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The Business Meeting, and Resolutions

In my last report, I ruminated on the early days of LASA, noting that for the first several years the number of members who voted at business meetings was far greater than the number of people who presented scholarly papers during the gatherings of those times. At the last several Congresses, in contrast, the business meetings have not attracted ten percent of those attending, the proportion of Congress registrants currently required in order to take binding votes. More than 3,000 LASA members registered for the Miami Congress of March 2000, for example, yet fewer than 175 of us were present for the quorum call at the business meeting. Something similar has occurred at the last several Congresses.

At most LASA Congresses (I think the hastily assembled post-Hugo Congress in Miami in 1989 may have been an exception), no other regular sessions or public events have been scheduled to compete with the business meeting. Still, attendance can only charitably be described as minimal. There are probably many reasons why more than ninety percent of those who attend LASA Congresses choose not to attend the business meeting, which in recent times has been scheduled on Friday evening after the second full day of panels and other sessions, leading into the prime dinner hour before the Gran Baile. In a sense the business meeting might be considered a formality, a vestigial remnant of the days when substantive business of LASA could be conducted in a couple of hours of discussion and voting every eighteen months. This is even more the case as recognition of award recipients is separated from consideration of, and voting on, motions. This might be the case, that is, were it not for the matter of resolutions.

The question of what should happen at the business meeting is an old one in LASA, particularly as it relates to resolutions on positions the association should take with regard to issues of the day. Despite various efforts to redefine the content and purpose of the business meeting within the large and complex events LASA Congresses have become, the questions persist, particularly regarding the resolution process. Since my last report I have carried out a fairly thorough review of what has appeared on these matters in the LASA Forum and its predecessor the Newsletter, especially over the past five years but with sporadic flare-ups at other times, and I came away with several impressions. I began the review with a vague optimism that I might be able to come up with the outline of a way of cutting the Gordian knot of the LASA resolutions process, but instead my eyes are glazed and my head is dazed. If any issue confirms the old adage that it is not possible to please all the people all the time, this is it. It has taken up an inordinate proportion of the time spent on procedural matters by the Executive Council (EC), has occupied the time and attention of several special committees, and has taken up copious column inches in the Forum. The issues involved are many, and range from the core definition of the purpose of the association and the role of informed scholars in public life, all the way to whether one would rather have dinner with old friends than sit through another round of parliamentary wrangling and laborious vote-taking.

Another impression, I think must be said, is the following: It seems apparent to me that many LASA members, possibly a large majority, are not centrally concerned with the resolution process, one way or another. I do not say this as a way of taking sides on the question, much less to belittle the issues raised in resolutions and the heartfelt commitment of those who propose, debate, and vote on them. Rather, I think it is a realistic assessment of the process as it has transpired in recent times. It seems to me that this possibility needs to be factored into any reconsideration of the business meeting generally, and the procedures by which resolutions are considered and voted upon specifically.

Finally, an aspect of these procedures which I think needs to be brought more to the fore is that the approval of any resolution by a vote of members attending the business meeting at the Congress is only one step of several. It is preceded by formulation and petition from the proposers and consideration by a subcommittee of the EC, and must be followed by a mail ballot of the full membership following the Congress. Only approval at the latter stage makes a resolution an official position or policy of the association. Thus, approval at the business meeting is analogous to a step in the process by which candidates for public office get a spot on the ballot of the general election. A favorable vote on a resolution at the business meeting does not in itself constitute a vote in favor of the content of the resolution, but is technically only a vote in favor of submitting the measure to the membership by mail ballot.

The agenda of the business meeting and the resolutions process will be revisited by the Executive Council, and we would be greatly aided in our deliberations if we have feedback from the
membership. If you think I am wrong in these impressions, I expect to hear from you. But if you think I am right, I would also like to hear from you, with any elaboration on these matters that you might wish to provide, on either side. It would only take a few moments to send a quick electronic note to me at tholloway@ucdavis.edu, or by paper mail to Hemispheric Institute on the Americas, University of California, Davis, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616.

Rural Mexico After the “Perfect Dictatorship”

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July 2, 2000 will be remembered as the day on which Mexico’s “perfect dictatorship” was shaken to its roots after 71 years of rule by the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI, Partido Revolucionario Institucional). Without major irregularities or violence, Vicente Fox, candidate of the right-of-center National Action Party (PAN, Partido de Acción Nacional), was elected president with an eight-percentage-point lead over the PRI candidate. The hardly imaginable just a few years ago came to pass, and Mexico now is waiting until December 1, 2000 to inaugurate a president from a party long in opposition.

The central question is whether this major electoral feat will result in substantial changes in governance and in the life chances for most Mexicans. This article offers some prosaic answers and questions, largely with respect to rural Mexico. They come primarily from a group of Mexican and Mexicanist scholars who met in a roundtable session I chaired for the 63rd Meeting of the Rural Sociological Society (RSS) in Washington, D.C., August 16, 2000.*

Background

Julio Bolvinik, an economist at El Colegio de México, estimates that 75 million of Mexico’s population of nearly 100 million live in poverty—and 45 million in extreme poverty. Estimates by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean are close to the Mexican government’s figure of 45 percent of the population officially living under conditions of poverty (Posada García, 2000). Whatever number we believe the most reasonable, great expectations for social development are riding on Vicente Fox’s administration.

Bolvinik shows that the gravest poverty resides in Mexico’s cities, given that the country is now primarily urban, but those who remain in the countryside (about 30 percent) are still overwhelmingly poor. The situation of poor rural Mexicans has been exacerbated by the agricultural and economic policies of the current and past two PRI administrations (de Janvry, Gordillo, and Sadoulet 1997). After the collapse in oil prices in 1982, the last year of the administration of José López Portillo, his government stopped payments of Mexico’s foreign debt—then at about $100 billion. This was the detonator of Latin America’s now infamous crisis that led to the “lost decade” of the 1980s.

The next administrations of Miguel de la Madrid, Carlos Salinas and Ernesto Zedillo each deepened Mexico’s involvement in “neoliberalism” (de Grammont 1996; Otero 1996a, 2000): withdrawal of most subsidies; wholesale privatization of state firms; elimination of protectionist policies in favor of free-market policies; dismantling of state-run agencies for the purchase, distribution, and often the industrial transformation of agricultural commodities; the virtual drying-up of most rural credit programs; the promotion of private domestic and foreign investment; etc. The symbolic crowning of neoliberal policies would come in 1994, the official starting date for the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). In 1992, in preparation for NAFTA, Mexico’s legendary agrarian reform laws that emanated from its revolution of 1910-1920, were substantially transformed.

Under the reform, ejidos became key targets of government-sponsored rural development programs. Along with “agrarian communities,” land held in ejidos is about 50 percent of agricultural, pasture and forestry terrain in Mexico, and was the main form in which the beneficiaries of agrarian reform received land. The formerly inalienable ejido lands could now be sold, the state’s obligation to implement further land distributions was ended, and the law encouraged the association of ejidatarios, the recipients of ejido land, with private capitalists (Cornelius 1992; DeWalt, Rees, with Murphy 1994; Cornelius and Myhre 1998; Otero 1999).

A key argument advanced to justify the new Agrarian Law highlighted the deep asymmetry of the agricultural economy and the rest of Mexico’s macroeconomy: while about 26 percent of

* Many thanks to Jonathan Fox and Steve Zahniser for their comments on a previous version of this article. Participants in the round table were Stephanie Buchholz, Gustavo del Castillo, Gonzalo Chapela, Lynn England, Xochitl Juárez, William Lacy, Francisco Martínez, Francis Mestries, David Myhre, Gaspar Real Cabella, María Luisa Torregrosa, and Steven Zahniser. This article would not have been possible without the generous insights of these colleagues.
the economically active population were farmers in 1990, agriculture's contribution to the gross domestic product was less than seven percent. Among other things, these figures reflect a wide technological gap between entrepreneurial and capitalist farmers, on one hand, and small, family-based peasant farmers and rural semiproletarians on the other. Rather than properly interpreting this asymmetry as a result of decades of anti-agricultural state policies and attempting to reverse them, the neoliberal technocrats put in place policies that basically resulted in condemning the vast majority of medium and small producers to final bankruptcy.

The fate of corn producers is one example of the dramatic consequences that neoliberal policies have had in Mexico (Appendini 1994). Corn happens to be the third most important food crop in the world. If recent trends continue, more than two million corn farmers will stop producing corn or move out of agriculture altogether. For millennia, corn farmers have been the “curators” of corn’s biological diversity—with about 4,000 different local varieties in Mexico. Abandoning the local corn landraces basically amounts to their irretrievable extinction.

The paradox of NAFTA in this regard is that corn’s biological diversity has been the source on which plant breeders have created hybrid corn varieties for both tropical and temperate climates around the world, including many of the high-yielding varieties in the United States. Neoliberal policies may result in wiping out the social basis on which corn’s biological diversity rests. Depriving plant breeders of the raw material with which they create new, high-yielding varieties, could have a profound impact on global food security in the 21st century (Nadal 2000).

Neoliberalism and Rural Mexico under Vicente Fox

Our roundtable session examined several views about Mexico’s prospects under a Fox administration, with a diversity of hopes and fears. Some colleagues based their views on an appraisal of Fox’s record as governor in the state of Guanajuato; others on some of his recent declarations; and yet others formed their opinions by looking at Fox’s team of collaborators in his “cabinet of transition,” active through December 1. The prediction that Fox will continue along the neoliberal path that Mexico has taken since the mid-1980s was virtually unanimous. But there was some disagreement on the extent to which Fox will try to complement the wholesale market-led policies with some form of “social economy” approach that might mitigate or reverse rural poverty, and perhaps even stem the heavy outward migration—much of it to the United States.

Participants who looked at Vicente Fox’s record as the governor of Guanajuato for three years before launching his presidential campaign tended to be pessimistic about adoption of the social economy dimension. Guanajuato, located in north-central Mexico, is characterized by a highly capitalized and irrigated agriculture, oriented either to the export of fresh fruits and vegetables or to their industrial processing by domestic or transnational capitalistic firms. Javier Usabiaga, one of Guanajuato’s most successful agricultural entrepreneurs, was secretary of agriculture in the Fox governorship and is now one of Fox’s key advisors in this area—hence the fear that Fox might extend the Guanajuato model to the rest of Mexico. Stephanie Buechler said that small peasants in Guanajuato indicated a sense of betrayal when Fox turned out to be in favor of open borders for agricultural commodities. *Maquiladoras* might pick up some of the unemployment effects of liberalization, she noted, but they will provide very unstable jobs with few or no benefits. *Maquiladora* workers told Buechler that workers are often fired in less than a year so that they will not accumulate benefit rights.

Other colleagues could foresee some positive outcomes for workers, even assuming that the neoliberal model persists. Small peasant producers may initially revert to subsistence agriculture, but eventually adapt to market forces. For Xochitl Juárez, indigenous peasants need to improve production and consolidate social programs largely on their own, but additional resources and support will be necessary from the state. It was agreed that Fox would likely facilitate policies that are helpful in this regard, since he is determined to improve the terms of trade between agriculture and industry. If genuine state efforts were made to support peasants, and peasants themselves were to continue on their own to diversify away from traditional cash crops whose prices have collapsed and were to endow themselves with appropriate organization, the participants envisioned at least some sectors of Mexico’s peasantry as becoming the bearers of the “new agrarian movement” for self-managed and democratic production (Gordillo 1988; Otero 1989, 1999; Moguel, Botey, and Hernández 1992; Rello 1997). As David Myhre noted, however, the devil is in the precise mechanics of the process: How exactly will small rural producers enter and participate in markets? How can they respond actively? How can they begin to retain substantial economic surpluses?

Also, positively, Fox’s plans for fiscal reform appear oriented to improve the state’s capability to deliver social programs, according to Francis Mestris. He noted plans to continue Progresa, a rural development program for the extremely poor, and Procampo, geared toward peasant producers. Key policy measures include the application of the value-added tax to food and medicine, which are currently excluded. The idea is that the wealthy are being disproportionately subsidized by such exclusion, and taxing their expenditures in food and medicine could raise funds that could be channeled to poverty alleviation programs. On development finance, Fox has declared that he wants to focus on social financing, or micro-credits, following the Grameen model for rural women. If space for micro-credit will be opened, the question remains as to whether small producers will step into it, however.

An intermediary position was also present in the discussion, with some colleagues being optimistic in general, but pessimistic about rural Mexico’s prospects. Their fear is that a focus on productivity-enhancing strategies will favor the entrepreneurial farmers only. Assistance programs may also be emphasized, but they will have no real bearing on improving the production capabilities of peasant agriculture. Such emphases, as Francisco Martínez noted, will further depress the peasant economy, with consequences also for deepening environmental degradation. Finally, even if Fox has promised increased resources for science,
technology and education, the question remains as to who will determine how to allocate these resources and to the benefit of whom?

Politics, Culture and Rural Mexico

There was, however, a nearly unanimous optimism about progress in the transition toward a liberal democracy. For Lynn England, though, Fox will favor the wealthy even under an electoral democracy. If this turns out to be the case, then Peruvian novelist Mario Vargas Llosa will ultimately have right in his 1990 dictum that Mexico’s political system is a “perfect dictatorship” with the appearance of a democracy, but at bottom a deeply authoritarian system that favors the few. Additionally, the PRI operated extensive patronage networks for the rural pueblos. Even if this relationship between PRI and the pueblos was no doubt asymmetrical, the latter at least received something in return for their support of the PRI. Will the PAN be able to fill the gap the PRI leaves as it leaves the national scene—or compensate for it in some manner?

