

WELCOMING MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR OF ACR'S INTERNATIONAL SECTION

Welcome to all members of ACR's International Section, to all who may be considering becoming members, and to anyone who is just visiting. Welcome, also, to the Section's new website. The Section Council and I have been working diligently to update and improve the new website, and we hope you enjoy it.

As you may know, I began my term as Chair at ACR's annual conference in San Diego, and I look forward to the opportunity to serve you until the next conference in New Orleans in September 2012. Our section has hundreds of members from around the world. I look forward to serving all of you and meeting and corresponding with many of you during the coming year.

For my term as Chair, I have several goals:

- To increase communication with members through regular e-mail updates.
- To continue improving the website and increasing its value as a resource for our members.
- To publish quarterly issues of the Section's electronic newsletter.
- To organize an International Day at ACR's 2012 conference in New Orleans that is at least as good as the 2011 International Day in San Diego.
- To increase outreach to members and potential members from other countries.
- To make ACR a greater presence in Latin America by building on the dynamic energy the Section's May 2011 conference in Buenos Aires, Argentina generated in Argentina and other parts of Latin America.
- To identify and leverage the talents of Section members who can assist the Section in its outreach to parts of the world other than Latin America.

To accomplish all of these goals, I will need your help. Especially useful would be people with expertise in website design, newsletter preparation, and social networking. Several Section members are always available to help with Spanish-language interpretation and translation, but we can always use more bilingual members who can help us communicate and network with our large contingent of Spanish-speaking members. To expand our outreach to other parts of the world, we have a special need for members who speak languages other than Spanish and who can devote time to translating documents from English to those other languages and vice-versa. With additional language expertise, we can increase the breadth and depth of the Section's general communications, website, and newsletters.

The International Section, like every ACR section, relies on volunteers for its success. If you are able to volunteer your time and expertise, please send me an e-mail message at ww05@txstate.edu or call me at (512) 245-2138 (office) or (512) 743-4941 (cell). Let me know how you would like to help, and I will do my best to put you to work.

Let's work together to make this year the International Section's best year ever! Given the Section's outstanding accomplishments of prior years, I am aware of the challenge I am

issuing here, but I know we can do it if we all work together. The world needs peacemakers now more than ever, so let's live up to the challenge.

Thanks to all of you for this opportunity to serve. I am looking forward to working with all of you.

Walter A. Wright
Chair, International Section 2011-2012