

Report from the Program Chairs

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LASA2014 is nearly upon us. The applications have been evaluated and the panels have been scheduled. As we noted in our previous report to the membership, we received nearly 1,800 proposals and accepted approximately 80 percent of the individual proposals and 93 percent of the Section proposals. Although we regret that we could not accommodate everyone, we are pleased to have accepted a high percentage of the paper and panel proposals, and we are confident that the program reflects a wide and pluralistic range of voices. The preliminary program has been published on LASA's website: <https://lasa.international.pitt.edu/eng/congress/program.asp>.

A cast of dozens has helped us put together this conference. The president of LASA, Merilee Grindle, came up with the Congress theme and provided us with congenial and effective leadership from the outset. We are also truly grateful to the LASA Executive Director, Milagros Pereyra-Rojas, and the LASA Congress Coordinator, Pilar Rodríguez Blanco, as well as the other members of the LASA staff who answered all of our questions, provided helpful direction, and oversaw all aspects of the organization of the conference with efficiency and grace. We also owe a huge debt to the track chairs who carefully evaluated dozens of panel and travel grant proposals and put together fantastic special panels of their own. Finally, we would like to thank the panel organizers and participants, the Section chairs, the advisory board members, and the numerous other individuals whose ideas and hard work make LASA Congresses a stimulating experience for all.

LASA2014 will offer a feast of riches, and we only have space to mention some of them here. First, we would like to highlight the presidential panels on the conference

theme of democracy and memory. These panels include "Collective Memory and Democratic Institutions," "Democracy and Memory: Linkages in Literature," and "Democracy and the Public Space for Memory."

Second, we would like to draw attention to a few of the special events, such as the Welcoming Reception to be held on Wednesday evening, the LASA awards ceremony, the Kalman Silvert and Martin Diskin lectures, the workshop for directors of Latin American centers and institutes, and the workshops on academic publishing.

Third, this year, for the first time, we asked the track chairs to put together invited panels to highlight cutting-edge work in their areas. They responded by organizing a fantastic array of panels, which we list below.

If all this is not enough to persuade you to come to LASA2014, there is, of course, the Gran Baile! You will also, no doubt, enjoy the historic Palmer House, where LASA will be held, as well as Chicago itself.

Panels Organized by the Track Chairs

Democracia, instituciones y agencia:
El legado de Guillermo O'Donnell

Democracy after Transition

Diasporas and Home Country Politics:
False Promise or Opportunity?

Globalization and Mass Media and Culture

Knowing the Field: Studying Labor for
What and for Whom?

Large-Scale Acquisition and
Transformation of Natural Resources in
Latin America: What Are the Implications
for Rural Development?

"Latin American" in the Arts?
A Roundtable

Latin American Urban Studies and
Planning: Present and Future Research
Directions

Latina/o Studies: A State-of-the-Field
Discussion

Liberalism in Latin American History
and Historiography

Literatura (latinoamericana)
y globalización

Memorias del futuro (los film studies en
América Latina frente a las mutaciones
audiovisuales)

New Approaches to Understanding the
Privatization of Violence in Latin America

New Industrial Policy in Latin America:
A Response to New Manufacturing in
the United States?

LASA2014 Local Logistics

Políticas/estéticas de lo común I:
Políticas del afecto

Políticas/estéticas de lo común II:
Umbral de multitud

Post-neoliberalism and Embodiment

Rethinking Order and Violence:
Views from Latin America

Taking It to the Streets: Perspectives on
Recent Mass Mobilizations in Latin
American Democracies

Teaching Memory? Schooling, Cultural
Transmission, and Democracy

Tensions, Advances, and Setbacks in
Latin American Feminist Agendas

Theorizing Post-Hegemony

Three Decades after the Third Wave
in Latin America: What Have We
Learned from Recent Scholarship on
Political Regimes?

U.S.–Latin American Relations:
Policy Relevance, Academic Relevance,
and the Future

What's Left in Bolivia? Honoring the Life
and Work of Benjamin Kohl

A World Where Many Worlds Fit?
Cosmopolitics and Indigenous Movements
in Abya Yala ■

Registration

As in the past, all LASA Congress participants (presenters, discussants, chairs, and organizers) must be pre-registered. Those failing to pre-register will not see their names in the final Program Book and they will be unable to participate in the Congress. Additionally, panels may be cancelled if participants do not preregister. The deadline for participants to preregister was March 24, 2014.

All attendees, including auditors, are required to register; no exceptions will be made. A registration table is provided on-site.

Registration and check-in areas will be located in the Palmer House Hilton Hotel, on the 4th floor across from the State Ballroom. The LASA registration area will be open for badge, program, and *constancias* collection, as well as on-site registration. Participants are encouraged to check in for the Congress starting on Wednesday, May 21, from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Registration and Check-In Hours

Wednesday, May 21, 2:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 22, 7:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.
Friday, May 23, 7:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 24, 7:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.

Check-In

Registered participants will receive name badges, program books, *constancias*, and other information at check-in.

Participants should give themselves ample time to check in before their scheduled sessions. Individuals planning on attending

Thursday morning sessions should consider checking in from 2:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 21, if at all possible. (People planning on attending the Welcoming Ceremony and Reception on Wednesday night will be required to wear their badges.)

Congress Sessions and Proceedings

All sessions will be held in the Palmer House Hilton Hotel. Congress papers received by the Secretariat at lasacong@pitt.edu by the May 1 deadline (April 1 for travel grantees) will be posted to the LASA website before the start of the meeting.

Contracted Hotel

Palmer House Hilton
17 East Monroe Street
Chicago, Illinois, 60603 USA
Phone: (312) 726-7500

Transportation from the Airport to Hotel

Chicago-O'Hare International Airport (ORD) is located about 18 miles from the hotel. Bus service, taxis, and limousines are available to the hotel from ORD as well as the subway (Blue Line train to Monroe/Dearborn stop). Cars can be rented at the airport.

Chicago Midway Airport (MDW) is located about 12 miles from the hotel. Bus service, taxis, and limousines are available, as well as the subway (Orange Line to downtown, Adams/Wabash stop). Cars can be rented at the airport.