Optimists about the improvement of social conditions under the new administration distinguish between Vicente Fox and the PAN. While the PAN is considerably conservative, especially with regard to social policies, Fox is seen as more liberal. Mestrins suggested that scholars have too many prejudices about Fox, and that we should instead observe his moves. Similarly, Gustavo del Castillo noted that the PAN has been shown to have a steep learning curve in most of its experiences in state governorships. While there will be more trial-and-error practices, the quality of leadership and governance is likely to be improved, del Castillo predicted. As for the new maximum leader, even if his major allegiances are with large capitalists, he will have to form broader alliances in order to respond to expectations expressed in the July elections.

International relations is another area that generated lively discussion. Some think that Fox is likely to substantially improve the economic and political prospects for Mexico in its relations with its northern economic partners. He is likely to exert substantial energy in trying to persuade the United States to end its ad hoc protectionism. For Gustavo del Castillo labor exchanges should become the key issue, and the topic has already been brought up by Fox during his visit to Canada and the United States in late August. Will U.S. negotiators be more open now to the consideration of a European Union-style common market?

A common market would have to deal with, among many other issues, the free mobility of labor, currently the greatest inconsistency of neoliberalism: while the owners of commodities and capital can seek the highest prices or interests anywhere, workers are still confined to their national islands. For Mexican workers this is particularly disadvantageous, since their government has tended to impose wage controls (downwards) while liberalizing most other prices. Repression of independent labor organizations to favor the corporatist organizations affiliated to the PRI has been another major drawback. How much and to what extent will these aspects change under Fox?

Finally, for the state to gain legitimacy under Fox, he will have to give a final resolution to the conflict in Chiapas with the Zapatista National Liberation Army (Ejército Zapatista de Liberación Nacional, EZLN), which emerged on the same day that NAFTA came into effect (Harvey 1996, 1998). Attempts at resolution here affect the corporatist organizations affiliated to the PRI, especially those with heavy involvement of indigenous people.

Conclusions

As roundtable chair, I concluded by highlighting the irony that the recent wave of democratization has been given stimulus from rural Mexico and the EZLN, which began as an armed guerrilla organization. The zapatistas have played a key role since January 12, 1994 in encouraging subordinate groups and classes to form organizations in civil society. Civil society, in turn, has been invigorated and has played a substantial role in pressing for a peaceful solution to the conflict and for political reform. The very presence of the EZLN as an armed threat to the political system helped compel the political parties to finally come to an agreement on significant political reforms to make the electoral process fair and transparent.

In 1994, Mexico established an independent electoral body, the Federal Electoral Institute (IFE) at the federal level; elections rather than presidential appointments for Mexico City’s mayors; and selection of the ruling party’s candidate for the 2000 presidential elections by primary universal vote, rather than by presidential prerogative. With the new impetus for reform, the opposition made substantial gains, taking control of the national legislature and winning several state governorships in 1997. In this year, Cuauhtemoc Cárdenas, of the left-of-center Partido de la Revolución Democrática (PRD), became the first elected head of government in Mexico City in modern times. This helped push the process toward the triumph of PAN’s presidential candidate on July 2, 2000.

Before the EZLN, the activity of political parties had the effect of keeping the authoritarian system virtually intact. The PRD remained intransigent in opposition, but was ineffective in promoting significant change. For its part, the PAN was largely content with its backroom deals with the ruling PRI, and with being a virtual co-government party during the Salinas years (1988-1994). Thus, even if the EZLN might not like Vicente Fox as the president-elect, it helped make his triumph possible—and he might do well to appreciate that. Many of us await anxiously to see if Fox will be able to arrive at a peace agreement with dignity and justice for the Chiapas rebels and their indigenous-peasant constituency.

Unlike my more pessimistic colleagues, I also expressed confidence that Fox’s triumph could not possibly be any worse than another six years of PRI rule. Instead, Fox may well introduce new mechanisms in policymaking and in assessing the performance of public office. In filling appointive public positions, for instance, Fox seems likely to strive hard to show employment of merit-based criteria rather than relying on friendships or patronage networks. With no single party controlling a majority
in congress, there should be an increase in accountability for politicians and institutions. Politics and deal-making may now be forced more into the open. Mexican writer Carlos Fuentes has noted that a Spanish-language equivalent of the English word "accountability" does not exist. While it would be naïve to suggest that developments in Mexico could produce the word, more accountability in the political arena of this nation of some 100,000,000 inhabitants could propel the concept forward.

New research agendas on civil society, accountability, and checks and balances will become increasingly urgent (e.g., Fox, J. and Aranda 1997). Noting the role of civil society in promoting electoral democratization, Jonathan Fox now calls for turning our attention to civil society's role in promoting political and institutional accountability, checks and balances (Fox, J. 2000). Other social and economic research agenda issues are implicit in the questions and issues raised in the roundtable session. In the new political context, as David Myhre suggested, social scientists may play more of an active role in proposing policy.

References


In sum, there should be no doubt that a PAN administration with Vicente Fox at the helm will increase the viability of neoliberalism: the market will reign. But this will now proceed within more of a liberal-democratic political context. Four years ago I anticipated this political outcome as the combination of a market-led economic model with democratization from below. I posited this outcome not necessarily as the most desirable for Mexico, but as the historically most likely for year 2000. The alternatives in a market-led economy were to continue with no political change ("savage capitalism," as I then called it), or what Carlos Salinas labeled "social liberalism," which amounted to modernizing the authoritarian regime from above (Otero, 1996b:239-242). Thus, the inauguration of an opposition presidency after 71 years of PRI rule will be an undeniable advance in the protracted process of democratization. Even though our optimism should be cautious, the ascension of Mexico's seasoned opposition party to the seat of national executive power may be just the type of political change that is needed for Mexico to finally move toward a more equitable and just society.


U.S. Military Aid to Colombia: The Human Rights Implications
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[This is one of a series of articles commissioned by the LASA Task Force on Human Rights and Academic Freedom]

The Package

On July 13, 2000, President Clinton signed into law a bill approving what is by far the largest single infusion of U.S. military aid that Latin America has ever seen. The so-called “Plan Colombia” aid package, proposed by the Clinton Administration in January and passed by Congress in June, will provide about $2 million per day to Colombia’s military and police between July 2000 and the end of 2001. At the height of the Reagan Administration’s 1980s crusade in Central America, by contrast, aid to El Salvador never exceeded $1 million per day.

“Colombia and its democratically elected government are facing an urgent crisis that has narcotics, military and economic dimensions,” warned the White House’s original January 2000 proposal. The response to this crisis, though, is a $1.32 billion package that fails to address any of these three dimensions. The package includes funding for Peru, Ecuador and Bolivia and increases for U.S. agencies’ counternarcotics programs, but Colombia will receive the lion’s share: $860.3 million for the remainder of 2000 and all of 2001.

Beyond Pastrana’s “Marshall Plan”

The aid is meant to contribute to “Plan Colombia,” the Colombian government’s program for “peace, prosperity and the strengthening of the state.” The U.S. package, however, bears little resemblance to the “Plan Colombia” that Colombian President Andrés Pastrana had originally proposed. For several months after he entered office in August 1998, Pastrana appealed frequently for collaboration between Bogotá and foreign governments on a “Marshall Plan” of economic aid for Colombia’s neglected countryside. Pastrana’s initial plan—in which military aid did not appear—and no commitments of foreign financial support, and the term “Plan Colombia” was seldom heard by mid-1999.

By August 1999, U.S. officials—dismayed by a faltering peace process and increased drug production—were discussing a significant increase in aid to Colombia’s military. That month, Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering visited Colombia, explaining that while the United States wished to give about a billion dollars in aid, this aid must respond to a larger strategy presented by the Colombian government. “Plan Colombia” was reborn, this time as a thirty-page document that was available in English by October, and in Spanish several months later. The new “Plan Colombia,” vigorously promoted by a Pastrana administration suffering from low approval ratings and difficult relations with the military, would spend $7.5 billion—$3 billion from foreign contributions—on a variety of economic initiatives, and with a significant military component.

Military Assistance, Alternative Development, and the “Push”

The U.S. contribution to this plan is heavily weighted toward military assistance. Seventy-five percent of the assistance ($642.3 million) will go to Colombia’s security forces. Much of this military aid will support an operation that the administration’s proposals call “the push into southern Colombia.” The “push” will create, equip and train new army battalions to serve in two guerrilla-dominated departments near the Ecuadorian border. Taking into account an estimated $330 million in ongoing, previously approved assistance, which consists almost entirely of military and police aid, Colombia will get a total of about $1.19 billion, roughly 80 percent of it for the security forces.

The rest of the new assistance—about $218 million—will fund alternative development for producers of drug crops, humanitarian aid for displaced persons, judicial reform, rule of law programs and training for peace negotiators. Though the share for these programs is disappointingly low, it represents an astronomical increase over the tiny amounts the United States had previously dedicated to these priorities in Colombia. In 1999, for instance, support for alternative development and other non-coercive programs in Colombia totaled $7 million, while police and military aid reached almost $300 million.

The $51 million dedicated to strengthening human rights will fund protection and capacity-building for state and nongovernmental human rights workers and investigators, among other initiatives. Undersecretary of State Thomas Pickering has said the U.S. government will rely on Colombian NGOs for advice on how this money will be spent. In signed statements, however, the country’s chief nongovernmental organizations have made clear their opposition to the U.S. aid package and their refusal to accept any offer of U.S. assistance.

Many of these groups share the concerns of their counterparts in U.S. non-governmental organizations about the new aid, particularly the planned “push”. The operation will send less than 3,000 troops in newly trained battalions equipped with expensive Blackhawk helicopters, to “secure” the departments of Putumayo and Caquetá, a jungle-covered area the size of
Pennsylvania that has been a fiercely defended guerrilla stronghold for decades. The move, designed to allow aerial fumigation and other anti-drug activities to occur more safely in this “epicenter of coca production,” will encounter stiff resistance.

**Anti-Drug or Anti-Peace?**

Critics in both countries also question whether the “Plan Colombia” aid package makes sense as an anti-drug strategy. Even if, by some miracle, the Colombian Army counternarcotics battalions manage to eradicate every coca plant in Caquetá and Putumayo, there is no assurance that coca cultivation will not simply relocate elsewhere in Colombia’s California-sized Amazon basin plains, or across the border into Ecuador, Peru, Brazil or Venezuela. Pushed by a lack of viable economic choices, state neglect and the lack of rule of law, and pulled by a ravenous demand for drugs in the United States, poor rural Colombians will continue to view coca cultivation as an indispensable survival strategy.

The aid package’s potential impact on Colombia’s fragile peace process also worries many. Since shortly after he assumed office in August 1998, Colombian President Andrés Pastrana has been engaged in an erratic and often frustrating process of talks with Colombia’s two main leftist guerrilla groups, the Colombian Revolutionary Armed Forces (FARC) and the National Liberation Army (ELN). Even before it begins delivery, however, the new U.S. military assistance is already having a chilling effect, as communiqués show that guerrilla groups are using the package to justify their latest brutal attacks on Colombia’s civilian population. The U.S. equipment and training are likely both to escalate the fighting and to strengthen hardliners on both sides, especially among guerrilla leaders suspicious of state motives and government and military leaders who will place less stock in negotiations now that the United States is “coming to the rescue.” This will deal a serious setback to the peace talks if it does not kill them entirely.

**The Human Rights and Violence Dimensions**

While these concerns are important, however, what has most motivated Colombian groups’ opposition to the aid, and their refusal to accept offers of U.S. assistance, is the issue most central to their mission: human rights. Colombia is in the midst of the hemisphere’s worst and one of the world’s worst human rights crises. About two thirds of the roughly 4,500 people killed each year by Colombia’s conflict and related political violence are civilian noncombatants. Armed groups specifically target civilians, routinely using massacres, disappearances and forced displacement as tactics for gaining territory or pressing their political agendas.

While the state security forces were directly responsible for only two percent of these murders, right-wing paramilitary groups—funded by landowners and drug dealers and frequently aided and abetted by the armed forces—carried out about three-quarters of the total. Guerrilla groups, blamed for 23 percent of killings, committed the vast majority of kidnappings and attacks on civil infrastructure. The violence forced 288,000 people from their homes in 1999; more than a million Colombians have been forcibly displaced since 1997, with paramilitaries responsible in the majority of cases. Colombia’s crisis of internal refugees is the world’s third worst, after Angola and the Sudan.

Sending 642 million-plus dollars in military assistance runs a very real risk of worsening Colombia’s already generalized violence. Long-term democratic stability may also be threatened by an aid package that strengthens the military—both in terms of resources and political support—far more than civilian state institutions.

**Deepening Dysfunction in the “Field”**

Perhaps even more serious, though, are the possible consequences of a deepening relationship with a military that suffers from serious human rights shortcomings. Though Colombia’s armed forces deserve recognition for decreasing their direct involvement in human rights abuses and for incorporating human rights into their training curricula, a great deal remains to be done.

Colombia’s high command says the right things about respect for noncombatants (“a force multiplier of combat power,” according to one Army publication’), and no doubt believes what it says. Nonetheless, the situation can be quite different in the field. The frequent collaboration between the armed forces and the right-wing paramilitary groups which are responsible for the majority of massacres, extrajudicial executions and forced displacements in Colombia, is well documented. A February 2000 report by Human Rights Watch found that nine of the Colombian Army’s eighteen brigades have links to paramilitary activity.

