



 HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

REGIONAL OFFICE



**DRCLAS REGIONAL OFFICE
ANNUAL REPORT
2011 - 2012**

To view the full Center-wide 2011-2012 annual report, please visit
<http://drclas.harvard.edu/files/drclas/files/annualreport2012.pdf>

Annual Report 2011-2012

As the Regional Office approaches its 10th anniversary, its record of bringing together the best minds from Harvard with those of Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Uruguay to address major issues and develop new knowledge continues unabated.

Since its establishment in 2002, the Regional Office has engaged 110 faculty members in advancing research and learning in the fields of anthropology, disaster recovery, economics, education, health, housing, the humanities, public policy and the sciences. In 2012, the Regional Office supported the efforts of 35 faculty members who had significant impact in these fields. For example, Un Buen Comienzo will complete a pioneering impact study in Latin America on classroom practices and learning outcomes following preschool health and education interventions. Led by Harvard Graduate School of Education Academic Dean, Hiro Yoshikawa, this study will provide new data for future preschool policy decisions. Mary-Catherine Arbour, of the Harvard Medical School, is using innovative continuous improvement techniques pioneered in industry in the same program as it expands to new regions of Chile. Recupera Chile, led by Doug Ahlers, of the Harvard Kennedy School, is successfully adapting techniques learned in post-disaster Katrina to economic and mental health recovery in earthquake-devastated areas of Chile. Charles Alcock, the Director of the Harvard Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, led the March 2012 ceremony to break ground on the Giant Magellan Telescope (GMT). To be completed in 2020, the GMT will be the largest optical telescope in the world. By the end of 2012, 843 Harvard students will have traveled to Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Peru and Uruguay for academic term studies, internships and graduate courses

developed and organized by the Regional Office since its inception. In 2011-12 the majority engaged in summer internships in local companies, foundations, ministries and charitable organizations. Five faculty-led January programs in Argentina, Chile and Peru involved 58 undergraduate and graduate students from Harvard College, the Harvard Kennedy School and the Harvard School of Public Health. Seven Harvard undergraduate students engaged in semester-long study in Buenos Aires and Santiago.

Three landmark agreements signed in 2011-12 will triple the flow of students, scholars and faculty between Harvard and the region. Chile's President Sebastián Piñera and Harvard President Drew Faust signed the Harvard-Becas Chile agreement in September 2011 in Cambridge. The agreement will finance up to 60 PhD students over the next five years. HSPH Dean Julio Frenk and Pedro Uribe, the Rector of Universidad Andrés Bello in Chile, signed an agreement establishing a new Institute of Public Health that will support internships and studies at HSPH. As a result of the Chile- Massachusetts agreement signed by Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick, DRCLAS and the Ministry of the Economy of Chile signed a memorandum of understanding to establish the Harvard-Chile Innovation Initiative that will finance faculty and student programs in the fields of biotechnology, energy and education.

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