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LasA Forum
Latin American Studies Association

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How to contact LasA
William Pitt Union, Room 946, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260
Telephone: (412) 648-7929 Fax: (412) 624-7145 Internet: lasa+@pitt.edu
http://lasa.international.pitt.edu
A Landmark Grant for LASA!

With great enthusiasm and even a bit of fanfare, in early June the LASA Secretariat issued the following official press release:

Latin American Studies Association Receives $2 Million Grant

The Latin American Studies Association (LASA), hosted by the Center for International Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, has received an endowment grant of $2,000,000 from the Ford Foundation. This contribution raises the LASA endowment to nearly $2,900,000. LASA soon will launch a campaign to raise the fund to three million dollars.

LASA was founded in 1966 and is the largest professional association of Latin Americanists in the world. It currently services 4,900 international members, both individual and institutional. Pittsburgh has been home to the Association since 1986.

Income from the endowment will be used primarily to finance the participation of scholars and practitioners residing in Latin America and the Caribbean in LASA’s International Congresses. The Association is committed to the principle that Latin American studies is viable as a field only if scholars from around the world—and particularly those residing in the Latin American region—are heard from.

Dr. Reid Reading, LASA Executive Director, praised the Foundation for its long-standing commitment to the study of Latin America and for its considerable investment in LASA’s programs over the years. He spoke for current and future generations of Latin Americanists in acknowledging the benefit they will receive from the Ford Foundation’s vital contribution to the Association.

[Editor’s Note: See a special message about the grant from Past President Susan Eckstein on page 5 of this issue.]

President’s Report
by Franklin W. Knight
Johns Hopkins University
fknight@jhu.edu

The exceedingly generous grant from the Ford Foundation to the LASA Endowment Fund—reported on elsewhere in this issue—represents a tremendous vote of confidence in our Association. We all remain immensely grateful for this timely gift. Its receipt represents an enormous credit to the outstanding and diligent work accomplished over the past years by the successive elected officials and permanent staff. It is quite clear that the LASA of today is a much larger and far more sophisticated organization than that of merely a few years ago. And it continues to evolve. Indeed it may be said that today LASA is the premier area studies organization in the world.

Nevertheless, there is much more to be done, and maybe the needed work can never fully be done so this is no time to reflect on our laurels. Challenging problems constitute an integral aspect of any dynamic regional organization, and LASA continues to prepare itself to meet such challenges. A solid and ever increasing endowment is certainly one way to facilitate the solution of such problems, and building an ever larger endowment must continue to be one of the LASA goals for the future. Fortunately the present organizational structure, carefully constructed over previous administrations, inspires great confidence that this Association is adequately prepared for the new responsibilities of the new millennium.
LASA 2000

Preliminary estimates indicate that LASA 2000 in Miami next March may be the biggest LASA Congress ever. The deadline for submitting panels already has passed, and the hard working program committee is busy with the complex logistical tasks of selecting the best panels, and assigning those panels to physical spaces and convenient time slots. As with LASA98 the largest portion of the panels is selected and shaped by the program committee. Others are decided by the various Sections. Sections are still nominating their panels but every indication is that the Congress will be as intellectually exciting and enjoyable as any ever held.

While it is now too late to put together a panel for LASA 2000, there are other things that members may do. It is not too late to send your nominations of deserving candidates for many of the various honors and awards that LASA committees make at each Congress. A listing of these honors and awards appeared in the Spring 1999 Forum along with the respective chairs. Further specific information may also be obtained from the Secretariat. Deadlines have not yet passed for the LASA/Oxfam America Martin Diskin Memorial Lectureship nor for the LASA Media Award. Anyone with a good idea is urged to forward their nominations to the various committees as quickly as possible. [See details about these awards under "Calling All Members," page 23].

LASA and Human Rights

From its very inception LASA has been intensely interested in the issue of human rights. The Task Force on Human Rights and Academic Freedom, presently chaired energetically by John Hammond, ranks among the oldest activities of the Association and has had a very active past. Despite the rising tide of democracy throughout the region, the issues of human rights and academic freedom remain manifestly precarious in many countries. Thus, the LASA Task Force on Human Rights and Academic Freedom retains both its patent importance and its requisite urgency.

I strongly urge members who have information about possible violations of human rights and academic freedom anywhere in the Americas to bring the matter to the attention of the chair of the Task Force for further investigation and possible LASA action. My predecessor worked out an efficacious procedure for handling such violations and I see no reason to change it.

LASA and the ACLS

As I promised last time, I would like to provide more information on the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS), of which LASA is a constituent member.

The ACLS is the pre-eminent representative of humanistic scholarship in the United States. The defined mission of the ACLS is “the advancement of humanistic studies in all fields of learning in the humanities and social sciences.” The core members of the ACLS are 61 national and international organizations in the humanities and social sciences that focus on various discrete fields of scholarly inquiry. Along with the core organizations are associate members comprised of more than 180 colleges and universities, and affiliates drawn from groups such as the Association of Research Libraries and the Federation of State Humanities Councils. All members pay dues that are determined by the Board of Directors of the Council.

Through fellowships and grants to individuals the ACLS has been a major promoter of scholarly research and writing. For Latin America the ACLS has jointly run with the Social Science Research Council (SSRC) a fellowship program that has been a major source of independent research funding for many years. Over the past 60 years more than 4,000 scholars have held ACLS fellowships worldwide. The ACLS also sponsors major publications such as The Middle Ages: An Encyclopedia for Students, published in 1996, the 13-volume Dictionary of the Middle Ages, issued in 1989, and the 24-volume American National Biography, published in 1999.

The ACLS was instrumental in the establishment of the National Endowment for the Humanities in the United States in 1964. Since 1983 the ACLS annual meetings have presented the Charles Homer Haskins Lecture by a distinguished senior scholar. The lectures, called "A Life of Learning," are published in the ACLS Occasional Paper series. LASA members may suggest individuals for consideration for the Haskins Lecture, as well as any matters they think should fall within the purview of the ACLS.

Membership in the ACLS affords many advantages for LASA, not the least of which is the strengthening of relations with other international organizations and the ability to discuss together each year the most optimal way to advance scholarship throughout the world. After all, both LASA and the ACLS firmly believe that knowledge and scholarship should have no national boundaries. Like travelers with the same destination, then, we accompany each other along the way.
Thank You, Ford Foundation!
by Susan Eckstein, Immediate Past President
Boston University
seckstein@bu.edu

The Ford Foundation recently awarded LASA a $2 million endowment grant. Income from the Endowment Fund will be used primarily to fund Latin American and Caribbean travel to LASA Congresses. The Fund will guarantee such travel and ensure that scholars from the region will represent the diverse interdisciplinary fields of the Association. We expect the Fund to grow, to the point that by the Congress in 2001, income from the fund alone will allow LASA to support the participation of more than 120 Latin Americans as well as begin to fund transregional workshops, miniconferences and collaborative research. To date, LASA’s ability to finance such activity has been contingent on the ability of its presidents to raise funds from a number of foundations and organizations each Congress.

Like the Ford Foundation, LASA members have themselves demonstrated their support for the Association by contributing generously to the Endowment over the years. I am confident you will stay the course as we launch an effort to raise the Fund to $3,000,000!

Many people helped make the Ford grant possible. Most of all we are indebted to Toby Volkman, Program Officer at the Foundation, to Ford’s regional staff in Latin America, and to staff in Ford’s New York office who testified to the virtues of investing in LASA. But many LASA members helped in the preparation of the proposal. The grant was a process and not merely an event. We are especially indebted to a host of recent LASA presidents, including Lars Schoultz, Carmen Diana Deere, Cynthia McClelland, Jane Jaquette, and to LASA’s current president, Franklin Knight, to the LASA Secretariat (especially, but not only, to Reid Reading and Sandy Klinzing) and to the wisdom and assistance of Marysa Navarro and Scott Mainwaring (LASA Treasurer). A number of members of Executive Councils on which I served were also helpful and provided much-needed encouragement.

And I am delighted that we now have various structures in place in LASA to help with endowment-related activity. We have a wonderful Investment Committee, co-chaired by Richard Weinert of Leslie, Weinert and Company, Inc., with Peter Cleaves of the University of Texas at Austin, Tom Trebat of Citicorp Securities, Inc., and circulating LASA executive officers working together to invest LASA funds wisely. We also have a Development Committee to oversee our own endowment raising drive, and a Support Committee to help us think about how to develop LASA in new ways and to build bridges to the non-academic community. The Support Committee includes Richard Weinert, as well as the following:

Marc Blum (chair), World Total Return Fund
Juan Enriquez Cabot, Harvard University
William H. Luers, United Nations Association
Christopher Lutz, Plunsoock Fund
Sylvia Maxfield, Brookline, Massachusetts
Arturo Porzecanski, ING Barings
Lynne Reiner, Lynne Reiner Publishers
William D. Rogers, Arnold and Porter
Richard N. Sinkin, InterAmerican Holdings Co.

Thanks to Ford and your own anticipated support we will now be able to institutionalize the dynamic transnational association we have all come to love and appreciate. I consider the endowment grant the crowning achievement of my term as President.

A NEW HOME FOR LASA ON THE WEB
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu

LASA2000 Home Page:
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu/lasa2000.htm

LASA2000 Awards
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu/awards.htm

LASA Employment Bulletin Board
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu/employment.htm

LASA Congress Papers:
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu/papersonline.htm

LASA Sections:
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu/sections.htm

LASA Forums:
http://international.lasa.pitt.edu/forums.htm
(includes future conferences, research and study)
LASA in Miami
A Note from the LASA2000 Program Committee
by Anthony P. Maingot, Chair
lasa2000@fiu.edu

This will be the second time Miami will be hosting LASA but the first time that it will have been done intentionally. In 1989 Miami substituted for San Juan, Puerto Rico, devastated by Hurricane Hugo.

By March 16-18, 2000, the Hurricane Season will have passed and, if we are all lucky, our city will once again be unscathed. Additionally, by that date the cool Northeastern breezes will still be blowing so the LASA attendees will be spared the heat and humidity of Miami’s subtropical climate. All we need is a full moon for Miami to be in its full splendor.

Miami will also benefit from Chicago—LASA98, that is. Since nothing engenders success like success, the enormously successful meeting in the Windy City is obviously reverting to LASA’s and Miami’s benefit. There are a total of 460 panel proposals and over 1,000 proposals for individual presentations. All counted, 4,158 participations have been requested. Marysa Navarro, LASA2000 co-chair, traveled to Miami mid-June to engage in the arduous process of attempting to gather these proposed individual papers into meaningful panels. And, please note, this count does not include the participants in the sessions sponsored by the twenty Sections. These will be counted at the end of June. The very geographic distribution of these proposed participants reflects the ‘globalization’ (why not use the term?) of the Association.

These are the numbers of participations requested by individuals from the top ten countries:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Participations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U.S.A.</td>
<td>2,371</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>208</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

No need to hide the disappointment of this Caribbean denizen, that this year when LASA has its first “Caribbean” President (not counting Cubans), the response from that region has been so sparse. Leaving out the 38 from the sister island of Puerto Rico, there are only 14 from all the other islands. Maybe the members of the Task Force on “LASA and the 21st Century” can bend their minds to the intellectual integration into LASA of insular Caribbean scholars.

Back to the program.

President Knight has requested three “Command Performances:”
1) Ex-presidents and/or Prime Ministers reflect on the Hemisphere in the new Millennium;
2) The Role of the Mass Media;
3) Changing Technologies and Approaches to Area Studies.
There will, of course, also be the meetings of the Sections and Task Forces, parts of LASA with increasingly prominent profiles in the Association and in the field of Latin American Studies.

And of course there will be a Welcoming Reception and a Gran Baile. We fully expect both to exude Miami’s Latin/Caribbean flavor. Given the packed nature of your three days, do not plan early retirement at night. Though not as trascocados as madrileños, cariocas or porteños, Miamians think nothing of starting dinner at 10:00 or 11:00 p.m. If you still are on your legs after this, plan to take one of the many side trips out of Miami to Central American and Caribbean destinations.

The next issue of LASA Forum will provide you with a preliminary set of sessions that have been accepted for Miami. Remember, finally, that all LASA2000 attendees must register and that preregistration saves you money and helps your (growing) Association.

Miami in 2000!
FILM FESTIVAL AND FILM EXHIBIT AT LASA2000

Latin American Studies Association XXII International Congress
Miami, Florida USA -- March 16-18, 2000

Film and video materials not integrated into a panel, workshop, or other regular Congress session may be featured at LASA2000 in three venues:

I. LASA2000 FILM FESTIVAL: You may submit a film or video to compete for the juried designation of "LASA 2000 Award of Merit in Film," which is given for "excellence in the visual presentation of educational and artistic materials on Latin America." Approximately 15 such designations will be made, and these films and videos will be screened free of charge in the LASA2000 Film Festival. Selection criteria for this designation 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 special sessions at recent Congresses. Films and videos released after September 1998 and those that will premiere at the LASA Congress will be given special consideration, if they also meet the above criteria. LASA membership is not required to compete.

To enter the competition for the LASA2000 Film Festival, mail one copy of the COMPLETED SUBMISSION FORM, along with a VHS copy of your film or video to: LaVonne C. Poteet, Coordinator, LASA2000 Film Committee, Bucknell University, Lewisburg, PA 17837. Tel: 570-523-1408; fax: 570-524-0933; email: poteet@bucknell.edu. Send a duplicate copy of the form (without materials) to: Reid Reading, LASA, 946 Wm. Pitt Union, University of Pittsburgh, PITTSBURGH PA 15260.

II. LASA2000 FILM EXHIBIT: Films and videos NOT selected for screening in the LASA2000 Film Festival, as well as films and videos that were not entered for the Festival competition, may be screened in the LASA2000 Film Exhibit, for a fee of $50 for the first 30 minutes of screening time, and $1.00 per minute thereafter. Exhibit films are shown along with the Festival films in the same auditorium.

To submit film and/or video materials directly to the non-competitive LASA2000 Film Exhibit, please fill out both the SUBMISSION FORM on this page and the RESERVATION FORM on the reverse side. Exhibit screening time is limited. Submit your reservation early to ensure a place. A confirmation and invoice for the cost of this commercial screening will be issued after the Exhibit closes. Send BOTH FORMS to: Exhibi Promotions Plus, Inc., c/o LASA Exhibit Management, 11620 Vixens Path, ELLICOTT CITY MD 21042-1539. Tel: 410-997-0763; fax: 410-997-0764; email: exhibit@erols.com

III. LASA2000 EXHIBIT BOOTH AND PROGRAM AD RESERVATIONS: Distributors of visual materials who wish to publicize their products at LASA2000 may also do so in one of the following ways:
   A. By reserving space in the book/literature exhibit—full booth or in a combined "take one" literature display; or
   B. By placing an ad in the LASA2000 program booklet.

See reverse side for submission forms for booths and program ads

LASA2000 VISUAL MATERIALS SUBMISSION FORM: FESTIVAL AND EXHIBIT
Due October 1, 1999

Submission for the LASA2000: Film Festival _______ Film Exhibit _______ Both _______

Title of work enclosed: ____________________________

Format: _______ Film (16mm) _______ Video (available formats):

Distributor (name, address, phone, fax and email):

__________________________ ____________________________

Director: ____________________________ Producer: ____________________________

Year/country of release: __________ Screening time: _______ Languages/subtitles:

Brief description (25-50 words) of subject matter, including country or area treated (or attach descriptive brochure):

If your film/video is not selected for the LASA2000 Film Festival, do you want it included in the LASA Film Exhibit for the fees stated?

__ YES ___ NO Your name: ____________________________

Address: ____________________________ Phone: _______

Affiliation (if not in address): ____________________________ fax: _______

Phone (home): ____________________________ email: ____________________________

You must include your visual materials with the form. Please use a separate copy for each item submitted.
RESERVATION FORM FOR THE LASA2000 EXHIBIT

● EXHIBIT OF INDIVIDUAL FILMS OR VIDEOS

Fee is $50 for the first 30 minutes of viewing time, and $1.00 per minute thereafter. If you wish to designate your film or video to be screened exclusively in this noncompetitive LASA2000 Film Exhibit, please submit the form on this page and the reservation form on the reverse. Send both forms, with check payable to EXHIBIT PROMOTIONS PLUS, INC., to LASA Exhibit Management, c/o Exhibit Promotions Plus, 11620 Vixens Path, ELLICOTT CITY MD 21042-1539. Telephone: 410-997-0763; fax: 410-997-0764; email: exhibit@erols.com. There is limited space in the Film Exhibit, so reserve your screening time early.