**Principals and Accomplices, Crime and Impunity**

Military-paramilitary collaboration takes several forms. Sharing of intelligence, transportation and logistical support occurs with disturbing frequency. (Intelligence-sharing is particularly worrisome, since intelligence support is a significant element of the U.S. aid package.) Several military units have faced recent accusations of failing to respond to pleas for help when paramilitary atrocities occur, ignoring advance warnings of imminent massacres, or vacating zones shortly before they occur. Human rights organizations have also documented the practice of “legalization,” in which military units give the paramilitaries weapons in exchange for the corpses of civilian victims, who are then dressed in guerrilla uniforms and presented as enemies killed in battle. In Cali in mid-1999, Human Rights Watch noted, the Army’s Third Brigade even helped establish a new paramilitary group, the “Frente Calima,” which has since killed dozens and displaced thousands in the surrounding countryside.
Meanwhile, those military personnel who stand accused of human rights violations—whether directly or through collaboration with paramilitaries—are virtually guaranteed impunity. No general, and only one colonel, has ever been successfully prosecuted for a human rights crime, and the most egregious cases routinely end up in the lenient military court system, in blatant violation of a 1997 decision of Colombia’s Constitutional Court. There have been halting steps in the right direction in the past year and a half: four generals were fired for encouraging or ignoring paramilitary activity, and a military penal code was passed which requires that cases of genocide, torture or forced disappearance go to the civilian judicial system (again, merely duplicating the Constitutional Court’s earlier decision). Yet investigations and prosecutions of military personnel who aid or abet paramilitary groups remain exceedingly rare—not least because of a campaign of threat and assassination that has killed or exiled dozens of human rights advocates, prosecutors and investigative journalists.

A Softening U.S. Stance

The United States’ support of human rights in Colombia has been generally good—though often timid and inconsistent—but the future is unclear. The aid package’s supporters claim that a closer military relationship will provide more “leverage” over the armed forces’ performance. Yet past experiences elsewhere give strong reason for concern that it will instead lead to a much softer U.S. stance. As the Colombian military becomes central to U.S. policy, Washington’s defense of the policy will necessarily include a defense of its main partner and beneficiary, even against human rights concerns. Already, U.S. officials are very quick to cite the Colombian armed forces’ low share of direct human rights violations (leaving out the paramilitary connection), play up the few erratic steps that have been taken to end impunity, and even to trumpet the military’s approval ratings in Colombian newspaper polls.

The aid package itself exhibits a rather disturbing neglect of the paramilitary question. Though much is made of the guerrilla threat to Colombian stability (which I do not dispute), the word “paramilitary” appears infrequently in U.S. government documents justifying and explaining the aid package. Even the administration’s long-range plans make only vague reference to combating rapidly growing coca cultivation in paramilitary-controlled zones of northern Colombia, such as the Urabá, Magdalena Medio and Catatumbo regions, which some analysts estimate may now account for as much as 40 percent of all Colombian coca cultivation.

Civilians and Noncombatants

Also disturbing is the possible impact that the “push into southern Colombia” foreseen in the aid package will have on the civilian noncombatant residents of Putumayo department. The administration’s original aid package proposal expects that some 10,000 of Putumayo’s 300,000 residents will be forcibly displaced by the “push.” This number keeps getting revised upward: in a May 2000 report, Sen. Joseph Biden—himself a key supporter of the aid package—predicts 30,000 to 40,000 displaced, and prominent humanitarian organizations like the Consultoría para los Derechos Humanos y el Desarrollo (CODHES) are predicting at least 100,000. Ecuador, in the midst of the continent’s deepest economic crisis, is preparing to deal with a mass influx of refugees from the U.S.-funded “push.”

Meanwhile, the “push” may be carried out with the enthusiastic support of paramilitaries who control the centers of Putumayo’s main towns. “Commander Yair,” a paramilitary leader in Puerto Asis, Putumayo, told Reuters in May 2000 that the paramilitaries “may even spearhead the U.S.-backed offensive, flushing out rebel strongholds and then ceding the territory to the Colombian army.”

The Alternative and Its Fate

Colombia’s crisis is serious, sufficiently so that abandoning Colombia is not a valid U.S. policy option. But the human rights implications of the aid package are also serious. They could be significantly mitigated by an alternative policy, one which, abandoning the “push into southern Colombia” and such a close embrace of the Colombian military, could achieve the same goals, probably more quickly, without risking U.S. involvement in counterinsurgency, harming the peace process, or worsening the human rights situation.

One need not even look far for this alternative, for the aid package’s designers included much of it in the 20 percent that supports alternative development, judicial reform, human rights, institutional strengthening and peace. The programs and support in these sections, which include crop substitution efforts, assistance for displaced persons, training and protection for human rights defenders, and judicial reform, do much to address the reasons poor Colombians enter the drug trade and join armed groups in the first place. These initiatives are worth pursuing and should have received greater emphasis—perhaps by diverting the funding now destined for the risky and questionable “push.”

Finally, the aid package legislation included a tool that, if used properly, could have done much to minimize the new assistance’s impact on Colombia’s human rights situation. The law states that the U.S. military aid cannot go forward until the Secretary of State certifies that Colombian military personnel accused of human rights crimes are being prosecuted only in civilian courts and promptly suspended from duty, that the armed forces are cooperating with civilian investigations of military personnel for human rights crimes, and that the Colombian government is vigorously prosecuting paramilitaries and military personnel who aid and abet them.

Nonetheless, the law also allows the President to waive the certification if he finds that the “national security interest”
demands it. Indeed, on August 22, 2000, President Clinton issued a statement waiving all but the first condition included in the aid package, an embarrassing admission that the United States’ third-largest aid recipient does not meet these minimal human rights standards.

Remaining Options: The Traditional Ways

Given the Clinton certification, human rights advocates and monitors must rely on traditional methods—education, research, and organizing—to minimize the impact of the aid package on human rights. Concerned U.S. citizens must be informed about this major shift in U.S. policy and its potential human rights consequences. Education must be based on a body of solid, credible research about human rights conditions in Colombia—especially in areas where U.S.-supported military units will operate—and about the nature, destination, and end use of all forms of U.S. military support.

Citizens must continue to organize to pressure the U.S. and Colombian governments to fulfill their human rights obligations. This pressure can be exerted directly on officials, through the media, through concerned members of Congress, and through international organizations with human rights mandates. Colombian human rights organizations and government investigators, which do crucially important work under conditions of extreme threat, deserve continued high-profile support.

Finally, activists and others uncomfortable with the current direction of U.S. policy must be vigilant for the next escalation of U.S. military assistance. The current aid package is extremely unlikely to reduce drug production or to end the conflict in Colombia, which means that another, possibly larger aid package may be on its way in either 2001 or 2002. As the United States’ commitment to Colombia’s security forces strengthens and deepens, the human rights community will continue to have much to do.

NOTES


3 Comisión Colombiana de Juristas, Panorama de los derechos humanos y del derecho humanitario en Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia, February, 2000.

4 Comisión Colombiana de Juristas.


9 Human Rights Watch.


A Note from the LASA2001 Program Chair
by Philip Oxhorn
McGill University
lasa2001@po-box.mcgill.ca

After an all too brief (northern) summer lull in activity, the LASA 2001 Program Office is now up and running at full speed. I am very happy to announce that Gilda Lebron assumed the position of Program Committee Administrator on September 5. The Program Office could not be in more capable hands as the Program Committee begins its principal task: sorting the hundreds of individual paper and panel proposals into what promises to be yet another successful LASA Congress. Those proposals were mailed to the Track Chairs shortly after the October 15 deadline. By early January, they will have screened them, integrating individual paper proposals into panels and vetting requests for travel funding. With that done, the next task is to assemble them into a single program, balancing the various constraints of time, room availability and the needs of LASA’s distinct constituencies for space in the program. A preliminary program will then be completed in early March, at which time participants will be notified by mail of the Program Committee’s decisions. Final decisions on requests for travel funds will come somewhat later, depending on the number of requests and LASA’s limited funds.

Recipients will be notified by May 20, 2001.

Program updates and other useful information are available on the LASA 2001 Congress website:

If you have specific questions regarding the program, you can always contact us:
E-mail: lasa2001@po-box.mcgill.ca
Tel: 514-398-4804
Fax: 514-398-2548

On behalf of the entire LASA 2001 Program Committee, we are committed to making the next Congress as exciting and intellectually stimulating as previous ones. But to succeed, we ultimately are dependent upon the LASA membership because it is you who propose the vast majority of panels and identify the themes that the Congress will address. We look forward to working with you to make it all happen in Washington next September.

CALLING ALL MEMBERS

CALL FOR BIDS

The Executive Council of the Latin American Studies Association announces a request for proposals to edit, produce, and mail the Latin American Research Review (LARR), commencing in the 2001-02 academic year. Manuscript selection procedures will be assumed by the successful bidder in January 2002, and all other functions (copyediting, production, subscriptions, advertising, and mailing) in July 2002. The first issue to appear under the name of the new editorial team will be Volume 38, No. 1 (2003). It is assumed that the contract to edit and produce LARR will be for a five-year period, although the Executive Council has the right to award a contract for a different duration. Completed proposals must be received by February 15, 2001, and should be directed to: Reid Reading, Executive Director, Latin American Studies Association, William Pitt Union, 9th Floor, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260.

It is expected that completed proposals will identify the proposed new editors and their qualifications, specify the nature and extent of the support provided by the host institution, and contain a letter from the president of that institution formally committing the resources and personnel of the institution as specified in the proposal.

In its present quarters at the University of New Mexico, the journal occupies two offices and a storage area, not including the offices of the faculty editors. The University also provides the journal with an operating budget. The staff include the Editor (a faculty member with half-time release from teaching), two Associate Editors (faculty with one-third release time), a Managing Editor, an Assistant Managing Editor, and a part-time Subscription Manager. Journal revenues cover all costs of production and mailing of the publication, as well as the salary of the Managing Editor.

It is recommended that applicants contact the staff of: LARR, c/o Latin American Institute, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131. for detailed information about journal operating requirements, host institution subvention, and procedures.
FILM FESTIVAL AND FILM EXHIBIT AT LASA2001
Latin American Studies Association XXIII International Congress
Washington, DC, USA -- September 6-8, 2001

Film and video materials not integrated into a panel, workshop, or other regular Congress session may be featured at LASA2001 in three venues:

I. LASA2001 FILM FESTIVAL: You may submit a film or video to compete for the juried designation of "LASA 2001 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. These films and videos will be screened free of charge in the LASA2001 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 March 2000 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 LASA2001 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, LASA2001 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. Candidate films for the Film Festival must be received no earlier than April 1, 2001, and no later than May 15, 2001.

II. LASA2001 FILM EXHIBIT: Films and videos NOT selected for screening in the LASA2001 Film Festival, as well as films and videos that were not entered for the Festival competition, may be screened in the LASA2001 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 with the Festival films in the same auditorium.

To submit film and/or video materials directly to the non-competitive LASA2001 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 spot. A confirmation and invoice for the cost of this commercial screening will be issued after the Exhibit closes. Send BOTH FORMS to: Exhibit Promotions Plus, Inc., c/o LASA Exhibit Management, 11620 Vixens Path, ELLECOIT CITY MD 21042-1538. Tel: 410-997-0763; fax: 410-997-0764; email: exhibit@croils.com Submissions for the Film Exhibit are due by March 1, 2001.

III. LASA2001 EXHIBIT BOOTHS AND PROGRAM AD RESERVATIONS: Distributors of visual materials who wish to publicize their products at LASA2001 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 LASA2001 program booklet.

See reverse side for submission forms for booths and program ads

LASA2001 VISUAL MATERIALS SUBMISSION FORM: FESTIVAL AND EXHIBIT
Submissions for the Film Festival will be received only from April 1-May 15, 2001. Submissions for the Film Exhibit are due by March 1, 2001

Submission for the LASA2001: 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 LASA2001 Film Festival, do you want it included in the LASA Film Exhibit for the fees stated?

YES NO Your name:

Address:

Affiliation (if not in address): ______ Phone: (office) ______

Phone: (home) ______ fax: ______ email: ______

You must include your visual materials with the form. Please use a separate copy for each item submitted.
RESERVATION FORM FOR THE LASA2001 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 LASA2001 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’)

_____ $725 Commercial Vendor

_____ $625 Nonprofit/Charitable

_____ $625 Each Additional Commercial

_____ $525 Each Additional Nonprofit/Charitable

_____ Check here if you require staffing at a modest fee

• TAKE-ONE LITERATURE DISPLAY _____ $75 (Unlimited quantity and variety—recommend 350-400 pieces)

• LASA2001 PROGRAM BOOKLET ADVERTISING (Camera-ready copy due June 1, 2001)

_____ $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)

_____ $825 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 lasa+@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 June 1, 2001. Reservations received after June 1 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 June 1, 2001 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 ____________________________ Date ____________________________

_____ Enclosed, a check in the amount of $________________________ Please bill us: PO# ____________________________ Date ____________________________
DISPLAY YOUR BOOKS AT LASA2001

LASA members interested in displaying titles at the XXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association should advise Harve Horowitz, LASA’s advertising/exhibits representative, of their latest publications for promotion at LASA2001 in Washington, DC. 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 Exhibit Promotions Plus, Inc., 11620 Vixens Path, Ellicott City MD 21042-1539 (Phone: 410-997-0763; Fax: 410-997-0764; email: exhibit@erols.com) concerning promotion of my title(s) listed below at the XXIII International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, September 6-8, 2001, in Washington, DC:

Title __________________________________________ Year__________

Title __________________________________________ Year__________

Title __________________________________________ Year__________

Author/LASA Member

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

FROM: __________________________

Address __________________________________________

City __________________________ State ______ Zip/Postal Code ______ Country ____________

Phone: __________________________ Fax: __________________________ Email __________________________

Please contact the following publisher(s) concerning (a) recent title(s) I would like to see displayed at LASA2001:

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.
FINAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2001 SLATE and LASA AWARDS

NOMINATIONS INVITED FOR 2001 SLATE
Deadline: December 1, 2000

LASA members are invited to suggest nominees for Vice President and three members of the Executive Council, for terms beginning November 1, 2001. Criteria for nomination include professional credentials and previous service to LASA. Candidates must have been a member of the Association in good standing for at least one year prior to nomination. Biographic data and the rationale for nomination must be sent by December 1, 2000 to the Chair of the Nominating Committee:

Marianne Schmink
Department of Anthropology, P.O. Box 115531
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611
Tel: 352-392-6548
E-mail: schmink@tcu.ufl.edu

The winning candidate for Vice President will serve in that capacity until April 30, 2003, and then as President for an additional eighteen months. Executive Council members will serve a three-year term from November 1, 2001 to October 31, 2004. Members of the Nominations Committee in addition to Professor Schmink are:

George Reid Andrews (University of Pittsburgh, History)
Maria Cook (Cornell University, Labor Relations)
David Barkin (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Economics)
Iléana Rodríguez (Ohio State University, Literature)
Rosario Espinal, EC Liaison (Temple University, Sociology).

