LASA Forum
Latin American Studies Association

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Report from the Program Committee
XVII International Congress
Los Angeles, CA
September 24-26, 1992
by
John A. Booth, Program Chair

LASA '92 is likely to be a great success. Because it will be the first ever in California, the XVII Congress is attracting proposals from many scholars from the U.S. West Coast as well as from many Latin Americans.

By closing date for proposals (December 16, 1991) the XVII Congress Program Office at the University of North Texas had received over 220 proposals for panels, workshops, and special sessions, and at least 280 individual paper proposals. Section chairs report that they had received directly a somewhat greater number of proposals than indicated by backup copies mailed to the Program Office. In short, the program for the Los Angeles meeting has the potential to be as large as the 1991 Congress in Washington.

Proposals cover a most exciting and extraordinarily diverse array of topics. Participation by scholars from literature and art, history, anthropology/sociology, and political science appears likely to increase over the 1991 Congress. Topics and areas promising increased attention at LASA '92 include ethnicity, labor studies, scholarly resources, and Mexico and South America. Participation by women and by Latin Americans appears destined for record levels.

During early 1992 the section chairs will prepare draft programs for their respective sections and submit them to the Program Office for final review. During April and May of 1992 a preliminary program will be prepared for publication in the LASA Forum. Travel support for Latin Americans, contingent upon funds raised externally, will be announced as early as possible, but probably not before May or June 1992. A final program for the XVII Congress will be mailed in early August 1992.

continued page 5

LASA Posts Record Year
by
Reid Reading, Executive Director

As the Forum went to press, the Latin American Studies Association had posted an all-time record membership for 1991 even before year's end: 3,150 individuals and 102 institutions were affiliated with LASA in the year just past. If history repeats itself, more individuals and institutions will apply for 1991 membership well into 1992, to maintain uninterrupted affiliation and to assure that their collections of the Latin American Research Review and the LASA Forum are intact.

This growing level of support for LASA has been produced by the exemplary efforts of many loyal and dedicated members, most of them on a voluntary basis. From the students who have staffed LASA congresses, not expecting much more in return than the opportunity to attend panels and workshops, to LASA officers and task force and committee members, who in recent memory have, among other things, produced massive congresses and a new constitution and by-laws, reported on elections in several Latin American countries, and kept the academic channels of communication open under difficult circumstances—all have been instrumental in generating increasing support for the association.

The professional staff of the LASA Secretariat resolves for 1992 to continue providing the highest caliber institutional support for the association that we can. We want always to be facilitators. Let us know how we are doing.

The very best wishes from Pittsburgh for a productive and happy 1992.

IN THIS ISSUE
Responses to Wiarda, Lowenthal; Boyer pp. 3-5
Film Festival Proposal Forms pp. 14
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Report from the Program Committee .................. 1
by John Booth
LASA Posts Record Year .............................. 1
by Reid Reading
Letters ............................................. 3
Reply .............................................. 4
LASA Media Award ................................. 5
LASA '92 Participating Book Publishers .......... 6
Publications ...................................... 7
Announcements .................................... 7
Employment Opportunities ......................... 8
Research and Study Opportunities ................. 9
Forthcoming Conferences .......................... 11
Film Festival Forms ............................... 14
MACLAS Membership Form ......................... 15
Handbook of Latin American Studies ............. 16
Individual Membership Notices and Forms ....... 17
Institutional Membership Notices and Forms ...... 18
Data Change Form ................................ 19

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The LASA Forum is published quarterly. Deadlines for receipt of copy are December 1, March 1, June 1, and September 1; articles should be submitted one month earlier. All contributions should be directed to Reid Reading, Editor, LASA Forum, at the address below. Opinions expressed herein are those of individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Latin American Studies Association or its officers. We welcome responses to any material published in the Forum. For a membership application, please see page 17. Direct subscriptions to the 1992 Forum only, without LASA membership, are $30.00 per year. ISSN 0890-7218.

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LETTERS

[This letter is in response to Howard J. Wiarda's "United States Policy Toward Latin America: A New Era of Benign Neglect?" and Abraham Lowenthal's "The United States and Latin America In the 1990s: A New Era?" Both articles were published in the Fall 1991 LASA Forum.]

I think my main objection to Wiarda's paper was its assumption that the general thrust of U.S. involvement in Latin America has been "to assist it" and "to bail it out with Marines or dollars," and that those were the "givens of the last four decades." I honestly thought he was using such terms tongue-in-check. By the end of the paper, where he explains to us that the decreased emphasis on democracy in U.S. policy toward Latin America will result in "a reversion to authoritarianism in 3-4 countries," I realized this particular guru believed the Reagan government's own propaganda, if he did not write it himself, raising the fundamental problem of his grasp of reality.

