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Dear SLAS Member,

For the first time since 1830, neither the Colorados nor the Nacionalistas won the elections on the 31 October for President of Uruguay. Following a continuing trend among Latin American voters, the 2.5million Uruguayan electorate chose Tabare Vazquez, the leader of the Frente Amplio, as their new President.

Conditions in the traditionally prosperous country have altered over the last few years. With a severe devaluation and an economy that shrank by 11% in 2002, now one in three Uruguayans lives below the poverty line and unemployment runs at around 15%. Many Uruguayans leave each month seeking work in Europe and the USA. In these conditions, the promises by Vazquez to promote moderate policies and emphasising helping the poor has swayed election victory.

This result at the polls echoes the predominant trend in the region. Other recent elections in Venezuela, also on the 31 October, saw President Chavez' pro-government candidates sweep the board in 21 out of 23 regional government elections. In Chile, voters supported the centre-left party of President Ricardo Lagos in the municipal elections. These successes follow the choice of moderate left wing presidents in Argentina, Ecuador, and Brazil.

While these elections follow the overall trend, the electorates are, all the same, quick to show disapproval of policies that do not fulfil expectations. The second round of mayoral elections in Brazil, again on 31 October, have shown a defeat for the PT in key cities of the country, including Sao Paulo, Porto Alegre and Curitiba. These elections have also chastised several long-term politicians and ruling groups in cities long under tight control – for example in Manaus and Salvador. Brazil's electorate expects results, not just promises. Lula and other recently elected presidents should take notice.

Elizabeth Allen,

Editor, SLAS Newsletter

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

**Deadline for material to be included in the January 2005 Issue of the
SLAS Newsletter, Issue No. 80, will be midday on 5 December 2004.**

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



2005 SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

The SLAS Annual conference in 2005 will be held in the University of Derby from the 8-10 April. Further information in the January issue of the SLAS Newsletter, on the SLAS website, or from Victoria Carpenter at Email:

V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk

CALL FOR PANELS

Panel proposals are invited on a variety of topics in Latin American studies.

These may include (but are not limited to)

- political issues
- economy issues
- cultural issues (e.g. music, visual arts, popular culture)
- law and legislation
- religion
- gender issues
- history
- country-specific issues
- press
- indigenous issues
- migration

The proposals (in English or Spanish) should be sent to Dr. Victoria Carpenter, DBS, University of Derby, Kedleston Road, Derby DE22 1GB, UK; or by e-mail to V.Carpenter@derby.ac.uk. The deadline for the submission of panel proposals is December 1, 2004.

2004 SLAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE: REPORTS OF PANELS (cont.)

9: Music, Dance and Identity in Latin America

Convenors: Peter Wade and Emily Walmsley

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 *jineteras*. 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.

16. Human Rights and Solidarity in Contemporary Latin America.

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

Le cupo a este seminario el rarísimo privilegio de contar con la presencia de dos colegas muy especiales, por cuanto sus nombres y vidas son sinonimos reconocidos internacionalmente por su decencia, lealtad y persistencia en su lucha por la justicia en la Argentina contemporanea: Laura Bonaparte y Miguel Angel de Boer, lo que fue posible debido al esfuerzo financiero personal de ambos, así como de manera extraordinaria al apoyo parcial de SLAS, lo que profundamente agradezco, puesto que simbólicamente cristalizaron así los 22 primeros años de mi participación activa en sus conferencias anuales, iniciada el 2 de abril de 2002.

O sea, cuando el Reino Unido y Argentina estaban a punto de enfrentarse en conflicto bélico por la tenencia de las Islas Malvinas, y el tema de las transformaciones en Nicaragua acaparaba a todo el público, justo cuando me tocaba a mí dar una de mis primeras ponencias en el exilio; siendo yo una de las dos únicas personas presentes en la sala del panel 'La mujer en la política latinoamericana; los casos de Argentina y Chile'. Mi ponencia fue escuchada por la Convenor, la ahora fallecida **Dra Jackie Roddick**, y viceversa. O sea, a la suya la escuché y comenté solo yo: con todo, fue un acto de privilegio que me pareció un tanto elitista como ceremonia de iniciación en SLAS. Para una mujer expulsada de Chile y de Argentina por ser y hacer política, a invitación de Jackie,

inmersa por entonces en contribuir (liderando) a la escritura de la historia universal de la clase obrera. Si Jackie estuviera con nosotras/os, me abrazaría, sonreiría y evaluaría positivamente los pocos metros que hemos avanzado las intelectuales latinoamericanas en la lucha por conseguir espacios en la academia europea, en de donde hemos sido tratadas básicamente como ciudadanas de segunda clase.

Han pasado pues los años, y me pareció oportuno poner a prueba una vez aquella concepción según la cual las mujeres latinoamericanas que se agrupan en asociaciones civiles sin fines de lucro para bregar por la consecución de sus atropellados derechos ciudadanos en torno a un tema y a partir del cual se proyectan en la vida social de un país, constituyen un ejemplo típico de 'motherism', concepto moderno al cual se ejemplifica con frecuencia con el caso de Madres de la Plaza de Mayo.

Nos tocó en esta oportunidad la ocasión de discutirlo con una de las fundadoras del grupo, la psicoanalista **Laura Bustamante**, madre, suegra, tía y esposa de nueve desaparecidas y desaparecidos de la Guerra Sucia. Su participación se dividió a su vez en dos partes, y dada la envergadura del tema y la excepcionalidad de su presencia en este tipo de conferencias, se resolvió democráticamente asignarle a sus temas el doble del tiempo. Su ponencia 'Femicidio: reflexiones desde la práctica profesional y política', en que sintetizó con la habilidad expositiva de una extraordinaria humanista, la forma que asume en las últimas décadas la ritualización de las torturas genéricas y la muerte de víctimas mujeres (desde Ciudad de Juárez hasta Mar del Plata, pasando por

Santiago del Estero, Guatemala, Colombia y llegando hasta las desapariciones por razones políticas en Argentina), a lo que presentó como expresión incuestionable del ejercicio despótico y en su forma más extrema del poder patriarcal. Laura habló también como mujer feminista de la inspiración que su propia vida le ha proveído para desarrollar el arte de escribir y acerca de sus cuentos sobre 'mujeres transgresoras', o galería de mujeres malas, como ella les llama.

Escucharla y poder aprender de su ejemplo moral y de su claridad política, constituyó en sí una experiencia académica inusual, e irremplazable, que además puso en tela de juicio las concepciones más recurrentes y creo que a veces muy simplistas, acerca del 'ser madre' en la política latinoamericana en el siglo XX y en Argentina hoy.

Dichas exposiciones fueron extraordinariamente bien complementadas por la serena, incisiva, enjuiciosa y ciertamente también muy conmovedora, presentación del médico terapeuta **Miguel Angel de Boer**, ex presidente del Capítulo de Salud Mental, Tortura y DDHH de la Asociación de Psiquiatras Argentinos: 'Breve relato de mis vicisitudes como terapeuta durante la dictadura militar'. Durante la misma Miguel explicó cómo la necesidad y el deseo de sobrevivir se apuntalaron en el compromiso que asumió como terapeuta, preservando a la vez la memoria, las convicciones y la historia, como modo de resistir el terror sin perder su identidad. Cerró su brillante exposición con su hermoso poema dedicado a las Madres de la Plaza de Mayo. Una experiencia que combinada

resultado muy fuerte, que hasta mi me ha dejado (casi) sin palabras...

Ricardo Rodríguez Pereyra presentó un avance de pionera tesis doctoral con su brillante ponencia sobre 'Gender, Desire, and Human Rights in Argentina', centrada en analizar el homo erotismo en la producción cultural del país, que mostró la discriminación extrema a que han sido sometidos durante los últimos cincuenta años amplios sectores sociales constituidos por gays, lesbianas, transvestitas y transexuales.

Las sesiones de la tarde no fueron igualmente bien atendidas, aunque se concentraron en tres importantes y originales ponencias, a saber. **Kiyoshi Nakaoji** presentó una visión japonesa de 'An open injury: a psychological view of families of the disappeared during the Pinochet's regime' y abogó por la necesidad de establecer la verdad acerca de lo que ha pasado, sorprendiendo por su habilidad para comprender una realidad tan distinta a la suya, en donde hasta muchos de los mismos latinoamericanistas niegan que estos hechos históricos se hayan siquiera producido. Así, resultó aun más encomiable su afán de expresarse en castellano.

Elie Valencia y Helga Sáenz son los autores de 'Human Rights violations, mental health and survival in the concentration camps of Southern Chile during the military dictatorship' que presenta una serie de datos probando la violación de los derechos humanos durante la dictadura chilena (1973-1990) y discute como solo muy recientemente estos hechos han empezado a formar parte de la memoria social del país. Abogaron por que el desarrollo cultural ayude a la

formación de la solidaridad humana que debería ya ser la piedra central de la democracia en Chile.

Glen David Kuecker expuso acerca de "'Solidarity" in the transnational nature of globalized citizenship', tomando los casos de Chiapas y Guerrero en México, y de la región Intag en Ecuador, y habló de su preocupación por las tensiones entre la construcción de los derechos humanos y los derechos específicos de los indígenas y discutió nuevas formas de resistencia dentro mismo de los EE UU. Su análisis lo llevo a concluir que 'existen evidencias de que estamos construyendo', dijo, 'nuevas formas de ser ciudadanos'. Lo que, combinado con el comentario que hizo Laura a la presentación de Miguel, en el sentido de que: 'Cuando el terror se enfrenta con una persona como vos, o como yo, es él quien se hace pedazos'agregando 'Tu trabajo te va a hacer perdurar', repercutió como tal vez proféticas palabras que deseamos puedan seguir alimentado nuestra utopía, en tanto mujeres y en cuanto feministas, así como también la de los hombres que nos acompañen.

