverse, and socially just future for the region and its interlocutors.

Nora Lustig

Nora Lustig is the Samuel Z. Stone Professor of Latin American Economics at Tulane University, where she holds a joint appointment in the Department of Economics and the Stone Center for Latin American Studies. She is also an associate of Tulane's Center for Inter-American Policy and Research.

Her research has focused on inequality, poverty, and social policy in Latin America and on Mexico's economic development. She has published more than 70 articles and 15 books and edited volumes. A sample of her most recent publications include "The Impact of Taxes and Social Spending on Inequality and Poverty in Latin America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Mexico, Peru and Uruguay," a coauthored introduction to a special issue of *Public Finance Review* (2014); "Latin America's Inequality Success Story: The Case of Argentina, Brazil, and Mexico," *Current History* (2013); "Multidimensional Indices of Achievements and Poverty: What Do We Gain and What Do We Lose?" *Journal of Economic Inequality* (2011); and *Declining Inequality in Latin America: A Decade of*

Progress? (coeditor and chapter author, 2010). Lustig was codirector and lead author of the World Bank's 2000/1 World Development Report *Attacking Poverty*, and lead author of the report of the Mexican Commission on Macroeconomics and Health. Currently, she directs the Commitment to Equity, a joint initiative of Tulane University and the Inter-American Dialogue focused on assessing the impact of social spending and taxation on inequality and poverty.

Her book *Mexico: The Remaking of an Economy* (1992, 1998) was selected by *Choice: Current Reviews for Academic Libraries* as an Outstanding Academic Book. She has been a member of the Mexican Academy of Sciences since 1987 and, while living in Mexico, she was a member of the National Researchers' System at the highest level. At Tulane, Lustig received the School of Liberal Arts Outstanding Research Award (2012) and the Simon Rodriguez Award for undergraduate teaching in Latin American Economics (2010).

She was president of the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and is currently a member of its Executive Committee. She has served on LASA's Program Committee twice as well as on the Premio Iberoamericano Committee and the Mexico Prize Committee for evaluating the best PhD dissertation on Mexico. She is editor of the *Journal of Economic Inequality's* Forum and coeditor of *Vox-LACEA*, and serves on the editorial boards of *Feminist Economics*, *Fondo de Cultura Económica*, and *Latin American Research Review*. She has also served on numerous selection committees and has been a peer reviewer for leading academic journals.

Lustig is a member and nonresident senior fellow of the Inter-American Dialogue, where she codirects the Latin American Economies Roundtable. She is also a nonresident senior fellow at the Center for Global Development. Recently, she joined the High-Level Expert Group of the Stiglitz et al. Commission on Measuring Economic Performance and Social Progress. Lustig is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Institute of Development Studies and of the Global Development Network as well as of the advisory boards of the Center for Global Development and Columbia University's Earth Institute. She serves on the Executive Council of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality, and the advisory committees for the United Nations Development Programme's Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean and the Human Development Report 2012–2013.

Nora Lustig received her PhD in economics from the University of California, Berkeley. She was born and raised in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and has lived for extended periods in Mexico and the United States, where she now resides. Prior to joining Tulane, Lustig was Shapiro Visiting Professor of International Affairs at George Washington University; director of the Poverty Group at UNDP; president and professor of economics at Universidad de las Américas, Puebla, Mexico, where she oversaw its reaccreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS); senior advisor and chief of the Poverty and Inequality Unit at the Inter-American Development Bank; senior fellow at the Foreign Policy Studies Program of the Brookings Institution; and professor of economics at El Colegio de México. In addition, she has been a visiting scholar at MIT, the University of California, Berkeley, and the Indian Statistical Institute.