In many ways, Lowenthal, apparently assumed to represent what passes for the "left" in the U.S., was more troubling, precisely because in fervently urging the U.S. to "rediscover Latin America" and to "concern itself more than heretofore with the region's internal economic, social and political conditions," he advocates a renewal of the political and economic interference in the affairs of Latin America that the rest of us in this world see as the primary problem. His prediction that "U.S. military, narcotics control, and law enforcement establishments will be major shapers of the U.S. approach" to Latin America is enough to make anybody's blood run cold.

In the real world outside U.S. borders, where just about everyone of just about every political stripe sees a century and a half of U.S. interference in Latin America as everywhere ubiquitous, mean-spirited, bloody minded, and self-destructive, please do not tell me that the best the gurus can come up with as a prognosis for what Latin America needs from the United States in the future is MORE of it. I agree with Lowenthal that a country's foreign policy tests its mettle (he quotes Kennan that containment was "a test of the overall worth of the United States as a nation among nations"). That, of course, is precisely the problem. Lars Schoultz, for one, has reminded his readers that U.S. foreign policy decisions in Latin America, as elsewhere, can and do cost real people their lives.

What is painful is not that U.S. policy in Latin America may be wrong, since we cannot hold the U.S. up to a higher standard than the rest of the world. The painful thing is the demonstration that two of the most influential prognosticators of U.S.-Latin American relations share such remarkably narrow premises and do not doubt the positive impact of the United States.

Thoughtful readers will recognize that Wiarda and Lowenthal's unquestioning acceptance of the righteousness of the U.S. agenda forms a major impediment to any future change, all the more troubling in what seems to be a unipolar world. If, as their papers suggest, there really is no tribal self criticism among the academic cheerleaders of the foreign policy community, then the U.S. is not equipped to handle the burden of sole great power status.

Timothy E. Anna
University of Manitoba

[Professor Lowenthal declined an invitation to reply to the above letter; the LASA Forum received no response from its mailed invitation to Professor Wiarda.]

* * *

[The following letter replies to Christopher Boyer's article "Keeping the People In: An Examination of Non-Revolution in Honduras," which appeared in the Summer 1991 LASA Forum.]

Christopher Boyer's examination of the (in many ways surprising) absence of a serious revolutionary movement in Honduras is an informative discussion of a sadly neglected country. However, Boyer's own analysis undermines his claim that relative deprivation theory is more useful for explaining political unrest (or its absence), at least in Central America, than are theories that emphasize states or social structures (and the "exceptionalism of the Honduran polity" in particular). His analysis suggests, on the contrary, that relative deprivation theory really doesn't get us very far without an examination of states and social structures.

Boyer's thesis is that Hondurans did not resort to insurgency in the 1970s and 1980s "because important social sectors maintained and even managed to improve on their modest standards of living." And he assembles an impressive array of evidence to support this claim. The really interesting question, however, is just why the standard of living of Honduran workers and peasants did not deteriorate during the 1970s, as it did so conspicuously elsewhere in Central America (excepting Costa Rica). Boyer notes, in fact, that "land was becoming less scarce" in Honduras due to (1) a slowing down of the land enclosure movement of the 1950s and 1960s "owing to pressure from both the peasants and the
government," (2) a "determined (if moderate) land reform" (enacted by a military regime), and (3) a boom in the coffee industry that benefited smallholders who had originally "pushed into the hills" in search of subsistence farmland. (Boyer doesn't explain why wages remained more or less stable in Honduras through the 1970s, although it seems likely that a reduction in land scarcity would help stabilize wages by reducing the supply of wage labor—other things, as they say, being equal.)

In sum, we have peasants successfully taking over productive land; effective peasant opposition to land enclosures; government opposition, no less, to enclosures; and—to top it off—a military government implementing a not insubstantial land reform. Knowing something about the history of Nicaragua, El Salvador and Guatemala during the 1970s, the Honduran polity sure sounds "exceptional" to me! These events, in fact, raise at least two important and related questions: Why was the Honduran military more reformist and less repressive of peasant movements (and trade unions?) than those elsewhere in the region? And how could peasants move on to good land without the state or landlords evicting them (or worse)? One line of response to these questions has been to emphasize the relative autonomy (by Central American standards) of the Honduran armed forces, at least during the 1970s, vis-a-vis a landed oligarchy that was relatively weak owing to the country's low population density and vast tracts of colonizable public land (which made it difficult for the oligarchy to secure a labor force), the consequent underdevelopment of a large-scale coffee industry, and foreign control of important economic sectors, among other factors. In any event, it would be very surprising if Boyer or anyone else could answer these questions without examining the Honduran state or social structure of the 1970s.

