Reid R. Reading (1937–2021)

by Marysa Navarro, LASA Past President

and Milagros Pereyra, LASA Executive Director

It is with deep sorrow that we note the passing of Reid Reading, former Executive Director of the Latin American Studies Association. He was a LASA lifetime member, a strong supporter of LASA’s mission, and an advocate for the less privileged around the world and especially in Latin America.

Reid’s service as Executive Director of LASA from 1986 to 2003 was the culmination of a career as an academic and renowned academic administrator. After earning a PhD in political science from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, he taught a variety of courses at the University of Pittsburgh, while in charge of LASA.

Reid’s vision as Executive Director reflected his unwavering support of the social sciences and humanities as well as his profound admiration, appreciation, and affection for the Latin American region and for LASA. Reid’s guidance was instrumental in reshaping the direction of LASA and in obtaining the FORD Foundation endowment, which has helped the association over the years to provide travel grants to scholars and students in Latin America, as well as the FORD grant for women researchers.

All of us at LASA join in sorrow, but with gratitude for all of Reid’s efforts on behalf of the organization. Our deepest condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues all over the world. //