

SLAS COMMITTEE 2004-2005

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Dear SLAS Member,

Are you reading this SLAS Newsletter in a quiet moment of a busy day, doing some informal 'work', perhaps while sipping a cup of coffee? Has it ever crossed your mind that the coffee industry is the world's biggest employer, with coffee the world's most valuable trading commodity, after oil? I was startled to find in a recent report that 30m people work in the coffee industry, with 100m people directly involved and 500m indirectly involved.¹ This rather changes my perception of a cup of the hot liquid.

The sources of coffee production are changing. In 1992, Colombia, Brazil and Vietnam accounted for 44% of world production, but, by 2002-3 they provided 60% of world supply, often on an increasingly mechanised basis. Vietnam, for example, increased production from 1.5m bags in 1994 to 15m bags today. This has acute implications for those in Central America, where high proportions of smaller, individual members of the rural labour force are involved in coffee production: Nicaragua 42%; Guatemala 31%; Costa Rica 28%; Honduras 26%; and El Salvador 17%. Worse still, as far as income and earnings are concerned, 94% (2000-1) of coffee is exported in the green, unprocessed state and only 6% is processed (in Brazil, India, and Colombia). 25million coffee growers live in poverty.

One solution worth considering is Eco-friendly coffee, (4,000 metric tons in 2001) grown in shade, bird friendly, and certified, where demand comes from consumers in the US, EU, and Japan. Another alternative is Fair Trade coffee, not only in the supermarket, but also in a new chain of coffee shops, called 'Progresso', being set up by Oxfam in London, Glasgow, and SE England by the end of this year. Maybe its time to rethink the implications of what, and where, we sup?

Elizabeth Allen, Editor, SLAS Newsletter

¹ 'The real cost of coffee', *The Herald*, (Glasgow), Wednesday March 24 2004, page 14; World Bank, *Coffee Market: new paradigms in global supply and demand*, Agricultural and Rural Development Discussion Paper No 3, Washington DC, March 2004; Gresser C and S Tickell, *Mugged, poverty in your coffee cup*, Oxfam, 2002

**CONTRIBUTIONS AND DEADLINE
PLEASE NOTE: IMPORTANT!!**

**Deadline for material to be included in the October 2004 Issue of the
SLAS Newsletter, Issue No. 78, will be midday on 1 September 2004.**

**All contributions, from SLAS Members, members of PILAS,
and organisations and institutions with an interest
in Latin America, are warmly welcomed**

Material and contributions:

Please send all material for inclusion in email, text only format, to Elizabeth Allen, at gsia05@udcf.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.

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.



Anniversary Conference, 1964-2004

Conference Report on the SLAS Conference held at Leiden, 2-4 April 2004

The Leiden SLAS Conference was exceptional in several aspects. To begin with, it was the first SLAS Annual Conference held outside the United Kingdom and this meeting took place in a very symbolic moment in the Society's history; its 40th anniversary. In addition to this, about 340 participants attended this meeting; significantly more than anyone could have expected. Especially noteworthy has been the presence of a large contingent of postgraduate students from Britain, the rest of Europe and the Americas and many colleagues from Latin America. Finally, this Conference maintained a very informative website which provided all type of information and facilitated the registration of participants from all over the world.

In this special 'Anniversary Conference' two plenary sessions were organised with the presence of two distinguished Latin American speakers. On Friday evening, Professor Marcelo Cavarozzi from the Universidad Nacional San Martín, Buenos Aires, provided a general analysis of the recent Argentine political crisis. His visit to Leiden was made possible by an invitation of the ICA Foundation. His presentation took place at the Great Auditorium of the Academy Building, the heart of Leiden University, which dates from the beginning of the sixteenth century. Also present were the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Professor Ton van Haften, who officially inaugurated the Conference, and several Latin American ambassadors accredited at The Hague. After the plenary on Friday, there was a reception in the same building, hosted by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

From the Southern Cone we moved on Saturday evening to the Caribbean. Our guest speaker was Professor Miguel Angel Centeno from Princeton University, invited by NALACS. In a lively presentation he shared with us both his hopes and

apprehensions about where Cuba is heading. Following his presentation, a very nice discussion took place between 'optimists' and 'pessimists' and, as one could have expected, no consensus was reached among them.

There were 36 sessions held on the Saturday and the Sunday morning, and I want to thank all the panel convenors for putting together a very interesting set of papers.

Many publishers and organisations had book stands with their latest publications on Latin America, including: Blackwells Publishers, CEDLA publications, Latin American Bureau, NALACS, Vervuert Academic Bookseller, Van Stockum Academic book shop, and ZED Books,.

On Saturday evening, there was a wine reception hosted by the Chilean embassy. After dinner on the Saturday there was a *Fiesta latina* with the magic rhythm of the salsa band *Septeto Caoco*.

I would like to thank all those who have assisted the preparations for the Conference, particularly Gerard van der Ree and Steven Ongenaet, as well as Peter Wade and David Fox for their constant advice and technical support from Britain, and to Agnes Zwarts who took excellent care of the entire financial administration.

I particularly want to express my gratitude to the Faculty of Arts of Leiden University, the Research School for African, Asian and Amerindian Studies (CNWS), The Dutch Ministry for Foreign Affairs, the Chilean Embassy at The Hague, the Netherlands Association of Latin American and Caribbean Studies (NALACS), and the Ceisal Foundation for their generous financial support to this anniversary edition of the SLAS Conference. This allowed us to organise a relatively expensive Conference at the same Conference fees of previous years.

Finally many thanks to the 'brigade' of young *voluntarias* and *voluntarios* who enthusiastically offered their free time and energy to make the participants' stay at the Conference as easy and agreeable as possible. The 40th anniversary of

our Society was celebrated in style: accommodation in a 4 star hotel (Holiday Inn); first class catering, a coach transportation system, 2 foreign keynote speakers, and a party with live music. I hope very much you enjoyed this special academic event.

Patricio Silva, conference Organiser, University of Leiden, May 2004

www.slas.leidenuniv.nl

SLAS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2004

The SLAS AGM was held on Friday 2 April 2004, at the University of Leiden

- 1. Minutes of previous meeting** published in the *SLAS Newsletter* of January 2004, were accepted as an accurate record.
- 2. Peter Wade, SLAS President, delivered his report.** The AGM thanked Patricio Silva and the conference organising team for the work put into this year's event..
- 3. Harold Blakemore Prize.** This year, 15 entries were submitted. The winner is Sean Burges (Aberystwyth). There were two runners up: Andres Vallejo (Cambridge) and David Wood (King's College London). The amount of the award has been increased to £400.
- 4. David Fox, SLAS Treasurer delivered his report.** The AGM thanked Tony Bell for his job. The AGM also thanked David for 21 years of very careful and productive work as Society's Treasurer.

5. Vote on constitutional amendment.

The amendment circulated in the SLAS newsletter of January 2004 proposed the staggered election of the six ordinary committee members. The AGM voted to accept the amendment.

6. Election of Committee

The results of the 2004 elections are as follows:

Treasurer - John Fisher
Publicity Officer - Jon Beasley-Murray,
Ordinary committee members: -Andrew Canessa, Peter Lambert, David Fox,
Sean Burges, Mo Hume, Patience Schell.

Under the new amendment, the three people with the greatest number of votes (Canessa, Lambert and Fox) will sit on the committee for two years; Burges, Hume and Schell will hold the post for one year.

7. Any other business. There was no other business.

SLAS PRESIDENT'S REPORT, APRIL 2004

1. Manchester conference, 2003

This was a successful event, with very positive feedback from SLAS members. There were approximately 200 participants, with 21 panels and 2 plenary speakers (Peter Hulme and Francine Masiello). Eleven student bursaries were granted by SLAS and 3 grants made to Latin American scholars (Jesica Gómez-Jauregui Abdo, Sergio Visacovsky, Rosana Guber). There was an overall deficit of about £760.

2. Leiden conference, 2004

This proved to be one of the largest ever SLAS conferences, with 36 panels and about 350 participants. Of these, 120 were British, 60 Dutch, 35 Mexican, 40 from the USA, 15 Chileans and 15 Brazilians, with smaller numbers from Argentina, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, Spain, Portugal, France, Norway, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Greece, Denmark, Germany, Canada, and Iceland. Ten postgraduate bursaries were awarded and seven bursaries made to Latin American scholars. There were two plenary speakers (Professor Marcelo Cavarozzi of the Universidad Nacional San Martín, Argentina, and Miguel Angel Centeno, of Princeton University).

3. Other grants made

- Eight grants were made to postgraduates to support research and four grants given to help postgraduates attend conferences.
- A grant was made to help support a conference on “Law and Gender in Mexico” at ILAS, London and SLAS supported the annual PILAS conference.

4. BLAR

Still going strong under Senior Editor Sarah Radcliffe and her co-editors, Jon Beasley-Murray, Jean Grugel and Nicola Miller. It is benefiting from its base at ILAS, Liverpool, and the work of the editorial assistant there, Mary Keaney. Blackwell's yearly publisher's report, presented at the BLAR Editorial Board Meeting on 2 April, was very favourable and showed greatly increased on-line access to the journal and very good subscription rates. Jon Beasley-Murray will be taking up job at University of British Columbia, Vancouver, and will remain as the first overseas BLAR editor for the time being.

5. Website

Thanks to PR Officer, Jon Beasley-Murray, and IT Officer, Katie Willis, for overseeing the re-design of the SLAS website.

6. SLAS Newsletter

Many thanks as usual to Elizabeth Allen for sterling work on this which continues to provide an invaluable service to SLAS members. Current and some past issues of the SLAS Newsletter are now accessible via the SLAS website.

7. Membership

This currently stands at 393 (including 30 NALACS members and 112 postgraduate members).

8. UKCASA

CCASA appears to have finally ceased to exist. However, it has been replaced by UKCASA (United Kingdom Council for Area Studies Associations), formed on 5 November 2003 with 16 area studies associations. This body met again on 6 February 2004 and elected as Chair Prof. Philip Davies (De Monfort University, Director of Eccles Centre, British Library, and Chair of Association of American Studies).

9. Harold Blakemore Essay Prize winner 2004

There were 15 entries this year. The winner was Sean Burges (Warwick, now Aberystwyth). The judges also mentioned two runners-up who produced very good essays: Andrés Vallejo (Cambridge) and David Wood (KCL, London).

SLAS TREASURER'S REPORT 2003

The accounts have been examined by Tony Bell, Secretary and Registrar of the School of Advanced Study of the University of London, for the Charity Commission and agreed as correct. On behalf of SLAS we should record our thanks.

The tables are largely self explanatory. Our major source of income is Blackwells who not only publish BLAR but collect our subscriptions (about £4,000) and make a contribution to the cost of employing an assistant for BLAR (£3,000). SLAS paid about £12,000 for assistance with BLAR in 2003 being partly start up equipment costs and partly back payments for 2002. The net return of SLAS of BLAR was about £11,000 and our thanks are due to the Trojan efforts of our Editors. There is an additional category of 'subscriptions' under income which refers to money still paid by bankers order to the Treasurer in spite of many instructions to the contrary (to subscribe via Blackwells); the payments are usually at historic rates (for example £3.50) and are held temporarily in an informal escrow account. The inertia of some academics can sometimes be a useful asset. The Treasurer began collecting money for the Leiden conference

early and this helps expand the income total during late 2003; it also accounts for the uncashed cheques held at the end of the year (but since presented to the bank).