● FULL EXHIBIT SPACE (10' X 10')

_____ $700 Commercial Vendor

_____ $600 Nonprofit/Government

_____ Check here if you require staffing at a modest fee

_____ $600 Each Additional

_____ $500 Each Additional

● TAKE-ONE LITERATURE DISPLAY

_____ $75 (Unlimited quantity and variety—recommend 350–400 pieces)

● LASA2000 PROGRAM BOOKLET ADVERTISING

(Camera-ready copy due December 16, 1999—FIRM DEADLINE)

_____ $375 Full Page (7-1/4 x 9-1/2)

_____ $225 Half Page (7-1/4 x 4-3/4)

**SPECIAL VALUE** EXHIBIT AND PROGRAM ADVERTISING DISCOUNT PACKAGE

_____ $975 Commercial Booth plus Full Page Ad (Save $100)

_____ $900 Commercial Booth plus Half Page Ad (Save $75)

_____ $900 Non-Profit Booth plus Full Page Ad (Save $75)

_____ $775 Non-Profit Booth plus Half Page Ad (Save $50)

Mail camera-ready copy of program booklet ads to: Reid Reading, LASA, 946 William Pitt Union, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh PA 15260. Telephone 412-648-7180; fax 412-624-7145; email lasu+pitt.edu.

TERMS OF PAYMENT/CANCELLATION: A nonrefundable $100 deposit per booth reserved is due within two weeks of the invoice date. Final payment for booths is due by December 16, 1999. Reservations received after December 16 will require payment in full within two weeks of invoice date.

Space assignments are based on a point priority system and will be subject to the approval of the exhibitor.

Written cancellations received after December 16, 1999, will be charged the full exhibit space rental fee. No refund will be made if the exhibitor fails to occupy the space. Cancellations are not valid until received in writing by the LASA Exhibit Management. No refund is given for materials not arriving or arriving late.

Company/Distributor

Address

City ___________________________ State __________ Zip __________

Submitted by __________________________ Title of Submitter __________________________

Phone: (office) __________________________ (home) __________________________ fax: __________________________

email __________________________

_____ Enclosed, a check in the amount of $___________ Please bill us: PO# __________ Date ________

Date ________
DISPLAY YOUR BOOKS AT LASA2000

LASA members interested in displaying titles at the XXII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association should advise Harve Horowitz, LASA's advertising/exhibits representative, of their latest publications for promotion at LASA2000 in Miami, Florida. Not only is this a valuable means of bringing titles to the attention of your colleagues, but publishers can benefit from the marketing potential of Congress exhibits and program advertising. Use a form below to alert your publisher to this opportunity or to notify our representative directly.

Dear Publisher:

Please contact LASA Advertising/Exhibits, c/o Exhibit Promotions Plus, Inc., 11620 Vixens Path, Ellicott City MD 21042-1539 (410-997-0763; fax 410-997-0764; email exhibit@erols.com) concerning promotion of my title(s), listed below, at the XXII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, March 16-18, 2000, in Miami, Florida.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Year</th>
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Author/LASA Member ________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________

TO: LASA Advertising/Exhibits, c/o Exhibit Promotions Plus, Inc.
11620 Vixens Path, Ellicott City MD 21042-1539
(410-997-0763; fax 410-997-0764; email exhibit@erols.com)

FROM: (Author) ________________________________________________

Address ______________________________________________________

City __________________________ State ______________ Zip __________

Phone/fax/email ______________________________________________

Please contact the following publisher(s) concerning (a) recent title(s) I would like to see displayed at LASA2000:

Title #1 ______________________________________________________
Publisher ____________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________
Editor/Sales Manager __________________________________________

Title #2 ______________________________________________________
Publisher ____________________________________________________
Address ______________________________________________________
Editor/Sales Manager __________________________________________

__ Check here if you are interested in arranging your own display if the publisher declines participation.
Subnational Politics and Democratization in Mexico
edited by Wayne Cornelius, Todd Eisenstadt & Jane Hindley

Contributors highlight the growing disjuncture between Mexico's accelerated transition to democracy at the national level and what is occurring at the state and local levels in many parts of the country.

Drawing on recent field research in ten Mexican states, the contributors show how the increasingly uneven character of democratization in Mexico can be a significant obstacle to the completion of the process in an expeditious and low-conflict manner.
— $21.95 pbk, 365 pp

Sustainable Development in San Diego–Tijuana: Environmental and Social Implications of Economic Interdependence
edited by Mark J. Spalding

The authors examine factors affecting the prospects for sustainable development in San Diego–Tijuana: economic integration; links between growth, quality of life, and environment; post-NAFTA institutional and policy directions; and the roles of NGOs, universities, and the private sector.
— $8.95 pbk, approx. 100 pp

Electoral Observation and Democratic Transitions in Latin America
edited by Kevin J. Middlebrook

What impact has electoral observation had on transitions to democracy in Latin America, and what direction should it take in the future? In addressing these and related questions, the contributors examine the evolution of electoral observation strategies since the 1980s, the relative contributions that foreign and domestic observers can make to free and fair elections and to the democratization process more generally, and the principal lessons learned from electoral observation initiatives in Latin America during the 1980s and 1990s. The volume includes six country studies: the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Panama.
— $14.95 pbk, 245 pp

Myths and [Mis]Perceptions: Changing U.S. Elite Visions of Mexico
Sergio Aguayo Quezada

This most recent look at the U.S.-Mexico bilateral relationship highlights how an implicit understanding dating from the 1920s has long guided these countries' perceptions of one another and enabled them to survive moments of extreme tension in their relations—and also how and why that situation is beginning to change. Basing his analysis on a review of Mexico-related newspaper articles and complementing this with extensive interviewing and documentary research, Aguayo gives us an intriguing look behind the scenes to discover what really drives the interaction between these two countries.
— $19.95 pbk, 423 pp

Published by the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies
University of California, San Diego

To order, contact the Center at 619/534-1160, fax 619/534-6447, email usmpubs@weber.ucsd.edu
Expanding U.S.-Cuban Scholarly Relations
The ACLS/SSRC Working Group on Cuba
by Rachel Price and Eric Hershberg, Social Science Research Council
price@ssrc.org and hershber@ssrc.org

Cuba has been the focus of growing public attention in the United States in recent months, with renewed interest encompassing matters both political and cultural. Stimulated perhaps by Pope John Paul II’s 1998 visit to the island, American newspapers and television networks have featured extensive coverage of the continuing embargo and human rights related issues, such as the March 1999 trial of four Cubans accused of counterrevolutionary activities. But they have also exposed American audiences to aspects of everyday life in a society that, because of misguided policies made in Washington, remains largely off limits to U.S. citizens. Alongside frequent coverage of social, economic and ideological changes associated with Cuba’s burgeoning tourist industry, travel features in the New York Times and other prominent publications extol the virtue of the island and, in so doing, implicitly encourage Americans to flout the ban on leisure travel to the island. Further coverage of late has addressed the recent baseball games between the Baltimore Orioles and Cuba’s National team—the first such contests in forty years—and a spring concert in Havana, at which Cuban and North American artists teamed up to produce a synthetic medley of new songs. The spate of Cuban bands now touring the U.S., and the ubiquity of Cuban recordings in stores and on the radio provide further indications of revived interest in things Cuban.

Despite heightened publicity of Cuba-related matters, relatively little attention has been given the growing number of bilateral programs involving Cuban and U.S. academics and scholarly institutions. Yet here as well, dozens of initiatives have arisen in recent years, and the trend shows no signs of diminishing. Without trying to summarize the characteristics or objectives of these efforts, this article addresses their implications by discussing the origin and evolution of one such initiative—the Working Group on Cuba sponsored jointly by the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) and the Social Science Research Council (SSRC).

Though the ACLS/SSRC Working Group is a relatively recent addition to the universe of programs devoted to U.S.-Cuban intellectual exchange, it is especially noteworthy for its commitment to developing fully collaborative linkages between Cuban and North American researchers across a variety of institutional settings. The potential implications of the program are magnified further because it seeks to channel resources to other scholarly entities, both in Cuba and in North America, in an effort to further advance regional ties. A review of the Working Group’s experience to date, including the development of a partnership with Cuba’s Academy of Sciences and provision of support for a variety of scholarly activities in Cuba and elsewhere, highlights the opportunities and constraints faced by efforts to deepen academic cooperation between researchers in North America, particularly the U.S., and their counterparts in Cuba.

Scholarly Relations in Historical Perspective

There is an extensive history of cultural contact and interchange between Cuba and the U.S., with ties having been spurred by trade and political engagement as well as by proximity. More formal collaboration between Cuban and American scientists in fields such as zoology, botany, meteorology and epidemiology dates to the mid-19th century, and has been maintained to varying degrees ever since. The rupture of diplomatic relations between the two nations in the early 1960s severely limited the number and scope of such exchanges, but it did not spell their complete demise, and researchers in both countries have continued to correspond with their colleagues across the Straits despite formidable obstacles. After faltering in the 1960s and ‘70s, contact between researchers began to increase in the 1980s, and collaborations expanded to include new areas of medicine and biology, as well as the humanities.

The past decade in particular has seen a marked increase in both the number and scope of U.S. programs devoted to fostering intellectual cooperation with Cuba. Cornell, Georgetown, Tulane, the City University of New York and Florida International University are but a few of the American institutions that have established serious programs of Cuba-related scholarly exchanges, while the number of undergraduate study programs in Cuba continues to multiply. Non-university research institutions, such as the Washington, DC-based Center for Marine Conservation and the Smithsonian Institution, have also been at the forefront of the recent expansion of Cuba-U.S. academic collaboration. Several academic societies have made special efforts to provide spaces for Cuban and North American researchers to work together on areas of common interest. LASA itself provides a noteworthy example, as many readers of the Forum will know, and Cuban academics have been especially well-represented at recent Association meetings, exceeded in number only by scholars from much larger countries such as Mexico, Brazil and Argentina.

Building Partnerships

While a number of collaborative efforts have existed for some years, the lack of institutional links between research centers in the two nations has contributed to the fragmented, disparate nature of US-Cuban academic exchanges. Determined to overcome this gap, at its inception in 1997 the Working Group was intended not only to foster new contacts but also to facilitate the consolidation of ongoing or nascent collaborations. Thus, the Working Group has made special efforts to strengthen fully reciprocal institutional and individual partnerships between the two countries, particularly where there exists a potential to nurture enduring networks. Consistent with this goal, the
Working Group itself was established as a partnership between the Councils and Cuba’s Academy of Sciences. Ideally, by serving as a broker linking academic institutions on both sides of the Straits, that partnership will supply an infrastructure that facilitates the establishment of new institutional linkages, as well as the consolidation of existing ones.

In the long run, the efforts of the Working Group are designed to foster the development of a more inclusive regional intellectual community, and thus to benefit scholarship regardless of where it takes place. Indeed, while the hardships endured by Cuban researchers in the context of economic crisis and diplomatic tensions with the U.S. government constitute one factor motivating Working Group activities, its establishment reflected a broader preoccupation with the advancement of knowledge: where diplomatic strains impede dialogue between intellectual communities, the result is inevitably the mutual impoverishment of scholarship. In this case, the costs have been substantial for both sides. Cuba’s educational system is among the most comprehensive and advanced in Latin America, and Cuban researchers make valuable contributions to humanity’s stock of knowledge in a number of fields of the sciences and arts. Yet U.S. researchers are largely unaware of innovative and theoretically rigorous scholarship taking place on the island. In part this is because most contact with the U.S. does not extend beyond the community of Cuba specialists, particularly in the social sciences and humanities. These ties are valuable, but they provide highly uneven access to the leading currents of U.S. scholarship. The ensuing intellectual isolation is particularly damaging today, as Cuban social scientists are attempting to revive disciplines, such as political science and sociology, which have lagged behind scholarly trends elsewhere in the Hemisphere.

Research Support across the Disciplines

Central to Working Group efforts to strengthen linkages between Cuban and U.S. scholarship is a small grants competitions, now in its third cycle. The first deadline has passed but information on eligibility and future application procedures are available on the Working Group web page at www.acls.org/pro-cuba.htm. Projects awarded Working Group funds to date have engaged a broad array of scholarly fields, ranging from document preservation to medical research to strengthening museum curation.

A series of microfilming and photographic conservation workshops offered at Cuba’s national and regional archives by the Massachusetts-based Northeast Document Conservation Center (NEDCC) offers an example of the kinds of ongoing partnerships the Working Group favors: an initial grant enabled NEDCC to organize workshops at Cuba’s National Archives and the archives of Cienfuegos. The success of that effort led to a second grant, extending the NEDCC link to the Museum of the History of Science in Havana. The commitment to deepening ties between U.S. and Cuban institutions is evident in the Working Group’s support for activities involving the Pedro Kouri Institute of Tropical Medicine (IPK). In partnership with the University of Florida, the Institute is conducting research into disease vectors common to both Cuba and the Southern U.S., and in conjunction with researchers at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Institute researchers are working on a study of enteroviruses.

The long term goal of promoting joint research is also evident in Working Group support for several Museum-based projects. For example, a Havana anthropological museum is being assisted in efforts to upgrade outreach and educational materials and to enhance its capacity to conduct multimedia exhibitions. Similarly, researchers at Duke University and Eastern Tennessee State University are working with the Academy of Science’s Herbarium to improve the latter’s capabilities for digitally cataloging specimens that are unique to its collection and are thus of great interest to scholars around the world.

Perhaps most importantly, given the program’s larger objective of increasing the flow of people and ideas between Cuba and other countries, more than a dozen travel awards have enabled Cuban researchers to attend international conferences. During the coming months, Working Group funds will facilitate Cuban participation in the annual meetings of the American Sociological Association and the American Studies Association, as well as a number of scientific congresses.

As is customary for Committees at the Councils, the Working Group has also taken on initiatives in a proactive manner. Thus, in July 1998, it sponsored a two-week workshop in Washington that brought together five young Cuban scholars of the War of 1898 with comparably engaged American colleagues. It has established a book donation program, a separate initiative to secure and transfer microfilmed U.S. documents collections to Cuban archives, and is in the process of securing licenses for electronic distribution among Cuban research institutions of a number of scholarly periodicals.

Finally, consistent with a desire to respond to priorities of Cuban scholars, the Working Group is sponsoring a lecture series by prominent North American researchers whose work has been identified by Cuban researchers as especially important to the future development of basic research on the island. In the first such visit, economic sociologist Neil Smelser delivered lectures at the University of Havana and the Cuban Academy of Sciences in February 1999; visits by other U.S. scholars are planned for later this year.

Constraints on Facilitating Scholarly Exchange

In conceiving and structuring the Working Group, the Councils drew on past ACLS experience working with communities where scholarly relations were constrained by Cold War politics.
The experience with Vietnam was particularly significant. As ACLS President in the early 1990s, Working Group Chair Stanley Katz had teamed with the Christopher Reynolds Foundation on several programs that provided training for Vietnamese scholars and officials. The result of their efforts was the creation of the first Fulbright Program in Vietnam since 1975, and subsequently the establishment of a Ford Foundation field office in the country. The ACLS initiatives were arguably instrumental in the normalization of academic relations between the two countries, and may even have played a part in the normalization of political relations. Undoubtedly, they helped to rebuild an intellectual infrastructure for scholarship within Vietnam while nurturing a climate of trust among the scholarly communities of the U.S. and Vietnam.

But despite superficial similarities between U.S. academic relations with Vietnam in the early 1990s and with Cuba at the end of the decade, significant differences are noteworthy. By the early 1990s both the U.S. and Vietnamese governments were increasingly amenable to normalizing bilateral ties, whereas diplomatic relations between Cuba and the U.S. have deteriorated in recent years following a succession of U.S. policy measures perceived—not unjustifiably—as escalating Washington’s efforts to undermine the Cuban government.

This climate provided the context for Katz’s initial visit to Cuba in 1996, four years after passage of the Cuban Democracy Act and the subsequent implementation of the controversial “Track II” policy, which encouraged U.S. institutions to develop linkages with non-governmental organizations in Cuba in hopes that these ties would undermine the Cuban state. Passage of the bill, also known as the Torricelli Act, represented a serious blow to American scholars committed to developing partnerships with Cuban colleagues, as it quite predictably reinforced the lack of trust on the part of many Cuban officials and intellectuals toward any initiatives proposed by U.S. researchers. Further complicating matters was the passage in 1996 of the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Solidarity Act—better known as the Helms-Burton Act—which further tightened the embargo.

