Call for Papers

LASA at 50

The 2016 meeting in New York City will celebrate LASA’s 50th anniversary, marking the milestone by returning to the great hemispheric metropolis that witnessed LASA’s inaugural Congress in 1966. The Program Committee seeks to promote a distinctive event that simultaneously looks backward and forward. “LASA at 50” will assess the evolution of Latin American studies over the past half-century, paying special attention to how the locus of the field has changed in terms of transnational actors and flows and the shaping of new identities. At the same time, the event will also explore the challenges of creating a more participatory, diverse, and socially just future for the region and its interlocutors.

The New York Congress thus has two interrelated dimensions. First, we hope to take stock of the global and regional trends that have affected LASA’s creation and evolution over its first five decades. This calls upon us to explore the major shift from a Cold War context—with its always exaggerated emphasis on a bipolar world—to an indisputably multipolar context that has been shaped by recent transformations in the global geography of trade and investment and the social, cultural, and political phenomena that have both produced and responded to such transformations. Part and parcel of such hemispheric and global change is the significant transformation in the growth and structure of LASA’s membership and its implications for the organization’s role in shaping Latin American studies, both within the hemisphere and beyond. As of 2014, LASA had grown to over 9,000 members, almost 40 percent of whom are from Latin America and the Caribbean. Of course, major political, economic, and cultural shifts in the region over the last several decades, as well as the changing face of US-Latin American relations—and that of broader North-South and South-South interactions—are vital for an understanding of how academic production on Latin America has changed in the hemisphere and the world.

Second, we hope that “LASA at 50” will advance a broadly inclusive, critical discussion about the future of area studies and Latin American studies. We seek to promote a discussion of the ways LASA engages with the continuing evolution of cross-regional interactions that dynamically shape transnational processes, not least South-South relations. The historic 50th Congress will encourage a cross-fertilization of area studies, bringing Latin Americanists into dialogue with scholars and activists from other regional associations. Part of this task might involve an examination of the notions of “area” and “region” (particularly their importance in terms of identity projects), and an interrogation of how collective spatial identities are transformed in the context of shifting modes of hegemonic power. For example, who are the area or region builders in the twenty-first century? And what is the coherence of Latin America as a unit of political, cultural, or scholarly analysis in this century, whose early years have witnessed formidable obstacles and challenges to the future of area studies as an enterprise (in relation, say, to the burgeoning presence of “global” and “security” studies)? These issues can be engaged at a theoretical level, but they also map onto LASA’s long-standing commitment to forge a regional future that reflects greater participation, diversity, and social justice. The New York Congress’s collective deliberations on the occasion of LASA turning 50 at a critical world-historical moment would thereby underscore our association’s decades-long enterprise of crossing borders, integrating knowledge and practice, and building communities.
You are invited to submit a paper or panel proposal addressing either the Congress theme or any topic related to the program tracks. LASA also invites requests for travel grants from paper presenters who qualify. Visit the LASA website for eligibility criteria. All proposals for papers, panels, and travel grants must be submitted electronically to the LASA Secretariat via the online proposal system by September 8, 2015, 5 pm.

The deadline to submit proposals is September 8, 2015, 5 pm.

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

No submissions by regular mail will be accepted. A confirmation email will be immediately sent once the proposal is submitted successfully.

All participants will be required to pre-register for the Congress.

**PROGRAM TRACKS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Select the most appropriate track for your proposal from the following list and enter it in the designated place on the form. Names of Program Committee members are provided for information only. Direct your correspondence to the LASA Secretariat ONLY.

**Afro-Latin/Indigenous Peoples**
Yuko Miki, Fordham University
Zeca Ligiero, UNIRIO

**Agrarian and Rural Life**
Jan Ruz, CEMECA, Univ. de Ciencias y Artes de Chiapas
Alejandra García Quintanía, Universidad Autónoma de Yucatán

**Area Studies: Critical and Historical Analysis**
Christy Thornton, New York University
Greg Grandin, New York University

**Art, Architecture and Visual Culture**
Robin Adele Greeley, University of Connecticut
Laura Malosetti, CONICET, Nacional de San Martín

**Biodiversity, Natural Resources and Environment**
David Manuel-Navarrete, Arizona State University
Daniel Suman, University of Miami
Lara Reichmann, USDA-ARS Grassland, Soil and Water Research Laboratory

**Cities and Urban Studies**
Mark Healey, University of Connecticut
Cristina M Mehrenits, University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth

