

**The Latin American Jewish Studies Association (LAJSA)
announces its**

XVII INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

**Florida International University
(Biscayne Bay Campus)
June 21-23, 2015**

CALL FOR PAPERS

The Latin American Jewish Studies Association (LAJSA) invites researchers to participate in their XVII International Research Conference to be held at Florida International University (Biscayne Bay Campus) in Miami, June 21-23, 2015.

Every two years, LAJSA organizes its International Research Conference with the intention of bringing together scholars from a variety of disciplines and geographical regions whose work focuses on the lives, experiences, cultural production, and representations of Jews in/from Latin America. The conferences, then, provide a stimulating and friendly environment for presenting work and for establishing interdisciplinary conversations.

For this XVII International Research Conference, we especially encourage sessions that explore interdisciplinary and comparative frameworks. To that end, we offer participation in a variety of formats that foster dialogue across disciplinary and regional borders. Besides the usual formal **Panel Session** (three to four participants with chair and optional respondent), we would like to see **Round Table Discussions** (on "State of the Field," "Teaching the Latin American Jewish survey" etc.), and invite those with **Creative Works** to submit proposals to read from their texts (time limit 20 minutes), or to showcase their material in other ways (films, paintings, sculpture). Additionally, we will explore two new formats: the **Lightning Session** (three to five scholars presenting their work in a shorter time period, allowing for a broader discussion); and the **Seminar** (bringing together scholars for a more sustained discussion including pre-circulating papers). For those of you who have published books recently (or will publish before the meeting), we are expecting to organize informal **Book Presentations** for scholarly works. Graduate students working on Jewish Latin American topics are also welcome to participate.

LAJSA will make every effort to provide a certain number of small travel awards to enable the participation of junior scholars with interesting proposals and insufficient financial support. Information concerning travel grants, hotel accommodation in Miami, and Conference fees will be sent soon after the deadline for submissions.

In order to be eligible to be placed on the program, all conference participants must pay 2015 membership dues in addition to the conference registration fee. The LAJSA membership form is available at <http://www.utexas.edu/cola/orgs/lajsa/membership/>

Deadline for Submissions: October 31, 2014

Notification of Conference Proposal Status: December 2014

Submissions: The Program Committee is seeking submissions of new material that has not been previously published or presented at conferences. Participants may appear on the program twice, so long as they do so

in different roles (for example, paper presenter on a formal panel and member of a round table or moderator of one panel and discussant on another). Submissions may be in English, Spanish, or Portuguese, and should be emailed to lajsa2015@gmail.com.

Panel Sessions: Panels should be organized with three to four papers around a common theme. Each paper, when presented, should not exceed 20 minutes. You may also have a respondent. Please submit a title, a brief summary of the proposed *session* (not to exceed half a page in length single space), including the conveners' name(s), academic affiliation and e-mail addresses. As well, include the names, affiliation, contact details of the presenters –including e-mails-- and the titles and short abstracts (150-200 words) of the papers.

Round Tables: Please send a title, a brief summary of the proposed session (not to exceed half a page in length single spaced), including all participants' information: topic each participant will discuss, academic affiliation, and contact details. Round Tables usually begin with a short introduction to their topics by the participants followed by discussion and audience participation. This is NOT a formal panel.

Creative Works: If you would like to propose showcasing your creative work, please send a brief description of the material you would like to present, and how you wish to accomplish that presentation. Send along your information and contact details, too. Please remember that presentations of literary works must be under 20 minutes.

Lightning Sessions: Three to five scholars can present short presentations of their work (about five-to-ten minutes in length). This format allows for exploring a broader range of perspectives or the ability to examine the state of the scholarship on a particular topic. Organizers must submit a 300-word session abstract that describes the questions and goals, along with short abstracts (150-words) for each paper in the session, as well as the names, affiliations, and contact details (including e-mails) for the presenters. *This format may also be ideal for Graduate Students wishing to present their works in progress.*

Seminars: Seminars are aimed for a more sustained discussion of a question, with eight to twelve scholars pre-circulating papers on a given topic that all participants would read before the sessions, which would take place over two days. The seminar proposal should include a 300-word session abstract describing the question being explored, the conveners' name(s), academic affiliation, and e-mail addresses, along with a brief description of each participant's topic including their name, affiliation, and contact details (e-mail addresses). A chairperson should also be included in the proposal. Note that papers will not be read at the conference; the purpose of the seminar is to discuss the papers circulated before the session. Additional information about submission of the papers will follow upon acceptance of the seminar.

Individual Papers: We strongly encourage the submission of complete **Panel Sessions**. If you would like to present at the Conference, but don't know others working on similar topics, we recommend that you use the LAJSA list-serve, lajsa-list@utlists.utexas.edu, to contact other potential presenters in order to form a panel and submit the proposal together. We will still accept submissions for individual papers, though. These should include a title, a 150-word abstract, name, academic affiliation, and contact details of the proposer.

Book Presentations: We hope to organize informal book presentations for scholarly works published recently or before the meeting.

The Program Committee

Program Chair: Natasha Zaretsky

Local Arrangements Chair: Valeria Cababié-Schindler

Program Committee: Beatriz Kushnir, Annette H. Levine, Hilit Surowitz-Israel