

Society for Latin American Studies

Secretary's Report: Sarah Bowskill

University of Manchester, 12 April 2013

SLAS Grant Schemes and Awards

It was noted that a significant percentage of SLAS income went on grants and awards. Members are encouraged to apply for these grants and awards and to publicise them to PhD students and colleagues. The Secretary reported on awards made under the various SLAS grant schemes since the AGM 2012, as follows:

A. Postgraduate Travel Grants

Twenty of these grants are available, each worth up to £600. A total of 43 valid applications were received by the single annual deadline, of 28 February. This number of applications was similarly last year. Twenty full awards were made to:

- Gabriela Alvarez (Birkbeck)
- Lucia Brandi (Liverpool)
- Kristin Ciupa (QMUL)
- Berenike Jung (Warwick)
- Sam Kelly (UCL)
- Lena Kruckenberg (Leeds)
- Tucker Landesman (LSE)
- Sylvain Lefebvre (Aberystwyth)
- Hannah Lesshaft (Edinburgh)
- Thomas Maier (UCL)
- Jenny Moreno (Nottingham)
- Ximena Orchard (Sheffield)
- Selina Patel (Newcastle)
- Luis Perez Simon (Cambridge)
- Emilio Rodriguez (KCL)
- Megan Ryburn (QMUL)
- Carla Saragoni (Institute of Education, University of London)
- Kinga Tomczyk (St Andrews)
- Katia Valenzuela (Nottingham)
- Shirley Velásquez (Oxford Brookes)

B. Postgraduate Conference Grants

Eight of these grants are made available each year, each worth up to £500. We received eight valid applications by the September 28th deadline and twelve valid applications by the 28th February deadline. Again, application levels were comparable to last year. A total of seven awards were made of £500 and one of £450 (4 at each deadline) to:

- Ignacio Aguiló (Manchester)
- Verena Brahler (UCL)
- Brett Matulis (Edinburgh)

- Jihyun Seo (Liverpool)
- Mara Polgovsky (Cambridge)
- Michelle Nicholson Sanz (QMUL)
- Elizabeth Ramírez Soto (Warwick)
- Shirley Velásquez (Oxford Brookes)

C. SLAS Conference Postgraduate Bursaries

Twenty grants were available, each worth £175. As last year we did not receive as many applications as one might expect. We received 25 eligible applications by the 15 February deadline and made 20 awards to:

- Maria Balen, Diana Battaglia
- Lucia Brandi (Liverpool)
- James Butterworth
- Sandra Collins (Queen's Belfast)
- Gustavo Dias
- Cherie Elston (Cambridge)
- Susan Flamig (Bradford)
- Geoff Goodwin (UCL)
- Hannah Lesshaft (Edinburgh)
- Maria Antonia Manresa (Newcastle)
- Stephanie Pearce (QMUL)
- Paula Perez Morgado (KCL)
- Sarah Parry (Liverpool)
- Luis Perez Simon (Cambridge)
- Philip Roberts (Nottingham)
- Sandra Rios (Aberdeen)
- Karen Siegel (Glasgow)
- Beatriz Tadeo Fucia (St Andrews)
- Tania Tonhati (Goldsmiths)

D. 'Latin American Scholar' Grants

There was a significant increase in the number of applications to this scheme this year. Almost thirty valid applications were received this year by the 15th February deadline compared to eight last year. Five awards were made to:

- Gonzalo Aguilar (Argentina)
- Gaston Fulquet (Argentina)
- Pablo Gómez (Argentina)
- Claudio Robles-Ortiz (Chile)
- Marcia Romeiro Chuva (Brazil)

E. Conference and Event Support

A total of £3000 is available under this scheme, with individual grants limited to a maximum of £1000. We received five applications by the September deadline and a further four valid applications for the February deadline. The following awards have been made:

- **William Booth**, for an event convened by the Radical Americas Network, held at UCL on 28-29th January: £1000
- **Sandra Brunnegger**, for an event entitled '*Latin American Utopian Visions: A Critical Look for the 21st Century*', held at the University of Cambridge: £1000
- **Paulo Drinot**, for an event on the Velasco period in Peru, to be held at UCL: £1000

F. Latin American Seminar Grants

Two grants each worth £500 were available to support seminar programmes in Latin American Studies at UK institutions with a single deadline in September. Applications were up on last year's single application and four valid proposals were received. Two awards were made:

- **Nina Laurie** (Newcastle): '*Volunteering in Latin America: encounter, development and global citizenship*'
- **Charlotte Hammond Matthews** (Edinburgh): '*One Region, Many Peoples: An Interdisciplinary Seminar Series on Race in Latin America*'

G. Postdoctoral Travel Grants

Three applications were received and one award of £1000 was made to **Silvia Espelt Bombín** (Durham).

Elections to the SLAS Committee

At the AGM last year it was agreed to trial online voting in elections in 2013. The election was duly held using the online voting system Election Buddy. As a result of the election SLAS incurred a cost of approx. £50. Participation in the election was notably higher than when paper ballots were used with 114 votes cast.

The Secretary reported on the outcome of the 2013 elections to the SLAS Committee. The following posts were available:

- **President:** standard two-year post
- **Vice-President:** standard two-year post
- **Four Ordinary Members:** standard two-year post

By the deadline, valid nominations had been received as follows:

- **President:** Caroline Williams
- **Vice President:** Manuel Barcia Paz and Jens Hentschke
- **Ordinary Members:** Manuel Barcia Paz, Par Kumaraswami, Cara Levey, James Scorer

An election was held for the post of Vice-President as a result of which **Jens Hentschke** was elected. Since no other candidates stood for the other posts listed above the nominated candidates were duly elected to the Committee for the period 2013-2015.