**SLAS 2020 (Cancelled due to Covid-19)**

**CEDLA- University of Amsterdam – CEDLA, 17 and 18 April 2020**

A. Conference Finances & Participation Overview

1. Conference Fees

2. Income and Expenditure

3. Registration Figures

B. Conference Planning & Organisation Overview

4. Conference Theme and Ethos

5. Call for Papers, Creating Panels and the Virtual Programme

6. Website & Social Media

# A. Conference Finances & Participation Overview

In this short report, you can find the conference plans, preparations and expenditure for the SLAS conference that was supposed to take place at 17 and 18 April 2020 in Amsterdam, organized by the Centre for Latin American Studies and Documentation (CEDLA). However due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the conference had to be cancelled and as an alternative some online panels were organized in April and May.

## 1 Conference Fees

Early bird registration: 15 November to **1 February 2020**\*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **SLAS Member Student /Unemployed/ Retired/Residents in Latin America** | **Non SLAS Member Student /Unemployed/ Retired/ Residents in Latin America** | **SLAS Member Delegate** | **Non SLAS Member Delegate** |
| **Day Rate** | €90 | €110 | €120 | €140 |
| **Full Conference Rate\*** | €170 | €200 | €220 | €250 |

Late registration: 2 February to **1 March 2020**\*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **SLAS Member Student /Unemployed/ Retired/Residents in Latin America** | **Non SLAS Member Student /Unemployed/ Retired/ Residents in Latin America** | **SLAS Member Delegate** | **Non SLAS Member Delegate** |
| **Day Rate** | €110 | €130 | €140 | €160 |
| **Full Conference Rate\*** | €200 | €230 | €250 | €280 |

## 2 Income and Expenditure

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Element** | | **#** | **price** | | | **incl VAT** |
| **Website** | | | | | | | |
| Website SLAS2020 | 1 | | | € 98 | € 98 | | |
| Domain | 1 | | | € 4,83 | € 4,83 | | |
| **Total** | | | | **€ 102,83** | | | |
| **Transactions UvA Congres Bureau** | | | | | | | |
| Participant registrations | 318 | | | € 8 | € 2.544 | | |
| Payback of fees | 307 | | | € 5 | € 1.857 | | |
| Transaction costs | | | | € 3.248 | | | |
| **Total** | | | | **€ 7.649** | | | |
| **Organisational costs CEDLA** | | | | | | | |
| Project management (Gaya) | 54 | | | € 57,50 | € 3.105 | | |
| Student support | 2 | | | 250 | € 500 | | |
| Office costs | | | | € 665 | | | |
| **Total** | | | | **€ 4.270** | | | |
| **TOTAL** | | | | **€ 12.021,71** | | | |

## 3 Registration and submitted abstracts Figures

See 5.

# B. Conference Planning & Organisation Overview

## 4 Conference Theme and Ethos

In line with previous conferences, SLAS2020 aimed to be an opportunity for explorations of any aspect of Latin American Studies, from any disciplinary and theoretical perspective. The optional conference theme that speakers were invited to address was:

**Mind the gap: Strengthening connections in Latin American Studies**

The choice of topic came from a need we felt to address the current climate of increasing exclusion and inequality, as well as antagonism and polarization (on a global scale), which have intensified different kinds of distances within and beyond the region. These tendencies take place in and pose challenges to various social, political, economic and cultural arenas. In the same vein, Latin American Studies in Europe also faces new and old divisions: between the UK and mainland Europe; between Northern and Southern Europe; between different academic disciplines competing over funding; and between various ways of understanding and producing knowledge. Yet connections and exchange across disciplines and between academia and society appear stronger and more pertinent than ever, and digital communication and publishing allow for easier access and collaboration. What, then, do these distances and connections produce? And how do they reshape Latin America and Latin American Studies today?

### Keynote

The invited keynote speaker was Maristella Svampa. Svampa is a sociologist, Conicet researcher and Professor at the Universidad Nacional de la Plata, Argentina. She is a coordinator of the Group of Critical Studies of the Development and member of collectives “Plataforma 2012”.

## 5 Call for Papers, Creating Panels and the Virtual Programme

The deadlines for the call for individual papers and panels (including roundtables and civil society/policy dialogues) was October 15. There were five programme tracks, and for each track two experts reviewed the proposals. On November 11 we emailed everyone who sent in a proposal, informing if they have been accepted or not. About 10% of the proposals were rejected.

Submitted abstracts:

- Politics, institutions, identity & social movements - 22 panels & 102 papers

- Communities, ecologies, economics & natural resources - 12 panels & 36 papers

- History, literature, media & cultural studies - 27 panels & 81 papers

- Inequalities, violence, cities & migration - 16 panels & 42 papers

- Otros saberes & alternative methods - 5 panels & 13 papers

Total submissions: 81 panels *and* 274 individual paper submissions.

Accepted:

- Politics, institutions, identity & social movements - 18 panels & 83 papers

- Communities, ecologies, economics & natural resources - 11 panels & 36 papers

- History, literature, media & cultural studies - 27 panels & 75 papers

- Inequalities, violence, cities & migration - 15 panels & 38 papers

- Otros saberes & alternative methods - 4 panels & 12 papers

Total accepted: 75 panels *and* 244 individual paper submissions.

In total 318 delegates registered for the conference. On the 12th of March, however, we had to inform them that the conference was cancelled due to the covid-19 pandemic. Nevertheless, we grouped the registered delegates into thematic panels and sent everyone the panel list two weeks after the cancellation date, with the request for people to indicate if they would like to be part of a virtual set of meetings. This ‘programme’ included the following number of panels (individual papers grouped into panels):

- Politics, institutions, identity & social movements - 15 panels & 2 roundtables

- Communities, ecologies, economics & natural resources - 8 panels & 1 roundtable

- History, literature, media & cultural studies - 20 panels & 2 roundtables

- Inequalities, violence, cities & migration - 11 panels & 1 roundtable

- Otros saberes & alternative methods - 1 panel & 1 roundtable

Total: 58 panels (of which about 10% double panels) and 7 roundtables.

About a quarter of the panels decided to go ahead virtually, making the final virtual program:

- 1 May: 1 panel

- 8 May: 5 panels & 1 roundtable

- 22 May: 12 panels & 2 roundtables

Total: 18 panels and 3 roundtables (incl. 2 special virtual roundtables for postgraduate research during covid-19).

For these virtual sessions about 310 people registered, including 90 SLAS2020 delegates and about 220 members of the public. People registered for three sessions on average, but many for more than three. Non-public panels had between 5 and 20 registrations, public panels had between 30 up to 138 registrations. About half of the people who registered actually showed up to the virtual sessions (registration was free).

## 6 Website & Social Media

There was a separate conference website created (SLAS2020.nl) Because the hosting has expired, it can now be visited through: <https://alnikolsky3.wixsite.com/slas2020/registration>

SLAS promoted the conference though its twitter account and CEDLA promoted it on its website, through it newsletter and on Facebook.