

**MINUTES  
of the  
FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
of the  
REGIONAL STUDIES ASSOCIATION LATIN AMERICA DIVISION  
By Zoom on 23 November 2021**

Attendees: Alejandra Trejo (Chair), Pedro Amaral (Interim Chair), Sergio Montero, Jose Borello, Jana Schmutzler de Uribe, Igor Tupy, Laura Sariego, Hipolita Siqueira

Regional Studies Association: Daniela Carl, Suede Stanton-Drudy

Apologies: Alejandro Mercado Celis

**1. Minutes of the meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

The AGM agreed this was an accurate record of the meeting of the RSA Latin America Division held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

**2. Actions from Previous Meeting**

**Actions for 2019 meeting**

- Area Development and Policy LA special issue – Miguel Atienza reported that although when he had previously spoken to Mick Dunford this had not progressed, it may now be attractive as part of a strategy for expanding ADP's global exposure.  
**Action: Board members to suggest topics by email.**
- All Ambassadors to send databases to Jose to create a central LA database of contacts listing key scholars, institutions and conference delegates.  
**Action: Ambassadors to send contact details to Jose.**
- Other ideas included writing workshops for young scholars on how to write for journals; forming an Early Careers group that would meet regularly; and a webinar series for PhDs and Early Careers.  
**Action: Daniela Carl and Jana Schmutzler de Uribe to discuss the creation of a series of online workshops possibly in conjunction with other likeminded organisations, which might lead to the creation of an Early Career group.**

## Actions from 2020 meeting

- The Division Newsletter to continue to be published.  
**Action: Jose to email Ambassadors for pieces and collate them for the 2022 Newsletter.**
- SEA was dropped from Brazil's national journal ranking due to having no papers from Brazil.  
**Action: Pedro to discuss with Sally Hardy when judicial court suspension is lifted and criteria are clear.**

### 3. Report to the Board of Territorial Activities

- **Argentina** – Jose Borello reported that in 2020-21 he had completed a number of reports and publications on three major topics. He had been in close contact with several young researchers working on regional topics in Argentina, including Daniela Calá. He had also completed a major report on regional issues in Argentina for ECLAC. That report was part of a series of studies the Buenos Aires office of ECLAC was undertaking currently. He had also been in touch with Renato García (at the university of Campinas, in Brasil). Last year he participated in the RSA Global Seminar Series (Latin America-Plenary on the Global South) and wrote comments on Michael Storper's presentation. He planned on editing again, perhaps twice a year the RSA Latin America Division Newsletter he had started and was able to complete five issues.
- **Brazil** – Pedro Amaral reported that in Brazil, academic activities remained primarily remote. Teaching should resume in person along the first semester of 2022. Most of the conferences expected for the first semester of 2022 would remain remote. In-person events were expected only for the 2nd half of 2022. Several national events were cancelled in 2021, including the bi-annual conference of the Brazilian association of graduate studies in planning, urban and regional studies (ANPUR). Therefore, attention shifted to international online events in 2020, including RSA events.
- **Chile** – Miguel Atienza reported that this year had been difficult and very fruitless as there had been very strict control of people and movement. He had been working from home and there had been very few academic activities. At a meeting of the Chilean Regional Science Association there were less than 40 people presenting articles, which was very sad.
- **Colombia** – Sergio Montero reported that he previously presented at the Latin America leg of the RSA Global webinar series with Michael Storper, but other than his Editorship of the RSA journal Regional Studies, 2021 had been a quiet year.
- **Mexico** – Alejandra Trejo Nieto reported that at her university they were still planning a return to in person activities. Over the last year she had participated in RSA online events and chaired sessions for RSA events. She was organising a session from Mexico on 6 December for the RSA International Hour webinar series. She had also published a book in the Regions and Cities series with some colleagues from Latin America. She tried to share events etc about RSA through Facebook, Twitter and personal contacts.

- **RSA** – Daniela Carl reported on RSA activity over the past year and plans for the future.
  - Publications - She confirmed journals had experienced a strong increase in submissions and appointed new editors. Journals were now being sent with no packaging at all. RSA members would shortly receive Ron Martin’s book on leveling up. Later in 2022 the RSA would host 5 Special Issue Hubs based around the journals.
  - Grants - To date the RSA had awarded over €1.25 million. Last year, due to the Covid pandemic the RSA paused the Research Network Grant Scheme and the Travel Bursary scheme. These were again on hold in 2021 as the funds were repurposed into the new Small Grant Scheme on Pandemics, Cities, Regions and Industries worth €4,500.
  - Events – In June RSA hosted the Regions in Recovery global e-Festival which attracted 1250 participants from 71 countries over 2 ½ weeks. In Spring 2022 the RSA and partners would reprise this, entitled RinR 2nd Edition –Re-imagining Regions. The RSA continued to host a number of webinar series including two new series: RSA International Hour and the 2022 RSA Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) Programme - Bridging Old and New Divides.
  - RSA APP – Attendees were encouraged to download the RSA App called the RSA Hub.

#### 4. Events

Due to Covid no events were planned for 2022.

#### 5. Chair of RSA Latin America Division

Alejandra Trejo Nieto left the meeting. Pedro Amaral took over as Interim Chair of the meeting.

The meeting was then presented with the nomination for Division Chair from Alejandra Trejo Nieto.

The Board voted and agreed that Alejandra Trejo Nieto should be the Chair of the RSA Latin America Division for the term until the next AGM.

Alejandra was congratulated on her successful election.

#### 6. To elect new members to the Board and to accept resignations, retirements and co-options if any

The following Territorial Representatives came to the end of their term of office at this AGM as Trustees of the Board of the RSA Latin America Division and were re-elected for a further term:

- Jose Borello, Argentina
- Pedro Amaral, Brazil
- Miguel Atienza, Chile
- Sergio Montero Munoz, Colombia
- Alejandra Trejo Nieto, Mexico
- Alejandro Mercado Celis, Mexico
- Miguel Flores Segovia, Mexico

Miguel Flores Segovia was asked to explain his absence. Miguel subsequently sent apologies.

The following Officers came to the end of their term of office at the AGM as Officers of the Board of the RSA Latin America Division and were being re-elected for a further term:

- Igor Tupy – Treasurer
- Bernardo Campolina Diniz – Secretary (Portuguese speaking)
- Jose Borello – Secretary (Spanish speaking)
- Marco Aurélio Crocco Afonso - Patron

The Board agreed that henceforth board members would need to actively renominate themselves prior to the AGM.

The following Board member came to the end of her term of office at this AGM as Trustee of the Board of the RSA Latin America Division and are being re-elected for a further term:

- Jana Schmutzler de Uribe

The following individual was elected as a Trustee of the Board of the RSA Latin America Division:

- Laura Sariego.

## 7. Any other items for discussion but not decision

The following matters were discussed:

- Board members would continue discussing the ADP Special Issue over email. Miguel asked Board members to send him suggested topics for the special issue this week.  
**Action: Miguel to collate topic suggestions and contact Mick Dunford.**
- Igor and Laura volunteered to assist Daniela and Jana with work on the early career writing sessions.  
**Action: Daniela to arrange meeting with Jana, Igor and Jana to discuss first steps**
- Sergio suggested a virtual workshop for Latin American authors on how to write for English journals aimed at more senior scholars addressing how to get published.  
**Action: Pedro and Sergio to contact Alejandra and Hipolita Siquiera to discuss next steps.**
- The Board thanked Jose Borello for agreeing to continue with the newsletter as this was important.

In closing, the Chair thanked the Board for their commitment to the Division and for the time that they devoted to Division business during the year.

*Papers End*