November 2017 • Newsletter No. 38

### SECTIONS

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### PAIGH



The 19th Consultation Meeting of the History Commission of the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History (PAIGH) took place from October 23th to 24th, with the participation of 21 specialists from nine countries. During those two days, reports from the Presidency and editors of magazines, advances in research by committees and working groups, as well as technical assistance projects were presented. Afterwards, the work plan for the History Commission was discussed.

In respect to the quadrennial report, Dr. Patricia Galeana stressed the strengthening of the Pan-American Network of Historians, with members from 26 countries, and the elaboration of the Chronology of America, which will be published by Mexico's National Autonomous University (UNAM), the Siglo XXI publishing house, and the National Institute of Historical Studies of the Revolutions of Mexico (INEHRM).

During her term, a total of 34 proposals for technical assistance projects were presented, from which 14 were undertaken and five more will be carried out in 2018. Also, new interinstitutional links have been consolidated, nine academic events were conducted, including symposia, seminars and round tables, and three studies were published. For a full report, visit the following link:

https://www.ipgh.org/informes/2016/sg-

zines.

comis/informe comision e historia 2016 rcd.pdf

Dr. Patricia Galeana was re-elected President of the Commission, and MA Rubén Ruiz Guerra was named Vice President.

Regarding the coordination of the Commission magazines, Dr. Cristina Mineiro (Brazil) was ratified as editor of the Journal of American Archeology, and Dr. Cristina Oehmichen (Mexico) as editor of the American Anthropology Magazine. In the case of the Journal of American History, Dr. Alexandra Pita (Mexico) was appointed as the new editor.

Also, the following recommendations were presented the to the plenary.

Recommendations that do not require budget or statutory reforms, and therefore can be immediately implemented:

- 1. That the National Sections be linked with the academy to develop joint projects.
- 2. That Technical Assistance Projects be presented through the respective committees to simplify the application processes.
- 3. That the prizes granted by the History Commission should be announced between January and May, so that there is time enough both to summon the maximum number of participants, as well as for the jury to decide the results.
- 4. That the "Silvio Zavala Colonial History" and the "Leopoldo Zea Thought of America" prizes should be awarded for a life-long academic career.
- 5. That the best master's and doctoral theses awards should take the names of History and Thought of America.
- 6. That the History Commission should coordinated its three maga-

Recommendations that require budget or statutory reforms:

- 7. Supporting the magazines with digital system of operating equipment.
- 8. Giving full resources to the editors of the magazines, due to their important work ad honorem in the past, so they are able to attend the Consultation Meetings and PAIGH's Technical Meetings.
- 9. In accordance with Article 9° included in the Regulation of Publications of the Organic Statute, the General Secretariat has to publish special editions for the Commissions.

The Commissions for Geography and History were created during the IV General Assembly of PAIGH celebrated in Caracas, Venezuela, in August 1946. However, while the first area of the Institute was expanded with the Geophysics Commission, the field of History remained without changes, favoring the specialization in areas such as anthropology and archaeology.

10. That the Commissions of Anthropology and Archeology be created since, even though there are points of convergence and contact between these areas and History, each discipline has its own scope.

11. That the Government of Canada should be invited to re-join the Pan-American Institute of Geography and History.

From October 25th to 27th, the 21st General Assembly of PAIGH was held. During this Assembly, the History Commission submitted the recommendations mentioned above, result of the Consultation Meeting. The Secretary General will see to them in the first half of 2018.

The General Assembly ratified the appointment of authorities, which are as follow:

- President: Lic. Israel Sánchez (Panama)
- Vice President: Mag. Alejandra Coll (Chile)
- General Secretary: Mag. César Rodríguez (Uruguay)
- President of the Commission of Cartography: MSc. Max Lobo (Costa Rica)
- President of the Commission of Geography: Dr. Patricia Solís (USA)
- President of the Commission of History: Dr. Patricia Galeana (Mexico)
- President of the Commission of Geophysics: Dr. Mario Ruiz Romero (Ecuador)

The new Secretary-General will start his duties on February 7th, 2018.





# HISTORY COMMISSION

n the framework of the 214th anniversary of the battle of Vertieres, the History Commission presented a short résumée of Jean Jacques Dessalines, Emperor of Haiti, regarded as father of the nation and one of the central characters in the independence of the country.

