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by the Editor from various sources and are published in good faith. All reasonable care has been taken to ensure accuracy but no responsibility lies with the Society for Latin American Studies nor with the Editor

From the Editor

Dear SLAS Member,

For the first time in a number of years, I was unable to attend the Annual SLAS conference, held this year in Manchester. I have therefore been delighted by those convenors of panels who took the time and effort to write up and send to me a short report of their papers and discussions. Presented in this issue, they show the interest and excitement in the region as well as the professional interest and analysis that all those concerned with the study of Latin America provide over a very wide range. On behalf of all those who could not go to the conference, I would like to thank everyone who made their deliberations available to us.

For the first time, the SLAS annual conference in 2004 will be held outside the UK: in Leiden. This is an imaginative development and one, which reflects the close and positive links that SLAS has maintained for many years with our colleagues working in the Netherlands. This will mean that those going to the conference will have to make up their minds early, and commit to a place by the beginning of 2004 rather than deciding at the last minute. I think we all wish that the Leiden conference will be as well attended and as energetically utilised as that in Manchester – and that the SLAS Newsletter will, again, report the discussions and events that take place.

Elizabeth Allen

PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT!!

Material and contributions:

Please send all material for inclusion in email, text only format, to Karen Hegyi at khegyi@geog.gla.ac.uk

Even if your news is only provisional, at that date, please send in your contribution and an address where readers can get in touch, nearer the time of the event, to check the details

Virus attacks : please help.

The *SLAS Newsletter* received a severe virus infection at the end of 2002, despite having a protection scheme installed. This was received through email attachments and took a great deal of time to clear, with many files being lost and the virus passed on inadvertently to others. We apologise for this.

Therefore, we would much appreciate your help to try and avoid this in the future.

Please, wherever possible, include your material into the body of your Email. If you cannot do this, please run your material through a virus checking system before sending. We do hope you will understand and do your best to help us. Many thanks.

Deadline for material to be included in the January 2004 Issue of the *SLAS Newsletter*, Issue No. 77, will be midday on 28TH November 2003

SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2003.

The 2003 Annual Conference of the Society for Latin American Studies was held at Hulme Hall in the University of Manchester, UK, from Friday 11th April until Sunday 13th April 2003. Dr Paul Cammack was the organiser, at the Department of Government, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL. tel: 0161 2754899. E-mail: paul.cammack@man.ac.uk.

TREASURER'S STATEMENT OF SLAS ACCOUNTS 2002

[Stick the accounts tables on here]

TREASURER'S COMMENTS UPON THE SLAS ACCOUNTS FOR 2002 AND PROSPECTS FOR 2003

The accounts for 2002 are largely self-explanatory. They are being examined by Tony Bell of the London Institute and I am very grateful for his work: I have no doubt they will be acceptable! He succeeds Robin Chapman who audited them for at least twenty years and served the Society in a number of other ways: Robin died prematurely last year.

On the income side it is worth highlighting the great financial success of the Norwich conference thanks to the sterling work of Rhys Jenkins and his the team at the University of East Anglia; financial success was matched by academic and social success. The figure for subscriptions refers to those still paid direct to the Society contrary to many instructions circulated to members; these are kept in an informal escrow account. The major element is the income from the new publisher of BLAR, supplemented by an advance contribution towards the cost of our new editorial assistant and office at the University of Liverpool.

On the expenditure side it may be worth noting that there were some outstanding invoices for the costs of production of the Newsletter at the end of the year and for editorial help with BLAR. The results of the SLAS archive project may be seen on the Society's website. The Society added to the value of the Harold Blakemore Prize. And there was generous support given to post-graduate members of the Society during the year.

Finally, the Society had added significantly to its liquid assets during the course of the year. A satisfactory outcome. The prospects for 2003 show some interesting developments. Income is likely to be very similar to that in 2002. The key element is the income from BLAR which seems fairly stable. Blackwells are committed to publishing the journal and to contributing a proportion of the costs of our office in Liverpool. Income from subscriptions falls into two categories – that collected by Blackwells on the Society's behalf

- and that, hopefully, will rise; the second is the inertial income which is still paid to the Society under bankers' orders and which will gradually fall off: I would expect the net result to be a modest decline. The total overall income from the Annual Conference remains to be calculated; but once one includes the cost to the Society of grants to overseas speakers I would be surprised if it will show a net surplus. Interest on the Society's capital is likely to fall.

Expenditure during 2003 may be expected to rise considerably above that in 2002. The overall cost of BLAR to the Society may be expected to be of the order of £10,000 (salary, travel costs, furniture and other start up costs, etc). Increases (+) in the cost of publishing and posting the Newsletter (+£750), of committee meetings (+£300), of support for post-graduates (+£1300) and other conferences (+£1000) may add a further £3,350 to the expenses of the Society in 2003. These estimates suggest an increase in expenditure over income of about £13,350. In 2002, after taking account of payments made in 2003 for expenses incurred in 2002 (and so not included in the income and expenditure table for 2002), the Society increased its assets by some £13,874.

Thus the Society which, with the minor exception of one year (1988) since I became Treasurer, has got used to seeing a net annual increase in its assets may not do so in 2003. This should not be a cause for concern. Happily we have built up strong reserves over the last twenty years and should be able to survive any untoward disaster – such as the proscription of BLAR – that comes our way. Looking forward to 2004 and 2005 I think there may be a little more financial flexibility possible and allow us to be a little more adventurous in the way in which we promote our noble cause!

David Fox, Hon. Treasurer.

(nb review public liability insurance)

SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2004: CALL FOR PANELS

The next conference will be held in Leiden, 2-4 April. This is the first time that the Annual Conference has been held outside the UK and it will be a great opportunity to consolidate links with our Dutch and other European colleagues. Patricio Silva is the main conference organiser and he will need to know definite numbers for accommodation by 15 January 2004. Therefore, the usual process

of organisation will start earlier than usual. Please start to send proposals for panels as soon as possible. They should go direct to Patricio Silva, Institute of Cultural and Social Studies, Leiden University, PO Box 9555, 2300 RB Leiden, The Netherlands. Email: silva@fsw.leidenuniv.nl

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SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2003 UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER SYMPOSIA REPORTS

A ANDEAN-AMAZONIAN DIALOGUE.

Organiser: Tristan Platt and Adolfo de Oliveira, University of St Andrews.
Email: tp@st-and.ac.uk

B ANTHROPOLOGY OF LATIN AMERICA: RECENT PERSPECTIVES.

**Convenor: Peter Wade, Univ. of Manchester. Email:
Peter.Wade@man.ac.uk**

This was the first time in my experience that a SLAS conference panel focused exclusively on general Latin Americanist anthropology. The panel was well attended throughout the day. Anthropologists who were either currently in the Manchester department or had been recently affiliated to it were half of the

presenters, attesting to the strength of Latin American interests in the local department.

The first three papers all considered issues related to process of race mixture in Latin America. **Mark Harris** (St Andrews) mapped out the theoretical underpinnings of a future plan of research which focused on caboclo (mixed) people of Amazonia. **Peter Wade** (Manchester) looked at theoretical approaches to hybridity and **Cecilia McCallum** (Manchester) spoke about the black movement in Bahia, Brazil.

The next set of papers were all Andeanist. **Andrew Canessa** (Essex) presented recent material on concepts of history and identity among the people of Pocobaya, Bolivia. **Penny Harvey** (Manchester) did an ethnographic analysis of the state and its presence, as seen through a local road running through Ocongate, Peru. **Maggie Bolton** (Manchester) presented an analysis of ideas about women working in the apparently male world of mining in Sur Lipez, Bolivia.

In the afternoon, **Julie Cupples** (Canterbury, NZ) showed how women in Nicaragua manipulated and occupied varying subject positions of femininity, while **Oscar Forero** (Imperial College) explored the impact of scientific exploration and ideas about ethnosience on the Colombian Amazon. **Alonso Barros** was not able to attend. **Valentina Napolitano** (Cambridge) explored how people perceived and used oriental complementary medical therapies in Guadalajara and Cuernavaca, Mexico. Finally, **Rosana Guber** (CONICET, Argentina) gave an account of masculine identity formation and perceptions of the state in the wake of the Malvinas war. I would like to thanks SLAS for supporting this panel with funding for a postgraduate student and a Latin American scholar. Peter Wade

C BETWEEN PAST AND FUTURE: MEMORY AND RESTITUTION IN LATIN AMERICA: Organiser: Ryan Long and Sergio Visacovsky, , Univ. of Oklahoma, Email: rlong@ou.edu

Sergio Visacovsky's paper was titled, "The Fear to Write on Sacred Stories: Social Memory, Political Morality and Native Audiences in Argentina." His presentation described his ethnographic research at El Lanus, a prominent psychiatric hospital in Buenos Aires. Sergio's research focused on the work that El Lanus's psychiatrists carried out during the Argentine military dictatorship of 1976-1983. His presentation examined the challenges that arose upon communicating what essentially became "sacred stories," that is, the testimonies of torture victims and others persecuted by the military regime.

Ryan Long's paper was titled, "Political Crimes, Official Truth, and Community in Contemporary Mexico." In my presentation, he focused on current efforts within the Mexican government to examine state crimes of Mexico's recent past, notably the Tlatelolco massacre of 1968. He analyzed the effects of impunity on cultural production, and looked at two works: Daniel Sada's novel, "Porque parece mentira la verdad nunca se sabe" (1998), and Carlos Mendoza's documentary film, "Tlatelolco: Las claves de la masacre" (2002). He concluded that the government's unwillingness to acknowledge the state's role in political crimes perpetuates a pervasive climate of anxiety regarding how the past informs the present within Mexican cultural production and civil society in general.

Since there were only two papers presented in our panel, we had time for a good discussion. Audience members raised very productive and challenging questions, some of which tied the presentations together, and others of which were directed towards one paper or the other. Some of the points that we discussed were the problems inherent in trusting the state to "resolve" crimes of the past, the potential for fetishizing the "moment of disclosure" in relation to truth commissions, the difficulty of defining when the past ends and the present begins, and the sacred quality attributed to stories that emerged from crimes mentioned in both papers.

Sergio Visacovsky, La Universidad de Buenos Aires

Ryan Long, The University of Oklahoma**D BRAZIL AFTER LULA'S VICTORY.**

Organizer: Suranjit Saha, University of Swansea; Marcos Costa Lima, Federal University of Pernambuco, Brazil. E-mail: S.K.Saha@Swansea.ac.uk

E CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES FOR WOMEN AND WOMEN'S MOVEMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA TODAY: Convenors: Nikki Craske, Institute of Latin American Studies, University of Liverpool; Jasmine Gideon, Birkbeck College, University of London; Sarah Bradshaw, Middlesex University

Papers presented by **Jelke Boesten** (Belle van Zuylen Institute, University of Amsterdam) and **Mo Hulme** (ILAS, University of Liverpool) demonstrated in the first part of the session that one of the key challenges still facing many in Latin America, is the question of violence and the way in which policy makers feel the need to distinguish between 'real' violence and intra-familial violence.

