From the President…

Prezados leitores/estimados lectores/chères lecteurs/gentle readers:

This fall the Latin America & Caribbean Section (LACS) of the Southern Historical Association embraces Progress. No, we haven’t invented the next big platform for social networking, solved the global economic crisis, explored Mars, or explained dressage at the Olympics (apologies to all who actually know something about horseman/horsewomanship). However, we have put into place a new PayPal payment system that will enable all of us, current members and new, to pay our dues on line with minimal hassle. No thick-necked men sent by Matt Childs will darken your office door asking you for that check you’ve been promising for months. Actually, to say that “we” did this obscures the fact that the very able Theron Corse put in tons of time to make this happen. Many, many thanks to Theron.

Looking to the Mobile gathering, I’m impressed by the breadth of the panels on offer in November. Thanks to Sarah Franklin’s hard work and advocacy, LACS will be offering panels on important, broad themes: the U.S. in 20th-century Latin America and the Caribbean; slaving at the edges of empire; the influence of foreigners in Mexico; migrants and immigration; historical writing about Simón Bolívar. Beyond these, there are panels on the Civil War in the U.S. and the Caribbean, on the American South and the Global South, on Civil Rights and Latinos, on Western-Hemispheric perspectives on slavery, and on plantations in imperial borderlands. I take from this latter line up of panels that there is growing recognition among an emergent generation of historians of the U.S. South, and even the U.S. more generally, that we must blur the boundaries that have so effectively divided U.S. from Latin America-Caribbean historiographies. I encourage everyone to consult the SHA program for times and places and to engage with many panels as you can.

As always, LACS will host a lunch on Saturday, November 3. Reserve in advance (the maître d’ is snippy about this). We’ll share food and conversation, and recognize the best books, articles and papers of the year. Most important, we’ll hear from Prof. Steve Striffler on the Alabama law that has become a focus of debate about how to confront the dilemmas and opportunities of Latin American immigration.

I close with a call to all members to embrace the idea of LACS as an undertaking. It will always be what we make of it, as with all human institutions. It is now easier than ever to become and remain a member. So bring a friend.

Brian Owensby
University of Virginia
LACS Officers, 2012

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SHA Executive Council Member (2011-2013)
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For more information about LACS/SHA, its officers, prizes, and meetings, see our website at http://www.tnstate.edu/lacs/
September 2012 Preliminary Treasurer's Report

As of September, LACS has approximately 105 members, an increase of 15 since September 2011, and the LACS treasury contains approximately $8,500.00. A complete treasury report will be available at the October 2012 SHA Meeting and published in the spring 2013 newsletter.

Matt D. Childs  
University of South Carolina

2012 LACS Prize Committees

Murdo J. MacLeod Book Prize
Edward Wright-Ríos, Vanderbilt University (Chair)  
Reinaldo Román, University of Georgia  
Thomas Klubock, University of Virginia  
Matt Childs, University of South Carolina (ex-officio)

Kimberly S. Hanger Article Prize
Omar Valerio-Jiménez, University of Iowa (Chair)  
Pamela Voekel, University of Georgia  
Kate Ramsey, University of Miami  
Matt Childs, University of South Carolina (ex-officio)

Ralph Lee Woodward, Jr., Graduate Student Prize
The 2012 Ralph Lee Woodward, Jr. Prize will be awarded for the best graduate student paper presented at the Mobile Meeting of the SHA (November 2012) in the fields of Latin American, Caribbean, American Borderlands and Frontiers, or Atlantic World history. Students must be or become LACS members at the time of the meeting to be considered for the prize. Students will be asked to submit electronic versions of their paper to the committee members shortly after the 2012 meeting (the deadline will be set by the committee).

Charlotte Cosner, Western Carolina University, Chair  
cosner@email.wcu.edu

Eduardo Elena, University of Miami  
edelena@miami.edu

Virginia Garrard Burnett, University of Texas at Austin  
garrard@mail.utexas.edu

Matt Childs, University of South Carolina (ex-officio)  
childsmd@mailbox.sc.edu
2012 LACS Program Committee (Mobile)
Sarah Franklin, University of North Alabama, Chair
Thomas Rogers, Emory University
Robert Smale, University of Missouri, Columbia (chair for St. Louis, 2013)
Ben Vinson III, Johns Hopkins University

2013 LACS Program Committee (St. Louis)
Robert Smale, University of Missouri, Columbia, Chair
Sarah Franklin, University of North Alabama
Justin Wolfe, Tulane University (chair for Atlanta, 2014)
2013 LACS Call for Papers

SHA Meeting
St. Louis, Missouri
October 31–November 3, 2013

Deadline: October 1, 2012

The Latin American and Caribbean Section (LACS) of the Southern Historical Association welcomes individual paper and panel proposals for the 2013 SHA meeting in St. Louis, October 31–November 3, 2013.