The obstacles facing the Working Group will be familiar to LASA members and other groups and individuals involved in academic exchange with Cuba. Licenses for all non-Cubans using U.S. funds during visits to the island, as well as for Cubans traveling to countries other than the U.S., must be secured from the Treasury Department’s Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), and these must be requested well ahead of the proposed travel dates. Not only is the process time-consuming and administratively opaque, but licenses are frequently granted mere hours before the licensee’s scheduled departure, or even a day or two later. A maze of complex licensing requirements also hinders the transfer of funds to Cuban researchers and institutions, and current U.S. regulations impose heavy burdens on institutions wishing to provide support for technological upgrading of scholarly infrastructure in Cuba. Many U.S. scholars interested in traveling to professional meetings in Cuba abandon their efforts once confronted with the daunting task of completing necessary paperwork; others persevere, only to see their requests rejected, or granted so late that they are compelled to cancel their trip. Obstructions are by no means confined to Washington, however: it is not infrequent for Cuban researchers to experience endless bureaucratic delays in securing authorization to travel abroad, and American researchers wishing to conduct academic fieldwork in Cuba often cannot gain permission from the authorities to conduct their work.

Committed simultaneously to observing the laws of both countries and to promoting the free exchange of ideas, the Working Group has worked within current regulations while calling for the elimination of barriers to scholarly travel. At a minimum, it is hoped that Washington will begin granting programmatic licenses that would enable the Councils and other U.S.-based institutions to engage their Cuban counterparts on a regular basis without having to go through the unwieldy process of requesting individual licenses for each separate activity.

Prospects for even such minimal reforms are uncertain at the time of this writing. The January 5, 1999 White House announcement of policy changes purportedly aimed at strengthening Cuban civil society has yet to be translated into concrete measures, but it aggravated concern that academics were to be used as Trojan Horses to promote American foreign policy objectives. Havana’s response to the announcement was equally unfortunate: the “Law of Protection of Cuban National Independence and Economy,” enacted in March, criminalizes vaguely defined kinds of contact with U.S.-based organizations, and inevitably erodes opportunities to deepen academic cooperation. Given the deteriorating political climate, it is more important than ever that the scholarly communities in both countries take it upon themselves to reinforce relations of trust that have served to cement academic ties despite the obstacles mounted by governments. In this respect, there is cause for optimism: the growing array of bilateral programs strengthens ties among individuals and institutions, and the number of such programs is certain to expand along with the increased number of scholars traveling across the Straits in both directions.

The central objectives of the Working Group thus remain just as relevant as they were two years ago. Building confidence between researchers and academic institutions in Cuba and North America is essential for the broader objective of fostering regional intellectual communities. In particular, it is hoped that individual researchers and academic institutions not traditionally linked to one another will take advantage of Working Group resources to gain exposure to each others’ work, and to initiate or intensify dialogue with colleagues from whom they have remained isolated.

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International Labor Rights and NAFTA's Labor Side Agreement
by Lance Compa, Cornell University
lac24@cornell.edu

NAFTA's labor side agreement, the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation (NAALC), offers North American trade unions a new opportunity for labor rights advocacy. In the emerging global economic framework, transnational advocacy becomes a critical tool for the labor movement, supplementing organizing, collective bargaining, and political action. The defense of human rights, for workers as for other groups, increasingly crosses borders to mobilize constituencies and invoke national and international legal mechanisms. Trade union strategies include both resistance to pro-corporate, anti-labor trade policies and creative exploitation of new trade-and-labor forums including NAALC.

How the NAALC Works

The labor side agreement was adopted as part of the Free Trade Agreement in 1994 and creates new obligations for Canada, Mexico, and the United States as parties to the treaty. It sets forth eleven "Labor Principles" that the three signatory countries commit themselves to promote:

✓ freedom of association and protection of the right to organize
✓ the right to bargain collectively
✓ the right to strike
✓ prohibition of forced labor
✓ limitation of child labor
✓ minimum wage, hours of work and other labor standards
✓ non-discrimination
✓ equal pay for equal work
✓ occupational safety and health
✓ workers' compensation
✓ migrant worker protection.

The NAALC does not create a supranational tribunal to take evidence and decide the guilt or innocence of alleged labor rights violators. It does not provide specific remedies like union certification, reinstatement, back wages, or punitive damages for workers whose rights are violated. Nor does it set up an international labor appeals court that can overrule domestic authorities. However, the NAALC does provide an accessible, flexible forum for transnational action by unions and human rights groups.

For all eleven of the Labor Principles, advocates can obtain a critical review and report from a National Administrative Office (NAO) in a country's labor ministry, followed by direct consultations between ministers of labor. Eight of the principles (excluding the first three noted above) are susceptible to a further stage of evaluation by an independent, three-member international committee of experts. For three of those eight principles (child labor, minimum wage, and safety and health), a five-member arbitration panel can impose trade sanctions for a persistent pattern of failure to effectively enforce the law.

The NAALC labor rights system has inspired cross-border initiatives among labor rights advocates in all three NAFTA countries. International coalitions of trade union, human rights, and allied groups have filed 18 cases involving union organizing rights, health and safety abuses, and discrimination against pregnant workers in Mexico's maquiladora plants; public employee rights and private sector plant closings in Canada; and union organizing, health and safety, and migrant worker treatment in the United States.

Three cases are described here, one on each country, to help understand the opportunities (and limitations) for transnational advocacy presented by the NAALC.

The Pregnancy Testing Case

Two U.S.-based human rights groups, Human Rights Watch and the International Labor Rights Fund, along with the Mexican Democratic Lawyers' Association, filed a complaint with the NAO of the United States in May 1997 alleging "a pattern of widespread, state-tolerated sex discrimination against prospective and actual female workers in the maquiladora sector along the Mexico-U.S. border." Companies named as offenders
in the case include General Motors, Zenith, Siemens, Thomson, Samsung, Sanyo, Matsushita, Johnson Controls and other multinational firms.

The submission alleged a common practice of requiring pregnancy testing of all female job applicants and denying employment to those whose test results are positive. The submission also said that employers pressure employees who become pregnant to leave their jobs. Companies do this, the submission argued, to avoid the legal requirement of three months' fully-paid maternity leave for workers who give birth.

The complainant coalition argued that the practice by employers and the failure of the labor authorities to combat it—sometimes by omission, sometimes by overt support for the employers' discriminatory policy—violates Mexico's obligations under the NAALC. The complaint sought a U.S. NAO review, public hearings in cities along the Mexico-U.S. border, and the formation of an Evaluation Committee of Experts to report on employment practices related to pregnancy in Canada, Mexico, and the United States.4

In January 1998 the U.S. NAO issued a report confirming widespread pregnancy testing that discriminates against women workers. Concluding ministerial consultations in October 1998, the labor secretaries of Canada, Mexico, and the United States approved a program of workshops for government enforcement officials, outreach to women workers, and an international conference on gender discrimination issues. In the meantime, several U.S. companies in the maquiladora zones announced they would halt pregnancy testing, and legislation has been introduced by opposition members of Congress to make a prohibition explicit.

At the international conference in Mexico in early March 1999, Mexican government officials acknowledged the unlawfulness of employee pregnancy testing and the failure until now of government authorities to halt it. They said they would prepare new instructions to labor department officials to put an end to the practice.

It is still too soon to know if a thorough change in policy and practice will take shape. A follow-up report by Human Rights Watch in December 1998 found that several of the firms that said they would unilaterally stop pregnancy testing had only spottily accomplished a halt.5 But the NAALC complaint made an international affair of what for decades had been a hidden, entrenched, accepted practice in Mexico's burgeoning maquiladora sector. It set in motion a dynamic for changing the practice through new employer policies, proposed legislative changes, and escalated international attention if an evaluation committee of experts is formed to address the case. The case and its attendant campaign efforts also elevated the visibility and influence of Mexican women's rights groups that had formerly been marginalized and ignored in their strictly domestic context.

The Washington State Apple Case

In a major new case accepted for review by Mexico in July, 1998, a coalition of independent Mexican union, farmworker, and human rights groups backed by the United Farm Workers (UFW), Teamsters (IBT) and International Labor Rights Fund (ILRF) in the United States filed a wide-ranging complaint under NAFTA's labor side accord alleging failure of U.S. labor law to protect workers' rights in the Washington State apple industry. The complaint cites the lack of legal protection for farmworker union organizing and bargaining rights, discrimination against migrant workers, widespread health and safety violations, budget cuts in U.S. enforcement agencies like the NLRB and OSHA, and employers' use of threats and intimidation in recent union representation elections at two major apple packing and shipping plants.

Over 45,000 workers work in the orchards and warehouses of the largest apple-producing industry in the United States. Many come from the Mexican states of Michoacán and Oaxaca. Mexico is the largest single export market for Washington State apples, and the industry receives a $20 million subsidy from the U.S. government to promote overseas sales. The petitioners called on the Mexican government to pursue avenues of review, consultation, evaluation, and arbitration available under the NAALC for "persistent pattern of failure" by U.S. labor law authorities to prevent workers' rights violations in the Washington State apple industry. Arbitral rulings could result in government fines or loss of NAFTA tariff preferences for Washington State apple producers.

The Washington State apple industry complaint prompted the first public hearing in Mexico, with widespread media coverage of the plight of workers and violations of their rights.6 Consultations between the two countries' secretaries of labor contemplate further public hearings in both countries. Significantly, this case has the potential to reach a stage of economic sanctions against the industry, since it contains a safety and health count.7

The NAALC case shocked industry representatives. One company leader said that the NAALC should be revised or industry support for future trade agreements will be severely eroded. He called the NAALC "an open invitation for specific labor disputes to be raised into an international question."8

The Washington State apple case exemplifies the opportunities for creative use of labor rights clauses in trade agreement, even when they do not provide specific remedies like reinstatement, back wages, or bargaining orders. The case has brought together the Teamsters and the Farm Workers unions, along with sympathetic U.S. human rights groups, in coalition with Mexican counterparts in the independent labor and human rights movements. They worked together in the Teamsters' organizing
campaign in apple industry warehouses in Washington State, and to prepare the complaint. Now they are preparing for public hearings, ministerial consultations and further proceedings under the NAACL, working together on coordinating testimony, media relations and other campaign efforts.

As with Mexican women's groups in the pregnancy testing case, the apple industry case has increased the visibility and clout of the Mexican organizations that filed the complaint. It helps them be seen as the most committed defenders of migrant Mexican workers in the United States. In fact, the pro-government CTM union federation that had earlier criticized the NAACL process as an infringement on Mexican sovereignty filed its own NAACL complaint on migrant Mexican workers in the United States just a few weeks after the apple case was filed.

The McDonald's Case

Joined by the Quebec Federation of Labor and the International Labor Rights Fund, the Teamsters union and its Quebec affiliates filed a NAACL complaint in October 1998 on the closure of a McDonald's restaurant in St-Hubert, Quebec shortly before the union was certified to bargain for workers there. This was the first NAACL case implicating labor law in a Canadian jurisdiction.

The coalition argued that McDonald's used loopholes and delaying tactics to string out union representation proceedings before the Quebec labor board for one year. The company prolonged proceedings by arguing falsely that the restaurant was part of a larger chain where workers transferred among different facilities. McDonald's routinely appealed decisions in the union's favor. Finally it shut the restaurant when the union certification was about to be issued.

Although Quebec labor law is generally favorable to workers and unions, it is impotent dealing with anti-union workplace closures. The Quebec courts have evolved a doctrine allowing employers to close facilities even partially to avoid unionization, and to do it with complete impunity—the only jurisdiction in North America that does so (the U.S. Darlington doctrine prohibits partial closings but allows a total closure of the entire business even for an anti-union motive).9

In December 1998 the U.S. NAO announced that it accepted the McDonald's case for review. In April 1999 the case was settled among the NAOs of the United States and Canada, the petitioners, and Quebec Ministry of Labor. Under the settlement, Quebec's government is forming a special commission to review provincial labor law on anti-union plant closings and to develop legislative remedies to the problem. The governments of Canada and Quebec wanted to pull the matter back into a domestic context rather than have it go forward to a public hearing and further international scrutiny. Such interplay of domestic and international fora is a new, important feature of activity under the NAACL.

** The NAACL has brought an unprecedented increase in exchange, communication and collaboration at the trinational level. **

Even with its limited use, the NAACL has encouraged new forms of collaboration and coordination by transnational labor rights activists. As noted earlier, it has not brought cross-border mobilization of rank and file workers. But it has brought an unprecedented increase in exchange, communication and collaboration among labor rights advocates and labor researchers at the trinational level. Mexican workers, union organizers and labor lawyers testified in all the public hearings held by the U.S. and Canadian NAOs. Migrant Mexican workers joined Mexican-American and Anglo-American workers and union organizers in the first hearing of the Mexican NAO. Labor rights advocates from Canada, Mexico, and the United States spoke out at public forums held by the three governments as part of their ministerial consultations.

We are witnessing a deepening of labor rights advocacy in North America. Before NAFTA and the NAACL, cross-border solidarity was limited to bureaucratic meetings among top union officials and occasional letters of support to workers in struggle. Now trade union leaders and activists are working together in concrete projects dealing with the effects of economic integration in their continent.

Looming negotiations on a Free Trade Agreement of the Americas (FTAA) raise the stakes for a linkage between trade and labor rights. In the FTAA context, the experience and the views of labor movements in MERCOSUR countries (Brazil, most significantly) and other hemispheric bodies will be important. As workers and their allies grapple with the effects of global trade and investment on their unions and their wages and working conditions, the NAACL provides valuable experience and insights into fashioning a strong social charter to advance workers' rights in the 21st century. 

Notes

2. This three-tier division of labor standards into different levels of treatment is not unique to the NAALC, contrary to the impression of many NAALC critics. The European Union's social chapter divides labor rights into subjects that can be treated by binding, Europe-wide directives into three categories: the relatively "easy" matters where directives like those covering health and safety or equal treatment for men and women can be adopted by qualified majority vote of the ruling Council of Ministers, thus binding a country that votes against it. Middle-tier subjects like dismissal rules and migrant worker rights can be treated by directives only with a unanimous vote, giving each country a veto. Three topics, however, are completely removed from treatment on a Europe-wide basis and left exclusively to national law: pay, the right of association, and the right to strike.

3. See U.S. NAO Case No. 9701, Submission Concerning Pregnancy-Based Sex Discrimination in Mexico's Maquiladora Sector, p. 4.


Guatemala’s Ghosts
by Kate Doyle, Director
Guatemala Project for the National Security Archive
kad Doyle@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu

For two generations—ever since the Central Intelligence Agency’s 1954 coup against the democratically elected government of Jacobo Arbenz—Guatemalan military and civilian regimes backed by the United States killed an estimated 200,000 civilians while battling a relatively tiny armed insurgency. It was, by far, the Cold War's bloodiest battle in the western hemisphere. Yet no real history has been written about the Guatemalan experience. There is the memory of victims, the efforts to gather information by human rights groups, and the recent report of the Historical Clarification Commission establishing military responsibility for most of the violence committed during the long battle. But without documentation of the deaths and disappearances the war inflicted, the Guatemalan armed forces have been free to deny, dispute and disseminate about its role, in the hope that hard evidence would decay with time.

Now one document has appeared from within the bowels of the military’s own archives, and its publication may lead a step closer to the civil society that has been an elusive possibility in Guatemala since the 1996 peace accords.

The Logbook

The recent disclosure of a Guatemalan military logbook chronicling the fates of scores of citizens "disappeared" by security forces during the mid-1980s is a chilling reminder of a past that continues to haunt Guatemala. It also raises new questions about U.S. complicity and offers an opportunity for further openness and accountability in both Guatemala and the United States.

The logbook was made public in Washington last May by four non-governmental organizations—the National Security Archive among them—some three months after it was smuggled out of the Guatemalan army's own archives and turned over to international human rights groups. Replete with photographs of 183 victims and coded references to their executions, the 54-page record represents the first documentary evidence of specific human rights crimes to emerge from inside military intelligence files.

Throughout Guatemala's bloody 35-year civil conflict, the armed forces used kidnapping, torture and assassination in their counterinsurgency campaign against the Guatemalan left. By the time the government and the insurgents signed a peace accord in December 1996, some 160,000 people had been killed and 40,000 "disappeared"—93 percent at the hands of the Guatemalan security forces, according to "Guatemala: Memory of Silence," the report of the Historical Clarification Commission released last February. But although the role of Guatemalan
military intelligence in "counter-terror" operations was well-known, successive governments denied any connection to the crime of forced disappearance, leaving family and friends without recourse in their search for missing loved ones. Until now, the most comprehensive accounting of the disappeared was the work of human rights organizations.

