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# ACLAIR

## *Newsletter*



*ACLAIR Newsletter*

Newsletter of the Advisory Council on Latin American and Iberian Information Resources

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The ACLAIIR Newsletter is an annual publication, produced for the members of the Advisory Council. The aim of the Council is to advance education in its two fields of interest, by acting as a focus for Latin American and Iberian studies in libraries of all kinds Providing information on libraries' holdings in the Council's fields of interest Acting as a forum for discussion between librarians and users of Latin American and Iberian materials Examining possibilities of co-operation between libraries and individuals or bodies concerned with such materials.

Annual membership of the Council costs 15 pounds sterling, and includes a free copy of the Newsletter.

## **Notes for contributors**

Contributions to future issues of the Newsletter from Council members are always welcome. Submissions should be preferably in electronic form, but we will accept typewritten or (even!) handwritten contributions. Please send them to the editors at the above address.

ACLAIIR on the web: <http://aclair.wordpress.com/>

Electronic mailing lists

ACLAIIR does not have its own mailing list, but two which have useful material are:

IBERIA ([www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/IBERIA.html](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/IBERIA.html))

LATAM -INFO ([www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LATAM-INFO.html](http://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/lists/LATAM-INFO.html))

## **PLEASE NOTE**

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# SECTION ONE: ACLAIIR news

## 1. Chair's Report to the Annual General Meeting of ACLAIIR 2012

The past year has been a mixed one for ACLAIIR and for member institutions. Some acquisition budgets for current Hispanic materials – Oxford, Essex – have held up well, others less so. At the British Library, the full impact of hard-copy serials cancellations has yet to be felt, while a moratorium on the purchase of early printed books, prompted by other priorities, struck a depressing note. More depressing still has been the final and definitive closure of the Library of Canning House as a result of the latter's economic difficulties. The greater part of the Library's stock has now been transferred to the library of King's College, London. The fate of the Library is particularly sad because of its specialist nature and the wide profile of its users. It also held the greater part of its stock on open access. Alan Biggins gives a concise account of its purpose and history in the 2011 ACLAIIR Newsletter. On a more encouraging note, we are eagerly awaiting the opening of the library of the Instituto Cervantes in London in its refurbished premises. Finally, and equally positively, events in the Hispanic world have been commemorated in our libraries. The Bicentenary of the Constitution of Cadiz was marked by a seminar and book display at the Taylorian on March 9. The British Library, in collaboration with the Brazilian Embassy, held a conference on June 8 celebrating the centenary of the birth of the novelist Jorge Amado.

Opportunities for foreign travel for librarians have also been mixed this year. Two of our members, Chris Anderton and Joanne Edwards, were able to attend the recent SALALM in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad. Earlier, in May, Frank Egerton attended the LASA conference in San Francisco. However, it is not going to be possible for anyone to attend the REDIAL meeting in July this year, which is being held in Vienna to coincide with the International Congress of Americanists. This is a pity and a contrast with 2011 when we hosted the REDIAL meeting in London and also invited the *redialeros* to Cambridge. That said, we have continued to have an active presence at national conferences, both at the Association of Hispanists meeting at Stirling, which Sonia Morcillo, Barry Taylor and I attended, and at the Society for Latin American Studies conference at Sheffield, attended by Beth Cooper. It is much to be regretted that there has been no WESLINE meeting again this year. The individual foreign-language library groups should look to close collaboration. However, I am aware that this view is not universally shared.

In October last year, five of us were again invited to Madrid by the Federación de Gremios de Editores de España to attend the annual professional book fair, LIBER. This is a most valuable experience, not just because of the opportunity to meet with publishers and inspect their offerings, but also the chance to keep up to date with electronic publishing in a different market. Those of us who do not go to SALALM also get to meet and exchange ideas with our US counterparts. ICEX was again involved in arranging the trip. Opportunities to go to Barcelona this year are not known at the time of writing.

Committee membership has shown few changes since last year. Beth Cooper, his successor at the British Library, has replaced Aquiles Alencar Brayner. We have also welcomed Frank Egerton of the Latin American Centre at Oxford as a co-opted member. And there has been one further change which we should note. Emer Stubbs agreed a year ago to be our Treasurer and Membership Secretary in place of John Laidlar. This has been most positive but also hard work for Emer and indeed for Christine Anderson too. Transferring our bank account from the unhelpful Halifax to Lloyds was by no means straightforward and cost much time an annoyance. For the year 2012-13, unfortunately, Donald Munro, who has been on the committee since 2000, either as elected member or co-optee, is stepping down. However, we do hope that his valuable work on microform collections of Hispanic interest in UK libraries will be completed. In addition to Emer, who has kept us on the financial straight and narrow, Christine Anderson has continued tirelessly as Secretary and has also edited and overseen the production of the newsletter. Last, but not least, Joanne Edwards has combined her role as Web Editor with that of local organiser. It does however seem to have been an oversight to have agreed to host this meeting on her birthday..... Our thanks to Joanne, Christine, Emer and the rest of the committee are in order.

Geoff West  
25 June 2012



## 2. ACLAIR Meetings and Events

### (2a) ACLAIR AGM and Seminar 2012

The 2012 Seminar and AGM took place on Friday 29 June 2012 and were hosted by the Taylor Institution Library, University of Oxford. The annual seminar was entitled ***Digital Resources in Hispanic Studies***.

Speakers and subjects addressed included:

- Stephen Parkinson (Oxford University) on The Oxford Cantigas de Santa Maria Database
- Sonia Morcillo and Alison Sinclair (Cambridge University) on the project Wrongdoing in Spain, 1800-1936
- Joan Ramon Veny and Jordi Malé (Universitat de Lleida) who spoke in Spanish on the Corpus literari digital

Here is some additional information on those projects:

- **Cantigas de Santa Maria:**

Oxford's Centre for the Study of the Cantigas de Santa Maria was created in 2005. It hosts two linked research projects: the Cantigas de Santa Maria database and the new Cantigas de Santa Maria critical edition. For further information and to access the database go to: <http://csm.mml.ox.ac.uk/>

- **Wrongdoing in Spain 1800-1936:**

This project, which is AHRC funded, is a three-year project running from 2011 to 2014 led by Professor Alison Sinclair. A key part of the project consists of the cataloguing and digitization of a substantial quantity of chapbooks - 'pliegos sueltos' - written on the subject of 'wrongdoing'. The chapbooks, a popular ephemeral genre, are held at Cambridge and the British Library. Details of the project can be viewed at:

<http://timescape.mml.cam.ac.uk/wp-multiuser/wrongdoing/>

- **Corpus literari digital:**

This project was created and directed by Joan Ramon Veny and Jordi Malé of the Universitat de Lleida. It aims to digitize materials which constitute the contemporary Catalan-language literary heritage, particularly those of the twentieth century, with a view to preserve and disseminate them and encourage research. The webpage for this project can be viewed at:

<http://www.catedramariustorres.udl.cat/materials/index.php>

## **(2b) ACLAIR AGM and Seminar 2013**

The 2013 event will be hosted by the Institute for the Study of the Americas and held within Senate House on Tuesday 18 June 2013. The theme for the annual seminar will focus on e-resources, Spanish and Latin American.

## **(2c) Collaborative events planned for 2013**

Work is currently in progress on two one-day seminars to be held in 2013:

- **21st Century Fiction from Spain:** to be held on Thursday 18 April 2013 at the Instituto Cervantes
- **21st Century Fiction from Latin America:** to be held on Wednesday 6 November 2013 in Senate House

Both events will be organised by ACLAIR, the IGRS (Institute of Germanic and Romance Studies, University of London) and the Instituto Cervantes. The programme for the first event, on 21st Century Fiction from Spain, will be along these lines:

- **10:00:** Welcome (Director, Instituto Cervantes, London)
- **10:15-11:45:** Fiction in Spain today: current trends (chair, Director, IC)  
Peter Bush - Title to be announced; Stuart Davis, 'A Taste of Hispanism: The Teaching of 21st-century Spanish Fiction and the Canon'; Juan Angel Juaristo – Title to be announced.
- **12:00-13:30:** Trends in research in 21st-century fiction from Spain  
(Chair, Frank Lough); Daniela Omlor, '21st century fiction from Spain: The Memory Boom Continues'; Jennifer Rodríguez, 'Basque Literature and Women Writers: The Beginning of a Beautiful Friendship?'; Frank Lough, 'The Spanish Civil War in Contemporary Fiction'
- **Break:** lunch
- **14:30-15:30:** Collecting fiction from Spain in UK libraries (chair, Geoff West)  
Panel of UK librarians and library users
- **Break**
- **15:45-16:45 (or 17:00):** Fiction from Spain: the UK market (Chair: Jorge Postigo, ICEX tbc) Panel of publishers and translators, including Jennifer Arnold (University of Birmingham), Rowan Cope (Little, Brown; Abacus; Virago), Kirsty Dunseath (Orion Books), Amanda Hopkinson (City University).

Full details will be available closer to the time.

The programme for the second event, on 21st Century Fiction from Latin America, will follow a similar format.

### **3. ACLAIIR Projects**

#### **(3a) ACLAIIR Project on Microform Holdings and Listings in the U.K**

Donald Munro will be spending some time 'tidying up' the project. He intends to post to IBERIA, to see if anyone in the field would like to contribute to the project.

#### **(3b) Audiovisual Resources Project (was: Survey of Audiovisual collections in U.K. libraries (Spain, Portugal, Latin America)**

Sonia Morcillo has sent out an annual request for updates, and has received several replies.

Two of the libraries listed had closed down, one of these being Canning House, and the other, Jordan Hill Library, University of Strathclyde.

#### **(3c) Directory**

The Directory has been updated. It can be viewed at

[http://handbook.americas.sas.ac.uk/search\\_library.php](http://handbook.americas.sas.ac.uk/search_library.php)

Please check the Directory and if any of the information contained in this database is out of date or incorrect, please advise ISA via [americas@sas.ac.uk](mailto:americas@sas.ac.uk)

#### **(3d) Proposals for new projects**

Kirsty Hooper has suggested a project on 'hidden resources' for Iberian collections.

This is a project which cannot be undertaken at the moment, but it is one that Geoff West would like to work on when he retires.

#### **(3e) Updating of previous project: Latin American Newspaper Census**

Geoff West's Latin American Newspaper Census

(<http://aclair.files.wordpress.com/2011/05/latin-american-newspaper-census.pdf>)

needs to be checked and any necessary updates made. Christine Anderson will look at this when work permits and liaise with Geoff West, Beth Cooper and Joanne Edwards.

#### **(3f) Updating of previous project: Spanish Civil War**

Geoff West plans to put together something on Civil War material/archival material.

### **4. ACLAIIR Webpage (<http://aclair.org.uk/>)**

Joanne Edwards reports:

The website has had a total of 2,249 views over the past year, with the home page being the most popular. The vast majority of viewers are from the UK, followed by the USA and Spain. Brazil, Argentina, Colombia, Puerto Rico, and Mexico feature in the top 20. Most viewers find the website using Google search, and the most popular search term is, unsurprisingly, "aclair".