Lustig Statement

Thanks to the unwavering commitment, creativity, and dedication of its leadership and membership, LASA is a strong and thriving organization. It is strong because of its professionalism, diversity, inclusiveness, and civic engagement. If elected president, I would ensure that all of its strengths are sustained and enhanced. In particular, I would place emphasis on the goals of diversity and inclusiveness. Through an assessment of the composition of LASA's membership and participation in the annual Congress as well as an online survey, I would investigate where the remaining obstacles to inclusiveness persist and work toward eliminating them. In addition, I would reach out to underrepresented disciplines such as economics and the life sciences and create spaces that attract leading scholars in those fields. For example, I would revitalize the links with the Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA), which have been dormant for many years, and seek ties with the newly created Red de Economía Política de América Latina (REPAL). In addition, I would seek advice from the membership and beyond on other organizations and individuals with which to connect. I would also place emphasis on increasing LASA's global reach. One place to start would be to engage with the Global Development Network, an organization that shares LASA's commitment to inclusiveness and multidisciplinary. This and many other international and nongovernmental organizations as well as individuals in the scholarly and policy community would be delighted to be able to tap the plethora of intellectual, grassroots, and practical resources available in and through LASA. Lately, I have become convinced that experiences and knowledge from Latin America—from both its successes and failures—represent a

tremendous resource for the rest of the world, and that this resource has remained largely unexploited. Latin America's experience with authoritarianism and democratization could be valuable to the countries in North Africa and the Middle East, for example. The benefits and limitations of innovative social policies such as Bolsa Família in Brazil and Oportunidades in Mexico can yield important policy lessons for African and Asian countries. After decades of recurrent economic crises, many Latin American countries have learned to better manage economic volatility and adverse shocks, and this knowledge could be valuable for the so-called European periphery and countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The fight against corruption, drug trafficking, and organized crime as well as the management of natural disasters and environmental policies can greatly benefit from global cooperation and exchange. These are just some examples. Interdisciplinarity is essential to finding solutions to most of the world's plights. All too frequently, policy solutions to the global challenges have been U.S.-centric and driven by security and military concerns, where a more balanced transnational or plurinational approach is necessary. Latin America can play a leadership role in advancing this shift in approach and LASA could be a great facilitator and promoter of this transformation. If elected president, I would work with the leadership and membership of LASA to seek ways in which Latin Americanists and Latin American scholars and practitioners—from all disciplines—can share their knowledge and experiences where it can make a difference, not just within the region, but also in other parts of the world.

Carmen Martínez Novo

Carmen Martínez Novo holds a PhD from the New School for Social Research, New York, and is director of the Latin American, Caribbean, and Latino Studies Program and associate professor of anthropology at the University of Kentucky. Before that, she was a professor and researcher for eight years (2003–2011) at the Latin American Faculty for the Social Sciences (FLACSO) in Quito, Ecuador, where she chaired the Anthropology Department in the year 2007–2008. With colleagues from the department, she started a program in visual anthropology that has been successful and continues to this day. She is the author of *Who Defines Indigenous? Identities, Development, Intellectuals, and the State in Northern Mexico* (2006) and editor of *Repensando los movimientos indígenas* (2009) as well as numerous journal articles and book chapters on indigenous identities, *indigenismo*, racism, and paternalism in Mexico and Ecuador. She is currently working on a book manuscript on contemporary forms of *indigenismo* in Ecuador. Her areas of interest are indigenous and indigenista politics, political economy, anthropology of the state, and anthropology of elites. She has been visiting professor in the Latin American Studies Program at the Johns Hopkins University (2008–2009); a John R. Heath Visiting Professor at the International Studies Center, Grinnell College (fall 2010); and visiting professor at Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Universidad Iberoamericana de México, and Lleida University in Spain (2009, 2010, 2011). She has received predoctoral and postdoctoral grants from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, the MacArthur Foundation, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, among others.

Martínez Novo has been chair of the Ecuadorian Studies Section of the Latin American Studies Association (2009–2011), a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology* since 2009 (renewed in 2013), and a member of the advisory board of the International Association of Inter-American Studies (2009–present), located at the University of Bielefeld in Germany. In regard to teaching, Martínez Novo has been committed to her graduate and undergraduate students, including a good number of indigenous graduate students whose master's and PhD theses she directed at FLACSO. Her students have conducted and published research on racism in elite schools and in the judicial system, the crisis of the indigenous movement in Ecuador, the political economy of periurban indigenous communities, the spirituality of the Ecuadorian middle class, and *interculturalidad* in higher education in Latin America, among other topics. She speaks Spanish, English, and some Ecuadorian Kichwa (a dialect of Quechua), a language she studied intensively for three years and has continued to practice.