Furthermore, legal and cultural norms in many Latin American countries limit women's access to family planning services. **Angeles Cabria** (Pacific Institute for Women's Health) and **Angela Heimbürger** (IPPF/WHR) outlined the way in which the Latin American Consortium for Emergency Contraception have responded to this through their campaign for increased availability of emergency contraception.

Processes of economic change and global restructuring have brought new challenges for women workers as demonstrated by **Lucy Brill** (Department of Peace Studies, University of Bradford) in her presentation of homebased workers in Chile. As her paper argued, although homebased work is often seen as a flexible option which can allow a parent to combine work with childcare for example, this data shows that the flexibility more usually works to the advantage of the company.

The second part of the session was an open discussion, led by **Ruth Pearson** (University of Leeds) and focused more broadly on the challenges facing the women's movements in Latin America today and asked what type of issues should be addressed if the movement is to address the diverse interests of women in the region.

F COLONIAL AND POST-COLONIAL LANDSCAPES OF LATIN AMERICA: EUROPEAN PERCEPTIONS AND REPRESENTATIONS. Organizer: Heidi Victoria Scott, Newnham College, Cambridge. E-mail: heidivscott@hotmail.com

Ranging in temporal focus from the 16th to the early 19th centuries, the papers presented on this panel explore European visions and experiences of three different areas of the South American continent - the Orinoco River, Rio de Janeiro Bay and the Viceroyalty of Peru.

The first paper, presented by **Matthew Brown** (University College, London), on 'The Landscape of Adventure: British and Irish Mercenaries' Fear of the Orinoco in the Venezuelan Wars of Independence', considers the accounts of mercenaries from Britain and Ireland who travelled to the Orinoco river during the Venezuelan wars of independence between 1812-1825. It illustrates the ways in which their experiences and representations were central to the construction of the landscapes they encountered - and subsequently also of Venezuela and South America more generally - as landscapes of adventure. The circulation of tales and rumours about the violent deaths of certain volunteers conveyed European fears of the Orinoco and, through embellishment and repetition, allowed others to portray their own experiences in the region as dangerous and therefore heroic. Drawing on a variety of published accounts and archival records, Brown demonstrates how travel to South America came to be regarded as an appropriate rite of passage for young men of high social standing in Ireland and Britain, and suggests that these early 19th century constructions of South America as a 'landscape of adventure' continues to be influential today. The emergence of such a discourse stands in striking contrast, as the paper shows, with the paradisaical visions of the Caribbean islands that have been a persistent

feature of European imaginative geographies since the time of Columbus.

Likewise focusing on the first half of the 19th century, **Luciana L. Martins** (Royal Holloway, London), discussing 'A Bay to be dreamed of: British visions of Rio de Janeiro' paper, explores a variety of British visions of Rio de Janeiro and its bay, produced by the artist Augustus Earle, the naturalist Maria Graham and finally by mariners and naval surveyors. What this paper brings to the fore is a diversity of representations that were shaped, not only by their authors' professions or by European preconceptions and conventions of an aesthetic or scientific nature, but also by the embodied experience of travel itself. While representations of landscape increasingly responded to the emergence of natural science that demanded field observation, measurement and mapping, such impulses, Martins argues, were by no means universal, as explorers continued to rely "on questions of belief and trust." At the same time, she draws attention to the development of a new European awareness of tropical nature that was fostered by global travel but which emerged differently within distinct geographical as well as social, cultural and historical contexts.

Dealing, by contrast, with the early colonial period, the paper by **Heidi V. Scott** (Newnham College, Cambridge), 'Spanish visions of Peru: an approach to landscape and colonialism', considers Spanish experiences and representations of Peruvian landscapes between the time of conquest and the early 17th century. It argues, firstly, that recent work on European visions of the New World has focused predominantly on moments of first encounter and placed excessive emphasis on 'cultural baggage' as a factor in shaping European experiences of landscape.

Secondly, it proposes that greater attention needs to be paid to considering the development of colonisers' perception over time and, importantly, to exploring the ways in which their relationships with the colonised played a role in determining those perceptions. Surveying a number of texts produced in the Viceroyalty of Peru, including the writings of early conquistadors and chroniclers, religious sermons from the later 16th century and a legal dispute

between priests of neighbouring parishes from 1630, the paper suggests that the representations of the physical landscape cannot be understood in isolation from their growing concerns over control of - and struggles with - Peru's indigenous peoples.

Although each paper deals with very different geographical and historical contexts, it is nevertheless possible to determine some significant links between them. Methodologically, they share some common ground in their respective use of a considerable range of sources, archival and 'incomplete' as well as formal and published, thereby helping to bring to light the diversity and nuances of European experiences and representations of Latin American landscapes.

Perhaps most significantly, all three papers provide, more or less explicitly, critiques of much recent work on travel writing and imperialism that has portrayed European representations of 'other' places and peoples in a generalising manner. Much of this takes no account of the diverse contexts within which such writings were produced and overlooks the fact that direct experience of non-European physical and human landscapes played an important role in their creation.

Thus, while Brown's paper criticises the lack of attention that has been paid to the subtleties and nuances of individuals' reasons for travelling to Latin America and the ways in which these influenced their experiences of the continent, Martins argues that recent scholarly discussions of exploration and imperialism, preoccupied by the possessive gaze of the European, have often allowed insufficient room for the "surprises and disappointments" of travel.

In a similar vein, the paper by Scott suggests that it is important to avoid an interpretation - so often encountered in work on early European visions of the New World - that those visions were largely untouched by the territories, peoples and diverse local realities of the New World itself. In different ways, therefore, each paper demonstrates that Latin American landscapes which appear in European-authored representations cannot simply be interpreted as

products of a narrow set of ideas and discourses that were transported from Europe and indiscriminately reproduced.

G CONTEMPORARY VENEZUELA.

Organizer: David Raby, University of Liverpool. E-mail:
david.raby67@btopenworld.com

H CRIME, PUNISHMENT AND THE BODY IN LATIN AMERICAN HISTORY

Organizer: Paulo Drinot, St Anthony's College, Oxford and Ernesto Bohoslavsky, Universidad Nacional de Comahue, Buenos Aires. Email: paulo.drinot@sant.ox.ac.uk

This panel was held in the morning of the last day of the conference and, in spite of assorted hangovers and aching feet from the previous night's disco, both panelists and the audience helped to make it a highly intellectually satisfying session.

Dr Patience Schell (Manchester University), the chair, is in large part to thank for this, having made sure that the four panelists stuck to their allotted time without needing to resort to excessive violence (although, given the nature of the panel, violence aimed at establishing some degree of order would not have been out of place). **Jorge Alberto Trujillo Breton** (Universidad de Guadalajara) kicked things off with a paper on prostitution in Guadalajara (*Música y trancazos, copas y besos. El fenómeno de la prostitución en la Guadalajara porfiriana*), which, by expanding research beyond the capital, represents an important contribution to our understanding of prostitution in Mexico in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Next, **Jorge Pavez Ojeda** (Ecole de Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales) began by tracing the changing view of Afro-Cubans held by Fernando Ortiz, the father of Afro-Cuban studies, from one influenced by racist criminology to a more progressive if folkloric perception. Pavez then examined the tensions in Cuban criminological studies that emerge from the existence of both Afro-Cuban bodies and a corpus of Afro-Cuban texts (*El cuerpo del delito: escritura y raza en La Habana de 1900*). This presentation was followed by

Ernesto Bohoslavsky's (Instituto Ortega y Gasset), which looked at the historical development of the largely unstudied prison at Neuquen in the twentieth century (*Imágenes, prisioneros y política penitenciaria en la Patagonia en la primera mitad del siglo XX*). Bohoslavsky suggested that it was necessary to look more closely at the gap that existed between the plans of the dominant positivist scientific elite and the human and material limits on the implementation of their plans.

Paulo Drinot (University of Oxford) looked at conflicting scientific and demotic discourses on suicide in early twentieth century Lima (*'Me quito la vida porque me da la gana': Suicide in Peru in the Early Twentieth Century*). He suggested that such views are useful tools with which to examine the changing aspirations and anxieties of societies. **Alejandro San Francisco** (University of Oxford) looked at two key criminal acts during and after the 1891 Chilean civil, the massacre of Lo Cañas and the ransacking of the Balmacedist properties (*The massacre of Lo Cañas and the ransacking after the 1891 Chilean civil war*). San Francisco uncovered the close ties that exist between political competition and criminal behaviour.

Finally, **Fiona Macaulay** (ILAS, University of London), the discussant, connected the themes discussed in the papers with a wider and more contemporary approach to criminology in Latin America. Macaulay suggested that it was necessary to move away from the view of certain institutions linked to crime and criminality (such as the prison or the brothel) as closed and impermeable. The presence of an audience composed of scholars from a variety of disciplines, and their probing questions, served to confirm the panelists' implicit contention that historical analyses of the *mala vida* can function as useful and insightful windows onto social reality.

Paulo Drinot, University of Oxford, St Antony's College, OX2 6JF, UK, Tel: 44-1865-274487, Fax: 44-1865-274489
<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/staff/postholder/drinot.htm>

I CUBAN FOREIGN POLICY DURING THE 'SPECIAL PERIOD.'