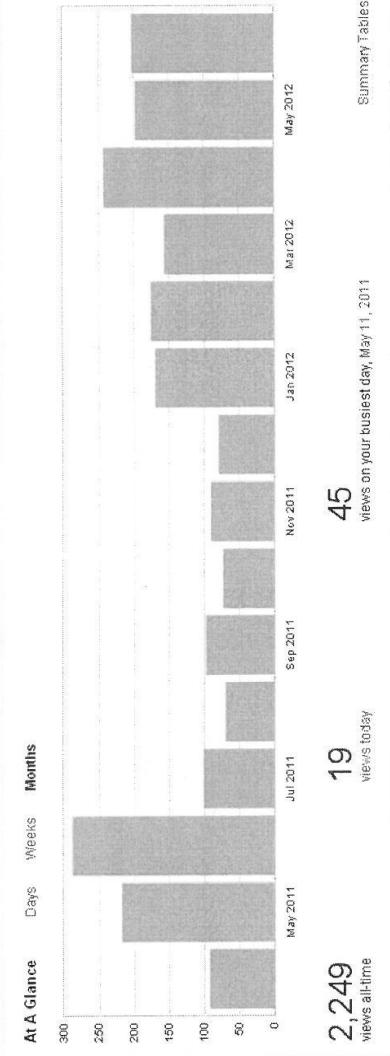
A range of sample statistics is shown below:

Page views by month														
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec		TOTAL
2011				93	218	288	101	69	97	73	90	79		1,108
2012	169	175	156	242	197	202								1,141

Average per day															
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec			
2011				5	7	10	3	2	3	2	3	3		4	
2012	5	6	5	8	6	7								6	

### Views by country

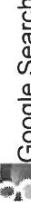
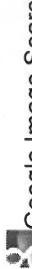
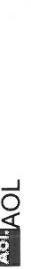
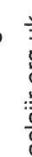
Country	Views
United Kingdom	513
United States	61
Spain	53
Indonesia	17
Ireland	15
Brazil	15
Argentina	14
Colombia	11
Germany	9
Canada	8
Singapore	8
India	8
Thailand	8
Italy	6
Puerto Rico	6
Japan	5
France	5
Mexico	5

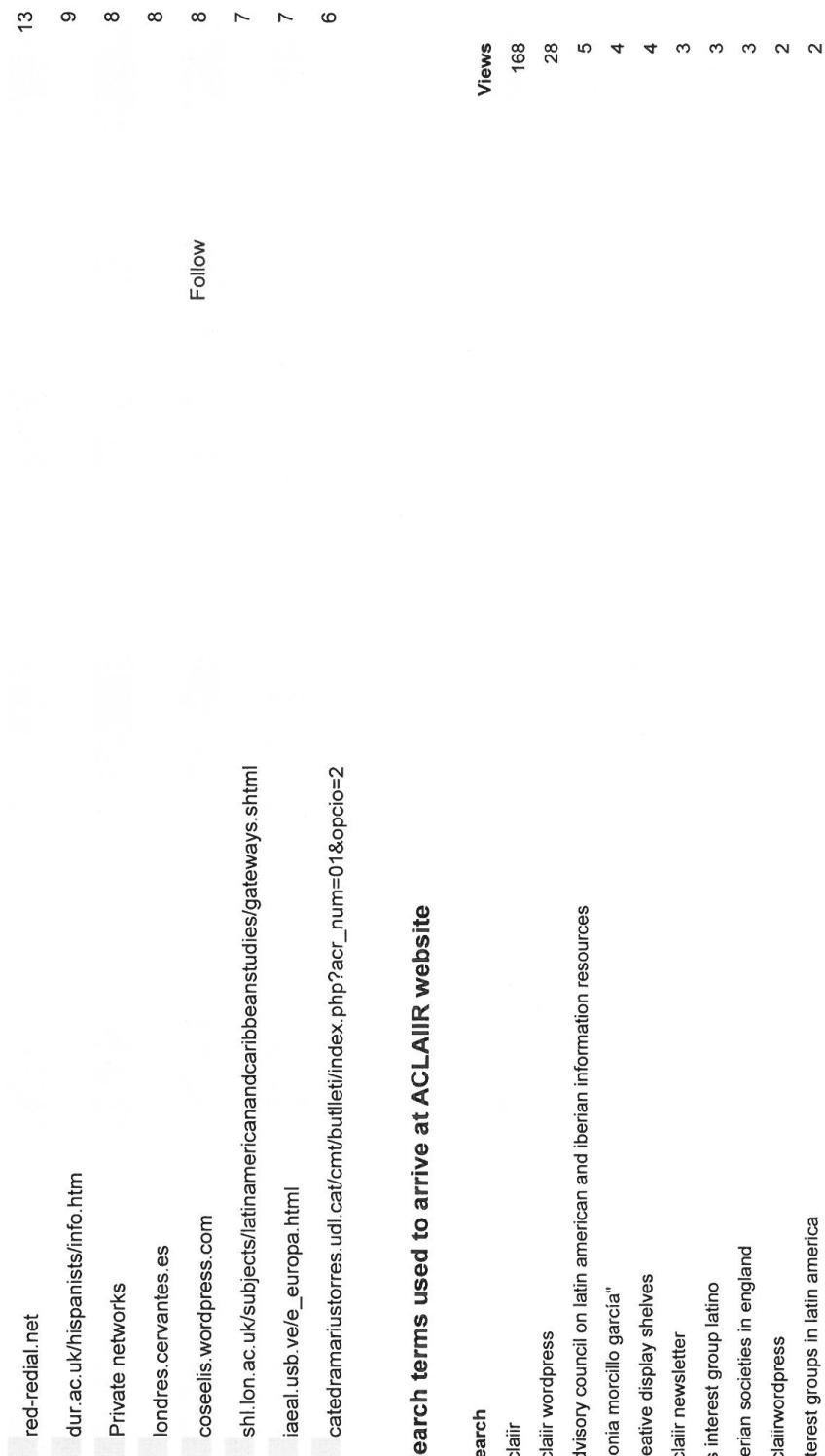


### Views per page

Page	Views
Home	764
Events	331
Newsletter	139
Home page / Archives	133
Projects	129
Contact us	105
avresources	22
LIBER 2011	8
AGM	8
ACLAIR Seminar & AGM 2012	8
Agmmn020797	4

## Referrals to the website

Referrer	Views
 Search Engines	238
 Google Search	192
 Google Image Search	31
 Bing	10
 Google Mobile	2
 search-results.com	2
 AOL,AOL	1
 url.lon.ac.uk/wesline/	36
 americas.sas.ac.uk/events/eventdetails.html?id=9513	29
 aclair.org.uk	24
 aclair.org.uk	23
 aclair.org.uk	1
 Facebook	23
 hispanismo.cervantes.es	18
 slas.org.uk/about/collaboration.htm	17
 bl.uk	15



aclaair	2
information and latin america	2
latin american advisory committee	2
book display space	2
aclaair facebook	2
latin america advisory council	2
aclaair/redial conference	2
contact info for latin american interest groups	2
professional association iberia	2
wordpress aclaair	2
creative displays and presentations of items	2
creative display	2
iberian and latin american studies association	2
event creative display	2
advisory council on latin american and iberian information resources)	2
events ucl stephen hart	2

If anyone has any queries about the statistics, or would like to know more, please let me know. Also, suggestions for the continued improvement and development of the website are more than welcome!

Joanne Edwards,  
28 June 2012.

## 5. ACLAIIR Committee membership

The posts of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and the positions of the five elected committee members are held for two years, after which the post-holders can stand for re-election.

**Chair:** Geoff West (elected 2012, but will remain in post only until the 2013 AGM, when he intends to stand down)

**Secretary:** Christine Anderson (2012-2014)

**Treasurer:** Emer Stubbs (2011-2013)

### **Committee members:**

Chris Anderton – re-elected 2012, but will remain in post for 1 year only, until 2013

Joanne Edwards - 2012-2014

Frank Egerton- 2012-2014

Sonia Morcillo- 2011-2013

Beth Cooper-2011-2013

### **Co-opted committee members:**

Mayte Azorín, Alan Biggins, Aquiles Alencar Brayner, Mariama Ifode, Robert Howes.

Donald Munro stood down in 2012, having been an elected committee member or co-opted committee member since the 1990s.

Anyone can become a co-opted member, so please contact Geoff West ([Geoff.West@bl.uk](mailto:Geoff.West@bl.uk)) if you are interested.

**Observers:** AHGBI – Kirsty Hooper, SLAS – tbc

Succession planning will be addressed in 2012-13.



## SECTION TWO: National Round-up: News from Universities and Libraries

### 6. Staff activities, staff changes, and other news

#### **British Library:**

As of 12 September the BL has a new CEO, Roly Keating, previously Archive Director at the BBC. There have been more voluntary exits. The acquisitions budget has been held at 2011-2012 levels.

#### **Cambridge:**

**Staff Survey:** the Library ran a staff survey to give all its employees the opportunity to say how they feel about working at Cambridge University Library and the University in a wider context. The results will inform the further development of individual Divisions and the UL as a whole. The online survey ran between April and May 2012. An independent research company, OCR International, was appointed to collect and analyze the responses received. The response rate was recorded at 83%.

**Refurbishment project:** CARET (Centre for Applied Research in Educational Technology - <http://www.caret.cam.ac.uk/page/home>) became an institute within the University Library on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2011. The relocation of CARET to the University Library is now under way. The Library sees the move as an opportunity to respond to the changing needs of Library users. Building work to redevelop the Catalogue Hall into a quality space for library readers started on 18<sup>th</sup> June and is expected to end on 5<sup>th</sup> October.

**Implementation of RDA:** (Resource Description and Access) to replace AACR2 (Anglo American Cataloguing Rules 2<sup>nd</sup> edition).

- Training of cataloguers scheduled for January-March 2013
- Cambridge to go live on the 1<sup>st</sup> of April, 2013

**January 2012:** Several items from the Library's collections are featured in the BBC Radio 4 program "The Written World".

**July 2012:** Cambridge University Library's Music Department and the Pendlebury Library of Music are jointly awarded the 2012 IAML (UK & Ireland) Excellence Award.

**October 2012:** Dame Margaret Drabble, a leading British novelist, deposits her literary archive in Cambridge University Library.

**November 2012:** *Thresholds project*: poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy invites ten of the best UK poets writing today to take part in an unprecedented series of residencies at the University of Cambridge, supported by Arts Council England.

**December 2012:** Cambridge University Library releases digital versions of some of the most significant religious manuscripts in the world through the Cambridge Digital Library. Included are a 2,000-year old copy of The Ten Commandments (the famous Nash Papyrus) and one of the most remarkable ancient copies of the New Testament (Codex Bezae).

### **Canning House:**

Following the closure of the Canning House Library, Alan Biggins, the former Librarian, wrote an article on the history of Canning House for the 2011 ACLAIR Newsletter. Most of the Library stock has gone to King's College London. Geoff West visited Canning House on 27 June to look at the duplicate books not required by KCL, assessed these as standard texts used by Hispanic Departments, and recommended that they be offered to the University of Warwick, which had just set up a new Hispanic Department. Gill Turner of the London Library and Mayte Azorín of the Instituto Cervantes expressed interest in the duplicate material and asked Geoff West to pass their names on to Canning House. The Canning House Film Collection has gone to Senate House Library, and will be incorporated into the SHL and ISA film and documentary collections. The collection arrived in Senate House in December, and is currently being processed. It is a most welcome addition to SHL/ISA holdings. The following is an update on the transfer of Canning House Library to King's College London:

*You may be aware that the 23rd October last year saw the formal transfer of the Canning House Library to the Maughan Library at King's College London. As part of the reception to mark this, Robert Hall (Director of Library Services) remarked: 'We are delighted that Canning House Library's vast and historic collection is coming to King's. The breadth of its Latin American literature is remarkable, covering film, the visual arts, music, archaeology, the cultures of Latin America's indigenous people, history, politics and geography.'*

*As well as supporting the studies and research of students and staff in the College's vibrant Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies department, the collection will also be useful to our expanding Brazil Institute and Camões Centre for Studies in Portuguese Language and Culture.*

*Most of the material will be housed on the open shelves in the Maughan Library in the recently named 'Canning House Room'. At the time of writing nearly 7,000 of the 50,000 volumes have been catalogued. The College already has a mature collection of material on the Hispanic and Lusophone world which covers topics ranging from Medieval Spanish literature to modern Brazilian music.*



*Rare or specialist material formerly at Canning House Library, such as works by WH Hudson and R Cunningham-Grahame as well as 19th century travel accounts of Spain, Portugal and Latin America, can be consulted in our Foyle's Special Collections Library. These titles complement the wealth of material on Latin America found in the College's Foreign and Commonwealth Office Historical collection, a selection of which were used in the recent Ploughing the Sea: Latin America observed exhibition. The FCO collection has extensive coverage of Latin America on topics such as topography, political history and international relations, natural products and industries, and slavery. Other material of note includes the papers and library of Professor Edgar Prestage who was interested in the history of Portugal from the 16th to the 19th centuries.*

*For more information, feel free to contact [graeme.lockheart@kcl.ac.uk](mailto:graeme.lockheart@kcl.ac.uk). Information about visiting is available at [www.kcl.ac.uk/library/visiting/](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/library/visiting/)*

*Graeme Lockheart  
Information Specialist (Arts & Humanities)  
King's College London  
May 2013*

#### **Instituto Cervantes:**

<http://londres.cervantes.es/en/default.shtm> - The refurbishment of the library is now complete, and the library re-opened in September. The Instituto now has a new Director (as of September 2012): Julio Crespo MacLennan, who replaces Isabel Clara Lorda Vidal.

