



LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

**Meeting of LASA Executive Council
Fairmont Queen Elizabeth, Montreal Canada
January 27-28, 2007**

Participants

Presiding was LASA President Charles Hale, with Past President Sonia Alvarez, Vice President Eric Hershberg, Treasurer Kevin Middlebrook, LARR Editor Philip Oxhorn, Council Members Jose Antonio Aguilar, Elizabeth Jelin, Lynn Stephen, Alcida Rita Ramos, Guillermo Delgado, Jose Rabasa, LASA2007 Program Chairs Maria Socorro Tabuenca and Neil Harvey, and Executive Director Milagros Pereyra participating. Asst. Dir. for Inst. Adv. Sandy Klinzing took the minutes.

Action Items

1. The minutes March 14, 2006 Meeting were approved as revised.
2. LASA will implement two and five year membership options for 2008, while maintaining the existing one and three year options.
3. LASA will create an ad hoc committee to study and propose a plan of action for increasing membership by the fall 2007 EC meeting.
4. Instructions will be provided to the next Nominations Committee to give special consideration to the issue of parity between US and non US-based nominees.
5. The slate presented by the Nominations Committee is approved.
6. The next Nominations Committee will be informed that there was a split vote in the EC regarding the issue of parity between US and non US based nominees.
7. The LASA Conflict of Interest Policy will be revised to reflect the inclusion of "direct or indirect personal or partisan interest" as well as financial interest. Pereyra will make the change and present it for vote to the EC.
8. An additional member of the Investment Committee will be recruited, an individual with expertise in the area of SRI fund investment. The treasurer is instructed to provide a report at the next EC meeting on other associations that have moved to SRI investment and how they managed the transition. As a short term goal, the Secretariat, in conjunction with the treasurer, will implement the investment of up to \$500,000 in a vigorous SRI fund.

9. LASA will implement the Whistle-blower Policy as presented by Pereyra.
10. LASA will maintain financial records for a period of seven years.
11. Three members of the EC interested in identifying sources of support currently employed by Congress participants will work with the Secretariat to formulate a mechanism to gather this information from every Congress participant.
12. LASA will establish a commission on academic freedom.
13. LASA appoints a fact-finding delegation to Oaxaca with the understanding that operational details, such as plan of work, budget, membership, chair of the delegation, be subsequently approved via email by a 2/3 vote of the EC. Delgado, Middlebrook and Stephen, in consultation with Hershberg and Hale, will create the operational proposal as soon as possible.
14. LASA will join the Informed Meetings Exchange (INMEX), organized by UNITE HERE, now and reevaluate its membership in the organization in one year.
15. On the basis of the current discussion the LASA2007 program chairs will consider whether there are pragmatic ways of promoting further equity across tracks and will take the appropriate action.
16. LASA will not provide power point for all panel sessions but a way will be sought to facilitate its use for those who seek it.
17. The EC endorses the Secretariat's proposal that LASA2009 be held in Rio de Janeiro in the first two weeks of June at the Pontífica Universidad Católica.

Consensus Items

1. Socially-responsible corporate support for the Congress should be explored.
2. Milagros Pereyra will investigate and recommend two sites in the United States and two sites outside the United States as venues for LASA2010.
3. LASA will conduct a survey of membership to determine the level of satisfaction with the Latin American Research Review (LARR). Elizabeth Jelin and Eric Hershberg will work with Milagros Pereyra to prepare the survey.
4. Hale will establish an advisory board for the LASA Forum.

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