On the expenditure side the Manchester conference payment includes substantial bursaries for participants paid direct to the conference organisers from the Treasurer's funds. The SLAS Newsletter bills are often in arrears and the actual expenditure for the 2003 issues will probably turn out to be larger than shown. In my view the SLAS Newsletter is one of the assets of the Society which we get on the cheap thanks to the generous gift of her time by the editor, Elizabeth Allen, and her colleagues. We gave grants to support conferences organised by St. Andrews and Liverpool Universities (£2,000). Perhaps the most noteworthy items are the funds given to support post-graduate travel to Latin America for research purposes (£4,373) and to contribute to international conferences (£1,750). Add to these the support given to PILAS and the bursaries to take part in the Manchester conference than the society gave some £8,000 in support of the work of our younger members – an outcome upon which I think we may congratulate ourselves.

It may be calculated that the Society had assets on the banks and building society of about £78,000 at the end of the year, compared with about £73,000 at the end of 2002. In addition the Society had liabilities (for example the Leiden conference) but also credits (for example, BLAR 2003 income from Blackwells) and whatever precise calculations are made the Society is in good financial heart and should be able to continue to meet its primary objectives during the next foreseeable years providing it retains the goodwill of its members.

I relinquish the Treasurership at this meeting after serving for 21 years and had hoped to prepare a series of telegenic diagrams to boost my ego and record my thanks to my mentor, Gordon Brown. The chart wizard on my computer rather let me down but I did manage a scattergraph or two and I reproduce four of which I am rather pleased. Each dot has an interesting history behind it – but it is the future which is our concern and the future looks bright!

David Fox, Treasurer of SLAS, 1983 – 2004.

2004 SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE: REPORTS OF PANELS

Very few of the requested panel reports were received after the annual conference, and the *SLAS Newsletter* hopes that more will be made available for the October issue. Please would those panel organisers who have not sent reports email them to the Editor of the *SLAS Newsletter* as soon as possible: gsia05@udcf.gla.ac.uk for inclusion in the next issue. Those received are included below:

1. Political Violence and the Construction of National Identity

Organiser: Dr Peter Lambert, University of Bath p.w.lambert@bath.ac.uk

2. Building Democracy: Latin America's Political Class

Organiser: Dr Laura Tedesco, University of East Anglia l.tedesco@uea.ac.uk

3. Tiempo e Imagen en América Latina

Organizador: Prof. Luz Rodríguez Carranza, Universidad de Leiden
l.rodriquez@let.leidenuniv.nl

4. Indigenous Peoples, Democracy, Development and the State in Latin

America . Organiser: Dr Rachel Sieder, ILAS, London rachel.sieder@sas.ac.uk

5. Local Politics, Popular Participation and Democratic Governance

Organiser: Dr Kees Koonings, Utrecht University C.G.Koonings@fss.uu.nl

6. Latin American Literature: Analyses and Debate

Organiser: Dr Victoria Carpenter, University of Derby

V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk

The forum 'Latin American Literature: Analyses and Debate' consisted of twelve papers in four thematic sessions: two panels on literary representations of history, one on gender issues in literature, and one on subalternity in literature. The papers were presented by academics and postgraduate students from the

United States and Britain; the variety of topics and the works addressed in the sessions attracted a lively discussion. Although the writings analysed in the papers encompassed a wide range of movements - from Mexican modernismo to modern Argentinean science fiction, and from 'Relación' by Antonio de Montezinos (1644) to José Agustín's 'La Tumba' (1964) - the discussions at the end of each session offered a coherent discussion of the developments in each theme. It is expected that the panel will attract an equally engaging collection of papers.

7. Agrarian Transformations and Rural Livelihoods in Latin America

Organiser: Dr Cristóbal Kay, Institute of Social Studies, The Hague, The Netherlands kay@iss.nl

Twelve papers were presented by a multidisciplinary and international team. Four presenters came from the Netherlands, three from the UK, two from France, and one each from the following countries: Austria, Portugal and Sweden. The panel started with a paper by **James G. Copestake** (University of Bath) on *Researching Wellbeing and Rural Transformation in the Peruvian Andes – Material, Social and Symbolic Steps* in which he discussed poverty as an exclusionary process and exposed the limitations of the asset-based livelihoods framework.

Martina Kaller-Dietrich (University of Vienna) proposed an alternative view on food and nutrition by highlighting its cultural and gendered context in her essay on *Food in Context: Comida versus the Universal Concept of Nutrition - A Case Study from Mexico*. **Alberto Arce** (Wageningen University) attempted to look for the middle-ground between the global and the local in his paper on *State, Market and People: The New Rurality as an Issue of Social Capital or Value Contestations?* using as an example the cases of the Bolivian coca producers and the Chilean fruit farmers.

The next group of papers focussed on the Chilean experience starting with the presentation by **Paulina Rytkönen** (formerly Morel-Astorga) on *The Transformation of Chilean Agriculture 1950-2000* (Lund University). **Mario Gómez Olivares** (Universidade Técnica do Estado, Portugal) started the

presentation of his paper on *El Estado de la Agricultura Chilena y sus Transformaciones: Se Ha Realmente Modernizado?* with the provocative question of whether it is worthwhile studying Chilean agriculture.

Robert N. Gwynne (University of Birmingham) discussed the various governance structures of global commodity chains in his essay on *Governance, Agro-industrial Commodity Chains and Local Development in Chile*. **Gustavo Blanco Wells** (Universidad Austral de Valdivia, Chile and University of Wageningen) discussed the new conflicts which are emerging as a consequence of the explosive growth and expansion of the salmon-farming industry into new regions in his essay *El Modelo Acuícola Chileno: Una Revisión de su Desarrollo, Expansión y Conflictos*. In turn **Jessica Budds** (University of Oxford) analysed the ecological and equity problems resulting from the rapid expansion of fruit tree plantations for export (principally avocados and citrus fruits) in her paper *Power, Nature and Neoliberalism: The Political Ecology of Water in Chile*.

The increasing importance of (inter)national supermarket chains and their impact on food production and rural livelihoods was discussed in the paper by **Ruerd Ruben** (Wageningen University) and **Tom Reardon** (Michigan State University, East Lansing) entitled *Smallholders and Supermarkets in Central America*. The next two papers analysed the consequences of the colonization and globalization on small family farmers in the Amazon region of Brazil. While **Xavier Arnauld de Sartre** (CNRS/SET/IRSAM, Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour) spoke on *A Ruralisation of an Amazonian Frontier?*, **Laurence Granchamp Florentino** (Université de Paris X Nanterre and Universidade Federal de Campina Grande, Paraíba) focussed on *The Last Frontier: The Small Farmers Organizations Facing Economic Globalization*.

The panel closed with a reflection by **Cristóbal Kay** (Institute of Social Studies, The Hague) on *Agrarian Transformations and Rural Livelihoods in Latin America* and an open discussion by all participants on the theme of the panel which tried to weave together the various presentations by highlighting their main findings and outstanding issues for future research.

8. Ordinary People's Politics: reflections on the past 40 years

Organiser: Dr Lucy Taylor, University of Wales Aberystwyth lt@aber.ac.uk

9. Music, Dance and Identity in Latin America

Organisers: Prof. Peter Wade and Dr Emily Walmsley, University of Manchester peter.wade@man.ac.uk; emilywalmsley@aol.com

The panel brought together a wide variety of recent research on music, dance and identity throughout Latin America. A key theme recurring in many of the papers was the role of music in mediating local, regional, national and global identities. **Ishtar Cardona** discussed the way in which *son Jarocho* has become an important localised symbol of Vera Cruz, where professional musicians are seeking to authenticate its 'purest' traditional style. Its popularity as a nationalised Mexican music, meanwhile, is growing among Chicano immigrants in Los Angeles.

This echoed **Vanessa Knights'** paper on how Puerto Rican boleros reproduce a nostalgic national identity among migrants to New York – through evoking a bygone life on the island the boleros provide cultural continuity in their disrupted lives. The role of musical performance and consumption in the making of identities was explored by **Mauricio Pardo** in terms of a particular kind of music from the Colombian city of Santa Marta. Constantly absorbing national and global influences this genre nevertheless maintains a strong regional identity by keeping its performances outside the media industry and thereby resisting commodification.

The opposition between local and global forces often invoked in the recent literature on Latin American music was addressed directly by **Peter Wade**. These oppositional narratives, he suggested, work according to scales – with one side valued more than the other – and thereby reproduce hegemonic discourses of globalization. His call to break down these oppositions found some resonance in **Elisabeth Cunin's** paper on *champeta* music from Cartagena, Colombia. Originating in the Congo, appropriated in this Caribbean city and marketed in Paris, *champeta* defies both nationalisation and categorisation as a new World

Music, and yet is constantly reinvigorated by globalised influences from Africa and Europe.

The link between blackness, hypersexuality and social deviance that *champeta* has come to represent in certain Colombian discourses was paralleled in **Vincenzo Perna's** discussion of the new *despelote* dancing style in Cuba. Emerging during the recent economic crisis, this style is associated with the black popular music known as *timba* and with the street culture of *jinetas*. The naturalising of these associations between race and dance was explored more specifically by **Emily Walmsley** in the context of Ecuador, where many black people internalise and make use of the entrenched stereotype that they have 'natural' rhythm, even as they are objectified by it.

The overarching theme of race and embodiment also featured in **David Treece's** paper, which sought to problematise the essentialised category of 'black music' in Brazil. Pointing out the pitfalls of the generalisations usually attributed to this category he called instead for a greater focus on the somatic experience of black music and on the relationship between voice, melody, language, and song.

10. New Trends and Perspectives in the Historiography on Getulio Vargas and his Era, Fifty Years after his Suicide. Organiser: Dr Jens Hentschke, University of Newcastle j.r.hentschke@ncl.ac.uk

11. Social Policy in Argentina

Organiser: Dr Camila Arza, LSE, c.a.arza@lse.ac.uk

12. New Focus on Security in Latin America: Urban Violence and Territorial Disputes. Organiser: Prof. Dirk Kruijt, Utrecht University d.kruijt@fss.uu.nl

13. Contemporary Colombia and Venezuela: Conflict, Interventionism, and Competing Visions of Democracy.

Organiser: David Raby, ILAS, University of Liverpool (UK), dlraby@liv.ac.uk

The panel was designed to focus on the upheavals and tensions resulting from the contrasting evolution of the two countries: on the one hand the ongoing

internal conflict in Colombia and the impact of the US-sponsored “war on drugs” and “war on terrorism”, and on the other the rise of Hugo Chávez and the “Bolivarian revolution”. **Barry Cannon**, a PhD candidate at Dublin City University, compared and contrasted Chávez with Fujimori in Peru, arguing that despite strong presidentialism and reliance on the armed forces, Chávez’ regime was much less authoritarian than Fujimori’s and is pursuing fundamentally different goals from the neo-liberal orientation of the Peruvian caudillo. David Raby agreed and emphasised the impressive social achievements of the Bolivarian process, arguing that most critics have failed to appreciate the revolutionary dynamic of the Venezuelan process.