#### **IHR:**

As part of the refurbishment process, Latin American material has been placed on 'closed access' for the duration. The Librarian, Jennifer Higham, has recently taken up a new post as Librarian and Archivist at the Royal Astronomical Society.

### **ISA:**

Professor Linda Newson of KCL has taken up post as Director of the Institute for the Study of the Americas with effect from 1 July 2012. The ISA webpage has been updated: <http://americas.sas.ac.uk/>

### **ISA Robin Humphreys Fellow:**

The current Robin Humphreys Fellow is **Dame Denise Holt**. Dame Denise Holt was British Ambassador to Spain and Andorra (2007-09) and Mexico (2002-05).

### **King's College, London:**

Canning House Library has now been transferred to the College. Alan Biggins, formerly Librarian of Canning House, has written an account of the reception held at King's College to mark this event – see *SECTION THREE item 10*.

### **UCL:**

UCL has established a new UCL Institute of the Americas. The Director of the new UCL institute is Professor Maxine Molyneux, formerly Director of the Institute for the Study of the Americas at the School of Advanced Study, University of London.

Professor Molyneux has been joined at UCL by her ISA colleagues: Prof. Iwan Morgan, Prof. Kevin Middlebrook, Dr Paulo Drinot, Dr. Kate Quinn, Dr Par Engstrom and Dr Graham Woodgate, all of whom left ISA on 30 June 2012. The title of this new institute is *the UCL Institute of the Americas* and its webpage is to be found at: <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/americas>

## **7. Projects and publications, reports**

### **British Academy Report on Latin American and Caribbean Studies in the UK:**

The British Academy has appointed Dr Sally Evans, honorary fellow of the School of Histories, Languages and Cultures at the University of Liverpool, to carry out research that is needed to update a report on Latin American and Caribbean Studies in the UK.

Data will be collected on the research interests of academic staff, research funding and networks, and master's programmes.

The report is due to be published in the summer of 2013, and will give a clear and current picture of the state of Latin American and Caribbean Studies in UK academic institutions.

#### **British Library:**

For the latest on the British Library's **Endangered Archives Programme** go to <http://eap.bl.uk/>

#### **Cambridge: "Wrongdoing in Spain 1800-1936: realities, representations, reactions" Project:**

The Wrongdoing project, funded by the AHRC, began in 2011 and will run until the end of September 2014. The project team consists of Professor Alison Sinclair, the Project Leader and Principal Investigator, a Research Associate, Dr Samuel Llano, and a PhD student, Ms Nadia Oberto.

A key part of the project is the cataloguing and digitization of a significant body of popular material held at the University Library, Cambridge, and the British Library. The digitization of material of the British Library has now been completed. Cataloguing of material from both institutions is in progress, with over 2,000 items catalogued to date. During the three years of the project there will be a number of workshops, conferences and exhibitions. For more information on these events see: [http://timescape.mml.cam.ac.uk/wp-multiuser/wrongdoing/?page\\_id=55](http://timescape.mml.cam.ac.uk/wp-multiuser/wrongdoing/?page_id=55).

Prof. Alison Sinclair and Sonia Morcillo (Cambridge/ACLAIR) gave a paper '*Misdeeds and mismatches: cataloguing issues in the 'Wrongdoing in Spain' project*' at the AHGBI conference in Stirling in April 2012.

#### **Joint KCL/SHL JISC CCM Project:**

The autumn of 2012 saw the start of the joint King's College London and Senate House Libraries COPAC Collection Management project.

*"This project builds on the recent JISC funded RLUK, Mimas and White Rose Copac Collection Management tools (CCM) project. Collection management of monographs presents a complex problem space, and one in which King's College London and Senate House libraries have long worked to collaborate on above campus initiatives for the benefit of students and researchers."*

Subjects for investigation on the Senate House side include Latin American literature, holdings by Mexican and Colombian authors, and holdings of material in minority languages in Spain, Catalan, Basque, and Galician.

There will be more to report on completion of the project in 2013.

## SECTION Three: Events

### 8. Annual Conferences

#### **AHGBI - Association of Hispanists of Great Britain and Ireland:**

<http://www.hispanists.org.uk/>

The AHGBI held its annual conference at the University of Stirling 2-4 April 2012. Dr Isabel Torres (Queen's University Belfast) and Dr Tristan Platt (University of St Andrews) gave plenary lectures.

AHGBI 2013 will be held at the University of Oxford 25-27 March 2013. To view the conference programme see

<http://www.dur.ac.uk/hispanists/conference-programme-2013.pdf>

Plenary lectures will be given by the AHGBI President, Professor Trevor Dadson, and Professor Roberto González Echevarría of Yale University.

AHGBI 2014 will be held at NUI, Galway.

#### **ARTES - The Iberian and Latin American Visual Culture Group:**

<http://www.artes-uk.com/>

ARTES held its Annual Lecture at the Instituto Cervantes on 29 March 2012. This year's lecture '*The Collections of the Prado, New Works and Restored Paintings*' was given by Dr Gabriele Finaldi, who is Director of Conservation and Research at the Prado, and also an ARTES member.

The 2013 Annual Lecture will take place on 19 March 2013 at the Instituto Cervantes. Dr Mercedes González de Amezua, Curator of Paintings at the Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando, Madrid, will talk about the highlights from the Collection of Manuel Godoy & Recent Acquisitions of the Real Academia.

#### **SLAS – Society for Latin American Studies:**

<http://www.slas.org.uk/>

The 48th SLAS conference took place in Sheffield 18-20 April 2012.

See [http://www.slas.org.uk/events/2012\\_ConferenceTimetablesSynopses.html](http://www.slas.org.uk/events/2012_ConferenceTimetablesSynopses.html)

For details of participants and synopses of panels and papers.

Elizabeth Cooper of the British Library (and ACLAIIR) convened a panel entitled '*Imagining better futures in Brazil*', and gave a paper '*Everyday Utopias*' (on inter-related changes in culture and labour during the late 19th and early 20th century in the city of Salvador da Bahia).

SLAS will hold next year's conference 11-12 April 2013 at the University of Manchester. The event has a webpage <http://www.nomadit.co.uk/slas/slas2013/>

**PiLAS - Postgraduates in Latin American Studies:**

<http://pilas.slas.org.uk/>

The 2012 annual PiLAS conference took place 25-27 June in Oxford. This year's theme was '*Cultures in Perspective: from Indigenous Politics to Street Dancing*'.

The next PILAS conference will take place at the University of Liverpool in June 2013.

**REDIAL - Red Europea de Información y Documentación sobre América Latina**

(the *European Network of Information and Documentation on Latin America*):

<http://www.red-redial.net/>

This year's REDIAL meeting took place in Vienna 15-20 July 2012, coinciding with the meeting of the International Congress of Americanists. Beth Cooper had been unable to obtain funding to attend REDIAL, even though she was to give a paper, so there was no UK representative attending. The UK vote had therefore been proxied to the President.

The venue for REDIAL 2013 will be Oporto, Portugal.

**SALALM – Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials:**

<http://salalm.org/>

Both Joanne Edwards and Chris Anderton of ACLAIR attended SALALM LVII '*Popular Culture: Arts and Social Change in Latin America*' 16-19 June 2012 in Trinidad.

Joanne has written a report of the event which can be found under **item 12** of this newsletter.

Next year's SALALM conference, its 58<sup>th</sup>, will take place in Miami 17-22 May 2013, co-hosted by the University of Miami Libraries and Florida International University Libraries.

The theme for this event is to be '*Indigenism, Pan-Indigenism and Cosmovisionism: The Confluence of Indigenous Thought in the Americas*'.

SALALM 2014 is to be hosted by Brigham Young University.

## **LASA 2012, XXX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association:**

This event took place on 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May 2012 in San Francisco. Frank Egerton, Librarian and Subject Consultant at the Bodleian Latin American Centre Library, was able to attend and has written a report which can be found under *item 14* of this newsletter.

LASA 2013, the XXXI International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, *Towards a New Social Contract?* will take place 29 May – June 2013 in Washington, DC.

LASA 2014 Democracy and Memory will take place 21-24 May 2014 in Chicago, and LASA 2015 will take place in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

## **9. Exhibitions, conferences, colloquia, events, lectures, seminars, workshops and Open Days**

### **Exhibitions:**

#### **Cambridge:**

July 2012: The exhibition “*A Soviet Design for Life: The Catherine Cooke Collection of 20th Century Russian Architecture and Design*” opens to the public on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The exhibition showcases a vast collection of books, journals, postcards and other ephemera bequeathed to Cambridge University Library upon Dr. Catherine Cooke’s death in 2004.

In 2013, Cambridge plans to hold two exhibitions based on its *Wrongdoing Project*:

- ‘*Show and Tell: Wrongdoing in Spain and England 1800-1936*’  
April-October 2013 at the University Library, Cambridge
- ‘*Crime and Misdemeanour: Contrasting Spain and England*’  
June-December 2013 at the British Library (N.B. these details are provisional)

#### **Essex:**

**ESCALA (Essex Collection of Art from Latin America):** ESCALA held an exhibition showcasing the work of Siron Franco, one of Brazil’s foremost artists. The exhibition *Siron Franco: Suspicious Story* ran from 23 June – 4 November 2012.

Details of ESCALA’s exhibitions, past, current and forthcoming, can be viewed at <http://www.escala.org.uk/events/exhibitions>

## **Conferences/Colloquia:**

### **British Library:**

The British Library marked the centenary of Jorge Amado, Brazil's most famous writer, with a conference entitled *The World of Jorge Amado/ Jorge Amado and the World*.

The conference took place on 8 June 2012, and speakers included Ana Maria Machado (President of the Brazilian Academy of Letters), Alberto da Costa e Silva, João Ubaldo Ribeiro, Roberto DaMatta (author of *Carnivals, Rogues and Heroes: An Interpretation of the Brazilian Dilemma*), and Kenneth Maxwell (author of *Naked Tropics: essays on empire and other rogues*).

The BL also held a one-day conference focused on the 2012 London Olympics and the upcoming 2014 World Cup and 2016 Olympic and Paralympic games in Brazil. This conference took place on 5 November 2012, and was entitled '*Social Change and the Sporting Mega-event*'. The keynote speakers were Professor Kenneth Maxwell of Harvard, and Professor Andy Miah, of the University of the West of Scotland.

### **Cambridge:**

Cambridge will be holding two conferences based on its Wrongdoing Project:

- 'Wrongdoing in Spain 1800-1936: Realities and Representations'  
Clare College, Cambridge 1-3 July 2013
- 'Wrongdoing in Spain 1800-1936: Reactions and Interactions'  
July 2014 – venue tbc but provisionally the British Library)

### **Oxford:**

***The Spanish Constitution of Cadiz bicentenary*** was commemorated by a Colloquium held at the Taylor Institution on Friday 9 March 2012. Speakers included Dr Frances Lannon, Mr Martin Murphy, and Professor Sir John Elliott. After the Colloquium, His Excellency the Spanish Ambassador opened an exhibition on the 1812 Constitution.

## **Events/lectures:**

**ARTES** held a variety of lectures throughout 2012, and more are scheduled for 2013. For further details see the ARTES webpage <http://www.artes-uk.com/>

### **British Library:**

***Cross-Channel Reflections*** is a full-day event to be held in the Conference Centre at the British Library on Friday 26 April 2013.

Scholars and writers will look at how British travellers viewed Continental Europe and vice versa, as well as exploring the reasons that prompted Europeans to emigrate, and the practical realities they encountered when they did so.

***The Bulletin of Latin American Research*** celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> issue this year. The anniversary was celebrated with a special thirtieth anniversary lecture ‘*Where is Carlos Montúfar? Scenes of sensibility in the scientific life of Alexander von Humboldt*’ given at the Latin American Centre, University of Oxford by Prof. James Dunkerley on 24 February 2012.

