

Latin American Studies Association
Education and Educational Policies Section

Report of the Section's business meeting, 13 June 2024, in Bogotá Colombia

By: Rosita Angelo, Incumbent Co-chair; Nancy Palacios, outgoing Co-chair; Jorge Enrique Delgado, outgoing Secretary/Treasurer – 2023-2024

The hybrid business meeting of the LASA Education and Educational Policy Section took place on Thursday, 13 June 2024. 16 people attended the meeting. A new meeting is pending to be scheduled to carry out the transition between the outgoing and incoming boards.

After the welcome and introduction of participants to the meeting, the work of the sections and duties of co-directors, secretaries/treasurers, and advisors were explained. Likewise, officers described how the Education Section membership seems to have begun to recover size-wise after having suffered a drastic reduction due to the pandemic. In the list received on 20 February 2024, there were 57 active members in the Section.¹ This year, the Section had a balance of around \$5000, an amount that was estimated from the 2023 balance (\$4,250.99), current membership, and the prize awarded in 2024 (\$500). The exact value must be confirmed with LASA. Regarding the 2024 award from the Education Section for students and researchers, it was awarded to Jorge Enrique Delgado, who was the only person who submitted a nomination. Regarding communication strategies, the Education Section uses the email provided by LASA to contact current members. MailChimp is also used to distributed information among past members. Additionally, the officers keep the Section's website up to date and send information to LASA to be distributed through social networks.

Regarding the annual congress, in 2024, LASA allowed sections to have two invited panels to encourage participation and increase memberships. As has been tradition for the last 7-8 years, the Education Section launched a call for proposals to create one or more symposiums, based on the conference theme, and invited current and former members to submit their proposals for individual presentations or panels to Nancy Palacios and Rosita Angelo, coordinators this year of said symposiums. They grouped the proposals into eight panels (six created/received and two invited) and submitted them to the congress for evaluation. With this strategy the Section has sought to work as a collective and increase the possibility of acceptance of the proposals. It should be noted that members Fabiola Cabra and Werner Vásquez von Schoettler served as track chairs of the Education track of the LASA 2024 Congress. This is considered an achievement of the Section, since in the past such track chairs were people outside the sections. Now, LASA consults with the sections to choose the track chairs in those lines that are specifically related to the themes of the sections. For the 2025 congress, the Education Section sent the organizers the names of several members. During the meeting Consuelo Sánchez-Bautista announced her invitation to serve as track chair. The second track chair invited was Mr. Brent Edwards, but he had to decline. Along with other members, Consuelo and Brent responded to the Section's request for nominations. The track chairs were selected by the congress organizers. A notable activity of the Education Section in 2024 was a workshop organized and well attended by Fabiola Cabra and Nancy Palacios on the experiences of teachers in rural territories of Colombia.

Regarding the participation of the Section in the LASA congress, the organization of the symposia and the participation of members as track chairs of the congress also stood out. It was also highlighted that the conference organizers have responded to the Section's request to schedule

¹ Education Section membership history: 2016, 108 members; 2017, 115; 2018, 137; 2019, 107; 2020, 85; 2021, 72; 2022, 46; 2023, 36; 2024/02/20: 57.

the panels consecutively and, if possible, in the same room. However, this did not happen completely this year because some sessions of the Education track (EDU) were scheduled at the same time as the invited or section panels (SEC). It is expected that in 2025 there will be more in-person participants and that the symposia will serve as spaces for members to meet each other and build community. LASA 2025 will take place in San Francisco, California, on May 23-26; The reception of proposals for panels/presentations will be approximately from June 30 to September 5, 2024; The deadline for pre-registration for the congress and for submitting information on the Section awards will be at the beginning of March 2025. These dates will be important for planning activities such as the calls and sending of symposia and awards from the Section to the congress.

In the same way, the strategy that the Education Section has been implementing to provide continuity to projects and to increase participation in the LASA congress was analyzed with the attendees. With respect to the former, it has been sought that the co-directors of the Education Section remain for two-year periods and alternate the elections, so that each year only one new co-director is elected. This year, Nancy Palacios (Colombia) completed her time as co-director and Rosita Angelo (Uruguay) began her second year. Likewise, Jorge Delgado served as Secretary/Treasurer (US, Colombia) between 2018 and 2024 to primarily handle communications and archives and connect initiatives. This year, the position of Secretary/Treasurer was up for election. Finally, the Education Section has an open-door policy to welcome all members who wish to serve as advisors. The elections for the 2024-2025 period, held during the assembly, yielded the following results: **Rosita Angelo** (Uruguay) and **Guzmán Hernández-Estrada** (Mexico), Co-directors; **María Pilar Cabanzo** (Colombia/Brazil), Secretary/Treasurer; **Ilse Nakase** (Mexico), **Nancy Palacios** (Colombia), **Liliana Gallego-Duque** (Colombia), **Leydy Erazo** (Colombia/Mexico), **Patricia Viera-Duarte** (Uruguay), **Consuelo Sánchez-Bautista** (Colombia/USA), **Guilherme de Alcántara** (Brazil), **Uriel Buitrago** (Colombia/USA), y **D. Brent Edwards** (USA) advisors.

Finally, the Education Section will continue working on projects such as the collection of references of the intellectual products of Section members, the “Essential Library of Latin American Education” project with a pilot on “educational policy” and publications of the presentations, and other documents in books and dossiers in academic journals. The Section's email address is educacionlasa@gmail.com. Likewise, the URL address of the Section page is <https://sections.lasaweb.org/sections/educacion-politicaseducativas/>.