Organizer: John Kirk, Dalhousie University, Canada; Hal Klepak, Royal Military College of Canada. E-mail: kirk@is.dal.ca

J GENEALOGIES OF CULTURE IN NINETEENTH AND TWENTIETH CENTURY LATIN AMERICA. Organizers: Alberto Corsín Jiménez, Oxford Univ. and Trevor Stack, Univ. of Aberdeen. Email: t.stack@abdn.ac.uk

K HOW 'NEW' ARE THE 'NEW' CHILEANS? MODERNITY, CONSUMERISM AND CULTURAL CHANGE IN CONTEMPORARY CHILE
Organizers: David Hojman, University of Liverpool; Patricio Silva, University of Leiden, Netherlands. E-mail: jl33@liverpool.ac.uk

L INDIGENOUS LITERATURES

Organizer: R. McKenna Brown, Virginia Commonwealth University. Email: mbrown@saturn.vcu.edu

M INTELLECTUAL TRADITIONS IN LATIN AMERICA

Organizer: Lorenzo Cañas Bottos, University of Manchester. Email: lorenzo.canas-bottos@stud.man.ac.uk

N LATIN AMERICA IN THE CONTEMPORARY GLOBAL POLITICAL ECONOMY Organizer: Paul Cammack, University of Manchester. E-mail: Paul.Cammack@man.ac.uk

O HISTORIES OF RESISTANCE IN THE AMERICAS

Organizer: Patience Schell, Natalie Zacek, University of Manchester. E-mail: patience.a.schell@man.ac.uk

P NINETEENTH-CENTURY LATIN AMERICA: GENDER, HISTORY, TEXT
Organizer: Catherine Davies, University of Manchester, UK. E-mail: catherine.davies@talk21.com

Seven papers were given in total, all of excellent quality and falling generally into two thematic groups: medical discourses in Mexico and the significance of gender in Latin American independence. The panel got off to a stirring start

with **Adriana Luna**, a Mexican researcher at the Instituto Ortega y Gasset, Madrid, who spoke on 'Nueva España y Nápoles: un estudio sobre la posibilidad de un horizonte cultural compartida'. Her full and detailed paper focused on the influence of the political and economic thought of Napolitanos, particularly Antonio Genovesi, in Nueva España in the second half on the 18th C. This was prefaced with a discussion of the various interpretations of the concept Republic at the time and the adaptations necessary for a Catholic Republican discourse to emerge (cf Montesquieu's anti-Catholic version). The influence on Lucas Alamán was seen to be especially important and was picked up in the questions that followed. This paper led neatly into the following two that discussed gender in medical discourse in 19th C. Mexico.

Frida Gorbach, a Mexican research fellow from the UAM working in the Dept. of Art History and Archeology, University of Manchester, provided a wealth of data in her investigation into 'Hysteria, from Womb to the Brain; Medicine in Mexico in the 19th C'. She showed how etiological discourses on pre-Freudian hysteria in Mexico shifted from locating the causes of the symptom in the brain, to the nervous system affected by modernity, and to the imagination. Medical discourses on Mexican women's bodies attempted to shape Mexican women to fit the norms expected of a modern nation and when these did not fit, Mexican women's bodies were considered defective on account of what were considered to be indigenous specificities. A similar argument was put forward in the next paper **by Laura Cahazaro**, of the Colegio Michoacán, Mexico, currently a postdoctoral researcher in Cambridge University (History and the Philosophy of Science). By means of careful analysis of the medical texts of the time she showed how the use of medical instruments in gynaecology in 19th C Mexico, and the practices of midwives, again attempted to impose modern norms (ie the use of 'objective' instruments) on women's bodies which were considered abnormal when they did not match the measurements (their pelvises were seen to be defective). Questions centred on the roles of women and men midwives, the former being difficult to research given the dearth of documentation, and on popular and 'modern' medical practices. This is ground-breaking research and the

three papers were much applauded. In the second half of the panel four papers were delivered.

Claire Brewster, Research Associate on the AHRB-funded five-year project 'Gendering Latin American Independence' held at the University of Manchester, provided a stimulating overview of the role of mestiza Juana Azurduy in the Wars of Independence. Juana led her own unit into battle and we were shown a picture of her in full uniform. Claire also gave details of the database she is constructing with the project on the role of women in the Wars which will enable researchers to search by name, place, event, date and text, among other headings, when piecing together the networks and activities women participated in during the early years of the century. **Catherine Davies**, Director of the project, followed with a gendered analysis of three texts by Bolívar, including the Manifiesto de Cartagena and the project for a Poder Moral, to highlight the ambiguities and paradoxes in liberal discourse predicated on male subjectivity and individualism.

The third paper in this section, by SLAS past-President **Will Fowler** of the University of St Andrews, presented a full and comprehensive account of 'All the President's Women: The Wives and Mistresses of General Antonio Santa Anna'. It became clear that the President's two teenage wives, who both married their husband by proxy (not simultaneously of course- though promiscuous, Santa Anna was not a bigamist) could lead fairly independent lives within the constraints of their position, particularly the first wife Inés who actively managed the President's immense hacienda and was popularly revered after her death in a style reminiscent of that used for Eva Perón and other such President's wives. Questions on the role of the *chinas* and *soldaderas* at the time were raised, as well as on the status of the President's children. Finally, **Charlotte Liddell**, a postgraduate student attached to the AHRB project at Manchester, delivered an enlightening paper on 'Women's position and education in Brazil: change and constancy in Nisia Floresta's early publications' which focused on this writer's life and works, especially the shift from her translations of a radical feminist text in early life to her publication of conservative moral guidebooks in later years. In the questions it

was suggested that irony might be used, but Charlotte thought this was not the case. Rather Floresta seems to have worked within the constraints of her time in order to earn her living as a teacher and essayist. The speakers were all congratulated for their exhaustive research that brought to light much needed new data regarding economic thought and women's lives in 19th C Latin America, and also underscored how women/the feminine was represented at the time. It is hoped that some of these papers will be published in a forthcoming issue of Feminist Review.

Q PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE OF LATIN AMERICAN LITERATURE

Organizer: Victoria Carpenter, University of Derby. E-mail:
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R PHOTOGRAPHY AND THE LATIN AMERICAN IMAGINARY

Organizer: John Perivolaris, University of Manchester. E-mail:
john.perivolaris@ntlworld.com

The panel set a precedent for SLAS Annual Conferences, being the first to concentrate on photography. **Amanda Hopkinson** (Cardiff University) presented a paper titled 'Sebastião Salgado and his Authors: Changing the pictures of Poverty and Exploitation'. Hopkinson showed that, while Salgado has produced some of the most widely circulated images of global exploitation and poverty, the avowed didacticism of his work increasingly relies on a contextualisation of his photographs by a series of politically committed writers from Latin America and Europe, with whom he collaborates. How does such activist contextualisation relate to the globalised circulation of his images?

Fraya Frehse (University of São Paulo/Centre for Brazilian Studies, University of Oxford) presented a paper titled 'About the Originality of Brazilian Modernity: São Paulo Street Photography at the Turn of the 20th Century'. By anthropologically interpreting São Paulo street photography at the turn of the twentieth century, Frehse showed how the modernity of the streets has an originality which resides more in the way the social world of the

streets is photographically represented than in the way the physical environment is depicted.

Finally, **Anthony Campbell** (University of Southampton) presented a paper titled 'Photographs as Tools', where he discussed his use of 'photo elicitation' as a method of researching community identity in Guatemala. He argued that while photographs have most often been used as illustrations, to draw attention to what has already been gleaned through other means of research, photographs can also be deployed as shared artifacts that both establish relationships between the researcher and his subjects and that facilitate meaningful dialogue, indeed form part of that dialogue.

The chronological and geographical scope of the papers was impressive. Modernisation and modernity, ethnic and class identities, migration, as well as exploitative labour structures from slavery to globalisation, emerged as key preoccupations of the photography of Latin America, from São Paulo at the turn of the twentieth century to the context of identity formation in post-Cold War Central America and the globalised photographic activism of Sebastião Salgado at the turn of the 21st century.

The three papers converged on the following questions:

1. The visibility or invisibility of Latin Americans in a global context.
2. Who is photographically represented and how.
3. The aspects of Latin America that are and are not photographable at any given time. For example, how in a modernising Brazil at the turn of the twentieth century there is a reluctance on the part of photographers to show poverty or social exclusion (esp. Frehse), or, how *National Geographic* tends to favour nativist representations of the indigenous peoples of Latin America (esp. Campbell).
4. The relationship between aesthetics and a political advocacy that often forecloses discussion of the aesthetic aspects of photography in a Latin American context (esp. Hopkinson)
5. Photography as a record of the past but also as a prelude to Latin American modernisation (esp. Frehse)

The session ended by highlighting the central question of photography's ethical responsibility and accountability to its Latin American subjects, who may be increasingly represented in the global network of information but also silenced by their subsequent re- or decontextualisation. What distance is travelled between fin-de-siècle celebration of urban modernity, the ethnography of *National Geographic*, and the advocacy of a Salgado and his collaborators in postmodernity? It is hoped that such questions and others may be further explored in future SLAS panels on photography.

S PUBLIC POLICIES IN MEXICO AFTER DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION AND ECONOMIC REFORM Organizer: Vidal Llerenas, Arcelia Martinez, University of York. E-mail: llerenasvidal@hotmail.com

T RETHINKING DEMOCRATIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA

Organizer: Adam Morton, University of Lancaster; Terrie Groth, University of Brasilia, Brazil. E-mail: a.morton@lancaster.ac.uk

This slightly revised panel covered two sessions revolving, broadly, around the theme of rethinking democratisation in Latin America. The first included papers by **Terrie Groth** (University of Brasília), 'Democratic Transition and Consolidation as Hegemonic Crisis' and **Adam David Morton** (Lancaster University), 'Change within Continuity: The Political Economy of Democratisation Transition in Mexico'. The second included papers by **Marianne Wiesebron** (Leiden University), 'Democracy at Work: The Participative Budget in Brazil. From Municipality to State, From Porto Alegre to Rio Grande do Sul' and Luz Villareal (University of Liverpool), 'Democracia y sociedad civil en Colombia: Informe Preliminar'. The first session embarked on a concerted critique of the democratic 'transition' and 'consolidation' literature in relation to Latin America.

Terrie Groth presented the general contours of this mainstream orthodox literature arguing that there was a normative drive within such work that neglected an appreciation of the unequal and exploitative nature of formal transitions to democracy. A preference is contained within 'transition' studies

for social control that ignores the class-relevant dynamic of democratisation. This critique was then carried forward into an analysis of Brazil during the the Geisel (1974-79) and Figueiredo (1979-82) periods to ask whether 'the case fits?'; concluding that these periods expose enduring aspects of class-dominated state and society.

Adam David Morton highlighted continuities between mainstream democratisation studies and preceding political development and modernisation theories. On the basis of this critique, recourse was sought within a political economy of democracy approach that could address the underlying power relations at stake in the construction of democracies in Latin America consonant with the interests of transnational capital. This alternative approach was then linked to an empirical analysis of the questionable role played by US democracy promotion agencies in Mexico. The second session delivered a more fine-grained empirical analysis of the mediation of democratic struggles in the context of Brazil and Colombia.

Marianne Wiesebron presented analysis of changes to the participative budget in Brazil and how this impacted on everyday lives in specific local contexts. The strength of this approach was to move across different scales of politics in Brazil from the municipality to the state levels³/₄to address the impact changes to the participative budget have had on communities. In conclusion, it was asserted that changes to the participative budget were much more than the transferral of transparency and best practice forms of conduct coterminous with neoliberalism but, importantly, brought tangible and substantive benefits to local livelihoods.

Luz Villareal further enhanced the empirical focus of the panel with a detailed field report on recent interviews with a broad range of civil society actors affected by the violence. Perhaps attracting some of the strongest interest from the audience across the sessions, discussion concentrated inter alia on the form of US intervention in Colombia, the role of multinationals, and how

the economic

situation are all impacting on democracy and civil society within the country.

