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## EDITOR'S FOREWORD

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The *Latin American Research Review* has reached the thirty-fifth anniversary of its founding as the first interdisciplinary journal devoted to studies of Latin America. If imitation is the most sincere form of flattery, then *LARR* can be considered to be a success, given the rather substantial numbers of newer interdisciplinary journals devoted to Latin America. This achievement reflects the work of former editors Richard Schaedel (1965–1969), Thomas McGann (1970–1974), John Martz (1975–1979), and Joseph Tulchin (1980–1982), who developed and guided *LARR*.

Under John Martz's editorship in particular *LARR* assumed its current editorial character and format. Martz dropped some features of the early years of *LARR*, such as the research inventory. Others, such as movements of professionals and institutional notes, were passed to the *LASA Newsletter* (now the *LASA Forum*). The Research Reports and Notes section was expanded. Most important, a new section of Review Essays was introduced, featuring substantive reviews of groups of books on given topics. John also brought to *LARR* his enthusiasm for Latin America, a commitment to the importance of the editorial role, a gentle touch, and an interdisciplinary vision that continues to inspire *LARR* staff members.

John Martz passed away on 18 August 1998, quite unexpectedly, of an infection contracted while doing field research in Venezuela. His loss is still keenly felt by his many friends. Martz was born in 1934 in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. He received his A.B. magna cum laude from Harvard in 1955, served a term in the military, received his A.M. from George Washington University in 1960, and then went to the University of North Carolina to complete his Ph.D. in 1960. He was invited to join the UNC faculty, where he rose through the ranks to become a full professor and then Chairman of the Political Science Department. He brought *LARR* to UNC and served as Editor until he became Head of Political Science at the Pennsylvania State University in 1979. He was named Distinguished Professor in 1991. In 1989 he became the editor of *Studies in Comparative International Development (SCID)*, an office he held until his death.

This outline of degrees and offices gives just a hint of Martz's accomplishments. He also served as a visiting professor or carried out research in Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Spain, Peru, and Venezuela. His research was supported by grants from the National Science Foundation, the Social Science Research Council, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Fulbright Program, and the Heinz Foundation, among others. He served as president of both SECOLAS and MALAS, reviewer for countless journals, and consultant to numerous foundations and agencies. He gave unstintingly of his time to students and to service at both UNC and Penn State.

John was also a prolific scholar. He authored or coauthored twelve books and edited or co-edited another six. He published 43 articles in refereed journals, 96 book chapters or short monographs, and some 130 book reviews. He gave 75 lectures or papers abroad and about twice that number in the United States. John's published work covered such varied topics as studies of elections and civil-military relations in different countries, exile politics, Venezuelan philosopher Andrés Bello, political ideology, agricultural policy, populism, and inter-American relations.

Yet this listing of accomplishments cannot explain why John Martz had so many friends and earned such respect. He was kind and modest, a bit on the shy side, and extraordinarily courteous. He wore his achievements lightly. John was considerate and wonderful company. In the many years I knew him, I never heard him speak ill of anyone. Over the years, I asked him to read many pieces for *LARR*. He invariably accepted the commission, despite many other obligations. I came to look forward to reading his manuscript evaluations, which were invariably detailed, wise, and fair. I was constantly impressed by the extent of his familiarity with current trends in political science theory and methods, and even more by his extensive knowledge of the particularities of politics and actors in Venezuela, Colombia, and Ecuador. I came to view him as the rarest of combinations, a trusted friend who is also a valued colleague.

Martz was a supportive mentor to several generations of undergraduate and graduate students. He played the piano and was an accomplished violist. He loved dogs and for a time showed his Russian wolfhounds. An avid tennis player, John was competitive but always courtly. For decades he seemed the very model of the pipe-smoking bachelor professor. Then to his great joy, he fell in love with Corazón Cruz, a gracious and supportive Philippine. With their marriage, John acquired a son, David Sobrepeña, and a daughter, Joy Sobrepeña Wagner, and in due course, three grandchildren. I have not seen a happier man than John in the years of his marriage.

The loss of John as a friend and colleague continues to be felt. It is a small compensation to reflect that his legacy lives on in his family, among his friends and colleagues, and in the journal that he did so much to shape. The Latin American Studies Association has established a fund in John

Martz's name, which will be used to fund travel for Latin American scholars attending LASA congresses. Contributions can be made to the John Martz Fund-LASA, Latin American Studies Association, 946 William Pitt Union, University of Pittsburgh, Pittsburgh, PA, 15260.