Martínez Novo Statement

My varied experiences have allowed me to become acquainted with, and to embrace, several scholarly traditions and world academic contexts. I studied for my undergraduate degree in Spain and for my graduate degrees in the United States. I have taught in Ecuador for many years, as well as in other Latin American countries, the United States, and Spain. During my dissertation fieldwork, I was affiliated with Colegio de la Frontera Norte in Tijuana, Mexico (1996–1997). I have collaborated with Latin American, North American, Spanish, German, and British scholars. More recently, I have become involved in a project with Latin Americanists teaching at

the University of Sydney, Australia. These experiences uniquely position me to support a task that LASA has conducted successfully so far: the encouragement of greater membership affiliation and meeting participation from outside of the United States, and particularly from Latin America. LASA's efforts to include world and subaltern epistemologies and methodologies have resulted in rich exchanges and debates, and I feel that this task must continue. This is particularly important at a moment when interest in Latin America is growing in other parts of the world, such as Asia and Australia, as discussed at the editorial board meeting of the *Journal of Latin American and Caribbean Anthropology*.

I believe that the main role of scholarship is to critically analyze reality. Critical scholarship certainly contributes to adequate policy making and engaged social work. However, I also believe that scholars and scholarly associations should resist the seductions of political power. If elected to the LASA Executive Council, I will support scholarship that is politically engaged but also keeps enough distance from political power so that Latin Americanist intellectual endeavors remain analytical and independent.

I have been committed to diversity, inclusion, and social justice both in my research efforts and at the different academic settings in which I have worked. My research has explored racist and particularly subtle paternalist ideologies and practices in order to challenge inequality and injustice in Latin America. I have attempted to meet this goal by “studying up” on those who hold power and influence in society, while also working and collaborating with subaltern sectors and social movements. At FLACSO, I contributed to a master's program for

indigenous students and supported, with other FLACSO colleagues, indigenous and Afro-Latin American graduate students. When I was chair of the Anthropology Department, I hired one of the first Ecuadorian indigenous professors to teach at FLACSO. At the University of Kentucky I am also committed to increasing diversity among professors and students, supporting minority students, and promoting greater understanding and desire for diversity and inclusion among mainstream students. If elected to the Executive Council, I plan to continue institutional efforts to encourage diversity among members and conference presenters. I will also support efforts to bring more indigenous and Afro-Latin academics to our Congresses.

Finally, I will advocate that membership and meeting registration fees remain as affordable as possible for scholars coming from Latin America, untenured professors, and students. This has already been promoted by LASA officials through differential rates for Latin American participants and students, and through LASA grants to bring Latin American, indigenous, and Afro-Latin American academics to meetings. I believe that these crucial efforts should continue. To sum up, I have been a member of LASA since I was a graduate student and would be very happy to continue working for its institutional betterment and vitality.

Alberto Moreiras

Alberto Moreiras is professor of Hispanic studies at Texas A&M University, where he has had an appointment since 2010. Before that he was the Sixth Century Chair in Modern Thought and Hispanic Studies at the University of Aberdeen in Scotland (2006–2010), the Anne T. and Robert M. Bass Professor of Romance Studies and

Literature at Duke University, where he taught from 1992 to 2006, and an assistant professor of Spanish at the University of Wisconsin–Madison (1987–92). At Duke Moreiras directed a program in Latin American Cultural Studies, the Center for European Studies, and an Interdisciplinary Seminar in Race in the Americas; in Aberdeen, he directed the program Literature in the World Context. He has been a visiting professor at Emory University, Giessen University in Germany, Johns Hopkins University, Federal University of Minas Gerais in Brazil, University of Chile, and University of Buffalo.

Moreiras's work focuses on contemporary political thought, Latin American cultural history, and subaltern studies. He has published over 110 essays, and his books include *Interpretación y diferencia* (1992); *Tercer espacio: Literatura y duelo en América Latina* (1999), *The Exhaustion of Difference: The Politics of Latin American Cultural Studies* (2001); *Pensar en la postdictadura* (2001), coedited with Nelly Richard; and *Línea de sombra: El no sujeto de lo político* (2007). He has also published about ten edited monographic collections of essays in journals or multivolume works and is currently preparing two more, one of them on the work of Álvaro García Linera. His work in progress includes three forthcoming books, provisionally entitled “Y tan alta vida espero: Fragmentos de innovela,” “Piel de lobo: Essays on Posthegemony and Infrapolitics,” and a collection of previously published writings on Latin American cultural history. A small book on the Spanish liberal Antonio Alcalá Galiano will be published in 2014. He is also working with Federico Galende on a jointly authored monograph, “The Ends of Democracy: Perspectives on Italian Thought.” He is coeditor of the Latin

American section of a multivolume “Encyclopedia of Postcolonial Studies” to be published by Wiley Blackwell in 2015.