This paper was a fine conclusion to the panel due to its wide-ranging and detailed approach to the analysis of civil society actors in Colombia and the problems facing democracy therein.

U SEX AND TRAVEL: TRANSATLANTIC FICTIONS

Organizer: Gabriel Giorgi, Univ. of S. California E-mail: giorgi@usc.edu

V SOCIAL MOVEMENTS IN LATIN AMERICA: EXPERIENCES, PROBLEMS, AND THE POTENTIAL FOR NETWORKING BEYOND STATE BOUNDARIES

Organizer: Ulrich Oslender, University of Glasgow. E-mail: uoslender@geog.gla.ac.uk

The CFP of our panel on social movements in Latin America had generated a good response, which was reflected in a broad variety of papers given divided in four sessions all day Saturday. A total of 13 papers covered countries such as Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Mexico, and examined struggles over ethnicity, land rights, labour, water control, and neighbourhood.

After a brief introduction, the panel convenor stressed the importance of social movements in democratisation processes in Latin America today, the audience was put into the mood and swing of things to come **by José Esteban Castro** from the School of Geography and the Environment at the University of Oxford, who gave an account of the recent World Social Forum held in Porto Alegre in which he participated. It was clear that engaging in collective action is not only a serious political process but can also be enormous fun, as the slides that Esteban presented showed. The day's first session was then dedicated

to the exploration of some conceptual issues examining the role of social movements in the construction of civil society.

Jenny Pearce from the Department of Peace Studies at the University of Bradford argued that 'civil society' had so far failed to strengthen and deepen democracy in Latin America. There were deep conceptual confusions about democracy and civil society, she argued, as they had often become hijacked by liberal and neoconservative discourses. Viewing contentiousness as a central feature of social movements, Jenny asked if these movements could engage in 'permissive spaces' of active participation, as eg. provided in recent constitutional changes in many Latin American countries, without losing their contentious character. These questions were particularly pressing as the urgent need for 'real' democratisation had to be recognised.

Willem Assies from the Colegio de Michoacán in Zamora, Mexico, followed on in this line of enquiry and provided a historically grounded account of the concept of civil society and its transformation over time: from its treatment in Hegel and Marx via a re-emergence in Gramsci and its 'discovery' by the political Left, to the danger of it being hijacked today by neo-conservative discourses. In particular Willem showed how these new discourses on 'citizenship' were grounded in an individualistic conception of rights, defined through consumer choice, thereby reducing citizen participation and responsibility to market requirements. Yet these processes did not go uncontested, and citizenship had been transformed into a strategic concept and a discursive framework for social movements and progressive politics, as Willem outlined for the case of Brazil.

The last speaker in this session, **Lucy Taylor** from the Department of International Politics at the University of Wales Aberystwyth, somewhat provocatively asked in how far social movements were an effective opposition and a real alternative to political parties. In particular she critically examined issues of representation and accountability in social movements towards 'the people', and argued for a need to rethink political participation at the base of political parties, which were still the major players on the political scene.

The second session that morning saw three papers exploring empirical case studies (the fourth, by Carlos Agudelo, had to be cancelled). **Karen Luyckx**

from the School of Geography at the University of Leeds examined the case of Bolivia's lowland indigenous movements in two communities and in particular the relationship between movement leaders and the grassroots. She highlighted problems of representation and corruption in the movement, which she explained with a gap between 'strategic interests', articulated by leaders, and the 'practical interests' of local people 'on the ground'. She thus nicely picked up some of the arguments presented by Lucy Taylor in her preceding paper.

In his second contribution that day, **José Esteban Castro** explored the interweaving between water conflicts and the struggle for substantive citizenship rights in Latin America, drawing on case study material from Argentina, Bolivia, and Mexico. He charted the epistemological change from water as a public good to current water governance schemes that frequently privilege the market and transform water into an economic good. The crucial issue here, Esteban argued, was not so much if privatisation of municipal water authorities and the modernisation of facilities could improve the quality of service provided or not, but the fact that not only were water supplies sold off but also the citizenship rights of a universal entitlement to water access independent from income and ability to pay. In many ways Esteban's paper tied into the previous discussion of citizenship by Willem Assies and the critique of the individualistic conception of citizenship rights as defined through consumer choice.

Gillian Beard from the Department of Politics at the University of Sheffield analysed the political opportunities for Dominican neighbourhood organisations arising out of the creation of transnational networks in the Caribbean, such as the Caribbean Regional Civil Society Forum emerging in 1997. While new opportunities may arise for transnational and cross-border alliances, Gillian stressed the fact that the state and the domestic political opportunity structure remain central to neighbourhood organisations and their ability to act upon new opportunities within regionalism.

Session 3 in the afternoon started off with **Janet Townsend** from the Department of Geography at the University of Durham. She examined the recent mushrooming of NGOs as a feature of a 'new imperialism' and as a donor-driven and donor-controlled expansion, made far more in the interests of governance than of poverty reduction or elimination. Illustrating her argument with the experience of women and NGOs in Mexico based on her work on the knowledge economy of the transnational community of NGOs working in 'international development', she acknowledged the complex and often contradictory nature of the relations between donors, NGOs and local people on the ground.

Arguing that established social movement theory had rarely paid critical attention to the particular geographies of social movement agency, **Ulrich Oslander** from the Department of Geography at University of Glasgow proposed in his paper a 'place perspective' on social movements that examined the geographies of the 'preconditions' of resistance – the pre-existing people, cultures, and places. Illustrating his claims with a case study of the social movement of black communities on Colombia's Pacific coast, Ulrich showed how the spatial configurations of everyday life patterns had informed the current political organisation processes and their spatial articulations in this region.

Geraldine Lievesley from Manchester Metropolitan University examined the possibilities for deepening *poder popular* in Cuba. Considering the history of the post-revolutionary government's engagement with the question of popular participation, she outlined the nature and deficiencies of that system in terms of the state's sponsorship of mass organizations and the ambiguous relationship between centralized political control, the decentralization of management and implementation, and the tolerance of difference. Geraldine stressed the need for a reduction in the political control of the Cuban Communist Party over civil society in order to re-orient policy towards the municipal and provincial assemblies, neighbourhood and other popular organizations.

The day's last session saw three more papers. In her contribution, **Sara Motta** from the Government Department at the London School of Economics examined the MTD Solano, a section of the *piquetero* movement of the unemployed in Argentina. She argued that only by an understanding of the class determined conditions of political struggle and the unstable conditions of the reproduction of neoliberal capitalism in Argentina could we understand the origins and the development of the MTD Solano.

Sue Branford, a journalist and writer, examined Brazil's landless movement, the *Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra* (MST), from its emergence in the 1980s in response to a series of economic changes in Brazil that had deprived thousands of rural families of land to its important position within the globalising anti-capitalist movement today. Sue argued that the reinvention of the MST was crucial in the survival of the movement, as it abandoned the collectivisation of agriculture after disastrous results in favour of the creation of communities of peasant production. This 'healthy instinct for survival' and the ability to acknowledge mistakes and learn from them, Sue argued, had allowed the MST to steadily grow and build alliances with other movements in Brazil and beyond without losing its contentious character. In many ways the MST provides a good example of a movement that has been successful in engaging in the 'permissive spaces', which Jenny Pearce discussed – as well as in less permissive ones – without compromising its aims.

This latter point was picked up by **Carlos Pessoa** from the Department of Government at the University of Essex who examined the political strategy adopted by the MST. Carlos showed how the MST over time developed from an agrarian movement struggling over access to land to a multi-issue struggle for a popular political project in Brazil, including demands of the unemployed, homeless and other marginalized groups. Of particular relevance is the relation of the MST with the now ruling *Partido dos Trabalhadores* (PT), traditionally a MST ally when in opposition. It seems that both the MST and the PT are at a crucial divide. A positive interaction between them may have

important lessons to tell for a popular political project in other Latin American countries.

Our panel finished with the intervention of **Willem Assies** as discussant. He highlighted some of the major themes raised in the panel, such as autonomy and representation, the intersections between the global and the local, the irruption of the spatial in social movement theory, and the tensions that might exist between movement leaders and the grassroots. A crucial point in all debates – explicitly or implicitly – were citizenship rights. Willem stressed in this regard the interesting experience of ‘participatory budgeting’ in Brazil, in which ordinary people participated in debates and the decision-making processes over municipal budgets and spending. All sessions’ presentations were followed by lively debate and questions, and we only stopped when the speaker for the conference’s final plenary appeared in the Lecture Theatre to take up her place.

As panel convenor and on behalf of all our panellists I would like to express our gratitude to the conference organisers and the many helping hands around for providing an ideal environment for a stimulating space of debate and discussion and a formidable entertainment to shake a leg or two. Thank you Manchester.

W TRUTH AND FICTION: MODERNITY, CONFLICT AND RECONCILIATION IN PERU. Organizer: Wendy Coxshall, University of Manchester. E-mail: la_cobrita@hotmail.com

This was very successful panel in which all three papers complemented each other very well. They all focused, primarily, on the failure of dialogue and communication between local people and the state in Peru.

Tracy outlined a history of the failures of the state to respond or take into account the voices and demands of local people and its invocation of colonial discourses of Indianness and inferiority through *indigenismo* in the 1920s to the present. In so doing, she argued that the state has imposed silence and suggests muteness of local people for whom it has and continues to speak. This is even in spite of state attempts at ‘intercultural dialogue’ with

'Rimanakuy' forums under Garcia government (1985-90) that was supposed to allow local people to voice concerns to the state, but which Tracy reveals was inherently problematic because García's understanding about local people was based on a novel about indigenous people in Peru written by a fellow party member, *Ciro Alegría*, written half a century ago in which he asked local people to imagine their own history and lives within and through this novel as people who suffer.

She called for local people to be 'given the mic' to speak for themselves highlighting how a local leader had done so at the twentieth anniversary commemorative ceremony for the deaths of 8 journalists assassinated by local people, in order to list the names of more than a hundred people subsequently assassinated in Uchuraccay now also mentioned within the Peruvian Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

Caroline Yezer turned to the state's failure to address issue of coca in the interest of local people that bows to the pressures of the US government and the pact between these two countries establishing target quotas for the eradication of coca. Caroline drew attention to the failure of NGOs to supply alternative crops that also same economic yield. She focused on recent strikes by cocaleros in reaction against such state failure to take account of or do anything for cocaleros whose livelihood is threatened by state intervention. Although self-employed coca growers could not strike themselves, Caroline revealed the creative and effective way in which cocaleros succeed in making their reactions against the state heard by blocking roads and disrupting transport and therefore, preventing others from going to work. Moreover, Caroline revealed how these strikes also invoked discourse of cultural rights, not just of labour, that has proved so effective at a global level for local people to reclaim land and other benefits from the state. The cocaleros emphasised the practices of growing and chewing coca as Inca cultural tradition whilst they do not recognise the Incas as their own ancestors.