One of the practices that Martz adopted as *LARR* Editor was to report to readers on patterns of manuscript submissions. This practice was reinstated by the current editors as a regular feature of the last issue of each year. Manuscript submissions to *LARR* during the year running from June 1998 through May 1999 dropped slightly to 105, as compared with 118 the previous year. Twenty-three of these submissions were book review essays. The remaining 82 manuscripts entered the extensive review process provided for potential articles and research reports. By the end of May 1999, 9 had been accepted for publication or accepted pending revisions, 55 had been rejected, and the remaining 18 were still under original review or a second review following revisions. An additional 8 manuscripts from the previous report period were accepted after being revised and resubmitted. The publication rate for articles and research notes that completed the review process (only those accepted or rejected) remained steady at about 1 of 8 original submissions, with the proportion rising to about 1 of every 5 when resubmitted manuscripts are included in the overall totals.

The percentage of political science manuscripts rose slightly to 35 percent of all submissions. History submissions constituted 25 percent of submissions. Economics submissions recovered third place with 13 percent of submissions, while sociology manuscripts declined to fourth place with 10 percent. Literature manuscripts surged to 10 percent, up from only 3 percent the year previous. Anthropology submissions increased slightly to 4 percent. Other fields such as geography, philosophy, and religion accounted for the remaining 5 percent. What may be most interesting about this pattern of submissions is its stability. The recent percentages are remarkably similar to those reported by John Martz in his final report as *LARR* Editor, covering the period October 1977 through January 1979.<sup>1</sup>

<i>Discipline</i>	<i>June 1998– May 1999</i>	<i>October 1977– January 1979</i>
Political Science	35%	34%
History	23	15
Economics	13	7
Sociology	10	13
Languages and Literature	10	10
Anthropology	4	7
Other fields	5	14
Totals	100%	100%

1. John D. Martz, "Editorial Comment," *LARR* 14, no. 3 (1979):3–6

Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian authors or coauthors, including those living in Europe and North America, submitted 36 percent of all 1998–1999 submissions, as compared with 41 percent the previous year and 33 percent the year before that. Women authored or coauthored 35 percent of submissions, a substantial increase from the 29 percent in last year's manuscript report. Twenty-seven percent of the manuscripts came from outside the United States, as compared with 36 percent last year and 23 percent the previous year. Fifty percent of these non-U.S. manuscripts came from Latin America and the Caribbean, as compared with 65 percent in the preceding report period. Latin American and Caribbean countries represented were Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Trinidad, and Venezuela. Other countries included Australia, Canada, England, France, the Netherlands, and Spain.

These figures bring to mind John Martz's comments in his final editorial in *LARR* in the fall of 1979.

When Joseph Tulchin and I took office, we believed that political science and history had been unduly dominant in *LARR*. We believed that, given the composition of *LASA* membership, there should be significantly more material from literature and the languages, anthropology, geography, music, and the arts. Our efforts to achieve the objective of greater disciplinary balance have met with only partial success. . . .

If *LARR*, and by extension *LASA*, perceives as one of the most basic missions to enhance scholarly communication and exchange throughout the Americas, there is no better way than to present the work of Latin American scholars in our pages, be it in Spanish, Portuguese, French, or English.

This must be the occasion to thank those who have served as members of the Editorial Board. . . . To the extent that *LARR* may have moved forward under our stewardship, the credit in considerable part is theirs. . . . It is even less possible to thank properly the dozens who have given freely of their time and talent to the fundamental work of providing anonymous manuscript reviews. . . . In addition, I must acknowledge deep personal and professional satisfaction in the wide acquaintanceship engendered by correspondence and communication with all those who extended to *LARR* the privilege of examining and evaluating their work. Whether or not their submissions ultimately saw the light of day in the printed page, they enriched both my experience and that of the journal.

Martz's words reflect his graciousness and remain as timely as when they were written. No more eloquent summary of the challenges and rewards of editing *LARR* can be made. Here as in so many other ways, John Martz set a standard to admire. He was truly "una persona de cultura y gentileza."

Gilbert W. Merx  
Albuquerque, New Mexico