Boyer is undoubtedly correct to suggest that students of revolution and political unrest neglect relative deprivation (both the theory and the reality) at their own peril. But relative deprivation theory is, at best, a first step on a very long journey. By itself, certainly, relative deprivation cannot explain collective action, let alone violent political unrest or revolution. For even if it can be shown that relevant social groups feel aggrieved, we still need to know why such groups view armed struggle, in particular, as appropriate or worthwhile, why they possess the organization and resources sufficient to sustain an insurgency, and why an opportunity to rebel without simply getting annihilated presents itself. (Boyer implicitly recognizes that relative deprivation is not a sufficient cause of armed rebellion. He notes that the condition of Honduran peasants deteriorated "at an alarming pace" during the early 1980s, and yet "armed resistance groups are still small and unorganized.") Neither can relative deprivation theory adequately explain the absence of collective action, as Boyer would have it. For even if it can be shown that relevant social groups do not feel particularly aggrieved, we still need, and want, to know why. And here, an analysis of states and social structures, as the Honduran case suggests, is likely to prove indispensable.

Jeff Goodwin
New York University


[Christopher Boyer responds.]

Jeff Goodwin's reservations about "Keeping the People In" fix both on the level of analysis it employed and on the relative shallowness of its casual exploration. While his comments set a good standard for any full-scale effort of historical sociology, they are somewhat misplaced in the present instance. Goodwin is right, of course, to argue that the individual-level analysis presented does not give us a complete explanation of historical events, or, in this case, non-events in Honduras. It is a truism that the fullest picture would emerge from a Braudel-like text analyzing several levels of discourse on a variety of time scales. However, a more-or-less traditional behavioralist discussion of the type I offered can still shed some of the sharpest light into specific issues (such as non-revolution) that occur within a larger social, political and economic structure. This is so since even variations in this larger structure should not lead to social unrest so long as individuals' expectations about their own fortunes remain unchanged.

This logic raises the question of causality. What sorts of generalized processes and specific events could have impacted on these "expectations"? This is a fundamental question, but one the article did not seek to answer in a theoretical sense and only scratches the surface of in a substantive sense: "Keeping the People In" did not propose a general theory of revolutions but rather contended that widespread popular discontent is a necessary but not sufficient condition for any major social movement against the state. Discontent over religious, ideological, or other social factors could arouse sufficient hostility to spark social action; however, in Honduras, where around 75 percent of the population lives in poverty, individual-level economic fluctuations supremely impact large segments of society and therefore merit close
attention. The impossibility of dissociating these various social factors from each other on an ontological theoretical level should not dissuade the analyst from concentrating on micro-economics, not as the proximate cause of revolution, but as a sine qua non.

As I have tried to show, these individual-level economic factors were (just barely) unlikely to aggravate large segments of the Honduran population during the 1970s. So while it may be more "interesting," as Goodwin puts it, to move the analysis to a deeper level, it was not necessary for my purposes. Furthermore, although the specific events that impacted on the sectoral economy of Honduras may have been unique in 1970s Central America, there is no reason to assume that Hondurans as polity would not have reacted the same as Guatemalans, Salvadorans and Nicaraguans, if their means of subsistence was threatened. Thus no basis for arguing Honduran exceptionalism exists. On the other hand, as individual-level economic conditions deteriorate—as seems to be the case in 1980s and 1990s Honduras—analysts interested in assessing the likelihood of revolution will need to examine questions of state strength, social structure and other historical specificities of the type Goodwin notes.

Grand Social Theories tend to assume that the level of enmity between the lower economic strata and the upper strata/the state in some way remains constant, thus minimizing the necessity to analyze the dynamic nature of problems facing the lower classes. However my complaint is not so much that Grand Social Theories cannot accommodate discussions of individual-level dynamics, as that their adherents tend not to do so in practice. By contrast, the relative deprivation approach as a starting point guarantees that social scientists consider the specific motivations impelling people to take action, or, in the case of 1970s Honduras, making it unlikely that social action take place. Furthermore, it helps the analyst to address social issues in terms that correspond—if only schematically— to those that the subjects themselves experience. Only once this analytic foundation has been laid can we proceed in the direction Goodwin points us.

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1. For example, many practitioners of the state-centric mode of analysis have dropped all reference to society in any but the most vague terms despite Skocpol’s specific admonition that “the political expression of class interests and class conflicts is never automatic or economically determined.” Theda Skocpol, "Bringing the State Back In: Strategies of Analysis on Current Research," in Bringing the State Back In, ed. Skocpol, (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1985), p. 26.
ATTENTION AUTHORS

Your colleagues can see your monographs and articles first hand if your publishers exhibit at the 1992 LASA Congress. If your publishers are not listed here, you might want to ask them to contact LASA's book exhibit coordinator, Harve Horowitz, for information on how to secure exhibit space. But hurry! There are only a few spaces left. Advertising in the LASA program is another valuable opportunity and is not expensive. For either exhibit space or advertising information your publishers may contact: Mr. Harve Horowitz, 11620 Vixens Path, Ellicott City, MD 21403. Telephone: (410) 997-0763; fax: (410) 997-0764.

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The Visiting Scholars Program
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Chicago

The University of Illinois/University of Chicago Joint Center for Latin American Studies announces its annual Visiting Scholars Program for faculty from U.S. colleges and universities without major research facilities. The program enables visiting scholars to do research and write on a Latin American topic for a month during the summer of 1992 at either Chicago or Urbana, or both. Awards include $2,500 for living expenses for the month of residence and up to $500 in travel expenses.

