

## New LASA Sections Approved for Membership Year 2016

Two new Sections have been approved by the Executive Council for the 2016 membership year: Nineteenth Century, and Otros Saberes.

The Nineteenth Century Section brings together a cross-disciplinary and transnational group of scholars to promote new methodological approaches to politics, affects, powers, challenges, transformations, and cultural production during the nineteenth century. It shares in the discovery and debate of sources and methods to better understand this time period in Latin American history.

The Otros Saberes Section promotes collaborative, transformative research and exchange between academics and civil society knowledge producers to further social justice. This Section welcomes members with commitments to:

- (1) research practice and dissemination that is collaborative between academy-based and civil society-based knowledge producers;
- (2) knowledge production that is both theoretically generative and substantively oriented to advance action on pressing social problems of our times;
- (3) scholarship that is social justice oriented, in explicit alignment with those who suffer directly from the enduring inequities of our societies, and in alignment with protagonists of efforts to transform those conditions;
- and (4) recognition of multiple knowledge systems, with an interest in putting them in conversation. These overarching themes make for an inclusive field, with ample room for debate and innovation, and for a wide range of topical emphases.

This Section has its origins in knowledge production by, with, and for indigenous and Afro-descendant peoples, and aims to extend these debates to other areas of historically excluded knowledge production. The dual objectives of the Section are to defend and advance this field of *otros saberes* scholarship within LASA, and in so doing to permanently transform the LASA Congress program by including civil society-based knowledge producers whose presence will enrich and challenge conference proceedings. ■