BUILDING A VILLA

Victoria Institute for Linkages with Latin America

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1. A Building Vision
2. Construction Permission
3. The Plan
4. The Foundations
5. Moving In
6. Looking Out to Sea
1. A BUILDING VISION

• VILLA will be.....

an institute which formalises, fosters and further encourages VUW’s expanding links with academia, diplomacy, polity and business in Latin America, acting as a node for interactions across all faculties and disciplines at the University with counterparts in Latin America and relevant institutions in NZ. This goes beyond a pure ‘area studies’ approach involving studies of, studies with, and studies in Latin America.
2. CONSTRUCTION PERMISSION

• Formally approved by Senior Management Team

• To be considered by Academic Board, October 11th

• If successful, to operate from December 1st 2007

• Please all turn up to vote!
3. THE PLANS

‘To facilitate the study and realisation of political, economic, cultural and educational relations between VUW and Latin America’

a) To facilitate research and other activities concerning interaction between New Zealand and Latin American countries, in such areas as scientific and technological collaboration, economic and trade links, public policy and foreign policy dialogues, and comparative indigenous studies;

b) To promote the exchange of information and persons with respect to those interactions and comparisons;

c) To stimulate postgraduate research concerning these interactions and other Latin American-related subjects;
d) To act as a natural port of call for contact between the Wellington embassies and academics

e) To encourage wider academic and student interaction with business interests in and of Latin America;

f) To promote academic linkages and other partnerships between New Zealand and Latin America, including joint research projects with Latin American partners;

g) To build upon, illustrate the success of, and extend the New Zealand Government’s Latin American Strategy.
4. THE FOUNDATIONS

• Geopolitical need - *New Zealand looks east*

• Turned into policy - *Latin America Strategy*

• Pioneering work - *New Zealand Centre for Latin American Studies*

• VUW globalises – *east to an extent*

• Diplomatic request – *five ambassadors request an entity in Wellington*

• VUW has an opportunity - *building on existing Latin American connections*
VICTORIA’S LATIN AMERICAN CONNECTIONS...

a) Studies of Latin America

- 10 Masters theses and 1 Hons since 2003 – Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Guatemala
- 4 Masters and 1 PhD on Chile ongoing
- ‘The Chile Connection’ - work on rural development, economic geography, P4, political transition (over 30 international articles) - 2 books, 10 articles, 5 chapters since 2003
- Work on Cuban and Argentinean literature in SAELC
- Taught courses on Latin America, Hispanic Studies, Brazil
Timeline of politico-economic transition in Chile and New Zealand – Ed Challies, PhD

1930s – 1940s
- Primary product-based EOI
- Liberalism

1970s – 1980s
- Import substitution
- Structuralism / Keynesianism
- Neoliberalism

1990s – 2000s
- Diversified EOI
- Neo-structuralism / new Keynesianism

Primary agriculture-based EOI

New mixed economy
b) Studies with Latin America

Meteorology
Architecture
Marine Biology
Earth Sciences

c) Studies in Latin America

Exchange agreements and student exchange through Vic International

Latin Americans studying at Vic
5. MOVING IN

• Establish board, location, website
• New Zealand International Review publication
• Complete 4 Masters theses, enrol at least one more PhD (VC’s scholarship)
• Audit of VUW connections
• One mini seminar, second international seminar
• Establish further contacts across Latin America
• Increase student exchange numbers, especially at PG level
• Complete applications ‘NZ and Latin America’ and ‘Latin American Inequality’ + generic funding
6. LOOKING OUT TO SEA

El Sabor de la patria desmedida
(The taste of unbounded homeland)
‘No Sólo el Albatros’ - Neruda