

The Guillermo O'Donnell Democracy Award and Lectureship

by **Gabriela Ippolito-O'Donnell** and **Kevin J. Middlebrook**

Robert R. Kaufman, Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Rutgers University, accepted the Guillermo O'Donnell Democracy Award at LASA's congress in Barcelona, Spain. Over the course of several decades, he has been a prominent leader in the comparative study of Latin American politics and democracy.

Professor Kaufman received his AB and PhD degrees from Harvard University. He has been a Research Associate at the Harvard University Center for International Affairs (1967-1968, 1975-1976), a member of the Princeton University Institute for Advanced Study (1980-1981), and a Visiting Scholar at Nuffield College, Oxford (2000, 2015). He has also served as Treasurer of the American Political Science Association (APSA, 2002-2003) and President of the APSA's Comparative Politics Section (2015-2017).

Professor Kaufman has written widely on authoritarianism and democratic transitions and on the political economy of economic reform. His most recent book (coauthored) is *Dictators and Democrats: Masses, Elites, and Regime Change* (2016), winner of the Best Book Prize awarded by the APSA's Comparative Democratization Section. His other books include *Development, Democracy, and Welfare States: Latin America, East Asia, and Eastern Europe* and *The Political Economy of Democratic Transitions*, the latter of which won the 1995 Luebbert Best Book Prize awarded by the APSA's Comparative Politics Section. Professor Kaufman's current research focuses on the relationships among inequality, distributive conflict, and democratization during the "Third Wave" of democratization. The text of Professor Kaufman's O'Donnell lecture follows this article.

We are grateful to Leonardo Avritzer, Manuel Antonio Garretón, Frances Hagopian, and Alberto Olvera for their service on the selection committee. We also thank Marcelo Diego Pinillos for preparing promotional materials for Professor Kaufman's lecture.

We again recognize publicly the 40 individuals and institutions that have contributed to the special endowment fund supporting the O'Donnell prize. Their generosity ensures that the Guillermo O'Donnell Democracy Award and Lectureship will be a permanent feature of all future LASA congress programs. The donors are:

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Finally, we take this opportunity to encourage interested LASA members to submit nominations for the 2019 O'Donnell prize, which will awarded at the Boston congress. The Secretariat will circulate a formal call for nominations. //