



# LAALTA

Latin American Association  
for Language Testing and Assessment

Salomé Villa Larenas, President -Lancaster University, UK

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# What is LAALTA?

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The Latin American Association for Language Testing and Assessment is a non-profit organization integrated by professionals and researchers in language testing and assessment (LTA) with interest in the Latin American context.

# LAALTA founded at the LTRC 2017 Bogotá, Colombia

- First time in Latin America
- Universidad de los Andes awarded an ILTA Workshops and Meetings Award 2017
- Around 30 attendees from different parts of the world:  
Latin American countries present:
  - Argentina
  - Brasil
  - Chile
  - Colombia
  - Cuba
  - México
  - Perú
- 8 volunteers for the first organising team, then 3 more were added:



# Initial Organizing team

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1	Gladys Quevedo Camargo	University of Brasilia	Brazil
2	Douglas Altamiro Consolo	UNESP-State University of Sao Paulo	Brazil
3	Fabiana Macmillan	Rosetta Stone	Brazil/USA
4	Salomé Villa Larenas	Lancaster University	Chile
5	Camilo Ramos	Universidad Alberto Hurtado	Chile
6	Nayibe Rosado	Universidad del Norte	Colombia
7	Gerriet Janssen	Universidad de los Andes	Colombia
8	Alexis Lopez	ETS	Colombia/USA
9	Elsa Fernanda González	Universidad Autónoma de Tamaulipas	Mexico
10	Arturo Mendoza	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	Mexico
11	Pablo Toledo	Cambridge Assessment Southern Cone	Argentina

# Mission

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“LAALTA seeks to promote best practices of language assessment and testing in educational and professional contexts in Latin America.”

# Vision

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- a) To raise awareness of the social and political importance and potential impact of language assessment and testing.
- b) To increase public and professional understanding of language assessment and testing as a professional field of Applied Linguistics.
- c) To advocate for the use and implementation of adequate ethical principles in language assessment and testing.
- d) To encourage professional growth of relevant stakeholders through workshops, conferences and/or seminars.
- e) To foster cooperation among academia, schools and other agencies that have an active role in language assessment and testing in Latin America.
- f) To promote research in the area of language assessment and testing in Latin American contexts.
- g) To disseminate relevant theoretical information and state of the art research studies.



# LAALTA activities July 2017-Present

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1. Collaboration with other organizations such as TESOL Chile, the International Language Testing Association, and the British Council.
2. The LAALTA team members actively participated in the translation of the ILTA code of ethics to Portuguese:
  - Fabiana Macmillan, Rosetta Stone, Brazil
  - Douglas Altamiro Consolo, UNESP-State University of Sao Paulo, Brazil
  - Gladys Quevedo Camargo, University of Brasilia, Brazil
3. Have managed to meet online 31 times during our year and half of work, two face-to-face meetings: one in Villa del Mar, Chile during the TESOL Chile Conference and the Language Testing Research Colloquium in Atlanta, USA
4. Connected with more than 300 language teachers and language testers from 33 different countries in Latin America and the world.
5. Board elections were conducted for the First Executive Board February-March 2019(113 votes):

# Newly elected Executive Board (April 1 2019-April 1 2021):

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- President: Salomé Villa Larenas (Chile)
- Vice President: Nayibe Rosado (Colombia)
- Secretary: Lourdes Rey (Colombia)
- Treasurer: Mónica Rodríguez-Bonces (Colombia)
- Website Manager: Fabiana MacMillan (Brazil)
- Social Media Manager: Elsa Fernanda González (Mexico)
- Members-at-large:

Charles Stansfield (USA)

Gladys Quevedo Camargo (Brazil)

Gerriet Janssen (Colombia)

Pablo Alejandro Toledo (Argentina)