LACS accepts papers and panels on all aspects of Latin American and Caribbean history, including the fields of the borderlands and the Atlantic World. Panels and papers that highlight the connections between people, cultures, and regions are especially welcome.

Submissions should include a 250-word abstract for each paper and brief curriculum vitae for each presenter. We encourage faculty as well as advanced graduate students to submit panels and papers. Graduate students are eligible for the Ralph Lee Woodward Jr. Prize, awarded each year for the best paper presented by a graduate student in a panel organized by LACS.

Please note that the program committee may revise proposed panels. All panelists are required to be members of LACS. For information about membership, please visit the website at: http://www.tnstate.edu/lacs/ or contact Matt Childs of the University of South Carolina at childsmd@mailbox.sc.edu. For more information about the Southern Historical Association, visit the website: http://www.uga.edu/~sha/

Deadline for submissions is October 1, 2012. Complete panels are appreciated, but not required.

Submit panels and papers (with a preference for electronic submissions) to:

Robert Smale
University of Missouri, Columbia
smaler@missouri.edu
PROGRAM OF THE LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTION (LACS) 
OF THE SOUTHERN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel and Mobile Convention Center 
Mobile, Alabama 
November 1–4, 2012

FOR THE COMPLETE PROGRAM AND OTHER INFORMATION, CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING:
HTTP://SHA.UGA.EDU/MEETING/INDEX.HTM

(All session rooms are in the Convention Center unless otherwise indicated.)

Thursday, November 1:

INFORMAL GATHERING OF LATIN AMERICANISTS, 6:00-8:00 P.M. 
The Royal Scam 
72 S Royal St. Mobile, AL 36602 
(251) 432-7226 
http://www.royalscammobile.com/

SHA OPENING RECEPTION: APPROX. 9 PM 
History Museum of Mobile, Across Government Street from the Riverview.

Friday, November 2: 9:30-11:30 A.M. 
204B
11. READING AND WRITING SIMÓN BOLÍVAR

PRESIDING: Lawrence A. Clayton, University of Alabama

Reading Bolívar 
Marie Arana, Library of Congress

Will the Real Simón Bolívar Please Stand Up? 
Lester D. Langley, University of Georgia, Emeritus

COMMENTS: Ralph Lee Woodward Jr., Tulane University 
Pamela Murray, University of Alabama at Birmingham

Friday, November 2: 2:30-4:30 P.M. 
204B
27. THE SECOND SLAVERY: HOW SLAVERY CHANGED, GREW, AND DOMINATED THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE DURING THE AGE OF EMANCIPATION

PRESIDING: Sarah Franklin, University of North Alabama

The Whipping Machine: Cotton, Labor, and Torture in the Modern Slave South, 1791-1861 
Edward Baptist, Cornell University
From Saint-Domingue to Brazil: The Reconfiguration of the Slave Coffee Economy in the Long Nineteenth Century
Rafael Marquese de Bivar, University of São Paulo

The Nineteenth-Century Cuban Sugar Frontier
Dale Tomich, Binghamton University

COMMENTS: The Audience

Friday, November 2: 4:45 P.M. 201B
CS 2. PHI ALPHA THETA—LATIN AMERICAN

PRESIDING: Matt Childs, University of South Carolina

“The Bahama Islands Are at this Time Rising into Consequence”: Bahamian Migration and Slavery in the 1790s
Joseph Beatty, University of Florida

“Blancos de la Más Depravada Vida Moral”: The Integration of the Ñáñigos in Late-Nineteenth-Century Havana
Joanna K. Elrick, Vanderbilt University

Anciennes Habitantes de Saint-Domingue: Migration and Social Networks in Testaments of Refugee Free Women of Color in New Orleans
Elizabeth C. Neidenbach, College of William and Mary