On Colombia, **Andy Higginbottom**, a doctoral candidate at Middlesex, analysed the different tendencies of the Left in that country. The guerrilla insurgency co-existed with a growing social-democratic electoral movement and a third strand located in trade unions and social movements, and it was the latter which was bearing the brunt of government and paramilitary repression. **Mario Novelli**, a PhD candidate at Bristol, offered a complementary paper on the new social movement unionism in Colombia, focussing on the case of the Municipal Workers’ Union SINTRAEMCALI which has successfully fought off several attempts to privatise the municipal enterprise providing electricity, water and telecommunications services in Cali.

A lively debate emphasised the role of US policy in promoting the repressive Uribe government in Colombia as a spearhead of neo-liberalism in Latin America, and its role in attempting to destabilise Venezuela. There was agreement that relations between the two countries will continue to be tense and that they will continue to constitute the main focus of conflict in the region for some time to come.

14. The State, the Military and Politics in Latin America, 1850-1950

Organiser: Dr. Alejandro San Francisco, Universidad Católica de Chile

asanfran@puc.cl

15. National Identities in Latin America: Independence to the Present Day

16. Human Rights and Solidarity in Contemporary Latin America.

Organiser: Dr Marta Zabaleta, Middlesex University m.zabaleta@mdx.ac.uk

17. The Uses of Culture in Latin America

Organiser: Dr Jon Beasley-Murray, University of Manchester

jon.beasley-murray@man.ac.uk

18. La Memoria y el Olvido del período de los regímenes militares

Organiser: Dr Mario Aguilar, St. Mary's College, University of St Andrews

mia2@st-andrews.ac.uk

19. Gender, Ethnicity and Nation in Latin American Cinema

Organisers: Dr David Wood, King's College and Dr Claudia Arroyo, University of

London David.m.j.wood@kcl.ac.uk; florsilvestre42@hotmail.com

20. Popular Mobilisation and Political Change: Civil Society Responses to Political and Economic Crisis. Organiser: Dr Ana Cecilia Dinerstein, University of Bath, A.C.Dinerstein@bath.ac.uk

During five sessions (Saturday and Sunday), this forum was dedicated to discussing the nature and significance of popular mobilisation for political change by looking at the various forms of civil society responses to economic and political transformations and crises in recent years. A variety of papers from diverse geographical places and academic institutions were presented and discussed.

The forum discussion rose significant issues including the meaning and alternative forms of democracy, the political significance of grass root, civil society/popular mobilisation and social survival strategies, the possibility for autonomy, the theoretical challenge for social sciences and the role of intellectuals, collective action and the processes for the construction of identity, democracy, symbolic spaces, and the nature of political change in the present post neo-liberal Latin America within a broader context of transformation of the

world. Thanks to all participants and speakers for their contribution to an amazingly rich panel discussion.

Session one chaired by Ana Dinerstein had ten participants and three presentations on the issue of human rights and democracy in Argentina and Mexico. 'Putting Memory to Work: *Memoria Activa* and the Politics of Nation in Argentina' by **Karen Faulk** (kfaulk@umich.edu) from the University of Michigan, US addressed the development of an organisation that arose out of the Argentine Jewish community in response to the bombings of the Israeli Embassy and the Jewish Cultural Center in the early 1990's. 'Grassroots organisations and local political structures: the case of *Nuestras Hijas de Regreso a Casa*' by **Catherine Grange** (C.Grange@sheffield.ac.uk) from the Department of Hispanics - University of Sheffield, UK, considered the case of the Mexican grassroots organisation *Nuestras Hijas de Regreso a Casa*. formed in 2001 as a response to the disappearance and killing of young women in Ciudad Juárez.

'Between the Rule of Order and the Rule of Law: The Texcoco Airport Debacle and the Failure of Democratic Politics in Mexico' by **Alina Rocha Menocal**, (alinarochamenocal@hotmail.com) from Columbia University, New York analysed the conflicting issues for the consolidation of democracy developed around the building of a new airport to service Mexico City in the neighbouring municipality of Texcoco, project that was opposed by the *Frente de Pueblos en la Defensa de la Tierra*.

Session two chaired by Peter North focused on the theoretical and practical issues of political change and autonomy in the present. It had around 20 participants and two presentations. 'The nature of political change in Argentina post crisis' by **Ana C Dinerstein** (A.C.Dinerstein@bath.ac.uk) from the Department of Social Sciences, University of Bath, explored the question of how to conceive the political change operated in Argentina after December 2001 in international context. 'Autonomy: Myth or a Possibility for the construction of Popular Power' by **Mabel Thwaites Rey** (mthwaites@clarin.com) from the Universidad de Buenos Aires analysed the libertarian potential and the theoretical

and factual limits that reality imposes to the autonomic practices of the “new type” of popular organisations

Session three chaired by Ana Dinerstein focused on transnational civil society, non institutional forms of resistance and the role of NGOs. It had eight participants and three papers. ‘Transnational Civil Society: Comparing Local to Global Resistances in Guerrero, Mexico and Intag, Ecuador, by **Glen Kuecker** (gkuecker@depauw.edu), DePauw University, Indiana, explored the gestation of transnational civil society as critical component to grassroots movements in the cases of Intag (Ecuador) and La Montana region of Guerrero, Mexico.

‘From empowerment to resistance: the evolution of socio - environmental NGO strategies in last ten years’ by **Liliana Diaz** (Liliana.Diaz@iued.unige.ch) from the Institute of Development Studies GIDS, Geneva, discussed the changing strategies of internationally based NGOs in Geneva (WWF, IUCN, etc.), national NGOs in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, and at the local level. ‘Looting in Argentina 2001’ by **Maria Celia Cotarelo and Nicolas Iñigo Carreras** (mccotarelo@hotmail.com) from PIMSA, Buenos Aires, analysed the process of mass looting from December 13-21 in Argentina, making a comparison with the revolt of 1989, when hyperinflation and looting forced another president’s resignation.

Session 4 chaired by Maria Celia Cotarelo had ten participants and two papers on civil society strategies to economic and political crisis. The first paper ‘Improvising the state versus a state of improvisation?’ by **Dennis Rodgers** (d.w.rodgers@lse.ac.uk) from the Development Studies Institute (DESTIN) LSE, presented two case studies of local-level socio-political responses to crisis and the emergence of alternative forms of social, economic, and political organisation in post-December 2001 Argentina, ‘Barter and Argentina's social economy - and alternative to, or surviving neoliberalism?’ by **Peter North** (p.j.north@liverpool.ac.uk) University of Liverpool, reported on research carried out in Argentina on the rationales for and effectiveness of Barter as a community based response to the crisis in Argentina.

The last session chaired by Ana Dinerstein had three papers and twenty participants. The session discussed the processes of construction of identity, citizenship and the notion of civil society in the cases of Argentina, Mexico and Venezuela. 'Identity Construction and Citizenship Formation through Political Participation: The Experience of the Argentine Popular Assemblies' by **Julien Talpin** (Julie.Talpin@IUE.it) from the European University Institute in Florence, Italy, analysed the effects on individuals of "high cost" participation in deliberative institutions like the Argentine popular assemblies. 'The Polarisation of civil society and its effects on democracy in Venezuela.

A look into the evolution of social organisations since 1958' by **Maria Fernanda García** (mfg22@cam.ac.uk) from Cambridge University, provided an overview of the institutionalisation, fragmentation, and autonomy of civil society over the past 45 years in Venezuela including an examination of the current political, social and ideological polarisation of civil society and the effect this has had on the viability of the new model for participation. 'About culture and religious in the neo-zapatist native Movement.

Notes for an analysis of symbolic thought's impact on social discourses' by **Fernando Matamoros Ponce** (fermatafr@yahoo.fr) from the Instituto de Ciencias Sociales y Humanidades, Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla, México, explore the processes of construction of identity and posed the question of how to understand the meanings of the definitions made about the conquered worlds, the racist implications and the re-elaborations expressed in resistances and rebellions against unilateral visions of future, by looking at contemporary Mexican religious and politic landscape's re-compositions.

The papers are available directly from the authors.

21. What happened to the Mexican Revolution? Contemporary Mexican Politics in Historical Perspective. Organiser: Prof. Abdiel Oñate, San Francisco State University, USA onate@sfsu.edu

22. Outsiders in urban space

Organisers: Dr Christien Klaufus and Dr Jacobijn Olthoff j.olthoff@fss.uu.nl

This session discussed contemporary processes of 'othering', exploring the ambiguous position in Latin American urban society of those social categories which often are referred to under the heading of 'the other'. In the context of current socio-economic dynamics in Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru, Guatemala and Mexico, we saw that very often, 'othering' was the result of tensions between groups striving for better personal and social positions and groups who fear changes in the status quo, i.e. changes that might threaten their aspired or achieved social positions.

In these contexts, and with these backgrounds, dominant groups construct images of 'the other' through (moral) discourse in which 'the others' are being stereotyped and stigmatized as not behaving the way they used to do (romanticized image) or the way they should do (idealized image). The 'others' discussed in this panel are transnational migrants in Ecuador, *cholos* in Ecuador and Bolivia, pregnant lower-class teenage girls in Peru, poor *indígenas* in Guatemala and older women in Mexico.

We have seen some interesting examples of the interaction between dominant discourses and practices in every day lives, and how they strengthen and weaken each other. The analyses further showed that historical perspectives are important in order to understand the changes over several generations. The six presentations in this panel have made clear that the scholarly attention for a construction of 'the contemporary other' in urban space has shifted from analyzing opposing groups as such toward analyzing the constructions of (false) images, both between and within social groups.

23. Rebellion in their Veins? Social Movements and Political Mobilisation in Bolivia 1780-2004. Organisers: Dr Sian Lazar, University of Cambridge and Dr John-Andrew McNeish, Comparative Research on Poverty Programme (CROP), Bergen SL360@cam.ac.uk; john.mcneish@sif.uib.no

The workshop discussed the different pressures leading to the social conflicts of *Octobre Rojo* witnessed in Bolivia last year. The papers presented at the

workshop highlighted that a nuanced explanation for these events requires the connection of diverse social pressures and characteristics within, and beyond, Bolivian society and culture. Moreover, they demonstrated that these events were neither isolated in space or time, but could be linked to cycles and historical traditions of protest stretching back from the present into the liberal and colonial origins of the country.

Although no common conclusions were made in the session, there appeared to be broad agreement between the participants in the workshop that recent conflicts could be traced to a general break-down in trust in government and governmental processes in Bolivia, with factors such as institutional failure, limits to development policy, historic racial prejudice and desires for class and indigenous self-determination causing ultimate exasperation. There are now serious efforts being made in Bolivia to find ways to open-up new political spaces, to address the failures of past liberal democratic reforms and to re-establish the legitimacy of government.

Negotiations have been taking place between the new government administration and civil society on the reform of regulations governing the sale and ownership of natural resources, and for renewed efforts to gain right of access to the sea from Chile. However, as the workshop detailed, these efforts also include lesser publicised discussions of a new Constitutional Assembly and Law for the Recognition of Communitarian Justice. It was agreed that these initiatives may help to create reconciliation in Bolivia. However, comment was also made at the workshop that their success relies upon a widespread societal and governmental recognition of, and concerted response to, the historic and existing constraints and idiosyncrasies of Bolivian state and society.