**Civil Society and Social Movements**
Richard Stahler-Sholk, Eastern Michigan University
Rose J Spalding, DePaul University

**Culture, Power and Political Subjectivities**
Julie A Skurski, City University of New York - Grad Center
María del Pilar García-Guadilla, Universidad Simón Bolívar

**Democratization**
Aníbal Pérez Llán, University of Pittsburgh
Scott P Mainwaring, University of Notre Dame

**Economics and Social Policies**
Eva A Paus, Mount Holyoke College
Maximo Rossi, Universidad de la República, Uruguay

**Energy, Commodities and Development**
Cynthia A Sansom, Universidad del Pacífico, Peru
Denise Humphreys Bebbington, Clark University

**Film Studies**
Jessica L Sites-Mor, University of British Columbia, Okanagan
Joanne L Hershfield, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

**Genders, Feminisms and Sexualities**
Elizabeth Jay Friedman, University of San Francisco
Jocelyn O'clott, Duke University

**History and Historiography**
Pedro San Miguel, Universidad de Puerto Rico
Raymond B Craib, Cornell University

**Human Rights**
Sonia Cardenas, Trinity College
Anne M Lambright, Trinity College

**International Relations**
Andrés Malamud, ICS Universidad de Lisboa
Eduardo Viola, Universidade de Brasilia

**Labor Studies and Class Relations**
Clifford A Welch, Universidade Federal de São Paulo
Luz Gabriela Arango, Universidad Nacional de Colombia

**Latin@ Art and Culture**
Arlette Dávila, New York University
Karen Mary Davalos, Loyola Marymount University

**Latin@ Politics, Media and Society**
Geraldo L Cadava, Northwestern University
Gabriel P Sanchez, University of New Mexico

**Linguistics, Languages and Language Policy**
Dale Koike, University of Texas at Austin
Jacqueline Toribio, University of Texas at Austin

**Literary Studies: Colonial and 19th Century**
Gonzalo Lamana, University of Pittsburgh
Stephanie Kirk, Washington University

**Literary Studies: Contemporary**
Aníbal González, Yale University
Priscilla Melendez, Trinity College

**Literature and Culture: Interdisciplinary Approaches**
Moira I Fadinger, University of Toronto

**Literature and Culture: Practices of Research**
Matthew Karam, George Mason University
Sarah Ann Wells, University of Wisconsin, Madison

**Mass Media and Popular Culture**
Matthew B Karush, George Mason University

**Methods, Politics, and Practices of Research**
Zoé Tortorici, New York University
Kirsten Weld, Harvard University

**Migration, Borders and Diasporas**
Alejandro Grimson, Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Argentina
Natalia V Gavazov, Universidad Nacional de San Martín, Argentina

**Pedagogy and the Politics of Education**
Tania S Padilla, Dartmouth College
Ariadna Acevedo, Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados (Cinvestav)

**Performance and Visual Studies**
Alexandra T Vazquez, Princeton University
Jill M Lane, New York University

**Political Institutions and Processes**
Miguel García Sánchez, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia
Rosario Queirolo, Universidad Católica del Uruguay

**Politics and Public Policy**
Orlando J Pérez, Millersville University
Gilberto Mancuart, Universidad de Chile

**Public Health**
Anne-Emmanuelle Birn, University of Toronto
Gilberto Hochman, Fundación Oswaldo Cruz

**Religions and Spiritualities**
Todd Hatch, Eastern Kentucky University
Diana Espósito Santo, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile

**Social and Digital Media**
Taylor H Jardno, Yale University
Isabel Galina Russell, Universidad Autónoma de México (UNAM)

**Social Innovation**
Edward F Fischer, Vanderbilt University
Jeffrey W Rubin, Boston University

**South-South/Transregional Interactions**
Jennifer L Bair, University of Colorado at Boulder
Enrique Dussel Peters, Universidad Autónoma de México

**States, Markets and Political Economy**
Kurt G Weyland, University of Texas at Austin
Wendy A Hunter, University of Texas at Austin

**Transnationalism and Globalization**
Denise E Brennan, Georgetown University
Kathleen M Lopez, Rutgers University

**(Un)Rule of Law and Citizenship Rights**
Marcelo Bergmann, Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero, Argentina
Mark Ungar, City University of New York-Brooklyn College

**Violence and Insecurity**
Enrique Desmond Arias, George Mason University
Lucía Dammert, Universidad de Santiago de Chile