Convenor's note: The job of putting together my worst memories of Argentina and Chile, plus the absence of five of the invitees, all women, because of financial support, death in the family, and /or lack of institutional support, proved to be a very tiring and painful exercise. I would like to acknowledge the extraordinary support given to my idea of trying to learn from the lessons of the past, from Kate Young, my former supervisor, and now Patron of Womankind World-wide, and from David Lehmann who is the person at SLAS who has best understood my work. The generosity of SLAS actual President, Peter Wade and the members of the grant committee 2004, have given a vital contribution to this panel with grants towards the attendance of Ricardo, Laura and Miguel. Laura's and Miguel's tickets to Europe were covered with a grant from the British Academy. **Marta Zabaleta**

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

The panel explored questions of ethnic, gender and national identity across Latin America through historical, textual and theoretical analyses of films from the 1940s to the present day. The first session dealt with the theoretical legacy of Third Cinema, with **Constanza Burucua** tracing the use and abuse of a critical paradigm which, removed from its original context, has led to misleading or overly politicised interpretations of Latin American films. **David Wood's** reading of 1970's Andean *indigenista* cinema challenged Third Cinema's auteurist inclination, calling for an examination of different consumption contexts and of local and national cultural and aesthetic influences.

The second session dealt with cinema's role in forming and informing racial and national identities. **Maria Lopez-Abeijon's** paper discussed the political and cultural implications of the national myth of the mulatto in Cuban cinema, focusing on Humberto Solas' *Cecilia*. Claudia Arroyo's counter-reading of Emilio Fernandez's 1940s melodrama *Flor silvestre* posed it as an ambivalent site of conflict between various ideologies regarding Mexican land redistribution.

The third session looked at images of Latin American violence, dealing with sexual violence, gender identity and national stereotype in contemporary cinema. **Geoffrey Kantaris** examined Mexican urban cinema from the 1980s and 1990s to show how everyday violence and unconventional gender roles are used as markers of identity. Miriam Haddu also drew on the interrelationship of sexual

roles, violence and narrative strategies, with an analysis of the exploration of female space in the Mexican film *Perfume de violetas*. **Deborah Shaw's** contribution read the violence of drug trafficking in the North American feature *Traffic* as a perpetuation of Hollywood's dismissive stereotyping of Latino identity.

The fourth session explored the ways in which contemporary Argentine cinema has registered the recent national crisis. **Joanna Page** read the unconventional film language of *La fe del volcan* as an 'aesthetics of survival', to suggest that the recent turn in Argentine cinema towards the intimate often represents a conscious examination of the problematic political and national discourses of the contemporary era. **Linda Craig's** analysis of *El hijo de la novia* related the individual and sentimental to the national by interpreting the main characters as metaphors of the Argentine social body and their illnesses (heart attack, Alzheimer`s) as symbolic of the recent crisis.

The panel ended with an open discussion that above all challenged the use of national categories in film analysis. The panellists reflected upon the problematic relation prevalent in Latin American film production between state funding and ideas of the nation; the possibility of producing Latin American cinema that is not bound by the nation; and the necessity of finding transnational ways of reading identities in cinema.

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

The panel had a lively discussion even though there were only two papers presented. There were six persons in attendance. The first paper, presented by **Abdiel Oñate**, (San Francisco State University, USA) on "The Mexican Revolution at the End of the Twentieth Century: the Exhaustion of the System and Foreign Interests, 1968-1990" argued that the social changes occurring in Mexico in the last 10 or 20 years have been the expression of the abandonment of the 1917 Mexican revolutionary project. Oñate examined how the state and the political system, that for seventy years sustained the project, developed internal contradictions that were suffocated for seventy years. The contradictions were born from attempts at conciliating three different philosophical traditions: Liberalism, Socialism, and Communalism (the pre-Hispanic Indian worldview), in the social pact of 1917. The revolutionary project's ideological tenets were gradually replaced by a discourse and practices dominated by the liberal tradition. Oñate argued that since 1994, events in Mexico have indicated a resolution of the conflict in favor of liberalism, and as a result, the country has been moving away from the historical reference of the Mexican Revolution.

The second paper, presented by **Federico Novelo**, (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Ciudad de México) on "La utopía enmohecida: El extravío de los propósitos sociales de la Revolución Mexicana." explored the changing conditions of the Mexican economy after 1970, the radical changes in the Mexican government's economic and social policy after 1982, and the limitations on development and globalization imposed by the mixed economy of Mexico. He argued that the corporatist arrangements of the old political system were incompatible with NAFTA and the demands of globalization. Novelo concluded

with a brief examination of the election of Vicente Fox in 2000, and of his administration's new economic policy.

In the discussion that followed, people in the audience posed questions regarding the following issues: the current democratic transition in Mexico; the functioning of a three-party political system; the nature of the reforms within the official party PRI; and the relations between Mexico and the US, the European Union, and Cuba. All in all, a good, stimulating panel. The two speakers are planning to produce an article for publication as a result of this panel.

24. Anthropological and Historical Perspectives on Subject, Community and State. Organiser: Dr Ariadna Acevedo, University of Warwick

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This panel explored the interaction between subjects, communities and state, with special focus on indigenous and rural areas. The first session examined the ideologies of nation-state building. **Rebecca Earle** showed how nineteenth-century Creoles throughout Spanish America incorporated the Indian past into national history, while deliberately separating it from an unworthy Indian present. **Paula López** followed with an account of how indigenous peoples in today's Mexico have rebelled against the Creole appropriation of their past either by re-appropriating academic work on pre-Hispanic cultures or by posing their own theories. Bridging the works of Earle and López, **Mónica Bucio** related how indigenous peasants in twentieth-century Oaxaca (Mexico) have used colonial, liberal and revolutionary ideologies and identities to claim their right to land

property. **Raymond Buve** provided further examples of local appropriation and contestation of national discourses.

The second and third sessions discussed development policies. **Ariadna Acevedo** and **Silvia Tinoco** examined educational policies for indigenous peoples. For nineteenth-century rural Mexico Acevedo underlined the inefficiency of an education provided in Spanish language to speakers of Indian languages. Tinoco contrasted education for the Wajapi in contemporary Brazil and French Guyana. Whereas in Brazil the Wajapi demanded and obtained educational programmes respectful of their culture, in French Guyana the relationship between the educational system and the population continues to be typically colonial.

Fiona Wilson provided a nuanced analysis of the power relations surrounding road-building in twentieth-century Andean Peru. By studying the subjective meanings as well as the practicalities of road-building, Wilson's perspective suggested connections between the panel's initial discussion of ideology in state-society relations and the following discussion on the subjective perceptions of policy recipients and the ambivalent outcomes of development policies.

Drawing respectively on Claudio Lomnitz and Michel Foucault, **Gabriela Torres and Monique Nuijten** explored the subjectivities of the recipients of state policies in contemporary Mexico. Torres described the context in which subjects see development policies as 'privileges' rather than rights while Nuijten examined how the 'fetishisation of governmentality techniques' hinders citizenship rights. To

close the session Sian Lazar prompted a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of the Mexican state compared to other Latin American states.

25. Friendship and Masculinity in Latin American History

Organiser: Patience A. Schell, Univ.of Manchester patience.a.schell@man.ac.uk

This panel offered a fine example of the variety of approaches in studies of masculine friendship. **Victor Macías-González's** paper, 'Viviremos juntos, hablaremos de nuestras penas y placeres, gozaremos del comercio del alma, exclusiva delicia de los que nacieron sensibles: Friendship and Masculinity in Nineteenth-Century Mexico' offered close analysis of the language of friendship and companionship among elite Mexicans living in Europe. Macías-González used the personal letters of intimate friends to examine how these friendships developed and functioned, while allowing a glimpse of the sentimental lives of Mexico's political elite.

Schell's paper, 'Fathers, Sons and Sociability through the Study of Chilean Natural History, 1853-1910', also focused on displaced, elite men. Schell addressed the networks of friendship among scientists (many of whom were émigrés) whose professional and personal lives revolved around the Museo Nacional in Santiago. Both papers recognised the crucial professional and personal role of the patron/protégée friendships described.

Bortz's paper, 'Friendship, Families and Textile Unions in Revolutionary Mexico' examined men's social life at work and play in the cotton textile industry. For these men, friendship revolved around drinking and visiting prostitutes; these

hard-living textile unionists understood loyalty to mean watching each other's backs for approaching bullets. **Rebecca Earle's** comment deftly highlighted these similarities and differences, while pushing the authors to deepen their understanding and analysis. The vast differences between what friendship meant to and for these men, Earle argued, must be partially attributed to class and local context. Earle's comment began a lively and, thanks to the self-control of the speakers, lengthy discussion about the various versions of masculine friendship in Spanish America. Conclusions will have to wait, as the topic remains largely under-researched, but the panel will, I hope, encourage others to historicize this most important of human relationships. My thanks to everyone for their participation.

26. Local and Regional Development in Latin America

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

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This panel was the human geography panel of the conference. In this discipline, the theme of local and regional development is a traditional one, but it has acquired a new relevance as a consequence of recent trends and processes that are taking place at sub-national as well as at supra-national levels in Latin America. Sustained urbanisation, decentralisation and devolution of responsibilities to lower level governments, innovative local governance models, cross-border regional co-operation and integration, and internationalisation of production through global economic restructuring are a few of the current trends that characterise Latin America's societies and their economic and social development.