That is what makes the document's appearance so extraordinary. It is a unique record of the abduction, secret detention and—in over half the cases—murder of 183 Guatemalan citizens from inside Guatemala's killing machine. It is a kind of daily log, a productivity report, a rare glimpse of organized political murder from the perspective of the perpetrators. In preparation for its release, the National Security Archive's Guatemala Project spent three months analyzing it, evaluating its authenticity and verifying the identities of the victims detailed in it. As we studied the document, it became overwhelmingly clear that it was the product of a military intelligence unit.

The document is a kind of daily log, a productivity report—and rare glimpse of organized political murder as seen by the perpetrators.

It contains dozens of original photographs, torn from personal identification cards, passports or student IDs. It carefully classifies each victim by presumed membership in communist organizations. It relates even the most disturbing acts in the dispassionate tones appropriate to a bureaucratic entity reporting on its latest achievements.

The death list begins in 1983, several weeks after Gen. Oscar Mejía Victores took power in a military coup against his predecessor, Gen. Efraín Ríos Montt. Ríos Montt was one of the architects of the genocidal massacres that swept through the predominantly Mayan regions of the countryside during 1981-83, leaving tens of thousands of Indians dead, missing, or displaced, their villages destroyed. Although the slaughter in Guatemala's rural areas continued after the coup, Mejía Victores' rise to power marked a slowing of the scorched earth campaign and ushered in a new era of selective violence aimed at urban guerrilla networks. Military and police surveillance targeted hundreds of suspected subversives in Guatemala City, and the number of individuals abducted by "unknown men" (desconocidos, a code word used by the Guatemalan press to avoid directly accusing the government) soared. Even the most conservative estimates of the violence reflected the trend: a secret 1986 State Department report noted that in September 1983, Gen. Mejía's first full month in power, over 180 kidnappings were reported, "the fourth highest monthly figure in our study."

Most of the logbook's victims are listed in human rights reports to this day as among the "disappeared": people snatched off the street by armed men in civilian clothing, taken away in unmarked vehicles and never seen again. The youngest recorded is 12, the oldest 81. There are 159 men and 24 women. More than half of them are described as members of the PGT (Partido Guatemalteco de los Trabajadores), the Communist Party. We identified 16 students and 12 professors, most of them from the University of San Carlos, a frequent target of the security forces. There were 12 trade unionists, four doctors, a lawyer, a nurse, a housewife. Of those victims who were not killed, some were released and a handful escaped to flee the country or take refuge in foreign embassies. Eight people were freed "para hacer contactos," or to become informants for the military. Thirty-five people were turned over to other military intelligence or police units.

About 100 of the victims were murdered. Their deaths are noted through a variety of coded references—an apparent effort by the military to maintain a veneer of deniability in the event their records ever came to light. Some of the codes are more obvious than others: "se fue," with the mark of a cross next to it is one of them. "Se lo llevó Pancho" is another—"estar con Pancho" is a Guatemalan slang expression for "he died" or "he was killed." "300" is the code most often repeated. Although it appears to be unique to the document, a careful examination of the logbook makes its meaning unequivocally clear—it signifies the individual's execution. In the course of our analysis, we cross-checked the document against Amnesty International, Americas Watch and other independent human rights reports from the period. Many of the victims appear in those reports. The dates and circumstances of their capture as recorded in the logbook match what information was known at the time about their disappearance. In the very few cases (three or four) where a mutilated body turned up—weeks, sometimes months after the abduction—its discovery as reported by the Guatemalan press inevitably coincides within a day or two with the date of the notation "300" in the document.

We also compared the dossier with declassified U.S. documents from our own holdings, a collection of some 10,000 CIA, State Department and Defense Department records on Guatemala released to the Archive under the Freedom of Information Act. There are several striking references in U.S. records from the period to some of the victims. The case of Sergio Samayoa Morales is an example. He is number 60 in the log. The circumstances of his abduction were so shocking that even the conservative U.S. ambassador to Guatemala at the time, Frederic Chapin, felt compelled to alert Washington about it.

Chapin and the case of Samayoa Morales

Samayoa Morales was wounded in an assassination attempt on January 31, 1984, and seized later that same day by ten armed men as he lay in a hospital emergency ward. "After he was located in the prep room for surgery," wrote Chapin, "he was taken out to waiting vehicles on a stretcher along with a bottle of intravenous fluid which was still dripping into his arm." The operation is described in the Guatemalan military document this way: "In order to tend to the bullet wound in his head, he was removed to the Roosevelt Hospital and it was coordinated with
the D.I. [Dirección de Inteligencia, or D-2, the intelligence branch of the Guatemalan army] to recover him, which was effective." Samayoa Morales was never heard from again.

Chapin concluded his cable with some uncharacteristically blunt comments about the role of Guatemalan security forces in the disappearance and the implications for U.S. policy. "I pointed out the other day in San Salvador the conflict between the desire to incorporate Guatemala into an overall U.S. strategic concept for Central America and the horrible human rights realities in Guatemala. We must come to some resolution in policy terms. Either we can overlook the record and emphasize the strategic concept or we can pursue a higher moral path. We simply cannot flip flop back and forth between the two possible positions."

One day after Ambassador Chapin sent his cable to Washington alerting the State Department to Guatemalan government involvement in the recent abductions, Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights Elliott Abrams and two other Department officials signed off on a secret report to Congress citing improved human rights in Guatemala and calling for a resumption in U.S. security assistance. "The Mejia Government has taken a number of positive steps to restore a constitutional, electoral process and to address the practice of extra-legal detention," the report asserted. "Failure to provide some politically meaningful sign of support for the efforts being undertaken to return the country to democratic rule, and to reduce the human rights violations, will only increase the chance of further political instability. In addition, the U.S. has other strong interests in Guatemala and the region which necessitate a solid, bilateral relationship, including a positive relationship with the Guatemalan military."

The State Department’s decision to send the report up to Congress on February 4 was made despite the fact that officials had clearly received and read Chapin’s cable. The report, on page 4, praises the Mejia administration for controlling "extra-legal violence," while cautioning that "the effectiveness of such actions is called into question by recent reports implicating government security forces in the kidnapping of a patient from a hospital emergency room . . . ." Nevertheless, the report continues, "the approval of a security assistance program for Guatemala . . . could act as a catalyst for further improvements in the human rights situation in Guatemala."

The CIA and Guatemala’s Military

The Reagan administration and the Congress restored military and economic assistance to the Guatemalan government for the first time since the aid was halted by President Carter in 1977—overt aid, that is. In fact, even during the Carter years, and continuing long after the end of the Cold War, the CIA provided millions of dollars annually in direct and indirect support of the Guatemalan military and intelligence services. Often, the U.S. ambassador in Guatemala was unaware of the activities, strategies and tactics of his opposite number in the embassy, the CIA station chief, and the station chief sometimes had more influence in Guatemala than his diplomatic counterpart. Although diplomatic relations between Guatemala and the United States were frequently strained over human rights during the years that followed, the secret relationship between the CIA and the murderous Guatemalan military continued to flourish.

A part of that relationship was finally exposed in 1995 when a U.S. congressman revealed that the CIA had paid tens of thousands of dollars to a Guatemalan colonel for information—one among hundreds of such officers who had been on the Agency’s payroll over the years. The informant had helped cover up the killing by his fellow soldiers of an American innkeeper, Michael DeVine, and played a role in the torture and execution of a Guatemalan guerrilla, husband of American lawyer Jennifer Harbury. The news prompted President Clinton to order his Intelligence Oversight Board to review U.S. intelligence operations in Guatemala. The board concluded that the CIA roster of paid informants at the highest levels of the Guatemalan military included officers whom the Agency knew to be murderers, political assassins, torturers, kidnappers and common criminals. The IOB report helped accelerate a purge of fingerail-pullers and murderers from the secret payroll, and caused a temporary closing of the CIA station in Guatemala.

That story is over, but its history is not an open book. The United States now needs to send a clear and unequivocal message to Latin America. It is that U.S. policy in the future will reflect core American values: democracy, human rights, freedom and the rule of law. That strategic goals—whether the anti-communism of the Cold War or the free trade of today—will never again overwhelm the moral dimensions of the policy.

Future Action

Openness is one path to that ideal. We need to know our own history, just as surely as citizens of Guatemala do. The White House should broaden the effort to open the secret records on human rights abuses and abusers in Guatemala. An important handful of documents have been released under intense public pressure, lawsuits, and at the direct request of the Historical Clarification Commission. But these disclosures have been selective and ad hoc. True openness requires a Presidential order or a Congressional act which declares that Cold War secrecy stricures have ended in our own National Archives and government files. National security concerns dictated in 1947 must no longer control the public’s right to basic information about human rights today. Such a law—like the Human Rights Information Act now before the United States Congress—would
offer the best promise possible for a truly democratic approach to overcoming the violent legacies of the past: Guatemala's, and our own.

Within Guatemala since the military logbook's release, human rights organizations representing the families of the disappeared are now bringing renewed pressure on President Alvaro Arzu to help determine the fate of their missing relatives. They are urging the government to investigate the authors of the military logbook and the crimes depicted in it, and to secure whatever additional military or police files may contain criminal evidence of past human rights atrocities. After the dispiriting results of the "No" vote on Guatemala's constitutional reforms in May, the appearance of the logbook has revitalized the efforts of civil society to fight for an end to impunity and a commitment to the rule of law.

Notes from the 21st Century Task Force
by A. Douglas Kincaid
Florida International University
kincaidd@fiu.edu

I feel privileged to be taking over the position of chair of this task force as the moment approaches when the 21st century will cease to stand for imagined futures of promise or peril and instead becomes a quotidian description of the present. We soon will need a new name for the task force. But it also seems an appropriate circumstance, given that the pace of development and change in information technology is so rapid that present and future often seem practically indistinguishable. In this column I describe the current activities of the task force and my ideas for what we might accomplish over the next two years. I would also like to make this the first of a regular series of commentaries in LASA Forum, as will be further detailed below.

The Task Force on LASA and the 21st Century is charged with helping LASA to better incorporate advanced information technology into the association's affairs. The highlight of its work to date has been obtaining and implementing a $185,000 grant to LASA from the Mellon Foundation, thanks to the initiative of former president Susan Eckstein and former task force chair Mark Rosenberg. The grant supports three major initiatives: making the Latin American Research Review (LARR) accessible on-line, sponsoring Internet and Web resource workshops at LASA meetings, and making use of information technology to upgrade LASA services to members and other constituencies. The grant has another year to run, such that following through on its commitments remains the task force's primary job in the short term. But it is also important to think ahead toward how we might develop new projects that can feed off the momentum of our current efforts.

Implementing the Mellon grant

LARR On-line: The complex job of making LASA's flagship journal available on line is being handled by the staff of the Latin American Data Base at the University of New Mexico, under the direction of Rebecca Reynolds Bannister. Grant funds have provided LARR with a server, software, and other items, but the bulk of the funding underwrites the rather arduous labor involved in making thousands of pages of articles and reviews not only readable on-line but searchable in conformity with professional library standards. Rebecca's team is making great progress, as is evident in the following excerpts from her June report on the project's status:

You can find LARR on the World Wide Web at http://larr.unm.edu/. Currently, you can search LARR's index by keyword, subject, authors, volume and issue numbers, and dates for all the articles published between 1965 and 1996. Go to LARR's home page and click on Index, or go directly to the search interface at http://larr.unm.edu/index/ and enter a search, for example search for volume 30 by entering the number "30" in the volume section of the form and click on the grey button "search." To enter a search by subject, a user must use the subject headings designated by the LARR editors, which can be found by clicking on "browse by subject." Click on "browse by" on the left margin of the index page and you will be presented with a list of the countries/regions, or the subject headings, or the volume/numbers. If you click on any of these, the articles indexed under that heading will come up.
Any visitor to the LARR web site can search the index for free. The purpose of this is to generate an interest in LARR’s contents and to recruit new readers from the on-line community of users. The on-line index has been set up in such a way that as new issues of LARR are put on-line, their articles are also being added to the on-line Index. The gap in coverage between 1996 when the index [Volume 31, No. 4] was published and the current issues is being addressed. We expect that the on-line LARR index will be current by the end of this year.

Access to the full text of LARR will only be available to paying subscribers and LASA individual members whose dues are paid. Protected access to LARR’s uploaded articles will be up and running by July 1. A message on the Table of Contents page’s links to articles will tell current LASA members and LARR individual subscribers to contact us for a user name and password, and will link directly to an e-mail screen addressed to LARR for just that purpose. LARR controls the list of users, based on its subscription records which combine LASA’s advisories of new members and LARR’s own subscriber lists. LARR staff will be able to remove a user’s access for non-payment. This means that LARR’s notification of LARR when a LASA membership lapses will also result in loss of access to LARR’s on-line articles. Information on joining LASA and a direct link to join LASA and receive LARR as a member is already available on the LARR home page. By August 1 we will have the LARR subscription order form and procedure for accepting encrypted credit card payments from the secure LARR website up and running.

The search interface that allows a user to search for any word in the full text of LARR articles has been selected and tested. The search interface is different from browsing the LARR Index on line because the results page will bring up articles where any words entered by the user have been found (in the body of the text, the abstract, and/or the article title). In other words, it is a more powerful search device that will become increasingly valuable as more issues of LARR are added to the on-line archive. The "Search LARR" interface screen will be working by the end of September 1999. In the meantime, users can browse the designed subject, country/region and author headings under the Index page and find LARR articles that meet their interests in that way.

Rebecca advises that to gain full-text access to LARR (now available from Vol. 33, No. 3, forward), individual LASA members and LARR subscribers can send an e-mail request to larr@umn.edu. Once your membership or subscription is verified, you will receive a user id and password by return e-mail. It should be noted that in order to protect LASA and LARR revenues, institutional members of LASA at present will not be given access to the full-text version of LARR on line.

**The current efforts of the task force are oriented toward practical projects that seek to apply the power of information to the concerns of LASA members.**

**Upgrading membership services:** Back in Pittsburgh, Mellon funds are allowing the LASA secretariat to pursue several projects designed to incorporate or improve the use of information technology in LASA services and activities. LASA assistant director Sandy Klinzing is overseeing this effort, which will include the development of on-line membership applications and renewals, the creation of a searchable database of LASA members’ research interests, the routinization of on-line access to papers from LASA meetings, more effective circulation of association news, and support for the technology initiatives of LASA sections. In fall 1999, LASA will distribute a survey to all members with e-mail addresses for the purpose of determining member’s priorities and opinions on the kinds of technology-based services they would like the association to offer. When you see the survey show up in your e-mail inbox, please take a few minutes to fill it out and return it, for the task force and the secretariat are both anxious to be responsive to member needs.

**Looking ahead**

The current efforts of the task force are oriented toward practical projects that seek to apply the power of information technology to the standard concerns of LASA and its members—research, teaching, information sharing, association business matters, and so on. Inevitably, the members who benefit most from these measures will be those who have already made computers an integral part of their working environments. The proportion of these individuals within the overall LASA membership is no doubt already quite high and rising rapidly. The upper asymptote presumably is set by the combination of those members who choose to work differently and those who lack the means to make effective use of new technologies.

It is the latter group—those with limited choices—that I would like to make a principal focus of task force efforts in the medium term. Specifically, I am referring to colleagues working in Latin American and Caribbean academic institutions. In the United States, cheap computers, ubiquitous Internet access, and the investments of universities and colleges in sophisticated networks and telecommunications facilities have made advanced information technology a reasonable option for virtually every
scholar. Across much of Latin America and the Caribbean, however, conditions are quite different, and even if the distribution of computers and Internet access is growing across the region, the deteriorated state of academic infrastructures constitutes a major brake on the capacity of faculty and students to take full advantage of those resources.

It is worth remembering that both the Internet and the World Wide Web have their origins in the research collaborations of U.S. and European universities, while the vast expansion of commercial and popular uses came much later. Academic institutions are still at the forefront of such technological developments—the recent establishment of Internet II linkages among major U.S. universities, which within a few years will give most U.S. academic institutions the ability to exchange vast quantities of data at very high speeds and very little marginal cost, is perhaps the latest example. In Latin America and the Caribbean, the main development pattern has been largely the reverse—businesses and government were the early adopters, while most universities, typically suffering the legacies of repression, turmoil, and economic crisis, have been left behind.