CALL FOR SILVERT AWARD NOMINATIONS
Deadline: November 20, 2000

The Kalman Silvert Award Committee invites LASA members to nominate candidates for the year 2000 award. The Silvert Award recognizes senior members of the profession who have made distinguished lifetime contributions to the study of Latin America. The Award is given every 18 months. Past recipients of the Award were:


The selection committee consists of Franklin Knight (chair), LASA immediate past president; Susan Eckstein and Jane Jaquette, past presidents; and Gilbert Merkx, editor of LARR. Nominations should be sent to LASA Executive Director Reid Reading at the LASA Secretariat by November 20, 2000. Please include biographic information and a rationale for each nomination.

CALL FOR BRYCE WOOD BOOK AWARD NOMINATIONS
Deadline: January 15, 2001

At each International Congress, the Latin American Studies Association presents the Bryce Wood Book Award to the outstanding book on Latin America in the social sciences and humanities published in English. Eligible books for the September 2001 LASA International Congress in Washington, DC will be those published between July 1, 1999 and December 31, 2000. Although no book may compete more than once, translations may be considered. Anthologies of selections by several authors or re-editions of works published previously normally are not in contention for the award. Books will be judged on the quality of the research, analysis, and writing, and the significance of their contribution to Latin American studies. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers. Persons who nominate books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy directly to each member of the Award Committee, at the expense of the authors or publishers. All books nominated must reach each member of the Award Committee by January 15, 2001. By the month preceding the International Congress, the committee will select a winning book. It may also name an honorable mention. The award will be presented during the LASA2001 business meeting or in a special session, and the awardee will be publicly honored. LASA membership is not a requirement to receive the award. Committee members are:

Christopher Mitchell, Chair
Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies
New York University
53 Washington Square, South-level 4 West
New York, NY 10012
chris.mitchell@nyu.edu

Deborah Jakubs
Duke University
220 Perkins Library, Box 90193
Durham NC 27708

Susan Ramirez
Department of History, DePaul University
2320 N Kenmore Ave.
Chicago IL 60614

Jill Robbins
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
322 Humanities Hall, University of California
Irvine CA 92697

Kenneth Roberts
Department of Political Science, University of New Mexico
Albuquerque NM 87131

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The **Premio Iberoamericano** is presented at each of LASA’s International Congresses for the outstanding book on Latin America in the social sciences and humanities published in Spanish or Portuguese in any country. Eligible books for this September 2001 award must have been published between July 1, 1999 and December 31, 2000. No book may compete more than once. Normally not in contention for the award are anthologies of selections by several authors or reprints or re-editions of works published previously. Books will be judged on the quality of the research, analysis, and writing, and the significance of their contribution to Latin American studies. Books may be nominated by authors, LASA members, or publishers. Individuals who nominate books are responsible for confirming the publication date and for forwarding one copy directly to each member of the award committee, at the expense of those submitting the books. All books must reach each member of the committee by January 15, 2001. LASA membership is not a requirement for receiving the award. The award will be presented during the LASA 2001 business meeting or in a special session, and the awardee will be publicly honored. Committee members are:

Nicasio Urbina, Chair  
Department of Spanish and Portuguese  
302 Newcomb Hall  
Tulane University  
New Orleans, LA 70118  
urbina@mailhost.tcs.tulane.edu

Donna Guy  
University of Arizona, Department of History  
Social Sciences Building  
Tucson AZ 85721

Viviane Brachet-Márquez  
El Colegio de México  
Apto 20-671, México DF 01000  
MEXICO

Jonathan Hartlyn  
Political Science  
University of North Carolina  
CB #3265 - Hamilton Hall  
Chapel Hill NC 27599-3265

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
*See page 20 for information about the 2001 DISKIN MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP*  

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The **Latin American Studies Association** is pleased to announce its competition for the year 2001 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 XXIII International Congress in Washington, DC. LASA will invite the awardee to speak at a session and to submit materials for possible publication in the **LASA Forum**. Recent recipients of the awards have included:

Patricia Verdugo Aguirre of Conama, Chile and Diario 16, Spain (2000)  
Gustavo Gorriti of Caretas, Lima, Peru (1998)  
Julio Scherer of Proceso (Mexico City) (1997)  
Kathy Ellison of the Miami Herald and Caretas, Lima, Peru, Enrique Zileri, editor (1994)  
Alma Guillermoprieto of The New Yorker (1992)  

To make a nomination, please send one copy of the journalist’s portfolio of recent relevant work by **March 15, 2001** to:

Doris Sommer, Chair  
Department of Romance Languages and Literatures  
Boyston 418  
Harvard University  
Cambridge, MA 02138  
Tel: 617-495-5273  
Fax: 603-427-0289  
E-mail: dSommer@fas.harvard.edu

Other Members of the committee are: Medea Benjamin, Global Exchange; Suzanne Bilello, The Freedom Forum; and Mary Jo Dudley, Cornell University.

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**Correction**

The title of the LASA2000 paper of Mieke Wouters was written incorrectly in the listing of hard-copy papers on file in the Secretariat. The first two words of the title should read: “Derechos étnicos,” not “Derechos económicos.” We apologize for the error.
Cuba: The Contours of Change
Edited by Susan Kaufman Purcell and David Rothkopf

Expert authors offer a range of views on the growing political and economic challenges facing the Castro regime, how those challenges will be met, and Cuba’s prospects for a peaceful transition to democracy. They also present two strongly opposing assessments of the nature, impact, desirability, and sustainability of the U.S. embargo against Cuba.

Contributors:
William M. LeoGrande
Manuel Pastor Jr.
Susan Kaufman Purcell
David J. Rothkopf
Jaime Suchlicki
Andrew Zimbalist

pb $13.95

Latin America in the New International System
Edited by Joseph S. Tulchin and Ralph H. Espach

A roster of eminent scholars and policy-makers place Latin America in the context of debates on economic globalization and the dramatically changing nature of the international system.
The book bridges discussions of Latin America and broader world politics, advancing critical insights from within the region together with reflections from a global perspective.

Contributors:
Thomaz Guedes da Costa
Jorge I. Domínguez
Ralph H. Espach
Guadalupe González
Robert O. Keohane
Alberto van Klaveren
Ernest R. May
Heraldo Muñoz
Peter H. Smith
Joseph S. Tulchin

hc $55 • pb $19.95

Inevitable Partnership: Understanding Mexico-U.S. Relations
Clint E. Smith

Clint Smith astutely describes the complex Mexico-U.S. relationship from the beginning of the nineteenth century through the end of the twentieth. Along the way he touches on such topics as Mexico and the global economy, trends in Mexico-U.S. relations, political transformation and the process of democratization, and prospects for NAFTA.

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Jim Norris
“This book is important. It takes the unique circumstances of the region and places them in the context of movements and issues which affect other parts of the colonial Hispanic American world.”—Professor J. F. Schwaller

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The Contested Homeland
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Studies territorial and rural New Mexico in the nineteenth century, the struggle for statehood, Nuevomexicano politics, immigration, urban issues in the twentieth century, the role of Spanish in education, ethnic identity, and the Chicano movement.
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NEW LASA TASK FORCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND ACADEMIC FREEDOM APPOINTED

Jack Hammond, Hunter College, City University of New York, has accepted reappointment as chair of LASA’s Human Rights and Academic Freedom Task Force. In continuing Professor Hammond’s position, LASA President Tom Holloway acknowledged the fine contribution Jack has made to the Association by serving on a task force whose mission “is so close to the ideals and objectives of the LASA membership.”

The following LASA members are also appointed to the Task Force:

Carlos Basombrio Iglesias, Instituto de Defensa Legal, Lima, Perú
Louis Bickford, University of Wisconsin
Marc Chernick, Georgetown University
Jorge Domínguez, Harvard University
Judith Adler Hellman, York University, Toronto, Canada
Bjorn Maybury-Lewis, Centro Agro-Ambiental do Tocantins, Belém, Paraná, Brasil
Victor D. Montejano, University of California at Davis
Linda Rabben, Amnesty International
George Vickers, Washington Office on Latin America
Silvia Gómez-Tagle, Colegio de México

LASA TOPS ALL-TIME MEMBERSHIP RECORD

By Monday, October 1, Angela Schroeder of the LASA Secretariat posted the membership of the four-thousand, seven-hundred and fifty-seventh Latin Americanist to become a member of the Latin American Studies Association in 2000, for a new record.

The Chicago Congress helped boost the 1998 membership by nearly 500 members over the 1997 rolls, and this seemed an impossible record to bear, with 4,756 members. But beat it LASA did, boosted by Miami, and by the time this issue of the Forum reaches you we should sail respectively by the old record.

In just 15 years our membership has more than doubled. A total of 2,307 members joined the Association in 1985. In the absence of evidence that the number of Latin Americanists in the world has doubled in 15 years (and there are indications that the number in the U.S., at least, is declining), the interest of so many folks in our particular area studies association is somewhat puzzling. In large part, though, it simply must be attributed to the reputation for good sold work that scholars and practitioners who belong to LASA are doing. Keep up the good work, and we in the Secretariat and in the Membership Committee will work on getting in even more of your colleagues, and also in making sure membership at least stays steady in non-Congress years.

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2001 LASA/OXFAM AMERICA
MARTIN DISKIN MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP

Deadline for Nomination March 15, 2001

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 Washington DC Congress, September 6-8, 2001.

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., of was the 1998 Diskin Lecturer. Gonzalo Sánchez Gómez of the Instituto de Estudios Políticos y Relaciones Internacionales, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, received the Lectureship in 2000.

The chair of the 2001 Diskin Lectureship Selection Committee 2000 is Professor Lynn Stephen, Anthropology, University of Oregon. Other members of the Committee are being named as this edition of the Forum goes to press. 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:

Professor Lynn Stephen
Department of Anthropology
University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97405

or electronically to stephendl@oregon.uoregon.edu by March 15, 2001.
IN MEMORIAM

With the passing of Elsa Chaney on July 16 at the age of 72 after a valiant six-year fight with ovarian cancer, LASA lost a devoted supporter and we all lost a great friend. She participated in almost every LASA Congress since its inception and as early as 1973 became a major proponent of women’s participation in LASA, through committees, workshops, and research. Her books are about working women, both professionals (Supermadre) and women in the popular sectors (Sellers and Servants, with Ximena Bunster, and Muchachas No More, with Mary Garcia Castro), and migration (Caribbean Life in New York City, with Constance Sutton).

Many now-fashionable frameworks in gender studies and platforms have been present in Chaney’s works since the early 70s, including her emphasis on women’s empowerment, the dichotomy between subject- and object-oriented models of research, the contemporary discussion on gender and globalization, and the importance of a transnational perspective. She was above all concerned with the poor, with social justice, and especially with the fate of household workers in Latin America and the Caribbean. She went to Salvador, one month before her death, to collaborate in research developed with the local union of household workers. Her last months of life were devoted to research and to fundraising for the international congress of the Confederation of Household Workers of Latin America and the Caribbean (CONLACTRAHO)—an organization she supported since its founding in 1986, in Colombia.

Elsa Chaney was a sister, a scholar, and a promoter of projects designed by women from popular sectors and social movements. The best way to praise her memory is doing the best we can to continue her work, for a knowledge that makes bridges between intellectuals and activists, built by subjects in the academy and in popular social movements.

For almost the past 20 years, Elsa assumed the role of the hermana gringa in the struggle of household workers for their rights and social justice in Latin America. She created a transcontinental network of sisterhood that is our greatest resource in carrying forth her legacy.

Funds are needed to send Elsa’s books to libraries in Latin America, support the participation of household workers in conferences and support scholarly research about working women. We urge you to send donations to LASA, 946 William Pitt Union, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA 15260 and attach a note indicating that the funds are for the Gender and Feminist Studies Section in memory of Elsa Chaney. We will be adding longer articles about Elsa to the section’s Web page (http://lasa.international.pitt.edu/gender.htm). There will also be a panel in honor of Elsa at the next LASA Congress.

The following poem was written by Aída Moreno, a Chilean leader of the household workers confederation

A MI QUERIDA HERMANA ELSA

Fuiste la amiga inolvidable.
Nos duele tu partida.

Nos cuesta aceptar que no estés más junto a nosotras.

No tendrémos tus manos para unirnos, ni tu rostro triste suplicante, para que no siguiéramos ofendiéndonos, sino para que sigamos trabajando juntas, por nuestro movimiento.

Tu imagen, los recuerdos, nos acompañarán siempre, serán ellos los que estén presente en nuestro caminar.

Fuiste la amiga más fiel de las trabajadoras del hogar, nos diste tantas horas de tu tiempo de descanso, escribiendo cartas, siempre pensando en nuestras respuestas.

Cuantas de nosotras respondimos con nuestro silencio.

Y Tú, fiel amiga, nunca te cansaste, ni te aburríste de nosotras.

Amiga, perdón por la desconfianza, que muchas tuvimos de ti, solo por el hecho de ser gringa, y norteamericana.

Nosotras, somos hijas de los pobres, de esta América sufrida. Muchas de nosotras hemos visto el dolor de la invasión a nuestros pueblos por el imperio de tu país.