Visiting scholars will be associate faculty of the Joint Center and will enjoy full access to libraries, faculty, and other resources at both universities.

Applicants should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, a separate letter of reference, and project proposal of no more than 500 words; the proposal should show how a period of residence at either or both institutions would relate to the project. The deadline for receipt of applications for summer 1992 is March 15, 1992.

Send applications and inquiries to:

Visiting Scholars Program
Center for Latin American Studies
The University of Chicago
5848 S. University Ave.
Chicago, IL 60637
PUBLICATIONS


The University of New Mexico Library has recently published its "Shelflist of the Brazilian Small Press Collection, University of New Mexico General Library" with an introduction by Todd Hollister and Russ Davidson. This collection represents a major addition to library holdings of Brazilian literature and social criticism in the U.S. It contains more than 2,200 monographs and 180 serial titles issued by alternative, avant-garde, and other small presses throughout Brazil during the past 25 years. More than 70 percent of the titles are unique to the UNM Library. The Collection is predominately literary in nature and encompasses every mode of writing in Brazil. The "Shelflist" is 317 pages, spiralbound, and costs $20 (postpaid). Purchase orders or inquiries should be sent to: Latin American Collection, General Library, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fundación Ford, Santiago, Chile, ha abierto nuevamente la convocatoria de su concurso anual de becas de postgrado en ciencias sociales (antropología/sociología; ciencias políticas/gestión pública; economía del desarrollo/rural sustentable/internacional; estudios del medio ambiente). El programa intenta contribuir al fortalecimiento de instituciones académicas y gubernamentales de la Región Andina y países del Cono Sur a través del desarrollo de cuadros profesionales de alto nivel que se dediquen a la docencia, a la investigación y al servicio público. El financiamiento se otorgará para programas de calidad académica, en América o Europa. Se dará preferencia a programas en los Estados Unidos debido a las actuales leyes tributarias del país que aplican a los becarios de la Fundación Ford. El programa se dirige a ciudadanos residentes de los países de la Región Andina y el Cono Sur. Las becas cubrirán un máximo de 21 meses de estipendio de sostenimiento. Los costos de matrícula deberán ser provistos de otras fuentes. Para información adicional, escriba: Programas de Becas, Fundación Ford, Ricardo Lyon 806, Providencia, Santiago, Chile. Teléfono: 232-5454; fax: 56-2-2049385. El secretariado del LASA también posee documentación completa.

The UCLA Latin American Center solicits submissions of book-length manuscripts for publication in its Latin American Studies Monograph Series. The series spans the social sciences, natural sciences, humanities, professional fields, and the fine arts. Titles published to date in the series have come from the fields of history, politics, women's studies, anthropology, archaeology, education, literature, and theater. Manuscripts and inquiries should be directed to: Colleen H. Trujillo, UCLA Latin American Center, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024-1447. Telephone: (310) 925-7547; fax: (310) 206-3555.

Attention LASA Members:

For questions regarding delivery of the Latin American Research Review, including missed or delayed issues, please contact LARR directly. Questions should be directed to Nita Daly, Subscription Manager, LARR, Latin American Institute, 801 Yale NE, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131. Telephone: (505) 277-7043. Please direct all other inquiries, including questions about the LASA Forum, to the Secretariat.
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The College at New Paltz seeks Assistant Professor, tenure-track position, beginning August 1992 in Spanish language and Latin American Literature with specialization in Caribbean and/or Hispanics/Latinos in the United States. Candidates must possess the Ph.D. by fall 1992 and be committed to active research as well as innovative undergraduate teaching. Native or near-native fluency in Spanish and previous college teaching experience required. Applications considered until position filled. The new faculty person will be expected to participate in developing Latin American Studies program. Applicants should send a letter describing qualifications, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to: Professor Elisa Davila, Chair, Spanish-American Search Committee, Box 10, The College at New Paltz, State University of New York, New Paltz, NY 12561. For additional information, telephone (914) 257-3480. Women and minorities are urged to apply; an AA/EOE.

Cornell University is seeking candidates for a tenure-track assistant professorship in English for a specialist in Hispanic American literature. (The appointment will be in English, but the search is being conducted in conjunction with the Hispanic American Studies Program.) A primary commitment to teaching, publishing, and directing research on Hispanic American literary and cultural topics is required, but candidates with interests in theory and in other Anglophone literatures are welcome. Ph.D. should be in hand or close to completion. For further information, contact: Fredric V. Bogel, Professor of English and Acting Chair, Cornell University, Goldwin Smith Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853-3201. Telephone: (607) 255-6802.

