

Forum for Latin American Studies



The Organization of American States and its challenges

Dr. Irene Klinger

Tuesday April 21, Sampson G-14 at 12:00

Formed by 35 nations, the OAS was established in 1948 aiming to strengthen democracy and cooperation within the continent. The General Assembly is its main ruling body, and the General Secretary is in charge of the daily life of the organization.

As part of the OAS program, the Summit of the Americas is currently being held at Port-of-Spain, capital of Trinidad and Tobago, gathering the heads of all the state members, including of course President Obama. There are also several committees that deal with such sensitive issues as Health, Education, Justice, Drug Abuse and Security. In fulfilling these tasks, the OAS has to confront a number of problems, some of them caused by political differences among its members.

Dr. Klinger, a Chilean economist and Director of the Department of International Affairs of OAS, will be addressing the current situation of this hemispheric organization. Before joining the OAS she worked several years at the Pan- American Health Organization.

Please join us for an informative meeting!