Jean Jacques Dessalines' early life is not well known, except that he was captured in West Africa and shipped as a slave to the French colony of Saint Domingue (Hispaniola Island). In 1791 he escaped from his master and joined the rebellion that broke out in the island as a result of the French revolution.

During the following decade, Dessalines was part of the closest circle of Toussaint Overture, replacing him in the armed struggle for independence when the later one was captured by the Napoleonic army sent to Saint Domingue to retake control of the colony and restore slavery, which had been was abolished in 1794 by the French National Convention. Dessalines obtained the support of both the population formerly enslaved and the mulattoes, against French troops.

The battle of Vertieres, which took place on November 18th, 1803, was the culmination of a series of battles during the same year, giving as a result the taking of cities such as Port-au-Prince, Les Cayes, and Le Cap. The day after the battle of Vertiers, Dessalines signed with the Bonapartist general, Donatien Rochambeau, the unconditional rendition of the French army and their immediate departure.

Jean Jacques Dessalines declared the Independence of Haiti on January 1st 1804 in Gonaives, and the following September proclaimed himself emperor under the name of Jacques I. He was assassinated in October 1806 by two of his collaborators, Alexandre Pétion and Henri Christophe, who divided the Empire of Haiti in the Republic of Haiti and the State of Haiti, respectively.

The legacy of Jean Jacques Dessalines was the Haitian independence, the first in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the second in the Americas.

# Alerts and Calls

#### 15th International Meeting on Mexico's Historians "Miradas transfronterizas en las escrituras de la historia de México" Type of call: Lecture

Institution: Universidad de Guadalajara, Mexico Information: xvreunion@academicos.udg.mx PhD in History

# Type of call: postgraduate studies

Institution: University of Texas Information: sbrunk@utep.edu Master in History

Type of call: postgraduate studies Institution: Universidad Michoacana de San Nicolás de Hidalgo, Mexico. Information: mhistomex@gmail.com

### HISTORY ACTIVITIES IN THE AMERICAS

# **6**<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE ON THE CHILEAN HISTORY OF

**Psychology** Title: "70 años formando psicólogos/as en Latinoamérica (1947-2017)"

Place: University of Chile, Santiago, Chile. Date: 8 to 10 November Information:

http://www.uchile.cl/agenda/135341/vi-jornada-chilena-de-historia-de-la-psicologia

ROUND TABLE "PENSAR LA HISTORIA DEL CUERPO EN MÉXICO: MIRADAS, RETOS Y ESTRATEGIAS DE INVESTIGACIÓN"

Place: Institute for History Research UNAM (IIH-UNAM), México City, Mexico. Date: November 29

Information: http://www.historicas.unam.mx/eventos/2017/mesa\_redonda\_pensar\_cuerpo.html

SEMINAR OF THE HISTORICAL CARTOGRAPHY COMMISSION, DEPENDENT ON THE HISTORY COMMISSION Title: Atlas Histórico de América Place: University Andres Bello, Santiago de Chile, Chile.

Dates: 13 to 14 November Information: http://www.atlashamerica.cl

### Anniversaries of the American CONTINENT

 NOVEMBER 1<sup>ST</sup> 1520.

Ferdinand Magellan sails around the south of the continent, from the Atlantic Ocean to the Pacific Ocean, through a passage that was later called in his honor the Strait of Magellan.

 NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup> 1903, Panama. Declaration of Independence.

NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

1970, Chile. Salvador Allende assumed the Presidency of the

country. NOVEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup>

1813, Mexico. Signing of the Solemn Act of the Declaration of Independence of North America.

 NOVEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> 1831, Colombia.

Ecuador and Venezuela's Declaration of independence from the Great Colombia.

 NOVEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup> 1803, Haiti. Battle of Vertieres, which

resulted in the victory of the independentist army of Jean Jacques Dessalines.

1910, Mexico. Beginning of the rebellion

NOVEMBER 22<sup>TH</sup>

NOVEMBER 20<sup>th</sup>

against the dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz, according to the Plan de San Luis.

1963. United States. President John F. Kennedy is assassinated.

Pan American Institute of Geography and History – **History Commission**