DePaul University’s College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Center for Latino Research invites applications for the position of Director of the Center. The person will have a tenure-track appointment with teaching responsibilities in a College department; rank and tenure dependent on qualifications. The one-third time directorship also carries an administrative and summer stipend. Candidates will have, at least, three years of teaching experience after the Ph.D., be bilingual, and have an active research agenda in Latino and/or urban studies. Appointment is effective September 1, 1992. The successful candidate will administer the Center with the advice and support of a University-wide Advisory Board. The Center has one full-time professional staff member and an operating budget to support DePaul’s commitment to research in urban and Latino studies through the involvement of undergraduate students and through serving the people and community institutions of Chicago and the Midwest. The application deadline is open. The Search Committee will begin reviewing applications January 15, 1992. Candidates should submit a letter of application and curriculum vitae to: Richard J. Meister, Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, DePaul University, 2323 N. Seminary, Chicago, IL 60614. Telephone: (312) 362-8203; fax: (312) 362-5481.

The History Department at Hampden-Sydney College invites applications for a tenure-track position in Latin American history at the assistant professor level beginning Fall 1992 (pending approval). Ph.D. preferred. Responsibilities will include teaching upper-division courses in Latin American history and American history surveys. Please forward credentials as soon after December 31, 1991 as possible to: Search Committee, Department of History, Box 400, Hampden-Sydney College, Hampden-Sydney, VA 23943. For further information, telephone: (804) 223-6104. An AA/EOE employer.


LASA MEMBERS DIRECTORY

The Latin American Studies Association announces publication of the new LASA Membership Directory. The plastic-comb, GBC-bound edition of over 3,600 members' names and addresses for professional and private (non-mailing list) use is available now through the Secretariat. Prices are $5.00 to mail in the U.S. (non-priority) and for international surface mail. The price for first class within the U.S. and air mail to Canada and Mexico is $6.90; contact the Secretariat for information about multiple copy orders or foreign air mail. Order must be prepaid; only checks drawn on U.S. banks or UNESCO coupons are accepted for payment. For information regarding our mailing label list rentals, contact the LASA Secretariat. Telephone: (412) 648-7929; or fax: (412) 624-7145.
RESEARCH AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

The Institute for the Study of World Politics announces its competition for dissertation fellowships for 1992-93. Institute fellowships are awarded to candidates for the Ph.D. degree who have completed course work and are conducting dissertation research. Awards are generally made to students of political science, economics, international relations, and history, although awards are made on occasion to students in other social science disciplines whose dissertations address topics of unusual significance for current policy. The range of topics of interest to the Institute follow: limitation of strategic nuclear arms, control of the proliferation of nuclear weapons, and restriction of the growing international traffic in conventional weapons; development of means for the prudent and equitable distribution and management of technology, raw materials, energy, food, and other resources, and development of more stable balances between these factors, population growth and migration, and the capacities of the national environment; improvement of levels of health, nutrition, education, economic security, and social welfare within the developing countries, and establishment of more stable, mutually-beneficial relationships between North and South; definition and recognition of fundamental human rights and development of more effective international mechanisms for the protection of such rights. Applications for 1992-93 fellowships must be postmarked no later than 18 February 1992. Awards will be announced by mail on or about May 15, 1992. Also the Institute administers a special group of fellowships, the Dorothy Danforth Compton Fellowships for Minority-Group Students of World Affairs. These fellowships are awarded to African-American, Hispanic and Native American students pursuing M.A. or Ph.D. degrees in preparation for careers in world affairs (as scholars or practitioners). Persons wishing information about the annual competition for these fellowships should send a written request to the Institute. For application materials or additional information, write: Institute for the Study of World Politics, 1992-93 Dissertation Fellowship Competition, 1755 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036.

The Inter-American Foundation (IAF) was established to channel development assistance to the poor of Latin America and the Caribbean. To complement this effort, the IAF offers fellowships to support development activities among the poor. IAF fellowships generate information for development problem-solving while building a community of specialists throughout the Americas with personal and institutional commitments to grassroots development. Fellows examine the efforts of rural and urban poor people to improve their lives, their methods of organization and production, and policies and programs designed to alleviate their poverty. The Foundation disseminates research findings of its fellows to persons and institutions concerned with development. The U.S. Graduate Study Program for Latin American and Caribbean Citizens assists development practitioners and researchers from these regions to pursue graduate studies in the United States. The Field Research Programs at the Doctoral and Master’s levels support field research in Latin America and the Caribbean on grassroots development topics of graduate dissemination activities of distinguished Latin American and Caribbean leaders. The IAF offers four fellowship programs. Fellowships in all four programs provide only partial support, and fellows are required to obtain the maximum amount of supplemental funds from other sources. The application deadline is February 15 each year for Foundation support of fellowship activities initiated within the period between June 1 and the following May 31. For more information and application requests, write to: IAF Fellowship Programs, P.O. Box 9486, Arlington, VA 22219-0486.

