



**MINUTES of the SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION LATIN AMERICA DIVISION  
held by Skype on 28 January 2019**

In attendance: Igor Santos Tupy, Pedro Amaral, Ana Paula Bastos, Bernardo Campolina, José Borello, Miguel Atienza Ubeda, Sergio Montero Muñoz, Alejandro Mercado Celis, Humberto Merritt, Alejandra Trejo Nieto Suede Stanton-Drudy, Daniela Carl

Apologies: Joaquín García Galván

The Chair welcomed attendees to the 2nd AGM of the Regional Studies Association Latin America Division.

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**AGENDA ITEM 1: MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 24TH MAY 2017**

The AGM agreed this was an accurate record of the meeting of the RSA Latin America Division held on 24th May 2017.

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**AGENDA ITEM 2: ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

- to explore the option of a special issue on LA in Area Development and Policy.

*Action: Miguel agreed to be the special issue Editor, with Bernardo, Alejandra and Alejandro assisting. Topics are to be confirmed later: one possible topic is new approaches from the Global South.*

- to integrate databases of contacts listing key scholars, institutions and conference delegates.

*Action: All Ambassadors to send databases to Jose to create a central LA database. Jose will resend to Suede the previously created database of contact details.*

- Miguel to collate contact details of people in the field in Chile.

*Action: – Miguel to send to Jose.*

- LA representatives to write a short piece (one page long) on an LA issue for the Regions e-Zine.

The Chair encouraged Ambassadors to do this to maintain a Latin American presence in the magazine.

*Actions: Bernardo, Paula and Miguel to write pieces focusing on environmental issues in Latin America which may become a topic for the Division's conference in Bogota this year. Attendees were also encouraged to write blogs to support the Regions articles to raise awareness of LA research and regional/urban development/policy, to promote the LA Division and its conference.*

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**AGENDA ITEM 3: REPORT TO THE BOARD OF TERRITORIAL ACTIVITIES**

- **RSA Latin America Division – Miguel Atienza**

Miguel reported that there had been some growth of the division with the addition of a Colombian Ambassador. The two major recent events were the conference in Colombia in September for the launch of the book which the Colombian Ambassador co-edited and the Latin America Division Event in Santiago, Chile 28-30 November 2018 attended by Bernardo and Miguel. It has been a good opportunity to promote the RSA LA Division. Looking forward, the Division would this year host its annual conference in Colombia and the following year in Mexico. The challenge for the Division as a whole was to continue to expand membership.

- **Argentina – Jose Borello**

The written report was noted. In addition Jose reported that the *XIII Jornadas en Economías Regionales* conference would be held in September 12-13 in Buenos Aires at his university and he felt this would be an excellent opportunity for the Division to be one of the co-organisers. He was considering inviting young RSA members in Argentina to participate in a special session. More information is attached at Appendix 1.

- **Brazil – Pedro Amaral**

The written report was noted. In addition Pedro reported the possibility of organising a Latin America Division table this year's Diamantina, Minas Gerais.

- **Chile – Miguel Atienza**

Miguel reported that his main efforts this past year were around organising the Division conference in Chile which required a lot of time to reorganise when the initial partnership did not come to fruition.

- **Colombia – Sergio Montero**

The written report was noted. In addition Sergio reported that he was still in negotiations with his university in regard to rooms for this year's Division conference in September in Bogota. He has been approached by Universidad Piloto who are hosting a conference the week before in Bogota on development which would be attended by around 300 students. Sergio raised the possibility of combining conferences or publicising ours at theirs. More information is attached at Appendix 2.

Sergio and Miguel had prepared a proposal for a grant to hold a writing workshop which did not progress, however would explore if we could gain funding to still run such a workshop before the conference. Sergio suggested an early career writing workshop on the Thursday and Friday on the week before which may encourage the delegates from the Piloto conference to attend. He was hoping that good articles from the workshop could form part of a special issue.

Sergio requested direction from the Board in relation to topics for the conference, keynote speaker etc.