#### **ISA:**

The ISA Events page can be viewed here: <http://events.sas.ac.uk/isa/events/list>  
Events for 2012 included:

- *Indigenous Peoples in South America: Land rights and wrongs for Guyana’s Amerindians*
- *Daunting challenges still facing post-earthquake Haiti*
- *Talk and Book Launch: Populism in Venezuela by Ryan Brading*
- *Latin American Music Seminar*
- *Recasting Commodity and Spectacle in the Indigenous Americas*

Events for 2013 will include:

- *Challenging the revolutionary order: homosexuality as a destabilizing weapon in the contemporary Cuban novel*
- *A Liberal Tide: Towards a paradigm shift in Latin American Migration and Asylum policy*
- *Arts and Belonging in the Americas Today*

#### **Seminars:**

#### **IHR:**

The IHR holds a range of Latin American History seminars. A sample listing scheduled for 2013 includes:

- *La Dictablanda: Soft Authoritarianism in Mexico, 1940-1968* (8 Jan)
- *Municipal Government and the Radical Challenge, Peru, 1870s to 1910s* (22 Jan)
- *Imagining Democracy in Spanish America, 1800s-1850s* (5 Feb)
- *Joaquim Nabuco, Abolitionism and the End of Slavery in Brazil* (19 Feb)
- *The Anarchist Movement in Argentina in International Perspective* (5 Mar)
- *Mitayos or Kajchas: Revisiting Labour and Government in Eighteenth-Century Potosí* (19 Mar)
- *Of Imperial Centers and Edges: The Problem of the Atlantic (World) for Understandings of the Spanish Habsburg Empire* (26 Mar)

## Ongoing Seminar Series on Latin America in the UK:

**Centre for Latin American and Caribbean Studies, University of Manchester:**  
<http://www.llc.manchester.ac.uk/clacs/events/seminars/>

**Institute for the Studies of the Americas Seminar Series, London:**  
<http://americas.sas.ac.uk/>

**Essex University Latin American Studies Seminar Series, Colchester:**  
<http://www.essex.ac.uk/centres/lastud/events.html>

**Centre of Latin American Studies Seminar Series, Cambridge:**  
<http://www.latin-american.cam.ac.uk/events/seminars/index.html>

**Latin American Centre, University of Oxford:**  
<http://www.lac.ox.ac.uk>

## Workshops:

### Cambridge:

There are a series of workshops based on the *Wrongdoing Project*:

- ‘Conceptualizing Wrongdoing’ at Clare College, Cambridge 17 February 2012
- ‘Heroes and Heroines of Wrongdoing’ at Royal Holloway, University of London 9 November 2012
- ‘Mad or Bad?’ to be held in February 2013, venue and date tbc
- ‘Revenge, Retribution, Ritual’ to be held in 2014, venue and date tbc

### ISA:

ISA will be holding a one-day workshop on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2013 in the Dr Seng Tee Lee Centre for Manuscript Studies, Senate House Library. The workshop is entitled ***Bringing the Archive Home: Practical Digitisation Skills Workshop*** and is being organised in collaboration with the Warburg Institute and British Library:

*This hands-on workshop aims to train scholars in the practical elements of archival research, with a particular emphasis upon capturing digital images of archival material in order to use them away from the archive at a later date. It will demonstrate how to adjust camera settings for different light conditions and formats; how to devise and use a file naming protocol that enables the easy retrieval of information; how to use free open source software to improve the quality of images; and how to use social media to create networks to share images.*

*The session will be introduced by a brief discussion of approaches to archival work and will end with a review of case studies from the British Library’s Endangered Archive Programme (EAP). The focus will be on Latin America, though it will also be of value to scholars of other regions wishing to create their own digital images.*

### **PiLAS workshop at the British Library:**

Beth Cooper (BL) and Christine Anderson (ISA/SHL) – both of ACLAIIR- gave a session *Resources for research at the British Library and beyond* at the British Library on 23 November 2012.

### **Open Days:**

#### **Senate House:**

Senate House becomes an Open House:



Senate House opened its doors on Sunday 23 September 2012, 10.00–17.00, to enable the public to explore Charles Holden's incredible architecture.

#### **About Open House:**

Open House London celebrates all that is best about the capital's buildings, places and neighbourhoods. Every September is your unique opportunity to get out and under the skin of London's amazing architecture, with over 700 buildings of all kinds opening their doors to everyone – all for free!

#### **A special year:**

The refurbishment of Senate House has meant we've been unable to participate recently so we were delighted that in Open House's 20th anniversary we were open to the public.

Furthermore, Senate House has been selected to feature in Open House's 20th anniversary book which provides an insight into 100 of London's most architecturally inspiring buildings.

## **10. An account of the reception held at King's College London to mark the transfer of Canning House Library to the College, by Alan Biggins**

In the last Newsletter I reported that an agreement had been reached with King's College, University of London, to rehouse the Canning House Library in KCL's main research library on the Strand campus, the Maughan Library. A reception to celebrate the official transfer of the collections was held on 23 October 2012 in the imposing mediaeval Weston Room (formerly the Rolls Chapel). Around 100 guests attended – senior administrative, library and academic staff of King's College, staff and Board members of Canning House, and former library staff and readers of Canning House Library.

A speech of welcome was given by Sir Rick Trainor, Principal of King's College. Robert Hall (Director of Library Services) and Professor Catherine Boyle (Head of the Department of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies) said that the Canning House donation would complement and enhance the King's College collections and would also strengthen KCL library resources supporting courses in Latin American and Iberian language, literature, history and culture. One of the Maughan Library's reading rooms dedicated to Spanish and Portuguese Literature has been named the Canning House Room.

Speaking for Canning House, Tristan Garel-Jones (Baron Garel-Jones, and a Vice-President of Canning House) expressed satisfaction that a solution had been found to Canning House's reluctant decision two years before to close its Library for financial reasons, and to meet the general desire to find a suitable alternative home for the entire collection (or the bulk of it). Happily, therefore, most of the Library's 50,000 volumes have been transferred to the Maughan Library. Cataloguing the material will take some time (so far around 5,000 records have been completed); the former stock from Canning House Library is identifiable through the online catalogue by typing 'Canning House' in the 'Type word(s) or phrase box' under Basic Search, and from bookplates in the items themselves. Most of the remaining 2,500 items (books, journals and films), either duplicated by KCL or not relevant to its collection policy, have been accepted by a number of other UK university libraries and by the Instituto Cervantes (London). Canning House is still seeking suitable libraries to take the last few hundred titles (ask for details if you are interested). An agreement allowing Canning House members to borrow from King's College Library is being finalised and ACLAIIR will be informed when details of library membership have been confirmed.

During the reception in the Weston Room guests were able to view the exhibition *Ploughing the Sea: Latin America Observed*, highlighting a selection of rare and interesting books from the Maughan Library (including historical volumes from the

Foreign and Commonwealth Office Library, deposited with KCL in 2007) and from the Canning House collection. Guests were also treated to tours of the Maughan Library, a fine example of mid-nineteenth-century neo-Gothic architecture originally built for the Public Record Office and recently renovated.

In March 2013 Canning House moved from the large mansion at 2 Belgrave Square to smaller offices at 14–15 Belgrave Square, a downsizing that will place the organisation in a more stable financial position. Canning House's remit remains the same and it continues to run events about Latin America (a History Series of lectures being a highlight of the Spring 2013 programme). One former Library activity – the monthly Reading Group – continues, but it now meets in the Maughan Library.

Maughan Library, King's College London (Strand Campus), Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1LR (tel 020 7848 2424, [www.kcl.ac.uk/library](http://www.kcl.ac.uk/library)). Canning House, 14–15 Belgrave Square, London SW1X 8PS (tel 020 7811 5600, [www.canninghouse.org](http://www.canninghouse.org)).

Alan Biggins

## 11. LIBER 2012

Sonia Morcillo, Andrea Meyer Ludowisy, Joanne Edwards and Geoff West received invitations to attend LIBER in Barcelona, but only Sonia and Andrea were able to attend.

Sonia's report on LIBER 2012 follows:

**LIBER 2012: “Towards a new publishing industry” by Sonia Morcillo-Garcia**  
The 30<sup>th</sup> edition of LIBER took place in Barcelona between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 5<sup>th</sup> of October 2012. LIBER, recognizing the potential of emerging technologies for creating new markets, hosted over fifty seminars, workshops and round-tables discussing e-book pricing, the boom of self-editing, marketing models for electronic books over the web, intellectual property, and the creation of reading clubs in bookshops and online, amongst other topics.

In order to reactivate exports and domestic sales, LIBER invited over 450 distributors, booksellers and publishers with the ability to purchase book rights representing over 54 countries. Spanish national sales have been steadily decreasing over the last five years, whereas export sales have experienced a 5.4% increase in 2011 over the previous year. The United Kingdom and France are the principal buyers of Spanish books in Europe.

### Promotion of writing and reading

The changing role of libraries and bookshops in the digital age was an area of extensive discussion at LIBER panels. The promotion of reading through various programs was illustrated by various national and international initiatives where new interactive formats played a fundamental role. Here are some examples:

- 1) The emergence of virtual reading clubs, where the author is a member, encourages readers to discuss books and ideas with the author in live chats or forums.
- 2) The campus novel, an Anglo-American genre, is slowly emerging in the Spanish book market. Originated in 2006, the *Red Internacional de Universidades Lectoras* has 40 universities with a common goal: the promotion of reading and writing within the academic environment.  
<http://www.universidadeslectoras.org/>
- 3) Advertising of new books by libraries, with initiatives such as “Lectores para la justicia”, a project from the Facultad de Derecho of the Universidad de Buenos Aires with the aim to create links between reading, literature and law.  
<http://www.literaturayjusticia.com.ar/>

### **Dissemination of open access knowledge**

Reading habits are changing and the use of digital technology is steadily growing. The need to strengthen links between librarians, booksellers and publishers is pressing. Readers move between digital and analog reading experiences with extraordinary ease. Librarians, booksellers and publishers must work together to disseminate knowledge and to make information accessible to wider audiences. Some of the initiatives working along these lines include:

- 1) *Proyecto Enclave-Editores BNE*: aims to provide access for users to contents under copyright in digital libraries.  
<http://www.bne.es/es/Catalogos/BibliotecaDigital/enclave/index.html>
- 2) *Project RISP (Reutilización Información del Sector Público)*: libraries play an important role in the dissemination of open access data produced by the public sector (i.e. <http://datos.gob.es/datos/> or <http://www.europeana.eu/portal/>)
- 3) *Proyecto 10x10, Encuentros de los editores con los bibliotecarios*: promoted by the Servei de Biblioteques del Departament de Cultura de la Generalitat de Catalunya, it consists of meetings between publishers and librarians to foster constructive dialogue.
- 4) *PADICAT (Patrimoni Digital de Catalunya)*: aims to preserve and promote the Arxiu Web de Catalunya <http://www.padicat.cat/>
- 5) *Web archive of the BNE*: aims to “freeze” for posterity Spanish content published over the Internet <http://www.bne.es/es/LaBNE/ArchivoWeb/>

### **Enhanced books and book licenses**

Publishers are enhancing books by adding features (commonly known as Apps) such as internal or external linking, embedded video and audio, or additional text and illustration content. Enhanced books are expensive and the e-publishing industry gives publishers full control over e-books.

According to EBLIDA (European Bureau of Library, Information and Documentation Associations), the Big Six (publishers) are reluctant to sell book licenses to libraries. For Spanish books, e-book licenses come at a hefty price (they carry a 21% VAT tax). According to CEDRO, the lending of e-books to libraries clashes with publisher's rights. A fee for the use of digitized material is currently being considered by publishers to counter-balance the expense of digitization.

### **CERLALC reports ...**

In 2006, CERLALC (Centro Regional para el Fomento del Libro en América Latina y el Caribe), the FGEE (Federación de Gremios de Editores de España) and the GIE (Grupo Interamericano de Editores) signed an agreement to allow DILVE's software to be installed in Latin American countries. DILVE allows publishers, distributors and booksellers to share bibliographic information about currently published titles in Spain in a bibliographic database. Today, CERLALC has over 300,000 titles in its database.