The participants in this panel came from Colombia, Mexico, Germany and The Netherlands and their on-going work is on Colombia, Mexico, Brazil and Bolivia. In the first session, the presentations focused on Mexico, especially on the local responses in the Northern border region to international economic restructuring (**De Bell**), and on the local effects of the crisis in sugar production in Mexico (**Domínguez**). In both cases, the role of NAFTA and the neoliberal project were highlighted. **Van Oosten** focused on the cross-border partnerships between civic society stakeholders in a newly emerging tri-national region in the Southwest Amazon. This process is partly a result of the on-going decentralisation trends in Bolivia, Brazil and Peru. In the discussion it was emphasised, however, that the eventual end result will especially serve Brazil's geopolitical interests, and less those of its neighbouring countries.

The second session focused on the development of 'urban spaces' in Latin America. **Leyva** presented a very interesting account of urban change in Medellín (Colombia), based on the analysis of official discourses over the recent years and their confrontation with real facts and events. This presentation was followed by the construction of a new conceptual model of the fragmentation of the Latin American city, based upon evidence from Brazilian cities. In his dynamic presentation, **Coy** took the audience to Sao Paulo, its inner-city problems and its manifold upper-class real estate projects (gated housing and shopping malls). Kranenburg's account of neighbourhood consolidation and urban transformation in Bolivia's youngest and fastest growing city, El Alto, concluded the session and indeed, this very rewarding panel.

27. Social Mobilization in Lula's Brazil. Organiser: Kathryn Hochstetler, Centre for Brazilian Studies, 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 Lula 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 **Dr. Fiona Macaulay**, Institute of Latin American Studies, London, on 'Human Rights in Lula's Brazil'. Dr. 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.

Dr. 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. **Dr. 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.

Other panel reports. Still not too late...!

The April Issue of the SLAS Newsletter contained the first panel reports received after the conference. Some panels have not yet sent in a report, but it is still not too late!! If panels would like a report included in the January issue, so that other SLAS members may read about their papers and discussion, email them to the Editor as soon as possible. Otherwise, anyone interested in the papers and discussions should contact the organisers directly. These are, (where known):

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: Laura Tedesco, University of East Anglia l.tedesco@uea.ac.uk
3. *Tiempo e Imagen en América Latina*, Organizador: Luz Rodríguez Carranza, Universidad de Leiden l.rodriquez@let.leidenuniv.nl
4. *Indigenous Peoples, Democracy, Development and the State in Latin America*, Organiser: Rachel Sieder, ILAS, London rachel.sieder@sas.ac.uk
5. *Local Politics, Popular Participation and Democratic Governance*, Organiser: Kees Koonings, Utrecht University C.G.Koonings@fss.uu.nl
8. *Ordinary People's Politics: reflections on the past 40 years*, Organiser: Lucy Taylor, University of Wales Aberystwyth ift@aber.ac.uk
10. *New Trends and Perspectives in the Historiography on Getulio Vargas and his Era, Fifty Years after his Suicide*. Organiser: Jens Hentschke, University of Newcastle j.r.hentschke@ncl.ac.uk
11. *Social Policy in Argentina*, Organiser: Camila Arza, LSE, c.a.arza@lse.ac.uk

12. *New Focus on Security in Latin America: Urban Violence & Territorial Disputes.*
Organiser: Dirk Kruijt, Utrecht University d.kruijt@fss.uu.nl
14. *The State, the Military and Politics in Latin America, 1850-1950*
Organiser: Alejandro San Francisco, Universidad Católica de Chile asanfran@puc.cl
15. *National Identities in Latin America: Independence to the Present Day*
17. *The Uses of Culture in Latin America*, Organiser: Jon Beasley-Murray, Department of French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies, The University of British Columbia, 797-1873 East Mall, Vancouver, BC. Canada V6T 1Z1, search: <https://www.directory.ubc.ca/>.
18. *La Memoria y el Olvido del período de los regímenes militares*, Organiser: Mario Aguilar, St. Mary's College, University of St Andrews mia2@st-andrews.ac.uk
29. *Organised labour, politics, and the state in 1930s Latin America*,
Organiser: Paulo Drinot, St Antony's College, Oxford. paulo.drinot@sant.ox.ac.uk
30. *Social Policies and Development in Latin America*, Organiser: Beatriz Schmukler, Inst. Mora, Mexico bschmukler@mora.edu.mx
31. *Inter-Cultural Encounters: Immigrants and their Latin American Hosts*
Organiser: Michael Derham, Univ. of Northumbria michael.derham@unn.ac.uk
32. *Visual Cultures and Identities in Latin American and the Caribbean*, Organisers: 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: Nina Laurie, Newcastle University Nina.laurie@ncl.ac.uk
34. *The 'non-politics' of water management.* Organiser: Graciela Schneider, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique urbanred1@wanadoo.fr
36. *Neoliberalism, Governance, and Political Actors in Latin America.*

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

PILAS: Postgraduate Students in Latin American Studies

PILAS is the postgraduate arm of the Society for Latin American Studies in the UK (SLAS, www.slas.org.uk). 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 Committee

PILAS President:

Maria Fernanda Garcia Rincón, University of Cambridge mfg22@cam.ac.uk

PILAS Secretary, Alina Gamboa, Univ. 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 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.

PILAS Eighth Annual Conference: 4-5 February 2005

University of Cambridge, UK

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: Panel and paper proposals are invited on a variety of topics in Latin American studies. These may include (but are not limited to) - political issues - history - economy issues - country-specific issues - cultural issues (e.g. music, visual arts, popular culture) - law and legislation - press - religion - indigenous issues - gender issues – migration. Proposals should be sent to Maria Fernanda Garcia by e-mail to mfg22@cam.ac.uk. The deadline for the submission of paper and/or panel proposals is December 1, 2004. For further information on this organization: <http://www.uea.ac.uk/dev/pilas/>-- Mafe Garcia Rincon, Newnham College, Dept. Land Economy, Cambridge University. Tel: 01223 525 775 / 07793 049 825

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

NEW SLAS PUBLICITY OFFICER

As SLAS members may know, we recently created the post of Publicity Officer, which was held in 2003-2004 by Jon Beasley-Murray (Manchester). Jon has left the UK to take up a new job in the University of British Columbia and Diego Sanchez of the Institute for the Study of the Americas (ISA), University of London (which includes what was formerly ILAS) has agreed to be co-opted onto the SLAS Committee to replace him until the next round of elections in April 2005 (when he will be eligible to stand for election). The duties of the the Publicity Officer as stated in the Constitution of SLAS are "to promote the Society and its activities in appropriate circles, with a view to increasing the membership and international standing of the Society." Diego can be contacted at ISA, London (diego.sanchez@sas.ac.uk).

THE FIRST SLAS ANNUAL LECTURE

The SLAS Annual Lecture is a new initiative which aims to make a focus for SLAS which lies outside the usual conference and workshop arrangements. It is proposed to be held as a public event, to provide interesting Latin American topics for lectures. It is expected that in the future the SLAS Annual lecture will be held in places which may not have established centres of Latin American studies, and everyone, SLAS member or non-SLAS member will be welcome.

The first such event will took place on Friday 29 October at 5pm in Senate House, Malet Street, University of London, when William Robinson, Associate Proffessor of Sociology at the University of California, Santa Barbara, talked

about 'Latin America and the crisis of global capitalism: Opportunities, challenges and hazards.' Professor Robinson is in the Department of Global Studies and Iberian Studies. For further information see <http://www.slas.org.uk/news.shtml> or contact the SLAS Publicity Officer, Diego Sanchez-Ancochea Diego.Sanchez@sas.ac.uk

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

REPORT ON SLAS FUNDED RESEARCH TRIP TO BRAZIL AND ARGENTINA.

“Investigating the Power of Ideas and Institutions in the Argentine-Brazilian Rapprochement (1979-1991): Nuclear Cupertino and Regional Economic Integration.”

I am pleased to report that I successfully completed my research trip to Argentina and Brazil where I spent four months and for which the Society for Latin American Studies provided me a grant. I spent June-July 2003 in Argentina and August-September 2003 in Brazil. During this time, I carried out over 60 interviews and collected primary and secondary sources indispensable to the completion of my PhD thesis.

The materials collected, which can be found only in Argentina and Brazil, and the interviews conducted have enabled me to progress in the writing up of key chapters in my thesis. In these chapters, I test the role of two central social ontologies -ideas and institutions- in order to understand the motivations and strategies leading to the Argentine-Brazilian rapprochement between 1979-1991. During this period, Argentina and Brazil moved gradually from rivalry and competition to co-operation in two specific fields: *nuclear co-operation* which culminated in 1991 with the creation of the Argentine-Brazilian Agency for the Accounting and Control of Nuclear Materials (ABACC) and *regional economic integration* with the creation of the Southern Cone Common Market (Mercosur) in 1991.

While in Buenos Aires, I was able to make use of various resources at libraries, research centres, and government departments. I visited the Consejo Argentino para las Relaciones Internacionales (CARI), Biblioteca Nacional, Instituto del Servicio Exterior de la Nación (ISEN), Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (FLACSO), Instituto para la Integración de América Latina (INTAL), Escuela Superior de Guerra, the archives of *La Nación*, Comisión Nacional de Energía Atómica (CNEA), and Autoridad Regulatoria Nuclear.

I also carried out interviews with an extensive number of key policy-makers and high-ranking officials in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Defence, as well as retired diplomats, academic experts, nuclear physicists, and journalists.

While in Brazil, I spent one month in the capital city Brasilia and one month in Rio de Janeiro. In Brasilia I made extensive use of resources (e.g. books, government reports, complete sets of periodicals) at the Senado and Camara do Diputados libraries, and the libraries at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Defence, and the Ministry of Justice. I also visited the Fundação Alexandre de Gusmão (FUNAG).