24. Anthropological and Historical Perspectives on Subject, Community and State. Organiser: Dr Ariadna Acevedo, University of Warwick
hyred@warwick.ac.uk

25. Friendship and Masculinity in Latin American History

Organiser: Dr Patience A. Schell, University of Manchester

patience.a.schell@man.ac.uk

26. Local and Regional Development in Latin America

Organisers: Dr Paul van Lindert and Dr Gery Nijenhuis, Utrecht University

P.vanlindert@geog.uu.nl; G.Nijenhuis@geog.uu.nl

27. Social Mobilization in Lula's Brazil

Organiser: Dr Kathryn Hochstetler, Centre for Brazilian Studies, Oxford University

kathryn.hochstetler@brazil.ox.ac.uk

This panel included five papers evaluating different aspects of social issues and social mobilization during the first 15 months of the Workers' Party's (PT) first presidency in Brazil, that of Luiz Inácio da Silva (Lula). An overarching theme of all the papers was the high level of expectations for what the party might be able to do once in national office. Actual achievements in the first year were more mixed, although it was too early for definitive evaluations of Lula and the PT in the executive.

The earlier session began with a paper by **Fiona Macaulay**, Institute of Latin American Studies, London, on 'Human Rights in Lula's Brazil'. **Macaulay** focused on reforms of civil liberties and the justice system inside Brazil as well as the Lula administration's promotion of human rights internationally. She concluded that the administration has made greater advances in the international domain and less costly domestic initiatives than in solving some of Brazil's perennial problems of urban and rural violence.

Kathryn Hochstetler, Centre for Brazilian Studies, Oxford University, then presented a paper entitled 'Civil Society in Lula's Brazil'. This paper concluded that many civil society organisations were more-satisfied procedurally than substantively with the Lula administration in its first year. A number of civil society actors are poised to try to mobilize and pressure the administration for substantive results in its second year.

Marukh Doctor, University of Reading, concluded the earlier session with a paper on 'Neo-Corporatism Revived in Lula's Brazil'. This paper focused on the deliberations of the high profile Council for Economic and Social Development (CDES). It analysed why the neo-corporatist approach, implicit in the CDES, can be a successful tool for a reformist policy agenda in Brazil and also considered whether more pluralist options are likely to yield more successful outcomes.

The second session focussed on the landless movement (MST) in Brazil. **Elena Calvo-Gonzalez**, a PhD student at Manchester University, reported the results of a series of interviews just before the conference with a group of settlers from an MST settlement in Northeastern Brazil. In her paper, 'MST and Lula's government: a view from below', she showed how many grassroots members of the MST are quite sceptical about politicians, but see Lula as one of themselves, despite strain between the leadership of the MST and the PT.

Anne-Laure Cadji, a PhD student at Oxford University, presented the final paper of the session, 'MST: Social Movement or Political Organization?' This paper took up the definitional issue of whether the MST and its nature are best categorized as social movement, social organisation or political organisation, arguing that the MST's legitimacy was at stake in the issue. The paper argued that the MST remains a social movement by showing that the characteristics put forward to define it as a political organisation are not valid.

Sue Branford, a journalist, was an unscheduled but very welcome discussant for the session. She placed the session papers in a larger context, describing several alternative plans for land reform. She concluded that the administration's alternative is not large enough to actually change the land ownership structure, and discussed some of the MST leadership's concerns about how to respond, in a context with very little money available after paying the foreign debt.

28. Gender (in)equity. Are we getting there?

Organiser: Dr Jelke Boesten, University of Amsterdam and Dr Nikki Craske, University of Liverpool J.Boesten@uva.nl; n.craske@liverpool.ac.uk

This panel consisted of nine papers over three sessions and covered politics, policy issues and identity. Although the subjects raised were wide ranging, all considered the issue of change and attempted to make a balanced assessment of the positive and negative.

The first session examined the political arena both from an party/institutional perspective (**Davids** on Mexico and **Dolmetsch** on Colombia) and from the grassroots (**Craske** on Mexico). This gave rise to a discussion on the role of motherhood in contemporary Latin American politics and how this fitted in with new models of nationalism in a changing world. It also demonstrated how diverse the experience in the region is. This was followed by papers on policy issues: health care reform (**Gideon** on Chile), sexual and domestic violence policies (**Suárez López** on Mexico), understanding the interaction of national and international initiatives on combating violence (a regional perspective from Pisco) and violence as a generational as well as gender issue (**Hume** on El Salvador).

These papers demonstrated that there were some interesting policy initiatives but that these did not necessarily reach those who needed them most. In addition, it highlighted the need to re-engage with the public and private debate, particularly in relation to gendered violence. In a similar vein, it demonstrated that the informality of many paid labour options for women left them outside publicly provided healthcare, increasingly available through new insurance schemes.

The issue of formal vs. informal labour contract surfaced again in the last session when **Nencil** discussed how some women's engagement in the formal labour sector (in Peru) was allowing them access to credit and thus to a new lifestyle that had implications for class and ethnicity. This was complemented by **Boesten's** paper looking at women participating in grassroots organisations, also in Peru. In a wide ranging examination of women's activities in the grassroots organisations, she highlighted issues the impact of leadership, 'race' and access to state services, and the ways in which women negotiate with authority but continue to have difficulties with their own domestic arrangements, again highlighting the problems of violence against women.

In all there were a number of issues that kept surfacing across the three sessions: first is that change is multi-layered, complex and not uni-directional. There is a need to examine how processes are developing horizontally as well as vertically. It is also noticeable that traditional discourses, particularly around motherhood and notions of *gente decente*, remain strong but can give rise to quite different political discourses and activities.

Hence, there were both positive and negative aspects in the same examples. It also demonstrated the diversity across the region geographically, and also in terms of issues: eg. the challenge to violence against women was seen as a success at some levels, alongside the acknowledgement of how common (ie 'normal') and debilitating it remains. This is contrasted with how violence in terms of public security is a major political issue in many countries. This once again raised the question of how public and private informs how we conceptualise different types of violence.

29. Organised labour, politics, and the state in 1930s Latin America

Organiser: Dr Paulo Drinot, St Antony's College, Oxford

paulo.drinot@sant.ox.ac.uk

30. Social Policies and Development in Latin America

Organiser: Dr. Beatriz Schmukler, Inst. Mora, Mexico bschmukler@mora.edu.mx

31. Inter-Cultural Encounters: Immigrants and their Latin American Hosts

Organiser: Dr Michael Derham, Univ. of Northumbria michael.derham@unn.ac.uk

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32. Visual Cultures and Identities in Latin American and the Caribbean

Organisers: Dr John Mraz, Universidad autónoma de Puebla and Dr Eli Bartra, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana-Xochimilco elijohn@infosel.net.mx

33. 'Doing development': constructing 'experts' in Latin America

Organiser: Dr Nina Laurie, Newcastle University Nina.laurie@ncl.ac.uk

34. The 'non-politics' of water management

Organiser: Dr Graciela Schneider, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique
urbanred1@wanadoo.fr

35. Assessing history, Identity, and Memory in Latin America

Organiser: Matthew Butler (Queen's University Belfast, UK)

This eclectic panel drew together individual papers from a variety of disciplines covering different topics, ranging in scope from the historical to the sociological and the literary. Papers were given in both English and Spanish, and questions and comments were also delivered and fielded in those two languages. Five papers were given in two sessions, both held on Saturday morning, prompting interesting questions and comments. Papers were divided into two broad categories.

The first session contained three related papers which explored the themes of nationalism and state formation in late nineteenth-century and early twentieth-century Latin America using case studies drawn from turn-of-the-century Cuba, post-revolutionary Mexico, and nineteenth-century Guatemala. **Carmen Cabrera** opened the proceedings with an interesting economic history paper which explored the significance of the Cuban Telephone Company to Cuba's development as a highly dependent nation state and sugar-based economy.

Matthew Butler contributed a paper which analysed revolutionaries' attempts in 1920s Mexico to establish state hegemony in the religious sphere by founding a schismatic national Catholic Church. **Marit Solstad's** paper concerning the divergent impacts of liberal and Positivist ideas on Guatemala's education system during the nineteenth century rounded off the first session.

The shorter second session featured two papers which explored aspects of Latin American identity from a more cultural and literary perspective. **Leonel Alvarado** contributed a fascinating study which examined the Romanticism and patriotism of the Cuban poet, José María Heredia;

Melanie Prapopoulos closed the panel with reinterpretation of the magical realism of Gabriel García Márquez, Wilfredo Lam, and Reinaldo Arenas. My thanks to all the participants and my apologies to **Valeria Salgueiro**, whose presentation for this panel was cancelled through no fault of her own.

36. Neoliberalism, Governance, and Political Actors in Latin America.

2005 SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

It is proposed that the SLAS Annual conference in 2005 will be held in the University of Derby from the 8-10 April. Further information will be available soon on the SLAS website and in the October issue of the SLAS Newsletter. Or contact Victoria Carpenter at Email:

V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk

SESSION AND PAPER PROPOSALS FOR THE 2005 SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We invite SLAS members and Latin Americanists in general to send proposals for individual papers and for panels at the 2005 SLAS Annual conference to the Organiser, Victoria Carpenter, School of Education, Human Sciences and Law, University of Derby, Kedleston Road, Derby DE22 1GB, Tel: 01332-591808. E-mail: V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk as soon as possible.

The proposals for individual papers should include the following information: name, institutional affiliation (Dept., University), postal address, e-mail, and telephone number (please also state whether you are a SLAS member).

Proposals should also include a short abstract of the session or paper (up to 150 words).

For any further information about the Conference please contact Victoria Carpenter, School of Education, Human Sciences and Law, University of Derby Kedleston Road, Derby DE22 1GB, Tel: 01332-591808. E-mail: V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk

ELECTION 2004 TO THE SLAS COMMITTEE

At the Annual General Meeting of SLAS, nominations were invited for candidates for the following posts on the SLAS Committee, and the following were elected:

Treasurer	- John Fisher
Publicity Officer	- Jon Beasley-Murray, who will relinquish the post when he moves to Vancouver.
Ordinary committee members:	-Andrew Canessa, Peter Lambert, David Fox, Sean Burges, Mo Hume, Patience Schell.

SLAS POSTGRADUATE CONFERENCE GRANTS

The SLAS Committee is pleased to inform postgraduate members that £500 has been made available on an annual basis to assist them to attend conferences in those cases where all other possibilities of having their expenses paid have been exhausted. To be eligible, you must be: a member of SLAS; a current post-graduate student at a UK university; and giving a paper to the conference.