I think the contrast between these circumstances represents both a challenge and an opportunity for LASA. The challenge is based on LASA’s longstanding commitment to promoting an academic community among scholars from the United States, Latin America, the Caribbean, and elsewhere, as well as a history of activism in addressing problems that threaten the larger interests of that community. At a time when the advances of information technology make possible collaborative work on an unprecedented scale, a widening hemispheric technology gap clearly constitutes an obstacle to upholding that commitment to an international community of scholars, and calls for an active response. At the same time, the strength of technology resources in U.S. colleges and universities offers an opportunity to be exploited. Trained in the traditional area studies disciplines of the social sciences and humanities, most U.S.-based LASA members are not closely linked to their physical science and engineering colleagues at the core of information technology development, but have benefitted nonetheless. There is no reason why such linkages cannot be established and then extended internationally through the existing web of personal and institutional ties among area studies scholars, with the goals of technology transfer and the development of collaborative academic projects. I believe LASA is well placed to promote this synergy, and that the 21st Century Task Force can seek out mechanisms and funding sources to make it happen.

To close on a less ambitious note, I would also like to see the task force serve as a means for disseminating news and information about the innovative ways in which LASA members and institutions are incorporating information technology into research, teaching, and other aspects of area studies. This LASA Forum column can serve as one vehicle for accomplishing that, and you can look for contributions from other task force members in upcoming issues. I would also like to encourage communications from any LASA member who would like to share her or his views and news on these topics—please send e-mail to kincaidd@fiu.edu.

Join us in Miami for LASA 2000!

Welcoming Reception early Wednesday Evening

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FINAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR TWO LASA AWARDS

THE YEAR 2000 LASA/OXFAM AMERICA
MARTIN DISKIN MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP
Deadline: September 30, 1999

The Martin Diskin Memorial Lectureship is offered at each LASA International Congress to an outstanding individual who combines the commitment that Diskin had both to activism and scholarship. The person so honored at LASA's next Congress will deliver the memorial lecture at the Miami Congress, March 16-18, 2000.

This distinguished lectureship is made possible largely by a generous contribution from Oxfam America, an organization committed to grassroots work and one with which Martin Diskin was associated. Ricardo Falla, S.J., was the 1998 Diskin Lecturer.

Members of the Diskin Lectureship Committee 2000 are:

Charles R. Hale
Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin (chair)

Clara Arenas
History, University of Texas at Austin

Aline Helg
Oxfam America

Ray Offenheiser
Oxfam America

Stefano Varese
Native American Studies, University of California, Davis

Nominations, including self-nominations, are welcome. A nomination should include the complete street address of the nominee, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address, as well as a statement justifying the nomination. They should be sent to Hale: Department of Anthropology, University of Texas at Austin, Austin TX 78712, or electronically to chrcale@mail.utexas.edu by September 30, 1999.

LASA MEDIA AWARD
Deadline: September 15, 1999

The Latin American Studies Association is pleased to announce its competition for the year 2000 LASA Media Awards for outstanding media coverage of Latin America. These awards are made every eighteen months to recognize long-term journalistic contributions to analysis and public debate about Latin America in the United States and in Latin America, as well as breakthrough journalism. Nominations are invited from LASA members and from journalists. Journalists from both the print and electronic media are eligible. The Committee will carefully review each nominee’s work and select an award recipient. The winner will be honored at the XXII International Congress in Miami. LASA will invite the awardee to speak at a session and to submit materials for possible publication in the LASA Forum.


The committee consists of:

Leonor Blum (Chair), College of Notre Dame;
Lelen Bourgoignie, University of Miami;
Frank Manizas, LAC News; and Anne Pérotin-Dumon,
Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile.

To make a nomination, please send one copy of the journalist’s portfolio of recent relevant work by September 15, 1999 to: Leonor Blum, College of Notre Dame, 4701 N. Charles St., Baltimore MD 21210.

Illustrations for Forum Solicited

The editor invites submissions of artwork, especially signed and dated line drawings in black and white, for possible inclusion in the LASA Forum. Artwork would appear at various points in the publication at the discretion of the layout designers. We would require at least six in order to include illustrations in a given issue. The artist would be duly acknowledged and retain all rights.

Thanks for considering this request.
LASA2000 RESOLUTIONS

LASA members interested in submitting proposed resolutions at the next International Congress need to know that most of the basic procedures for doing so remain the same, e.g., that a proposed resolution must carry the signatures of LASA members for 1999, and for this Congress must reach the Executive Director on or before February 15, 2000, thirty days before the Miami meeting. The Executive Director records the date of the submission, and sends the signed document on to the resolutions subcommittee for review. The subcommittee may confer with the signers about the text of the submission as it sees fit, and ultimately makes recommendations about the submission to the full LASA Executive Council (EC). The Council, by a two-thirds vote, can refer the proposed resolution to the LASA Business Meeting. Assuming Council approval, and a quorum at the Business Meeting (ten percent of the number of LASA members registered for the Congress), the proposed resolution can be discussed and voted on by secret ballot. A proposed resolution approved by a majority of voters at the Business Meeting is submitted to the entire membership for a vote. (Proposed resolutions are not printed in the program booklet, but if approved at the business meeting are printed in the Forum before being sent to the membership).

The LASA Executive Council, during the presidency of Jane Jaquette, agreed on a new set of procedures that can be carried out under the LASA By-Laws. The following is taken largely from her report in the Summer 1996 LASA Forum, with minor modifications and insertion of dates relevant to the upcoming Miami meeting:

*The new plan addresses four recurring criticisms of the current system: the relatively low quality of some resolutions, the lack of member participation in the discussion of resolutions, the quality of debate during the Business Meeting, and the follow-through necessary to ensure that resolutions have an impact.*

Although the formal deadline for submitting proposed resolutions will continue to be one month before the Congress as the By-Laws stipulate, sponsors of a proposed resolution can submit it for possible inclusion in the issue of the LASA Forum that comes out prior to the Congress [for Miami this is Winter 2000, with deadline for submission to the Executive Director of December 1, 1999]. Such a proposal will be sent on immediately to the Subcommittee on Resolutions, vetted as appropriate, reviewed by conference, and be published in the Forum if approved by the Executive Council. It will reach members by mid-February at the latest.

Such an EC-approved proposed resolution also can be aired and debated in a special session convened at the Congress by its sponsors in advance of the Business Meeting, i.e., on Thursday, or by Friday mid-day. (Whoever among the sponsors is designated as coordinator of the session must make the appropriate arrangements with the program committee for a slot at the Congress). The coordinator and/or session attendees, as agreed upon in the session, may request to be heard during the discussion of the proposed resolution at the Business Meeting. The session also can be useful for discussing ways to improve the impact of the proposed resolution. We hope this "advance" process will encourage more member involvement, including the participation of relevant Sections and Task Forces, and create the conditions for better resolutions and more substantive, focused debate.

Proposed resolutions that are submitted later, between the Forum deadline and the resolutions deadline (thirty days before the Congress), will be reviewed by the EC at its Wednesday meeting before the opening of the Congress. As usual, copies of these, as well as previously approved, resolutions will be printed up immediately after the EC meeting and made available in the registration area to Congress attendees sometime on Thursday (the day before the Business meeting).

Thanks to Jane and all those who worked on improving this process!

It is important to note that since there were no objections to the action taken by the Executive Council at its September 23, 1998 meeting, as of June 2, 1999, item 7 under Article VI. ["International Congress"] of the LASA By-laws now reads: "Resolutions for consideration at the International Congress must be signed by at least thirty members and received by the LASA Secretariat thirty days prior to the beginning of each Congress." The italicized words previously read..."at least five members..." Please make sure that all submissions have the required signatures of at least 30 individuals who are LASA members for 1999.
LASA Endowment Fund Update

LASA’s Endowment Fund has just received an enormous boost via a $2 million grant from the Ford Foundation. (Please see previous pages in this issue for more information on the grant and its intended uses). The grant attests to the Foundation’s commitment to LASA’s goal of making the Association’s activities more accessible to Latin American scholars, and recognizes the support provided by LASA members since the inception of the Fund. Many LASA members typically include a gift with their annual membership renewal and congress pre-registration, or commemorate the life of a loved one with a donation in their name.

We thank these donors who have provided support for the General Endowment Fund since our last report:

Donald Castro                              Luis González-Vales                             Robert Packenham
Jerome Crowder                             Liesl Haas                                      Joseph Scarpacci
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And thanks to these donors to the Humanities Fund:

Patricia Díaz-Romo                         Sandra Klinzing                                 Mary Louise Pratt
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Gustavo Gatti                              Elizabeth Lira                                  Alexander Springer
Lance Grahn                                 Rosalía López Paniagua

As well as these donors to the LASA Travel Fund:

Mary K. Addis                               Gustavo Gatti                                  Bryan Roberts
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Rosemary Feal                               Mary Louise Pratt                              Timothy Wright
Rosario García Calderón

Memorial gifts and bequests are an excellent way to provide support for special programs for years to come. Through a memorial gift you can honor the memory of a loved one and also help make participation in LASA Congresses available to future generations of scholars. Bequests make it possible for the donor to support core programs long after they are gone. Contact Sandy Klinzing at the LASA Secretariat (412-648-1907) for more information on either of these opportunities.
The following papers, not previously held by LASA in hard copy, are now in electronic format on our website:

Balbi, Carmen Rosa, Permanencia Y Cambios En La Política Social Peruana En Un Contexto De Democracia Autoritaria.

Calderón Mólgora, Marco, Configurando a la Nación: conflictos locales y tierras comunales en la Meseta Tarasca.

Capelato, María Helena Rolim, A Literatura na Luta Política: Varguismo e Peronismo.


Escalona Victoria, José Luis, Construcción de la etnicidad y transformaciones del Estado en Chiapas.

Fernández Berdaguer, Leticia, Reestructuración productiva y cambios en los mercados profesionales: una perspectiva desde los actores.

Forbis, Melissa M, Hacia la autonomía: Zapatista Women and the Development of a New World.

Gledhill, John, Discussant Commentary: Thinking about the Present Through the Past.

Gras Mediacceja, Miriam, La sociedad civil cubana: valores, creencias, actores y redes informales de comunicación.

Hernández Martínez, Jorge, Cuba: revolución y política exterior en los años 90.

Higuera Bonfil, Antonio, Familia, comunidad, religión, tres pilares del orden teocrático de los testigos de Jehová.

López-Castro, Gustavo, Medicina tradicional, migraciones e identidad.

López-Forment, Isabel Sohn, Changes in Diversity in the Process of Milpa Intensification in the Henequen Zone in Yucatan, Mexico.


Marcial, Rogelio, "¡Hay que pintarse a Los, ése!

Construcción identitaria juvenil en torno a territorios fragmentados: jóvenes cholos y migración internacional.

Ortiz, Lucía, Pasado y presente de la violencia en las crónicas de Alfredo Molano.


Palma Calderón, Silvia Irene, Cuando las ilusiones se dirigen al norte: un estudio de caso en una comunidad del Altiplano Occidental de Guatemala.

Roberts, J. Timmons, The End of 'Pollution Haven' as 'Comparative Advantage'? Emerging International Environmental Standards and the Brazilian Chemical Industry.

Roth-Seneff, Andrew, A nombre de la comunidad. Derecho y relaciones de propiedad en Angahuan, Michoacán.

Salzinger, Leslie, Not "Traditional-Mexican-Women": Creating the Local through the Global.

Saravi, Gonzalo, Cultura empresarial en un distrito industrial mexicano: comunidad y relaciones inter-firmas.

Sennes, Ricardo Ubiraci, A AI.CA e as potências médias: Brasil e México.

Sotelo Valencia, Adrián, Precarización del trabajo: ¿previa de la globalización?

Vaccarezza, Leonardo, Las estrategias de desempleo de la profesión académica. Ciencia periférica y sustentabilidad del rol de investigador universitario.

Varela, Olmedo, Modeling the Changing Landscape of a Latin American City: Lessons from the Past and Considerations for the Future of Metropolitan Panama City.

Zabin, Carol, Organizing Latino Workers in the Los Angeles Sector: The Case of American Racing Equipment Company.
To the Editor:

Do We Fear Democracy?

The resolutions process for LASA was originally intended as an opportunity for the membership to collectively address socially relevant concerns. A working resolutions process enables us as scholars, who unquestioningly encounter human suffering in the course of our work, to speak out with some degree of professional expertise as to the root causes and potential solutions to such problems. It also is apparent that a vocal minority that regularly attend the business meetings and have some pull with the LASA leadership is very interested in ending the resolutions process for LASA altogether.

The core argument for a resolutions process states that the scholarly community has a responsibility to speak out regarding the severest forms of exploitation encountered in Latin America and the Caribbean. The core argument against the resolutions process seems to be that silence on such pressing matters is equated with maintaining academic objectivity. In argument with that perspective, many long standing, accomplished, and respected members of LASA know that silence in the face of oppression is far from "objective."

The rules regarding resolutions have been tossed around quite a bit in the last few years of LASA. The trend has been to make the resolutions process less transparent, more bureaucratic, and less likely to reach the LASA membership for a democratic vote. Regardless of the rules, the stated process for resolutions is frequently ignored, based upon the whims of certain LASA officials. For example, the resolution in opposition to the Multilateral Agreement on Investment, (seemingly the most contentious this last time around) was submitted to the LASA office in time, with the proper number of signatures, yet was never properly presented to the Resolutions Committee, never published as required in the LASA Forum preceding the last Congress, and not placed in the LASA program as required. Other resolutions submitted properly suffered similar fates. The argument after the fact that the format of the proposed resolutions needed minor revisions and so did not go forward is a poor excuse, since NONE of the numerous signatories to the resolutions in question were notified, informally or formally, about any problems. To the contrary, after inquiring as to the omission of the anti-MAI resolution in the Summer Forum, I, as the chief author, was assured of its going forward, of its scheduled appearance in the LASA Congress Program, and of its discussion at the Resolutions Committee meeting scheduled for LASA. The proposed resolutions did not appear in the conference program, not one member of the Resolutions Committee of LASA showed up for the scheduled meeting at the conference (where authors and supporters of the tabled proposals angrily awaited explanation), and the anti-MAI resolution was not brought to the floor of the business meeting.

I find it hard to ignore the fact that Franklin Knight, who failed miserably to execute the resolutions process in a way faithful to the by-laws of LASA, may be at odds with the economic and social analysis presented in the side lined anti-MAI resolution and perhaps others as well. For example, many of the chief backers of the anti-MAI resolution are scholars whose research is openly critical of the social impacts of the similar NAFTA. Yet Franklin Knight stated in his address in the last Forum that he hopes to model LASA as an "intellectual" NAFTA.

The question is this: regardless of academic opinions on specific issues and policies, what is wrong with a simplified resolutions process that allows the general LASA membership to vote democratically on proposed resolutions?

Aren't the members of LASA accomplished enough to decide for themselves? If a proposed resolution is submitted on time with a proper and feasible number of LASA member signatures, if the proposed resolution is presented at the Business Meeting and a quorum is present, and a majority of those present vote to send the proposed resolution to the full LASA membership for an up or down vote, is that not a good process? It was my understanding that the Resolutions Committee existed to facilitate the resolutions process, but was not to have a role in screening the political content of resolutions. Under the direction of Franklin Knight this clearly was not the procedure. I was told, for example, that members of the committee did not know enough about the Multilateral Agreement on Investment to judge the merit of the proposed resolution opposing it. This was in spite of the fact that the proposed resolution itself identified several very informative web sites with detailed information both in favor and in opposition to the MAI. Resolutions Committee members should commit to being knowledgeable scholars capable of facilitating a resolution process that addresses socially relevant themes, and they should not feel as if it is their role to sanction the content of resolutions before sending them forward.

There are a very few active members of LASA who, for their own personal agendas, are seeking to complicate, obfuscate, and shut down the resolutions process of LASA. I find this anti-democratic sentiment, which seeks to avoid the direct vote of LASA members on any resolutions, as a dangerously elitist and anti-intellectual trend. If we cannot present socially relevant findings and recommendations to our fellow scholars through the resolutions process, are we any better than the regimes of Latin America so many of us criticize in their own attempts to control public discussion and debate?

Michele Weber, Ph.D.
April 21, 1999
Franklin Knight responds:

The Forum provides an excellent opportunity for members of LASA to air their opinions and I am glad that Professor Weber has done so. She is free to hold any and all opinions expressed, even pertaining to the individual motives of other members. That is surely her democratic right. She may, however, have to admit to being less than infallible on the procedures of LASA.

The rules about resolutions are clearly stated in the By-laws, so there is not much room for ignoring rules or creating trends. The process remains as transparent and no more bureaucratic than the by-laws make them. Prior to LASA98, every proposed resolution in recent memory submitted on time by individuals who were members of the Association when the proposal was submitted (with the exception of an ad hominem proposal a few years ago that was adjudged by the LASA Executive Council [EC] to be unfair) has reached the floor of the business meetings.