However, the book industry in Latin America faces big challenges, including: poor distribution channels, mostly concentrated in capital cities; the high cost of books (both print and electronic) in relation to the minimum wage; the need to strengthen the public network of school libraries; the lack of translation initiatives (Latin America reads what Spain translates); and finally, the need to encourage intellectual output by the protection of author's rights.

### **Paraguay, LIBER 2012's guest of honor**

In Paraguay, literary production is booming. Bi-centenary celebrations offered an opportunity to re-publish works of some of the greatest Paraguayan authors, including Augusto Roa Bastos, Josefina Pla, Gabriel Casaccia, Elvio Romero or Ruben Bareiro Saguier. The Paraguayan publishing industry is working towards crossing barriers to have a presence in the Spanish-speaking markets. LIBER provided an excellent opportunity for Paraguay to showcase the country's most emblematic writers and a new generation of authors, writing both in Spanish and Guarani.

## **12. SALALM 2012**

Here is a report from Joanne Edwards on her visit to SALALM 2012. Joanne is the Subject Consultant, Spanish and Portuguese Languages and Literatures (including Latin American) and Latin American History at the Taylor Institution Library, University of Oxford.

### **SALALM LVII: Popular Culture: Arts and Social Change in Latin America**

Port of Spain, Trinidad  
June 16-19, 2012

#### **INTRODUCTION**

SALALM is the **Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials**. Since its founding in 1956, SALALM has provided the only national and international forum focused exclusively on collection development and services in libraries with Latin American collections. SALALM's primary missions are the control and dissemination of bibliographic information about all types of Latin American publications, and the development of library collections of Latin Americana in support

of educational research. Promotion of cooperative efforts to achieve better library service is an equally important activity. Through various committees the members of SALALM promote, conduct, and participate in research and studies of current and potential problems.

SALALM LVII was hosted by The University of the West Indies (UWI), St Augustine, The National Library and Information System Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (NALIS), and the Library Association of Trinidad and Tobago (LATT).

## COMMITTEE MEETINGS

On Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June I attended the **Electronic Resources** sub-committee meeting. This is useful not just for finding out about new resources, but also for gathering feedback from institutions already using those resources. The meeting showcased two databases; *Classic Mexican Cinema* from Brill, and Oxford Bibliographies Online (Latin American module). Oxford subscribes to the latter, but it was interesting to hear the responses from other users. It is possible to link from references within the database straight to the library catalogue, but there is some criticism that this does not work as well for book chapters. There was also some criticism that the material was too anglocentric, with insufficient pan-European material included. In general it was considered a good introduction however. *Classic Mexican Cinema* consists of only 5 periodical titles, but some are rare. Each set has a limited number of volumes at the moment, and it was not known whether more would be added in due course. The majority of the information comes from the UNAM archives. It was agreed that the interface seemed user-friendly.

Phil McCleod also introduced the committee to a number of free resources for Caribbean studies. These included Memoria Centroamericana, the Bolaños archive, the Guatemala police archive, Biblioteca Virtual Paraguay, and some Uruguayan periodicals. Some of these are already indexed in *LANIC*, but Phil agreed to circulate the full list.

I also attended the sub-committee on **Marginalized Peoples and Ideas**, which was incredibly interesting. Sonia Silva spoke about the history of the "Brasiguaios", people living in the Brazil-Paraguay border area who had suffered land disputes for over 50 years. The situation had many different strands and themes: territorial dispute, political manipulation, racial tension, history of the dictatorship, and civil disorder and violence. Richard Philips, Chair of the group, spoke on the topic of older people as a marginalised group.

## LIBRARY VISIT

Later that day, I made a visit to the **Alma Jordan Library** at the University of the West Indies. This library holds the **Eric Williams Memorial Collection**, which is listed on the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register. Eric Williams read History at St Catherine's College, Oxford, and went on to graduate with a DPhil in 1939 (Thesis title: The economic aspect of the abolition of the West Indian slave

trade and slavery). The Alma Jordan Library has significant Special Collections and a noted department of West Indiana.

## CONFERENCE PANELS

The following day, I attended a panel entitled **Sing It! Women's Voices in Chutney, Calypso and Pichakaaree**. This was a very interesting panel on the role of women in different Trinibagonian musical genres. Dr. Kumar Mahabir spoke about women in the largely East Indian type of pop music known as 'chutney'. Lyrics were often a commentary about the role of women in society, and could have serious themes such as domestic violence, as well as lighter topics. See Sassy Ramoutar, *Leggo meh waist*, Asha Kamachee, *Show him the door*, Sally Sagram, *Go so nah*. NALIS has special collections in this area.

Rudolph Ottley, a Calypso expert, then spoke about the misconceptions surrounding the role of women in Calypso. He maintains that they had strong involvement from the beginning, when men used to fight with sticks in the barrack yards, and women would be on hand – to nurse the injured as well as sing. Women even defied the 1884 law that banned assembly, whereas the men obeyed! He also noted that even Ella Fitzgerald recorded calypso music in the 1930s in New York. Thelma Lane, known as Lady Trinidad, was the first female Calypsonian to be recorded, with songs entitled *Advice to Young Women* and *Old Man's Darling*.

Marilyn Kumar closed the session with a description of pichakaaree, originally a type of singing during the Hindu festival of Phagwa. Now it can act as a kind of East Indian equivalent to calypso, with social commentary mixed with traditional Hindu elements. It is seen as a socially acceptable musical genre for the more conservative Hindu woman, and no offensive language is allowed. Chutney is seen as a lower class affair, or not decent, particularly for religious women. Pichakaaree concerts are no-alcohol events, and disorderly behaviour is not allowed.

For the first time at SALALM, a film series ran throughout the conference. I watched a documentary entitled **The Renaissance of Mata Ortiz**, which followed the growing fortunes of a Mexican village revived by the pottery industry. Nicolas Quezada began making pots in Mata Ortiz, and by a series of incredible chances became a world-renowned potter. Now, the whole village is famous for its pottery, and the majority of residents work in the pottery industry. The film also focuses on Diego Valles, a young potter who followed in Quezada's footsteps and is now making a name for himself in international artistic circles.

The next panel I attended was entitled **String It! The Cordel Literature of Northeastern Brazil, in the Praça and Online**. Paul Losch, University of Florida, spoke about their small collection of cordel literature, mainly acquired by academics from their travels. Their highlight is the Ralph della Cava gift collection, focusing on religion and society (Padrinho Cicero).

Cordel, in a similar way to Caribbean Calypso, tends to put current events into an understandable format, e.g. the assassination of JFK. Items from the north east have a regional focus, but are not homogenous. Cordel is often seen as a particularly northeastern mode, a social response to current events (Ariano Suassuna). Cordel

has importance as a graphic art, as well as a musical/vocalised art form. Cordel is growing as a genre, especially amongst women and young people (particularly online). The Library of Congress has a significant collection, and there are a number of guides, websites and blogs documenting cordel literature.

The **keynote address** was given by Prof. Doris Summer, Harvard University, who spoke about examples of civic engagement through the arts and humanities with particular reference to the Cultural Agents programme running at Harvard. Prof. Summer highlighted the tradition of civic engagement since the time of Cicero. She also focused on the aims of the Cultural Agents programme in attempting to combat the pessimistic teaching mode seemingly in vogue in universities at the current time. Prof. Summer gave some interesting examples of civic engagement through the arts; Antanas Mockus, mayor of Bogota, replacing corrupt traffic police with performance artists, and Augusto Boal, creator of the Theatre of the Oppressed. We also heard how a pair of doctors from Harvard had pioneered an incredibly successful AIDS education programme using theatre.

Cartonera book projects started as a reaction to the Argentinian economic crisis, and original contributors of material included Cesar Aira and Ricardo Piglia. Cartonera movements have now spread to Africa (Mozambique).

To sum up, Prof. Summer spoke about different methods of teaching literature and promoting engagement.

On Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June, after the keynote, I moderated a panel entitled **Change It! Music and Culture in the Caribbean**. As well as being of interest for the content, it was also my first experience of moderating a panel. It was very enjoyable, and there was a good discussion following the speakers' presentations.

Later that day I attended **Storyboard It! Manifesting Historietas, Quadrinhos & Cartoons in Library Collections and Services**. This panel dealt with the problems encountered when collecting non-traditional format items. Suzanne Schadl (University of New Mexico) also spoke about her positive experiences with student-led exhibitions in the library.

The final conference day included a **Pecha Kucha**, where speakers give short, informal presentations using a limited number of slides. Sam Wicks (University of Pittsburgh) spoke on *What Digital Collection? Issues of Collection Development, Cataloging Trends and Standards, and Ethical Considerations of Underground Music in the Caribbean and Latin America*. He made some useful suggestions, such as using keepvid.com for embedding videos, and WordPress, the popular blogging software, for building a digital collection. Sarah Wenzel (University of Chicago) gave a positive report of DDA in her presentation *Strategies for Patron-Initiated Acquisitions. This was particularly interesting given Oxford's own recent DDA trial*. Sarah felt that it was a good way of surveying real trends among users, and dealing with 'maybe' material. It also allows a wide range of subject material to be exposed, without necessarily having to purchase.

## SUMMARY

Overall, I found SALALM LVII to be an incredibly positive experience. By attending the conference and committee sessions I increased my knowledge of relevant collections and new resources, as well as being able to contribute to discussions. I was able to refresh relationships with colleagues I met at SALALM two years ago, as well as meet new colleagues, both from the United States and Trinidad & Tobago. From these colleagues I learnt valuable pieces of information, as well as being able to strengthen my network.

Not only was I able to attend and participate in committee sessions and conference panels, but I also learnt about the culture and national heritage of Trinidad and Tobago. From the library visit, as well as special cultural events held in honour of SALALM, I increased my knowledge of this important area. At a reception for SALALMistas held at the National Academy of Performing Arts, we witnessed a symbolic handing over of *The Alan Lomax and Jacob D Elder Collection of Folk Recordings* to the Alma Jordan Library. We were also treated to a cultural evening of history, music, and dance.

In addition to this, a vital aspect of the conference is the opportunity to meet with our Latin American booksellers. Useful discussions were had, and I took the opportunity of reviewing the past financial year with our vendors. As well as being important from a business point of view, these suppliers view strong working relationships as essential for the successful continuation of their services and SALALM is seen as a key setting for cementing these.

Photographs of the visit to the Alma Jordan Library and the cultural reception at NAPA follow:





### **13. ICA International Congress of Americanists, 2012**

The 54<sup>th</sup> ICA took place in Vienna, Austria, from 15-20 July 2012.

Here is an account of the event from Prof. Guillermo Mira Delli-Zotti of the University of Salamanca, Spain, who participated in the symposium '*Los procesos de democratización en América Latina desde la Historia reciente. Avances y cuentas pendientes*', and Fernando Pedrosa (Universidad de Buenos Aires).

#### **International Congress of Americanists – 54 ICA *Building Dialogues in the Americas/Construindo Diálogos nas Américas/ Construyendo Diálogos en las Américas***

Del 15 al 20 de Julio de 2012 se realizó, en la ciudad de Viena, Austria, la edición número 54 del tradicional encuentro del Congreso Internacional de Americanistas (ICA, por sus siglas en inglés: *International Congress of Americanists*).

ICA es considerado el mayor y más antiguo congreso internacional de americanistas del mundo, realizándose cada tres años y alternando su sede entre América y Europa. La primera versión de este encuentro se realizó en la ciudad de Nantes (Francia) durante el año 1875 y, desde entonces, Viena fue sede del ICA en otras dos ocasiones, además de la de 2012, en 1909 y 1960.

El evento realizado unos meses atrás fue presidido por Martina Kaller y estuvo planificado para cumplir el objetivo principal de ICA que es convertirse en una plataforma de diálogo interdisciplinario y colaboración entre participantes de América Latina, Europa, Estados Unidos y Canadá a través de distintas actividades académicas y de difusión. También, generando líneas de acción para estimular el encuentro y la conformación de redes entre investigadores y especialistas de diversos países del mundo, aunque todos interesados por el devenir de América.