A grant will only be made towards the cost of travelling from the UK (i.e. not to the conference from another country). Please note that funds are limited and that SLAS can only offer a contribution towards expenses. Send an original and ONE copy of each of the following: an abstract of the paper; a breakdown of estimated costs; a statement of any financial support already available; a letter of support from your supervisor. These documents should be submitted to the Secretary of SLAS and will be considered at a meeting of the SLAS Committee or an appropriate sub-committee. There are TWO deadlines for applications every

year: **28th February and 30th September**. A maximum of £250 will be allocated to applications after each deadline. Please submit your application to: Victoria Carpenter, School of Education, Human Sciences and Law, University of Derby Kedleston Road, Derby DE22 1GB, Tel: 01332-591808. E-mail:

V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk

SLAS POSTGRADUATE TRAVEL GRANTS

SLAS is to make between five and eight annual awards to postgraduate students in Latin American Studies to encourage and assist in overseas fieldwork. It is aimed at those preparing for a PhD in topics related to Latin American Studies. Applicants should be based at a UK institution of higher education, but may be of any nationality. The criteria for the award are: Quality of project design ; Potential significance of the research; Support from referees; Financial need.

There is no application form, instead THREE copies of the following must be submitted: Outline of proposed research (max. 500 words); Contact address and telephone numbers; Details of qualifications and affiliations; Full details of existing or expected financial support . Applicants must also ensure that TWO academic referees (one would normally be from the supervisor) arrive by the **28 February 2005** deadline.

Completed applications will be judged by a panel, composed of the President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer of SLAS and the result notified during the Annual SLAS Conference. Faxed applications WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. The award MUST be spent on travel costs. The successful candidate is required to provide a short report for the SLAS Newsletter. The awards for 2004-5 are expected to be £600 each. Applications should be submitted to: Victoria Carpenter, School of Education, Human Sciences and Law, University of Derby Kedleston Road, Derby DE22 1GB, Tel: 01332-591808. E-mail:

V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk

PILAS (Postgraduate Students in Latin American Studies)

PILAS is the postgraduate arm of the **Society for Latin American Studies** in the United Kingdom (SLAS, www.slas.org.uk). As an organization run by students, we aim to foster the interaction between postgraduate students researching on Latin America from different scholarly disciplines at academic institutions in the United Kingdom and the rest of Europe. Everyone is welcome.

PILAS Seventh Annual Conference Report

The Seventh Annual Postgraduates in Latin American Studies (PILAS) Conference was held at the Department of Politics & International Studies, University of Warwick, Coventry, United Kingdom, during 13 - 14 February 2004. This year's conference was organised in five panels covering a wide range of subjects addressing current issues and debates in Latin America. In addition to the usual attendance of postgraduate students from all parts of the UK, we also had presenters coming from Brazilian and Spanish universities. The PILAS conference is increasingly becoming international.

In the first panel Fictions of memory and identity in Latin America the presenters explored issues of identity and narrative representations of Latin America. **Charlotte Lange** analysed the work of Cuban writer Reinaldo Arenas as constituting a search for a new literary identity that is able to escape from the dichotomy between 'cosmopolitismo' and 'criollismo'. Constanza Burucúa discussed how state terrorism during the last military dictatorship in Argentina is represented in different genres of post-dictatorship Argentine cinema during the first decade of the restated democracy. National discourse and identity were also the main themes guiding the analysis of **Jessie Gibbs** of the Brazilian film *Central Station*. Physical and metaphorical border crossings redefine the limits of the nation, therein offering a space for subaltern or marginalised groups to be integrated in the national discourse.

Finally, **Felipe Santos Magalhães** explored how the memory of the dubious origin of a popular lottery game in Brazil known as Jogo do Bicho (animal's lottery) has been created and re-elaborated by the people working in the lottery, story-tellers and academics.

Gender issues were analysed in the second panel Constructing gender identities. **Daniel Nehring** presented the results of his sociological study on gender relations among young middle-class couple relationships. He discussed how in contemporary Mexican society traditional norms associated to the patriarchal family are being abandoned in favour of masculine and feminine roles centred primarily on the pursuit of individual self-fulfilment. **Torunn Eskedal** explored the ways in which the government shapes the political claims and activities of the women's movement in Brazil through the creation of National Women's Machineries.

In the third panel on Issues of governance in Latin America **Maria Fernanda Garcia Rincón** provided a detailed analysis of the role played by civil society in Venezuela, demanding reforms for a greater participation and democratic governability. Similarly, she examined the current polarisation of civil society and its possible effects on the viability of a new model of participation. Moving away from a national dimension on civil society activity, **Andrea Bianculli** discussed the new mechanisms and institutional arrangements adopted at the Organisation of American States (OAS) to increase the participation of civil society in the effort to create a more democratic and accountable form of governance in the Americas.

Likewise, **Marcelo I. Saguier** covered the hemispheric dimension of civil society practices with his analysis of transnational networks of civil society organisations and social movements articulated to challenge the vision of development implicit in the currently negotiated Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) project.

The fourth panel of the conference addressed The challenge of Latin American development. **Sean Burges** explained the vision of the Brazilian policy towards South American integration by developing the notion of consensual hegemony

applied to the infrastructure integration in the sub-region. In the context following the implementation of neo-liberal policies in Latin America throughout the 1990s, **James Haselip** provided an assessment of the distributional impacts of reform policies in the electricity sector of Argentina by showing how they affected negatively low-income consumers.

Finally, **Nicola Scott** introduced the current debate on the implications of the production of genetically modified (GM) crops for issues of development in poor countries. Particularly, by studying the changing nature of crop technology research and application in Mexico she analysed to what extent public-private models of biotechnology transfer may affect the country's longer-term economic development.

The last panel of the conference on Health reforms in Latin America was proposed and organised from Brazil by **Fabiana C. Saddi**. In the first presentation **Vidal Llerenas** provided a comparative analysis of the processes of decentralisation in the health and education sectors in Mexico during the 1990s. Differences in both processes are attributed to the dissimilar evolution of the policy networks in each the areas and to the role of the executive federal power and of the governors in the cases of education and health respectively. Also working on Mexico, **Fabiana C. Saddi** explores the policy process around the decentralisation that took place during the administration of Ernesto Zedillo (1994-2000) to explain its discontinuities and 'perverse effects' attributed to an authoritarian and conservative interaction between the social and the political spheres.

Matthew James Harris presented the results of a study conducted on the municipality of Camaragibe, Pernambuco, Brazil, of the factors interfering with the system of reply-letter writing from the secondary level to generalists of the Family Health Programme (FHP). This study seeks to improve the continuity of care, inter-professional respect and outpatient services. Lastly, **Ramón Arigoni Ortiz** presented a detailed statistical survey for a study that tries to estimate the population's willingness to pay to reduce risks of death and, consequently, the value of a statistical life (VSL) in Sao Paulo, Brazil.

PILAS Elections

In addition to the stimulating debates generated by the presentations, **Iona Macintyre** (PILAS Secretary) organised the elections for the new members of the PILAS committee. The new committee is currently integrated by:

- **PILAS President:** Maria Fernanda Garcia Rincón, University of Cambridge, mfg22@cam.ac.uk
- **PILAS Secretary,** Alina Gamboa, University of Warwick, A.Gamboa@warwick.ac.uk
- **IT Officer,** Karan Bubber, University of East Anglia, K.Bubber@uea.ac.uk

PILAS Mailing List

PILAS also operates an Internet mailing list which is used to distribute information on upcoming events. If you are feeling ambitious you can also use the mailing list to organise events. The mailing list is also an ideal way of making initial contact with your fellow postgraduates. The new PILAS Committee would like to update their mailing list to better serve the postgraduate community working on Latin America. To join the mailing list, we are asking postgraduates to email: mfg22@cam.ac.uk, with 'join pilas FIRST NAME LAST NAME' written in the subject line. Also, check the PILAS website to find out about the Forum, the List of Experts on Latin America and other creative initiatives developed by Karan Bubber (our IT officer) to ensure that our network of Latin Americanists keeps growing.

Marcelo I. Saguier, outgoing PILAS President

Eighth Annual PILAS (Postgraduates in Latin American Studies) Conference: February 2005

PILAS usually hold a conference for members in December or January/ February each year. The next PILAS conference will be held at Cambridge University, from the 4-5 February 2005. The PILAS Conference serves as a forum to explore Latin America from the perspectives and priorities of a broad range of scholarly disciplines. Affirming our commitment to the value of a multidisciplinary

approach, we expect to unravel and understand the complexities and contradictions that have characterised the unique experience of Latin American politics, culture and society since its origins. Similarly, we are committed to fostering the interest in Latin American issues in the context of British and European universities.

CALL FOR PAPERS: Take the opportunity to discuss your research interests in Latin America by presenting a paper on the subject you are currently exploring. You can also come around to simply share your experiences and questions related to research and fieldwork trips among a group of colleague postgraduate researchers. Don't miss the chance to be part of this growing network of young Latin Americanists!

REGISTRATION: To participate at the PILAS Conference you must first ensure you are a current member of SLAS. For information on SLAS membership, please check the section [How to Join SLAS](#) from the main SLAS web page, www.slas.org.uk. Please specify if you intend to stay for the two days of the conference, as lodging arrangements need to be considered ahead of time. Send your paper/panel proposal to: **Maria Fernanda Garcia**, Newnham College, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 9DF. Tel: 01223-525775. Email: mfg22@cam.ac.uk

HAROLD BLAKEMORE PRIZE 2004

“Without Sticks or Carrots: Brazilian Leadership in South America During the Cardoso Era, 1992-2003”.

The Harold Blakemore Prize 2004 was awarded to Sean W Burgess, for an essay on “ Without Sticks or Carrots: Brazilian Leadership in South America During the Cardoso Era, 1992-2003” . Burges' paper demonstrates that the Cardoso presidency was marked by the evolution of a conscious leadership

project revolving around the idea of South America as a distinct geoeconomic and geopolitical region. Significantly, the Brazilian method of advancing this regional project did not follow mainstream theoretical propositions that leadership is only a slight step away from imposition, something that is anathema to Brazilian diplomats. Instead the carrot and stick tactics typified by (neo)realist and neoliberal institutionalists were replaced by a consensus generating style of leadership that operated through discussion and inclusion, precepts that find their grounding in a consensual approach to hegemony.

With this characteristic in mind three modalities of leadership are advanced:

- the creation of consensus is explored in the context of the 1994 Summit of the Americas;
- leading by doing is outlined in a discussion of interregional negotiations between Mercosul and the Andean Community and the EU;
- and, leading by thinking is presented through a discussion of the South American physical infrastructure integration program launched at the 2000 Brasília Summit of South American Presidents.

Sean is currently lecturer with the Department of International Politics at the University of Wales, Aberystwyth, and PhD candidate in the University of Warwick's department of Politics and International Studies.

HAROLD BLAKEMORE PRIZE 2005

The Society for Latin American Studies has an annual essay competition for current or recent (graduated in the year preceeding the submission date) post-graduate students of British universities. The winning essay writer will receive a cash prize (for the 2003 prize the winner received £400). The subject of the essay should fall within the field of Latin American studies and the work should not have been published elsewhere.

Essays submitted in previous years should not be resubmitted, and former winners of the prize may not apply. The winning essay may be considered by the

Editors for publication in the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*. For entry to the competition for 2005, TWO copies of the essay, which should be double spaced and no more than 8,000 words in length, should be submitted to the SLAS President by 6 February 2005. A panel of judges for the prize will be appointed by the SLAS Committee.