In Rio de Janeiro I accessed resources at the Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro, Instituto de Relações Internacionais (IRI), Centro Brasileiro de Relações Internacionais (CEBRI), Comissão Nacional de Energia Nuclear (CNEN), Agência Brasileiro-Argentina de Contabilidade e Controle de Materiais Nucleares (ABACC), and Centro de Pesquisa e Documentação Histórica do

Brasil – Fundação Getúlio Vargas. I also conducted extensive interviews with key protagonists in Brasilia and Rio.

I am extremely thankful to SLAS for supporting my research endeavours. Such support provided me with the resources necessary to meet the targets I had set for myself before leaving for South America. The materials collected and the interviews I carried out will allow me to make an original contribution to my field of study: by investigating the analytical purchase of theories purporting the fundamental role of ideas and institutions in shaping actors' preferences and behaviour and ultimately affecting processes of regional co-operation; and by deepening understandings of how and why two countries such as Argentina and Brazil have moved from rivalry to co-operation.

Finally, the support by SLAS enabled me to broaden my contacts and develop a personal appreciation for two countries, which have provided me with both intellectually stimulating and culturally enriching experiences.

Claudia Fabbri. <Email: cfabbri2001@yahoo.co.uk >

SLAS RESEARCH AWARD:

A REPORT ON MINING IN BOLIVIA

Managing pollution by mining in the Río Pilcomayo, Bolivia

The overall aims of this Ph.D. are to investigate the effects of heavy metal contamination, arising from mining, on communities living alongside a contaminated river (Río Pilcomayo, Bolivia); and secondly, to aid communities in the identification of sources and reduction of exposure to this contamination. To

achieve these aims there are several objectives. Firstly, to measure variability (spatial and temporal) of metal concentrations in river, irrigation and drinking water, air, human urine, hair and nails, and crops grown locally in at least five communities along the Río Pilcomayo. Secondly, identify the major pathways through which metals pose the greatest threat to human health. In addition, identify and understand riverside populations' management of aqueous metal contamination. I intend to use risk assessment methods to develop a multiple pathway exposure model describing the level of metal uptake in humans living along the Río Pilcomayo. Finally, I am collaborating with communities,

In Southern Bolivia, the Río Pilcomayo and its tributaries are fundamental to life in the villages situated along them. In Andean communities the river system provides water for irrigation, whereas lowland communities rely on its fertile waters for fishing. In addition, these waters are used for washing, cooking and drinking. It is a basic human right to have access to clean water; however historic and modern mining operations have resulted in a decrease in water quality in this river system.

Metals, including mercury, arsenic, cadmium, lead, thallium, antimony, zinc, aluminium, silver and copper, have been detected in river, irrigation and drinking water taken from several communities living beside the upper part of the Río Pilcomayo. Furthermore, samples of hair and urine taken in the same communities have been found to contain these metals. The metal concentrations, in many cases, are in excess of published averages from studies performed elsewhere in the world. Interviews conducted with villagers and health workers

revealed that vomiting and diarrhoea are the illnesses suffered by all members of the community on a regular basis. Although these symptoms are typical of metal poisoning it is extremely difficult to prove that this could be the only cause.

The £600 travel grant I was awarded formed part of the payment for a return flight to Bolivia (total cost £731.81) required in order to complete the first of two fieldwork sessions, one during the dry season (2003) and another during the wet season (2004). The first fieldwork period was for a total duration of seven weeks from 31st March 2003 to 15th May 2003. These seven weeks were spent making contacts, identifying a control community, establishing a relationship with five communities and taking preliminary samples. These samples comprised drinking, irrigation and river water, hair, nails and urine, taken from five villages. Small quantities of vegetable samples (onions and carrots) were taken from two of the villages.

The villages participating in this project are Tasapampa, Tuero Chico, Sotomayor, Cota (all Department of Chuquisaca) and El Molino (Department of Potosí). Drinking water samples were taken from taps and storage tanks, irrigation waters from irrigation canals, and river waters from the Ríos Del Molino, Pilcomayo and Cachimayo. All the communities with the exception of Cota are located on the banks of the Río Pilcomayo or one of its polluted tributaries. Cota was selected as a control village as it is believed that this community receives 'clean' water from a tributary of the Pilcomayo. No mines or mills were identified upstream of this community. The crops grown here are typical of those cultivated in this area of Bolivia and the community size is comparable to the other four villages.

Sucre was used as a base. There I hired a jeep and driver to transport me and my equipment into the field. During the early part of the fieldwork my supervisor (Dr. Preston) and I would travel to the five villages and spend a day in each, introducing ourselves and the project to the community. Once the project was introduced, and providing village leaders gave me permission, I returned alone for longer periods in the order of five days at a time.

Accommodation was provided by the communities and was either a bed in a medical centre or staying with a family (normally with one of the heads of the community). The communities are poor and facilities are basic. For instance, some, but not all, houses have electricity. Most households had access to an outside tap for water. All houses were without bathrooms.

A second fieldwork phase took part for a total of eleven weeks, from 10th January 2004 to 25th March 2004. These eleven weeks were spent making new contacts and visiting those organisations with which contact was made last year; presenting results in the villages visited last year; establishing relationships with several new communities; and taking new and repeat, more detailed, samples of river, irrigation and drinking water, hair and urine in the original sampling communities and in new communities. In each village detailed social survey data was collected and field observations were made regarding water use for farming and human consumption.

Again, Sucre was used as a base and the same driver and jeep hired to transport Dr. Preston, my equipment and me into the field. During the first week Dr.

Preston and I returned to the original five villages (Tasapampa, Tuero Chico, Sotomayor, Cota and El Molino) to present results from last year's fieldwork to the appointed medical personnel, community leaders and sample volunteers. Subsequently, I returned to each of the five villages for longer periods in the order of five days to one week. During this time I sampled, where possible, from the same locations as last year.

Several new communities were included in this year's fieldwork program (wet season), i.e. Villa Montes, Tresposas and San Antonio (all Department of Tarija). All three sampling areas are located in the far south-east of Bolivia, around one hour from the border with Argentina. The same types of samples were collected here and also in Sucre and the UK for comparison purposes with the control village and other Bolivian communities.

Sampling took place during both the wet (January to March 2004) and dry seasons (April to May 2003) to test whether changes in precipitation affect metal uptake in humans. In addition, water use in these communities has been explored for the purpose of risk assessment analysis. Metal concentrations have been measured in the waters, human hair, and urine, using inductively coupled plasma-mass spectroscopy. Preliminary analyses showed that a dilution effect occurs in water samples collected during the wet season.

This study has also identified that unfiltered water contains higher concentrations of metals compared to filtered waters, suggesting that many of the metals in these waters are associated with particulate matter rather than being

predominately in solution. Metal concentrations in samples collected in the control village (unaffected by mining) show little difference to those collected elsewhere in the study area, indicating that mining is not the only source of metals. Results from dry season sampling have been reported to community leaders, local NGOs and staff from the Departmental Planning Department. Preliminary talks with these groups have taken place regarding possible risk-minimising strategies, such as the introduction of basic filters.

The final laboratory work phase is taking place from June to September 2004. Analysis of all samples is taking place using both inductively coupled plasma-atomic emission spectroscopy (ICP-AES) and inductively coupled plasma-mass spectroscopy (ICP-MS). The major cations calcium (Ca), sodium (Na), magnesium (Mg), potassium (K), iron (Fe) and manganese (Mn) are being analysed using the former. The trace elements aluminium (Al), antimony (Sb), arsenic (As), cadmium (Cd), copper (Cu), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), silver (Ag), thallium (Tl) and zinc (Zn) are being analysed using the latter. The waters are analysed filtered and unfiltered. Prior to analysis, hair and nails are digested in nitric acid and hydrogen peroxide, vegetables and airborne dust digested in nitric acid only. Urine samples are both filtered and diluted prior to analysis, or digested in nitric acid. A further trip is planned for 2005, when I will present my results to the participating communities and liaise with them and other government and non-government organisations to facilitate the design of feasible risk minimising strategies based on my field observations and lab results.

Jane ARCHER, School of Earth Sciences, Birkbeck, University of London,
London WC1E 7HX. Email: garch01@students.geology.bbk.ac.uk

REPORT ON SLAS FUNDED RESEARCH

TRIP TO STUDY RAILWAY DEVELOPMENT IN BRAZIL

With the kind support of the Society for Latin American Studies I was able to complete a research trip to Brazil in July - September 2004. The objective of the fieldwork was to visit archives and libraries in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo to examine material relating to railway history.

My aim is not to write an engineering or technical thesis, although I admit I do get somewhat emotional when I hear a whistle and smell the smoke of a locomotive in steam. Rather I am seeking an understanding of the cultural significance of the railway in Brazilian history and society. It was British and, later, North American entrepreneurs who built many of the Brazilian lines from the 1850s onwards.

Brazilian control came in the 1930s and decline set in from the 1950s as Government policy turned towards improving the road network. What remains of the railways is now privatised, but like me there are many Brazilians who get a lump in their throat at the thought of a steam locomotive in full flight and the rail preservation movement is gaining strength.

It is this desire to preserve and to recreate the past that I am interested in. Why, in a country regarded as forward looking, are there groups of people dedicated to running old steam trains along half-forgotten tracks?

Research in the Arquivo Nacional and Biblioteca Nacional in Rio de Janeiro and the Arquivo do Estado de São Paulo was a success with much primary and secondary material relating to railway culture available. However the archives

and libraries relating specifically to railways all had one thing in common: they were un-catalogued. This proved to be an interesting challenge resolved by patient and careful browsing. Since the privatisation of the Government controlled rail network (RFFSA) the libraries at Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Jundiaí-SP appear to have been left in limbo. Never the less I was able to consult many useful texts and to make photocopies of unique documents. I only hope that funding is secured in some form to ensure that these public archives can continue with some form of security.