“Barbarities from which the Mind Instantly Recoils”: Wife Murder, Capital Punishment, and the Racialization of East Indians in the British Atlantic, 1838-1868
Anne Phillips, Duke University

COMMENTS: Guadalupe García, Tulane University

Saturday, November 3: 9:30-11:30 A.M. 204B
40. IMMIGRANTS AND MIGRANTS AND LATIN AMERICA

PRESIDING: Marshall Eakin, Vanderbilt University

The Eureka Colony: Free People of Color from New Orleans and the Mexican Colonization Project, ca. 1857
Ana Julieta Teodoro Cleaver, Centre d’Etudes Mexicaines et Centramericaines, Mexico

Coffee, Ethnicity, Migration, and Poverty in Rural Costa Rica, 1960-2008
Carmen Kordick de Cubero, Georgia College and State University
Brazil *Sui Generis*: Rural Education and the Construction of an “Immigrant” Generation  
Cari Maes, Emory University

Crime and Disorder in the Immigrant City: Buenos Aires, 1900-1930  
Mollie Nouwen, University of South Alabama

COMMENTS: Steven Hyland, Wingate University

**Saturday, November 3: 11:45-1:30 P.M.**  
**Mobile Bay III/Riverview**  
**44. LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN SECTION LUNCHEON**

PRESIDING: Brian Owensby, University of Virginia

Snatching Defeat from the Jaws of Victory? How We Got from the 2006 Protests to the Alabama Immigration Law  
Steve Striffler, Doris Zemurray Stone Chair in Latin American Studies, University of New Orleans

**Saturday, November 3: 2:30-4:30 P.M.**  
**204A**  
**55. RACE AND SLAVERY IN THE CARIBBEAN BASIN AND THE U.S.**  
*The Kimberly Hanger Memorial Session*

PRESIDING: Jay Clune, University of West Florida

Connecting Gold Coast Captives and Collective Rebelliousness through Memories of Slavery  
Amy M. Johnson, Elon University

A View from the Caribbean: René Grandjean and the Search for Creole History in the 1920s  
Mary Niall Mitchell, University of New Orleans

Overwhelming Odds: Race, Slavery, and Freedom in an Anglo-Hispanic Colony, Natchez, 1788-1805  
Christian Pinnen, University of Southern Mississippi

Between Slave and Free: Translating Liberty in the French and Haitian Revolutions  
Annette Quarcoopome, Vanderbilt University

COMMENTS: Kevin Dawson, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

**Saturday, November 3: 2:30-4:30 P.M.**  
**204B**  
**56. MEXICO AND THE INFLUENCE OF FOREIGNERS**

PRESIDING: Andrew Paxman, Millsaps College

The United States and Mexico during the 1960s  
Timothy Henderson, Auburn University at Montgomery
A Tale of Two Service Economies in a Mexican Town
Lisa Pinley Covert, College of Charleston

COMMENTS: Jürgen Buchenau, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Saturday, November 3: 6:00-8:00 P.M.
LACS Reception

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel
Room to be determined and to be announced at all panels and the LACS luncheon.
To obtain location while at the conference, email Matt Childs (childsmd@mailbox.sc.edu) or Sarah Franklin (sfranklin@una.edu).

Sunday, November 4: 9:00-11:00 A.M. 203A
64. SLAVING AT THE EDGE OF EMPIRE: BEFORE AND AFTER CABEZA DE VACA

PRESIDING: Ida Altman, University of Florida

Christian Slavers in the Early Spanish Southwest
Juliana Barr, University of Florida

Enslaving Cannibals and Idolaters in the Caribbean and the Early Mainland
Andrés Reséndez, University of California, Davis

COMMENTS: Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University
Alan Gallay, Ohio State University

Sunday, November 4: 9:00-11:00 A.M. 203B
65. THE EXTENT OF U.S. INFLUENCE IN TWENTIETH-CENTURY LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

PRESIDING: John Britton, Francis Marion University

Travels Through our America: Argentina’s Manuel Ugarte and the Circuits of Race, Region, and Empire, 1910s-1930s
Eduardo Elena, University of Miami

“A Soldier Can Serve but One Flag and One Cause”: The Politics of the Draft in World War I Puerto Rico
Micah Wright, Texas A&M University

Cutting Off the Dictator: The United States Arms Embargo of the Pinochet Regime, 1974-1988
John R. Bawden, University of Montevallo