Nos costaba aceptar y creer en la nobleza y tu interés por apoyarnos y vernos unidas, y fortalecer las organizaciones de nuestros países.

Tu fuiste nuestra maestra y guía. Cuantas veces nos diste ánimo y fuerza para seguir trabajando por el gremio.

Tu despertaste en muchas de nosotras, nuestra identidad latinoamericana.

This memorial tribute was written collectively by Helen Safa, Mary García Castro, Mary Goldsmith, and Jean Weisman.
Peter Andreas, Reed College, is author of Border Games: Policing the U.S.-Mexican Line. Andreas considers the sharp escalation of border policing in recent years ultimately to have been less about deterring illegal drugs and immigrant labor and more about re-crafting the image of the border and symbolically reaffirming the state’s territorial authority.

John Burdick and W. E. Hewitt are co-editors of The Church at the Grassroots in Latin America: Perspectives on Thirty Years of Activism. Case studies from Brazil, Ecuador, Chile, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua illustrate the Church’s impact on politics, labor and land issues, race and gender relations, leadership, and neighborhood organizations.

The Autobiography of María Elena Moyano: The Life and Death of a Peruvian Activist, edited and annotated by Diana Miloslavish Tupac, with translation, prologue and afterword by LASA member Patricia S. Taylor Edmisten, will be published by the University of Florida Press in November. Moyano was assassinated by Sendero Luminoso guerrillas as a warning to others in the women’s movement. All royalties from the book will go to the Flora Tristán Center for Peruvian Women.

Yolanda Flores, University of Vermont, recently published her first book, The Drama of Gender: Feminist Theater by Women of the Americas (Peter Lang: New York, 2000). The plays examined “all exhibit a desire to deconstruct patriarchal notions of gendered roles and identities, compulsory heterosexuality, and dramatic forms.”

R.S. Rose is the author of One of the Forgotten Things. Getúlio Vargas and Brazilian Social Control, 1930-1954, an examination of the long-ignored vicious side to the legend of Brazilian President Getulio Vargas. Rose was the “first civilian to spend months in the secret archives of Rio de Janeiro” and has utilized new eyewitness testimony and insider information in offering explanations to several events that proved pivotal in Brazil during the 1930s and 1940s.

Thomas Walker of Ohio University and Ariel Armony of Colby College are co-editors of Repression, Resistance, and Democratic Transition in Central America, a monograph recently published by Scholarly Resources Press. Armony and Walker also contributed chapters to the volume, along with other current LASA members, including Shawn Bird, John Booth, Jack Child, Edward Cleary, Susanne Jonas, Patricia Richard, Mark Ruhl, Richard Stahler-Sholk, Carlos Vilas, and Phillip Williams.

Howard J. Wiarda of the University of Massachusetts has been awarded a Fulbright grant to conduct research in Austria and Hungary for a study of comparative integration and transitions to democracy in Latin America and Eastern Europe. Professor Wiarda is one of approximately 2000 U.S. grantees who will travel abroad for the 2000/2001 academic year through the Fulbright Program.

Bruce M. Wilson, University of Central Florida, was awarded the 2000 SECOLAS Surgis-Leavitt Prize for “Leftist Parties, Neoliberal Policies, and Re-election Strategies: The Case of the PLN in Costa Rica”, the best article published in 1998-99 on a Latin American subject. The article appears in Comparative Political Studies. Vol. 32, No. 6, September 1999.)

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SECTION NEWS

Three new LASA Sections have been added to the 2001 membership form. The mission statement of the Section “Decentralization and Sub-national Governance” was published in the Spring 2000 issue of the LASA Forum. Contacts for this Section are Eduardo Gómez (egomez@rand.org) and Eliza Willis (willis@grinnell.edu). The two most recently-approved Sections are described below:

**Ecuadorian Studies**

The LASA Section on Ecuador aims to facilitate a broad interdisciplinary discussion among national and foreign scholars, social movements, NGOs, and research institutes with an interest in Ecuador through the organization of panels at LASA Congresses, the establishment of electronic fora for communication, the active engagement of current social and political issues, coordination with other LASA sections, and the promotion of Ecuadorian interests within LASA.

Chair: Brian Selmeski; selmeski@ecnet.ec or brselmes@syr.edu.

**Defense, Democracy and Civil-Military Relations**

Se invita a todos los colegas de LASA, interesados en temas de defensa, militares, seguridad y procesos de democratización, a incorporarse a la sección. El propósito es conocerlos y discutir entre todos, avances de investigación, ponencias, presentar paneles a los congresos de LASA, y, en un futuro cercano, poder establecer comunicaciones formales a través de correo electrónico y página Web. Igualmente, paralelo al Congreso de LASA2001, que se realizará en Washington, podríamos realizar un seminario de un día entre los miembros de la Sección. Primer responsable de la sección e información: Raúl Benítez Manaut; raulmanaut@hotmail.com, o manaut@servidor.unam.mx.
### CHAIRS OF LASA SECTIONS AND TASK FORCES, 2000-2001

Section, Chair(co-chairs), E-mail

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Brazil</th>
<th>Higher Education</th>
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| Ted Young; youngrf@fiu.edu  
María de Lourdes Alcântara; maira@dglnet.com.br | Virgilio Álvarez; viranette@guate.net |

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<tr>
<th>Business and Politics</th>
<th>Labor Studies</th>
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<td>Ben Ross Schneider; <a href="mailto:brs@northwestern.edu">brs@northwestern.edu</a></td>
<td>Marta Panaia; <a href="mailto:ptrabajo@cea.uba.ar">ptrabajo@cea.uba.ar</a></td>
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<tr>
<th>Central America</th>
<th>LAMA-LatinoAmerica-MedioAmbiente</th>
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| Marc Zimmerman; marczim@uic.edu  
Shelley McConnell; smccon2@emory.edu | Laura Murphy; llmurphy@neosoft.com |

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<tr>
<th>Colombia</th>
<th>Latin America and the Pacific Rim</th>
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<td>Joanne Rappaport; <a href="mailto:rappapoj@gusun.georgetown.edu">rappapoj@gusun.georgetown.edu</a></td>
<td>Neantro Saavedra-Rivano; <a href="mailto:neantro@shako.sk.tsukuba.ac.jp">neantro@shako.sk.tsukuba.ac.jp</a></td>
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<th>Cuba</th>
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Lourdes Tabares; ltabares@rect.uh.cu | Frances Aparicio; franapar@umich.edu;  
María de los Angeles Torres; nenitat@aol.com |

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<th>Culture, Power and Politics</th>
<th>Law and Society in Latin America</th>
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| Daniel Mato; dmato@reacciun.ve  
Carmen Ferradas; ferrada@binghamton.edu | Victor Uribe; uribe@fiu.edu  
Henry (Chip) Carey; polhfc@panther.gsu.edu |

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<tr>
<th>Decentralization &amp; Sub-national Governance</th>
<th>Lesbian and Gay Studies</th>
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| Ed Gomez; egomez@rand.org  
Eliza Willis; willis@ac-grin.edu | Florence Babb; florence-babb@uiowa.edu  
Brian Kelley; kelleypol@aol.com |

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<th>Defense, Democracy, and Civil-Military Relations</th>
<th>Paraguayan Studies</th>
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<td>Raúl Benítez; <a href="mailto:manaut@servidor.unam.mx">manaut@servidor.unam.mx</a> or <a href="mailto:raulmanaut@hotmail.com">raulmanaut@hotmail.com</a></td>
<td>Teresa Méndez-Faith; <a href="mailto:tmfaith@anselm.edu">tmfaith@anselm.edu</a></td>
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<th>Ecuadorian Studies</th>
<th>Perú</th>
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Julio Carrión; jcarri@udel.edu |

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<th>Educación y Políticas Educativas en América Latina</th>
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<td>Ruth Sauto; <a href="mailto:rsauto@mail.retina.ar">rsauto@mail.retina.ar</a></td>
<td>Matthew Shugart; <a href="mailto:mshugart@ucsd.edu">mshugart@ucsd.edu</a></td>
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<th>Europe and Latin America</th>
<th>Scholarly Research and Resources</th>
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| Jean Grugel; j.b.grugel@sheffield.ac.uk  
Christian Freres; cfreres@aieiti.es | Harold Colson; hcolson@ucsd.edu |

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<th>Gender and Feminist Studies</th>
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| Edna Acosta-Belén; cab@csc.albany.edu  
Mary García Castro; castro@ufba.br | Linda Whiteford; lindaw@chumac1.cas.usf.edu  
Dinorah Martínez; dmarti27@tampabay.rr.com |

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<th>Venezuelan Studies</th>
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<td>Henry “Chip” Carey; <a href="mailto:polhfc@panther.gsu.edu">polhfc@panther.gsu.edu</a></td>
<td>Cathy Rakowski; <a href="mailto:rakowski.1@osu.edu">rakowski.1@osu.edu</a></td>
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### Task Force, Chair, E-mail

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<th>Human Rights and Academic Freedom</th>
<th>LASA and the 21st Century</th>
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<td>Jack Hammond; <a href="mailto:jhammond@cuny.edu">jhammond@cuny.edu</a></td>
<td>A. Douglas Kincaid; <a href="mailto:kincaidd@fiu.edu">kincaidd@fiu.edu</a></td>
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Approximately 60 predoctoral, 40 dissertation, and 30 postdoctoral fellowships sponsored by the Ford Foundation and administered by the National Research Council are offered to members of six minority groups whose underrepresentation in the professoriate has been severe and long-standing. Eligibility to apply is limited to: Citizens or Nationals of the United States, members of the following groups: Alaskan Natives (Eskimo or Aleut), Black/African Americans, Mexican Americans/Chicanos/Chicanas, Native American Indians, Native Pacific Islanders (Polynesian/Micronesian), Puerto Ricans. Stipends and allowances: Predoctoral - $15,500 to the fellow, institutional allowance of $8,500 for three years; Dissertation - $24,000 for one year; Postdoctoral - $35,000 for one year, $3,000 travel and relocation allowance, $2,000 cost-of-research allowance, $2,500 employing institution allowance, to be matched by employing institution. For further information and applications, contact:

Fellowship Programs Office
National Research Council
2101 Constitution Avenue
Washington, DC 20418
Tel: 202-334-2872
Fax: 202-334-3419
E-mail: infocell@nas.edu

Application deadlines:

Predoctoral: November 10, 2000
Dissertation: December 1, 2000
Postdoctoral: January 8, 2001

The Virginia Tech ABD Fellows Program for Minority Doctoral Students is a program to recruit and mentor new faculty members. The purposes of this program are: 1) To provide young professionals with an opportunity to be mentored by experienced faculty and to make progress on the dissertation; or, 2) to advance research skills past the dissertation. Fellows are required to teach a course during the academic year and will deliver a minimum of one seminar on their research. The stipend for the academic year is $25,000. For more information, please contact:

Dr. M. J. Reifsnyder
Virginia Tech Graduate School
213 Sandy Hall, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0325
Telephone: 540-231-9549
Fax: 540-231-3714
E-mail: fellows@vt.edu.

Application deadline: First week of January 2001

The Social Science Research Council is pleased to announce the Fellowships on Conflict, Peace, & Social Transformations designed to advance training and innovative research on underlying causes and conditions of conflict and insecurity. The fellowships will be awarded to scholars, doctoral students, and practitioners (such as nongovernmental and multilateral organization professionals, journalists, lawyers, activists, and other professionals). Applicants should be currently working on issues bearing on security such as human rights, gender inequality, religious revivalism, unequal access to goods and services, military affairs, weapons proliferation and arms control, peace-building, environmental sustainability, economic inequality, migration, food supply, global finance, ethnicity, or nationalism. Through these fellowships the SSRC seeks to nurture innovative research and collaboration among professionals and across geographic regions and between the worlds of academics and practitioners. The fellowships will be for a period of 1-2 years. There are no citizenship, residency, or nationality requirements. For more information please contact:

Global Security and Cooperation
Social Science Research Council
810 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10019
Tel: 212-377-2700
Fax: 212-377-2727
email: gsc@ssrc.org
web: www.ssrc.org/foms40.htm

Application Deadline: January 12, 2001

M.A. Program in Latin American and Iberian Studies
University of California, Santa Barbara

The Program in Latin American and Iberian Studies (LAIS) at the University of California, Santa Barbara offers an interdisciplinary M.A. degree that can be earned in one to two years. The Program draws on: a strong and diverse research faculty of 35 from ten different departments, covering Latin America, Spain, and Portugal, and the Latino population in the United States; considerable university resources; and a vibrant community and a spectacular natural setting. Applications for admission are invited from talented undergraduates across the humanities and social sciences. To receive a brochure and application form, please write to the Program in Latin American and Iberian Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA 93106. Tel: 805-893-3161. E-mail: gd-span@humanitas.ucsb.edu. Visit our web site (http://www.gisp.ucsb.edu/lais).
Carmen Rodriguez
Executive Assistant to the Director
Center for Comparative Immigration Studies - Dept. 0510
University of California
La Jolla, CA 92093-0510
Tel: 858-822-4447
E-mail: carorodriguez@ucsd.edu
Web site: www.csic.ucsd.org
Application deadline: January 15, 2001

The Social Science Research Council is pleased to announce its competition for grants to qualified individuals (such as scholars, NGO professionals, journalists, and lawyers) who currently reside or work in places where there are longstanding, intractable, or widespread violent conflicts. These grants are designed to fund research activities—involving collaboration with other researchers—that are focused on building new approaches to conflict and peace in those places. The activities can contribute to the generation or exchange of new knowledge and data about underlying causes of violent conflicts, such as the political, economic, and cultural contexts that may perpetuate them. They could also contribute to the critical analysis or evaluation of the practices, policies, and politics of actors involved in peace and conflict processes. The grants are for a period of 4-6 months.
For more information please contact:
Global Security and Cooperation
Social Science Research Council
810 Seventh Avenue
New York, NY 10019
Tel: 212-377-2700
Fax: 212-377-2727
e-mail: gsci@ssrc.org
Web site: www.ssrc.org/fcom40.htm
Application deadline: February 1, 2001