The winner should be announced at the SLAS Annual Conference in the University of Derby, in April 2005. For further information and to submit your essay, please contact: Peter Wade, Department of Social Anthropology, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL. Tel: 0161-728-9149. Fax: 0161-275-4023. Email: Peter.Wade@man.ac.uk

SLAS-SPONSORED WORKSHOP REPORT

Law and Gender in Contemporary Mexico

SLAS sponsored a workshop held at the Institute of Latin American Studies (ILAS), University of London, on 19-20 February 2004. Workshop co-organizers Helga Baitenmann (ILAS), Victoria Chenaut (Centro de Investigaciones y Estudios Superiores en Antropología Social, CIESAS), and Ann Varley (University College London, UCL) invited as participants social scientists with expertise on one of Mexico's multiple legal frameworks (including civil codes, penal codes, labor law, agrarian law, sexual and reproductive rights, and indigenous laws).

The goal was to bring together a critical mass of scholars who combine the study of legal concepts with detailed empirical research on the everyday consequences of legal and customary norms. Some scholars chose to focus on law and gender from an institutional or state-centered perspective (the historical development of a specific law, court decisions, rulings, judicial ideologies, and so forth), while others examined the effects of laws in specific regions and contexts (ejidos, workplaces, indigenous communities, and so forth). All participants, however,

provided fine-grained explorations based on detailed empirical or archival material.

Participants included Ana María Alonso (U. of Arizona), Jane Collier (Stanford U.), Carmen Diana Deere (U. of Massachusetts), Soledad González Montes (El Colegio de México), Juan Guillermo Figueroa (El Colegio de México), Jane Hindley (U. of Essex), Maxine Molyneux (ILAS), Adriana Ortiz-Ortega (El Colegio de México), Patricia Ravelo and Sergio Sánchez (CIESAS), María Teresa Sierra (CIESAS), Lynn Stephen (U. of Oregon), Ivonne Szasz (El Colegio de México). Co-organizers Baitenmann, Chenaut, and Varley also presented papers during the workshop.

Chairs and commentators included Elisabeth Dore (U. of Southampton), Diane Elson (U. of Essex), Fiona Macaulay (ILAS and U. of Oxford), Kevin Middlebrook (ILAS), Caterina Pizzigoni (ILAS), Patience A. Schell (U. of Manchester), Nanneke Redclift (UCL), Line Schjolden (ILAS), Rachel Sieder (ILAS), Katie Willis (U. of London). For details, contact: **Helga Baitenmann, ILAS London,** Helgabaitenmann@aol.com

SLAS MEMBERS NEWS

SLAS MEMBERSHIP SERVICES MANAGER:

Louise Urquhart, is the new Membership Services Manager, Blackwell Publishing, PO Box 1269, 9600 Garsington Road, Oxford, OX4 2ZE, UK, Tel: +44(0) 1865 476043, Fax: +44(0) 1865 471043. *Email:*

louise.urquhart@oxon.blackwellpublishing.com Please include the full name of the Society for Latin American Studies in any correspondence, and/or the title of our journal, BLAR. This will assist Louise in dealing with your correspondence as quickly as possible.

Claire Brewster has taken up a post at Nottingham as Research Assistant on the AHRB-funded Gendering Latin American Independence research project. Tel: 0115 951 5655 (as above). Email: claire.brewster@nottingham.ac.uk

Catherine Davies has taken up the Chair in Hispanic and Latin American Studies University of Nottingham and is no longer in post at Manchester University. Catherine can be contacted at the, Dept of Hispanic and Latin American Studies, University Park, Nottingham NG7 2RD. Email: catherine.davies@nottingham.ac.uk. Tel: 0115 951 5655.

Karen Hegyi, please note that Karen (secretary in the Centre of Latin American Research, University of Glasgow, and who has helped with the preparation of the *SLAS Newsletter* for a number of years) has moved on to another post. Any *SLAS Newsletter* contributions or queries should, from now on, be sent to Elizabeth Allen, the *SLAS Newsletter* Editor, at gsia05@udcf.gla.ac.uk The Editor would like to take this opportunity to thank Karen for all the work she has done, particularly for the enthusiastic and sympathetic way in which she has approached both material and the *SLAS* Membership, and wish her well in her new job.

Cris Kay and Robert Gwynne, have published the second edition (updated and completely revised with 4 new chapters of the book they edited on *Latin America transformed: globalisation and modernity*, ISSN 0 340 80930 2, March 2004, Paperback, 336pp, £19.99 which has just been published by Arnold/Hodder (London) and Oxford University Press in New York.

Cathy McIlwaine: has recently published a new book with Caroline Moser: *Encounters with Violence in Latin America: Urban Poor Perceptions from Colombia and Guatemala*. This book explores the meanings of violence and insecurity in local urban communities. It uses participatory research to understand the perceptions of people whose daily lives are dominated by ubiquitous drug crime, robbery, gang and intra-family violence. It also develops a framework to help identify the causes and consequences of such endemic violence, as well as local people responses to it. December 2003: 234x156:

288pp Hb: 0415258642: £60.00 Pb: 0415258650: £19.99 To purchase, please contact Eve Setch, +44 (0) 202 7842 2149 for order form

Brian Pollitt, Dept. of Sociology & Anthropology, University of Glasgow.

Following fieldwork in Cuba, partially supported by the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland, Brian gave seminar presentations in January and February 2004 to the Departments of Sociology & Anthropology and of Hispanic Studies at Glasgow University and to the Centre for Latin American Research at the University of Cambridge. The results of this and previous fieldwork are included in: "Restructuring Cuba's Sugar economy - the end of an era", Zucker Industrie, Berlin Feb. 2003; "Crisis, Reform and Prospects in Cuba's Sugar Economy", in *The Cuban Economy* (ed. A. Ritter), Pittsburgh University Press, March 2004, Ch. 5; and "The Rise and Fall of the Cuban Sugar Economy", *Journal of Latin American Studies*, May 2004.

Babatunde Sofela, in the University of Ibadan, Nigeria, is carrying our research on "The emancipados in the nineteenth century slave societies of Brazil and Cuba. Babatunde is currently implementing two new Latin American history courses on the Amerindian civilisations up to 1492, and Latin America since 1930 – the years of economic experimentations. These build on existing courses on Latin American History 1942-1825 and Latin America 1825 –1930, so that Latin American history is now being taught over the entire four years of undergraduate programmes in the Department of History.

Marta Zabaleta, is currently involved in research on 'the gendering of human rights' sponsored by the British Academy and SLAS grants, among others. She has a recent publication titled 'Exile in the Feminist Review No 73, pp19-39, a special issue on exile and asylum seekers with women seeking refuge in 'Fortress Europe'. Marta and her daughter, Yanna, both feature in the UNHCR Dossier: 'The success of refugees', published in 2003 in New York.

PERSONAL/PROFESSIONAL NOTES FOR MEMBERS NEWS
from SLAS and PILAS members

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:

.....

.....

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 overleaf.

UKCASA - a new area studies association

UKCASA (United Kingdom Council of Area Studies Associations) was formed on 5 November 2003 to replace the now moribund CCASA (Coordinating Council for Area Studies Associations). Sixteen Area Studies Associations, including SLAS, have come together to form the council, the aims of which are as follows:

- To promote, support and defend Area Studies programmes at both undergraduate and postgraduate level in UK Higher Education Institutions.
- To provide a voice for Area Studies in dialogue with different government agencies across the UK.
- To develop a collaborative community amongst Area Studies Associations and practitioners.
- To promote interdisciplinary research and teaching about specific regions of the world.

In February 2004, Professor Philip Davies (De Monfort University) was elected Chair of UKCASA, with Professor Dick Ellis (Nottingham Trent University) as Secretary and Dr Tony Chafer as Treasurer.

CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

CONFERENCE: SALALM XLIX. Women in Latin American Studies: reshaping the boundaries, June 5-8, Ann Arbor , Michigan.

For more information contact: [Http://www.lib.umich.edu/conferences/slalam/](http://www.lib.umich.edu/conferences/slalam/)

CONFERENCE: 7mo. Encuentro de la RED, 4-7 Julio de 2004, Eshovapine, "Mujeres y palabras en el mundo". El tema de este evento anual sera: 'Estrategias narrativas: escritas femininas como erma de futuro. Para mejor informacion dirigirse a: m.zabaleta@mdx.ac.uk

CALL FOR PAPERS: Representation of Violence in Latin American Culture. Submissions are invited for the volume 'Representation of Violence in Latin American Culture'. The contributions are sought to include the following topics:

- physical violence in literature
- emotional violence in literature
- sexual violence in literature
- violence associated with historical events (literary representation)
- violence and subalternity in literature
- visual representations of violence (art, film)

Please submit a short (500 word) abstract in English to: Dr. Victoria Carpenter, DBS, University of Derby, Kedleston Road, Derby DE22 1GB, tel: +44 1332 591808 V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk The deadline for submission of the abstracts is June 1, 2004.

IV Conference on Religion and Social Science

“POLITICS AND RELIGIONS IN THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL CONTEXT” 15 - 17 September Centros de Estudios e Investigaciones Laborales (CEIL) Saavedra 15, Buenos Aires, Argentina

Historical and current events at global or local levels, in crystallised as well as diffuse forms, show us that the relationship between religion and politics shapes our social lives. The variety of religious expressions that spread in modernity produced heterogeneous effects in public life and political identities. The increasing relevance of Pentecostalism in Latin America, the complex relationship between institutions, movements and streams in the religious realm and their interaction with civil society and the state, the reconstitution of ethnic-religious identities, the political consequences of orientalist movements, radical conceptions of religion and their relationship with the question of nation and international affairs, are only a small sample of the topics linked to the interplay between religion and politics.

The aim of this Conference is to contribute to a deeper understanding of this multiplicity of phenomena. Please send your proposals to: religion@ceil-piette.gov.ar; or by post to CEIL Saavedra 15, Ciudad de Buenos Aires, Argentina.

IT NEWS: COMBAT VIRUS ON YOUR COMPUTER – FROM THE SLAS IT OFFICER

While for many of us, the internet and email have transformed the ways in which we work in a very positive sense, particularly allowing us rapid communication with research partners overseas, the problem of computer viruses can create mammoth problems. By following a few simple guidelines, you can drastically reduce the chance of being infected.

1. Make sure that your computer has both a firewall and a virus checker installed. Many universities, colleges and other organisations have firewalls installed on their computer systems. These act as a protective shield around all networked computers BUT they are clearly not 100% effective. If your institution does not have a firewall installed, or if you work on a non-networked computer (e.g. accessing the internet through dial-up or broadband from home) then make sure your computer has the appropriate software installed.
2. Ensure that you keep your virus checker and firewall software up to date. Most software can be updated from the web and you are sent messages about the availability of new versions. Given the rapid evolution of viruses, it is vital that you load these updates whenever alerted.
3. Make sure you USE your virus checker. Again, some institutions will run checks on all network drives on a regular basis, but you should also make sure that you run checks on your hard drive (usually C drive) on a regular basis. You should also check floppy discs, CDs or other external drives before using them. For example, when transferring material from one computer to another using a floppy disc, run a virus check on the floppy disc before transferring the data or opening any files.
4. Most viruses are transmitted through the email system, particularly through attachments. For this reason you should be VERY cautious about opening any email from someone you do not know, particularly if the subject field is left

blank or there is something general such as 'hi!' in the subject field. Some organisations automatically delete messages with blank subject fields.

