



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

REGIONAL OFFICE



DRCLAS REGIONAL OFFICE

ANNUAL REPORT

2016 – 2017

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https://drclas.harvard.edu/files/drclas/files/2016-17_ar_for_web.pdf

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WITH SUPPORT FROM THE Regional Office (RO), 30 faculty members and administrators from across Harvard travelled to the region this academic year for programmatic activities, which ranged from collaborative field programs on water systems in Peru led by Professor Chad Vecitis of the School for Engineering and Applied Sciences (SEAS), to a series of workshops in Chile on business history taught by Professor Geoffrey Jones (HBS). The RO also established connections in Chile for Professor Karim Lakhani's (HBS) students participating in the Harvard Business School's Field Immersion Experiences for Leadership Development Program (FIELD). In Argentina, Professor Jorge Silvetti (GSD) led a project for a comprehensive redesign of Buenos Aires' transportation hub, facilitated by a partnership between the RO and the Buenos Aires municipal government.

The Harvard-Universidad Adolfo Ibanez (UAI) Collaborative Research Fund Program awarded its first grants to advance faculty research in Chile and Argentina. The Program is designed to strengthen research connections between UAI and Harvard faculty through grants supporting faculty-led projects. Research programs funded in the first year include "Tail Use in Static Postural Support and Jumping Locomotion of Jerboas" led by Professor Andrew A. Biewener (FAS), "Biophysical Mechanisms of Atmospheric Water Capture by Atacama Desert Plants" by Professor Noel M. Holbrook (FAS), "Pre-Textos para la Innovación" by Professor Doris Sommer (FAS), and "Airport Landscape: Collaborative Field Study in Mendoza, Argentina" by Professor Charles Waldheim (GSD).

In September, Professor Frank Doyle, Dean of SEAS, visited Chile and Argentina to speak about the growth of engineering and applied sciences at Harvard, and meet with government officials and leaders in business and education to discuss potential research collaborations and opportunities for new student exchange programs.

In January, Senior Lecturers James Honan and Steve Seidel (HGSE) visited Frutillar in southern Chile to participate in the 1st International Forum: Creativity and Learning, organized by the Teatro del Lago in collaboration with local organizations. Over 600 education leaders and professionals attended the events. These Harvard visits were made possible thanks to the generous support of Jaime Urrutia Montoya (AB '63), and funding from a DRCLAS Faculty Grant.

Recupera Chile held the 2017 Dichato Summer School, led by Professor Judith Palfrey (HMS). Students and parents participated in a visit to the Marine/Algae Biology Laboratory, art workshops, physical education classes and workshops on health care. These activities were organized in collaboration with Universidad de Concepcion and Fundación Mar de Chile. Professor Palfrey's paper "School-Based Disaster Recovery: Promotion of Children's Mental Health Over the Long Haul" was published by Cambridge University Press in 2017.

In May, the Center of Philanthropy and Social Investment (CEFIS) at Universidad Adolfo Ibanez organized a public event to present the first results of the study "Filantropía Institucional: Fundaciones Filántropicas en Chile". The study, led by CEFIS with support from RO and the Global Philanthropy Project at the Hauser Institute for Civil Society at HKS is a collaboration among institutions from around the world that aims to map the state of organized philanthropy in 22 countries, including Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru.

Student programs made up half of the RO's portfolio, and 88 Harvard graduate and undergraduate students participated in 10 distinct winter, summer, and term-time programs in Argentina, Chile, and Peru. Among the many student programs organized by the RO, two SEAS collaborative field programs provide examples of student engagement in the region. In Peru undergraduate students focused on

providing solutions to pressing global environmental issues, and in Chile graduate students analyzed huge data sets resulting from astronomical instruments collected in Chilean observatories.

This year DRCLAS opened its decade-old term-time study abroad programs in Argentina and Chile to students from the member institutions of the Consortium for Advanced Studies Abroad (CASA), a nonprofit consortium involving 10 leading research institutions. In their first year, these programs, administered jointly by DRCLAS and Harvard College's Office of International Education, welcomed 18 undergraduates, tripling the number from the previous year. For further information: <http://ro.drclas.harvard.edu/>

OUR THANKS: DRCLAS is deeply grateful to the Luksic family for their constant generosity supporting our core activities and contributing to more than a decade of success. We also would like to thank Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat fund for the continuing contribution for programs in Argentina. We also thank Drs. Hugo Sigman and Silvia Gold for the Harvard-Mundo Sano partnership; and Doug Ahlers for his constant support to the Recupera Chile Project, as well as John Davies and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation for their support to the aforementioned project. We are also thankful to Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez for the Harvard-Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (UAI) Collaborative Research Fund Program, to León Larraín and Baker & McKenzie Ltda. Abogados for their endless guidance and support. Our sincere gratitude also goes to our outstanding Regional Office Advisory Group, whose names are listed at the end of the full annual report (see above link).