COMMENTS: Michael LaRosa, Rhodes College
OTHER PANELS OF INTEREST

Friday, November 2: 9:30-11:30 A.M. 201A
2. THE ILLEGAL AND LEGAL NINETEENTH-CENTURY SALTWATER SLAVE TRADE

PRESIDING: Adam Rothman, Georgetown University

“Inherent Vice”: Maritime Insurance, Transatlantic Slavery and the Case of the Creole (1841)
Anita Rupprecht, University of Brighton, UK

Murder on the Big Uncas: The Illegal Slave Trade and the New Orleans-Havana Connection (1844)
Randy J. Sparks, Tulane University

The Echo Case and the U.S. Role in the Mid-Nineteenth-Century Atlantic Slave Trade
John Harris, Johns Hopkins University

COMMENTS: Jonathan Bryant, Georgia Southern University
Anthony E. Kaye, Pennsylvania State University

Friday, November 2: 9:30-11:30 A.M. 201C
4. THE UNITED STATES AND THE CARIBBEAN IN THE CIVIL WAR ERA

PRESIDING: Thomas Schoonover, University of Louisiana, Lafayette

Caribbeanizing the 1860 U.S. Presidential Campaign: Stephen Douglas, Cuba, and Saving the Union
Robert May, Purdue University

“Weal or Woe”: Confederate Expansionist Ambitions in 1863
Adrian Brettle, University of Virginia

The Monroe Doctrine, the Caribbean, and Reconstruction
Jay Sexton, University of Oxford, UK

COMMENTS: Edward Rugemer, Yale University

Friday, November 2: 2:30-4:30 P.M. 202B
23. CIVIL RIGHTS LEGACIES AND LATINOS/AS IN THE SOUTH: RACE, LABOR, STATES’ RIGHTS, AND ANTI-IMMIGRANT SENTIMENTS

PRESIDING: Leon Fink, University of Illinois, Chicago

Chicanos in SNCC: Black and Latino Alliances during the Civil Rights Movement
Cecelia Marquez, University of Virginia
“Injunctive Relief”? States’ Rights and Mariel Cubans in Arkansas
Perla M. Guerrero, University of Maryland

Living in Fear: Latinos/as and Alabama’s Anti-Immigrant Frenzy in Contemporary and Historical Perspective
Michael Innis-Jiménez, University of Alabama

COMMENTS: Mary Odem, Emory University
Paul Ortiz, University of Florida

Saturday, November 3: 9:30-11:30 A.M.

31. BEYOND THE PLANTATION SOUTH: INDIANS, AFRICANS, AND EMPIRES IN THE EIGHTEENTH-CENTURY BORDERLANDS

PRESIDING: Brett Rushforth, College of William and Mary

Coerced Combat in the Southeastern Borderlands, 1715-1750
Timothy David Fritz, University of Florida

Contest for Borderlands: Spanish-Indian Relations in the Southeastern Borderlands, 1785-1795
Frances Kolb, Vanderbilt University

“At War With All Nations”: Chickasaw Indians and the Greater Illinois Country in the Eighteenth Century
Jacob F. Lee, University of California, Davis

COMMENTS: Kathleen Duval, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Brett Rushforth

Saturday, November 3: 9:30-11:30 A.M.

32. THE IRISH IN THE ANTEBELLUM SOUTH: POLITICS, LABOR, AND SEGREGATION, 1850-1860

PRESIDING: Susannah Ural, University of Southern Mississippi

The Cincinnatian Moment: Irish Immigrants and Irish, Caribbean, and Latin American Filibustering in the 1850s
David Sim, University of Oxford, UK

The Residential Segregation of Irish Immigrants in Savannah on the Eve of the Civil War
Tyler Anbinder, George Washington University

The “Cornerstone”? Did Poor Whites Fight for Slavery?
David T. Gleeson, Northumbria University, UK

COMMENTS: Mary C. Kelly, Franklin Pierce University
Alan M. Kraut, American University
Saturday, November 3: 2:30-4:30 P.M.  201C
49. SOUTHERN ELITES AND HEMISPHERIC SLAVERY: PROSLAVERY IDEOLOGY BEYOND AMERICAN BORDERS

PRESIDING: Ricardo Salles, Federal University, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