Of particular help was Adelson Martins, President of the Associação de Engenheiros da Estrada de Ferro Santos Jundiaí, who allowed me access to his Association's library. I was able to read much valuable material about the end of the British control of this particular line and its transfer to Brazilian ownership, as well as form a view on how railway workers become passionate for their trade - transforming it from a job into a vocation.

My research trip has allowed me to examine how railway imperialism was expressed, for example, through the linguistic turn of the San Paulo Railway (as it was known to British shareholders in the 1870s) into the Ingleza (as it was known to passengers). I have also been able to trace a continuous thread of secondary and tertiary historical writing stretching back to 1903: railway history in Brazil appears to have a tradition of rewriting rather than fresh primary-source research. I wonder whether this is connected with the difficulty in encountering original documents in the public archives. These considerations will form an important part of my PhD thesis, 'Ferrovia: Railway Culture in Brazil'.

Towards the end of my trip I was invited to take part in an international seminar, "Educação Superior na Amazônia: Cenários, Experiências e Perspectivas", held in Porto Velho, Rondônia, between 31 Aug and 2 Sept 2004. Almost all of the public and private universities in the Amazon region were represented and the 450 delegates heard calls for the creation of a style and concept of higher education which reflected local conditions rather than copied the institutions of Europe and North America.

Martin Cooper, Institute of Railway Studies & Transport History, University of York, pmc114@york.ac.uk

SLAS ARCHIVE NOTE

During the time I have been attending SLAS meetings (my first at the Isle of Thorns, Sussex, 1967 – our 3rd AGM), I have been accumulating papers relating to the affairs of the Society. I have been on the Committee since 1977 (or perhaps before), and an officer of the Society (Vice-Chairman [1977-8], Chairman [1979-81] and Treasurer [1982-2004])

In an effort to make these papers available to posterity (and under family pressure) I have organised them into some one hundred files in half a dozen cardboard boxes, measuring about 10 feet in total length. I have prepared a brief digest on each file I have enjoyed depositing them with our archivist at the University of Liverpool. I have indexed material from Files 1-75, which cover the years up to about 1995, under 25 different themes: these include such obvious ones as committee minutes, PILAS, BLAR, the SLAS Newsletter, Charity

Commission matters, Income and Expenditure accounts, Annual Conferences, AGMs etc, and others - perhaps less obvious but at the time no less interesting – on Investments (eg Krugerrands), Society T-shirts, and committee travel costs.

The contents of each post-1995 files (101-122, two feet long) has been very briefly summarised but not subjected to the thematic indexing as the earlier files. The indexes and digests are available on disc and from David Fox (david.fox@man.ac.uk) as well as from the archivist.

It should be appreciated that much of the material is genuine ephemera; some of it is duplicated; there are some chronological gaps; and there is some personal opinion as well as the facts of history amongst these files. Happily the Society has turned out to be the converse of ephemeral and it is hoped that some enthusiastic person will one day write an account of the origins and prospering of SLAS. I hope this bulky but modest archive should be grist to that person's mill!

David Fox, 9th May 2004

SLAS MEMBERS NEWS

Mario Sergio de Leon Estrada, formerly of the Institute for Health and Development studies at Queen Margaret University College, Edinburgh. Does anyone know the whereabouts of this SLAS Member? His copies of BLAR and the SLAS Newsletter are being returned to sender!

Phil Swanson, Department of Hispanic Studies at the University of sheffield, has taken up the Chair of Hispanic Studies at the University of Sheffield and is no longer inpost at the University of Aberdeen. New email address is

p.swanson@sheffield.ac.uk

Jan Kleinpenning, now has a new email address: jmg.kleinpenning@t-online.de

Jon Beasley-Murray has a new institutional address: Department of French, Hispanic, and Italian Studies, University of British Columbia, 797-1873 East Mall, Vancouver, BC, Canada V6T 1Z1 - Search <https://www.directory.ubc.ca/>. for his email. He checks his Manchester address just for the time being. If your message relates to the Manchester Centre for Latin American Cultural Studies, contact lacs@man.ac.uk. If it relates to Manchester's Dept. of Spanish & Portuguese Studies, contact Bernadette Cunnane, bernadette.cunnane@man.ac.uk. For all other matters (e.g. the BLAR), please contact via Canadian email.

Gareth Jones is co-organising, with Dennis Rodgers, at LSE a workshop on Youth Violence in Latin America. Workshop will be announced in the usual ways through Institute of the Americas (ILAS of old). They are keen to link the workshop to NGOs and non academics. Anyone interested should contact Gareth Jones, Geography, Department of Geography, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. Tel UK 020 7955 7610 Fax UK 020 7955 7412 The provisional program-me of workshop is available <http://americas.sas.ac.uk/events/youthviolence.htm>

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.

(more space for your news to send to the SLAS Newsletter!)

Vanessa Knights (School of Modern Languages, University of Newcastle) has been granted a British Academy joint activities award of £3000 for 2004-2006 in conjunction with Fernando Valerio Holguín (Colorado State University) for a joint project on Boleros and Literature. A series of seminars/workshops will be organised in Fort Collins (2005) and Newcastle (2006) leading to a monograph. For other news and events related to the Popular Music Research Group at Newcastle check out the website at: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/sacs/POP>.

CONFERENCES AND CALLS FOR PAPERS

1. Call for Papers: International Conference: Popular Musics of the Hispanic and Lusophone Worlds, 14th-16th July 2006, University of Newcastle upon Tyne

To be hosted by School of Modern Languages & International Centre for Music Studies, University of Newcastle in conjunction with the School of Modern Languages, University of Nottingham and The Sage Gateshead. Confirmed plenary speakers: Salwa El-Shawan Castelo Branco (Instituto de Etnomusicologia, Lisbon) Timothy Mitchell (A&M University, Texas) David Treece (King's College, University of London)

Contributions are invited to the above conference which aims to bring together scholars from all over the world, in any discipline, working on popular musics from Hispanic and Lusophone communities worldwide (plus groups within those communities who are not Spanish/Portuguese speakers).

The official languages of the conference are English, Spanish and Portuguese. We would be particularly interested in papers, panels and workshops on the following themes, although these should not be taken as exclusive: Diaspora, displacement, migration, transnationalism, Identity (race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, class etc.), Hybridity and transculturation, Multi- and polyculturalism, Mass media and modernity, Indigenous and folk musics, Tradition and authenticity, Postmodern and Postcolonial approaches, Global, national and local dynamics, Genre and/or style studies, History, memory and nostalgia, Cultures of resistance.

Please contact the organisers if you have suggestions for performance-based activities. There will be an extensive programme of cultural events around the city of Newcastle and Gateshead, organised in conjunction with Name and Involving leading local arts organisations such as Northern Stage and The Sage Gateshead.

Papers should be designed to last no more than 20 minutes. Please send an abstract of no more than 200 words and any panel proposals to the conference administrator Sarah Barber at: s.g.m.barber@ncl.ac.uk with the subject heading 'Popular Musics Conference' by June 30, 2005. Other enquiries should go to the conference organisers, Ian Biddle: i.d.biddle@ncl.ac.uk, Vanessa Knights v.n.m.knights@ncl.ac.uk or Mark Sabine mark.sabine@nottingham.ac.uk
Conference website: <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/niassh/popularmusics> Festival website: <http://www.vamosfestival.com> Supported by Newcastle Institute for Arts, Social Sciences and Humanities.

2. Call for papers: Disciplinary identity of Area Studies Date: 29 November 2004, Location: CILT, Covent Garden, London

Global forms of knowledge and their advocates will not generate the funding for area studies unless the necessity for area-specific knowledge is clearly and widely understood. But instead of building its own intellectual foundations in the university, the intellectual benefits of area studies have gone into the disciplines, including language teaching (Ludden 1998). Area Studies courses are widely taught in UK Higher Education, and multidisciplinary Area Studies Associations continue to thrive yet practitioners generally see themselves primarily as historians, political scientists, geographers, linguists etc. and not as Area Studies specialists.

This raises questions about the support provided by the Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies. The Area Studies Project involved six partner Subject Centres from the arts, humanities and social sciences. The nature of disciplinarity and notions of interdisciplinarity and multidisciplinary were soon identified both optimistically as opportunities or more pessimistically as threats to current disciplines.

This conference aims to discuss the nature of Area Studies and its value to its composite disciplines, its contribution to teaching and research and most importantly whether Area Studies itself is, or can become a discipline.

Contributions may include, but are not limited to: * Area Studies: a discipline?

* Links between teaching and research in Area Studies * Institutional structures

of Area Studies * Area Studies and government policy * Bringing Area Studies into disciplines. * Contribution of disciplines to Area Studies. * International perspectives on Area Studies * Issues of identity for staff and students.

Please send proposals John Canning j.canning@soton.ac.uk. The Subject Centre will pay travel expenses within the UK for papers accepted. Further reading Ludden, D. 1998. Area Studies in the Age of Globalisation <<http://www.sas.upenn.edu/~dludden/areast2.htm>> www.sas.upenn.edu/~dludden/areast2.htm

3. Call for contributions: Revolucionarias: conflict and gender in Latin American narratives by women

Nations suffer trauma and shock during and after conflict. In response, narratives are written, which, in turn, become fictional history and enter the imaginative Store held by the peoples (pueblos) of that space. The significance of these fictional (and often not so fictional) accounts of war to the creative, social and political act that is post-conflict nation rebuilding cannot be under-estimated.

This collection will therefore draw together for the first time a range of narratives of conflict and revolution as represented by Latin American women writers.

Contributions might include (but not be limited to) the following areas of enquiry:

Conflict in public and private experience, Conflict as essential context for constructions and projections of subjectivity; Conflict between genres and gender; Conflict between national and gendered identities; Conflict between and within genders.

