

## Editorial

In the book *World Republic of Letters*, Pascal Casanova quotes this passage from Paul Valéry on spiritual economy: "You see that I borrow the language from the bag. It may seem strange, adapted to spiritual things; but I consider that there is nothing better, and there may not exist anywhere else to express the relationships of this specie, for the spiritual economy as well as the material, are both summarized nicely in a simple conflict of assessments" (Paul Valéry, "La liberté of L'esprit" cit by Casanova, Pascal.: 25). The French writer continues to claim that there is a value called "spirit". To the word *value* he assigns the meanings of assessment, appraisal and discussion about the "price" of the good. Values, as in the stock market, are up and down and the contributions are done on the world literary space (26). Ultimately, what is at stake in the "literary economy" is the "in a market" characterised by its symbolic character.

From this perspective, the dossier delivered in this issue of the *Cuadernos del CILHA*, tries to unravel the mechanisms at work between literature and economics, in order to provide answers to several questions, such as those formulated by Ana Gallegos, our coordinator: "What are the links between the aesthetic value and the economic value today? How does literature represent these links? What is the value of the Argentinian literature as a commercial category in a World Republic being not so independent from Letters? How and why is the author figure considered an object of consumption? What does sales success of an author and a piece of work stand for? What type of genres fit best the public in general or the academy? What have the changes in the editorial policies, of large conglomerates and the independent ones obeyed to and how? In which ways have these changes affected the written production, the reading forms and the reception modes? What are the characteristics of the fictions of money in the Argentine literary system?"

The articles are focused on the Argentinian literature addressing issues such as plagiarism, poetics of Money, authors and marketing new forms of literature such as the Cartonero. However, the reflective effort of these texts may well take basis for understanding these structures in any other literature.

Claudio Maíz  
Director