Esta intención fue sintetizada en el título del encuentro “Construyendo diálogos en las Américas” que estuvo sostenido en el eficiente trabajo organizativo de tres instituciones austriacas: la Universidad de Viena (responsable del programa científico del congreso), el Instituto Austriaco para América Latina y el Museo de Etnología de Viena (ambas a cargo de las becas y de gran parte del programa cultural y social).

En términos estrictamente numéricos el congreso fue un éxito y además causó un fuerte impacto en la vida cotidiana de la clásica y tranquila ciudad de Viena. Casi 6000 participantes poblaron los 470 simposios en los que se presentaron aproximadamente 5800 ponencias. Los simposios abarcaron un arco temático tan diverso y amplio que dieron cuenta desde los avances en la Arqueología sobre tiempos mayas hasta las últimas tendencias en la política internacional, pasando también por la Historia, Antropología, Ciencia Política, Estudios culturales y de género, filosofía, literatura, cine etc.

Los participantes provinieron de numerosos países del mundo, sobre todo, de América y Europa, reuniendo el 54 ICA una cantidad inédita de los más conocidos y prestigiosos especialistas en cada área de las ciencias sociales. Fue, sin duda, el congreso más grande alguna vez realizado en la Universidad de Viena.

Para llevar adelante un evento de esta magnitud se utilizaron varios edificios de la Universidad de Viena, a la vez que se requirió de un verdadero ejército de voluntarios (estudiantes de la Universidad) y una detallada planificación que atendió eficientemente semejante demanda.

Además de las actividades académicas tradicionales, se ofreció un programa social, una amplia oferta de proyecciones dedicadas a la relación entre “Cine y Memoria” y una serie de sesiones plenarias, conferencias magistrales y mesas redondas que se desarrollaban durante cada uno de los días del congreso<sup>1</sup>.

En búsqueda de concretar el objetivo de generar y estimular los contactos entre los participantes, el 54 ICA ofreció dos espacios (denominados “Get together”) donde se encontraron informalmente la mayor parte de los participantes, tanto al comienzo como al final del congreso. Además de las mencionadas actividades, la alcaldía de Viena ofreció un ágape donde volvieron a interactuar gran parte de los participantes del congreso sin las presiones o rigores que se deben guardar en las mesas y simposios oficiales de un congreso como el 54 ICA.

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<sup>1</sup> Estas actividades fueron articuladas en torno a las siguientes temáticas: “Friedrich Katz y la Revolución Mexicana”, “Perspectivas del Buen Vivir”, “El Sur Global” y “El Arte como vehículo para el diálogo”.

A la par de los simposios y actividades académicas y culturales, hubo otras reuniones que se realizaron aprovechando el enorme movimiento en torno al evento realizado en la capital austriaca. Por ejemplo, la Asamblea General del Consejo Europeo de Investigaciones Sociales de América Latina (CEISAL) que es una red que agrupa a los principales centros académicos dedicados al estudio de América Latina. También la Asamblea General de la Red Europea de Información y Documentación sobre América Latina (REDIAL) y se realizó la presentación pública del nuevo Master Internacional en Estudios Latinoamericanos organizado entre universidades de París, Salamanca y Varsovia.

Finalmente, también se realizó la Asamblea General del Congreso Internacional de Americanistas donde se decidió que la siguiente edición de ICA (la número 55) se realizará en El Salvador.

Fernando Pedrosa (Universidad de Buenos Aires)  
Guillermo Mira (Universidad de Salamanca)

#### **14. LASA 2012, XXX International Congress of the Latin American Studies Association, 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup> May 2012, San Francisco**

A report by Frank Egerton, Librarian and Subject Consultant, Bodleian Latin American Centre Library, March 2013:

##### **Introduction:**

In May 2012 I flew to San Francisco for the LASA 2012 International Congress, which was co-chaired by Dr Tim Power who was then Director of the Latin American Centre in Oxford.

The theme of the conference was summed up as follows:

“The overarching theme of the congress, ‘Toward a Third Century of Independence in Latin America,’ inspired scholars and researchers from all over the world to submit insightful and innovative contributions to a multidisciplinary discussion on the construction of the Latin American national past(s) and the changing meanings of independence and revolutionary movements.” LASA 2012 programme, p. iii,

Message from the Program Co-Chairs, Gabriela Nouzeilles and Timothy Power  
The programme consisted of 999 events across the four days. In addition there was a film festival and a book exhibit that was attended by some 70 publishers and booksellers.

Before the congress began, I travelled to Stanford University along with colleagues (see photo in Gallery, below) from the Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American

Library Materials (SALALM) at the invitation of Adán Griego, the university's influential Curator of Latin American and Iberian collections. During the congress I went to see an exhibition of Mexican photographs from the 1920s to the present at the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, entitled *Photography in Mexico, Selected Works from the Collections of SFMOMA and Daniel Greenberg and Susan Steinhauser*.

### **Before the congress: visit to Stanford University**

I and colleagues from SALALM who were attending the LASA Congress were invited to visit Stanford University by Adán Griego, Curator for Latin American, Mexican American & Iberian Collections at Stanford University Libraries.

Although warm in San Francisco, the temperature at Stanford was far higher. Perfect for enjoying the splendid packed lunch that Adán had laid on for us in the manicured grounds of the university before looking at the libraries and their collections.

Something that strikes you about Stanford's libraries is how beautifully their reading rooms and their books are kept. Indeed the libraries and all other buildings we saw are maintained to an astonishingly high standard. The libraries are also very well run and resourced, with excellent facilities for visitors, as I discovered when I had to check my email in order to follow up something that had arisen back in Oxford at the Taylor.

A highlight of the day was a presentation at the Hoover Institution Archives, which hold the University's special collections—including ones covering most countries in Latin America. Interestingly, people from the university have been very active over the years in going out and finding materials in the field—some of which are bought while others are donated. However, we were told that since the retirement in 2011 of a particular academic, material from Latin America had stopped coming and the special collections people were keen to find someone else to coordinate the sourcing of material.

The presentation was of ephemera—posters and collections. There were original political posters from Latin America and Spain, including some Spanish Civil War posters. Among the civil war posters was one showing the famous image of a woman soldier firing a rifle, with the slogan “*No pasaran!*” or, “*They shall not pass!*”

Amongst the documents and ephemera was a photograph of George Orwell and the American who saved his life when he was shot in the neck, Harry Milton. Associated material included Milton's Partit Obrer d'Unificacio Marxista (POUM) card. The special collections librarian who was giving the presentation had, incidentally, met Milton who lived to a great age near San Francisco.

There were also items from the Bertram D Wolfe archive of material relating to Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera. These included a photo of Kahlo and Trotsky and documents written by Leo Eloesser, a doctor who treated Frida Kahlo. A particularly poignant document was Eloesser's diagnosis of Kahlo's medical condition when she

was very ill. In addition, there was material relating to Clarence C Clendenen, who was a soldier when Major General Pershing “invaded” Mexico in 1916 (see Wikipedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancho\\_Villa\\_Expedition](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pancho_Villa_Expedition)). Finally, there were documents relating to the Mexican Communist Party and posters about the Nicaraguan Civil War and America's involvement in that conflict.

### **LASA:**

The Congress was held on the lower floors of the Marriott Marquis Hotel. As at the last LASA Congress that I attended in Toronto in 2010, it is amazing how so many events can be held over four days in what is a relatively small and contained area. That everything seemed to go extremely well, with no overruns that I encountered, was a tribute to the organisation of the congress by staff from LASA and the University of Pittsburgh.

I attended a number of lectures and saw a couple of films at the film festival, as well as making several visits to the book event. Going to the LASA Congress is an opportunity to attend talks in areas that are outside your subject consultancy but which help you to understand the broader culture of Latin America. For example, I attended a fascinating talk entitled *Selective Memories: Art as critical counter narrative*. Although this touched on politics, the speakers were art historians not social scientists. The talk focused on Brazil but took in art movements in a number of other Latin American countries, as well as considering how the Latin American experiences fitted into the broader context of similar movements in Europe.

Given that Dr Tim Power of the Latin American Centre was co-chair of the Congress, it is not surprising that many Oxford academics were taking part.

### **Commemoration and Contestation:**

One talk I found particularly interesting was chaired by Professor Leigh Payne, who has since succeeded Tim Power as Director of the Latin American Centre. The event drew on research contained in a book entitled *The Memory of State Terrorism in the Southern Cone, Argentina, Chile and Uruguay* which was co-edited by Dr Francesca Lessa, who is a postdoctoral researcher at Oxford. (The book was published by Palgrave in 2011, ISBN 978-0-230-11014-4.)

The event at LASA was called, *Commemoration and Contestation: New sites of memory in Latin America post-transition*. It included a talk by Dr Gabriela Fried about narratives relating to families of the 200 people who were forcibly “disappeared” by the state in Uruguay between 1972 and 1984. Dr Fried was particularly interested in interviewing people about how stories about the disappeared were transmitted to children. She considered the dilemma of parents who wanted to tell the truth about what the authorities had done but who also, as parents, felt a need to promote the idea of children respecting state authority. While some families found it relatively straightforward to pass on information to children, others found there was an internal conflict between their urge to tell and a competing wish to soften narratives for the children’s sake. What was interesting, though, was that children weren’t passive consumers of their parents’ displaced narratives. Until

recent research was carried out, there was an assumption that children didn't want to know or else simply accepted the stories about disappearances of family members that were told to them by their parent and relatives. But this did not seem to be the case. Not surprisingly, perhaps, children often realised that something was not right and far from being passive they developed sophisticated investigative techniques for encouraging parents to reveal more than they intended. In some families, it was the children's questioning that led to parents deciding to reveal the truth. The quoted stories of how children felt when they learnt the truth were very moving. Dr Fried suggested that in families where the truth was revealed children had more respect for the parents, whereas in families where the truth was repressed tensions and difficulties between the generations were far more marked.

Subsequent speakers looked at the trials of those who were said to be involved in the torture and murder of political prisoners in Argentina from both the side of the witnesses and the accused. A disturbing finding was that it was proving quite hard to keep public interest in trials alive. After initial indignation people seemed to want to put the unhappy stories that the trials were turning up out of their minds. This process of collective amnesia resulted perhaps from the fact that so many people knew about what was happening at the time and chose to "forget" it. These people were reluctant to face these memories when they resurfaced so many years later. A contrasting view to those of families of the disappeared and witnesses to state violence came when narratives of former soldiers were considered. These people were themselves experiencing very complex mental readjustments because when they were in the military their "crimes" had been seen as patriotic duties and had been fundamental to their sense of self-worth.

I should say that I was especially interested in the above discussion because of my work with narrative over the years as a critic and as a tutor of creative writing at Oxford. A recent development in respect of narrative at Oxford has been the founding of the Oxford Centre for Life-Writing, which looks at life-writing from the point of view of both the academic and the writer. There is widespread interest in how people use narrative to articulate their experiences in a variety of contexts across different disciplines within the University.

### **The Lineamientos:**

Another area of interest for me is Cuba and I was fascinated by a series of talks of the new economic guidelines that were introduced in 2011: *What does the future hold for Cuba? The Lineamientos, guidelines for economic change in Cuba, (approved, April 18, 2011) and Cuba's VI Congress.*

Among the speakers were a globalisation lawyer Professor Larry Backer and the former UK ambassador to Cuba, Paul Webster Hare.

The Lineamientos are still in the process of being implemented but have been hailed as a move away from Communism to a more market-based economic model. However, as speakers noted, the guidelines focus on sole proprietorship only - on individual rather than aggregated economic activity. It is arguable, nevertheless, that some forms of aggregated activity that resemble corporations are also being

permitted in the form of cooperatives and some partnerships between foreign corporations and the Cuban state.

Interestingly, the thinking behind the Lineamientos has sound cost-cutting and revenue-boosting economic aims that would appeal to western governments. By encouraging small businesses it is hoped that individuals will stop being a burden on the state and will become revenue generators who will benefit the national economy and provide state revenue through taxation. On the other hand the process of change is extremely constricted and bureaucratic. Every legitimate form of economic activity is listed and requires a strict license (there are 178 such activities). A sole proprietor who, for instance, is licensed to make men's shoes cannot then make women's shoes.