Moreiras has been involved over the years in the creation of three journals, namely *Nepantla: Views from South*, *Journal of Spanish Cultural Studies*, and *Política común*. He is coeditor of the last two. He is also coeditor of *Res publica: Revista de pensamiento político*, and coeditor of a new University of Texas Press book series entitled “Border Hispanisms.” He created and runs the Facebook group *Crítica y Teoría*, which has over six hundred members, and is a founder of the Texas Research Group on Luso-Hispanic, Caribbean, and Latino/a Thought. He is or has been a member of the editorial boards of an additional 20 publishing ventures, from *Diacritics* and *Cultural Studies* to *Traces* and *Revista de Estudios Hispánicos*. He is a frequent reader of manuscripts for five major U.S. academic presses and routinely reads essays for a dozen journals beyond the ones already mentioned.

Moreiras is proud of having signed over 25 dissertations as director and an additional 25 as committee member. Mentoring is part of his professional self-understanding and explains his commitment to the organization of working groups, workshops, and other professional activities. Recently he has organized or co-organized and conducted working groups on “Psychoanalysis and Terror,” “Contemporary Life Philosophies,” “Latin American Democracies,” and “Hegel and Critical Theory,” and international workshops on “Democracy in the Andes: The Work of Álvaro García Linera,” “Posthegemonía: El final de un paradigma teórico-político,” “Contemporary Central American Writing,” “Iberian Postcolonialities,” “Marrano Perspectives on Empire and Democracy,” and

“Modalities of Imperial Reason.” He is an active member of the field in other relevant ways—he has given almost two hundred papers over the years. And he has never taught the same course twice.

Moreiras Statement

At a time of unprecedented questioning of the importance and role of the humanities for contemporary reflection, and not just for education, institutions such as LASA become even more crucial. The interaction between the humanities and the social sciences in the field of Latin American studies, which LASA pioneered, has a still untapped potential that is not to be found solely in the promotion of interdisciplinary studies but perhaps first in the deepening of reflection on the substantiality of the divisions that exist—themselves the result of a long history. It is in the wake of discussions concerning the specificity of the different fields that a new kind of conversation on interdisciplinarity could start. I see the latter as decisive for the future of Latin American studies as a whole, if done in the right way. On the humanities side we would not want to smother all internal differences for the sake of some sort of a unified discourse on culture, or on politics, or on political economy. And we cannot give up on the specificity of social scientific claims, which must remain separate from the sort of ideological momentum that the humanities display even at their best. If literary or visual or cultural studies are to illuminate our understanding of the Latin American present or future, they cannot do it properly on their own, or by subsuming social knowledge that they cannot themselves produce. Alternatively, exposure to the social and historical strata that the arts and humanities try to explore can provide a self-reflective critique that will help the social sciences to make a new

contribution to the self-understanding of the Latin American peoples.

As an argument for the continued support of basic research in the humanities, it is not just a matter of reopening the issue of symbolic production (in literature, media, art, criticism, and public discourse in general) and its impact on the social or the economic. We need to explore the connections between symbolic production and political mobilization in the same way we need to explore the conditions under which symbolic production should be preserved from an undue contamination by political mobilization. Social science can help the humanities reestablish their ostensible legitimacy, at the same time helping themselves to go beyond policy designs, if we create or re-create the institutional conditions for the kind of thought that can contemplate division and commonality, heterogeneity in goals as much as planes of alliance and parallel objectives. Not enough attention has been paid to these issues over the last generation or so. The ongoing weakening of the area studies paradigm needs to be compensated by sustained reflection on its new historical figure, as yet nameless. Supporting it would be my task.