The proposed resolution on the Multilateral Agreement on Investment (MAI), which I received as chair of the subcommittee on resolutions for LASA98, was an exception. I have already written about this in the Winter 1999 issue of the Forum. Contrary to what Professor Weber states, the MAI proposed resolution was properly submitted to the subcommittee on resolutions, of which I was the chair. It must be emphasized that the EC is fully within its rights not to consider a proposed resolution for presentation at the business meeting until it has a face-to-face meeting. This was the case with the MAI resolution, and no rules were violated in the process. What did go wrong here was that neither Professor Weber nor any of the co-sponsors of the MAI resolution were advised about the decision of the EC not to present the document to the business meeting. Nor was she or the sponsors of the two additional proposed resolutions properly notified earlier that consideration of their proposals would be delayed until the EC met face-to-face at LASA98 (thus precluding their prior publication in the Forum, or discussion in a LASA98 session preceding the business meeting). That was my oversight alone and I have already apologized for those omissions.

With respect to the last few paragraphs of Professor Weber’s letter, I simply wish to note that the Latin American Studies Association continues to be empowered by its charter to produce resolutions in accordance with the wishes of its membership, and as long as the resolutions process is on the books during my presidency I intend to see to it that proposed resolutions submitted properly are processed in accordance with the rules and regulations that govern the process. Hence it is that I have encouraged the LASA Executive Director to publish once again in this issue of the Forum the procedures for submitting proposed resolutions, and the process through which a properly submitted document will go forward.

June 5, 1999

To the Editor:

The Central America Reconstruction Project is a completely volunteer effort of CARECEN Los Angeles. In the aftermath of Hurricane Mitch we sent food, clothing, and medicine throughout Central America and have sponsored agricultural projects in El Salvador. Currently we are supplying small charity clinics in Honduras and El Salvador with medical equipment and medications, and we are rebuilding three schools in Choluteca, Honduras.

We invite LASA members to visit our website at http://www.centralamericarelief.org.

Thank you very much,

Ruth Lindo M.D.
Central America Reconstruction Project of CARECEN
rlindomd@centralamericarelief.org

To the Editor:

My name is Nikolas Kozloff, and I am a graduate student in Latin American history at the University of Miami. One of my particular areas of interest is Colombia, which as I am sure you are aware, is engulfed in much violence currently. Just a few days ago, Héctor Henao, a professor at the University of Antioquia, and director of anthropological and environmental studies there, was killed. Henao is the seventh faculty member in ten years to be killed at the University of Antioquia. There have also been killings and disappearances of other academics in Bogotá, including Elsa and Mario Calderón, shot in their house by paramilitaries.

It is unclear who might have been responsible for the killing of Dr. Henao. However, any professor who brings up environmental or social issues is at extreme risk in Colombia from right wing or paramilitary elements. At this point, what is needed is a full scale investigation into the killing of Dr. Henao, and a pledge on the part of the government to protect academic freedom and to rein in paramilitary groups.

I think it would be excellent if LASA members could demonstrate their serious concern about this repulsive incident by writing to the authorities in Colombia and to the Colombian press.

Nikolas Kozloff
May 25, 1999
PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL NOTES

Manuel Fernández-Alemany (Ph.D. candidate in Social Anthropology, University of Southern California) has been awarded a Rockefeller fellowship for the year 1999-2000 to conduct postdoctoral work on his project Creating Dialogues: Conversations and Ruptures between Normative Identities and Alternative Behaviors in the Bisexual Male, Latin America at the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity, University of California, San Diego.

Kevin R. Johnson, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Professor of Law at the University of California, Davis, has published How Did You Get to Be Mexican? A White/Brown Man's Search for Identity (Temple University Press, 1999). This book documents Johnson's experiences on the border between the Anglo and Latina/o worlds, including his years at Harvard Law School, and uses them as a lens for analyzing multiculturalism, civil rights, and Latino/as in the United States.

Kathleen R. Martin, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Florida International University has won the 1999 Sturgis Leavitt Award for her publication, "From the Heart of a Woman: Yucatec Maya Women as Political Actors," which appeared in the Journal Sex Roles 39, nos. 7/8: 559-571. The Sturgis Leavitt Award is given each year by SECOLAS (South East Council on Latin American Studies) for the best publication by a SECOLAS member.

NEH Grant to Preserve Renowned Bolivian Collection at Hillman Library

The Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce that the University Library System has received a $219,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to preserve part of the Bolivian materials in the Eduardo Losano Latin American Library Collection. The Bolivian collection, considered one of the most comprehensive in the world, contains over 9,300 volumes, 148 periodical titles, and 1,200 pamphlets. It contains more materials on Bolivia than any other institution in the country itself. The Bolivian collection has outstanding holdings on Bolivia's wars and all post-revolution military and civilian governments, as well as microfilmed documents on the country's internal affairs, political relations between the U.S. and Bolivia, the Bolivian legislature, and many other areas. The holdings are rich in the humanities and social sciences and are used by scholars from around the world. The grant will help to preserve on microfilm hundreds of documents that are out of print, scarce, expensive, lightly damaged, or stained. ■

IN MEMORIAM

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY'S CARIBBEAN PROJECT HOLDS PROGRAM ON "CUBA'S USE OF SPORTS DIPLOMACY" IN MEMORY OF BARRY SKLAR

Georgetown University's Caribbean Project, directed by Gillian Gunn Clissold, held a program on "Cuba's Use of Sports Diplomacy" on April 21, 1999, in memory of Barry Sklar who had been commissioned by the Caribbean Project to write a report on this topic when he died unexpectedly in June 1997.

During the program, Professors Philip Brenner and Paula Pettavino of American University reported on Cuba's use of sports to promote mass participation, nationalism, and international fame, drawing from their monograph entitled The Role of Sports in Cuba's Domestic and International Policy (Georgetown University Cuba Briefing Paper, Number 21, April 1999). Scott Armstrong, Executive Director of the Information Trust, and one of the main organizers of the March 28 and May 3 baseball games between the Baltimore Orioles and the Cuban national team, described the lengthy negotiations leading to the holding of the games. Family and friends of Barry Sklar were in attendance for the program and the reception afterwards.

Barry Sklar was a longtime member of the Latin American Studies Association, attending and participating in many of the International Congresses, serving as a member of LASA's Task Force on Cuba, and working throughout his life to improve relations between the United States and Cuba.

He grew up in Philadelphia, earned a B.A. in history and political science from Temple University, and headed for Washington, D.C. in 1959. In subsequent years, while working full time, he earned an M.A. in political science and international relations from Georgetown University in 1963, and he completed course work and exams for the Ph.D. degree in international relations at American University.

From 1961 to 1980, Sklar worked as a Latin American specialist in the Library of Congress, mostly in the Foreign Affairs Division of the Congressional Research Service, where he served as the head of the Regional Studies section. Some of his most important work was on Cuba, and many of his reports were turned into congressional reports. He wrote a report on his trip to Cuba in 1975 during which he was injured in a car accident and received treatment in Cuban hospitals; he wrote reports on the movement toward normalization with the United States in the 1970s; and he wrote a major report on the mass exodus of Cubans in 1980, which was included in Irving Louis Horowitz's Cuban Communism.
From 1980 to 1991, Sklar worked as a professional staff member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, providing advice on Latin American issues for Democratic Members when they were in the minority (1981-87) or in the majority (1980, 1987-91). He worked closely with Chairman Claiborne Pell in the later period, accompanying him on many trips to Cuba and the region. He also worked closely with Senator Terry Sanford on the creation of the International Commission on Central American Recovery and Development. Sklar worked extensively on Central American issues, traveled frequently to Latin America, and promoted human rights in many countries. Speakers at his funeral mentioned that his efforts had saved the lives of many people.

From 1991 to 1997, Sklar was an international consultant for Sklar Associates, serving primarily as the Director of the Washington offices of the International Center for Economic Growth (ICEG) and the Institute for International Sport. He worked to encourage humane economic reform in the former, and to promote international cooperation and the World Scholar-Athlete Games in the latter.

He died unexpectedly in June 1997 of a heart attack, leaving a wife (Judy) and two sons (Joel and Adam). While his professional accomplishments were notable, it was his ability to truly care for many people that is most missed by his many friends.

K. Larry Storrs
Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress

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ON AND BY LASA SECTIONS

LASA Research Trip to Cuba,
April 3-April 12, 1999
by Jean Weisman, City College of New York
jbwcc@cunyvm.cuny.edu

LASA’s research trip to Cuba, co-sponsored by the LASA Section on Cuba and the University of Havana, was a great success. While the LASA task force on Cuba had previously organized small research trips for Cuba scholars, this was the first time that LASA organized a trip to Cuba which was open to all LASA members. The trip included faculty and administrators from the United States, England and Japan. The participants were: Monti Castañeda (Institute of International Education); Michele Forsten (Long Island University); Elizabeth Garrels (Massachusetts Institute of Technology); Dawn Keremitsis (West Valley College); Marilyn Miller (Catholic University); Peter Ranis (York College and Graduate Center, CUNY); Lorraine Roses (Bunting Institute/Radcliffe College/Harvard University); Barbara Schroder (Graduate Center, CUNY); Yoshiko Shigaki (Iwate Prefectural University); and Jean Weisman (City College of New York). Jean Stubbs (University of North London) joined us for part of the trip. In Cuba, our trip was organized by four professors and administrators from the University of Havana: Lourdes Tabares, Vice-Rector; José Ramón Méndez, International Relations; Norma Vásallo, Professor of Psychology and Director of Women’s Studies; and Elvira Díaz Vallina, Professor of Philosophy and History. The research themes of the trip were academic exchanges, women’s studies, labor history, literature, and U.S.-Cuba relations. We either visited or met with people from the following entities:

♦ University of Havana
  Departments of Women’s Studies, Sociology, Psychology, Economics, Political Science, Anthropology, and Literature
♦ Temas
  A journal published in Havana about culture, ideology and society
♦ Center for the Study of Political Alternatives (CEAP)
♦ Biblioteca Nacional José Martí
♦ Federation of Cuban Women
♦ Sex Education Center
♦ Center for the Study of the United States (CEEU)
♦ Callejón de Hamel
  Afro-Cuban community-based art and music program in Central Havana
♦ Casa de Las Américas
♦ International Relations Higher Education Institute (ISRI)
♦ Che Guevara Memorial in Santa Clara
♦ The Women’s Studies Program,
  University of Villa Clara in Santa Clara
♦ Constantino Pérez Carotegua Cigar Factory in Santa Clara
♦ Cuban Labor Federation (CTC) in Santa Clara
♦ Casa de la Trova- Trinidad (Musical Program)
♦ Valle de los Ingenios- former sugar mills

The program was set up to encourage as much interaction as possible between trip participants and individuals in Cuba. Many of the visits involved half of the group or a few people. We definitely benefitted from the years of experience of LASA members working with Cuban scholars and many Cubans told us
how much they respect LASA. Rafael Hernández, director of Temas, told us that LASA is seen as a positive example of academic relations between Cuba and the United States and as a clear alternative to the Track Two policy of the Torricelli Act (which was designed to subvert the Cuban government).

Following are reports from some of the participants:

Barbara Schroder: Three members of our group met with about 15 members of the Cátedra de la Mujer (Women's Studies Program). The program involves an interdisciplinary group of scholars from various departments (we met mostly with psychologists and sociologists) of the University of Havana as well as several different research institutions that work together around their common interest in women's issues. The very dynamic group has just initiated a Master's Degree program in Women's Studies at the University of Havana. They briefly described some of their research projects, which include work on the image of Cuban women in tourist promotions, the differential impact of the economic changes of the 90's on the genders (harder on women), women in management, sexuality and male-female relations in the home. After that, they entertained our questions about various aspects of their work. Topics we discussed further included a more in-depth discussion of the effects of the current economic changes on gender relations; the differences between the experiences of Cuban and Puerto Rican women; and research on lesbians.

Dawn Keremitsis: I had spent many hours at the Biblioteca Nacional José Martí when I was in Havana before and the women in the Cuban section remembered me. Our group tour started with visiting the many departments and observing people at work to modernize the library's data. Enrique Sosa helped me locate documents critical to my research on the tobacco workshop in the early Havana hospice. The hospice opened in 1790 and continued through the twentieth century; the tobacco workshop closed around 1830.

In the tobacco factory I visited in 1986 the women stemmers (despilladoras) were separated from the larger room where male tabaqueros rolled the cigars. In 1999 in Santa Clara both men and women were rolling cigars (more women than men). Unlike in my first visit, news was being read over speakers installed in many areas of the factory. Both men and women were involved. Readers started in 19th Century Havana, paid by workers' contributions; the tabaqueros selected books, newspapers and articles they wanted to listen to (including works of Marx and books on the French Revolution). Cuba's first strike occurred when the owner of a major factory, concerned that the workers might develop revolutionary ideas, banned the readers. In 1999 in Santa Clara, it appears that the factory management paid the individual to read the news and daily information in the morning hours and a novel, voted on by the workers, in the afternoon.

Marilyn Miller: Despite being in the middle of a holdings inventory, staff members at the Biblioteca Nacional José Martí were very helpful in providing archival access. I studied the original manuscripts of the nineteenth century slave poet and autobiographer Juan Francisco Manzano, documents which are housed only in this collection. I am comparing my findings there with a first edition of Manzano's work, which appeared in London in English in 1845, and is housed in the Rare Books Section at the Library of Congress. Since many versions of Manzano's texts exist, and alteration of the original manuscripts was significant, I hope through this comparative assessment to explore issues of authority and textual control for Manzano as a writer both before and after he was granted his freedom.

Elizabeth Garrels: On the morning of April 7, 1999, we were taken to a private reception room at the Cuban National Assembly (Asamblea Nacional de Poder Popular). Ricardo Alarcón, President of the Assembly, spent an hour and a half graciously answering our questions. When asked to identify the issues currently under consideration by the Assembly, he named proposals for new or revised laws (meant to translate into law the principles of the Cuban Constitution of 1992) on such questions as citizenship, education, drug traffic control and abortion rights. To a question about women's participation in the National Assembly, Mr. Alarcón responded that in the half of the Assembly's membership that represents the country's municipalities, the number of women has decreased in the 1990s. However in the other half made up of representatives elected at large by the entire national electorate, the number of women has remained constant or increased. He attributed the decrease in municipality representation to the unequal impact of the present economic crisis on men and women. Women, he said, have been harder hit because to compensate for the direct effects of the crisis on their families, they have had to make great sacrifices in their disposable time and consequently have less time now for direct political participation. To a question about tourism, Mr. Alarcón responded that the state is fully
aware of the ideological problems posed by the volume of tourism.

We also spent considerable time discussing the blockade. One of us observed that a widely-held perception in the U.S. is that White House policies toward Cuba are driven more by domestic than by international politics since it is believed that no one can win the presidency without carrying Florida and New Jersey, both of which have significant Cuban voting blocks. Mr. Alarcon disagreed, responding that over the years the U.S. government has allowed these lobbies to develop so that they could serve as a convenient excuse when in fact policy was driven by other factors. He proposed that the blockade has been maintained as a bargaining chip for U.S.-Cuban negotiations, but that the only time that such leverage might have been used successfully was at the beginning of the Cuban revolution when the terms of future U.S. relations were being established; now, he said, its usefulness for bargaining was gone.

Peter Ranis: CESEU (Center for the Study of the United States) studies the U.S. economy, foreign policy, internal politics, ideological currents, political parties, social movements (women, unions, racial minorities, immigrants from Latin America), the political process and decision-making. Founded in 1981, since 1998 it has been subdivided into three sections: a) politics; b) economics; c) history, culture and society. It is projecting a Master's degree in Inter-American Relations with a focus on relations between Cuba and the U.S. CESEU is affiliated with the University of Havana and the Cuban Academy of Sciences. Three men and five women make up the board of directors of CESEU and five of the fourteen researchers are women.

Luis Gonzalez Morales observed that change in Cuba is likely to be gradual, slow and contradictory. A collapse is very unlikely and he expects a "criollo socialism of the market." He doubted a "Puertoricization" of Cuba. He sees an eventual normalization of relations with the United States, given, for example, the Pope's visit and the pressures from the North American business community for trade with Cuba. Nevertheless, he feels that the bottom line for Cuba is preservation of its independence from U.S. political domination.

Temas, a quarterly publication founded in 1995, is dedicated to culture, ideology and society. In its initial issue, the editorial board emphasized that "Temas will incorporate distinct positions and interpretations that can enrich our understanding of contemporary problems from a culturally integrative and multidisciplinary perspective. We want to stimulate the discussion of differences and the exchange of opinion. We intend to explore contemporary Cuban pluralism not only from the diverse fields of knowledge, but from a variety of generations, gender backgrounds and schools of thought...." Rafael Hernandez is director, and Alfredo Prieto, editor.

