



# LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION

**LASA Executive Council Meeting  
Sheraton Centre Toronto; Pinacle Room  
February 27, 2010**

## **Action Items**

1. The minutes of the June 2009 EC meeting are approved as presented.
2. The slate presented by the Nominations Committee is accepted as presented.
3. LASA should move to open access to *LARR* and cease mailing to Latin American members but provide information about accessibility on-line, as well as the opportunity to pay a fee of US\$80 to continue receiving the printed version. The final issue mailed to Latin America will be the last issue of 2010. A letter in that issue will explain the change in policy. LASA should continue to mail printed issues to non-Latin American members.
4. The LASA Constitution will be revised to reduce the treasurer's term to three years and add 1½ years following the term of office as a member of the LASA Investment Committee.
5. A one-day pre-Congress workshop will be offered to LASA2010 Congress participants. A nominal fee of \$10 will be charged.
6. The Sections Manual will be revised to require that Section term reports include a list of all Section travel grants and names of awardees, as well as a description of the process employed in making the grants.
7. The EC instructs the executive director (ED) to deposit all endowed funds of \$25,000 or more into the general Endowment of the Association, and to construct a three-year moving average of returns to determine the pay-out on the average, but not to exceed five percent. The ED is further instructed to not pay out from the funds if the principal balance falls below the original principal. Lastly, the ED is instructed to take ten percent of each Endowment and to keep it in the cash account of the Association to safeguard against those periods when there is a short-fall.

## **Consensus Items**

1. For the EC meeting in Toronto, Pereyra should provide information on the following: 1) The number of Latin Americanists currently in the United States; 2) a break-down of LASA membership by age (student and faculty); and 3) membership changes/trends in APSA and other associations.
2. At the meeting of Section chairs in Toronto chairs will be informed that the EC believes that there should be some term limit imposed to the chairpersonship to allow access for everybody but would

like to discuss the issue with the chairs. The current proposal is to limit Section chair membership to two terms.

3. The reference to the prohibition of monetary prizes should be deleted from the Manual on Sections. No limit should be put on the size of the prize.

4. The discussion of any modification of LASA's policy with regard to the distribution of travel grants by country will be taken up at the next EC meeting after the additional data are reviewed. The data will focus on grantees for the Rio Congress to determine which countries' citizens were the least likely to receive support from their universities and national agencies. In addition, grantees who did not attend will be asked to indicate why they did not travel, in an effort to determine if it was the lack of additional funding.

5. Travel grant applications for LASA2012 will request the applicant's permanent country of residence. This data will be used by the EC to discuss any modification to the policy on frequency of travel grant receipt.

6. The Secretariat will determine the schedule of grant amounts for LASA2010, based upon distance from the Congress site. An amount from the Endowment will be used to provide travel grants to non-Latin American/Caribbean students, as was done for LASA2009.

7. For Congresses after LASA2010, the travel grant policy will be modified to allow applicants who have not participated in any of the last three Congresses to apply. (Current policy, which is maintained for LASA2010, indicates "in any of the prior four" Congresses.)

8. For the next EC meeting members will give some thought to who might next serve as coordinator for the Otros Saberes initiative.

9. The Sections Manual will be revised to read: "The program of the LASA Congress is the responsibility of the Program Chair and the Program Committee, in consultation with the LASA President and the Secretariat. They have final authority regarding the composition of the Congress Program. Where a Section coincides with a Congress track, the Program Chair may consult with the Section chair, to enable the Section to suggest one of its members as track chair."

10. In the calls for proposals for *LARR* Editor and Film Festival Director, at the end of line 3, instead of "LASA Ways and Means has the right..." insert "LASA Ways and Means may award a contract..." The calls in both cases should specify the length of the proposal, the components of the proposal, and request information about the applicant's vision for the evolution of the Festival or journal over the next so many years. The call for Film Festival director should also request plans, if any, for an advisory board.

11. EC members will be provided with I-pads for their use at EC meetings commencing with the Toronto meeting. Members are to advise Pereyra if they prefer to upload the meeting materials to their own laptop instead.

12. The list of LASA disciplines should be modified as recommended by Hartlyn with the following additional changes: "Medicine" will be added to "Public health" and the following will be combined: "Political science" and "Political economy", "Archeology" and "Anthropology", "Global studies" and "International relations", "Public policy" and "Public administration", "Gender", "Sexualities" and "Women's studies" and "Other" and "Other social sciences" under "Other".

13. For the next EC meeting Pereyra should prepare a report on the purposes of the Forum, its costs, and what formats might be used. Three possible models should be devised: 1) Implement the same policy as for *LARR*; 2) make it a complete web page (rethinking format and content); or 3) rethink expensive paper, frequency of publication, etc., in other words, treat the publication as a newsletter with substance.

14. LASA will not proceed with the move to an annual Congress at this time but will consider it again after the Toronto Congress.

— End —