Depending on interest, the organisers/ editors may organise a one-day conference in 2005 to enable potential contributors to discuss common theoretical/thematic threads and divergences. In the first instance, potential contributors are encouraged to express initial interest as soon as possible, and to submit an abstract (300 words) by end-September 2004 to Par Kumaraswami or Niamh Thornton at the following addresses: P.Kumaraswami@hw.ac.uk
Nthornton@wit.ie

4. Call for papers - Bolivian Studies Association, Third International Congress, Florida International University, Miami, Florida, 24-26 Feb. 2005

Please send proposals for panels and individual presentations on any topic on Bolivia. We welcome interdisciplinary sessions and discussions on any period and topic, from the study of Indigenous texts to the present situation of Bolivia.

Topics may include, but are not limited to: democracy and democratization; globalization; postnationalism; neoregionalism; Indigenous movements; Colonial studies; politics of race, gender and ethnicity; cultural politics in educational reforms; literary and cultural studies; cultural theory; popular culture (film, music, radio, television); urban and environmental studies; linguistics; architecture; photography; and any aspect of the natural history and biomedical sciences; and others. Send one page abstracts (300 words) and proposals, to Eduardo A. Gamarra, gamarrae@fiu.edu fax (305) 348-6744 or mail to Liesl Picard, Latin American and Caribbean Center, DM 353, University Park Campus, Florida International University, Miami, Florida 33199.

5. Call for Proposals Postgraduate Opportunities for Practice-Based Teaching: Doing research, thinking about teaching: anthropology-led approaches to Latin America and the Caribbean

This project is funded by C-SAP (Centre for learning and teaching Sociology, Anthropology and Politics) and co-ordinated by the Latin America Bureau (LAB) and the Department of Anthropology at Goldsmiths College. It seeks to provide a forum in which postgraduates can investigate and use their research and expertise on Latin America and the Caribbean to plan and lead day-long workshops for a range of participants from both academic and non academic backgrounds. We hope to schedule six workshops at regular intervals starting from September 2004 and running until April 2005.

Individual, joint or group proposals are invited from those interested in co-ordinating a day workshop where they can develop teaching practice around issues they consider to be of importance, with an emphasis in using ethnographic research to illuminate wider socio-economic and political structures and developments. Ideas or proposals to develop the following themes are encouraged:

Teaching Latin American studies: developing content in response to student interest and priorities in the region; · Haiti: the History behind the Crisis and its implications for the Caribbean region; · Social responses to natural resource privatisation; · Trade in the Americas: who's for and against and why?; · The left in power in Latin America; · Still the backyard? US policy towards Latin America and the Caribbean;

The focus of the project is to encourage creative teaching practice amongst postgraduates by thinking through different methodologies and ways to promote interaction and learning. Proposals should include a breakdown of how the day might be structured; ideas for educational materials and handouts; any additional speakers or specialists (eg activists/academics/journalists); ideas about how to practically relate ethnography to wider learning and interaction for a non specialist audience. Support and advice will be available to all those interested in co-ordinating a workshop.

An email list will be created where ideas, suggestions and experiences can be circulated. Monies are available for travel and subsistence; to hire equipment (eg a projector to show documentaries); to invite guest speakers (for example, journalists or activists). LAB and Goldsmiths will be responsible for advertising and promotion to recruit participants for the workshops.

We are open to support proposals to co-ordinate workshops outside London if premises can be arranged and sufficient interest can be demonstrated. Please send proposals, suggestions, ideas, comments or questions to both Kate Cooper and Jean McNeil as soon as possible. Please also send us your email if you would like to be informed about future developments via our email list:

kcooper@lab.org.uk; jmcneil@lab.org.uk.

Jean McNeil, Commissioning Editor, Latin America Bureau, 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL United Kingdom. Tel: +44 (0)20 7278 2829. Fax: +44 (0)20 7833 0715. website: www.latinamericabureau.org

FUNDING

The Area Studies Network list is run by the Subject Centre for Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies, www.llas.ac.uk. The Subject Centre is now part of the Higher Education Academy www.heacademy.ac.uk For more information contact: Dr John Canning, Academic Coordinator (Area Studies, Modern Languages University of Southampton, Southampton, SO17 1BJ. Tel +44 (0)23 8059 5408. Fax +44 (0)23 8059 4815.

1. SUBJECT CENTRE CALLS FOR BIDS: MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT

PROJECTS (NEW): The Subject Centre's Materials Bank (www.llas.ac.uk/mb) has been set up to encourage and facilitate the sharing of teaching materials in Languages, Linguistics and Area Studies. The Subject Centre is currently seeking to expand and develop this resource and is making some funds available for the development of additional materials for the Bank. We are inviting bids for small-scale projects (max £5000 per project) which will develop new materials that can be made available for sharing across the sector. Projects should, therefore, relate to materials that address an area of need (e.g. lack of good/available resources), a particular teaching issue/method/tool or relate to a core aspect of a discipline. Further details and an application form can be found at: www.llas.ac.uk . The closing date for applications is 30th November 2004 and projects will begin in January 2005.

2. PEDAGOGIC RESEARCH PROJECTS: Pedagogical research fund (deadline 15 Nov 04 <http://www.lang.ltsn.ac.uk/news/newsitem.aspx?resourceid=2139>)

3. WORKSHOPS TO GO: Workshops to go (deadline 8 November 04)

<http://www.lang.ltsn.ac.uk/news/newsitem.aspx?resourceid=2141>

4. GUEST SPEAKER FUND (no deadline)

<http://www.lang.ltsn.ac.uk/news/newsitem.aspx?resourceid=2140>

IT NEWS

1. Title: Trojans, Worms, and Spyware: A Computer Security Professional's Guide to Malicious Code. by Michael Erbschloe. Website:

<http://www.elsevier.com/locate/ISBN/0750678488>

In the last issue of the SLAS Newsletter, Katie Willis, the SLAS IT Officer, wrote a short piece about how to avoid getting computer virus infections, and other nasty computer things! Elsevier have recently produced a book on the fine detail of the subject. So, for those who wish to delve deeper....

Chapter One: Malicious Code Overview

Chapter Two: Types of Malicious Code

Chapter Three: Review of Malicious Code Incidents

Chapter Four: Basic Steps to Combat Malicious Code

Chapter Five: Organizing for Security, Prevention, and Response

Chapter Six: Controlling Computer Behavior of Employees

Elsevier Limited, The Boulevard, Langford, Lane, Kidlington, Oxford OX5 1GB,

2. New website

I extend an invitation for you to visit a new Web site (www.er-saguier.org) of my own titled, Un Debate Histórico Inconcluso en la América Latina (1600-2000).

Cuatro siglos de lucha en el espacio colonial Peruano y Rioplatense y en la Argentina Moderna y Contemporánea, where the subjects are history, politics, society, economics and culture of Latin America. My site includes more than a hundred chapters distributed in fourteen volumes, as well as a lot of tables, charts, appendixes, graphics and images, and a very rich and specialized section of links. I would appreciate your visiting to my site(www.er-saquier.org)

Eduardo R. Saguier

3. Handbook of Latin American & Caribbean Studies in the UK, Online

I am pleased to announce that the above Handbook is now available online - as the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Research Portal - at

www.sas.ac.uk/ilas/handbook/search_index.asp. This resource allows users to search for:

Latin Americanist and Caribbeanist academics in the UK by name or according to their country/region or disciplinary interest, or the university at which they are employed.

* Degrees and courses that have a Latin American or Caribbean component, with the contact details of the relevant university. These details are searchable by university, level of study (undergraduate or postgraduate), discipline and keyword.

* PhD and research master's theses on topics relating to Latin America or the Caribbean that have been completed since 1997 or are currently underway. They are also searchable by keyword (such as author's name or thesis title) or discipline.

The data on the site was collected in 2001 and 2002 for publication in 2003, so

there are inevitably some discrepancies. The online format allows ongoing updating, so we are happy to make any changes you request as appropriate. This includes adding new information as well as updating existing information.

If you would like to advise us of a change to the information, please email Agnieszka.Gillespie@sas.ac.uk or fax 020 7862 8886. We hope you will find this online resource useful, and we would welcome feedback. You may also be interested in a similar resource on North America, the American Studies Research Portal, at www.asrp.info.

Karen Perkins, Administrative Secretary, Institute of Latin American Studies, School of Advanced Study, University of London, 31 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9HA. Tel 020 7862 8875, Fax 020 7862 8886. Email karen.perkins@sas.ac.uk www.sas.ac.uk/ilas

4. The Cuban Rafter Phenomenon: A Unique Sea Exodus

The Cuban Rafter Phenomenon: A Unique Sea Exodus <http://balseros.miami.edu> is a multi-media archive on the 1994 Cuban raft crisis. The site is divided into three sections, each introduced by a video and short essay available both in English and Spanish. The first gives an overview of what the rafter phenomenon is, providing an overall timeline of significant events from 1994 to 1996 with thematic links to oral histories, primary documents, photographs and bibliographical sources. The second is devoted to photographic essays on the rafters' experience at the U.S. Naval Base at Guantánamo, including the experience of adults and children and their cultural and religious expression in the camps. The third presents an historical overview, primary sources and a

photo essay on rafter camps located in the Cayman Islands. The site was produced by Holly Ackerman and Ray Uzwysyn at the University of Miami Libraries, Coral Gables, Florida. It is the first segment of a site that will cover all aspects of post-1980 Cuban migration.

