

Anonymous donor gives Tulane \$6.1 million for Latin American Studies

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The [Stone Center for Latin American Studies](#) at Tulane University has long been a national leader in faculty, students, library holdings and research dedicated to the study of Latin America. Now its influence will grow even more with the arrival of a \$6.1 million anonymous gift.

The gift will establish three new endowed chairs in Latin American studies, bringing the number of Stone Center endowed chairs to seven. Such chairs are among the most coveted gifts a university can receive. The gift will also establish a fund to support Tulane's [Middle American Research Institute](#), one of the nation's premier centers for research on Middle America, and Tulane's [Latin American Library](#), the world's most comprehensive lending collection of Latin America educational material.

Three million dollars of the gift will establish two Scott and Marjorie Cowen Chairs in Latin American Social Sciences, which will support joint appointments for faculty throughout Tulane who study Latin America.

"Margie and I are deeply touched to have these important chairs named in our honor," Tulane President Scott Cowen said. "This gift strengthens our focus and commitment to the study of this vital and fascinating region."

Another \$2.6 million of the gift will establish the Thomas F. and Carol M. Reese Distinguished Chair in Latin American Studies, which will endow the position of the director of the Stone Center for Latin American Studies. Thomas Reese is the longtime director of the Stone Center and Carol Reese is the Christovich Associate Professor of Architecture at Tulane.

The final \$500,000 of the gift will establish the Yvette M. Jones Latin American Special Collections Fund, which will support the Middle American Research Institute and the Latin American Library. The fund is named for Yvette Jones, Tulane's

executive vice president for University Relations and Development.