NEH Summer Seminar for College Teachers offers four seminars of interest to Latin Americanists: "Hispanic Metafiction," "Images of Amazonia," "Modern Poetry and Poetics in Latin America 1880-1980" and "Resistance, Rebellion, and Adaptation in Rural Latin America." The NEH will provide a summer stipend of $3,600-$4,000 to those selected as seminar participants to cover travel, books, and living expenses. Applications must be received by March 2, 1992. For further information and application, contact specific seminar directors listed below. "Hispanic Metafiction" will be conducted at Cornell University, June 15-August 7, 1992. Contact: John W. Kronik, Department of Romance Studies, Goldwin Smith Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853. Telephone: (607) 255-1378/8222. "Images of Amazonia" will utilize perspectives generated not by the sciences, but by the humanities. Seminar participants need have no background or special knowledge of the Amazon. The seminar will be conducted at the University of California at Berkeley, June 8-July 30, 1992. Contact: Professor Candace Slater, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of California, Berkeley, CA 94720. "Modern Poetry and Poetics in Latin America 1880-1980," will be conducted at Georgetown University, June 15-August 7, 1992. Contact: Enrico Mario Santí, ICC 588, Department of Spanish, Georgetown University, Washington, DC 20057. Telephone: (202) 687-6134. "Resistance, Rebellion, and Adaptation in Rural Latin America" will be conducted at the University of California at San Diego, June 29-August 14, 1992. Non-academics are also eligible to apply. Contact: Eric Van Young, Department of History, 0104, University of California at San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0104. Telephone: (619) 534-3612.
The Institute of Latin American Studies of The University of Texas at Austin will award 20 stipends from September 1, 1991 to August 31, 1992 to visiting scholars doing research in the Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection of The University of Texas at Austin. The Benson Collection is a specialized research library focusing on materials from and about Latin America, the Caribbean, and U.S. Hispanics, including 575,000 volumes of books, periodicals, newspapers and pamphlets, two million pages of manuscripts, 20,000 maps and over 20,000 microform and media materials. Each stipend will consist of 1000 free paper copies of materials from the Benson Collection chosen (and copied) by the individual scholar. Eligible to apply are post-graduate visiting scholars and researchers in residence at the Benson Collection for short or long periods of time. Successful applicants will be notified in advance and receive their awards in the form of copy cards upon arrival and registration at the library. To apply, write to: Director, Benson Latin American Collection, The University of Texas at Austin, Sid Richardson Hall 1.109, Austin TX 78713-7330, indicating date and length of proposed visit to the library, research topic, and materials to be consulted. For further information, telephone (512) 471-3818.

The University of Maryland at College Park's Department of Spanish and Portuguese welcomes applications from faculty for its Summer Institute. The Institute is of interest to specialists and generalists in Latin American, Luso-Brazilian, and African and/or African-American Studies, as well as from related disciplines in the Humanities. "The Encounter of Cultures in Brazil" will be conducted June 21-July 25, 1992 in São Paulo, Ouro Preto and Salvador. Participants will receive a $1,250 stipend and additional funds toward the costs of travel, room and board. Completed Summer Institute applications must be received no later than March 1, 1992. For additional information and application forms, write or call the Institute Co-Directors: Saul Sosnowski, Phyllis Reisman Butler, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Telephone: (301) 314-9752; or, fax: (301) 314-9752.

Fellowships available for Ph.D. in Urban Studies program at the University of New Orleans. Fields of specialization include urban development, social and cultural change and environmental policy and management. These fields are to be developed within one of the three program tracks: urban and regional planning, urban affairs and urban history. Fellowships include waiver of tuition and fees, and a stipend of $12,000 per academic year. Each fellowship is renewable on an annual basis for a period of up to four years. Applicants should possess a master's degree in a relevant field from an accredited university, and a superior academic record. Each applicant should submit recent (within the last five years) GRE scores, a graduate transcript, three letters of reference from individuals familiar with the applicant's professional and/or academic background, and an essay of 1000 words which discusses the applicant's interest in doctoral work in urban studies, including career objectives, and special interests to be emphasized while enrolled. To apply or for more information, please contact: Professor Alma Young, Coordinator of Ph.D. Studies, College of Urban and Public Affairs, University of New Orleans-Lakefront, New Orleans, LA 70148. Applications from minorities and women strongly encouraged. AA/EOE.