5. NEVER open email attachments without running a virus check, even if you know the person who has sent you the message. One way of doing this is to save the message onto a floppy disc or CD and then run a check on the disc.
6. Finally, remember to back up ALL your material on a regular basis. No virus protection system is 100% reliable. If your computer is infected you may lose significant numbers of files for good.

Katie Willis, SLAS IT Officer, Dept of Geography, Royal Holloway, Univ. of London, Egham Surrey TW20 0EX, Email: Katie.Willis@rhul.ac.uk Tel: +44 (0)1784-443643 Fax: +44 (0)1784-472836 www.slas.org.uk

EN LINEA : DIRECTORIO DE ORGANIZACIONES DE DESARROLLO <http://www.devdir.org/index.html>

El Directorio de Organizaciones para el Desarrollo 2004 ha sido preparado para facilitar la cooperación internacional y la difusión de conocimiento sobre temas de desarrollo entre ONG, centros de investigación, donantes, gobiernos y profesionales en el campo del desarrollo. El Directorio representa una compilación de datos de contacto de las mayores fuentes de asistencia disponible para el desarrollo del sector privado y la reducción de la pobreza.

El Directorio incorpora una amplia gama de organizaciones: organismos internacionales, ministerios gubernamentales, instituciones del sector privado, agencias para el desarrollo, universidades, institutos de investigación y formación, ONG/OPDs, fundaciones, bancos, instituciones de microfinanzas y empresas de consultoría para el desarrollo.

El Directorio consiste de un base de datos de 29,500 organizaciones que

ofrecen apoyo financiero, información y asesoría a los sectores empresariales y de reducción de pobreza en el mundo, particularmente en los países de bajo ingreso. Esta publicación - la quinta edición - le ofrece cientos (miles) de sitios de Web útiles donde pueden encontrar los estadísticos, informes, estudios, prácticas óptimas, y otra información clave que necesita...cuando lo necesita.

Bert Wesselink

CANICA AND MEXICAN STREET CHILDREN: An update

CANICA in Oaxaca.

Lic. Freddy Vazquez Aguilar is now in charge. They have 28 educators and attend 540 children with 75% success. Only one educator works in the city. The rest work in the colonias or go to their houses. CANICA is at present running three programmes, and the following information is based upon *their Report for 2002* and my conversation with Lic. Aguilar in November 2003.

Children Working on the Streets is for ages 3 to 17 and worked with 136 children, 39 mothers and 32 fathers in 2002. In 2003 there were 103. They either come from very poor families, who live in marginalised areas of the city, or have lost contact with their families. They have no serious addictions but are at risk of living on the streets, or are at high risk of accidents owing to the nature of their work. They have very low self-esteem.

Children Working in the Market covers ages 3 to 10 and worked with 147 children, 97 mothers and 6 fathers, in 2002. In 2003 there were 60 boys and girls. Their families either live in the market, or in marginalised areas, and work in the informal area of the market, so are very poor. The children suffer from malnutrition, and are at risk of working or living on the street. Those who attend in the morning are given breakfast and lunch. They are taught about hygiene and receive help with medical costs according to their needs. They also have opportunities for recreation.

Child Victims of Domestic Violence worked with 16 pre-school-aged children, 22 school-aged children and 11 mothers, in 2002. The children have low self-esteem and have been affected by physical, sexual or psychological abuse, but have no serious addictions. They belong to violent families with few resources.

Casa Canica has 17 resident boys, in a 2 -year programme. Now, as opposed to several years ago, they have no history of prison, drug abuse or problems with violence. Some are from the Mixes, and have parents working in Oaxaca, whilst others are Zapotecs from the Sierra Sur and the Sierra Norte. They went to the sea on holiday this year.

Holidays were being arranged for all the children for Muertos and the New Year. A new fund-raising project of scholarships is being pioneered. It consists of monthly contributions of 300 pesos or 600 pesos, or any other quantity. I can let anyone who wishes have leaflets.

CIDES Mexico City –

CIDES continues to deal with the Otomi, Mictecs, Trique and Nahuatl, but the problems have changed. They live in the city, and return to their land for planting, weeding and harvesting, but some land has been sold and the Mixtecs of Oaxaca return more than the others. The families average five and, as they live in small spaces, violence and sexual abuse have become problems. They work with 120 children of pre-school, primary and secondary school age; and with 60 mothers trying to prevent abuse. e-mail: cidesiap@data.net.mx Lic. Carlos Avila.

Casa Colibrí has been moved to a very nice house which they own. They have four programmes there for all the children - these are workshops in music, computing, bread-making and karate. They consider karate the most successful as it gives positive masculine roles.

Contributions are welcome, and may be sent to the International Children's Trust, 120, Lincoln Road, Peterborough. PE4 6AL.

Jean Starr, University of Glasgow. jstarr@dublin-street.freemove.co.uk

B.A. changes baggage allowances to Colombia

British Airways have changed their luggage allowance on flights between the UK and Colombia to only 23 kg in total: their previous 'piece concept', allowed 2 cases of up to 32 kg. in total for customers on their flights to Bogotá, Colombia. This is apparently in relation to the use of smaller airplanes on the route to Bogotá, creating cramped conditions on planes and creating numerous complaints. British Airways services to Bogotá have been scaled down, but at a clear cost in comfort and service to passengers. Other airlines, such as Air France, still apply the normal piece concept in their luggage allowance.

Ulrich Oslender, University of Glasgow, email: uoslender@geog.gla.ac.uk



VOLUNTEER AND TEACH ENGLISH IN CALI,

Would you like to spend a year working in Colombia?

Are you interested in working with an NGO that runs a support programme for young people at risk?

Are you an experienced TEFL teacher? Forming Futures and British English would like to offer you a position volunteering part-time with Forming Futures, and also teaching at British English, one of the most respected language institutes in Cali. Take advantage of this excellent opportunity to spend a year working in Cali, with a dynamic and fast-growing NGO. For more information and details of how to apply: www.telesat.com.co/formingfutures or www.britenglish.com or email: formaciondefuturo@telesat.com.co

REQUIREMENTS FOR FORMING FUTURES VOLUNTEER - BRITISH ENGLISH TEACHER

The job description and requirements are detailed below; please send any queries to formaciondefuturo@telesat.com.co. If you would like more information about the position at **BRITISH ENGLISH**, please email britishenglish@britenglish.com. If you meet the requirements and wish to apply,

send your CV, along with a short letter explaining what you think you can offer **Forming Futures**, and a brief description of activities you would be interested in developing.

Job description: British English - part-time teacher

- teach a minimum of 70 hours a month; usually to small groups of students organised according to their level of English. Classes are in the early morning, evening, and on Saturdays;
- prepare teaching materials;
- give exams, and complete all related administrative tasks;
- lead conversation clubs
- liaise with Forming Futures; organise classes for young people, fundraise and build links with the students.

Forming Futures - role to be defined according to your abilities and interests, but will include some of the following elements:

- work a minimum of 80 hours a month
- assist the director with administrative tasks
- translate documents into English
- participate in workshops with the children from Casa Nueva
- fundraising - both local and international
- website administration
- assisting the resident care workers
- training young people in administration skills

Requirements:

- English native speaker;
- TEFL certificate **or** at least 6 months experience teaching English **and** a modern languages degree (preferably a Masters);
- high level of Spanish, especially written;
- willingness to commit to a 1 year contract, and to work as a volunteer.

NEW BOOKS

From Combined Academic Publishers Ltd and University of Texas Press.

1. Buchsbaum, Jonathan, *Cinema and the Sandinistas: filmmaking in revolutionary Nicaragua*, Texas film and Media Studies Series, University of Texas Press and Combined Academic Publishers, Austin, 15 December 2003, pbk £22.95, pp 323, b & w photos, acronyms, appendices, notes, bibliographic essay, index.

This book looks at the history and importance of the Nicaraguan Institute of Cinema (INCINE), founded after the Nicaraguan Revolution of 1979. The chapters cover: the creation of INCINE; the first noticieros; the second year; the new generation; in search of policy; new noticieros; documentaries; the reality of fiction; the reach for features; and towards the end of the third cinema. The book aims to look at the development of a Nicaraguan cinematic idiom while honouring the self-imposed commitment to the FSLN. It was an ideal that eventually had to diverge but this book provides a detailed insight into the changes that took place. It will be of interest to all those concerned with the interpretation of Latin American revolutionary culture, to those in media studies, and, especially, to those wanting further insights into the processes of development and change in contemporary Nicaragua.

2. Mistral, Gabriela, *This America of ours: the letters of Gabriela Mistral and Victoria Ocampo*, edited and translated by Elizabeth Horan and Doris Meyer, University of Texas Press and Combined Academic Publishers Ltd, January 2004, pp 377, pbk £22.95, appendix, chronology, biographical dictionary, list of works cited, index.

This is a collection of previously unpublished correspondence between two of the most influential, women, Latin American (one Chilean and the other Argentinian), writers of the last century. The book divides the letters into eras from 1926-1939; from 1940-1952; and from 1953 to 1956. The appendix carries seven other added writings of Mistral and Ocampo. As an anthology which represents the private lives of these two women, it will have an interested audience among those concerned with literary and political events of this period in Latin America.

3. Gauderman, Kimberly, *Women's lives in Colonial Quito: gender, law, and economy in Spanish America*, University of Texas press and Combined Academic Publishers Ltd., hbk £26.95, pp177, notes, bibliography, index.

Based on a study of criminal and civil proceedings, notarial records and city council records, this book draws a detailed picture of women's lives in this period. Individual chapters cover: one city, two women; putting women in their place; the nature of power in 17th century Spanish America; married women and property rights; women and the justice system; women as entrepreneurs; and indigenous market women. One of the fundamental questions the book sets out to answer is what kind of society made it possible for women of all classes to act independently? The quest for answers will appeal to those concerned with colonial history, gender studies, legal rights, and the process of social stability in Spanish America.

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS & SEMINARS

CEDLA,

Keizersgracht 395-397, 1016 EK Amsterdam

tel: 020-5253498 fax:020-6255127 mail:dekker@cedla.uva.nl

web: www.cedla.uva.nl

***Cuadernos del Cedla* series: Series Editor: Marinella Wallis**

After a prolific first year in the restyled format, the Cuadernos del Cedla Series continued to thrive and published four issues in 2003. A new production format has been introduced by publishing two Cuadernos on Microfinance in Nicaragua as a bilingual project in cooperation with CDR-ULA, an institute for applied research in Costa Rica (Nos 14 and 15). A volume on the Accção Intregalista Brasileira in the 1930s, by Marcus Klein, will be forthcoming in May. Please visit for more information, subscription and ordering,

http://www.cedla.uva.nl/60/63_cuadernos.htm

- Cuaderno del Cedla No. 12, Michiel Baud, *Intelectuales y sus utopías*.