“The World Will Fall Back on African Labor”: Rethinking the Antebellum Slave Trade Debates in a Hemispheric Context
Matthew Karp, University of Pennsylvania

A Subversive Safety Valve: Puncturing the Proslavery Myth in U.S. Fiction with Latin American Settings, 1826-1852
Paul D. Naish, City University of New York

Oceanography, Space-Time, and Hemispheric Slavery: Matthew Fontaine Maury and the Expansion of the Plantation Complex into Brazil, 1840-1861
Daniel B. Rood, University of Georgia

COMMENTS: Steven Heath Mitton, Utah State University
Frank Towers, University of Calgary, Canada

Sunday, November 4: 9:00-11:00 A.M.  201A
58. CONSUMPTION, DESIRE, AND COMMODIFICATION IN FRENCH LOUISIANA

PRESIDING: Virginia Gould, Tulane University

Scurvied Slaves and Dreams of Tobacco: Louisiana under the French Company of the Indies
Erin Greenwald, Historic New Orleans Collection

“Fed, Clothed, and Cared For”: Supplying Slaves’ Needs in French Colonial Louisiana
Sophie White, University of Notre Dame

Practicing Political Economy: Issues of Buying and Selling in French Louisiana
Alexandre Dubé, Omohundro Institute for Early American History and Culture

COMMENTS: Christopher Hodson, Brigham Young University
Virginia Gould
OBITUARIES

WILLIAM L. HARRIS (1929-2012)

William Lane Harris died on May 3, 2012 in Mount Pleasant, South Carolina. Bill was a leading Latin Americanist in the Southern Historical Association for over three decades before the formation of LACS in 1998 and served as the Latin American specialist on the Program Committee for the 1986 meeting of the SHA. He was a major contributor to the continued presence of Latin American topics on the SHA programs during these years. He was also a long-time member of the South Eastern Council on Latin American Studies (SECOLAS) and served as its president from 1978 to 1979. He is remembered as a jovial, gregarious member of both organizations making frequent contributions to panel sessions as well as playing active leadership roles in both the pre-LACS SHA and SECOLAS.

Bill was born in Birmingham, Alabama on April 13, 1929 and graduated from Vanderbilt University with a B.A. in Economics and Business Administration in 1956. He studied at the Universidad Central de Venezuela in 1962-1963 and earned his Ph.D. from the University of Florida in 1973. He was on the faculty of The Citadel from 1966 to 1993 where he was an outstanding classroom instructor and also served as Dean of Undergraduate Studies from 1975 to 1982.

He was a scholar of considerable distinction. He specialized in Venezuelan history with two major published monographs: Las reclamaciones de las Islas de Aves: Un estudio de las técnicas de las reclamaciones (Caracas: Universidad Central de Venezuela, 1968) and La diplomacia de José María Rojas, 1873-1883 (Caracas: Academia Nacional de la Historia, 1984). He wrote several scholarly articles and reviews including an impressive synthesis in the essay entitled “Venezuela: Wars, Claims, and the Cry for a Stronger Monroe Doctrine” which appeared in United States-Latin American Relations, 1850-1903, edited by Thomas M. Leonard (Tuscaloosa: University of Alabama Press, 1999). His contributions to Latin American history both in print and in the workings of the Southern Historical Association and SECOLAS are well remembered.

John A. Britton
Francis Marion University

RICHARD E. GREENLEAF (1930-2011)

Eminent historian Richard Greenleaf passed away in Albuquerque, New Mexico, November 8, 2011. Born in Arkansas and reared in New Mexico, he obtained his bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees at the University of New Mexico, where he studied under France V. Scholes. Dr. Greenleaf authored, coauthored, and contributed to numerous scholarly books and published almost four dozen articles in the fields of Latin American and borderlands history. He is especially noted for his writings on the early Catholic Church in Mexico and the Mexican Inquisition. He was the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the Sahagún Prize (INAH, Mexico), the Serra Award (American Academy of Franciscan History), and the CLAH’s Distinguished Service Award. Dr. Greenleaf taught at the University of the Americas (Mexico
City) from 1954 to 1969, and joined Tulane University in 1969, where he served as Director of the Roger Thayer Stone Center for Latin American Studies until his retirement in 1998. A revered mentor and legendary teacher, he directed 34 doctoral dissertations and guided numerous masters and undergraduate students. Stanley Hordes contributed an extensive obituary of Professor Greenleaf in the August 2012 volume of the *Hispanic American Historical Review* (92:3, 537-39). Larry Clayton, professor of history at the University of Alabama, a longtime member of LACS, and one of Dr. Greenleaf’s first doctoral students at Tulane, offers the following personal reflections:

There is the “official” Richard E. Greenleaf, so well represented by Stanley Hordes’s obit in the *Hispanic American Historical Review*, and then there is the “unofficial” Dick Greenleaf, well known to many of us, his former students and always friends.