Wendy Coxshall discussed problems of narrative and communication between local people and the state both for ethnography and the Peruvian

Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC). In analysing local narratives she drew attention to differing narratives of particular people and their strategic choice of form and content for their narratives for certain audiences, such as herself as ethnographer and also representatives of the TRC. She highlighted the intrinsic *unknowability* of political violence both as an experience and the partial and subjective ways in which knowledge about political violence is acquired through conversations with others that, in turn, each person weaves together to try and produce a coherent narrative about political violence for themselves as well as the listener.

Wendy argued that people produce coherence as a means to understand self within a messy and entangled web of conflictive local relations with others that they try to comprehend not only in within the time-frame of recent political violence but as persisting struggles within and between landowners and local people since colonialism but which people rework to locate others as particular character types within the dominant metanarrative of political violence: a war between the two opposing forces of Sendero and the Peruvian armed forces. On this note, Wendy also issued a word of caution about the kinds of experiences of incoherence and chaos that often get misrepresented in narratives of others and called for questioning of silence and how to deal with the non communicable forms of suffering and pain related to political violence.

Tracy Devine Guzmán charted a history of failed dialogues between the state and local people in Peru throughout the 1900s. She referred to the uprisings in Cusco in the 1920s with the state's miscomprehension and failure to implement land reform that genuinely favoured local populations. She also reflected on the 1983 killings of 8 journalists in the community of Uchuraccay in the Andean highlands of Ayacucho at the beginning of the political violence the failure of the investigative commission, initiated by the state, to acknowledge that local people can and do think and act politically and its and the state's draws on ideas of 'Indian' identity in order to impose silence.

Such unequal relations of power based on notions of Inidannness and inferiority Rimanakuy forums that took place in several departments under government of former president Alán García (1985-90) as an attempt to set multicultural dialogue between the state and local people similarly based on García's own understanding of Andean people from a book written by Ciro Alegría, a fellow member of the APRA political party. What happens if local representatives are allowed to speak for themselves, she asks. Tracy highlighted how a local leader in Uchuraccay took advantage of the unused microphone at commemorative ceremony this year in Uchuraccay, to list the names of all those who died in political violence from Uchuraccay, instead of the names of 8 journalists for whom the ceremony has always been intended?

ARGENTINA 2003: 'MAS LEJOS MAS TE QUIERO': Convenor: Marta Zabaleta. m.zabaleta@mdx.ac.uk

Este panel se inscribio en la necesidad de tratar de entender la situacion argentina en la actualidad, asi como de examinar posibles recomendaciones que puedan surgir, por ejemplo, en el ambito de las politicas nutricionales, para en este caso, tratar de paliar la reaparicion de casos de desnutricion cronica que se registran con alarmante regularidad y de lo cual tienden a ser las victimas mas visibles menores de edad.

El panorama general del funcionamiento del neo liberalismo y sus mas marcadas consecuencias y posibles superaciones, fueron expuestos por el **Dr Mario Gomez Olivares**, de la Escuela de Economia de Lisboa. La Dra. **Marta Zabaleta**, Middlesex University, Londres, introdujo el problema de la desnutricion infantil en Argentina comparando las estadisticas de nutricion y desnutricion estudiadas por el Coronel Peron cuando visito por primera vez el Registro Nacional de Estadística y Censos en 1945, con las que ofrecen ahora webpages tales como 'Por los chicos'. Tambien sugirio bibliografia tendiente a discernir hasta que punto estas tematicas son 'feminist issues.' O en cambio, expresion del supuesto madrerismo que segun un punado de autoras caracterizaria el accionar de las mujeres en el ambito politico latinoamericano.

Vanessa Garcia, del King's College, enfoco su ponencia desde el eje nutricionista y no dejo en la audiencia ningun genero de dudas acerca del marcado deterioro de la salud en Argentina.

El seminario, que sufrio de la ausencia de tres de sus expositores ausentes por razones personales, prosiguió con **Ruth Pearson**, de Leeds University, quien se referio al rol cumplido por el 'barter' en Argentina despues de la crisis del 2001, asi como a los valores que originariamente lo impulsaron, para finalizar evaluando su disolucion y posible resurgimiento.

Finalmente, frente a un nutrido, atento e interesado publico e exhibio el documental 'Cry for Argentina', excelentemente bien fotografiado y bien estructurado, adonde se pasan revista a las principales dilemas que enfrenta ahora la poblacion argentina. La proyeccion del retroceso de Argentina preocupo a las/los asistentes. Y en menos de una hora en una alcancia improvisada MZ recogio sesenta libras, que ya fueron remitidas a Comodoro Rivadavia en el dia de la fecha (16 de abril). Esta accion de emergencia en respuesta a una apelacion formulada por la radio FM del Mar de Comodoro Rivadavia con la cual colabora M Z en forma permanente, fue facilitada en situ por un medico local, **Dr Miguel Angel de Boer**, quien hizo entrega del dinero personalmente a los destinatarios.

Se encontro pues una manera directa de ayudar a resolver la falta de zapatillas y, material didactico que afecta a sesenta ninios y ninias del barrio Stella Marys, debido a la ineficacia gubernamental en la entrega de subsidios al programa local de Jefas y Jefes del Hogar que estan desocupadas /os .

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SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2004:

LEIDEN, NETHERLANDS

***** CALL FOR PANELS. *****

The next conference will be held in Leiden, 2-4 April. This is the first time that the Annual Conference has been held outside the UK and it will be a great opportunity to consolidate links with our Dutch and other European colleagues. Patricio Silva is the main conference organiser and he will need to know definite numbers for accommodation by 15 January 2004. Therefore, the usual process of organisation will start earlier than usual. Please start to send proposals for panels as soon as possible. **Email:**

g.van.der.ree@let.leidenuniv.nl OR

they should go direct to Patricio Silva, Institute of Cultural and Social Studies, Leiden University, PO Box 9555, 2300 RB Leiden, The Netherlands.

PILAS

(Postgraduate Students in Latin American Studies)

Annual Conference Report, 25 January 2003

On 25 January 2003 a group of intrepid postgraduates studying a range of Latin American topics braved the wilds of Britain's transportation network to meet at the University of Warwick in Coventry for the sixth annual PILAS conference. Upon arriving most participants wisely passed over a welcoming cup of university-issue caffeinated beverage, opting instead to wait for the intellectual stimulation of the day's first papers. **Barry Cannon** (Dublin City University), **Mo Hume** (University of Liverpool), and **Anne Marie Smith** (University of Liverpool) did not disappoint with three talks on the pleasures, pitfalls, and unexpected surprises of fieldwork in the panel "What was that all about? Reflections on Fieldwork." A lively discussion of the events each experienced and the larger lessons it held for those contemplating field research obviously created an appetite for more in the audience. After demolishing the sandwich

buffet the pileros passed over a spread of assorted biscuits, perhaps hoping for a more substantial dessert of sparkling debate.

The presenters in the post-prandial panel eagerly took up the challenge. **Fraya Freshe** (University of São Paulo/Brazilian Studies Centre, Oxford) framed the discussion with a paper on street photography in São Paulo, detailing how images from distinct eras might be used as a lens to sharpen our understanding of change and modernity in the late nineteenth and early twentieth century of that great megalopolis. Papers by **Sorcha Hamilton** (University of Manchester) and **Karen Buchanan** (University of Manchester) offered a comparative perspective for the discussion by exploring the 1968 student demonstrations of Tlateloclo and the emblematic role of Mexico City's zócalo, respectively. The presentations

complete, the audience leapt into the fray, unveiling a multi-disciplinary discussion about the use of space and location as an expression of identity and the concomitant tensions this incurs between the state and civil society.

The following session took up the social and political power aspect of the previous panel, offering analyses on a local, national, and regional level. **Katy Foster** (University of Newcastle) opened proceedings by exploring the ways in which social capital in the region is constructed by donor agencies. **Barry Cannon's** paper offered great insight into what can happen when there is an almost implacable disagreement about what role the state should play in the formation of social capital and the larger questions of national governance. Drawing on extensive interviews and observations in Caracas in April 2002, Cannon offered a cogent explanation of the political and social dynamics underlying the coup which briefly toppled President Hugo Chávez Frías. **Claudia Fabbri** (University of Wales, Aberystwyth) took on the questions of democratic stability raised by the Venezuelan case and added issues of regional security in her presentation of a theoretical model for investigating the role of ideas

and institutions in the Argentina-Brazil rapprochement of the 1980s. In what might well prove to be a useful lesson for the attending postgraduates, the discussion focused on issues of theoretical and lexicographical clarity as a prerequisite for cogent analysis of the detailed data which may be collected during field research.

By now energy levels were flagging, which perhaps explains the collective effort to set aside memories of coffee in Latin America in order to drain the institutional brew on offer during the break.

Obviously, the caffeine kick worked because the final panel of the day closed the conference with a bang. **Maria Luisa Mendez Layera** (University of Manchester)

offered an insightful exploration of differing approaches to measuring social stratification in Chile. **Veronica Afonso** (University of Manchester) gave a national/international comparison with a paper seeking to contrast social movements in Latin America with their counterparts in the West. The theme of pushing for political change and recruiting political support was addressed by **Sarah Bowskill** (University of Manchester) in a presentation on Women and political life under President Lázaro Cárdenas. **Tony Campbell** (University of Southampton) brought proceedings full circle with a paper on Maya identity and local communities which highlighted the need for sensitivity in research and a willingness to adapt to changing circumstances and new opportunities. Indeed, the final discussion period continued the general theme of the day by focusing on how the theoretical propositions created in the library might be tested and altered by research in the field.

Sadly, there was an admission price for the sharing of experiences and research in progress: the PILAS annual general meeting. The substantive business was quickly completed. **Iona Macintyre** (University of Manchester) was appointed PILAS secretary and asked to begin compiling a list of UK university departments where postgraduates studying Latin America and the Caribbean might be found. **Karan Bubber** (Derby University) took pity on the aesthetic malaise afflicting the PILAS webpage and agreed to take on the role of IT Officer. Unanimous approval was given to extending an incipient PILAS

constitutional convention, namely that election for the post of President be conducted electronically. Results will be in before the full SLAS conference in Manchester. On a final note, PILAS would like to extend its deepest gratitude to the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Warwick for the support and assistance which made the conference not only possible, but also a resounding success.

Sean Burges, PILAS President, University of Warwick

SLAS MEMBERS and EMAIL

MEMBERS NEWS

LAURENCE HALLEWELL has a new email address: moot@cwcom.net

E MAIL CONTACTS.