# Members



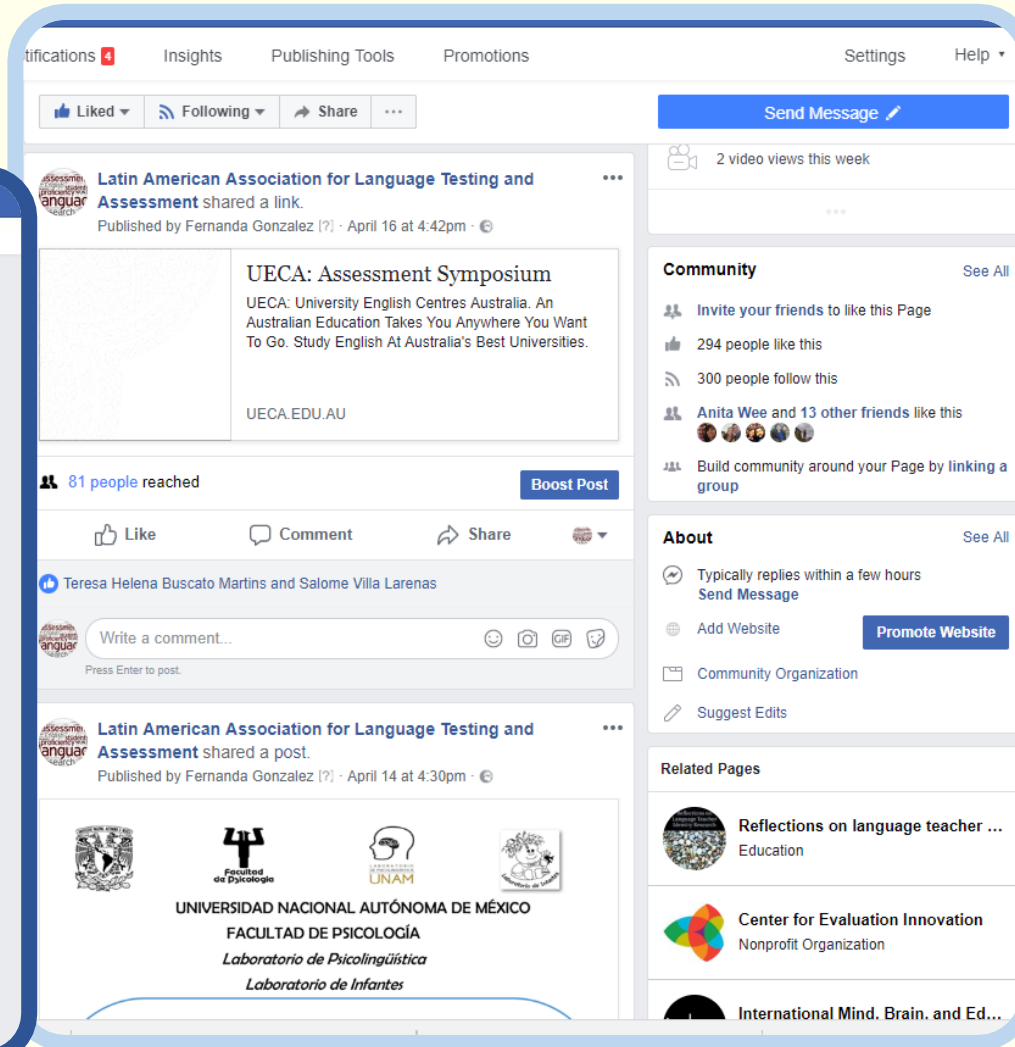
278	Mailing list members
45	Organizations
10	Ejecutive Board
333	Total