I recommend to all who want a brief narrative of Dick’s many works, prizes and kudos to Stan’s article. It is indeed impressive, and covers many years.

I met Dick when he came to Tulane in 1969. Predictably, I didn’t know who he was, and he didn’t—for sure—know who I was. As luck would have it, all the profs I had had in Latin American history to that date at Tulane had left or retired and were replaced by new ones. Dick was one of those. So were Ralph Lee Woodward, Jr. and Michael Hall. William Griffith had gone to the University of Kansas, Thomas Karnes I believe had retired, and Donald Cooper headed to Ohio State.

So, when Dick and I met, it was probably in his office and he comfortably stepped in to preside over my Ph.D. orals and I agreed. One stranger was as good as the next.

In the meantime, Dick had invited his old mentor from the University of New Mexico, France Scholes, to come to Tulane for a year and teach a course on paleography.

I no more knew what paleography meant than who Richard Greenleaf was, although by then, being an astute survivor, I had looked up some of his works and knew that he and the Spanish Inquisition were tight. This was not a good omen for a Ph.D. examination.

France Scholes, I soon discovered, was the master of a fascinating art—reading and deciphering old Spanish documents. I remember that Cheryl Martin and I signed up to “read” with Dr. Scholes, and there was one other member of our little group. Cheryl and I were sucked into the sixteenth century vortex like a couple of astronauts returning to earth and hitting gravity. We both ended up devoting a huge chunk of our careers to mucking around colonial archives, and I think she and I both realized what a gem Tulane had mined by bringing one of France Scholes’s best students, Dick Greenleaf, to the Crescent City.

In the meantime Dick was hitting his stride in his career, having been pulled out of his comfortable existence at the University of the Americas in Puebla by something bigger, more challenging, and, possibly, more intimidating, running with the big dogs of Latin American Studies in the U. S. Not to diminish UCLA, Texas, Florida, etc. but Dick Greenleaf not only put
LAS on the map, but it also became a bright star in the area, attracting funds, faculty, students and becoming a center that was truly a “Center,” especially in Central American and Mexican studies, building on the existent MARI (Middle American Research Institute) and on the presence in the faculty of people such as Lee Woodward who was evolving into one of the late twentieth century deans of Latin American history.

Dick’s own *The Mexican Inquisition of the Sixteenth Century* (Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press, 1969) came out the year he moved to New Orleans and his scholarly productivity continued to build on an intimate acquaintance with the documents.

Fast forward to the summer of 1981 and Mexico City. A number of old students and friends in the academic world are transported to Mexico for some R & R, thinly disguised as a research trip, all paid for by the Center. This was Dick Greenleaf at his best, entertaining and teaching, preferably in the field, surrounded by peer-subalterns, for in some instances you were the driver of the car, and in others the guest at a sumptuous luncheon.

I remember slobbering over ice cream made with fresh vanilla beans from Papantla in Veracruz, driving past a volcano swathed in rain, produced of course by the rain god Tlaloc (provoking an enigmatic “Larry, I think you are a Tlaloc type person…”), lunch at a garden restaurant in Cuernavaca with strutting peacocks to entertain us, and back in Mexico City stepping into a manhole in a sidewalk left uncovered after a recent earthquake.

“There goes Clayton again,” Dick observed, once he perceived that the shock of dropping through the sidewalk was more a blow to my ego than my body.

He never forgot of course, bringing up my “disappearance” into the sidewalk occasionally over the years, with a quip to accompany it and remind us all of our foibles and his dry sense of humor.

But he was more than a humorist of course. When I was searching for a dissertation topic, he held a very loose rein, knowing that my interests were not his, but that I wanted something colonial, and he did know a bit about that.