Holly Ackerman, Assistant Professor & Social Sciences Librarian, 1300 Memorial Drive, Otto G. Richter Library, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL 33124, 305-284-4059 (Phone), 305-284-4027 (Fax), holly@miami.edu

6. Web writing and reviews

I've just set up a website dedicated to writing from and about Latin America, the Latin American Review of Books (www.latamrob.com). It's not commercial, but we need to sell books through the site in order to cover costs. We hope it will be a valuable resource for anyone interested in Latin America. I am a SLAS member and formerly lectured in Latin American politics at Queen Mary, University of London. **Gavin O'Toole, Editor, Latin American Review of Books**

FELLOWSHIPS AT THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR DEMOCRACY

The National Endowment for Democracy (NED) invites applications to its Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows Program. Established in 2001 to enable democracy ac-tivists, scholars, and journalists from around the world to deepen their understand-ing of democracy and enhance their ability to promote democratic change, the fel-lowship program is based at NED's International Forum for Democratic Studies, in Washington, D.C.

Program: The program offers two tracks: a practitioner track (typically three to five months in duration) to improve strategies and techniques for building democracy abroad and to exchange ideas and experiences with counterparts in the United States; and a scholarly track (typically five to ten months in length) to conduct original research for publication.

Eligibility: The fellows program is intended primarily to support practitioners and scholars from new and aspiring democracies. Distinguished scholars from the United States and other established democracies are also eligible to apply.

Practitioners are expected to have substantial experience working to promote democracy. Scholars are expected to have a doctorate, or academic equivalent, at the time of application. The program is not designed to pay for professional training or to support students working toward a degree. A working knowledge of English is an important prerequisite for participation in the program.

Support:

The fellowship year begins October 1 and runs through July 31, with major entry dates in October and March. All fellows receive a monthly stipend, health insurance, travel assistance, and research support through the Forum's Democracy Resource Center and Internship Program.

Application: For further details and instructions on how to apply, please download our "Information and Application Forms" booklet, available on our website at www.ned.org/forum/R-FApplication.pdf or visit us online at www.ned.org and follow the link to "Fellowship Programs." Please note that all application materi-

als must be type-written and in English. Deadline: Applications for fellowships must be received no later than November 1, for the following year. Notification of the competition outcome is in April. For questions, please contact: Program Assistant, Fellowship Programs National Endowment for Democracy, 1101 15 th Street, N.W., Suite 800 Washington, DC 20005. Tel.: (202) 293-0300, Fax: (202) 293-0258. E-mail: fellowships@ned.org Internet: www.ned.org

NEW BOOKS

FROM PLUTO PRESS

Dorfman, Ariel, *Other Septembers, many Americas: selected provocations 1980-2004*, Pluto Press, London, 6 October 2004, pbk £12.99, 256 pp, forward and footnotes, no index.

The peripatetic writer and commentator Ariel Dorfman brings together in this volume 46 of his shorter works including a number of previously unpublished pieces. The aim of the book is to improve our understanding of the roots of the present crisis stemming from 11th September 2002, and to start to see what the new world future may be. As a member of Allende's staff on 11 September 1973, he represents a unique position as a writer to develop broad contrasts of such wide American themes. The book will have appeal to all those concerned with the process of political commentary and evaluation, and, particularly of the "naked predicament" of the present era.

FROM COMBINED ACADEMIC PUBLISHERS LTD.

Diaz, Arlene J., *female citizens, patriarchs, and the law in Venezuela, 1786 – 1904*, University of Nebraska Press and Combined Academic Publishers

Ltd., London, 1 June 2004, 336pp, pbk £29.95, 1b&w illustration, 12 tables, notes, bibliography and index.

Using court records as primary sources, this book looks at the changes in gender relations and the relationship of Venezuelans to the developing new state. It considers the late colonial period from 1786-1811, the early republic from 1830 to 1840, and the period from 1870 to 1888. The final chapter concludes with some considerations of the development of these changes into the early 20th Century. Detailed notes make this book a source for those concerned with the study of Latin American gender relations, the process of law in Venezuela, and the emergence of early Venezuelan democratic processes.

Newcomer, Daniel, *Reconciling modernity: urban state formation in 1940's Leon, Mexico*, University of Nebraska Press and Combined Academic Publishers Ltd, London, 1 August 2004, pp288, hbk £37.95, 4 b&w illustrations, note on archival sources, notes, bibliography, and index.

One of the main lines of interpretation of this era in Mexican politics is that of the use of violence to enforce order and the general inability of the political elite in post revolutionary Leon to impose their version of reality on the general population. Further themes are in state defined material modernisation, the organisational role of sinarquismo, and the triumph for the state over conservative antagonists. This book will have interest for those involved in the history of Mexico, and the relationship between the Church and state in the post revolutionary politics of Mexico.

INSTITUTIONAL NEWS & SEMINARS

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Centre of Latin American Studies

University of Cambridge, 17 Mill Lane, Cambridge CB2 1RX

Tel: 44-1223-335390 Fax:44-1223-335397

<http://www.latin-american.cam.ac.uk>

New Address And Location: The Centre of Latin American Studies, University of Cambridge, moved location in April this year, please note their new address.

Seminars – all are welcome

11/October/2004 Mercedes González de la Rocha, Guadalajara Mexico

Private adjustments and social isolation: household responses to economic change in Mexico

18/ October /2004 Carlos Flores, Goldsmiths College, University of London

Shifting anthropological frameworks: Indigenous video and shared anthropology in post-war Guatemala

25/ October /2004 Geoffrey Baker, Royal Holloway, University of London

Nationalizing Rap: Hip hop and the State in Cuba

01/November/2004 Line Schjolden, ISA, University of London

Bringing the Courts (Back) In: Rethinking State-Labour Relations in Argentina, 1900-1943

08/ November /2004 Carmen Fracchia Birkbeck, University of London

Depicting African People in Colonial Mexico

15/ November /2004 Dominic Moran Christ Church & Brasenose, Oxford Univ.

“Diez anos de tarea solitaria”: Neruda & 20 poemas de amor

22/ November /2004 Caterina Pizzigoni, ISA, University of London Title T. B. A.

29/ November /2004 Dennis Rodgers Development Studies Institute, LSE.

The Politics of Participation: Crisis, Improvisation, and Participatory Budgeting in Buenos Aires, 2001-2004

Simón Bolívar Chair –

The Simón Bolívar Professor for this academic year is Mercedes González de la Rocha, CIESAS-Occidente, Guadalajara, Mexico.

Workshops and conferences

1. Red October: Prospects for Bolivia. Workshop, Friday, October, 29th.

Organized by Dr Sian Lazar, Research Officer, CLAS, in collaboration with the Institute for the Study of the Americas (formerly ILAS), University of London.

2. 'The Conundra of Vision: Reflexivity in Latin American Visual Culture'.

This international symposium will be held on 18 and 19 February, 2005

3. João Moreira Salles, renowned Brazilian filmmaker, will be spending the month of February, 2005 at CLAS, during which time he will present a series of seminars.

Please check the Centre's website for more details regarding speakers, programme etc for the above events nearer the time. <http://www.latin-american.cam.ac.uk>

LATIN AMERICA BUREAU

1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7278 2829 Fax: +44 (0)20 7833 0715

website: www.latinamericabureau.org

New Books from LAB

The Left in the City: Participatory Local Governments in Latin America, Daniel Chavez and Benjamin Goldfrank (eds) October £12.99 ISBN 1 899365 66

The Future of Memory: Children of the Dictatorship in Argentina Speak, Andrés Jaroslavsky October £12.99 ISBN 1 899365 55 9

Last Resorts: the Cost of Tourism in the Caribbean, Polly Pattullo Second

edition, updated and revised November £13.99 ISBN 1 899365 64 8

LAB Christmas Party

Following the overwhelming success of last years' LAB Christmas benefit, this year we are planning another informative and fun-packed day. This will consist of cutting-edge documentaries, a solidarity fair including Fair Trade coffee tasting workshops and wine tasting sessions, a book launch with a panel of speakers and a raffle with some fabulous prizes - all culminating in a blow-out party with a live salsa band. We look forward to seeing you all there. Time: 2pm - 12 midnight
Date: Saturday 4th December 2004 Venue: Latin America Bureau, 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL Admission: admission TBC, but a small donation for documentaries, and likely £5 for the live salsa band party

LAB workshops and language classes programme:

LAB has programmed a unique series of day workshops on current issues in Latin America and the Caribbean. These workshops have been part-funded the Centre for the Teaching of Sociology, Anthropology and Politics and are organised in conjunction with the Anthropology Department at Goldsmiths College. Workshops take place in London, Norwich and Liverpool. For a full programme of workshops, contact LAB at: courses@lab.org.uk; write to the address above, or download a programme from: <http://www.latinamericabureau.org/?lid=25>
[workshops are all at](#) : The Library, Latin America Bureau, 1 Amwell St, London EC1R 1UL, unless otherwise stated.