# Membership

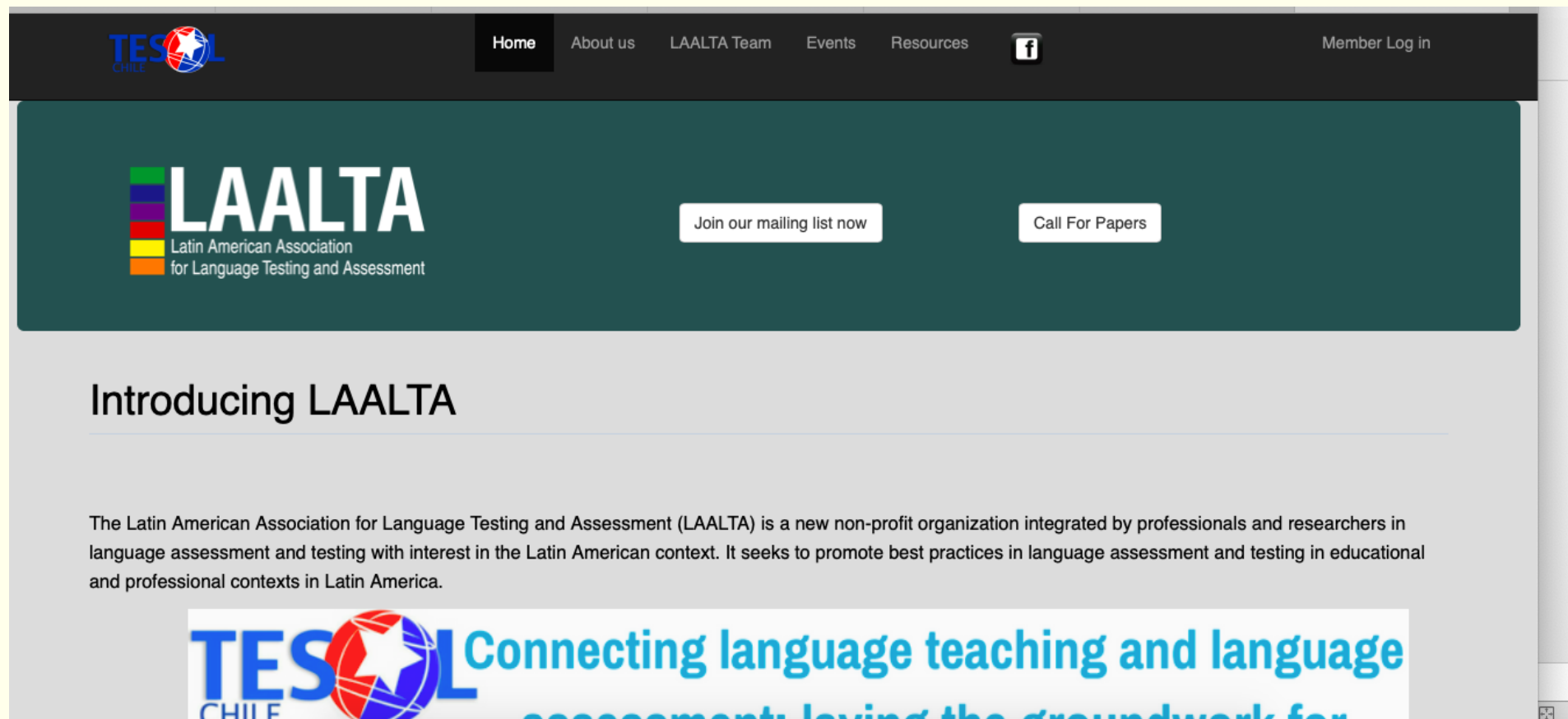
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- Is free of charge.
- Once interest is expressed by filling in the google form, the member is added to official mailing list and will receive constant information with information about language assessment: research and important academic events.
- Benefits:
  - Part of an academic community that seeks to pursue language assessment quality in Latin America.
  - Part of a project that seeks to impact in positive ways language assessment in Latin America and worldwide.
  - Receive emails with important updates in regard to the field.

# Social Media Prescence: <https://www.facebook.com/LAALTA2017/>



# Official Webpage <http://laalta.org>





# Our First Conference: TESOL Chile November 17th and 18<sup>th</sup> 2018

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**TESOL CHILE** Connecting language teaching and language assessment: laying the groundwork for language assessment in Latin America

**LAALTA**  
Latin American Association  
for Language Testing and Assessment

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Valparaíso, Campus Sausalito

Date: November 16th & 17th. 2018

Keynote Speakers:  
Claudia Harsch. University of Bremen, Germany.  
Katharina Glas. PUCV  
Nicole Hansen. PIAP

Call for papers  
Deadline extended to Friday, August 31st

90 años 1928-2018  
PONTIFICIA UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA DE VALPARAÍSO



# Plans

- Organize the Annual conference, collaboration with teaching associations.
- Legal Status of the Association.
- Establishment of the Financial Operations.
- Recruit more members, spread the word.
- Twitter Account

- Materials repository:
  - LATAM authors
  - LATAM focused research





# Ideas?

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- Do you have any suggestions?
- Any ideas to add to LAALTA and its work?
- What do you consider LAALTA should accomplish in two years time?
- Wish to join us?

Please **spread the word** to your colleagues and join us:  
[administrator@laalta.org](mailto:administrator@laalta.org)

Registration Individuals



Registration Organizations



# THANK YOU!

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