Launching a conversation regarding the new and necessary phase of the organization of knowledge post-area studies is an imperative for our organization. It will have momentous implications at all levels of professional and academic life. At issue is not just the reproduction in the university of knowledge on Latin America but potentially new forms of knowledge production whose foundation on radical shifts in the political economy of the world is yet obscure and inchoate, but real. We are witnessing not just a realignment of political and social elites in the

subhemisphere but a veritable pressure from below in a situation of epochal crisis in social and political legitimacy. It is incumbent on LASA to reflect on the conditions for the emergence of new legitimacies that may be rising in plain sight but which will demand adequate critical attention for a long time to come.

Angela Randolph Paiva

Angela Randolph Paiva is associate professor of sociology at Pontifical Catholic University in Rio de Janeiro (PUC-Rio), where she teaches in the graduate program in the Department of Social Sciences. She holds a PhD in sociology from Instituto Universitário de Pesquisas do Rio de Janeiro, 1999 (IUPERJ), a master's degree in sociology (IUPERJ, 1995), and a master's degree in education (University of Connecticut, 1978). In 1997 she was a visiting researcher at Stanford University, where she investigated the civil rights movement and the American emancipation process to complete her dissertation. Her PhD thesis, a comparison of religious values in the social construction of citizenship in the United States and Brazil, won the IUPERJ prize for best thesis in 2000. She was also a student at FLACSO in Santiago, Chile, in 1984 in a graduate program for young researchers.

In 2012 she completed postdoctoral studies at the University of Campinas in the School of Education, where she was able to intensify her analysis of the implementation of affirmative action in Brazilian public universities and the impact of recent public policies in changing access to higher education in Brazil.

She has done extensive research in the social construction of citizenship and inequality in Brazil. She also has developed

research projects on social movements and participation in the public sphere, including aspects of the role of religion in political mobilization, inequality in the educational system, race relations, and youth and affirmative action in higher education. The axis of all such analyses is Brazilian inequality. She has coordinated research on racial discrimination, schools in the slums of Rio, youth and citizenship, and affirmative action in higher education, sponsored by the Ford Foundation, FAPERJ, and FINEP, respectively. These projects have resulted in several publications and have been presented in multiple seminars.

In 2003 she was one of the founders of NIREMA (Interdisciplinary Center for Afro-descendent Studies at PUC-Rio) and was its first coordinator from 2003 until 2007, organizing several seminars, forums, and lectures about Brazilian race relations. She was head of the Department of Social Sciences at PUC-Rio from 2007 to 2011, when the graduate program was being reformulated, and she enlarged its staff with three senior professors. Since 2010 she has been the director of the Fulbright Distinguished Chair and has hosted several American scholars in her department in political science (John Portz, David Samuels, and Sandy Maisel), anthropology (Suzanne Oboler), and sociology (John Stanfield). She has coordinated projects of international cooperation, one under the auspices of FIPSE/CAPES with the Universities of North Carolina at Charlotte and Winston-Salem, and another with the University of Johannesburg in South Africa, funded by CAPES. She leads a CNPq research group, Grupo de Estudos Direitos, Reconhecimento e Desigualdade (rights, recognition, and inequality) with other professors, graduate students, and undergraduates.

She has been a member of several commissions at PUC-Rio, including the University Council, and serves on the executive council of ANPOCS, Brazil's main social science association. She has also taken part in several international meetings organized by LASA and the International Sociological Association (ISA), and the Brazilian associations ANPOCS and the Sociedade Brasileira de Sociologia.

Paiva Statement

When I was asked if I accepted to be a candidate for LASA executive council, I felt a strong commitment to say yes for the reasons I list below.

As a Brazilian professor and a professor in the social sciences, I would seek to strengthen academic dialogues among scholars of other universities in Brazil, always looking for the interdisciplinary approach that pressing social problems now require. I believe that the analysis of social and cultural issues present in our globalized world demand interdisciplinary dialogues in the humanities, encompassing history, geography, education, law, international relations, and communication, among other fields.

As a member of the executive council of ANPOCS, I am in constant academic interaction with scholars from different parts of the country, which could enhance future plans for more involvement of Brazilian researchers and professors in LASA activities. I have established academic dialogues with professors in different fields, since my projects have always had a comparative approach and an interdisciplinary perspective that require constant interaction with history, law, and international relations in addition to the social science fields of anthropology,

sociology, and political science. I believe that a closer interdisciplinary approach is the natural trend for humanities in the near future.