He secured a Shell International Fellowship for me and I said, “hey, thanks, I’m off to Ecuador and Peru for a year to work in Guayaquil, Quito and Lima,” on the subject of my choosing, the shipyards of colonial Guayaquil.

“No you’re not,” he responded.

“What? I’m writing about colonial Ecuador and Peru, gotta get down there.”

“You can go for the summer, then it’s off to Seville to the Archive of the Indies.”

“Whaaaat?” But, he did know of course that the AGI was the place to go, regardless if he only had the faintest idea of a shipyard in Guayaquil.
So it was off to Spain for seven or eight months. When I returned and went by his office with the dissertation in hand—all twelve chapters—he was—I learned later—a little surprised. He really didn’t think I would find much, and I returned with a full blown dissertation.

He lopped off the first four chapters and gave it back to me. “We’re finished.”

“What about the first four chapters?” I exclaimed, like any writer who has seen his work eviscerated by a heartless and misinformed editor.

“They were good for background.” And, if I remember correctly, he followed up with something like, “now let’s go get a drink and something to eat.”

I think Jim Riley or I was his first doctoral student at Tulane and so we stepped into the Greenleafian circle without much prior knowledge of what to expect. I found a mentor and a lifelong friend, one with wit and wisdom. He had his flaws, but don’t we all. He saw past my patchwork background—half gringo, half Chilean, raised in Lima, indifferent undergraduate (well evidenced by my record at Duke), ex-naval officer, and a guy who had some promise as an historian. But I had to prove it, since he inherited me and was probably as unsure of me as I was of him.

Jim and others went on to write about the Church in Mexico and I looked another way, toward things social and economic, naval and maritime and commercial history across the empire, wondering what all the curiosity was about the Church.

From wherever in the Franciscan pantheon of saints he may be, I have to let Dick know that I eventually found his world as fascinating as he did, my last book being a biography of the quintessential warrior friar of the sixteenth century, Bartolomé de las Casas. Dick no doubt would have found that satisfying.

“I knew you had it in you, even as you disappeared in the manhole in Mexico.”

Larry Clayton
University of Alabama
THE HISTORY OF LACS

About LACS

LACS was formally established in 1998, at the SHA meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. Founded in 1934, the Southern Historical Association is the professional organization of historians of the South, but also of those in the South. In recent decades it has perhaps become more recognized as the former, but through the European History Section and the Latin American and Caribbean Section, and the affiliated groups, the Southern Association for Women Historians (SAWH) and the Southern Conference on British Studies, it also supports the work of historians located in the U.S. South whose research and teaching areas fall outside of the region in which they happen to be employed.

Although historians of Latin America, the Caribbean and the Spanish Borderlands have long been active in the SHA, particularly through the aegis of the Southeastern Council of Latin American Studies (SECOLAS, founded in 1954), the relationship has sometimes been an awkward one. LACS was established to formalize relations between historians of Latin America and the Caribbean, on the one hand, and the SHA on the other hand, and to secure a place for Latin American and Caribbean specialists at the annual meeting. The late Kimberly Hanger, a talented young historian at the University of Tulsa who played an important role in establishing the group, was elected its first president. Tragically, Kim died just a few months into her term, at the age of 37. Jürgen Buchenau of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, another key figure in the establishment of LACS, completed Kim’s term in office and then his own term the following year. Jürgen later became the first LACS representative to the SHA Executive Council in 2002. The LACS representative was accorded full voting rights beginning with the 2005 meeting.

In addition to these and other founders of LACS, longtime SHA Secretary-Treasurer John Inscoe of the University of Georgia has been especially helpful in supporting LACS’ participation in the SHA and advancing the exchange of ideas among historians of the U.S. South and the historians of Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Spanish Borderlands. For more on the history of LACS, see John Britton’s piece in the September 2008 newsletter at the LACS/SHA website: http://www.tnstate.edu/lacs/

LACS Officers and Awards, 1998-2011

President
Kimberly Hanger, University of Tulsa (1998-1999)
Todd Diacon, University of Tennessee (2000-2001)
Timothy Henderson, Auburn University Montgomery (2001-2002)
Richmond Brown, University of South Alabama (2002-2003)
Virginia Gould, Tulane University (2004-2005)
Andrew McMichael, Western Kentucky University (2005-2006)
Sherry Johnson, Florida International University (2006-2007)
Barbara Ganson, Florida Atlantic University (2007-2008)
Matt Childs, University of South Carolina (2008-2009)
Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University (2009-2010)
Juliana Barr, University of Florida (2010-2011)
Brian Owensby, University of Virginia (2011-2012)