The Instituto Superior de Relaciones Internacionales was founded in 1976 to provide primarily post-graduate training for the foreign service and graduates approximately ten master's degree candidates each year. The Institute works under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Relations and the Institute of Higher Education but sees itself as "very independent." According to Carlos Azuzgaray, most diplomatic appointments are now to career diplomats but a few ambassadorial posts are filled by political appointees.

Lorraine Roses: The group visited a narrow street in Central Havana, Callejon de Hamel, that has been transformed visually and culturally by artist Salvador Gonzalez. Gonazlez's color-splashed canvases, incorporating Afro-Cuban spiritual themes, cover every inch of wall in his two room gallery. On the street outside the studio are murals that grace walls both at eye level and on upper stories of apartment buildings. A group of female drummers arrived at the gallery and performed for us a stirring program in the Afro-Cuban musical and vocal tradition. The Callejon de Hamel community participates and takes pride in the execution of this outdoor art that represents them and their cultural heritage.

In Santa Clara we met with a group of five women and one male faculty member of the University of Villa Clara in the Women's Studies Program, the first in the country, and preceding that of the University of Havana. Their work is concerned primarily not with theory but with the application of the knowledge gained from the study of women and society. Identified closely with the Cuban Women's Federation, they devote their efforts to such social work programs as education for female prisoners and re-education for women who have engaged in prostitution.

Yoshiko Shigaki was invited by the Cuban Federation of Women to attend a community meeting which reminded her of meetings in neighborhoods in Japan. She provided us with literature from the following programs:

a) Cátedra de La Mujer, Universidad de la Habana
   Programa de Maestra, Estudios de Género-Mujer
   Dra. Norma Vasallo
   San Rafael No. 1168, Esquina Mazón, Zona 4
   Código Postal 10400, Ciudad Habana, Cuba
   e-mail: cmujer@psico.uh.cu

b) Casa de Orientación a la Mujer y la Familia
   Federación de Mujeres Cubanas
   Calle 2 #509 e/21 y 23
   Plaza de la Revolución, Ciudad de la Habana
   Tel: 30-4433

c) Centro de Estudios de La Mujer
   Federación de Mujeres Cubanas
   Pasco No. 260 Esquina Calle 13
   Vedado, Plaza de la Revolución, Ciudad de la Habana, Cuba
   Tel: 55-2779

From October 25 to October 29, 1999, the Women's Studies Program at the University of Havana will hold its third international workshop entitled "Women on the Threshold of the Twenty-First Century." If you would like information, contact: Dra. Norma Vasallo (contact information above) or call Bob Guild at Marazul Tours at 800-223-5334. ■
New Treasury Department Regulations Concerning Travel to Cuba

by Jean Weisman, City College of New York
Chair of the Freedom to Travel Subcommittee of the LASA Section on Cuba

On May 10, 1999, the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Treasury Department issued new regulations concerning travel to Cuba (available at: www.treas.gov/ofac).

While we still have a long way to go before we reach our goal of ending all restrictions by the U.S. government on travel to Cuba, the travel of professionals who travel to Cuba to do full-time research now can be covered by a general license. U.S. travel agencies with a travel provider’s license are allowed to make travel arrangements for full-time professionals if they sign a travel advisory issued by the travel agency. (Marazul Tours, which has extensive experience in organizing travel to Cuba, has a travel provider’s license and can be reached at 800-223-5334). Professional researchers must agree to involve themselves in a full academic and noncommercial work schedule that is likely to produce findings for public dissemination.

Accredited U.S. academic institutions will be allowed to apply for a two-year license for structured educational programs for undergraduate and graduate students enrolled in their colleges or universities. There is also a provision for educational exchanges for secondary school students in a structured educational program and provisions allowing full-time professionals to attend professional meetings or conferences in Cuba when they are organized by international professional organizations not based in the United States (unless the U.S. based organization obtained a license). Specific licenses can be issued for multiple trips to Cuba for "private foundations or research or educational institutes with an established interest in international relations."

The change in regulations came about as a result of the strong opposition to travel restrictions from the academic community. Numerous LASA members defied the regulations by traveling to Cuba without a license. Many LASA members, who were involved in organizing academic exchanges, made numerous calls to the Treasury Department complaining about the procedures, and sent letters and faxes to members of the Clinton administration urging them to end travel restrictions. Organizations such as the Center for Cuban Studies and Global Exchange have been especially active in organizing educational programs and opposition to the restrictions.

On November 20, 1998, I represented the LASA Section on Cuba at the "Cuba Consultation" which took place in Washington, D.C. This meeting was organized by the Cuba Steering Committee, which includes representatives of the American Friends Service Committee, the Center for International Policy, the Cuban American Alliance, the Cuban Committee for Democracy, Global Exchange, the Interreligious Foundation for Community Organizing, Latin America Working Group, Oxfam America, the Washington Office on Latin America and Americans for Humanitarian Trade with Cuba. The meeting involved a review of legislation concerning Cuba, and those present formed committees to work on issues such as passage of a law which would end the embargo on food and medicine sales to Cuba, an end to travel restrictions, an end to sanctions provided by the Helms-Burton law, TV Marti, drug cooperation, and remittances.

In January, after President Clinton announced that there would be changes in terms of regulations concerning travel to Cuba, memos were sent by email to all members of the Section urging them to contact members of the U.S. Treasury Department, the State Department and the National Security Council. On February 2, 1999, I sent a letter to Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin which stated: "As chair of the Freedom to Travel Subcommittee of the Latin American Studies Association Section on Scholarly Relations with Cuba, I would like to urge you to return to the regulations that existed prior to August, 1994, which allowed full-time professionals engaged in research in their area of expertise to travel to Cuba if there was a likelihood that their research would be disseminated." I then explained the procedures which were used prior to August, 1994, which allowed us to sign a statement provided by travel agencies such as Marazul Tours, rather than apply to the Treasury Department for a license. I then provided examples of the numerous problems LASA members had been having in terms of traveling to Cuba to do research and organizing academic exchanges. I received a letter from Allen Keller, the Director of the Office of Public Correspondence of the Treasury Department who stated "I have forwarded your suggestions to OFAC and asked that they be taken into consideration in drafting the new regulations."

On February 4, Gillian Gunn Clissold of the Caribbean Project at Georgetown University organized a meeting entitled "A Discussion Regarding the Implementation of the Clinton Administration's January 5 Measures Toward Cuba." Sheryl Lutjens, chair of the LASA section on Scholarly Relations with Cuba and I attended this meeting which included representatives of academic and non-governmental organizations and members of the U.S. Treasury Department, the State Department and the National Security Council. We stated that LASA has consistently opposed restrictions on travel to Cuba and called for a return to a general license for professional research in Cuba. There was general agreement from those present about the need to return to the general license.
We have a long way to go to meet the goal of ending the U. S. embargo against Cuba, an embargo which has been overwhelmingly opposed by LASA members for many years. Our basic human rights are being violated every time we are required to apply for a license. The rights of U. S. citizens who would like to travel to Cuba but cannot are constantly being violated. Our years of experience as professors and researchers and our moral indignation, combined with organized protests, personal visits, letters, phone calls, faxes and email to policy makers, can make a difference.

OPPORTUNITIES ON-LINE

Indigenous Peoples
E-Resources for Latin American Studies
by Rhonda L. Neugebauer
Wichita State University
rhonda@southwind.net

This column includes reviews of six websites that facilitate research on indigenous peoples, nations and communities. The websites offer autochthonous perspectives on modern-day indigenous peoples and communities and are noteworthy documentation, testimonial and advocacy efforts. While this column merely skims the surface of the web-based information available on indigenous peoples, these resources can be used as starting points for research, networking and connecting to related sites, information and discussions. The reviewed sites include projects by a research center, several support and solidarity organizations, and a progressive electronic network, and represent a host of volunteer undertakings by individuals who have contributed their expertise to develop forums for indigenous thought and action.

1. Fourth World Documentation Project: Indigenous Peoples’ Information for the Online Community http://www.halcyon.com/FWDP/fwdp.html. Begun in 1992, this project, also called the Chief George Manuel Library and Archive, is an ambitious documentary undertaking sponsored by the Center for World Indigenous Studies, and directed by John H. Burrows. The FWDP has compiled and made available information about indigenous peoples’ ideas, knowledge and history of struggle around the world. On this award-winning website, there are over 500 full-text documents, including essays, accords, position papers, declarations, resolutions, organizational information, treaties, UN documents, speeches, letters and agreements. These materials are important for research on Indian society and governing, inter-tribal organization, and the history of Indian nations’ political, cultural, strategic and human rights struggles. At this time, the strength of this site is U. S. and Canadian nations with a small number of documents on Latin America. The Latin American section, "North, Central and South American Documents," contains several dozen documents on indigenous groups in Nicaragua, Mexico, Ecuador, and Panama. According to John Burrows, future projects include digitizing the remaining documents in the CWIS paper collection, and translating site documents into Spanish. Given the proclaimed worldwide scope of these archives, this site holds promise for the future, once stable routines of updating and currency are implemented. Contact: John Burrows, jburrows@halcyon.com. [Site viewed June 8, 1999].

2. Indigenous Peoples http://www.igc.org/igc/issues/indigenous.html. The Indigenous Peoples page is part of the website of the Institute for Global Communications (which is the U.S. member of the Association for Progressive Communications, a global network of independently operated computer networks). This site contains 34 annotated descriptions and links to organizations that focus on indigenous issues. Among the sites listed here, only three sites are primarily on Latin America, but there are several links for organizations that include some coverage of Latin America. Several of the sites mentioned on this page are reviewed in this column (SAIIC, NativeWeb, FWDP). [Sites viewed June 8, 1999].

NativeWeb http://www.nativeweb.org; South and Meso-American Indian Rights Center, (SAIIC) http://www.nativeweb.org/saic/; and Abya Yala Net http://www.nativeweb.org/abyayala. Interconnected and published as collaborative efforts, these three websites
highlight their advocacy work, resources and contacts as supporters of indigenous groups/rights, and provide complementary and some overlapping coverage of indigenous peoples. A related component of these joint efforts involves assisting Latin American indigenous groups to develop websites and resources on the Internet. NativeWeb covers indigenous issues throughout the world, some of which are about Latin America. SAIC disseminates information, especially relevant to current events and news, about Latin American indigenous struggles (and has recently changed leadership, causing delays in their updating). And the Abya Yala Net provides extensive resources on Latin American indigenous communities, including primary documents/declarations, searchable indexes, links to related sites on Latin America, and information about organizational and financial support for indigenous organizing.

3. Zapatistas in Cyberspace, a guide to analysis and resources [http://www.eco.uchicago.edu/homepages/faculty/Cleaver/zapsincyber.html](http://www.eco.uchicago.edu/homepages/faculty/Cleaver/zapsincyber.html). Written and published by Harry M. Cleaver, associate professor of economics at the University of Texas at Austin, this document is an excellent annotated guide to 64 zapatista related resources. It includes links to articles, Internet lists and newsgroups, websites, photographs, and archives. Published on the Internet since fall 1996, the guide provides links to many important and very active groups and websites in support of indigenous movements in Mexico, and contains descriptions of the related resources on one continuous page. Issued as a report for Acción Zapatista de Austin, an active solidarity committee in Austin, Texas, this guide is intended to facilitate gathering and disseminating information about the zapatistas and democratic movements in Mexico and is a superb pathfinder for the tremendous amount of current information (news, action alerts, discussion lists) available in support of the indigenous social struggles in Chiapas. Acción Zapatista also sponsors two very active mailing lists, Chiapas95, which distributes news and communiques about Chiapas and Mexico culled from other lists on the Internet (and is not a discussion group), and zapatismo, which promotes discussion and analysis about zapatista revolutionary organizing and its application to other countries/circumstances (and is a discussion group). Contact Harry M. Cleaver, hmcleave@eco.uchicago.edu; and Acción Zapatista [http://www.uchicago.edu/student/nave/](http://www.uchicago.edu/student/nave/). [Sites viewed June 8, 1999].

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**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

The Kellogg Institute at the University of Notre Dame announces its position in Mexican Studies. We seek candidates with outstanding scholarly and teaching records who have made major contributions to understanding modern Mexico. We are open to candidates at any level, from Assistant Professor (tenure-track) to Endowed Chair and from any of the social sciences or history. Appointment will be made in conjunction with the department of Anthropology, Economics, Government, History, or Sociology and will have special funding. In addition, the position will involve participation in the intellectual life of the Kellogg Institute for International Studies at Notre Dame, a well-endowed interdisciplinary institute with particular expertise on Latin America. Notre Dame is an AA/EO employer. Please send a C.V., two writing samples, teaching evaluations and three letters of recommendation to:

Mexican Studies Search Committee
Kellogg Institute for International Studies
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556-5677

The deadline for applications is September 24, 1999.

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**RESEARCH AND STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

The Woodrow Wilson Center annually awards residential fellowships to approximately 20 individuals with outstanding project proposals in the social sciences and humanities on national and international issues. In the tradition of President Woodrow Wilson, the Center especially welcomes projects likely to foster communication between the world of ideas and the world of public affairs. Projects should have some relevance to the world of public policy and fellows should be prepared to be in residence at the Center and to interact with policymakers working on similar issues. Men and women from any country and from a wide variety of backgrounds may apply. Applicants must hold a doctorate or have equivalent professional accomplishments. Fellows are provided offices, access to the Library of Congress, computers or manuscript typing services, and research assistants. Fellowships are normally for an academic year. Limited funds make it desirable for most applicants to seek supplementary sources of funding. The average support is $44,000, inclusive of travel expenses and 75
percent of health insurance premiums for fellows, their spouses, and their dependent children. For application materials write to:
Fellowships Office
Woodrow Wilson Center
One Woodrow Wilson Plaza
1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-3027
Tel: 202-691-4170; Fax: 202-691-4001; E-mail: fellowships@wwic.si.edu; Website: http://wwics.si.edu
Application deadline: October 1, 1999

◆ The Social Science Research Council announces its Research and Training Fellowship on Collective Memory of Repression: Comparative Perspectives on Democratization Processes in Latin America’s Southern Cone competition for the year 2000. This year-long fellowship is to enable junior researchers based in the Southern Cone and Ph.D. candidates at U.S. universities to participate in a series of training workshops and to conduct field research on issues related to collective memory of repression. All program fellows participate in two intensive training workshops, held in the Southern Cone in March and December, which expose participants to analytical and methodological approaches to address issues related to collective memory. During the months between the two workshops, fellows based in Latin America conduct empirical research as part of a regional research team coordinated by Professor Elizabeth Jelin of the University of Buenos Aires. Fellows enrolled in U.S. Ph.D. programs are expected to carry out research for their dissertations during this period, though they may also contribute to the efforts of the regional team. This fellowship is intended to provide a minimum of half-time support. Applicants from the Southern Cone must have completed the master’s degree or its equivalent; applicants from U.S. universities must be candidates for the Ph.D. in social sciences or humanities and should be planning dissertation fieldwork in the Southern Cone on a memory-related topic during 2000. The fellowship begins on March 1, 2000. Successful applicants will be notified of their selection by November 15, 1999. For further information contact:
E-mail: lichtenfeld@ssrc.org;
Website: www.ssrc.org/latinamer/LAmpemp.htm
Application deadline: October 1, 1999

◆ The National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Council of Learned Societies have set aside special funding for eight ACLS/SSRC/NEH International and Area Studies Fellowships to be designated among the successful applicants to the central ACLS Fellowship competition. Scholars who are at least two years beyond the Ph.D. may apply for 6-12 month fellowships to pursue research and writing on the societies and cultures of Asia, Africa, the Near and Middle East, Latin America, East Europe and the former Soviet Union. Further information, eligibility guidelines and application forms are available from:
Office of Fellowships and Grants
ACLs, 228 East 45th Street

New York, NY 10017-3398
E-mail: grants@acls.org; Fax: 212-949-8058
Application deadline: October 1, 1999

