



### **Establishing a National Forum for Latin American and Caribbean studies**

In fulfilment of its national role of supporting and promoting Latin American and Caribbean studies, the Institute is considering the establishment of a national forum that would bring together persons outside academia who are interested in the field of Latin American studies. These might include representatives from UK, funding agencies such as the AHRC, British Academy, Leverhulme Trust etc, cultural institutions (British Library, British Museum), publishers and business among others. It was initially thought that this would constitute a group that would meet regularly, perhaps once a term, with the aim of developing policy recommendations. However, following some discussions, it was felt that their interests would be somewhat disparate, and that formulating an agenda for each meeting might prove challenging. It is now suggested that the National Forum might bring together representatives from outside agencies and academic scholars to discuss particular topics, perhaps once or twice a year. Examples, might include the following:

- Working with government.
- Funding research in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Open Access and publishing in Latin American and Caribbean studies.
- Working with business and NGOs.

Linda Newson

2 November 2015