We are trying to build up a comprehensive list of members' email addresses. This will make communication with members much easier and may allow a system of electronic voting for Committee members in the future. Can I urge you to include your email address when you renew your subscription with Blackwell (whether on-line or by paper form). In addition, there is a checkbox which allows you to approve use of your "email address for membership purposes". Please tick this box. This does NOT give Blackwell or anyone else the right to email you with other types of information.

Peter Wade, SLAS President. Department of Social Anthropology, University Of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PL. Tel: (0161)-275-3991, Fax: (0161)-275-3970, Email: Peter.Wade@man.ac.uk

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CALL FOR REVIEWERS FOR BLAR:

If anyone is interested in writing book reviews for BLAR, (*Bulletin of Latin American Research*) please could they let the Reviews Editor know,

specifying discipline/countries/particular areas of interest.. Also, if anyone has a particular expertise on web-sites relating to Latin America, we would welcome a regular feature reviewing those. Again, if interested, please contact Nicola Miller - Email: Nicola.Miller@ucl.ac.uk.

REPORT ON RESEARCH TRIP TO PERU:

I am pleased to report that I have successfully completed the research trip for which the Society for Latin American Studies provided me a grant. As planned, I spent June, July and August in Peru undertaking primary source research for my PhD thesis. The trip was extremely fruitful and has provided me with the necessary materials to complete the writing up of my project entitled "The View from the Andes: Literary Reactions to and Incorporations of Positivism in the Construction of Peruvian National Identities, 1884-1995".

While in Lima, I was able to make use of many libraries and research centres. Among them, the National Library, the Instituto Riva-Agüero, the private collection of Felix Denegri (now housed at the Instituto Riva-Agüero), the libraries and Special Collections of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú and the

Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, allowed me access to their collections and facilitated my research. I was permitted to make photocopies and microfilms of documents that are essential to my investigation and are only available in Lima.

In researching Lima's literary community following the War of the Pacific (1879-1884), I was able to examine complete sets of the *La Revista Social* (1885-1888), *El Perú Ilustrado* (1887-1892), *El Ateneo de Lima* (1886-1888), *La Revista Americana* (1891-1892), and *La Gaceta Científica* (1884-1890). The editorials and articles from these periodicals will form the backbone of my

arguments regarding the role of the literary community in influencing ideas about patriotism, nationalism and positivism after the War. I also reviewed the records of specific literary groups in order to establish the extent of their activities and the nature of their discussions surrounding positivism in the Peruvian context.

In addition to the research I conducted on nineteenth-century periodicals, I also examined first editions of the novels I am analysing, home economics texts and manuals for the period, and secondary materials all of which serve to broaden and ground the historical dimension of my thesis.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Society for Latin American Studies for supporting my research. The materials that I collected while in Peru are indispensable to the completion of my thesis. My analysis of these sources is new to writings about the activities of the literary élite in Lima and will open up a new area in the field for consideration by broadening our understanding of their role in shaping ideas about national identity and positivism.

Jennifer Fraser. Email: jennifer_s_fraser@yahoo.co.uk

THE MST AND LULA'S GOVERNMENT: THE END OF THE TRUCE?

In the run-up to last year's presidential election, Lula's opponents tried to play what they considered one of their trumps against his candidature: the close

PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL NOTES FOR MEMBERS NEWS

TO: Elizabeth Allen, Editor, *SLAS Newsletter*,
Faculty of Social Sciences, Adam Smith Building, University of
Glasgow, Glasgow, G12 8QH. Email: gsia05@udcf.gla.ac.uk

FROM: Member's Name:

Address:

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Tel No: **Fax No:**.....

Email No:.....

CURRENT RESEARCH:

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

APPOINTMENTS, PROMOTIONS

OTHER NEWS/ACTIVITIES (PAPERS READ, TRAVEL, ETC.)

Please continue on another sheet.or over the page...

SLAS Members news 2003 continued

association between his Worker's party, the PT, and the MST (Movimento dos Trabalhadores Rurais Sem Terra), the landless rural workers' movement.

Fortunately for Lula's candidacy, this never had its desired effect. The MST did not cause major media outrage after its occupation of the Fazenda Buritis (which belongs to FHC's daughter) in March, the Lula campaign was well received even by the media, and he finally won the election, in his fourth attempt. The MST was, in fact, heavily involved in campaigning for Lula, even though this was never formally decided by the leadership. This support was due to Lula being the only candidate who is backed by social forces capable of transforming Brazil.

The purpose of associating Lula with the MST was, of course, to show that the Worker's Party and Lula himself were not electable, that they were too radical, just like the country's most dynamic social movement. The MST is the most influential rural advocacy group, organising squatters to press for land reform and expropriation. As João Pedro Stédile, the most vocal of its leaders, has said, if attacking problems by their roots is radical, then the MST is indeed a radical organisation.

The MST has had an impressive trajectory since its creation in the wake of democratisation in the early 1980s. From isolated events of land occupation, the MST grew and perfected its strategy, achieving a revival of land reform on the political agenda against predictions and generating a nation-wide discussion. Its strategy has been to carry out land reform from below, but its demands go beyond the mere redistribution of land. Ultimately, the MST is challenging the existing structure of Brazilian society, i.e. the dominance of a small ruling elite in the social, political, and economic spheres, and the subordination of the majority of the population, a pattern reflected in a very unequal distribution of income and landholdings. Thus, the MST's struggle for agrarian reform is aimed at democratising not only the access to land, but to government and society at large.

From its original base in the South the MST evolved into a nation-wide movement, working in co-operation with the Pastoral Land Commission of the Catholic Church and also closely associated with the PT, but always fiercely autonomous of both. There are no formal links between the MST and the PT, but the PT has always been generally supportive of the MST's aims, and many MST activists campaigned vigorously for Lula.

Despite this support, the MST has always kept its critical voice. During the campaign, however, little was heard from the MST about Lula's candidacy, even though Lula was harshly criticised by some of the left for his strategy to win votes, e.g. choosing the Liberals as a coalition partner and turning slightly 'new labour'. The MST was remarkably quiet during the months leading up to the election: there was a decrease in land occupations (although Stédile claims that this was due to social struggles being less marked in election periods in general), hardly any statements criticising Lula, and even one of the main protest events in which it participates, the 'Grito dos excluídos' (Scream of the excluded, which coincides with independence on the September 7th) went smoothly, with protest directed mostly at the Free Trade Area of the Americas.

Shortly after the election, there were some first statements of endorsement of the Lula presidency, but also of a continuing independent position. At a conference convoked to discuss strategy under the new government, Gilmar Mauro, leader of the MST in Pernambuco, stated that there was no such thing as a truce between the MST and the PT. The MST statement released after this conference was optimistic and supportive of a Lula presidency, yet it also stressed that its demands would continue to be made until government tackled the land question satisfactorily. Importantly, MST leaders said that electing a new government was not enough, as only mass mobilisation and struggle would lead to social change, which no government, not even Lula's, would otherwise realise by its own will.

At the World Social Forum in Porto Alegre in late January, Lula's speech was celebrated, yet Stédile took the opportunity to criticise him openly for the first

time since the election. The bone of contention was Lula's announcement that he would go to Davos to address the World Economic Forum, a trip that Stédile considered to be a 'waste of time', as it meant 'throwing pearls to the swine'. [Speaking from the Social Forum, which was born to counter the meeting in Davos, Stédile also stated that the new government's policies indicated that the economic model was not going to be changed, but merely administrated.] Despite this and other criticisms aimed at Lula and the PT, Stédile affirmed that the MST was keen to be a partner of the government in promoting social change, while maintaining its autonomy. He also said that the MST would continue to use land occupations to pressurise the government. "The role of the MST is to continue the occupation of large landholdings, not with the aim of provoking or embarrassing the new government, but as a way of helping to implement agrarian reform", he further declared.

As if to mark his words, on January 29th new camps were installed by the MST in Paraná state, in the first such occurrence since Lula took office. However, the strategy had changed somewhat, with families camping on the side of the road, 'reserving' the fazenda in question for the start of the Lula government's agrarian reform. One day afterwards, there was yet another invasion by the MST in Rondônia, and there have since been various others across the country. If there ever was a truce, it is no more.

Until now, the Lula government has not done much concerning agrarian reform. It has temporarily suspended the market-assisted reform so vehemently criticised by the MST and other civil society organisations, in order to evaluate its implementation and check for irregularities. It has also named new INCRA superintendents for all states, including several people closely associated with, and some even former advisers of, the MST (for instance in Pernambuco, one of the states with most land conflicts). It seems that the new government is keen on appeasing the MST, while keeping a low profile regarding agrarian reform and concentrating on other policy areas, such as 'Fome Zero', the programme to eradicate hunger. This also has to do with public opinion, which in an overwhelming majority names unemployment

and crime - and not agrarian reform - as the issues that are most important to be dealt with urgently. The question is whether there is a genuine willingness on part of the Lula government to work with the MST, or just a strategy of keeping the MST under control.

The MST, on the other hand, has not been overly active with invasions, changing its strategy to a less confrontational one. Its leaders have also tended to add a positive note to any criticism they make of the government. It is in the MST's interest to maintain good relations with the government, as this is the government most likely to listen and to fulfil some of the demands made. The question is how long their patience will last if agrarian reform is not implemented soon and on a large scale. There is a danger of MST disenchantment with Lula's government and its scepticism may soon turn into a position of isolation if cooperation with the government does not materialise.

Lula's victory gave new courage to the people, and new vigour to mass mobilisation, which will be necessary to sustain major changes. There is a consciousness that Lula will not be the saviour of Brazil, but also a belief that he will promote change, putting the state at the people's service. It will be very interesting to see how the relationship between the Lula government and the MST will develop in the following months, as the integration of Brazil's largest social movement into his politics is surely a challenge that Lula will be judged by in years to come.

Sabine Pallas, PhD student, University of Glasgow

Sources: MST website (MST Informa newsletter). Print media: Carta Capital, Estado de São Paulo, Folha de São Paulo. Reuters news agency

CONFERENCE REPORT:

III International Conference On Latin American Women

The III Middlesex University International Conference on Latin American Women: **Women's Human Rights: the Body Matters**, organised by Dr M.

Zabaleta, took place in London, on 10 April 2001. The papers presented in the conference along with a number of contributions in the form of film commentary, poems, academic papers and debates from other members of her e networks were published by CESLA (University of Warsaw) in a special volume of the *Revista del CESLA*.

The publication of this volume was made possible with the valued help and continuous support of Dr A. Dembicz, President of CEISAL, and some other staff of CESLA, as Mrs. Beatriz Baeza. The aim of the conference was the revaluation of human rights from a feminine gender perspective, both in theoretical and practical terms in the Latin America of today and the field of Latin American Studies as a whole.

