Nominations Invited

Nominations Invited for 2015 Slate

Deadline: October 15, 2014

LASA members are invited to suggest nominees for vice president, treasurer, and three members of the Executive Council, for terms beginning June 1, 2015. Criteria for nomination include professional credentials and previous service to LASA. Each candidate must have been a member of the Association in good standing for at least one year prior to nomination. Biographic data and the rationale for nomination must be sent by October 15, 2014, to LASA Executive Director Milagros Pereyra-Rojas (milagros@pitt.edu).

The winning candidate for vice president will serve in that capacity until May 31, 2016; as president from June 1, 2016, to May 31, 2017; and then as past president for an additional year. The treasurer and the Executive Council members will serve a two-year term from June 1, 2015, to May 31, 2017.

Members of the Nominations Committee are Merike Blofield, University of Miami; Luis Duno-Gottberg, Rice University; Marshall C. Eakin, Vanderbilt University; Rachel Meneguello, Universidade Estadual de Campinas; Cynthia A. Sanborn, Universidad del Pacífico; Patricia Tovar Rojas, CUNY/John Jay College; and Katherine Hite, Vassar College, who will serve as the liaison with the LASA Executive Council.

Kalman Silvert Award
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

The Kalman Silvert Award Committee invites nominations of candidates for the year 2015 award. The Silvert Award recognizes senior members of the profession who have made distinguished lifetime contributions to the study of Latin America. The award is given at each LASA International Congress. Past recipients of the award are John J. Johnson (1983); Federico Gil (1985); Albert O. Hirschman (1986); Charles Wagley (1988); Lewis Hanke (1989); Victor L. Urquidi (1991); George Kuhler (1992); Osvaldo Sunkel (1994); Richard Fagen (1995); Alain Touraine (1997); Richard Adams (1998); Jean Franco (2000); Thomas Skidmore (2001); Guillermo O’Donnell (2003); June Nash (2004); Miguel León-Portilla (2006); Helen Safa (2007); Alfred Stepan (2009); Edelberto Torres-Rivas (2010); Julio Cotler (2012); Peter Smith (2013); and Tulio Halperin Donghi (2014).

Members of the committee are Merilee Grindle (chair), LASA immediate past president; Evelyne Huber and Maria Herminia Tavares de Almeida, past presidents; Philip Oehorn, editor of the Latin American Research Review; and Peter Smith, 2013 Kalman Silvert awardee. Nominations should be sent to LASA Executive Director Milagros Pereyra-Rojas (milagros@pitt.edu) by October 15, 2014. Nominations must include a substantive nomination letter by a LASA member and the nominee’s current curriculum vitae.

Bryce Wood Book Award
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

At each International Congress, the Latin American Studies Association presents the Bryce Wood Book Award to the outstanding book on Latin America in the social sciences and humanities published in English. Books eligible for the LASA2015 International Congress will be those published between July 1, 2013, and June 30, 2014. Although no book may compete more than once, translations may be considered. Anthologies of selections by several authors or re-editions of works published previously normally are not in contention for the award. Books will be judged on the quality of the research, analysis, and writing, and the significance of their contribution to Latin American studies. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers. Persons who nominate books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy of the book directly to each member of the award committee and to the LASA Secretariat, at the expense of the authors or publishers. A nomination packet should include, in addition to a copy of the nominated book, a rationale for the nomination, and the nominee’s complete mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address.

All books nominated must reach each member of the Award Committee by October 15, 2014. By February 1, 2015, the committee will select a winning book. It may also name an honorable mention. The award will be announced at the LASA2015 Welcoming Reception, and the awardee will be publicly honored. LASA membership is not a requirement to receive the award.
Members of the 2015 committee:

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Premio Iberoamericano Book Award
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

The Premio Iberoamericano is presented at each of LASA’s International Congresses for the outstanding book on Latin America in the social sciences and humanities published in Spanish or Portuguese in any country. Books eligible for the 2015 award must have been published between July 1, 2013 and June 30, 2014. No book may compete more than once. Normally not in contention for the award are anthologies of selections by several authors or reprints or re-editions of works published previously. Books will be judged on the quality of the research, analysis, and writing, and the significance of their contribution to Latin American studies. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers. Persons who nominate books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy of the book directly to each member of the award committee and to the LASA Secretariat, at the expense of the authors or publishers. A nomination packet should include, in addition to a copy of the nominated book, a rationale for the nomination, and the nominee’s complete mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address.

