

# From the LARR Editor in Chief

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As we approach the end of the term for the current editorial team of the *Latin American Research Review* (LARR), I want to thank LASA President Gioconda Herrera, the Executive Council, and LASA's Secretariat, as well as LARR's associate editors and our managing editor, for the support offered during my period as the journal's Editor in Chief.

Founded in 1965, LARR—the academic journal of the Latin American Studies Association (LASA)—has remained at the vanguard of Latin American Studies for more than half a century. The work of our team built on this tradition to take the journal into a new era.

Over the past five years, LARR completed its transition to Open Access publishing, and ended circulation by subscription. It has connected with readers through social networks and a blog; and it has created a new prize, awarded to the best article published every year.

Moreover, LARR tripled its impact factor during this period. Its SCOPUS CiteScore grew from 0.41 in 2016 to 1.20 in 2019. Its Web of Science score grew from 0.252 in 2016 to 0.841 in 2019. This is the highest impact factor achieved by the journal in the last two decades.

The journal expanded its visibility in the humanities, beyond its traditional strength in the social sciences. In 2019, SCOPUS classified LARR among the top 3 percent most cited journals in Literature and Literary Theory, among the top 8 percent in History, and among the top 15 percent in Cultural Studies.

At the time of this writing, LASA is negotiating a new agreement with a top university press to become the next publisher of the journal. This will set up a model for Open Access collaboration between professional associations and academic publishers.

The appointment of Carmen Martínez Novo (University of Florida) as Editor in Chief consolidates this positive trend and anticipates a successful future. Martínez Novo is a distinguished scholar supported by a strong editorial team, and will be the first woman to take over the leadership of the journal.

Thus, although 2020 has been a very difficult year on many fronts, it is only fair to conclude this letter on a positive note. Thanks to LASA's continued support, LARR is now in position to remain at the forefront of Latin American Studies in the years to come. //