Fifty years after LASA was founded, its membership looks very different: we have grown from a core of mainly North American social scientists and historians to an academically diverse organization with notable growth in members from the humanities and the arts; 40 percent of our members live in Latin America and the Caribbean; there is a growing indigenous and Afro-descendant presence; we share the podium at our scholarly panels with activists, journalists, and filmmakers. Today, the concept of Latin America overflows the traditional geopolitical boundaries of the region with, on the one hand, a growing presence of Latin@s in North America and a burgeoning Latin American diaspora in Europe, while on the other hand, Latin Americanist scholars have begun to envision their research in a broader global context and from more interdisciplinary standpoints. Finally, theory produced in the global South, and in Latin America in particular, is gaining increasing purchase in both academic and nonacademic circles in the North, reversing the traditional directionality in the flow of ideas and recognizing the growing presence of knowledge producers from sectors that have traditionally been excluded from academic dialogues.

The 2017 LASA Congress in Lima, Peru, will build on these multiple transformations in LASA and in the field of Latin American studies, by highlighting the theme of “Diálogos de Saberes/Dialogues of Knowledge.” With it, we seek to highlight a broad range of dialogues that move beyond the traditional academic disciplines and traditional knowledge producers, and are at the heart of Latin American studies today.

The notion of “diálogos de saberes” originates in Latin American evaluations of the social sciences in the mid-twentieth century, which were criticized for their supposed positivist objectivity and neutrality, as well as for their largely metropolitan origins in the global North. In their place, Third World scholars proposed the development of forms of knowledge production, such as Participatory Action Research, committed to establishing equal collaborations with popular sectors in support of their struggles. The dedication to producing research that is socially relevant and whose methodologies involve the sharing of intellectual authority with nonacademics continues to be the norm in Latin America. Collaborative research and the incorporation of the voices of indigenous, Afro-descendant, and other popular sectors will thus be at the center of the 2017 Congress.

In keeping with the theme of a diálogo de saberes, we also seek to promote interdisciplinary dialogue that disrupts the boundaries between fields. Against the notion that certain topics are the special purview of certain disciplines, we want to encourage inter- and intradisciplinary dialogues. Because these dialogues are also informed by the way global power relations impact the production of knowledge, we are especially interested in how the foci and thematic preoccupations of different academic fields diverge between the United States and Latin America. We want LASA to help establish interdisciplinary dialogues that are inclusive of perspectives produced in Latin America and that do not assume the North American position as the default. Because significant contributions to Latin American studies are also being made by writers working on the margins of academic disciplines, such as investigative journalism and comics, we hope that interdisciplinary dialogue can also make space for other mediums and genres. Finally, reflecting the way transnational flows of people and ideas have shaped Latin America, we encourage panels that explore understudied experiences/spaces/histories that unsettle accepted notions of Latin America.
You are invited to submit a paper or panel proposal addressing either the Congress theme or any topic related to the program tracks. LASA also invites requests for travel grants from paper presenters who qualify. Visit the LASA website for eligibility criteria. All proposals for papers, panels, and travel grants must be submitted to the LASA Secretariat via the online proposal system by September 7, 2016, 5 pm EDT.

The deadline to submit proposals is September 7, 2016, 5 pm EDT.

Proposal forms and instructions will be available on the LASA website: http://lasa.international.pitt.edu.

No submissions by regular mail will be accepted. A confirmation email will be immediately sent once the proposal is submitted successfully. Otherwise, contact the LASA Secretariat before the deadline for confirmation.

All participants will be required to preregister for the Congress.

PROGRAM TRACKS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Select the most appropriate track for your proposal from the following list and enter it in the designated place in the submission system. It can only be submitted to one track. Names of Program Committee members are provided for information only. Direct your correspondence to the LASA Secretariat ONLY.