All books must reach each member of the committee by October 15, 2014. LASA membership is not a requirement for receiving the award. The award will be announced at the Welcoming Reception, and the awardee will be publicly honored.
To make a nomination, please send one copy of the journalist’s electronic portfolio, complete mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address work to LASA Executive Director Milagros Pereyra-Rojas (milagros@pitt.edu) by October 15, 2014.

Members of the Media Award committee are Fred Rosen, North American Congress on Latin America, Chair; Michelle Garcia; and Gustavo Faverón Patriau, Bowdoin College.
LASA/Oxfam America Martin Diskin
Memorial Lectureship
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

The Martin Diskin Memorial Lectureship is offered at each LASA International Congress to an outstanding individual who embodies Professor Diskin’s commitment to both activism and scholarship.

This distinguished lectureship is made possible largely by a generous contribution from Oxfam America, an organization committed to grassroots work and one with which Martin Diskin was closely associated. Past lecturers were Ricardo Falla, SJ (1998); Gonzalo Sánchez Gómez, Universidad Nacional de Colombia (2000); Elizabeth Lira Kornfeld, Universidad Alberto Hurtado, Santiago, Chile (2001); Rodolfo Stavenhagen, El Colegio de México, and Rosalva Aida Hernández Castillo, CIESAS, Mexico City (2003); Jonathan Fox, University of California, Santa Cruz (2004); William Leogrande, American University (2006); Orlando Fals Borda (2007); Terry Karl, Stanford University (2009); Carlos Ivan Degregori, Instituto de Estudios Peruanos (2010); Claudia Paz y Paz Bailey (2012); Stefano Varese, University of California, Davis (2013); and Alberto Olvera, Universidad Veracruzana (2014).

Nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome. A nomination should include a substantive nomination letter by a current LASA member, the nominee’s current curriculum vitae, complete mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address. To nominate a candidate, send these materials no later than October 15, 2014, to LASA Executive Director Milagros Pereyra-Rojas (milagros@pitt.edu).

Members of the 2015 Martin Diskin Memorial Lectureship Committee are Katherine T. McCaffrey, Montclair State University; Armando Bartra Vergés; Alejandro Cerda García, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana/Xochimilco; Michael E. Shifter, Inter-American Dialogue; and Susan Eckstein, Oxfam America.

LASA/Oxfam America Martin Diskin
Dissertation Award
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

The Martin Diskin Dissertation Award is made possible through the generosity of Oxfam America, LASA, and LASA members. This award is offered at each LASA International Congress to an outstanding junior scholar who embodies Professor Diskin’s commitment to the creative combination of activism and scholarship. The award will be presented to an advanced doctoral student or recent PhD. All advanced PhD candidates must demonstrate that they will complete their dissertations prior to the LASA International Congress. LASA limits recent PhD recipients to those individuals who received their degrees after the LASA Congress prior to the one at which the award is to be received. LASA welcomes dissertations written in English, Spanish, or Portuguese.

The Award Committee will evaluate candidates on the following criteria: (1) overall scholarly credentials, based upon the candidate’s curriculum vitae; (2) the quality of the dissertation writing, research, and analysis as determined by the dissertation outline and sample chapter submitted; (3) the primary advisor’s letter of recommendation. The definition of activist scholarship shall remain broad and pluralist, to be discussed and interpreted by each selection committee.

Applicants should submit a current curriculum vitae; a dissertation abstract of 250 words; the dissertation outline or table of contents; one sample chapter, which exemplifies the author’s approach to activist scholarship; and a letter of recommendation from the candidate’s
primary advisor which focuses explicitly on the candidate’s qualifications for the Martin Diskin Dissertation Award.

All application materials must be submitted electronically and received at the LASA Secretariat by October 15, 2014. The e-mail address is milagros@pitt.edu. The Martin Diskin Dissertation Award recipient will receive a $1,000 stipend. We encourage you to distribute this call for nominations as widely as possible with particular attention to circulating it among your colleagues and students.

The 2015 selection committee consists of: Alberto Aldo Marchesi, Universidad de la República; Sara Z. Poggio, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Stuart A. Day, University of Kansas; and Susan Eckstein, OXFAM America.

Charles A. Hale Fellowship for Mexican History
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

This fellowship will reward excellence in historical research on Mexico at the dissertation level. It will be awarded every year to a Mexican graduate student in the final phase of his or her doctoral research in Mexican history, broadly defined. Selection will be based on scholarly merit and on the candidate’s potential contribution to the advancement of humanist understanding between Mexico and its global neighbors.