This belief is reflected in my directorship of the Fulbright Distinguished Chair at PUC-Rio. The Chair is one of the opportunities for PUC to receive American scholars, and I have been fortunate to host several prestigious professors from different fields and universities.

I am convinced that an association such as LASA needs to reflect continually on future actions, and I am willing to contribute to such an enterprise. In order to face the constant challenges that Latin America in general and Brazil in particular bring to the fore, as new cultural and political arrangements are conceived, there is a strong need to tackle persistent problems of all sorts concerning inequality, migration, political representation, and social participation in the social scenarios of most of the countries. All these social and cultural issues require close attention in order to make LASA the forum it has always been—a space that supports academic thought and research collaboration among its affiliates.

My commitment to future involvement in LASA's Executive Council will go in the direction mentioned above. I am enthusiastic about the prospect of new responsibilities in an organization that has built its prestige through the serious work and commitment of such a variety of scholars. I am most strongly motivated to contribute to making the humanities a priority, in order to foster LASA's role in making the world a better place to live as well as better understood.

Gina Saraceni

Gina Saraceni is a member of the faculty of the Departamento de Lengua y Literatura, Universidad Simón Bolívar, Venezuela. [No statement is available.]

Jorge Vargas Cullell

I am a scholar, intellectual entrepreneur, and public intellectual with a background in public management and policy making. As a scholar, my areas of research are the quality of democracy and citizen support for democracy, and my area of expertise is Central America. My research on the quality of democracy began with a citizen audit in Costa Rica (*Auditoría ciudadana sobre la calidad de la democracia*, 2001). I later followed this line of inquiry in a book coedited with Guillermo O'Donnell and Osvaldo Iazzetta (*Quality of Democracy: Theory and Applications*, 2004) and in several articles. My research on citizen support of democracy includes my PhD dissertation and management of survey analysis for the United Nations Development Programme's 2004 *Report on Democracy in Latin America*. Since 2003 I have collaborated with the University of Vanderbilt's Latin American Public Opinion Project (LAPOP) in the planning and implementation of surveys; I cowrote the 2004 and 2006 reports for Costa Rica (*La cultura política de la democracia en Costa Rica*, 2004, 2006). As a scholar I gladly collaborate with other scholars such as the Varieties of Democracies Project of the Kellogg Institute of the University of Notre Dame.

I also consider myself an intellectual entrepreneur, someone capable of generating and implementing new ideas that influence research agendas. As head of a research institution (Programa Estado de

la Nación), I have personally been involved in promoting new research topics and implementing databases, for example, on public institutions in eight Latin American countries, social protests in Costa Rica (1994–2013) and in Central American countries (2009–2012), enforcement of rulings of the Costa Rican Constitutional Tribunal (with Jeffrey Staton from Emory University), and tax exemptions in Costa Rica (1953–2013).

Publishing the “State of the Nation” reports requires building up and managing interdisciplinary research networks. In each of the 19 annual reports, 30 to 50 researchers assess Costa Rica’s developmental performance. Between 60 and 110 researchers participated in each of the four Central American reports. I oversaw the preparation of four reports on the state of education commissioned by the president of Costa Rica. All of these publications are highly influential in Costa Rica and/or Central America. With exposure come new risks, which one minimizes with quality controls and institutional networking. This is one of my everyday tasks. My job is to find ways to make sound and innovative research relevant for public deliberation and policy making.

I consider myself a public intellectual, someone who takes part in public deliberation and wields influence over public opinion. Since 2006, I have been a weekly columnist for Costa Rica’s leading daily newspaper, *La Nación*. I am frequently interviewed by national and/or international media, personnel from embassies and foreign governments, and Costa Rican public officials. I focus on issues substantiated by personal research and/or research undertaken by the Programa Estado de la Nación, avoiding

the traps of “over the counter” opinions on unfolding events.