◆ The National Humanities Center announces its 2000-2001 fellowship competition. The Center offers 35-40 residential fellowships for advanced study in all fields of the humanities. Both senior and younger scholars are eligible, but the latter should be engaged in research beyond the subject of their doctoral dissertations. Fellowships are for the academic year (September through May). Scholars from any nation may apply. Humanistically inclined individuals from the natural and social sciences, the arts, the professions, and public life may also apply. Among its grants for 2000-2001, the Center will award 3-4 Lilly Fellowships for the study of religion by humanistic scholars from fields other than religion and theology. Lilly Fellows will form the core of a monthly seminar on religion and the humanities. The Center will also award a senior Burroughs Wellcome Fund Fellowship for which historians of medicine or biomedical science, medical anthropologists, and other scholars whose work concerns the history of twentieth-century medicine are encouraged to apply. The Center also invites applications from scholars whose research focuses on important literary works to form a fellows seminar on issues of interpretation. Fellowship stipends are individually determined, the amount of a stipend depending upon the needs of the fellow and upon the Center’s ability to meet them. As the Center cannot in most instances replace full salaries, applicants are urged to seek partial funding in the form of sabbatical salaries or grants from other sources. The Center does not cover fringe benefits. In addition to stipends, the Center provides travel expenses for fellows and their dependents to and from North Carolina. Applicants submit the Center's forms supported by a curriculum vitae, a 1000-word project proposal, and three letters of recommendation. The National Humanities Center does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, national or ethnic origin, handicap, sexual orientation, or age. The Center’s web site can be found at: www.nhc.rtp.nc.us:8080. For application material, write to:
Fellowship Program
National Humanities Center
Post Office Box 12256, Research Triangle Park
North Carolina 27709-2256.
Applications deadline: October 15, 1999

◆ The United States Institute of Peace invites applications for both the 2000-2001 Senior Fellowship and the 2000-2001 Peace Scholar competitions in the Jennings Randolph Program for International Peace. The United States Institute of Peace is an independent, nonpartisan institution created by Congress to strengthen the nation's capacity to promote the peaceful resolution of international conflict. Senior Fellowships are awarded annually to scholars and practitioners from a variety of professions, including college and university faculty, journalists, diplomats, writers, educators, military officers, international...
negotiators and lawyers. The Institute funds projects related to preventive diplomacy, ethnic and regional conflicts, peacekeeping and peace operations, peace settlements, post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation, democratization and the rule of law, cross-cultural negotiations, U.S. foreign policy in the 21st century, and related topics. Fellows reside at the Institute for a period of up to ten months to conduct research on their projects, consult with staff, and contribute to the ongoing work of the Institute. Projects which demonstrate relevance to current policy debates will be highly competitive. The fellowship award includes a stipend, an office with computer and voice mail, and a part-time research assistant. The competition is open to citizens of all nations. Women and members of minorities are especially encouraged to apply. All application materials must be received in our offices by September 15, 1999. The Peace Scholar program supports doctoral dissertations that explore the sources and nature of international conflict, and strategies to prevent or end conflict and to sustain peace. Dissertations from a broad range of disciplines and interdisciplinary fields are eligible. Peace Scholars work at their universities or appropriate field research sites. Priority will be given to projects that contribute knowledge relevant to the formulation of policy on international peace and conflict issues. Citizens of all countries are eligible, but must be enrolled in an accredited college or university in the United States. Applicants must have completed all requirements for the degree except the dissertation by the commencement of the award (September 1, 2000). The dissertation fellowship award is $14,000 for one year and may be used to support writing or field research. For more information and an application form, please visit the Institute’s website at www.usip.org or contact:

Jennings Randolph Program, U.S. Institute of Peace
1200 17th Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036-3011
Tel: 202-429-3886; fax: 202-429-6063;
E-mail: jrprogram@usip.org
Application deadline: November 15, 1999

The Kellogg Institute Residential Fellowships, 2000-2001
The Kellogg Institute for International Studies is dedicated to advancing research in comparative international studies. For the 2000-2001 academic year (August 23-May 12), the Kellogg Institute will offer up to eight residential fellowships of one or two semesters at the University of Notre Dame. Normally the awards are for one semester, but exceptions will be considered. Visiting Fellows work on individual or joint research projects related to the Institute's themes: 1) democratization and the quality of democracy; 2) paths to development; 3) religion and the Catholic Church; 4) social movements and organized civil society; and 5) public policies for social justice. While the Institute has emphasized Latin American research, proposals for projects on Europe, Asia, and Africa will be considered. The Institute seeks scholars of high accomplishment and promise from any country. Candidates should hold a Ph.D. or equivalent degree in any discipline of the social sciences or history. Applications will be evaluated individually, but joint projects will be considered. Stipends vary with seniority. Visiting Fellows have faculty status within the University and may hold joint appointments in academic departments for which they may be invited to teach a course. All Visiting Fellows receive subsidized housing on campus and may receive direct round-trip economy airfare. Awards will be announced by February 1, 2000. Additional information and application forms are available on the Kellogg Institute website www.nd.edu/~kellogg or by contacting:

Gabriela Mossi, Academic Coordinator
University of Notre Dame
The Kellogg Institute for International Studies
Notre Dame, Indiana 46556-5677
E-mail: Mossi.1@nd.edu; Fax: 219-631-6717.
Application deadline: November 16, 1999

The American Council of Learned Societies/Social Science Research Council Working Group on Cuba holds a biannual grant competition to promote academic collaboration between scholars in Cuba and North America. The competition and the availability of grants are contingent upon future funding. For further information:

E-mail: cuba@ssrc.org; Website: www.acls.org/pro-cuba.htm
Application deadlines vary, but usually occur in mid-summer and mid-winter.

The Project on Cities and Urban Knowledge, in New York University's International Center for Advanced Studies, is inviting applications for a variety of residential scholarships for 2000-2001. The theme is "Metropolitan Life and Culture." Center fellowships are also available. The Project on Cities and Urban Knowledges seeks to explore urban experience and understanding (disciplinary and popular) in an international and comparative context. Applications from candidates in all fields of the humanities and social sciences will be considered. Writers, artists, and urban professionals are also urged to apply. Women, members of minority groups, and foreign scholars are especially invited to apply. Fellowship applicants must have a Ph.D. or the professional equivalent in their field. The annual stipend is $35,000 for the academic year. Fellows will be provided with office space and faculty privileges at New York University, and every effort will be made to secure low-cost university housing for them. For information and application materials, please contact:

Fellowships, International Center for Advanced Studies
53 Washington Square South, Room 401
New York, NY 10012
Fax: 212-995-4546; E-mail: icas.cities@nyu.edu
Application deadline: January 14, 2000
The Center for Millennial Studies at Boston University in conjunction with the American Studies Department at Brandeis University announce the upcoming conference sponsored by the Lilly Endowment Foundation: *New World Orders: Milennialism in The Western Hemisphere*, to be held in Boston, Massachusetts November 7-9, 1999. An interdisciplinary inquiry examining the wide range of millennial movements in the Americas: their origins, traditions, interpretations and consequences, both religious and secular from the perspective of elite, popular, or counter-culture. The deadline for one-page abstracts submissions was July 1, 1999, but for more information contact:

Beth Forrest
Center for Millennial Studies at Boston University
704 Commonwealth Ave., Suite 205
Boston, MA 02215
Tel: 617-358-0226; E-mail: cms@mille.org;
Website: http://www.mille.org

La Asociación Latinoamericana de Sociología del Trabajo (ALAST) convoca al III Congreso Latinoamericano de Sociología del Trabajo que se realizará en Buenos Aires entre el 17 y el 20 de mayo del 2000, bajo el título: *El trabajo en los umbrales del Siglo XXI*. Se invita a todos los colegas e investigadores de la especialidad, a la participación y presentación de papers. El Congreso incluye Conferencias Magistrales, Simposios y Grupos de Trabajo. La presentación de trabajos y actividades grupales se hará en el marco de cuatro grandes áreas temáticas, las cuales, a su vez, podrán subdividirse en hasta tres grupos de trabajo simultáneos. Cada área temática está a cargo de un responsable nacional conjuntamente con un colega latinoamericano perteneciente al Consejo Directivo de la ALAST. **Educación y Trabajo**: María Antonia Gallart: gallart@cenep.satlink.net y Consuelo Iranzo: ciranzo@reaecium.ve. **Tecnología, organización y proceso de trabajo**: Jorge Walter: walter@udesa.edu.ar y Ema Massera: ema@cfsococi.edu.uy. **Mercados de Trabajo**: Adriana Marshall: marshall@mail.retina.ar y Nadya Araujo Guimaraes: nadya@uol.com.br. **Relaciones laborales**: Pedro Galín: igalín@mail.retina.ar y María Eugenia Trejos: espacios@sol.rae.ca.co.cr. **Consejo Académico**: Luis Beccaria*, Silvia Berger*, Rosalía Cortés*, Silvio Feldman, Floreal Forni, Roberto Frenkel, Pedro Galín, María A. Gallart*, Adrián Goldin, Adriana Marshall*, Alfredo Monza, Julio Neffa, Marta Novick*, Marta Panaia*, José Nun, Martha Roldan and Carlos Tomada. (*Comisión Organizadora). Para mayor información:

Gisela Waisgrais
Secretaria, Comisión Organizadora
gira7641@cvtci.com.ar.

Presentación de abstracts (síntesis de una página y una breve referencia curricular): 31 de julio, 1999.

The Popular Culture Association and American Culture Association will hold the fourth annual congress of popular culture on September 29-October 3, 1999 in Puebla, Mexico. The theme is *North America: Ending and Starting a Millennium*. This is the academic equivalent (a positive one) to NAFTA. Join us as we share our movement with a larger "America." Go to the national PCA website: http://hs-net.msu.edu/~pcaaca.

The Georgia Political Science Association (GPSA) invites proposals for papers and/or panels for its 2000 meeting, *Democracy in the 21st Century: New Challenges and New Opportunities*, to be held in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina on February 25-26, 2000. Send proposals and requests to serve as discussants or panel chairs to:

Michael J. Baun
Department of Political Science
Valdosta State University
Valdosta, GA 31698
Tel: 912-259-5082; E-mail: mbaun@valdosta.edu

For information on registration and lodging e-mail: hcline@warrior.mgc.peachnet.edu.

Deadline for proposals and panels is September 15, 1999.

The Canadian Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS) invites submissions for papers for its Annual Meeting 1999: *Latin America and the Caribbean into the Coming Millennium: Equity, Democracy and Sustainability*. The meeting will be held in Carleton University, Ottawa, Ontario on October 1-3, 1999. For more information contact:

CALACS, University of Ottawa
113 Osgoode
Ottawa Ontario, Canada K1N 6S1
Tel: 613-235-1901; Fax: (613) 235-1160;
Website: http://www.travel-net.com/~calacs/

The Rural Women's Studies Association invites proposals for individual papers, presentations, sessions, and workshops for its conference at the Minnesota History Center, St. Paul, Minnesota, June 22-25, 2000. The Program Committee welcomes proposals from an interdisciplinary perspective exploring all aspects of the lives of rural women and the historical interpretation of those lives. We continue to explore the intersections between academic concerns and farm activism, and we solicit participation by farm activists and presentations which address rural activism. We welcome papers which highlight local issues such as gardening among Hmong women and Latinas in the agricultural labor force. We especially welcome proposals from and about women outside the United States and solicit panels or papers which incorporate cross-cultural perspectives. We encourage alternative formats, such as book roundtables, documentary films, and open mike sessions. Individual presenters should send four copies of one page abstract. Proposers of full panels should send four copies of a session abstract (or description of alternative session type).
Potential presenters should also submit four copies of brief vitae which includes phone, e-mail, and fax number. Send proposals to:

Susan S. Rugh  
Department of History, 332 KMB  
Brigham Young University  
Provo, UT 84602  
Tel: 801-378-2742; E-mail: susan_rugh@byu.edu  

For questions about the conference or RWSA membership contact Debra Reid: at debraeid@aol.com or Ann McCleary at amcclear@westga.edu.

Deadline for proposals is October 15, 1999.

The Association of Academic Programs in Latin America and the Caribbean seeks proposals for papers and panels for its 11th annual meeting in Oaxaca, Mexico, from February 23-26, 2000. For details on topics and registration, contact:

Elizabeth Mahan (Program Chair), AAPLAC  
2000  
University of Connecticut,  
Center for Latin American Studies, 843 Bolton Road  
Storrs, CT 06269-1161  
Tel: 860-486-0488; Fax: 860-486-2963;

Deadline for receipt of proposals is January 15, 2000.

The second volume of Korean Journal of Latin American Studies (KJLAS) is due to be published this winter and contributions are welcomed. Articles should generally be no more than 10,000 words and may be submitted in English, Spanish, or Portuguese; they will be published in the original language. The deadline for volume 2 is August 31, 1999. For further details, please consult their website: http://plaza.snu.ac.kr/~kjlas. All inquiries should be directed to:

Dr. Jae-Sung Kwak, Managing Editor  
KJLAS c/o Department of Latin American Studies  
Sungmoon University  
100 Galsan-Ri, Tanjong-Myum, Asan, South Korea  
Tel: 82-418-530-2448; Fax: 82-418-530-2969;  
E-mail: kwakkwak@unitel.co.kr

American Studies International is planning a special issue on cultural, political, and economic concerns regarding Latin America and the United States. Essays should treat their topic in a broad way rather than focusing narrowly on foreign relations, diplomacy, or political economy. Treatments of labor, environmental issues, or cultural imperialism that take a "cultural turn" are especially welcome. We particularly encourage submissions from Latin American and Canadian authors. Essays should be 20-25 pages double-spaced, prepared using the Chicago manuscript style, and submitted in duplicate.

The deadline for submissions is August 16, 1999 and should be published in the October issue.

The Military and Naval History Journal is soliciting contributions from all persons interested in writing 15-30 pages, including endnotes, on any topic pertaining to the field of military history. Topics pertaining to Latin American military history are particularly welcome. The Journal sponsors a conference each April in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. The papers presented at the conference are published in the April issue. For those persons not wishing to participate in the conference but still wishing to publish in the journal, contributions on any topic in military history are welcome for the July issue. Deadline for the April 2000 issue is 1 November 1999. Deadline for the July 2000 issue is 1 April 2000. Further details are available from the editor:

Victoria Erhart, Editor  
Military and Naval History Journal  
P.O. Box 266  
Washington Grove, Maryland 20880-0266  
E-mail: 21erhart@cua.edu

Alice Trait and Guy Meiss, co-editors of a series of multicultural media for Greenwood Press, invite contributions that focus on the structure and operation of mass media that are
controlled, significantly influenced and owned by AHANA (African, Hispanic/Latin, Asian and Native Americans), the occupational roles and careers of their gatekeepers, the nature of the images they produce and distribute, and the effects those images have on their audiences. Research should consider the economic, political, and cultural environments in which they exist. All methodological approaches are welcome. Items to be considered include reports of original research including case studies, critical essays and professional profiles. Since the development of this five book series spans the next six years, proposals for work in progress or planned may be submitted, but the latter must articulate stage of development and expected completion date. For a list of specific topics, to discuss ideas, or to submit a manuscript or proposal, contact the co-editors at:

The AHANA Project, Department of Journalism
Central Michigan University
Anspach Hall 034, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859
Fax: 517-774-7114; E-mail: guy.t.meiss@cmich.edu
Please include a stamped, self-addressed postcard/envelope to acknowledge receipt or request the list of topics. Accepted manuscripts must be APA format and be submitted on an IBM-readable diskette.

The International Encyclopedia Society is now engaged in the revision of its six-volume survey of the world's 191 nations consisting of The Encyclopedia of the Third World (5th edition, 3 vols), The Encyclopedia of the Second World (2nd edition), The Encyclopedia of the First World (2nd edition, 2 vols). The volumes will be published in 2001 by Facts on File. The project is in need of country and area specialists to serve as freelance revisers and contributors and consultants to provide general advise and assistance. Revisions will involve updating the materials and condensing existing sections. They will receive suitable remuneration. The lead time will be six months from the date of formal agreement. For more information, write to:

George Kurian, Editor in Chief
International Encyclopedia Society
Post Office Box 519
Baldwin Place, NY 10505-0519

The Haworth Press, Inc., is pleased to announce that it is expanding its book publishing program to include a new imprint on Latin American research in Latin communities, both in the U.S. and in Latin America: The Haworth Hispanic/Latino Press. This new series will give priority to: gay, lesbian, and sexual minorities; gender; women; sustainable development; HIV and AIDS; reproductive rights and sexual education; prisons and criminality; drugs; violence; human rights; psychiatry and psychology; and sexuality. Inquiries about manuscripts to:

Jacobo Schifer, Editor-in-Chief
The Haworth Latin/Hispanic Press
10 Alice Street, Binghamton, NY 13904-1580
Fax: 607-722-6362; E-mail: ilpes@sol.racs.a.co.cr

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Contributions to the LASA Congress Travel Fund provide travel assistance to scholars residing in Latin America specifically for the next Congress. For tax purposes, gifts to any of the three funds may be fully deducted as a contribution to a non-profit organization. For more information please contact the LASA Secretariat at 412-648-1907.
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