University of Washington Tacoma Campus

University of Washington Tacoma Campus (established Fall 1990) offers an innovative upper-division undergraduate curriculum in Liberal Studies: interdisciplinary, multicultural study of contemporary societies, their cultural expressions, interactions, and development with emphasis on the humanities and social sciences. (The Liberal Studies program offers two concentrations: comparative United States studies and comparative international studies.) It is anticipated that an assistant professor position with tenure track will be available starting September 15, 1992, if funds are available. Ph.D. required; interdisciplinary interests; ability to work and teach collaboratively with faculty colleagues; strong commitment to undergraduate teaching and to a multicultural curriculum; evidence of intellectual breadth and engagement. We are building a multicultural faculty and staff, and strongly encourage women and members of ethnic minorities to apply. AA/EOE. Send letter describing interests and qualifications, curriculum vitae, and a placement file or 3 letters of reference to:

Chair, Faculty Search Committee
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LASA '91 PAPERS

More than 300 panel and workshop papers from LASA '91 are still available from the Secretariat. See the Summer 1991 issue of the LASA Forum for the listing and for order information, and the Fall 1991 issue for additions and corrections.
FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES


The Association for the Study of the Cuban Economy (ASCE) announces its Second Annual Meeting to be held August 13-15, 1992, at Florida International University, Miami, FL. While the official language of the conference is English, papers in Spanish are welcome. Proposals for papers or sessions should be sent by June 15, 1992 to: Professor Robert Betancourt, Department of Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742. Telephone: (301) 405-3479; fax: (301) 405-3542.

The Center for Latin American Studies of the University of Pittsburgh presents an International Conference on "Cuba in the Post Cold War Era" April 27-28, 1992 at the University of Pittsburgh. The conference presents the results of recent research on the impact of the transitions in the Soviet Union and East Europe on Cuba and their consequences for U.S. foreign policy in Latin America. The research was carried out by a group of eminent scholars, with funding provided by a grant from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. At the conference, comments on each researcher's study paper will be furnished by an internationally renowned expert on the subject. The revised papers and commentaries will be published as a volume in the University of Pittsburgh Press's Latin American Series. For more information, telephone (412) 648-7392; fax: 648-2199.

The Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) will hold its next annual conference at the Jester Center, University of Texas at Austin, May 30-June 4, 1992. The theme of the 37th Seminar will be "SALALM and the Area Studies Community." Multiculturalism, SALALM's relationship to other area studies programs as well as new configurations and emerging alliances will be examined. Participants normally include librarians and book dealers from North and South America, the Caribbean, and Western Europe. Inquiries and panel proposals should be directed to this year's president and editor of the published conference proceedings: David Block, Latin American Librarian, 504 Olin Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14854. Telephone: (607) 255-9480.

The Social Science History Association (SSHA) will hold its annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois on November 5-8, 1992. Call for proposals by February 15, 1992. Contact: Margo Anderson, Department of History, University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI 53201. Telephone: (414) 229-4361; e-mail: MARGO@CSD4.CSD.UWM.EDU; or, Andrew Abbott, Department of Sociology, University of Chicago, 1126 E. 59th St., Chicago, IL 60637. Telephone: (312) 702-4545.

The 1992 Student Pugwash USA 7th Biennial International Conference will be held June 14-20, 1992 at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, on the theme "Visions for a Sustainable World: A Conference on Science, Technology, and Social Responsibility." Application deadline: February 15, 1992. All students are encouraged to apply. All on-site conference costs will be covered, limited travel assistance is available. For more information, contact: Conference Coordinator, Student Pugwash USA, 1638 R Street NW, Suite 32, Washington, DC 20009. Telephone: (202) 328-6555; fax: (202) 797-4664.

The Institute of Latin American Studies and the LBJ School of Public Affairs of the University of Texas at Austin sponsor a conference on "Opposition Government in Mexico: Past Experiences and Future Opportunities" to be held April 2-4, 1992. If you are interested in participating, contact: Professor Peter Ward, The University of Texas at Austin; or, Professor Victoria Rodriguez, LBJ School of Public Affairs, Drawer Y, University Station, Austin, TX 78713-7450. Telephone: (512) 471-6302, or (512) 471-8923; fax: (512) 471-1835.

The Spring conference of the Instituto Latinoamericano de Cultura y Desarrollo (ILACD) will be held in the Hôtel Climat de France de Saint-Germain-en-Laye, May 22-23, 1992. The theme of the conference is "The Discovery and
Conquest of America." Please direct all inquiries to: ILACD, c/o Sylvie Moulin, 103 rue Manin, 75019, Paris, France.

The twelfth-annual Krost Symposium on the theme "1492-1992: Five Hundred Years of Interaction" will be held February 13-14, 1992 at Texas Lutheran College, Jackson Auditorium, Seguin, TX 78155-5999. For further information, contact Stephen Anderson. Telephone: (512) 372-8020.

The seventh annual Latin American Labor History (LALH) conference will be held at the State University of New York at Stony Brook on April 10-11, 1992. If you wish to present a paper, and for further information, please contact: Professor Barbara Weinstein, Department of History, SUNY, Stony Brook, NY 11794. Telephone: (516) 632-7504.

The New England Historical Association (NEHA) Spring conference will meet on April 25, 1992 at Assumption College (Worcester, MA). Papers or panels may be proposed on any topic in history. NEHA is a comprehensive organization for historians of all disciplines and fields. It is a regional affiliate of the American Historical Association. Membership is open to all persons or organizations interested in the study, teaching, preservation or writing of history. It is not restricted to New England or American Studies. Annual dues are $10, or $5 for graduate students and retirees. Conference fees are waived for all graduate students, who are especially invited to attend. To propose a paper or panel, or for further information, contact: Peter C. Holloran, NEHA Executive Secretary, Pine Manor College, Chestnut Hill, MA 02167. Telephone: (617) 731-7066.