The Center for Latin American Studies at the University of Florida has been selected by the Rockefeller Foundation to host a three-year program of Residential Fellowships in the Humanities to encourage the study of religion, civil society, and globalization in Latin America and Latino communities in the United States. During the second year of the program (2001-2002), we will explore the theme “Religious Pluralism, Democratization, and Citizenship.” We will examine the extent to which different religious traditions foster the exercise of democratic citizenship in both old and new democracies in the region, and contribute to the articulation of participatory forms of collective identity. The program is open primarily to junior scholars in the humanities and social sciences, and nonacademic practitioners and artists. We will also consider senior scholars who seek supplementary support from their host institutions or from other independent funding sources. In addition to a stipend and travel support, the Center will provide resident fellows with library privileges, office space, and computer facilities. For more information on this opportunity or to request an application, please contact:
Professor Philip J. Williams
University of Florida Center for Latin American Studies
319 Grinter Hall
PO Box 115530

The John Carter Brown Library at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island and the Department of Hispanic Studies at Connecticut College in New London, Connecticut, will award a joint research fellowship and visiting professorship for one semester during the 2001-2002 academic year. Applications are invited from established scholars who are citizens of Spain and Spanish America. The fellow will conduct research at the Library, the holdings of which are concentrated on the history of the Western Hemisphere during the colonial period (ca. 1492 to ca. 1825), with particular strength in the history of the Spanish Empire. In general, the Library supports research on the European discovery, exploration, settlement, and development of the Americas; the indigenous response to the European conquest; the African contribution to the development of the hemisphere; and all aspects of European relations with the New World. At Connecticut College, the fellow will teach, in Spanish, one course pertinent to the fellow’s research and appropriate for undergraduate students majoring in Hispanic Studies. The JCB/Connecticut College fellow will reside in Providence for four continuous months and will commute weekly to New London. The stipend for the semester is $10,000 plus an allowance for roundtrip travel and commuting. For further information or to request application materials, please contact:
Director, John Carter Brown Library
Box 1894
Providence, RI 02912
Tel: 401-863-2725
Fax: 401-863-3477
E-mail: JCBL_Fellowships@brown.edu
Application deadline: January 15, 2001

The Center for Comparative Immigration Studies at the University of California–San Diego will offer a limited number of Visiting Research Fellowships at both the predoctoral and postdoctoral level to be held in residence during the 2001-02 academic year. These awards are to support advanced research and writing on any aspect of international migration and refugee flows, in any of the social sciences, history, law, and comparative literature. They cannot be used to support fieldwork or other primary data collection, except field research that can be done in the San Diego area. The duration of the fellowship can be from 3-12 months, depending on the requirements of the project, but full academic year projects are preferred. No summer-only fellowships can be awarded. Stipends for predoctoral Fellows are approximately $2,400 per month (pre-tax); postdoctoral stipends are commensurate with qualifications and experience and may be supplemented with compensation from sabbatical leaves, research grants, etc. Decisions will be announced by February 15, 2001. There is no application form, but you should submit: 1) a detailed project proposal, including a description and justification of the research and writing to be done during the fellowship period, data sources and methodology, preferred length of stay, approximate dates of arrival and departure, and other sources of funding that may be available to support your stay at the Center; 2) curriculum vitae; 3) publications most relevant to the proposed project; 4) for predoctoral applicants: dissertation prospectus and any chapters you may have drafted by the time of application; 5) three letters of recommendation. Send all materials to:
The NEH-founded Institute “The Invisible Giant: The Place of Brazil in (Latin) American Studies” is seeking applications from scholars from different disciplines to participate in this cross-disciplinary NEH project that will take place on the campus of The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, from June 25 to July 18, 2001. The goal of the Institute is twofold: 1) to help the participants, whose primary focus is Spanish America, to rapidly acquire a basic working knowledge of written Portuguese; 2) to bring together specialists from various fields of Spanish American Studies to consider the possible reasons for some perplexing paradoxes in point of view manifested in literary, cultural and historical expressions produced in Brazil and in Spanish America from the 16th through the 18th centuries. The Institute, directed by Professor Lúcia Helena Costigan, will be conducted by Professors Sara Castro-Klarén, Thomas Cohen, Diogo Ramada Curto, João Adolfo Hansen, Marina Mello de Souza, Walter Mignolo, Geoffrey Parker, Ronald Ranimelli, Wayne Redenbarger, Edward Riedinger, Gláucia Silva, Ronaldo Vainfás. Primary criteria for selection will be the applicant’s direct involvement through teaching and/or research in Latin American Studies with a concentration in Spanish America. It is expected that participants will have native or near native skills in Spanish. The selected candidates will be awarded a stipend of $3,250 to cover the costs of travel, books and other research expenses, and living expenses.

For additional information contact:
Carol Robison
Center for Latin American Studies
307 Oxley Hall
1712 Neil Avenue
The Ohio State University
Columbus, Ohio 43210
Tel: 614-688-4285
E-mail: robbison.26@osu.edu

Application deadline: March 1, 2001

The Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Grants-In-Aid program is designated to provide a stipend to scholars for research and to fund related expenditures such as photography, photo duplication, microfilming, travel to collections, translation, transcription, indexing, scanning, or any such expenses connected with research that would advance a project to the next stage or to successful conclusion. Scholars at different stages of their careers and advanced graduate students are encouraged to apply for a stipend of up to $3,000. For application and guidelines you may call, write, fax, or download from the Recovery web page. Contact: Recovering the U.S. Hispanic Literary Heritage Project University of Houston E. Cullen Performance Hall, Room 254 Houston, TX 77205-2172 Tel: 713-743-3128 Fax: 713-743-3142

E-mail: artrec@jetson.uh.edu
Web site: http://www.arte.uh.edu/Recovery/recovery.html

The Library of Congress, the Association of American Universities, and the American Council of Learned Societies are pleased to announce the Library of Congress Fellowships in International Studies. Even as the world is increasingly interconnected and "globalized," the ability to interpret the histories and cultures of other nations, through their own languages, is a challenge that requires years of patient study. These fellowships will help to meet that challenge by providing postdoctoral scholars in the humanities and social sciences with support for four to nine months of residence in Washington to use the foreign language collections of the Library of Congress. The singular collaboration of these three organizations underlines their commitment to scholarship in international studies. Generously funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the Association of American Universities, and the Library of Congress, with additional funds from the Henry Luce Foundation for research concerning Asia or Southeast Asia, the Library of Congress Fellowships in International Studies will increase the use and visibility of the outstanding international and foreign language collections at the Library. Approximately ten Fellows will be selected annually through a national, peer-reviewed selection process administered by the American Council of Learned Societies. The program is designed for postdoctoral scholars who are at an early stage of their career, within seven years of their degree. Research projects in the history, language, culture, politics, economics, and other disciplines of the humanities and social sciences that further understanding of the global partners of the United States will be welcome, as will multi-disciplinary and cross-disciplinary proposals, and proposals focused on single or multiple geographical areas.

Scholars interested in applying for a fellowship should contact:
Office Fellowships and Grants
American Council of Learned Societies
228 East 45th Street
New York, NY 10017-3398
Fax: 212-949-8058
E-mail: grants@acls.org
Web site: http://www.acls.org

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Correction

The Forum published a misleading announcement in the Summer issue about the SSRC Program on Collective Memory of Repression. The announcement should have indicated that fellowships may be offered, contingent on availability of funds. We apologize for this error.
NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

SSRC FELLOWSHIPS ON CONFLICT, PEACE, & SOCIAL TRANSFORMATIONS

The Social Science Research Council is pleased to announce the Fellowships on Conflict, Peace, & Social Transformations designed to advance training and innovative research on underlying causes and conditions of conflict and insecurity. The fellowships will be awarded to scholars, doctoral students, and practitioners (such as nongovernmental and multilateral organization professionals, journalists, lawyers, activists, and other professionals). Applicants should be currently working on issues bearing on security such as human rights, gender inequality, religious revivalism, unequal access to goods and services, military affairs, weapons proliferation and arms control, peace-building, environmental sustainability, economic inequality, migration, food supply, global finance, ethnicity, or nationalism. Through these fellowships the SSRC seeks to nurture innovative research and collaboration across geographic regions and between the worlds of academics and practitioners. The fellowships will be for a period of 1-2 years.

Deadline: January 12, 2001 (Application forms will be available in late August 2000)

SSRC GRANTS FOR RESEARCH COLLABORATION IN CONFLICT ZONES

The Social Science Research Council is also pleased to announce its competition for grants to qualified individuals (such as scholars, NGO professionals, journalists, and lawyers) who currently reside or work in places where there are longstanding, intractable, or widespread violent conflicts. These grants are designed to fund research activities – involving collaboration with other researchers – that are focused on building new approaches to conflict and peace in those places. The activities can contribute to the generation or exchange of new knowledge and data about underlying causes of violent conflicts, such as the political, economic, and cultural contexts that may perpetuate them. They could also contribute to the critical analysis or evaluation of the practices, policies, and politics of actors involved in peace and conflict processes. The grants are for a period of 4-6 months.

Deadline: February 1, 2001

There are no citizenship, residency, or nationality requirements.

For more information please contact:
GLOBAL SECURITY & COOPERATION
SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH COUNCIL
810 SEVENTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, NY 10019
tel: 212.377.2700/ fax: 212.377.2727
e-mail: gsc@ssrc.org/ web: www.ssrc.org/fcom40.htm
SOUTHWEST CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
A Non-Profit Organization Serving International Education

• Community-based programs for upper division and graduate students
  Fall 2001 semester in Oaxaca Mexico

• Special intensive programs in health, education, criminal justice, and human services
  Health and Society in México: July 25 - August 15, 2001

• Collaborative planning and program management in support of international education and
  specialized professional development seminars for institutions, agencies, organizations, and
  consortia

• 15 years experience in program design and leadership

For full program information contact: Tracey Franklin, Executive Director
Southwest Center for International Studies
1632 E. Hampton Tucson AZ 85719
Ph/Fax: 520 320-1650 www.swcis.org

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Spanish and Portuguese, University of Maryland, College Park, seeks an Assistant Professor or Junior Associate Professor in Caribbean Literatures and Cultures. Knowledge of Caribbean region relations preferred. A Ph.D. is required. Native or near-native fluency in both Spanish and English, teaching experience, and recognized potential of excellence in scholarship are required. Women and minorities are strongly encouraged to apply. AA/EO Title IX Employer. Send a letter of intent, CV, at least three letters of recommendation, and a research sample to:
Jorge Aguilar-Mora, Chair
Search Committee
Department of Spanish and Portuguese
University of Maryland, College Park
College Park, MD 20742
guido@wam.umd.edu

Review of applications begins November 1, 2000, and will continue until the position is closed.

San Diego State University is seeking applications for the position of Director of the Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) at the rank of senior Associate or Full Professor. The successful candidate must be a proven scholar with an active research agenda, wide administrative experience, demonstrated skills in grantsmanship, and a willingness to work with students (CLAS has 75-95 graduate students at any given time). Applicants must hold a Ph.D. in a humanities or social science discipline (history or political science preferred) and a geographic interest in South America, Brazil, or Andean nations preferred. Near-native fluency in Spanish and a working knowledge of Portuguese is required. Duties include: Director of the Center and Chair of the academic degree programs, involvement in the greater San Diego area, close cooperation (including faculty and student exchanges) with all Mexican institutions of higher learning in Tijuana and Mexicali, México, and demonstrated fund raising and grant writing experience. Please send a letter of application, a current CV, and the names of three references to:
Dr. Brian Loveman
Search Committee
Center for Latin American Studies
San Diego State University
San Diego, CA 92182-4446

For further information please contact Dr. Loveman at above address or at loveman@mail.sdsu.edu.
Application review begins on November 1, 2000 and will continue until the position is filled.
As part of an ongoing recruiting drive to enhance its internationally recognized program in world-historical sociology, the Sociology Department of Binghamton University is seeking to recruit a tenure-track Assistant Professor whose work demonstrates high promise for excellence in research and teaching. We are specifically seeking a person whose work centers upon Latin America and the Caribbean, with additional interests in gender and/or global political economy. Applicants should send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, three letters of reference, and samples of written work to:

Chair, Personnel Committee  
Department of Sociology  
Binghamton University  
PO Box 6000  
Binghamton NY 13902-6000

Screening of applications will begin November 7, 2000 and continue until the position is filled.

Gettysburg College invites applications for a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level in Latin American history, 1650 to 1950, beginning Fall 2001. Ph.D. preferred; promise of excellence in teaching and a commitment to continued scholarship essential. The successful candidate will be expected to teach a globally focused introductory level class, a one- or two-semester survey of Latin American history, upper-division courses in areas of specialization, and to participate in the college’s first year seminar. AA/EQ; included in an attractive benefits package is a modest partner assistance program. Please send letter of application describing teaching and research interests, curriculum vitae, and three letters of recommendation to:

Prof. Magdalena Sanchez  
Chair of Search Committee  
Department of History  
Gettysburg College  
Gettysburg, PA 17325  
E-mail: msanchez@gettysburg.edu

Application materials should be received by November 15, 2000.

Harvard Divinity School announces several full-time positions as Research Associate and Visiting Lecturer in Women’s Studies in Religion for 2001-02. Full-time residence during the 2001-2002 academic year while conducting proposed individual research projects for publication, design and teaching of a one-semester course related to research project in the appropriate Divinity School department: Hebrew Bible, New Testament, History of Christianity, History of Religion, Theology, Ethics, or Religion and Society. The positions are open to candidates with doctorates in religion, to those with primary competence in other fields of the humanities and the social sciences who have serious interest in religion, and to leading religion professionals with equivalent achievements. Salary: $40,000 plus benefits. Information and application forms may be requested from:

Dr. Ann Braude  
Director of Women’s Studies in Religion  
Harvard Divinity School  
45 Francis Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

Completed applications must be received by November 15, 2000.