Another factor that may limit change in Cuba was summed up by former ambassador Webster Hare as the country's "shoe-throwing index". The reference was to protests that involved throwing shoes during the Arab Spring of 2010 and 2011. The ambassador felt that in Cuba shoe throwing was unlikely to spark a revolution because the people had become so dependent on the state that they had lost the will to protest. In a sense people would not know how to survive without the help of the state.

Nevertheless, the Lineamientos can be seen as a considerable step forward in a country that was adamantly opposed to any form of free enterprise for over 50 years. Further evidence of reform has also been detected in proposals to extend the system of cooperatives from the agricultural sector to other industries. Cooperatives are supposed to aggregate labour and effort not goods and property. They are also supposed not to take on any activities that under Communism are said to be the preserve of the state (western style corporations would, by their very nature, take over activities done by the state, it is argued). The thinking being that if a larger business does things that the state is supposed to do there is the danger that the business will go against the will of the state and therefore the people. Nevertheless, if cooperatives do spread to new industries, it is unlikely that the strict demarcation between cooperatives and corporations can be maintained easily.

It is also true that the state itself has recently entered into lucrative partnerships with global businesses, particularly in the fields of medicine and technology.

### **The film festival:**

Film is increasingly used at the Latin American Centre as a teaching aid. I was pleased to catch up with a film that had been recommended by one of the fellows at the Centre, *Nostalgia por la luz*. This is described in the programme as follows:

*The film stages the various layers of memory existing in the Atacama desert: the pre-Colombian mummies, 19<sup>th</sup> century explorers and miners, the remains of Pinochet political prisoners, and the astral memory, which can be traced using the highest telescope on earth (the Very Large Telescope (VLT), placed in the Atacama desert), to present a complex reflection on memory, violence, and human survival.*

The film was beautifully photographed and cut between the different areas of its subject with subtlety and panache, making unexpected connections and pointing up surprising contrasts. The most poignant sequences concerned groups of women who go out in the desert to dig for the remains of lost loved ones who disappeared during the dictatorship. Success is very intermittent and the interval between discoveries is getting longer and longer. The women are also getting old and some have died. Yet the surviving women are determined not to give up.

I also watched a powerful historical film about the Cuban nationalist José Marti, *Marti, el ojo del canario*, which the programme describes as follows:

*The formative years of Cuban national hero José Marti are explored in a historical epic set during the 1860s in colonial Havana. The film follows “El Apóstol” from the age of nine to seventeen, as he experiences firsthand the often brutal inequalities of Spanish colonial rule, feels the fire of injustice rise within him, and navigates personal conflict with his Spanish father.*

While the film was very brutal at times, it was also notable for its very human depiction of the effect of Marti's revolutionary zeal on his parents and siblings - including being put in mortal danger. Having a stroppy revolutionary teenager in the family was very difficult. This theme rooted the film in family life and made it immediately accessible and appealing.

#### **The book exhibit:**

The book exhibit at LASA 2012 was bigger than at Toronto in 2010. There were, in particular, more booksellers from Latin America. However, while it was fascinating talking to the different vendors and picking up catalogues, I found virtually no bargains (a stark contrast to the £600 or so saving over and above the Blackwell 18% discount that I made by taking advantage of the book fair discounts in Toronto). Nearly all booksellers in 2012 offered discounts that didn't match the Oxford University Blackwell discount once postage and packing were taken into account. Only the University Press of Florida were competitive but only one or two titles were ones I wanted.

Nevertheless, the book exhibit remains a very enriching experience. It's great to meet vendors and publishers and to spend time discussing books with them. It's great to catch up with people from the US that we deal with regularly via email and over the phone. One also comes away with a vastly enhanced understanding of what books are available and what will be coming out during the following year.

#### **Photography in Mexico:**

A couple of blocks away from the Marriott Marquis hotel, where LASA 2012 was being held, was a terrific exhibition of Mexican photographs at SFMOMA. Presenting a complex synthesis of art and politics, this exhibition explores Mexico's distinctively rich and diverse photography tradition from the 1920s to the present. It begins in the period following the Mexican Revolution, when international artists such as Tina Modotti and Edward Weston found creative inspiration in Mexico and, in turn,

helped to inspire Mexican photographers like Lola Álvarez Bravo and Manuel Álvarez Bravo. Including photographs made for the illustrated press at midcentury and documentary investigations from the 1970s and 1980s, the exhibition concludes with contemporary examinations of social, environmental, and economic concerns both within Mexico and along its northern border. The selection of more than 150 photographs showcases works by Manuel Carrillo, Graciela Iturbide, Elsa Medina, Pablo Ortiz Monasterio, Mariana Yampolsky, and many more, drawing from SFMOMA's photography collection and a recent major gift from Daniel Greenberg and Susan Steinhauser.

I especially liked the romantic, evocative black and white photographs by Tina Modotti and Edward Weston from the 1920s.

For further information about the exhibition, see the SFMOMA press release and a report on the NPR website, which includes 12 pictures from the exhibition (unforgettable images).

### **Conclusion:**

I loved attending LASA 2012. I learnt a lot and met some great colleagues working in the field of Latin American Studies. An enriching experience. I am very grateful to Bodleian Libraries Staff Development for funding part of the trip.

Oh, and what did I read on the flight home? *Remembering Che: My Life with Che Guevara* by Aleida March, Ocean Press, 2012, ISBN 978-0987077936. A vivid account of the Cuban Revolution written by Che Guevara's widow. Sometimes, one suspects, rather rose-tinted but nevertheless a fantastic read.

For the gallery see below:

Stanford



Me, Theresa Salazar (Berkeley), Paloma Celis Carbajal (Wisconsin), Adan Griego (Stanford—our host), Martha Mantilla (Pittsburgh), David Block (Austin, Texas), Lisa Gardinier (Iowa) [Photo: Paloma Celis Carbajal]

Fountain, Stanford



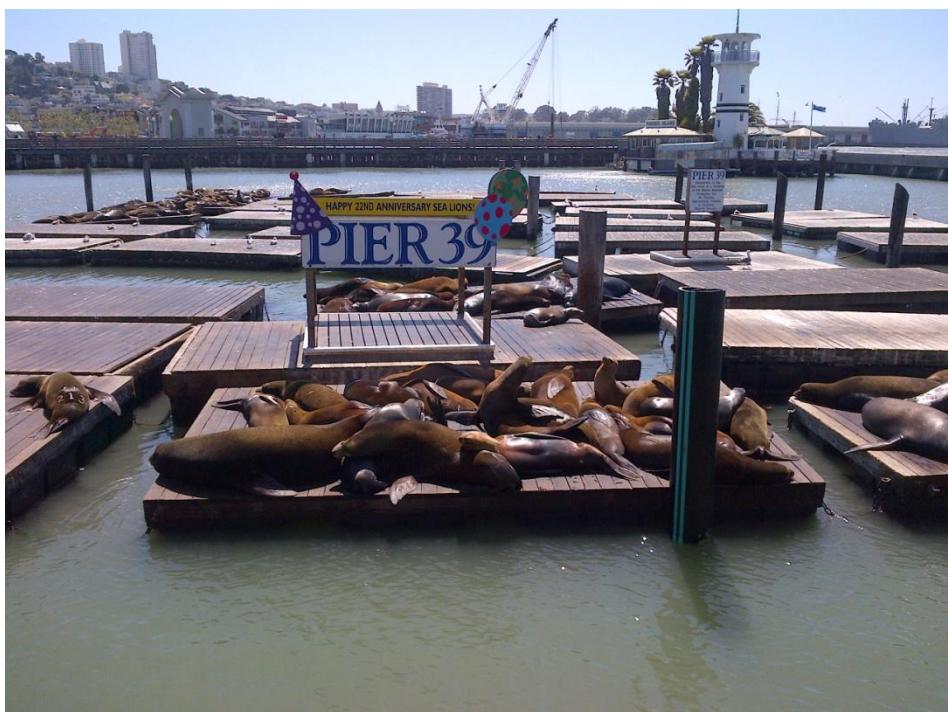
Hoover Institution, Stanford



## SFMOMA



## Sea lions, Pier 39



# SECTION Four: Associations and Groups

## 15. UK Language Studies Library Groups

### French Studies Library Group:

<http://frenchstudieslibrarygroup.wordpress.com/>

The FSLG AGM and Study Day took place on 15th November at Senate House Library. Links to the presentations:

- Preparing for the REF by Adrian Armstrong
- IBSS for French Studies by Sarah Brain
- MLA for French Studies by Nick Hearn can be found on the FSLG's webpage.

For 2013, the FSLG is planning an event to be held at the Institut français on 12 April 2013. Entitled *Translation and Reception: 21st-Century French Fiction in the UK*, this event will be organised by the Society for French Studies and the French Studies Library Group, with the collaboration of the Institut français.

### German Studies Library Group:

<http://www.gslg.org.uk/index.html>

The GSLG's 2012 AGM took place at 1pm on Thursday 12 July at the Austrian Cultural Forum, London.

### The Italian Studies Library Group:

<http://www.bl.uk/reshelp/findhelplang/italian/italstulibrgr/italistulibgr.html>

The ISLG held its Annual Lecture at 6pm on Monday 18 June 2012 at the Conference Centre at the British Library. This year's lecture *After a Dictator Falls: The Shadow of Mussolini on Postwar Italy* was given by Professor Stephen Gundle of the University of Warwick.

In 2013, the Annual Lecture will be held at the British Library during the week beginning 24th June. The subject of the Annual Lecture is to be Verdi, and the lecture will be delivered by Dr Stefano Castelvecchi (University of Cambridge).



## 16. WESLINE: West European Studies Library and Information Network

<http://www.ulrls.lon.ac.uk/wesline/>

### WESLINE conference 2013

The first WESLINE conference since the great conference in Manchester organized by Rachel Kirkwood, Helen Dobson and Glynis Platt in 2010 will be held on Monday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> and Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2013 at Balliol College, Oxford. More information will be available closer to the time. Please make a note in your diaries!

## 17. Acquisitions

### British Library:

- More money was released for antiquarian acquisitions during the last quarter of 2011
- European Studies moved to 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the New Year
- Hispanic has acquired the Real Academia de la Historia's *Diccionario biográfico español*
- Beth Cooper reported after the February 2012 committee meeting, "we have just finished a small conservation project with a collection of cordel material. They have all been bound in small pamphlet bindings in order to preserve them. I also mentioned at the previous ACLAIR meeting that we acquired a late 18th century manuscript from Mexico detailing the boundaries of the quarters of Mexico city - authored by Jose Ignacio Cano y Motesuma one of the more well known scribes in the Americas for Spain."

### Cambridge:

Cambridge purchased a multi-volume set on Portuguese art published in 2008-2009: DIAS, Pedro. *Arte do Portugal no mundo*. Lisboa , 2008-2009. 15 vols. 9789896191399 (v. 1)

### Essex:

Essex purchased the following 8 volume set (there will be 2 supplementary volumes) *Diccionario del cine iberoamericano* / editor y coordinador, Emilio Casares Rodicio Madrid: SGAE, Sociedad General de Autores y Editores , 2011.

Freely available online journals from various sources e.g. SCIELO are being added to Essex's catalogue.

### **Oxford:**

*Gale World Scholar – Latin America & the Caribbean* has been added to the *desiderata* list.

### **Taylor Institution:**

Joanne Edwards reports that she has been involved in a major weeding project affecting Portuguese, Latin American, Catalan and Galician.

### **Bodleian Latin American Centre Library:**

Frank Egerton reports a joint Bodleian/Taylorian subscription to the Latin American module of Oxford Bibliographies Online.

