

Richard Fagen Receives O'Higgins Award

Research,” Malcolm Rogge, *Under Rich Earth* (2011); Lisa Blackmore, *Después de Trujillo* (2016), Claudia Sandberg, *Películas escondidas* (2015), Claudia Ferman, *Buscando a Bolaño* (in progress), Respondent: Liliana Gómez-Popescu

We held our VCS Business Meeting 2017 at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Lima. Following the Business Meeting and in collaboration with the MAC, we co-sponsored the launch of: JUAN ACHA: Despertar revolucionario; Commentaries/ Participan: Mario Acha, Joaquín Barriendos, Gustavo Buntinx, Marie-France Cathelat.

Financial report: As of April 25, 2017, the VCS had a balance of \$3,536. During the 2017 Congress, the section spent \$100 on a bus for a social event at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Lima. ■

On March 27, 2017, Professor Richard Fagen received Chile's highest civilian honor awarded to a non-Chilean citizen, the Order of Bernardo O'Higgins, named for a leader in Chile's War of Independence from Spanish rule. Fagen is Gildred Professor of Latin American Studies, Emeritus, at Stanford University, and Past President of LASA (1975–1976). He received LASA's Kalman Silvert Award in 1995 in recognition of his distinguished lifetime contribution to the study of Latin America.

Professor Fagen demonstrated his solidarity with Chile through his work with the Ford Foundation in Santiago during the presidency of Salvador Allende and in the aftermath of the 1973 coup, when the Foundation extended invitations to hundreds of Chilean academics to work and study in the United States.

In presenting the O'Higgins Award, Juan Gabriel Valdés, Chilean ambassador to the United States, commented: “The resolution by President Michelle Bachelet awarding the medal of Bernardo O'Higgins to Professor Richard Fagen echoes the gratitude of a generation of Chilean intellectuals and academics . . . towards an American academic who, during a tumultuous and extraordinary period of our history, dedicated the best of his efforts to understand Latin America and its processes of change and revolution, and then . . . acted decisively to welcome and protect some of those Chilean intellectuals persecuted by the dictatorship.” ■