Finally, I would like to mention my background as a consultant in public policy issues and my nowadays rather distant experience as public manager. In the 1990s I worked for SIDA (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency), U.S. Agency for International Development, and Inter-American Development Bank designing and/or evaluating social policies in Latin American countries. This experience stemmed from my stint as Costa Rica’s first director of the Housing Subsidy Fund at the National Mortgage Bank (1987–1990). At that time, our experience was well regarded internationally. Although I abandoned this line of work long ago, it deeply influenced my inclination toward devising ways to connect abstract ideas with concrete needs.

Vargas Cullell Statement

If elected a member of the Executive Council of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA) I will work hard to strengthen dialogue and cooperation among Latin Americanists from all disciplines.

One of my ranking interests is to improve the participation of Central American scholars in LASA. As a Central American, I am acutely aware that our region lags far behind in the scholarly development of the social sciences and humanities disciplines and will greatly benefit from forging new and closer ties to LASA. Undoubtedly, LASA currently offers scores of opportunities for academic exchanges and information. Nonetheless, I believe that teamwork at the Executive Council can help us devise new ways of expanding Central Americans’ access to and participation in LASA events.

I certainly think LASA must remain as open as ever to all disciplines and theoretical and methodological schools of thought. Naturally, I have my own particular preferences and rather long history of involvement in public deliberation and policy making. Nonetheless, I have always considered LASA to be a “big tent” that brings home scholars of all perspectives. I strongly believe that no one should be excluded from LASA based on their viewpoints, nor should anyone be placed at any sort of disadvantage. LASA should be equally open to all schools of thought, without committing itself to, or favoring, any particular viewpoint except the core values on which it was founded decades ago. This is something I sincerely believe.

I will pay special attention to expanding and/or maximizing opportunities for promising young Latin American scholars, particularly those who do not have the means to study in leading U.S., Canadian, or Latin American universities. Scholarships, grants, and/or internships are never enough to meet the needs of the ever-expanding demand for graduate studies. I am convinced LASA can reach out to these aspiring scholars by enabling short-term exchanges and visits by leading scholars to second- and third-tier Latin American universities, among other possibilities.

I hope that my mixed background (as scholar, intellectual entrepreneur, and publicly recognized intellectual) may contribute a distinctive voice for devising ways to expand the breadth and scope of exchanges between LASA members and social and political leaders within the region. At a time when several Latin American nations are at a crossroads, dialogue between academia, policy makers, and civil society regarding a wide and

eclectic range of issues such as inequality, the business climate, the rights of indigenous populations, democratization, or the rule of law may help forge new approaches to pressing Latin American developmental concerns.

Charles F. Walker

Charles Walker is professor of history and director of the Hemispheric Institute on the Americas at the University of California, Davis. He studied Latin American studies at UC Berkeley (BA) and Stanford University (MA) and has a PhD in History from the University of Chicago. He lived a year in high school in Tucumán, Argentina, and spent a year as an undergraduate at Universidad Católica, Peru. He has lived in Peru for a total of ten years. He has been associated with Centro Bartolomé de Las Casas in Cuzco since 1988 and has taught at the Universidad Nacional San Antonio Abad del Cuzco.

His books include *Smoldering Ashes: Cuzco and the Creation of Republican Peru, 1780–1840* (*De Túpac Amaru a Gamarra: Cuzco y la creación del Perú republicano*); *Shaky Colonialism: The 1746 Earthquake-Tsunami in Lima, Peru, and Its Long Aftermath* (*Colonialismo en ruinas: Lima frente al terremoto y tsunami de 1746*); and, forthcoming in April 2014 from Harvard University Press, *The Tupac Amaru Rebellion*. He has also coedited several volumes in Peru, including a compilation of his essays, *Diálogos con el Perú*, and edited and translated, with Carlos Aguirre and Willie Hiatt, Alberto Flores Galindo's *Buscando un Inca/In Search of an Inca* (2010). He has held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, University of California President's Fellowship in the Humanities, American Council of Learned Societies,

Social Science Research Council, the American Philosophical Society, the Tinker Foundation, and the MacArthur Foundation. He lived in Seville for 18 months and has conducted research throughout Peru.

As director of the Hemispheric Institute he has created interdisciplinary programs and incorporated students and community members into the Institute's multiple activities. He has developed short-term faculty exchanges in Chile, Argentina (forthcoming), and Peru. He has won two teaching prizes at UC Davis.