The three main strands of the conference dealt with Latin American Women's Human Rights, domestic and state violence against women. The papers presented discuss and reflect upon the realities of LA women's human rights across the continent, stretching from Cuba and Mexico down to Chile, Argentina and Brazil. The entire body of the academic and artistic work presented in this volume stands on a place of its own, offering an innovative and refreshing approach to LA women's human rights issues, encompassing the voices of all the companeras and companeros who are fighting against inequality and discrimination and are reclaiming their right to life and human dignity. Our voice united with theirs in a single cry: Hasta la victoria!

For further details about *Revista del CESLA No 3*, and how to order it, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Marta Zabaleta at m.zabaleta@mdx.ac.uk

Katerina Emmanouilidou, Torquay, 7th April 2003.

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CONFERENCE REPORT: "The New Latin Americanism": 21-22 June 2002

Hosted by Manchester's Centre for Latin American Cultural Studies, and organised by Jon Beasley-Murray and Patience Schell, this major international conference brought together over a hundred academics,

researchers, and writers from Latin America, the United States, and the United Kingdom, to define and interrogate twenty-first century Latin American Studies. The conference's premise was that the contemporary so-called "crisis" in Latin American Studies makes for new connections and avenues of enquiry. The two days of debate and discussion allowed us to build upon this premise and sketched out various possible future interdisciplinary maps and engagements.

The disciplines and approaches represented by panels at the conference were: History, Anthropology, Politics, Visual Studies, Literature, Marxism, Deconstruction, Gender Studies, and Cultural Studies. Nine distinguished intellectuals from the United States and Latin America, each representing one of these influential theoretical or methodological approaches within Latin Americanism, were asked to present papers on the theme of "The New Latin Americanism." British intellectuals working in similar areas then responded to and chaired discussion of these papers.

The speakers and respondents were: Heloísa Buarque de Hollanda, Julianne Burton-Carvajal, Sergio Chejfec, Néstor García Canclini, Eric Hershberg, Daniel James, Neil Larsen, Alberto Moreiras, and Beatriz Sarlo; Jon Beasley-Murray, Paul Cammack, Elizabeth Dore, Mike Gonzalez, Alan Knight, John Kraniauskas, Bernard McGuirk, Andrea Noble, and Peter Wade.

At the end of each day, there was also a roundtable session featuring representatives from key institutions of British Latin Americanism (who were asked to give short position papers), at which the topic of "The New Latin Americanism" and the issues raised by the formal papers were further discussed. These discussants were: Jens Andermann, Keith Brewster, Catherine Davies, Will Fowler, Lorraine Leu, Brett Levinson, Maxine Molyneux, Diana Paton, William Rowe, and David Treece.

Throughout the conference, the pragmatics and the value of interdisciplinarity, Latin American Studies, and cultural studies were all key themes and objects of interrogation. For instance, one broad section of the participants

(particularly well represented on the first day's roundtable) emphasised that, in their view, while interdisciplinarity was welcome and necessary, the academic disciplines were primary. From this perspective, interdisciplinarity came after, and complemented, fundamental disciplinary training and grounding. By contrast, others (especially in discussions on the second day) were more willing to interrogate the basis of the disciplines themselves, and to call into question the divisions of academic labour that they incarnate. There were thus two very different models at work, and while there was no single resolution, it became clear over the conference that both would continue to be in tension and contention in any new Latin Americanism.

Another productive tension arose during the conference around the purpose and critical value of Latin American Studies *per se*. This tension was most often expressed in relation to the (perhaps surprisingly) strong Marxist current that ran through both days of conference discussions. In short, this debate turned on the nature of the commitment that Latin Americanism required: whether this was commitment to a region in itself, in its complex difference from non-Latin American culture; or whether this was commitment to a region whose prime distinguishing feature was the fact that it (like other regions of the world) was subaltern to and exploited by capitalist processes that are fundamentally global in nature.

Finally, the nature and role of cultural studies attracted much, often critical, comment. Throughout, cultural studies played a dual role: as both an approach among many, and the rubric defining the conference as a whole. Cultural studies was attacked for its "textualism" that, it was claimed, rode roughshod over historical specificity; however, a version of cultural studies was also defended for its "materialism" that, it was said, avoided the abstractions of historical narratives. Overall, it became clear that there are a number of options and choices within cultural studies, just as there are debates and divergences within any future Latin American Studies.

Perhaps the prime achievement of the conference was that it was of sufficient size and with sufficient variety of speakers and participants that the tensions

and divergences described above were addressed directly, as a necessary part of any future dialogues among disciplines, between Europe and the Americas, and between North and South.

Manchester's Centre for Latin American Cultural Studies and the University of Manchester Faculty of Arts would like to thank the conference co-sponsor, the Institute of Latin American Studies, London. For their generous funding assistance, we would also like to thank the Society of Latin American Studies, the British Academy, the Fundación Cañada Blanch, the *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*, Birbeck College, the University of Manchester's Research and Graduate Support Unit, the Embassy of Brazil in the UK, and the Instituto Cervantes. A number of the papers from the conference will be published early in 2003 as a special issue of the *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*.

CALLS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS AND PAPERS

- 1. FEMINIST REVIEW:** Special issue on ' Rethinking Gender and National Independence: Latin America' (2005). Guest editor: Catherine Davies. Feminist Review is soliciting critical essays for the above special issue, due to be published in early 2005. Deadline for submission of essays is December 2003. Each essay will be read by two external referees and a decision regarding publication based on their reports. About 10 essays are needed, including some contemporary pieces. Dialogue pieces and book reviews are also welcome. Although Feminist Review has been in print for some 20 years this is the first issue dedicated entirely to Latin America (a previous issue, 59, 1998, focused on the Caribbean), so it's a great opportunity to bring Latin America (nationalism/ gender/history /texts) to the forefront of contemporary feminist debate. The essays need not centre on the nineteenth-century but could just as well engage with twentieth-century authoritarian regimes, globalization, representations of gender in contemporary public culture, and so on. If you would like to discuss your

ideas further or if you need further information please contact Catherine
(catherine.davies@man.ac.uk; 0161 275 3026/3040).

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS & SEMINARS

**CEDLA – Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation,
Amsterdam:**

**Publications: please contact either: CedlaPublications@cedla.uva.nl, or
Aksant Academic Publishers, Amsterdam. www.aksant.nl;
info@aksant.nl.**

**Cahill, David, *From Rebellion to Independence in the Andes: Soundings
from Southern Peru, 1750-1830* ISBN 90 5260 054 6; 290 pages, pb, €25.00
/ US price US\$27.50 CEDLA LATIN AMERICA STUDIES, no. 89.**

The essays in this span Peru's turbulent transition from Spanish rule to independence in 1824. Situated within the sphere of influence of the old Inca capital, Cuzco, they represent soundings of resistance and rebellion, backed by years of archival research. From these studies emerges a mosaic that deepens our understanding of the social basis of separatist and subversive Andean politics, incorporating evidence often missing from broader studies. Davis Cahill is Australian professorial fellow at the University of New South Wales, Sydney.

**Oss, A. C. van, *Church and Society in Spanish America*. ISBN 90 5260 053
8; 300 pages, pb, €29.50 / US price US\$29.95 CEDLA LATIN AMERICA STUDIES,
no90**

This is a cultural history based on a semi-quantitative method. After collecting series of data on population, economic production, church building, and maps, Van Oss reconstructs the characteristics of central America as an autarkic colony, the development of colonial bishoprics over South America and

mendicant expansion in New Spain. Historical geographies of New Spain and early Venezuela as well as of the colonial city in Spanish America, Acámbaro and the Mexican state of Hidalgo (1930s) complete the picture.

CEDLA Publications: 'Cuadernos del Cedla',

A restyled series which aims at rapidly presenting the results of ongoing research to a wider audience. Three volumes have been published in 2002:

1. No. 9 Ten Years of Mercosur, Edited by Pitou van Dijck and Marianne Wiesebron (April 2002), 106 pp.

A timely volume of studies in view of recent developments and initiatives at the regional and multilateral level, which may affect the future of the countries in the Western Hemisphere significantly. The authors review the main achievements of Mercosur and the major challenges Mercosur faces in the years ahead dealing with the potential effects of a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA).

2. No. 10 The Psychology of the Faceless Warriors, Eastern Chiapas, Early 1994, Arij Ouweneel (July 2002), 129 pp.

A monograph on the struggle of the Zapatistas and how rebellious Mayas are writing their history. From the preface: "The narrative that follows is based on how I think that the rebellious Maya read the signs of history, economy, and politics that came to them from the outside. It is this choice that is presented for discussion."

3. No. 11 The Andean Exodus: Transnational Migration from Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, Edited by Ton Salman and Annelies Zoomers (July 2002), 121 pp.

A collection of studies on transnational migration processes from Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru, in the wake of globalization processes and the influence of new technologies. The volume draws on the results of the workshop "Passing the Boundaries: Dispersed Livelihoods and Transnational Identities", where new research on the topic was presented.

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LIAM KANE of the Department of Adult and Continuing Education (having recently published a book on '*Popular Education and Social Change in Latin America*', LAB: 2001), was invited to January's World Education Forum in Porto Alegre (a spin-off from the World Social Forum) to take part in a debate on 'popular versus public education'. The debate was chaired by Moacir Gadotti, head of the Paulo Freire Institute in Sao Paulo, a close collaborator of Freire while he was alive.

Liam found the usual Latin American surprises in store: first, more than 3000 people turned up for the debate (in Scotland he'd have been lucky to get 30) and just as he was about to deliver the 45-minute speech he'd been asked to prepare, all speakers were asked to cut to 20. Still, the whole Education Forum was an invigorating event and Liam has come back charged up to continue fighting educational bureaucracy in the attempt to do some decent teaching and research."

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smurph@liverpool.ac.uk

Staff News

Rosaleen Howard has been awarded an AHRB Research Leave Scheme Grant for the first semester of 2003-2004. She has also been offered a Residential Research Fellowship to be held at the Netherlands Institute of Advanced Study in the Humanities and the Social Sciences (NIAS) during the 2003-2004 session. She will use these awards to write a book on cultural ideologies of language and culture in the Andes, based on recent fieldwork in

Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia.

Conference Report

'Gaining Ground: Social, Cultural and Political - Processes of Latin America's Indigenous Peoples'

The international conference 'Gaining Ground: Social, Cultural and Political Processes of Latin America's Indigenous Peoples' was held on 21-22 February, convened by Rosaleen Howard. The conference brought academics and indigenous leaders together, and attracted a wide audience from the UK and other European countries.

Willem Assies (Colegio de Michoacán), Rachel Sieder (ILAS, London), and Neil Harvey (University of New Mexico) gave papers on legal, territorial and constitutional issues affecting indigenous peoples. Jean Jackson (MIT) was joined by Jesus Avirama, former President of the Consejo Regional Indígena del Cauca, for a plenary session on the impact of the Colombian conflict on indigenous groups.