The Charles G. Gillespie Fund has been created to honor the memory of our late colleague, Charlie Gillespie. Charlie was an outstanding young scholar and friend to many in the Latin American Studies community. In keeping with Charlie's scholarly interests, the fund will undertake travel expenses of Uruguayan participants to upcoming International Congresses. Contributors should make checks payable to LASA (earmarked for the Gillespie Fund). Address: LASA Secretariat, 946 William Pitt Union, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

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The University of Connecticut seeks a distinguished professional to lead in the establishment of an Institute for Puerto Rican and Latino Studies at its Storrs Campus. Responsibilities will include setting up and implementing an agenda for program and curriculum development. The successful candidate will serve as Director for a minimum of five years, while holding a tenure track position in an academic department. Applicants for this anticipated position must possess a Ph.D. in the Social Sciences and be qualified for appointment at the senior faculty level. A demonstrated commitment to and experience in Puerto Rican/Latino Studies and related issues are required, as is a strong record of scholarship and teaching in this field. Administrative experience is essential. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Effective hiring date is September 1, 1992. This is a ten-month/year appointment; salary negotiable depending on qualifications. To apply, please send letter of interest and curriculum vitae to:

Paul B. Goodwin, Associate Dean
CLAS, U-98, 241 Glenbrook Rd.
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06269-2098

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Two outstanding British journals dedicated to topics of interest to Latin Americanists are being made available by their publishers to LASA individual members at special rates. The Bulletin of Latin American Research (Pergamon Press) is available at $26.00. The Journal of Latin American Studies (Cambridge University Press) at $45.00. Both journals are itemized on LASA's 1992 membership form for easy ordering.

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PROPOSAL FOR FILM FESTIVAL SUBMISSIONS

Film and video materials not integrated into a panel, workshop, or meeting may be presented in one of two ways: (1) as selections in the LATIN AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL; or (2) as part of a noncompetitive FILM EXHIBIT of visual and informational materials. Those not selected for the festival may be presented at the exhibit for a fee. Please use a separate form for each film/video proposed. Please type or print clearly.

Films and videos chosen for the FESTIVAL are designated as recipients of the 1992 LASA Award of Merit in Film for "excellence in the visual presentation of educational and artistic materials on Latin America." Approximately 15 such awards will be made. Selection criteria are: artistic, technical, and cinematographic excellence; uniqueness of contribution to the visual presentation of materials on Latin America; and relevance to disciplinary, geographic, and thematic interests of LASA members, as evidenced by topics proposed for panels, workshops, and roundtables at recent congresses. Films and videos released after December 1990 and those that will premiere at the congress will be given special consideration if they also meet the above criteria. Please submit applications for films or videos for the juried LASA Film Festival by July 15, 1992, to the above address.

The noncompetitive FILM EXHIBIT of Latin American films, videos, and descriptive materials (brochures, catalogues, etc.) is organized in conjunction with the book exhibit. For information, contact Harve C. Horowitz & Associates, LASA Film Exhibit, 11620 Vixens Path, Ellicott City, MD 21043; 301/997-0763.

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MIDDLE ATLANTIC COUNCIL OF
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(MACLAS)

HISTORY AND PURPOSE
The Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies (MACLAS) is comprised of Mid-Atlantic region scholars, researchers, teachers, students, and interested professionals in all disciplines and pursuits. The region includes New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. MACLAS has as its objectives promoting and developing interest in Latin American studies and affairs. The organization was founded in Pittsburgh in 1979 and is one of the Latin American Studies Associations' (LASA) affiliated regional organizations.

ACTIVITIES
The MACLAS annual spring meeting features research-based panels and a business meeting. The association publishes a NEWSLETTER four times a year and LATIN AMERICAN ESSAYS. NEWSLETTER editor is Thomas Gallagher (Ursinus). The ESSAYS are a selection of papers presented at the annual meeting; the inclusion of a paper in the ESSAYS is considered a publication in a refereed journal. MACLAS also awards, annually, its Whitaker Prize for the best book and the Davis Prize for the best journal article.

ORGANIZATION
The affairs of MACLAS are governed by its Executive Committee. The Committee is composed of: President and Vice President, elected for one year terms; Secretary/Treasurer, appointed for a two-year term; and four additional members, elected for two-year terms. The Vice-President is President-elect. Executive Committee members must be from the region; no more than two of its members may be from the same state or the District of Columbia; and, care is taken to maintain disciplinary balance. The Committee must meet at least twice a year.

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Membership is open to persons interested in the purposes and undertakings of MACLAS. The current dues schedule appears on membership application below.

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<td>Between $20,000 and $29,999 annual income</td>
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