He has been active in LASA, serving on the 2009–2010 Nominations Committee, participating in more than ten International Congresses, and writing on the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission for *LASA Forum*. His article "When Fear Rather than Reason Dominates: Priests Behind the Lines in the Tupac Amaru Rebellion (1780–1783)" won the José María Arguedas Prize from the Peru Section in LASA2013. He serves on editorial boards in Chile, Peru, Spain, and the United States, and is the Andes editor for the Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Latin American History. His research interests include social movements, natural disasters, environmental history, truth commissions, and sports and empire.

Walker Statement

Latin American studies has always defined my work, and LASA has been the professional organization closest to my heart. I was part of one of the first *promociones* to receive a BA in Latin American studies at UC Berkeley and then moved across the bay to the MA program in Latin American studies at Stanford University. As a graduate student in history at the University of Chicago I worked

closely with the Center for Latin American Studies there. In 2013 I enjoyed organizing with Professor Emilio Kouri and the Center at the University of Chicago a two-day conference celebrating the life and work of Friedrich Katz.

I have been fortunate to be a part of a thoughtful and innovative Latin Americanist community at Davis. When I arrived 20 years ago, Charlie Hale, Carol Smith, and Stefano Varese had overseen the creation of the Hemispheric Institute on the Americas, defining in the title its transnational and hemispheric nature. Graduate students participated actively. Tom Holloway, former LASA President, helped transform it into a larger center. As director for the last six years, I've been able to continue their vision. We serve all of the campus—including the often-overlooked undergraduates, staff, and the local community—and work throughout Latin America. We have collaborated with departments across campus and hosted the first all-California meeting of Latin American Studies Centers in 2011. We have initiated thriving short-term faculty exchange programs in Chile and Peru (with one forthcoming in Argentina) and have sponsored a wide spectrum of events. With internal funds and support from the Tinker Foundation, the Hemispheric Institute has supported nearly 100 graduate students for summer research in the Americas.

I am particularly excited about a conference that the Hemispheric Institute has co-organized with Professors Claudio Barrientos and Cristián Castro García to be held at the Universidad Diego Portales (Chile), titled "Rethinking Latin American Studies" (Santiago, August 2014). We have confirmed participation from 15 scholars from eight countries and plan to hold a follow-up meeting at the San Juan LASA meetings in 2015. The conference will

Kalman Silvert and LASA's 50th Anniversary

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examine the concept of Latin American studies in the context of the (slow) decline of the Cold War, particularly its current relevance in Latin America itself.

In my own work, I have managed to maintain strong ties in Peru, Spain, Mexico, and elsewhere. I have published widely in Peru and I collaborate with students, scholars, journals, and NGOs throughout Latin America. I can't imagine working in any other way.

This is my vision for LASA—a multidisciplinary, transnational focus that brings together not only different disciplines and perspectives but also serves as a forum for scholars, activists, and professionals interested in Latin America. I have wholly supported the efforts to incorporate more participants from Latin America and the Caribbean and to hold conferences outside of the United States (Rio 2009 was a delight). I also support efforts to include Cuba. I was in Havana in February 2013, rebuilding UC Davis's exchange program with Casa de las Américas and la Universidad de La Habana. I believe that LASA is moving in the right direction and I hope to have the opportunity to deepen my collaboration. ■

The 50th anniversary of LASA is an appropriate time to recall Kalman Silvert's extraordinary life and contributions to Latin American studies. Silvert served as LASA's first president; was the program advisor for the social sciences in Latin America at the Ford Foundation from 1967 until his untimely death in 1976; and was teacher, mentor, and institution builder at universities in the United States and Latin America. During the darkest days in Latin America in the late 1960s and early 1970s, accompanied by the tumult and constitutional crisis in the United States, he turned his energy, intellect, and his institutional position to saving lives and institutions in Latin America, and defending democracy and strengthening democratic theory and practice throughout the Americas.

Abe Lowenthal and I have been coordinating a project on Kal's many roles and contributions. We invite you to read the following essays by Julio Cotler and Tommie Sue Montgomery concerning Kalman Silvert and the influence he had on them both personally and professionally. If the spirit moves you, send some thoughts or reminiscences of your own to the email above. All of the material will be published on the LASA website in the 50th year. ■