



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

DAVID ROCKEFELLER CENTER
FOR LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES

REGIONAL OFFICE



**DRCLAS REGIONAL OFFICE
ANNUAL REPORT
2012 - 2013**

To view the full Center-wide 2012-2013 annual report, please visit
http://drclas.harvard.edu/files/drclas/files/ar_2012-13-spreads-final.pdf

Annual Report 2012-2013

Celebrating its tenth anniversary this past year, the Regional Office has had a direct impact in the region and at Harvard. Through more than 50 collaborative research programs led by 135 faculty members, the Office enabled more than 1,000 Harvard students to travel to the region for internships and study, and opened doors at Harvard for 1,825 students and scholars. In 2012-13 the Regional Office contributed to Harvard's international vision in four ways: educating global citizens, broadening faculty opportunities, sharing knowledge globally, and attracting top talent from the region.

During the academic year, the Regional Office coordinated multiple programs for over 180 graduate and undergraduate students. In addition to summer internship programs and semesterlong academic opportunities for undergraduates, the Office facilitated January internships in rural indigenous public health, the Harvard Business School FIELD Program, the tenth annual Harvard School of Public Health policy course, and a studio for the Harvard Graduate School of Design.

The Office also created new opportunities to enable faculty to contribute to the resolution of some of the most challenging problems facing the region. For example, new interdisciplinary efforts in disaster recovery were modeled by the Recupera Chile project to provide direct economic recovery assistance to communities affected by the earthquake by funding 40 projects, including new efforts to revive artisan shellfish production. New partnerships with local universities address post-disaster emotional trauma in children and research earthquake resistant adobe construction. Harvard faculties are also working to develop a museum in Antarctica. The

museum will offer educational programs to be linked online to schools throughout the region; it will also serve the 30,000 tourists who visit Antarctica annually. The first outcomes-based study in Latin America to measure results of the Un Buen Comienzo project was completed in late 2012 and has provided crucial data to improve preschool education in Chile. The project team also pioneered an innovative system of continuous improvement adapted from industry that will accelerate the adoption of best practices in preschools. In Lima, an HIV prevention project will expand access to health care among families. A screening and intervention "package" will be delivered by community health workers to children ages 1-3 and their parents to improve the trajectory of children's developmental, clinical and academic wellbeing.

The success of these programs formed the basis to establish, in late 2012, the Harvard-Chile Innovation Initiative (HCI²) with the government of Chile. The program provides seed funding for collaborative, faculty-led research programs.

The Regional Office contributes to Harvard's goal of leading the creation and sharing of knowledge within the region and more broadly as it seeks to make a difference in the world. For example, Un Buen Comienzo has influenced educational policies in many countries and is the subject of doctoral dissertations around the world. Andrónico Luksic Scholars, university leaders, students and faculty came together in November 2012 for the symposium Rethinking Chile at the Beginning of the 21st Century. The event attracted more than 5,000 people in the region via live streaming. Monthly events cosponsored with alumni take advantage of faculty visits

to share ideas among interested public, alumni and friends of the Office.

Finally, the Regional Office facilitates the University's goal of attracting the best students and scholars from the region for academic programs and research at Harvard. Recruitment activities ensure a robust applicant pool for the Luksic Fellowship, the Luksic Visiting Scholar, for Becas Chile doctoral fellowships, and for admission in academic programs.