*Action:* - A small committee to be created to assist Sergio with the organization of Colombia conference.

*Action:* Daniela to send Sergio a draft program outline to show how many parallel sessions will be needed.

- **Mexico – Alejandra Trejo Nieto and Alejandro Mercado Celis**

The written report was noted.

- **RSA – Daniela Carl**

The written report was noted. In addition Daniela asked attendees if they knew of anyone suitable for the role of ambassador in Latin American countries not currently represented by the RSA. Please send details to Suede.

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 4: EVENTS**

Daniela Carl was invited to present this item.

- **RSA Annual Conference, Santiago de Compostela, Spain “Pushing Regions beyond their Borders”—proposed special session**

This item was noted and discussed throughout the meeting at other agenda items.

- **North America Conference, Montreal, Canada, “The Call of the New: Unpacking Innovation, its Spatiality, its Benefits and its Costs” 25-27 September 2019**

This item was noted.

- **RSA Latin America Division Annual Conference 2019, Bogota**

This item was noted. Board members were asked to contact Sergio with suggestions for topics for the conference.

- **RSA Latin America Division Annual Conference 2020, Mexico**

This item was noted. It was reported that ideally the call for papers should be released at the 2019 Bogota conference. Board members were asked to contact Alejandra and Alejandro with suggestions for topics for the 2020 conference.

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 5: CHAIR OF RSA LATIN AMERICA DIVISION**

The meeting accepted that although it was ideal when the Chair of the Division was the person organising the Division's annual conference, this may result in too great a workload and too little time in post to be effective. The election of the Chair for a 3-year term was agreed as too long.

Paula nominated and Jose seconded the motion that the Chair be elected by general vote at the AGM for a term of one year with the ability to stand again for election annually. The motion was carried.

It was also noted that the RSA Board had approved funding for a part time member of staff in Latin America, reporting to RSA HQ in UK, to support the Chair and grow the Division.

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 6: ELECTIONS, RESIGNATIONS AND RETIREMENTS**

All retirements were noted.

Pedro proposed and Sergio seconded the motion that all retiring Trustees be returned to post for the term of 2019/2020. The motion was carried.

Pedro proposed and Miguel seconded the motion that Igor Tupy become Treasurer of the Division. The motion was carried.

Paula proposed and Igor seconded the motion that all remaining Officers with the exception of Treasurer be returned to post for the term of 2019/2020. The motion was carried.

Miguel proposed and Alejandro seconded that Sergio become the next Chair of the RSA Latin America Division. Sergio agreed to the proposal and requested the support of previous Chairs, Pedro and Miguel and the creation of a small committee for the organisation of the annual conference. The motion was carried.

Pedro nominated Humberto as Trustee, however Humberto politely declined as he did not feel he was sufficient acquainted with the workings of the RSA yet to effectively take up a Trustee position.

It was noted that no additional nominations for the position of Trustee of the Board of the RSA Latin America Division had been received and so no election for new Trustees took place.

The Chair congratulated the successful candidates and thank them for their commitment to the Association and their offer to assist in the governance.

The Chair noted that the Board would continue to carefully review Board membership with respect to the balance of skills, experience and knowledge required.

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#### **AGENDA ITEM 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- Humberto thanked the attendees for inviting him.
- Jose invited attendees to send him any information about coming events and activities in their area for the newsletter.
- Miguel thanked everyone for their dedication to the Division, for their support during his Chairmanship and Daniela and Suede for organising the meeting.
- Miguel suggested future meetings should be more regular and therefore shorter.
- Sergio suggested an informal social event for LA delegates at the Santiago de Compostela conference.
- Sergio asked if there was any other funding for a writing workshop.

**Action:** *Daniela will research this. Igor will try to source some funding from Young Scholar's Initiative.*

The Chair declared the meeting closed.

Papers End

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Appendix 1: Information about the conference « XIII Jornadas Nacionales de Investigadores en Economías Régionales »

Appendix 2 : Information about the conference « Seminario Internacional Estado, Territorio y Desarrollo »