## **18. Online, social media, electronic mailing lists**

### **Podcasts:**

The **Institute of Historical Research** (IHR) has podcasts of interest to ACLAIIR members – for further information and to link to the podcasts – see <https://historyspot.org.uk/podcasts>

Here is an example scheduled for early 2013-02-06 – a live streamed seminar - *the Gender and History in the Americas seminar*, Beverley Duguid (Royal Holloway, University of London), *A Jamaican Odyssey: Nancy Prince's Travels to Jamaica in 1840* on Monday 4 February 2013 at 5.30pm

Podcasts from 2012 that are available include:

- *Embodying Race in Colonial Spanish America* Rebecca Earle (Warwick) (Tuesday, 16 October 2012)
- *Rent versus Production: Political Economy and Economic Culture in Venezuela, 1830-2010* Sarah Washbrook (Manchester) (Tuesday, 16 October 2012)
- *Social Dissolution: A History of Article 145 of the Mexican Penal Code, 1941-1970* Halbert Jones (Oxford) (Tuesday, 13 November 2012)
- *Conceiving Freedom: Women and the Abolition of Slavery in Havana and Rio de Janeiro* Camillia Cowling (Edinburgh) (Tuesday, 27 November 2012)

## **Social media:**

### **ACLAIR Facebook group:**

This medium is proving useful, but more subscribers are needed, especially young researchers, postgraduates.

### **British Library: Americas Blog**

<http://britishlibrary.typepad.co.uk/>

You can follow on Twitter: @Americas

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Team-Americas-at-the-British-Library/309366835752329>

ACLAIR's blog is accessible via the ACLAIR webpage

<http://aclair.org.uk/>

## **Electronic mailing lists:**

### **IBERIA mailing list - [IBERIA@JISCMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:IBERIA@JISCMAIL.AC.UK)**

The IBERIA homepage can be found here:

<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=IBERIA>

### **IBERIA Annual Report, July 2011-June 2012:**

#### **Subscribers:**

As of 27 June 2012, the IBERIA listserv had 202 subscribers. Of these, 84 had .ac.uk email addresses, 11 .co.uk, 2 bl.uk and 2 .org.uk, making a total of 99, or just under half with UK addresses.

Of the remainder, 44 had .com addresses, 2 .org and 2 .net. Some of these are based in the UK.

Of the overseas addresses, .edu (USA) accounted for 24, .es (Spain) for 8, .ie (Ireland) for 7, .au (Australia) for 5, it (Italy) and .pt (Portugal) for 2 each, and .ar (Argentina), .be (Belgium), .br (Brazil), .cl (Chile), .hu (Hungary), .nl (Netherlands), and .se (Sweden) for 1 each.

#### **Messages posted:**

During the year July 2011-27 June 2012, a total number of 190 messages was circulated, giving an average of 15.8 messages per month. During the six months, July-December 2011, 79 messages were circulated, giving an average of 13.2 per month, while during the six months January-June 2012, the total was 111, at an average of 18.5 per month. Consequently, the average number of messages posted

is gradually increasing. The lowest monthly number was 5 messages in August 2011 and the highest was 25 in November 2011.

Many of the messages were the *Resumen de prensa* and we are most grateful to the Instituto Cervantes for providing this information. I should also like to thank the other subscribers who have posted messages and again encourage members to circulate any information which they think will be of interest to list-members.

*Robert Howes*  
*IBERIA Joint List Owner*  
27 June 2012

#### **LATAM-INFO - [LATAM-INFO@JISCMAIL.AC.UK](mailto:LATAM-INFO@JISCMAIL.AC.UK)**

Latam-Info is co-owned by Pat Noble and Rory Miller. It provides a forum for the dissemination of information and discussion of matters of common concern amongst subject-specialists, librarians, academic staff, postgraduate students and others in the field of Latin American studies.

The Latam-Info homepage can be found here:  
<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/websm?A0=LATAM-INFO>

Pat Noble reported by email that the list continues to be largely a notice-board for announcements and newspaper cuttings. There are comparatively few member contributions or discussions between members, especially when compared with the traffic on lala-l, or even British lists like lis-link, but then there are very few resignations and no overt complaints, so it is assumed that as it stands, it continues to fulfil a useful function for its members. There are currently 421 subscribers. Posts are welcomed.



## SECTION Six: In Memoriam

### 19. Obituaries 2012

#### **Aziz Nacib Ab'Sáber**

Brazilian Geographer and environmentalist; a former president of the Sociedade Brasileira para o Progresso da Ciência (Brazilian Society for the Advancement of Science). Emeritus Professor of the University of São Paulo and member of the Order Grão-Cruz in Earth Sciences (Academy of Science).

b. São Luís do Paraitinga, São Paulo, Brazil, 24 October 1924  
d. Cotia, São Paulo, Brazil, 16 March 2012

#### **Jan Carew**

Caribbean novelist, playwright and scholar whose novels *Black Midas* and *The Wild Coast* (both 1958) are considered seminal works of West Indian literature, at a time when the Caribbean was breaking free of colonialism and seeking independence; also an advocate of the 'Black Movement' and prominent in the field of Pan-African studies, which sought to re-evaluate traditional Western historical models.

b. Agricola, Guyana, 24 September 1920  
d. Louisville, Kentucky, United States, 6 December 2012

#### **Eduardo de Gregorio**

Argentinean film director and screenwriter profoundly influenced by the stories of Jorge Luis Borges; fled to Europe after the 1966 military coup; wrote scripts for Italian directors Maurizio Ponzi and Bernardo Bertolucci; settling in Paris, was caught up in the French New Wave and filmed *Céline and Julie Go Boating* (1974) with Jacques Rivette, with whom he went on to make *Duelle* and *Noroît* (both 1976) and *Merry-Go-Round* (1981); in later years lectured at the Sorbonne and La Fémis.

b. Buenos Aires, Argentina, 12 September 1942  
d. Paris, France, 13 October 2012

#### **Autran Dourado**

Brazilian novelist whose works experiment with literary form and have been compared to Baroque literature; won the esteemed Goethe Prize in 1981 and the Camões Prize in 2000.

b. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 1926  
d. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 30 September 2012

**Millôr Fernandes**

Brazilian writer and journalist who founded the satirical newspaper *O Pasquim* in 1969; wrote several popular plays and translated classic works of literature.

- b. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 16 August 1923
- d. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 27 March 2012

**Carlos Fuentes**

Mexican novelist and essayist; a significant influence on the Latin American literature 'Boom' of the 1960s and 70s and one of the most highly regarded writers in the Spanish-speaking world.

An admirer of socialism, began his career as a diplomat; published *Where the Air Is Clear* in 1958, after which he became a full-time writer; following the Cuban Revolution moved to Havana in 1959 as a supporter of Fidel Castro; Mexican Ambassador to France between 1975-77; taught at many US universities, including Princeton and Harvard; his best-known novel is the seminal *The Death of Artemio Cruz* (1962); greatly admired by his literary contemporaries, such as Mexican Nobel-winning poet Octavio Paz, with whom Fuentes had an infamous long-standing feud.

- b. Panama City, Panama, 11 November 1928
- d. Mexico City, Mexico, 15 May 2012

**Professor Albert Hirschman**

German social scientist working on Latin America, particularly in the field of development economics.

Received his doctorate in economics from the University of Trieste in 1938; fought for the Spanish Republic in the Spanish Civil War and later aided American journalist Varian Fry in getting many artists and intellectuals out of Vichy France during the Nazi occupation; also fought in the United States Army after becoming a Rockefeller Fellow at Berkley in 1941; went on to hold academic positions at leading US universities, such as Yale and Harvard; won the Benjamin E. Lippincott Award from the American Political Science Association in 2003.

- b. Berlin, Germany, 7 April 1915
- d. Ewing Township, New Jersey, 10 December 2012

**Sergio Larrain**

Chilean photographer well known for his experimental style; considered the most significant photographer in the history of his country; co-founded *Magnum Photos* and worked for the company for many years; his work inspired Julio Cortázar's book *The Devil's Drool* (1959), which was the basis for Michelangelo Antonioni's film *Blow-Up* (1966).

- b. Santiago, Chile, 5 November 1931
- d. Santiago, Chile, 7 February 2012

### **Ivan Lessa**

Brazilian journalist and writer; a co-founder of the periodical *O Pasquim*, which was well-known for its opposition to the military dictatorship which ruled Brazil from 1964 to 1985; wrote and broadcast for the Brazilian BBC news website for many years.

b. São Paulo, Brazil, 9 May 1935  
d. London, England, 8 June 2012

### **Oscar Niemeyer**

Brazilian architect considered a key figure in the development of modern architecture in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

Graduating from Escola Nacional de Belas Artes in 1934, worked as a draftsman for architectural firms in Rio de Janeiro; designed buildings for Pampulha, a new planned suburb built in the 1940s; received critical acclaim for the Church of Saint Francis of Assisi, which in turn brought him international attention; member of the board of design consultants that worked on the United Nations Headquarters; in 1956 was invited by new Brazilian president Juscelino Kubitschek to design civic buildings for the new capital city Brasília, buildings for which he remains best known; became Head of Architecture at the University of Brasília but fled to Paris after the 1964 military coup; returning to Brazil in 1985, he was awarded the exalted Pritzker Architecture Prize in 1988; designed approximately 600 buildings during his career.

b. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 15 December 1907  
d. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 5 December 2012

### **Oswaldo Payá**

Cuban political activist and dissident who opposed the Cuban Communist Party; organized the Varela Project, which sought to petition the government to guarantee freedom of speech, assembly and multi-party democracy; received several accolades, such as the Homo Homini Award of People in Need in 1999 and the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought of the European Parliament in 2002; died in a car crash under suspicious circumstances, following alleged death threats.

b. Cerro, Havana, Cuba, 29 February 1952  
d. Bayamo, Granma Province, Cuba, 22 July 2012



**Dr Steven Rubenstein**

American anthropologist and Reader in Latin American Studies at the University of Liverpool. He was also Director of Liverpool's Research Institute of Latin American Studies, a member of the Society for the Anthropology of Lowland South America (SALSA) and an editor of the journal *Cultural Anthropology*.

Received his PhD in anthropology from Colombia University in 1995 and went on to teach at various universities in the US, including Georgetown and Ohio, before his appointment to Liverpool in 2006; worked extensively with the Shuar people of Ecuador throughout his career, eventually publishing *Alejandro Tsakimp: A Shuar Healer in the Margins of History* in 2002.

- b. Brooklyn, New York, United States, 10 June 1962
- d. Liverpool, England, 8 March 2012

**Chavela Vargas**

Costa Rican born Mexican singer, famous for her ranchera music; particularly popular throughout the 1950s and 60s, in which she recorded and toured prolifically; celebrated for her "la voz áspera de la ternura" (the rough voice of tenderness); later in life was an inspiration to Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar, who promoted her work and had her feature in several of his films.

- b. San Joaquín de Flores, Costa Rica, 17 April 1919
- d. Cuernavaca, Morelos, Mexico, 5 August 2012

**Lorenzo García Vega**

Cuban poet and one of the representatives of the 'Orígenes' movement founded by José Lezama Lima; won Cuba's 1952 National Prize for Literature; became a political exile in 1961 due to his criticism of the regime of Fidel Castro; worked with neither schedule nor editors and his writing is difficult to find, even in specialist bookshops.

- b. Jagüey Grande, Cuba, 1926
- d. Miami, Florida, United States, 1 June 2012

**Vidal Vega**

Paraguayan political leader shot dead; one of the last surviving leaders of a peasant movement in Paraguay, which led to the downfall of former president Fernando Lugo.

- b. Paraguay, 1964
- d. Canindeyú, Paraguay, 1 December 2012

## **SECTION Six: ACLAiR members and Newsletter Contributors**

### **20. List of members of ACLAiR**

#### **Institutional members for 2012:**

- University of Bristol
- British Library
- University of Cambridge
- Durham University
- University of Essex
- Instituto Cervantes London
- King's College London
- University of Leeds
- Liverpool John Moores
- The London Library
- London School of Economics
- National University of Ireland, Maynooth
- Newcastle University
- University of Oxford
- Senate House Library and the Institute for the Study of the Americas,  
University of London
- Swansea University
- Trinity College Dublin
- University College London
- University of Warwick

(The University of Bath and University of Nottingham are about to join for 2013)

#### **Personal members are:**

Frank Egerton and Jill Kempshall

## 21. Contributors to this issue

Christine Anderson  
Chris Anderton  
Mayte Azorín  
Alan Biggins  
Beth Cooper  
Les Crang  
Joanne Edwards  
Frank Egerton  
Robert Howes  
Alex Kriwaczek  
Andrea Meyer Ludowisy  
Guillermo Mira  
Sonia Morcillo  
Pat Noble  
Fernando Pedrosa  
Emer Stubbs  
Geoff West