Asst./Associate Professor  
Modern Latin America

The History Department of the University at Stony Brook invites applications for an Associate Professorship or advanced Assistant Professorship, beginning September 2001. The Latin American History program is strongly committed to the teaching and training of an international community of graduate students. We are seeking candidates with strong publication records, commitment to graduate training, and interdisciplinary or comparative outlooks. While the specific area of regional specialization is open, themes of particular interest include: Labor Studies; Gender, Race and Ethnicity, State, Nationhood and Civil Society; Social Movements; and Cultural Studies. Teaching responsibilities include two courses per semester.

Please send letter of application, c.v., and three letters of recommendation before November 1st to:

Professor Brooke Larson, Chair, Search Committee  
Department of History  
University at Stony Brook  
Stony Brook, New York 11794-4348

The University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Applications from women, people of color, disabled persons, and/or special disabled or Vietnam era veterans are especially welcome.

STONY BROOK  
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

YORK UNIVERSITY

The Department of History, York University, invites applications for tenure-track positions for an Assistant Professor of 19th and 20th century Latin American history, pending budgetary approval. Required qualifications include a completed Ph.D. or equivalent and an ongoing program of research in the field. The position is part of a University-wide initiative to enhance international programs and research. The Department is keen to attract scholars who have an interest in the history of one or more of the following: cross-cultural contact: war; gender and sexuality; imperial and post-colonial issues. Candidates should submit a letter of application, including a CV, and arrange for three confidential letters of recommendation to be sent to:

Professor Richard C. Hoffmann, Interim Chair  
Department of History, York University  
4700 Keele Street  
Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3  
CANADA  
Fax 416-736-5836

Applications must be received no later than 17 November, 2000.
Director of the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies
Stanley Golub Professor of International Studies
University of Washington

The University of Washington is continuing its search for the position of Director, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies, with a term to begin July 1, 2001. The successful candidate will have administrative experience and a distinguished record. The Director will also hold the title of Stanley D. Golub Professor International Studies.

The educational mission of the Jackson School stresses interdisciplinary international and comparative studies. The Jackson School faculty engages in research and instruction in a range of international programs that combine area expertise with disciplinary skills. In addition to chairing a faculty unit within the College of Arts and Sciences, the Director oversees Department of Education Arts and Sciences Title VI NRC centers; a research institute; and thirteen-degree granting programs, including international studies, comparative religion, Jewish studies and ten regional programs. The Director will be involved as well with community groups and appropriate professional organizations. The Director will be expected to play a role in the University’s development of its international programs and in fund raising. Salary will be commensurate with the position and the experiences and achievements of the candidate.

Candidates for the position should have a Ph.D. or its equivalent. Letters of interest should include a full c.v., the names of four references, and information about administrative experience; materials should be sent to:

JSIS Director’s Search
c/o Divisional Dean Susan Jeffords
College of Arts & Sciences
Box 353765, University of Washington
Seattle, WA. 98195-3765.

For more information you may contact Mary Pullen, Assistant to Divisional Dean Susan Jeffords, via email at marpul@u.washington.edu.

Priority will be given to candidates that apply by December 15, 2000.

The University of Washington is building a multicultural faculty and strongly encourages applications from female and minority candidates; the institution is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.
The University of South Florida invites applications for a tenure track position at the rank of assistant professor in the area of Latino/United States history in the 19th or 20th centuries. Pending budgetary approval, the appointment will begin in August 2001. The Ph.D. is required by the time of the appointment or the initial appointment will be at the rank of instructor at a reduced salary. Teaching experience and publications are preferred, but not required. Send letters to:

Dr. John M. Belohlavek
Chair, Department of History
University of South Florida
4202 Fowler Avenue SOC 107
Tampa, FL 33620-8100
For disability accommodations call 813-974-2809
Application deadline: November 24, 2000

Bryn Mawr College seeks a Latin American Urbanist. This is a tenure track position, to begin Semester I, 2001, for an Assistant Professor in the Program in Growth and Structure of Cities. The cities Program is an interdisciplinary undergraduate major combining work in the history of architecture, urban design, and the built environment with sociocultural and policy studies. We seek a versatile specialist in the study of Latin American cities, with a Ph.D. or the equivalent in urban studies, Latin American Studies, geography, planning, political science, economics, sociology or other social science. Publications and teaching experience are required. Candidates should be able to teach both quantitative and qualitative analyses of urban social change in the 19th and 20th centuries and to participate fully in a program that focuses equally on the urban built environment and social and cultural processes. Teaching (five courses annually) is at all undergraduate levels, and includes the senior research seminar and participation in the college-wide concentration in Hispanic and Hispanic-American Studies. Send CV, three letters of recommendation, sample publication and sample syllabus to:

Gary McDonough
Director, Growth and Structure of Cities Program
Bryn Mawr College
101 N. Merion Avenue
Bryn Mawr, PA 19010-2899
E-mail: gmdonog@brynmawr.edu
Application deadline: December 1, 2000

Tufts University will hire an art historian in modern and contemporary Latin American art. This is a tenure-track position at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. We are seeking an individual with primary specialization in twentieth century/contemporary Latin American art history. In addition, ability to participate in the undergraduate, interdisciplinary American Studies program is expected. Interest in pre-Columbian, colonial, theory, and/or architecture also is an advantage. The individual selected would teach four courses a year; contribute to team-taught survey; teach and advise M.A. and M.F.A. students. Ph.D. and teaching experience are preferred. Send CV and three letters of recommendation, publications or writing samples, and teaching materials to:

Eric Rosenberg
Chair, Department of Art and Art History
Tufts University
11 Talbot Avenue
Medford, MA 02155

Preliminary interviews will be conducted at the College Art Association annual meeting in Chicago, February 2001. Members of underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply. Review of applications to begin December 1, 2000 and continue until the position is filled.

The International Studies Program, University of Oregon, seeks an Assistant Professor to begin Fall 2001; senior rank possible for an exceptional scholar with leadership abilities. There is preference for research and teaching that address human aspects of global environmental issues. The faculty is committed to excellence in teaching and original research. Faculty members teach core interdisciplinary courses in International Studies and seminars in their areas of specialization. The geographic area of specialization and disciplines are open, but with preference for candidates with expertise on Africa or Latin America, and those with backgrounds in economics, geography, history, political science, and related areas. The Ph.D. or equivalent is required. Women, minorities and international applicants are encouraged to apply. Please send a letter of application, statement of research agenda and teaching interests/expertise and CV to:

Professor Anita M. Weiss/Dr. Rob Proudfoot
Search Committee Co-Chairs
International Studies Program
5206 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403-5206
Application deadline: December 1, 2000

Lake Forest College seeks an Assistant Professor of Spanish. This is a full-time entry-level tenure-track position to begin Fall Semester, 2001. The candidate must be qualified to teach Spanish language as well as the literature and culture of Spain and the Americas at all levels of undergraduate study. Training in applied linguistics/pedagogy, the application of technology to all levels of instruction, and/or translation/interpretation especially desirable. Native/near native proficiency in Spanish and English is required. Demonstrable commitment to teaching, scholarship, extracurricular initiatives and community service are essential. Areas of interest that would contribute significantly to our department are Caribbean, Central American or Chicano studies. Lake Forest College embraces diversity throughout all its constituencies. We encourage applications from women and from members of historically underrepresented minority groups. Please submit letter of application, CV, transcript, and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr. Cynthia Hahn
Chair, Dept. of Foreign Languages & Literatures
Lake Forest College
555 N. Sheridan Road
Lake Forest, IL 60045
Fax: 401-735-6191
E-mail: hahn@lfcoe.edu
Application deadline: December 1, 2000. Interviews at MLA.
The Department of Anthropology, New York University seeks an outstanding scholar, at the Assistant Professor level, in the anthropology of New World post-slave societies, excluding the U.S. Desirable theoretical foci include racial theory, cultural hybridity, nationalism, and migration. Appointment begins September 1, 2001, pending administrative and budgetary approval. Please send letter, CV and names of three references to:

Professor Thomas Abercrombie
Department of Anthropology
New York University
25 Waverly Place
New York, NY 10003

Application deadline: December 1, 2000

The University of South Florida is looking for a tenure-track Assistant Professor with an area of specialization in global feminisms. The Ph.D. is required at time of appointment (August, 2001). Applicants may have a Ph.D. in Women's Studies or in a relevant field. Candidates must have research expertise on Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and/or Latin America. Send letter of application, CV, writing sample, syllabi, and three letters of recommendation to:

Kim Vaz, Search Committee Chair
Department of Women's Studies, FAO 153
University of South Florida
Tampa, FL 33620
E-mail: vaz@chuma1.cas.usf.edu

For disability accommodations contact:
Elitahea Whittaker at ewhittak@chuma1.cas.usf.edu

Application deadline: December 1, 2000

The Department of Modern Languages, Northeastern University, invites applications for an entry-level tenure-track position in Applied Linguistics with an emphasis on Applied Linguistics Language Pedagogy. The department is particularly interested in candidates who can combine expertise in Language Pedagogy and Applied Linguistics with an ability to teach Spanish. The appointment begins in September 2001 and, as with all new university appointments, is dependent on final university approval and funding. The appointment will be at the Assistant Professor level, and the candidate will be expected to contribute in the normal ways to the department. The successful candidate will have native or near-native fluency in Spanish and have a completed Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics or Language Pedagogy or a Ph.D. in Spanish with a concentration in Applied Linguistics or Language Pedagogy. The candidate will also provide evidence of successful teaching of Spanish at all levels and evidence of scholarly promise. Inquiries from minority candidates are especially welcome. Send a letter of application, curriculum vitae, and three letters of reference from academic sources to:

Professor Stephen Sadow, Search Committee Chair
Department of Modern Languages
405 Meserve Hall
Northeastern University
Boston, MA 02115
E-mail: ssadow@lynx.neu.edu

Review of applications will be on-going and will conclude in mid-January.

The College of Arts and Sciences at the University of San Francisco invites applicants for a tenure-track position in Anthropology, Fine and Performing Arts, History, Media Studies, Sociology, or Theology/Religious Studies with speciality in Latin America who can teach in an interdisciplinary Latin American Studies program. This position will be at the Assistant Professor level and will begin in the Fall 2001, pending approval and funding. Teaching responsibilities may include inter alia, core courses in Latin American Studies such as Latin American Perspectives and advanced courses dealing with Latin America or in the candidate’s area of specialization. The position requires university teaching experience, evidence of a strong commitment to teaching, evidence of scholarship, an earned doctorate by Fall 2001, experience and willingness to work in a culturally diverse environment, and an understanding of and commitment to support the mission of the University. The candidate will be expected to develop an independent and ongoing research program. Applicants should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, graduate transcripts, copies of recent publications, statement of teaching philosophy, evidence of teaching ability including copies of complete teaching evaluations, and three letters of recommendation to:

Latin American Studies Search Committee
c/o Gerardo Marin
University of San Francisco
2130 Fulton Street
San Francisco, CA 94117-1080

The University of San Francisco will provide reasonable accommodations to individuals with disabilities upon request. We particularly encourage minority and women applicants for all positions.

Application deadline: January 15, 2001

The Center for Latin American Studies, University of Miami, is searching for a Visiting Assistant or Associate Professor with Latin American expertise, in any discipline, beginning August, 2001. The individual selected will teach one undergraduate and one graduate-level course and participate in activities of the new Center for Latin American Studies. The Ph.D. and published/referred research, and fluency in speaking, reading, and writing English are required. Applicant must currently hold an appointment at a Latin American university or research institution. Reappointment for Fall 2002 is possible pending funding. Rank, salary, and departmental appointment are commensurate with qualifications. Those interested should send a letter of application, resume, and three letters of recommendation to:

Dr. Diane Just
Program Administrator
Center for Latin American Studies
University of Miami
P.O. Box 248481
Coral Gables, FL 33124
Tel: 305-284-1854
Fax: 305-384-5758
Web site: www.as.miami.edu/cls

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

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The Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies, University of Notre Dame seeks to fill a position for its coordinator of academic events and student programs. Through these events and programs, the Kellogg Institute fosters interdisciplinary research and education on international political, social, economic, religious, and development issues at the University of Notre Dame. Primary responsibilities include: a) planning, publicizing and administering a series of 2-3 academic lectures or public seminars each week during the academic year, two or three international conferences per year, an international film series, and a number of cultural events per year at Notre Dame; b) coordinating and promoting Institute resources for Notre Dame graduate and undergraduate students, including international grants and internships; c) working with the Director of Latin American Studies in the administration of the undergraduate minor program and related activities. Related tasks include oversight of external donor project accounts; budget preparation; making payment, travel, visa and accommodation arrangements; drafting correspondence; supervision of a program assistant and temporary graduate and undergraduate interns; contributing to KI Newsletter, reports, and proposals; creating publicity materials. Minimum two years administrative experience, preferably in a university setting and especially in organizing events and coordinating projects. Excellent planning, writing and public relations skills. Ability to handle multiple tasks and deadlines, exercise independent judgement, and work in a team. Master’s degree (or equivalent experience) with a background in the social sciences and a focus on international studies, preferably Latin America, as well as an interest in current affairs. Fluent Spanish necessary, Portuguese a plus. We particularly welcome applications from women, Catholics, and members of underrepresented groups. Please send a letter detailing your relevant experience, a CV, and three letters of recommendation to:

Christopher Welna
Associate Director
Kellogg Institute
University of Notre Dame
Notre Dame, IN 46556

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee seeks candidates for its Program Associate position. UUSC supports grassroots human rights efforts around the world, focusing on the rights of women, oppressed racial, ethnic and indigenous groups, and children. The Program Associate will serve as UUSC’s primary liaison with grassroots human rights organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean; identify new project partners and monitor ongoing work; keep up to date on human rights issues in the region; participate with other staff on fund raising for program, on public policy advocacy and on constituency education. This position requires at least two years experience living and working on human rights in the region; current knowledge of human rights issues; fluent English and Spanish; good writing skills; some experience with fund raising; and ability and willingness to travel. Position is in our Cambridge office. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. Letters of application and resume should be sent to:

Field Associates, Inc.
Deane Coady - Staffing Specialist
UUSC
124 Mt. Auburn St., Suite 200 N
Cambridge, MA 02138
Fax: 617-576-5714
E-mail: uusctalent@att.net
Web site: www.uusc.org

Applications accepted until position is filled.