1. Che Guevara and the Changing Image of the Left in Latin America, Tutor:

Nick Caistor, Saturday October 30, 10am-4pm Venue Price: £25

(waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 (LAB Supporters)

2. Working and Volunteering in Latin America, Tutor: Jean McNeil, Sat.

November 6, 10am-4pm Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 LAB

Supporters

3. Globalisation: Curse or Cure? Tutor: Andy Higginbottom, Sat. November 13,

10am-4pm, Venue: Lecture Theatres (opposite the Library), Univ. of East Anglia,

Norwich, Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 (LAB Supporters)

4. DIY Documentary Making: Producing and Marketing your own Docu-

mentary, Tutor: Tom Feiling, Saturday November 6, 10am-4pm, Price: £40

(waged)/£30 (unwaged)/£30 (LAB Supporters)

5. Youth and Violence in Latin America. Tutors: Neil Pyper, Mo Hume, Udi

Butler, 27 November 2004, Venue: Institute of Latin American Studies, 86

Bedford Street South, University of Liverpool, Liverpool L69 7WW. Price: £25

(waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 (LAB Supporters)

6. Human Rights in Latin America. Tutor: Marcela López Levy, Sat 11 Dec.

2004, 10am-4pm. Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 LAB Supporters

7. US Foreign Policy in Latin America/. Tutor: Gian Luca Gardini, Sat. 15 Jan. 2005, 10am-4pm. Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 LAB Supporters

8. Singing to the sun: popular music in Latin America. Tutor Hazel Marsh, 19th February 2005, Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 (LAB Supporters)

9. Trade in the Americas: Who's for and against and why? Tutor Diego Sanchez Ancochea, 26th February 2005, Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 (LAB Supporters)

10. Indigenous movements, national politics and film in Latin America.
Course tutors: Adriana Acevedo and David Wood, 5th March 2005. Price: £25 (waged)/£15 (unwaged)/£12 (LAB Supporters)

LAB Courses taking place at the City Literary Institute, Stukeley Street, Covent Garden, in Central London,. October-December 2004. All courses priced £21 Waged, Seniors £12, Concessions £6. LAB Supporters pay the concessionary rate. To enrol see: www.citylit.ac.uk, or call 020 7831 7831

1. The Politics and Culture of Cuba. Tutor: Erica Moret, Course code: 4HLA04, Saturday October 30, 10.30am-4.30pm Venue: The City Lit, , London

2. Latin American Literature: Invitation to Borges. Tutor: Psiche Hughes, Course code: 4HLA05, 27 November, 10.30am-4.30pm

3. **Colombia.** Tutor: Andy Higginbottom, Course code: 4HLA03, 11 December, 10.30am-4.30pm,

Latin American Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese classes at LAB

This autumn the Latin America Bureau (LAB) is offering 10-week courses of Latin American Spanish and Brazilian Portuguese. These are language classes with a difference: rather than learning how to discuss the weather or order a meal, our tutors will teach grammar and conversation through theme-based classes focused on current affairs, and cultural and political developments in the region.

So join us at LAB for our innovative language classes and learn or improve your language skills, your knowledge of Latin America and meet new people. Courses run from the week of 4th October to the week of 6th December 2004 *Further courses, including advanced classes may be offered in the Spring.* Price: £100 (waged); £80 (unwaged/student); £70 (LAB Supporter) Venue: The Library, Latin America Bureau, 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL

Beginners Spanish: Tuesday 7pm 8.30pm (course starts 5th October 2004)

Course Tutor: Claudia Bogdanov.

Intermediate Spanish: Monday 6.30pm-8pm (course starts 4th October 2004)

Course Tutor: Oscar Salgado

Beginners Portuguese: Thursday 6.30pm-8pm (course starts 7th October 2004)

Course Tutor: Carlos Gaio

Intermediate Portuguese: Thursday 8pm-9.30pm (course starts 7th October 2004) Course Tutor: Carlos Gaio

To enrol for our language classes, write to us at langcourses@lab.org.uk, or download a form from <http://www.latinamericabureau.org/?lid=25> and send with your payment (cheque/credit card) to: Latin America Bureau, 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL. For enquiries, please contact: langcourses@lab.org.uk or call Kate Cooper/Jean McNeil on 020 7278 2829.

Support LAB: Become a LAB Supporter and qualify for reduced language class rate, as well as 25% off all books, reduced entry to workshops, free entry to our documentary showings, and a free In Focus guide. You can sign up to LAB online by going to <http://www.latinamericabureau.org/?lid=49>; print out our standing order supporter page and send it to LAB at 1 Amwell Street, London EC1R 1UL.

Staff News :

Marcela López Levy left LAB in August after seven years as editor. She will undertake fieldwork in Argentina for a doctorate at the Institute for the Study of the Americas, University of London. You can still contact Marcela at her LAB email address: mlopezlevy@lab.org.uk.

Lizzette Robleto Gonzalez is her successor. Lizzette is from Nicaragua has worked for the Latin American Women's Rights Service in London, and for TWIN, overseeing their fair trade for coffee producers in Latin America and Africa Programme. You can email her at lrobleto@lab.org.uk

Other LAB staff are **Jean McNeil**, editor: jmcneil@lab.org.uk, **Kate Cooper**, educational coordinator: kcooper@lab.org.uk, and **Pablo Navarrete**, events and

outreach coordinator: pnavarrete@lab.org.uk

E-Newsletter:

For a monthly update of Latin America and Caribbean-related news and events around the country, sign up to: enews@lab.org.uk

OXFORD UNIVERSITY, CENTRE FOR BRAZILIAN STUDIES,

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Email: enquiries@brazilian-studies.oxford.ac.uk

website: www.brazil.ox.ac.uk

Seminars - Held at the Centre for Brazilian Studies, 92 Woodstock Road, at 17.00hrs. unless otherwise stated

Tuesday 12 October Professor Mariano Laplane, Univ. Estad de Campinas
'The evolution of Brazilian industry since 1990'

Tuesday 19 October, Luiz Afonso dos Santos Senna Univ. Fed. do Rio Grande do Sul, 'Private sector participation in the provision of Brazilian roads'

Tuesday 26 October, André Carvalho, Oxford University
'State government, education reform and democracy in Brazil'

Tuesday 2 November Round Table: 'The 2004 municipal elections in Brazil: results and implications', Kurt von Mettenheim, Centre for Brazilian Studies, Maria Antonieta del Tedesco Lins and Antonio Roberto Bono Olenscki, São Paulo

Friday 5 November One day workshop: 'The politics of federal government banking in Brazil', Convenor: Kurt von Mettenheim (Centre for Brazilian Studies)
Venue and programme to be announced. Pre-registration required at enquiries@brazil.ox.ac.uk or on 01865 284460

Tuesday 9 November, Mahrukh Doctor University of Reading, 'EU-Mercosul economic relations: implications for Brazilian trade flows and investments'

Monday 15 November, Workshop: 'Assessing the impact of industrial development policies: the case of the Mercosul auto industry' Convenors: Mariano Laplane (Universidade Estadual de Campinas) and Mahrukh Doctor (University of Reading), Programme TBA, Venue the Dahrendorf room, St Antony's College.
Pre-registration at enquiries@brazil.ox.ac.uk or on 01865 284460

Tuesday 16 November, Cristiana Barreto (Universidade de São Paulo) 'New challenges in Amazonian archaeology: research and exhibitions'

Tuesday 23 November: Peter Evans (University of California) Title TBA

Tuesday 30 November: Maite Conde (Centre for Brazilian Studies) 'Locating the belle époque of Brazilian cinema'

Monday 26 April Film: 'Memórias Póstumas', Andre Klotzel, 2002 (based on the novel by Machado de Assis, English subtitles) In preparation for Sergio

Rouanet's seminars on Machado de Assis To be held at the Centre for Brazilian Studies

Tuesday 27 April 12 noon The first of a new cycle of seminars: Sergio Rouanet (Academia Brasileira de Letras, Universidade de Brasília and Machado de Assis Visiting Professor of Brazilian Literature, Centre for Brazilian Studies)

'Machado de Assis and Laurence Sterne'. To be held at the Modern Languages Faculty 47, Wellington Square. Seminars 2-4 will be given on 4 May, 11 May and 18 May at 12 noon.

Tuesday 27 April: Barbara Freitag-Rouanet (Universidade de Brasília) 'Nomad capitals in Brazil'

Tuesday 4 May Antonio Barros de Castro (Univ. Fed. Rio de Janeiro) 'The rise and demise of state-led development in Brazil, 1930-80'

4 May, Sergio Rouanet (Academia Brasileira de Letras, Universidade de Brasília and Machado de Assis Visiting Professor of Brazilian Literature, Centre for Brazilian Studies) 'Machado de Assis and Laurence Sterne'. To be held at the Modern Languages Faculty 47, Wellington Square. Seminars 3-4 will be given 11 May and 18 May at 12 noon.

Monday 10 May 2.15pm: Professor Antonio Barros de Castro, 'The opening of the Brazilian economy in 1990s', In the Latin American Centre, 1 Church Walk

Tuesday 11 May, Sergio Rouanet (Academia Brasileira de Letras, Universidade de Brasília and Machado de Assis Visiting Professor of Brazilian Literature, Centre for Brazilian Studies) 'Machado de Assis and Laurence Sterne'. To be held at the Modern Languages Faculty 47, Wellington Square. Seminar 4 will be 18 May at 12 noon.

Tuesday 11 May: Sergio Rouanet , 'Cultural globalisation and the future of 'latinity': a Brazilian view'

Thursday 13 May 2.15pm Antonio Barros de Castro, 'Growth after stagnation? The Brazilian economy under the Lula administration', To be held at the Latin American Centre, 1 Church Walk

Tuesday 18 May: Maria Beatriz Bilac (Universidade Metodista de Piracicaba) 'The making of political elites: recruitment patterns and distribution of power in England, North America and Brazil, 17th – 19th centuries'

Tuesday 18 May, Sergio Rouanet (Academia Brasileira de Letras, Universidade de Brasília and Machado de Assis Visiting Professor of Brazilian Literature, Centre for Brazilian Studies) 'Machado de Assis and Laurence Sterne'. To be held at the Modern Languages Faculty 47, Wellington Square.

Tuesday 25 May: D'Alva Kinzo (Universidade de Sao Paulo) 'Parties in the electorate: public perceptions and partisan ties in Brazil'

Tuesday 22 June One day Conference: 'Strategies for social inclusion: Brazil in comparative perspective' Coordinators: Louise Haagh (University of York) and Fiona Macaulay (Institute of Latin American Studies, London) To be held at St. Antony's College, programme to be announced

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY

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The Royal Geographical Society, with the IBG is 'Unlocking a new resource' at the Society's entrance on Exhibition road, near to South Kensington tube station.

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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.

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See page 7 for details, all welcome!