Afro-Latin/Indigenous Peoples
Lorena Ojeda-Davila, Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo
Ángel G. Lao-Montes, University of Massachusetts

Agrarian and Rural Life
Betty A. Ngweno, University of California, Davis
Victor Breton-Solo de Zaldivar, Universidad de Lleida

Art, Archaeology, Architecture, and Visual Culture
Kevin F. Coleman, University of Toronto
Marco Curatola Petrocchi, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
Angela Maria Dias, Universidad Federal de Río de Janeiro

Cities and Urban Studies
John F. Collins, City University of New York
Lucio Felix Frederico Kowarcik, Universidad de São Paulo

Civil Society and Social Movements
Forrest T. Hylton, Northwestern University
Esteban Javier Campos, Conicet, Instituto de Historia Argentina y Americana

Culture, Power, and Political Subjectivities
Abraham Acosta, University of Arizona
Maylei S. Blackwell, University of California, Los Angeles

Democratization and Political Parties
Jana Morgan, University of Tennessee
Ernesto F. Calvo, University of Maryland

Economics and Development
Edward F. Fischer, Vanderbilt University
Natalia Quirgua Díaz, Universidad Nacional de General Sarmiento

Environment
Claudia M. Leal, Universidad de los Andes, Bogotá
Mathias Böng Rasmussen, University of Copenhagen

Film Studies
Wolfgang Bongers, Universidad Católica de Chile
Álvaro Baquer-Pecino, The City University of New York, College of Staten Island

Genders and Feminisms
Montserrat Sagot, Universidad de Costa Rica
Edmée Domínguez Reyes, Universidad de Göteborg
Courtney Morris, Penn State University

Health and Society
Olgezí T. Ototo, Florida International University
Saúl Franco Agudelo, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá

History and Historiography
Claudia Rosas Lauro, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
Guillermo Bustos, Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar, Quito
Paul J. Gillingham, Northwestern University

Human Rights and Politics of Memory
Pilar Raia-Roal-Alcalá, University of British Columbia
Winfred L. Tate, Colby College

International Relations
Alfonso Gonzales, University of Texas at Austin
Hector Parla, University of California, Santa Cruz

Intervening Latin American Studies
Junyoung Verónica Kim, University of Iowa
Roberto Domínguez, Suffolk University
Gustavo L. Ribeiro, Universidade de Brasília

Labor Studies and Class Relations
Ann C. Farnsworth-Alvear, University of Pennsylvania
Mariela Agueda Quiñones Montoro, Universidad de la República

Literary Diasporas
Silvio A. Torres-Saillant, Syracuse University
Danny Méndez, Michigan State University

Law, Rights, and Citizenship
Sandra Botero, Willamette University
Ezequiel A. Gonzalez Qantos, University of Oxford

Linguistics and Language Policy
Margarita Huayhua, University of Texas
Virginia Zavala, Universidad Católica del Perú

Literary Studies: Colonial and Nineteenth Century
Marcelo V. Velázquez, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos
Rocio Quispe-Agnoli, Michigan State University

Literary Studies: Contemporary
Edy M. Merediz, University of Maryland
Miguel Centellas, University of Michigan

Literature and Culture
Fernando A. Blanco, Bucknell University
José A. Rodríguez Garrido, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú
Magda L. Sepúlveda, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

Mass Media and Popular Culture
Janis B. Breckenridge, Whitman College
Matthew R. Bush, Lehigh University

Migration
Maria Amelia Viteri Burbano, University of San Francisco, Quito
Sara Z. Poggio, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

Otros Saberes and Alternative Methods
Alejandra Navarro-Smith, Catedras CONACYT adscrita a CIESAS-Occidente
Michelle L. Bignento, Colgate University

Performance Studies
Jimmy A. Noriega, The College of Wooster
Jesús Encinas, Asociación Iberoamericana de Artes y Letras

Political Institutions and Processes
Agustina Giraudy, American University
Miguel Centellas, University of Mississippi

Politics and Public Policy
Mala N. Htun, University of New Mexico
Guillermo Trejo, University of Notre Dame

Politics of Education and Pedagogy
Norma Georgina Gutiérrez Serrano, UNAM
Bret D. Gustafson, Washington University, St. Louis

Religions and Spiritualities
Ana Mariella Bacigalupo, SUNY, Buffalo
Lydia Abu-Taar, FLACSO, UNACH

Sexualities and LGBTQ Studies
Claudia G. Sáenz, New York University
María Pecheny, Universidad de Buenos Aires

Violence and Insecurity
Gustavo A. Flores-Macias, Cornell University
Mario José Sánchez González, Universidad Centroamericana (UCA), Nicaragua