Members of the 2015 selection committee are Paul J. Gillingham, University of Pennsylvania; Erika Gabriela Pani Bano, El Colegio de México; and Raymond B. Craib, Cornell University (chair).

A qualified applicant must hold Mexican citizenship and be in the final phase of her/his doctoral program, that is, finished with coursework and exams but not yet granted the PhD. Applications must be accompanied by (1) verification by the dissertation committee chair of the student’s good standing in the doctoral program; (2) a one-page (single-spaced) statement that summarizes the dissertation project, in either English or Spanish; (3) a brief (two pages maximum) curriculum vitae.

To nominate a candidate, send these materials no later than October 15, 2014, to Milagros Pereyra-Rojas, LASA Executive Director (milagros@pitt.edu).

Luciano Tomassini Latin American International Relations Book Award
Call for Nominations

Deadline: October 15, 2014

The Latin American Studies Association is pleased to announce the establishment of the Luciano Tomassini Latin American International Relations Book Award to the author(s) of an outstanding book on Latin American Foreign Policies and International Relations published in English, Spanish, or Portuguese in any country. Books eligible for the 2015 award must have been published between July 1, 2013, and June 30, 2014. Anthologies of selections by several authors are not eligible. Books will be judged on the originality of the research, the quality of the analysis and writing, and the significance of their contribution to the study of Latin America and the Caribbean. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers.

Persons who nominate books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy directly to each member of the award committee and to the LASA Secretariat, at the expense of the authors or publishers, by October 15, 2014. A nomination packet should include, in addition to a copy of the nominated book, a statement justifying the nomination, and the nominee’s complete mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address.

By February 1, 2015, the committee will select a winning book. It may also name an honorable mention. The award will be announced at the LASA2015 Welcoming Reception, and the awardee will be publicly honored. LASA membership is not a requirement to receive the award.
More than 3,200 LASA members arrived in beautiful Chicago, where spring was in full bloom, for the 32nd International Congress of our Association, which was held from May 21 to May 24. During four memorable days, members and guests converged in the historic Palmer House Hilton Hotel for over nine hundred panels, roundtables, and special sessions. The quality of debates and discussions kept us bonded to our seats, but those who ventured outside for a walk found the amazing Chicago Art Institute and the Millennium Park just steps from the hotel.

The meeting started with a series of pre-Congress workshops organized by some of the Sections and one workshop on publishing directed primarily to younger members of the profession. This year the Welcoming Ceremony was organized in conjunction with the Kellogg Institute, which sponsored the inaugural Guillermo O’Donnell Memorial lecture. This year’s address was delivered by former Chilean president Ricardo Lagos. He used the theme of the conference, “Memory and Democracy,” to reflect on the legacy of Guillermo O’Donnell’s work, especially his analysis of bureaucratic authoritarian regimes.

The presidential and invited panels attracted great interest. All of the presidential panels addressed the Congress theme and dealt with the many and often conflicting uses and meanings of the concepts of memory and democracy. Invited panels organized by the track chairs were packed with attendees and generated many comments and debates. These innovative panels, which were devised as a way to enable the track chairs to have a greater substantive impact on the meeting, engendered a great deal of enthusiasm and we were happy to learn that they will be continued by our successors, Luis Cárcamo-Huechante and Rosalva Aida Hernández Castillo.

The panels organized by the Sections and by regular LASA members were also well attended for the most part, and in many of them dozens of people had to sit on the floor for lack of space. As in previous years, the cancellation of participants from Latin America due to economic hardships in their country of origin depopulated some panels, which was unfortunate. In addition, the growth of interdisciplinary approaches and interests that cross different tracks and Sections has made it increasingly difficult to avoid scheduling panels with similar topics at the same time. Nevertheless, we were on the whole quite pleased with the audience and the participation at the panels that we attended.

The LASA Film Festival, curated by Claudia Ferman, was an important complement to the panels and workshops. And the Book Exhibit, with more than 73 exhibitors, offered an efficient way to explore new publications and to meet with editors. As always, of course, much of the real intellectual and social exchange of the Congress took place in informal meetings among friends and colleagues.

We have received much positive feedback from colleagues. As expected, the change to annual meetings that started with LASA2012 in San Francisco has brought supply and demand more into balance, and for the Chicago Congress track chairs were able to accommodate more than 80 percent of individual proposals and 94 percent of panel proposals, allowing for a more inclusive program. Please note that under the annual cycle, proposals for LASA2015 will be due soon, on September 8, 2014.