



2024-2026 AILASA Executive and Coordinating Committee Nominations

**Voting opens on Friday, 17 May, 2024 at 9am AEST
and closes on Friday 24 May, 2024 at 5pm AEST**

SECRETARY POSITION NOMINATIONS FOR VOTING

⇒ Dr Consuelo Martinez Reyes, Macquarie University

As AILASA secretary I aim to expand my involvement in the organization's activities and understanding of its procedures to better serve its members. I believe my experience as co-president of the Australian Association for Caribbean Studies (AACS) during 2015-2017, as well as my different academic roles, such as program coordinator, and editorial board member, among others, enable me to provide support to the AILASA Executive and Coordinating Committees. I have been an AILASA member since 2016 and am familiar with its conference, awards, and practises, as well as with its goal to promote research related to the Spanish-speaking world.

⇒ Dr Thomas Nulley-Valdés, Australian National University – ANU Slate Nomination

I am Lecturer in Spanish Studies at the ANU. My research focuses on World Literature theories and 20th and 21st Century Latin American literature (including Latino literature from the United States). I have been a member of AILASA since 2016 and have benefited immensely over the years from the association's professional formation, scholarly discussions, and the generosity and warmth of its members. Our team will continue building on the great work of previous committees in making visible the excellence of research in Latin American and Iberian Studies in Australasia. We are also committed to furthering AILASA's links with organisations such as the Instituto Cervantes. In the role of Secretary, I will bring relevant administrative and leadership experience from my work at the Australian Research Council (ARC) and as a private sector consultant, as well from my work as manager of the Australasian Consortium of Humanities Researchers and Centres (ACHRC).

⇒ Dr Elias Said-Hung, Universidad Internacional de la Rioja

As an academic with more than 16 years of experience, I have been focusing my area of work on Communication and Education from my academic area (Sociology). Throughout my career, I have maintained a dynamic and interdisciplinary approach, which has allowed me to contribute to a wide range of research projects and publish more than 80 articles. Additionally, I have acquired 12 years of valuable experience in academic management, which would be beneficial to achieving Ailasa's objectives. My career has allowed me to establish productive collaborations with researchers from various fields of study (education, semiotics, engineering, history, communication, law and others) not only in Spain and Colombia but also in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru, Portugal, Uruguay and Venezuela. I believe that my profile can contribute to consolidating the actions already carried out by Ailasa and those currently underway. My vision for Ailasa is that it becomes an academic reference for multilingual and sociocultural encounters, capable of expanding its presence in Ibero-America and Australia. I envision Ailasa as an active meeting point that promotes exchange and dialogue between these regions through greater visibility of the publication spaces led by its members, the recognition of the diversity of their knowledge, and better collaboration mechanisms at the teaching and research levels. I am confident that the members responsible for leading educational initiatives, projects, and publications in their respective countries would be more likely to participate in Ailasa as the visibility of its members is strengthened.



UNCONTESTED POSITIONS

PRESIDENT: Dr Fabricio Tocco, Australian National University – ANU Slate Nomination

As a Lecturer in Spanish and the Convenor of Portuguese at the ANU, I am keen to become AILASA's new President. My research expertise in Latin American literature and film studies, as well as my life experience growing up between Argentina and Brazil, and studying for a decade in Spain (where I became fluent in Catalan and earned two B.A.s, at the Universitat de Barcelona), make me well-suited to lead an association whose focus is promoting both Iberian and Latin American studies. I have been a member of AILASA ever since I joined ANU in 2021. Since then, I have enjoyed the privilege of meeting great colleagues with exciting research agendas; not least in organising "Transnational Textures," the AILASA XVI Biennial Conference, to be held at ANU at the end May 2024. In the role of President, I look forward to continuing the great work carried out by former presidents Robert Mason, Stewart King, Lilit Thwaites, and Nicola Gilmour, always informed by their valuable experience and guidance. I plan to enhance the reach of the association throughout and beyond Australasia, benefiting from my ties with the Ibero-American world.

TREASURER: Dr Karo Moret Miranda, Australian National University – ANU Slate Nomination

As someone deeply committed to supporting and advancing Latin American studies and the Latin American community in Australia, I would be very interested in becoming treasurer of the Latin American Association. My experience in communication, organizational and budget management for grants, academic events and conferences, makes me a strong candidate for the position. I am passionate about promoting the interests and values of Latin American studies that help to support programs and initiatives that benefit our community in the Australian academic context.

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY: Dr Manuel Delicado Cantero, Australian National University – ANU Slate Nomination

La constitución de AILASA se marca unos objetivos que creo que ahora son más importantes que nunca. En una región del mundo con una difícil relación con el multilingüismo, tanto en la sociedad en general como en todos los niveles educativos, incluido el universitario, estoy convencido de que la promoción de la investigación sobre español y portugués, y lenguas relacionadas como el gallego o el asturiano, es más necesaria que nunca. En un sistema que lo mide y lo ordena todo según su escala de valores, tenemos que destacar que nuestras lenguas no son sólo instrumentos para pasar el rato y viajar de vacaciones (aunque lo pueden ser), sino materias y disciplinas serias de estudio desde muchas perspectivas y con una presencia internacional de mucho peso. Como parte de esa meta, hay un aspecto particular que me motiva a ser parte de esta candidatura de AILASA: los estudios en español y portugués incluyen temas literarios, históricos, incluso políticos, pero también lingüísticos, que tradicionalmente han tenido menor presencia en los programas de español y portugués en esta parte del mundo. Como lingüista teórico con interés en la historia del español y otras lenguas romances, quiero contribuir al impulso y a la visibilización de la lingüística hispana y lusa en esta parte del mundo.

HDR REPRESENTATIVE: Jéssica Andrade Tolentino, Australian National University – ANU Slate Nomination

As a recent PhD candidate at the ANU, I am eager to engage with AILASA and champion the interests of HDR students and early career scholars. I believe that fostering a dialogue that encompasses the diverse perspectives and concerns of emerging researchers is crucial for the advancement of our field. Moreover, as a Brazilian student whose academic training took place both in Brazil, Spain, and now in Australia, I can contribute with a transnational perspective, aiming to bridge cultural, linguistic, and disciplinary boundaries. I am committed to collaborating with fellow members to ensure that AILASA remains inclusive and responsive to the needs of its diverse membership.



**SOCIAL MEDIA OFFICER/UNDERGRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE – Marcos Penteado,
Australian National University – *ANU Slate Nomination***

As President of the ANU's Latin American Students' Association since 2022, advancing Latin American studies has been a key focus of mine within the university. Latin American studies is of deep interest to me both as a Latino political science student and as an advocate for the Latin American community here in Australia. I have worked heavily with professors within ANU (e.g. the Australian National Centre for Latin American Studies) and the Embassies of Latin America in creating and promoting events centered around Latin American Studies, such as in our inaugural ANU Latin America Week in 2023. It is my hope that in this position, I can continue this work on a national and international level.