

Program of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars has initiated a multi-faceted project to enhance public understanding of U.S.-Caribbean relations. It will develop a variety of activities to address key Caribbean issues from diverse viewpoints, including a special series of day-long seminars directed toward selected groups, panels on Caribbean topics at the program's congressional staff seminars and editors' conference, and increased radio outreach. Further information may be obtained from Jorge Heine at the Center, Smithsonian Institution Building, Washington, D.C. 20560.

The Wilson Center also announced the Fellows who will be in residence during 1981-1982: Marcelo José Cavarozzi, CEDES, Buenos Aires, and Yale University; Germán Colmenares, Universidad del Valle, Colombia; Luigi Einaudi, Bureau of Inter-American Affairs, U.S. Department of State; Nicolás Sánchez-Albornoz, New York University; Javier Silva Ruete, former minister of finance of Peru; Arturo Valenzuela, Duke University; and Sergio Zermefío García, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. E.J.S.

#### IN MEMORIAM

#### JAMES RALSTON SCOBIE (1929-1981)

It is especially grievous to record the passing of a scholar of importance to the field as well as to one's own circle of friends. On June 4, 1981, Argentina lost a major historian and all of us students of the country, a cherished mentor.

Jim Scobie was an internationally known scholar and teacher, born in Valparaíso, Chile, where his father represented United States banks. It was during his early years that Scobie learned to love Latin America. He received his bachelor's degree from Princeton University in 1950, his M.A. (1951) and Ph.D. (1954) in history from Harvard University, where he studied under Clarence Haring. He subsequently taught at the University of Maryland Overseas Programs (1956-1957), at the University of California at Berkeley (1957-1964), at Indiana University (1964-1977) where he also headed the program for Latin American Studies, and since 1977 at the University of California at San Diego in La Jolla. Jim Scobie also taught as a visiting professor at several United States and Latin American universities. He was the recipient of numerous prestigious fellowships, from the Guggenheim, Doherty and Tinker foundations, the Social Science Research Council-American Council of Learned Societies, and other scholarships.

Following in the footsteps of such major Argentinists in the United States as Miron Burgin, Scobie set out to analyze Argentine history from a social and economic perspective. His first book, *La lucha por la consolidación de la nación argentina, 1852-1862* (1964), remains a definitive political and economic study of the crucial decade in early nation-building, based on extensive research in

Argentine and British archives and diplomatic reports. His second work, *Argentina: A City and a Nation* (1964), became a popular textbook because it was the best available general survey of Argentine history from the colonial period to the present, concentrating on economic, social, and cultural life. His *Revolution on the Pampas: A Social History of Argentine Wheat, 1860-1910* (1964), is widely considered the most authoritative analysis of Argentine agrarian history during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Scobie's last book, *Buenos Aires: Plaza to Suburb, 1870-1910* (1974), provides a very valuable and detailed analysis of the phenomenal growth of the sprawling city on the banks of the River Plate as a "commercial, bureaucratic and cultural center" and builds a model for the development of urban patterns. Scobie's most recent research dealt with comparative urban studies. In addition to his books, Scobie has also written many major articles in journals such as the *Hispanic American Historical Review* and the *Latin American Research Review*. He was also active in the American Historical Association and its subgroup, the Conference of Latin American History. He served on the board of editors of the *Hispanic American Historical Review*, and worked with the Latin American Studies Association.

From 1966 to 1976 Jim Scobie was contributing editor for the history of the River Plate, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, in the *Handbook of Latin American Studies*, and, from 1976 to the present, he served on the *Handbook's* advisory board. The Library of Congress and the editor of the *Handbook* will be forever grateful for Jim Scobie's excellent and selfless contribution in sharing his vast scholarship and his experience in this ongoing bibliographic endeavor which started originally in 1936.

Jim Scobie's outstanding contributions will live on and his many friends and former students will not forget him.

*Library of Congress*

GEORGETTE MAGASSY DORN

On August 16-20, 1981, the Eötvös Loránd University of Budapest, Hungary, was host of the Twentieth Congress of the International Institute of Ibero-American Literature. The Institute, now in its 45th year, is located at the University of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Professor Mátyás Horányi, Attila Csépi and László Scholz of Eötvös Loránd University, and Professor Alfredo Roggiano, University of Pittsburgh, organized the congress. The theme dealt with "Latin American Thought and Literature." The Honorable Imre Pozsgay, Hungarian Minister of Culture, professors Horányi and Roggiano opened the sessions, together with vice-presidents of the Institute, Merlin Forster, University of Texas, and Keith McDuffie, University of Pittsburgh. The congress was well attended as 170 persons from 29 different countries registered.

G.M.D.