Treasurer
Andrew McMichael, Western Kentucky University (2003-2005)
Michael LaRosa, Rhodes College (2005-2009)
Matt Childs, University of South Carolina (2009-present)

Secretary
Andrew McMichael, Western Kentucky University (2003-2005)
Theron Corse, Tennessee State University (2005-present)

Program Chairs
Todd Diacon, University of Tennessee (Louisville, 2000)
Timothy Henderson, Auburn University at Montgomery (New Orleans, 2001)
Richmond Brown, University of South Alabama (Baltimore, 2002)
Andrew McMichael, Western Kentucky University (Houston, 2003)
Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University (Memphis, 2004)
Michael Polushin, University of Southern Mississippi (Atlanta, 2005)
Jay Clune, University of West Florida (Birmingham, 2006)
William Connell, Christopher Newport University (Richmond, 2007)
Rosanne Adderley, Vanderbilt University (New Orleans, 2008)
Andrew McMichael, Western Kentucky University (Louisville, 2009)
Thomas Rogers, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, 2010)
Ben Vinson, III, Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, 2011)
Sarah Franklin, University of North Alabama (Mobile, 2012)
Robert Smale, University of Missouri, Columbia (St. Louis, 2013)

SHA Executive Council Representative
Richmond Brown, University of Florida (2005-2007)
Sherry Johnson, Florida International University (2008-2010)
Barbara Ganson, Florida Atlantic University (2011-2013)

Luncheon Speakers
2000  Murdo MacLeod, University of Florida: “Native Cofradías in Colonial Guatemala”
2002 Franklin Knight, Johns Hopkins University: “Regional vs. Global History”

2003 Thomas F. O’Brien, University of Houston: “Inter-American History from Structuralism to the New Cultural History”

2004 John Chasteen, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill: “What Dance History Teaches about the Latin American Past”

2005 Susan Socolow, Emory University: “Constructing the Nation: Monuments in Buenos Aires and Montevideo”

2006 Jane Landers, Vanderbilt University: “Ecclesiastical Records and the Study of Slavery in the Americas”

2007 N. David Cook, Florida International University: “Anecdotes from the Archives: The Times they are A-changing”

2008 Dauril Alden, Professor Emeritus, University of Washington: “Terror on Land and Sea: The Barbary Corsairs and Their Rivals, 16th to 19th Centuries”


2010 Lyman Johnson, UNC Charlotte: “Populist Politics in Late Colonial Buenos Aires”

2011 John Tutino, Georgetown University: “Capitalism and Patriarchy, Community and Revolution: Power and Resistance in Mexico, 1750-1940”

**Ralph Lee Woodward, Jr. Prize Winners (Best Graduate Student Paper)**

2001 Matthew Smith, University of Florida: “Race, Resistance and Revolution in Post-Occupation Haiti, 1934-46”

2002 Barry Robinson, Vanderbilt University: “Treachery in Colotlán (Mexico): The Problem of Individual Agency in Regional Insurgency, 1810-1815”

2003 Sophie Burton, Texas Christian University: “Free Blacks in Natchitoches”

2004 David Wheat, Vanderbilt University: “Black Society in Havana”

2005 Magdalena Gomez, Florida International University: "La primera campaña de vacunación contra la viruela y el impacto del establecimiento de las Juntas de Vacuna en la administración de la salud pública, en el Caribe Hispano y la Capitanía de Venezuela, a comienzos del siglo XIX"
2006 Pablo Gomez, Vanderbilt University: “Slavery and Disability in Cartagena de Indias, Nuevo Reina de Granada”

2007 Tatiana Seijas, Yale University: “Indios Chinos in Colonial Mexico’s República de Indios”


2009 Sitela Alvarez, Florida International University: “Cuban Exiles’ Rejection of Imperialist Catholicism in Key West, 1870-1895”

2010 Mark Fleszar, Georgia State University: “‘To See How Happy the Human Race Can Be’: A Colonization Experiment on Haiti’s Northern Coast, 1835-1845”


*Murdo MacLeod Book Prize Winners*


Kimberly Hanger Article Prize Winners


