

PRESS RELEASE

SALALM @ 50

Latin American Studies Research and Bibliography Past, Present and Future.

The Seminar on the Acquisition of Latin American Library Materials (SALALM) is celebrating fifty years of professional activity that fosters and supports Latin American research in many areas of knowledge, from the humanities and social sciences to science and technology. Individual members and member libraries hail from some 25 countries and represent the most notable institutions and book vendors focused on Latin American Studies. This conference is sponsored by the University of Florida Libraries and UF Center for Latin American Studies and will be held April 16-19, 2005 in Gainesville, Florida.

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. SALALM is also concerned with the special problems of librarians of Latin America and the Caribbean and with library development in those areas. Providing library materials for the Spanish-and Portuguese-speaking populations in the United States is another field of interest. Through various committees the members of SALALM promote, conduct, and participate in research and studies of current and potential problems. The compilation of bibliographies and electronic resources is an especially important aspect of these studies.

SALALM@50 Latin American Studies Research and Bibliography--Past, Present and Future is the general theme of the fiftieth anniversary conference. The scope is intentionally broad to permit the inclusion of any aspect of Latin American bibliography into the panel presentations. Librarians, book sellers and book lovers are by nature, rather eclectic in interests and the meeting will strive to encourage, promote and celebrate this with the open theme. The panelists will focus on the trends, history and future of Latin American Studies research and bibliography in Latin America, Europe and the U.S. The roles of SALALM and U.S. and international libraries in the support and generation of electronic and traditional Latin American Studies interdisciplinary resources will be examined, in addition to the history and development of specific research tools that are fundamental to LAS. As this is the 50th anniversary celebration of SALALM we are celebrating the numerous accomplishments of the organization and its members in the realm of Latin American Studies research and bibliography.

For further information about the conference contact: Pamela Howard-Reguindin, President, at PamelaHR@loc.gov or Richard Phillips, Local Arrangements Coordinator, at ricphil@uflib.ufl.edu.



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