A panel on indigenous people's demands in the areas of education and language rights included Jane Freeland (Southampton), Juan Carlos Godenzzi (Montreal) and Denise Arnold (ILCA, Bolivia). Gunther Dietz (Granada) and Aida Hernández (CIESAS, Mexico) talked about grassroots social and cultural change and the political role of indigenous women in southern Mexico, respectively.

The keynote speaker was Luz Marina Vega, a Quichua delegate from the Municipalidad de Cotacachi, who talked about the impact on Ecuador's indigenous movement of the 2002 presidential election in that country. The conference concluded with a panel on Ethnodevelopment, with Sarah Radcliffe (Cambridge) and Simone Ferreira de Athayde (Kent), and transnational indigenous solidarity, looking at the case of Mapuche people in exile in the UK (Reynaldo Mariqueo, Mapulink). Despite the diversity of topics, a thematic coherence emerged from the conference, drawn out in a round table debate at the end of the event, chaired by Andrew Canessa (Essex).

The conference was generally considered a great success.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

XII CILCA 2004, Congreso Internacional de Literatura Centroamericana, will be hosted jointly by the Institute of Latin American Studies and the School of Modern Languages at the University of Liverpool in 5-7 April 2004. Those interested in participating in the conference, please, contact Valdi Astvaldsson, email: valdi@liv.ac.uk

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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, INSTITUTE OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

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E-mail: ilas@sas.ac.uk web page: <http://www.sas.ac.uk/ilas/>

NEWS: The next issue of the online newsletter, *ILAS enlace*, will be published in May and will be accessible via the ILAS home page or directly at www.sas.ac.uk/ilas/enlace/enlace_home.html.

STAFF CHANGES

Congratulations to Professor **James Dunkerley** on the extension of his directorship of ILAS until 30 September 2007.

Dr **Line Schjolden** took up her Research Fellowship in Law and Politics in January 2003. The post is funded by a grant from the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation held jointly with ILAS and the Latin American Centre at Oxford. Line will be involved in the organised of the Judicialisation of Politics conference planned for spring 2004 in association with Dr Rachel Sieder and Alan Angell.

The Library has seen significant changes recently with the early retirement in February of Latin American Bibliographer Mr **Alan Biggins** after 25 years of

service and the departure in March of Information Resources Manager Ms **Erika Gwynnett** to take up a post at the University of Newcastle. Ms **Sarah Pink** will be taking up the post of Information Resources Manager in May.

VISITING RESEARCH FELLOWS, 2002-03

Helga Baitenmann, USA (Gender and the State)

Germán Carrera Damas, Venezuela (History)

John Hillman, Canada (Britain, Bolivia and the reconstruction of the international tin market, 1945-1952)

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

10 May	Seminar	<i>Latin American Music</i>
15 May	Panel	<i>Argentine elections (TBC)</i>
17 May	Workshop	<i>South American Archaeology</i>
13 June	Workshop	<i>Beyond the Nation: Studying 19th Century Latin America</i>
June	Workshop	<i>Christianity in Latin America (TBC)</i>
16-17 Oct	Workshop	<i>Historicizing Recent Troubles: Memory in Argentina, Chile and Peru</i>
30-31 Oct	Conference	<i>Fútbol, Futebol, Soccer? Football in the Americas</i>

Full details of the Institute's programme of Conferences, Workshops and Seminars is published on the Institute's website, which is updated regularly with new information and any amendments. A copy of the programme will be sent on request. *Please note that advance registration for conferences and workshops is required.* For further information contact the Seminar Secretary, Olga Jiménez (tel. 020 7862 8871; e-mail Olga.Jimenez@sas.ac.uk).

PUBLICATIONS – new and forthcoming

1. ILAS Series

- *Proclaiming Revolution: Bolivia in Comparative Perspective*, Merilee S. Grindle and Pilar Domingo (eds.), published with DRCLAS, 2003.

- *The Pinochet Case: Origins, Progress and Implications*, Madeleine Davis (ed.). Forthcoming spring 2003.
- *Brazil under Democracy: Economy, Polity and Society since 1985*, Maria D'Alva Kinzo (ed.) Forthcoming spring 2003.
- *Brazil and South Korea: Economic Crisis and Restructuring*, Edmund Amann and Ha-Joon Chang (eds.) Forthcoming spring 2003.
- *Mexico: Dilemmas of Change*, Kevin Middlebrook (ed.). Forthcoming 2003

2. Nineteenth-Century Latin America series

- *The Political Power of the Word: Press and Oratory in Nineteenth-Century Latin America*, Iván Jaksic (ed.) 2002
- *Blacks, Coloureds and National Identity in Nineteenth-Century Latin America*, Nancy Naro (ed.) 2003

3. Occasional Papers

- *The Return of the Native: The Indigenous Challenge in Latin America*, Rodolfo Stavenhagen, 2002.
- *Karl Krause and the Ideological Origins of the Cuban Revolution*, Richard Gott, 2002.

4. National Information Handbooks, Biographies and Guides

- *Latin American and Caribbean Studies in the United Kingdom, 2003* Forthcoming
- *Guide to Latin American and Caribbean Library Resources in the British Isles: A Directory*, Alan Biggins and Valerie Cooper (comp.) 2002 – published with ACLAIR

5. Newsletters

- *ILAS enlace* online at www.sas.ac.uk/ilas (published October, January and May)

For the full list of titles and ordering details see the ILAS website:

www.sas.ac.uk/ilas/publicat.htm

OXFORD UNIVERSITY**CENTRE FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES,****92 Woodstock Road, Oxford OX2 7ND****Tel: 01865 284 460 Fax: 01865 284 461****Email: enquiries@brazilian-studies.oxford.ac.uk****website: www.brazil.ox.ac.uk****Visitors Trinity Term 2003**

- Dr Andre Lara Resende (economics)
- Dr Ronaldo Fiani, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro,(Economics)
- Dr Jurandir Malerba, Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro, Rio de Janeiro, (History)
- Dr Alexandre Parola, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Brasilia, (International Relations)
- Professor Lilia Schwarcz, University of São Paulo, (Anthropology)
- Dr Milton Tosto, University of Essex, (Politics)
- Dr Lucia Nagib, PUC-São Paulo, (Cinema)
- Dr Luiz Carlos Cagliari, University of Campinas, (Linguistics)
- Dr Gladis Massini-Cagliari, University of State of São Paulo, (Linguistics)
- Mr Marcos Rolim (Journalist - Human Rights)

Workshops & Conferences held in the Trinity Term 2003

9 May Workshop (TBC) *'The external vulnerability of the Brazilian economy'*

29-30 May Workshop *'Revisionist interpretations of the independence of Brazil'*

17 June Conference in association with the British Council: *'Promoting human rights through good governance in Brazil'*

20 June Round table *'New Brazilian cinema'*

Seminars are on Tuesdays at 5pm. For further information see the Centre's

website <http://www.brazil.ox.ac.uk>

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Oliver Marshall, *Brazil In British And Irish Archives*, December 2002 , xix+241 pp, 1 map, Paperback, ISBN 0-9544070-0-8; UK: £15.00 + £2.75 postage/packing (total £17.75) each. One enduring legacy of the close relationship that developed between Britain and Brazil over the course of centuries is the existence in the British Isles of a wealth of archival holdings relating to Brazil. *Brazil in British and Irish Archives* is the first guide devoted to this rich resource.

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OXFORD UNIVERSITY

CENTRE FOR MEXICAN STUDIES IN OXFORD (CEM),

St Anthony's College, OX2 6JF

Tel: 01865 284777 Fax: 01865 27448

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To start with, the CEM will support six research activities that are currently starting up in several corners of the university. These projects, co-ordinated by renowned specialists, will address key public policy issues in contemporary Mexico: competitiveness, security, democratisation, water rights, foreign policy and decentralization and social policy.

The CEM will be directed by Laurence Whitehead and will be advised by an International Advisory Board formed by prominent academics and leading public figures from Mexico and the UK. The CEM will be the first academic centre in Europe dedicated specifically to the promotion of research and graduate teaching, and the dissemination of academic knowledge about Mexican policy issues, and will draw on the available expertise not only in Oxford and the UK, but from across the EU.

It will also work in close collaboration with counterpart research centres and academic groupings throughout Mexico, in particular with the Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE) with which Oxford University has established a bilateral agreement.

For all enquiries about the CEM, please contact Ana Covarrubias, its programme coordinator, at the Latin American Centre.

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NALACS, NETHERLANDS ASSOCIATION OF LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES

NALACS office: attn. Jolanda van den Boom, CEDLA, Keizersgracht 395-397, 1016 EK Amsterdam, tel: 020-52553244, e-mail: contact@nalacs.nl, website: www.nalacs.nl

NALACS is an association for students and academics whose field of work focuses on societies and cultures of Latin America and the Caribbean. Through the diffusion of information and academic exchange via seminars, workshops and other events, NALACS aims to create a tight working community between individuals and institutions who are active in this area.

Newsletter: NALACS provides a quarterly newsletter to its members, which provides an up-to-date overview of all ongoing activities. These include announcements of conferences, dissertations, publications and career opportunities. The newsletter is distributed electronically: contributions can be made through: contact@nalacs.nl

European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies: NALACS membership also includes a subscription to *the European Review of Latin American and Caribbean Studies*, an academic journal which is published twice per year by CEDLA. The European Review contains articles and reviews written in Spanish or English, which cover important results of empirical research in the region and are often highly innovative by nature, stretching beyond current theories and concepts.

Website & Forum: You can find NALACS activities on www.nalacs.nl. The NALACS Forum is a public electronic discussion & bulletin board open to both members and non-members. People are invited to contribute, be it with queries, requests, announcements or research issues, as long as it pertains to the Latin American and Caribbean region. The NALACS committee moderates the forum.

Membership: Students, academics, organisations and institutions are invited to join NALACS. Full membership fees are E 16 per annum. Student fees are E 5 (this does not include a subscription to the European Review), a different fee applies to organisations. A dual NALACS-SLAS membership can be obtained for E 34 per annum. SLAS membership includes subscriptions to SLAS Newsletter (three issues per annum) and the *Bulletin of Latin American Research* (quarterly). In addition, members are entitled to discounted subscriptions to the *Latin American Research Review* and/or the *Journal of Latin American Studies*.

Please apply for NALACS and/or SLAS membership by providing your personal details (name, address, e-mail address) to the NALACS office at the following address: NALACS office: attn. Jolanda van den Boom, CEDLA, Keizersgracht 395-397, 1016 EK Amsterdam, tel: 020-52553244, e-mail: contact@nalacs.nl, website: www.nalacs.nl