The University of Southern California, School of International Relations, seeks to hire a faculty member with a deep knowledge of Latin America. We seek a scholar with a demonstrated commitment to and excellence in teaching and a strong record of innovative research and publications on Latin America, with an interest in the region's international relations, including those with the United States. We hope to make an appointment of an Associate or Full Professor with tenure without restriction to rank or discipline, who contributes to the study of U.S.-Latin American relations by illuminating processes and problems at the nexus between international and domestic policy and between global and local politics. Although the primary appointment will be in International Relations, it may be possible to offer the successful candidate, if she or he so desires, a joint appointment with anthropology, economics, history, political science, religion, sociology, or another appropriate unit. All candidates should submit a resume, samples of written work, a list of references and teaching evaluations. At the appropriate stage of the process, letters will be solicited. Applications from women, minorities and Latin American scholars are encouraged. Please send application materials to:

Latin America Search Committee
School of International Relations
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0043

Consideration of applications will begin immediately and will continue until a suitable candidate is appointed.

FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

The Canadian Association for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CALACS), will hold its 2001 Congress February 22-24 in Antigua, Guatemala. The call for papers and to other CALACS information is available at www.travel-net.com/~calacs/ or by e-mail at handt@sask.usask.ca. Among the conference tracks are democracy; environment and community; and indigenous rights; and there are program tracks for literature, language, and art; gender and sexuality; culture and power; economic development, business and trade; history and historical processes; and politics and international relations.
An international conference on recent trends and developments in political economy research in an era of diminishing real and disciplinary borders and boundaries, “Global Turbulence: Instability in National and International Political Economy” will be hosted by the Department of Political Science, Simon Fraser University, July 19 and 20, 2001. The conference follows upon the highly successful July 1998 meeting on “Globalization and Its Discontents”. The major theme of the conference which will be organized around plenary sessions, panels and workshops, is the need to reevaluate and rethink major analytical categories and approaches in political economic research called into question by processes of globalization. Papers dealing with comparisons, linkages and bridges between studies of international and domestic political economy, comparative politics, public policy, international relations, and other fields and methods of inquiry are especially welcome. Papers are encouraged in any substantive subject area, including topics such as feminism, the environment, migration, the institutional and structural aspects of internationalization such as supranational regionalism, or the effects of international change on specific aspects of the global political economy such as peripheral or semiperipheral countries. All papers are expected to integrate theory and practice and to highlight new directions for research in the field of political economy. Proposals for preorganized panels of two to three papers on these topics are also encouraged. At least one refereed publication of selected papers will result from the conference. One-page proposals should be submitted by e-mail to: pe01-papers@sfu.ca. Panel proposals should include proposals for each individual paper to be presented. Regularly updated information about the conference will be posted on the conference web page: http://www.sfu.ca/politics/pe01.html. 

The Oral History Association will hold its annual meeting, “Bearing Public Witness: Documenting Memories of Struggle and Resistance,” in St. Louis, Missouri, October 16-21, 2001. The Oral History Association welcomes presentations that consider the challenges of collecting and documenting memories and histories that reflect trauma, genocide, violence, or social/political disorder. The Association encourages students and faculty from the arts, the humanities and the social sciences—along with independent scholars, activists, museum professionals, filmmakers, radio documentarians, photographers and journalists—to submit proposals for panels, plenaries, workshops, roundtables and media- and performance-oriented sessions. We encourage participants to focus on ethical and methodological issues in collecting, producing, disseminating, and using this genre of work. Proposals from professional organizations, particularly those dealing with the themes of the meeting are welcome. Please submit five copies of proposals. For full sessions, submit an abstract of no more than two pages and one-page vitae for each participant. For individual proposals, submit one-page abstract and one-page vitae or resume of the presenter. In all cases, include full name, mailing address, institutional affiliation, phone number and e-mail address, for each session participant. For queries contact:

Leslie Brown
Washington University, St. Louis
E-mail: lbrownb@artsce.wustl.edu
Tel: 314-935-7279
Proposal deadline: December 15, 2000

La Fundación “Nicolás Guillén” convoca a su Tercer Festival y Coloquio de Música y Poesía para conmemorar este año 2001, en vísperas del centenario del natalicio del poeta, el 70 aniversario de la edición de Síngoro cosongo. El festival y coloquio se abre a la más amplia consideración de las relaciones entre música y poesía. En 1931 apareció Síngoro cosongo, que por incluir los Motivos de son (publicácos el año anterior), constituye el pótico de la obra del poeta. El evento reunirá a poetas, músicos, musicólogos, profesores y estudiosos de la cultura de Cuba y el Caribe, quienes dialogarán sobre las disímiles propuestas que este libro formula, así como sobre importantes temas de cultura, música y poesía. El III Festival y Coloquio tendrá lugar en la Ciudad de La Habana, de 16 al 21 de abril del año 2001. El evento incluye la realización de Conferencias Magistrales de reconocidos especialistas y Mesas Redondas, así como la presentación de ponencias sobre las diversas propuestas del evento. Durante el Festival tendrán lugar conciertos de música culta y popular como una amplia muestra de la interacción entre poesía y canción. Cada noche se brindarán espectáculos artísticos de diversa índole, encuentros y recitales de poetas y trovadores, los textos poéticos llevados a la canción desde lo tradicional hasta lo más contemporáneo como suceso artístico hispanoamericano. Los interesados en participar en el evento pueden dirigirse desde ahora a:

Fundación Nicolás Guillén,
Calle 17 No. 351 esq. H, Vedado
Ciudad Habana
Cuba.
Tel: 53-7-662080
Fax: 53-7-333158
e-mail: nicolas@cornuh.uh.edu o daisy_diaz@ole.com
Arizona State University, Tempe anuncia la Conferencia Internacional en homenaje a David William Foster que se realizará del 25-27 de Octubre de 2001. Esta conferencia constituye un reconocimiento a la continua trayectoria intelectual del Dr. David William Foster y al impacto de su producción académica en los estudios hispanoamericanos, brasileños y chicanos. El objetivo de esta conferencia es convocar a sus estudiantes egresados de ASU, a quienes hayan colaborado en sus diversos proyectos de investigación y a todos aquellos que directa o indirectamente hayan sido partícipes de su magisterio. Intersecciones Disciplinarias: Homoerotismo y Homosexualidades, La Academia, Hegemonías y Contrahegemonías, Literatura y Cultura Judía, Ciudades Latinoamericanas, Cinematografías, Cultura Popular, Estudios sobre la Mujer, Teatro, Performance y Dramaturgias, Fotografía, Estudios Brasileños, Aproximaciones Críticas a los Estudios Culturales sobre América Latina, Estudios Chicanos, Traducción y Problemáticas Sociolingüísticas, Marginalidades y Exclusiones Culturales. Las categorías enumeradas son tentativas y no mutuamente excluyentes. Los modos de participación incluyen presentación de trabajos o coordinación de sesiones. Para presentaciones especiales o actuaciones, dirigirse a la mayor brevedad a: fosteriana@hotmail.com
Las propuestas de una página en español, inglés o portugués deberán enviarse a:
Prof. José B. Alvarez
University of Georgia
Dept. of Romance Languages, Gilbert Hall
Athens, GA 30602
E-mail: fosteriana@hotmail.com
Favor incluir nombre, afiliación académica, uso de equipos audiovisuales, dirección postal y electrónica. Para información hotelera, transporte, etc.: www.whittier.edu/modernlang/fost
Fecha límite para enviar propuestas: primero de marzo, 2001

International Political Science Association, Section on the Structure of Governance, will sponsor “The New Public Philosophy: Redrawing the Boundaries Between Public and Private,” a conference at the University of Oklahoma, March 30-31, 2001. The lines between public and private are shifting rapidly. The trend towards privatization of public tasks is producing changes also in the areas of social security, environmental regulation, corporate governance, etc. Authors are invited to present papers that will help to clarify the debate through careful examination of the theoretical, conceptual and empirical aspects of the changing boundaries between public and private. Proposals for papers should contain a title, 150-word abstract, and full contact information for each author. E-mail submissions are encouraged. In the subject line, write “Proposal for SOG 2001”. Please send proposals to:
Robert Henry Cox
Department of Political Science
University of Oklahoma
455 West Lindsey #205
Norman, OK 73019
Tel: 405-325-2061
Fax: 405-325-0718
E-mail: rhcoux@ou.edu
A Conference on Social Policy in Latin America, "Exclusion and Engagement", will be held at the Institute of Latin American Studies, University of London, on 22-23 March 2001. The aim of the conference is to review recent trends in social policy. Participants will come from several disciplines. We aim for balance in terms of subject matter and countries. Papers will be presented on general themes, concepts, models and practice; education; health and social security; household and community. The main papers will be presented by academics, but we shall also have active participation from representatives of NGOs and International Agencies.

X Congreso de la FIEALC – Foro Mundial de Latinoamericanistas y Caribélogos. "El aporte de Latinoamérica y el Caribe al Universo del siglo XXI" se realizará del 26 al 29 de junio de 2001 en Moscú, Rusia. La FIEALC, que se constituyó en 1982 en el Simposio para la Coordinación y Difusión de los Estudios Latinoamericanos (Río de Janeiro), es hoy una gran organización internacional que agrupa a especialistas de muchos países. El Congreso de Moscú se caracterizará por su orientación a considerar a América Latina y el Caribe no sólo, y no tanto, como objeto de diversas influencias, sino precisamente como sujeto, es decir, desde el punto de vista de la participación activa de los países y pueblos de la región en el proceso histórico universal, en la economía, la política y la cultura de toda la humanidad. A la par con las ponencias en que se expongan los resultados de investigaciones llevadas a cabo desde la perspectiva concreta de las diversas disciplinas, serán bienvenidas las intervenciones basadas en un enfoque interdisciplinario, así como los estudios comparativos de los procesos y realidades registrados en diferentes países de la región y fuera de ella. Se prestará especial atención al estudio comparativo de los procesos de desarrollo en las Américas Latina y Caribeña y en Rusia, su papel histórico en la formación de la comunidad planetaria del siglo XXI y las posibilidades de cooperación e interacción entre ellas. Confiamos en que las labores del Congreso se desarrollarán en consonancia con las tradiciones de la FIEALC: en un espíritu pluralista, de respeto a las opiniones divergentes y de solidaridad profesional. El Comité Organizador está instalado en los locales del Instituto de Latinoamérica de la Academia de Ciencias de Rusia, en:
Calle B. Ordynka, 21, Moscú, 113035, Rusia
Tel: 7-95-951-53-23, 7-95-953-46-39
Fax: 7-95-953-4070
E-mail: congreso ila@mtu-net.ru
ilaran@pol.ru
http://www.plugcom.ru/—ilaran
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National Conference
February 12-17, 2001
Houston, Texas

Abstracts, not to exceed two pages, should be submitted which relate to any aspect of the Hispanic and Latino American experience. Subjects may include but are not limited to literature, demographics, history, politics, economics, education, health care, fine arts, religion, social sciences, business and many other subjects. Please indicate the time required for presentation of your paper (25 minutes/45 minutes).

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BY: November 17, 2000

SEND ABSTRACTS TO:
Dr. Lemuel Berry, Jr.
Executive Director, NAHLS
Morehead State University
212 Rader Hall
Morehead, KY 40351
Telephone: (606)783-2650
Fax: (606)783-5046
www.NAAAS.org

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For statistical purposes only: Date of Birth (m/d/y): __________ Sex: __________

(Please see other side if adding a joint member.)

MEMBERSHIP RATES FOR YEAR 2001 AND FOR THE THREE-YEAR OPTION

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<th>REGULAR MEMBER</th>
<th>JOINT MEMBERSHIP</th>
<th>LATIN AMERICAN RESIDENT</th>
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<tr>
<td>with gross calendar year income of:</td>
<td>(for second member at same mailing address as first member; one copy of publications will be sent.)</td>
<td>permanently residing in Latin America or the Caribbean (including Puerto Rico) with gross calendar year income of:</td>
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<td>Under $20,000</td>
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LATIN AMERICAN RESIDENT

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<th>Year 2001 3 Years</th>
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<td>8. Defense, Democracy &amp; Civil-Military Relations</td>
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<td>$8</td>
<td>9. Ecuadorian Studies</td>
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<td>$8</td>
<td>10. Educación y Políticas Educativas en América Latina</td>
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<td>$8</td>
<td>11. Europe and Latin America</td>
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<td>$8</td>
<td>12. Gender and Feminist Studies</td>
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<td>$8</td>
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<td>17. Latin America and the Pacific Rim</td>
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<td>18. Latino Studies</td>
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<td>19. Law and Society in Latin America</td>
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<td>20. Lesbian and Gay Studies</td>
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<td>21. Paraguayan Studies</td>
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<td>23. Political Institutions</td>
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<td>24. Rural Studies</td>
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<td>26. Social Studies of Medicine</td>
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<td>$8</td>
<td>27. Venezuelan Studies</td>
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