Indigenismo y la imaginación de América Latina, febrero 2003, 93 pp. Isbn 90 70280 20-5

- Cuaderno del Cedla No. 13, Barbara Hogenboom, Miriam Alfie Cohen and Edit Antal, *Cross-border Activism and Its Limits: Mexican Environmental*

Organizations and the United States, April 2003, 98 pp. Isbn 90 70280 30-2

- Cuaderno del Cedla No. 14, Pitou van Dijck, Hans Nusselder y Arie Sanders (comps.), *Microfinanzas en Nicaragua*, agosto 2003, 116 pp. Isbn 90 70280 40-X
The English version (No. 15) will be forthcoming spring 2004.

- Cuaderno del Cedla No. 16, Guillermo O'Donnell, Cynthia Hewitt de Alcántara y Arturo Escobar, *Cruzando Fronteras en América Latina*, noviembre 2003, 67 pp. ISBN 90 70280 60-4

For purchases or more information contact: Marinella Wallis, Cuadernos del Cedla Editor, CEDLA - Centre for Latin American Research and Documentation, Keizersgracht 395-397, 1016 EK Amsterdam, tel:020-5253240, fax:020-6255127, Email:wallis@cedla.uva.nl

UNIVERSITY OF LIVERPOOL, INSTITUTE OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
Bedford Street South, Liverpool L69 3WW

Tel: 0151-794-3079 Fax: 0151-794-3080 Email: smurph@liverpool.ac.uk

Studentships ILAS was recently awarded two of the ESRC 1+3 quota award studentships. This makes it the only place in the UK with studentships specifically for Latin American Studies. Further information can be found at <http://www.liv.ac.uk/ilas/Postgrads/Postgrads.html>

Conference: Post-war conflict and violence: Latin America in comparative perspective. A conference, entitled "Post-war conflict and violence: Latin America in comparative perspective" will take place on 9th and 10th September 2004. For further information please contact Mo Hume, mohume@liv.ac.uk.

Recent Publications Liverpool Latin American Studies

No 3 Henry Stobart & Rosaleen Howard, *Knowledge and Learning in the Andes. Ethnographic Perspectives* (Liverpool University Press, 2002). 214 pp. ISBN 0-85323-518-X

No 4 John Fisher, *Bourbon Peru, 1750-1824* (Liverpool University Press, 2003) 224 pp. ISBN 0-85323-908-8

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, INSTITUTE OF LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

31 Tavistock Square London WC1H 9HA

Tel: 020-7862 8870 Fax: 020-7862 8886

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

28 May 2004 Crime, Justice and Violence seminar

15 May 2004 South American Archaeology Seminar

22 May 2004 Latin American Music Seminar

4 June 2004 Brooks lecture by Sonia Álvarez, 'The Local in the Global: the Brazilian(s) in the World Social Forum Process'

There is also an active programme of seminars throughout the academic year. Full details of the Institute's programme of Conferences, Workshops and Seminars are 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).

NEWS: merger of ILAS with IUSS.

The Institute of Latin American Studies will be merging with the Institute of United States Studies in August 2004 to create the **Institute for the Study of the Americas**. Professor James Dunkerley will be the inaugural Director of the new Institute. The purpose of the new Institute will be to promote, coordinate and

provide a focus for research and postgraduate teaching on the Americas – Canada, the US, Latin America and the Caribbean – in the University of London. It will build on the strengths of its predecessors and play a national and international role as a coordinating and information centre for all sections of the hemisphere at the postgraduate level in the universities of the United Kingdom.

As well as serving and strengthening national networks of North Americanist, Latin Americanist and Caribbeanist scholars, the Institute will actively maintain existing ties and build new ones with important academic, cultural, diplomatic and business organisations with interests in the region.

For more details, see www.sas.ac.uk/americas.

Next issue of ILAS enlace

The next issue of the online newsletter, *ILAS enlace*, will be published in May 2004 and will be accessible via the ILAS home page or directly at

www.sas.ac.uk/ilas/enlace/enlace_home.html.

VISITING FELLOWS

- Dr **Laura Izarra** of the Universidade São Paulo will be visiting in May-July 2004 and working on 'Irish voices from South American diaspora space: Narratives of renewed cultural identities'.
- Professor **Dirk Kruijt** of Utrecht University will visit in late spring.
- Mr **Raúl Ampuero** of the Chilean Chamber of Deputies will visit in May/June 2004 to work on Chilean democracy.

PUBLICATIONS

Out now – *Crisis in Bolivia: The Elections of 2002 and their Aftermath* (Research Paper no. 56), Willem Assies and Ton Salman

Forthcoming

- *Dilemmas of Political Change in Mexico*, edited by Kevin Middlebrook
- *Fútbol, Futebol, Soccer: Football in the Americas*, edited by Rory Miller

- *Latin American Environmental History: The Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries* edited by Christian Brannstrom
- *The Financing of Politics: Latin American and European Perspectives* edited by Carlos Malamud and Eduardo Posado-Carbó
- *Some Other Amazonians: Perspectives on Modern Amazonia*, edited by Stephen Nugent and Mark Harris
- *Science and the Creative Imagination in Latin America*, edited by Eduardo Ortiz and Evelyn Fishburn
- *Consumption, Markets and Trade in Latin America, 1750–1950*, edited by Rory Miller

Ordering: 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

May/June (dates to be arranged) Workshop: 'The political economy of federal banks in Brazil'

August (date to be arranged) Annual human rights conference (in association with British Council Brazil and CESCE, Universidade Candido Mendes): 'Police reform in Brazil and UK'- to be held in Rio de Janeiro.

CONFERENCE: OVERCOMING SOCIAL EXCLUSION: BRAZIL IN COMPARATIVE PERSPECTIVE: 22 June 2004 St. Antony's College, Oxford

There is no conference fee but advanced registration is required. Please register with name and affiliation to enquiries@brazil.ox.ac.uk Conference Co-ordinators: Dr Louise Haagh, University of York and Centre for Brazilian Studies, University of Oxford and Dr Fiona Macaulay, Institute of Latin American Studies, University of London and Centre for Brazilian Studies

The aim of the conference is to provide a forum for academic debate about the new approaches to overcoming poverty and social exclusion that Brazil has been pioneering in an emergent economy context. A different approach to social policy has crystallised in Brazil over the last few years, having developed slowly since the late 1980s, and particularly under Cardoso in the late 1990s. International interest in Brazil has never been greater, following the election in October 2002 of Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva of the Workers' Party, who put the immediate eradication of poverty top of the state agenda. The varied and ambitious experiments in what is, in principle, a more universalistic approach to social policy in Brazil has great significance for international debates about poverty reduction and social inclusion.

This conference brings together the latest findings on the subject by leading scholars in social policy, economics and development studies from Brazil, the International Labour Organization, and the UK. This will be a first opportunity to present empirical data about these new policies and analyse their practical global significance and contribution to theoretical debates about policy models. Conference Registration begins at 08.45, followed by the opening of the conference at 09.15

Session 1: Identity and entitlements of the poor. Chair: Dr Louise Haagh
Dr Ricardo Paes de Barros (Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada, Ministry of Planning, Rio de Janeiro) The design of proxy means testing systems in Brazil
Dr Marcelo Medeiros (IPEA, Brasília and UNDP Brasília) The problems of using income poverty lines and proxy means testing to target policies in Brazil.
Discussant Professor Sir Tony Atkinson (Warden of Nuffield College, Oxford)

Session 2: Active labour market policies

Dr Márcio Pochmann (Secretary of State for Employment, São Paulo Municipality) The poor and work. Active labour market policies in Brazil
Dr Lauro Ramos (IPEA, Rio de Janeiro) A description of the Brazilian metropolitan labour market
Dr Luciana Servo (IPEA, Brasília) Recent labour market policies in Brazil

Session 3: Coordinating social policy. Chair: Dr Fiona Macaulay

Dr Ana Maria Fonseca (Ministry of Social Development, Brasília) Coordinating social policies in Brazil

Dr Marcelo Cortes Neri (Centre for Social Policy, Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Rio de Janeiro) Designing a system of social targets and social credit in Brazil

Discussant: Professor Peter Townsend (Department of Social Policy, London School of Economics)

Session 4: Income security in comparative perspective. Chair: Prof Leslie Bethell

Dr Guy Standing (, InFocus Programme on Socio-Economic Security, ILO Geneva) Promoting income security as a right

Dr Armando Barrientos (Inst of Dev Policy & Management, Univ of Manchester)

Dr Peter Lloyd-Sherlock (School of Development Studies, Univ of East Anglia)

Non-contributory pension programmes in reducing poverty: Brazil and S.Africa

Dr Louise Haagh Re-writing the social contract in emergent economies:

Flexicurity models in Chile, Brazil and Korea.

Senator Eduardo Matarazzo Suplicy (Senator, PT, São Paulo and Fundação Getúlio Vargas, São Paulo) Approval of the Citizen's Basic Income Bill in Brazil (Funding provided by the Oxford Centre for Brazilian Studies, the Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brasilia and the British Academy)

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Geographical Information Sciences For Fieldwork

Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 26-28 May at the RGS-IBG London SW7 2AR

followed by 4 day fieldwork in Spain Saturday 29 May -Tuesday 3rd June 2004

This three day practical workshop is designed for people planning to use tools and techniques such as GPS, remote sensing, digital mapping and data analyses - together known as geographical information sciences - as part of a field research project or expedition. The course will be followed by 4 days at the Urra Field Centre in Spain where delegates can practice their new found skills

and design their own GIS. Cost: 3 days in the UK £90 + VAT (£105.75) Spain: 4 days £120 (no VAT) does not include flights, accommodation, food or insurance (estimated at £200 in total) All 7 days dicounted price £200 including VAT. To book download a booking form from www.rgs.org/eacseminars or email: eac@rgs.org for further details

The World Register of Field Centres -

The World Register of Field Centres www.rgs.org/fieldcentres identifies sites for environmental research, on any topic, anywhere in the world. It provides information on established field centres, in environments from the high arctic to the Sahara desert, to enable users to find the right centres and contact the right individuals. The centres range from small independent field camps to large long-term international facilities. The only criterion for inclusion in the register is that centres welcome international visitors who wish to undertake fieldwork at the centre, whether scientists, students, teachers, school pupils or others. We currently have 348 field centres registered on line in over 80 countries worldwide.

Those who might benefit from the register are: Teams looking for a good base for a field research project, individuals and institutes seeking partners and collaborators, researchers looking for data or information on an area, teachers looking for field contacts, field centres that would like to link with other field centres. We are developing the database now and welcome additions so if you would like to find a centre for education or research purposes, or know of a centre you would like to be included in the Register then please log on to www.rgs.org/fieldcentres

The register is maintained by the Royal Geographical Society (with the Institute of British Geographers) and was developed with funds from Professor Keith Miller of Sheffield University in recognition of the increasing importance of long-term field observations.

Sam Weiss, World Register of Field Centres Co-ordinator, E-mail:

s.weiss@rgs.org Website: www.rgs.org/fieldcentres

Have you visited the SLAS website yet?

The Society for Latin American Studies' new website is now online, at <http://www.slas.org.uk/>.

We invite you to visit. There are details of the society's activities, including travel and conference grants, the *SLAS Newsletter*, the *Bulletin of Latin American Research*, the annual conference, news and events. A cornucopia of good things.

Many thanks go to Katie Willis (of SLAS) and Christine Mackenzie (of the University of Aberdeen's Web Development Unit) for all their hard work.