

HARTZMAN AWARD HIGHLIGHT

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EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES



The Latin American Studies Association Conference

Bogotá, Columbia
June 2024



The Hartzman International
Conference Travel Award
enables SoE graduate
students to present their work
at international conferences.
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Global Engagement Office
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

The Latin American Studies Association (LASA) Annual Conference took place in Bogotá, Colombia, from June 12-15, 2024. The event focus was "Reactions and Resistance: Imagining Possible Futures in the Americas." The aim was to shed light on the promises of the region (i.e., grassroots efforts, the promotion of inclusive political and economic systems, the return of progressive governments) but also on the challenges, including expressions of authoritarianism, extremist right-wing movements, economic inequality, and insecurity.

Presenting at an international conference had an enormous impact on me. During the presentation, I gained valuable insight from the other panel members and the audience. After the presentation, we had a meal with the other panelists to continue the conversations and discuss ways in which we could stay in touch and possibly organize more panels throughout the year. For example, a webinar organized by one of the universities involved. This part of the activity was meaningful to me because I had the chance to speak more directly with the panelists, one of whom turned out to be an author that I had recently cited.

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At the conference, I had the opportunity to attend other panels, book presentations, keynote speakers, and events that were organized. I made new connections with academics from other universities. I also met fellow UW-Madison graduate students at the conference.

I was able to add more scholarly work to my current reference list and incorporate new perspectives on the work that I am doing. I am grateful for the Hartzman International Conference Award I received, and I hope more students can benefit from these funds in the future.