The Political Economy Group of LACEA (PEG) has held annual meetings since 1998. The 2008 meeting of the PEG will take place in Cartagena, Colombia, on May 28-29, and will be organized by Universidad de Los Andes and Fedesarrollo. As in previous years, the 2009 meeting aims to promote the discussion of connections between polities and economies, and the details of the workings of specific institutions. Although not exclusively related to the region, the accepted contributions are expected to be relevant for understanding the most demanding problems of Latin America and Caribbean countries. The focus of the meeting will be on political institutions broadly understood, including legislatures, courts, political parties, executives, elections, the institutions of federalism and the workings of the public service. Studies of specific Latin American countries as well as comparative institutional analyses are especially welcome.

Papers must be submitted no later than March 3, 2009 for consideration for the meeting. A program committee integrated by Ernesto Dal Bó (Stanford University), Ernesto Stein (IDB), Mauricio Cárdenas (Fedesarrollo), Alejandro Gaviria (Universidad de Los Andes), and Marcela Eslava (Universidad de Los Andes) will choose the papers to be presented. Submitted papers will be judged on their relevance and academic merit, as well as on the rigor of the theoretical and empirical approaches undertaken. Both theoretical and empirical contributions are welcomed, as well as works by young scholars and graduate students. The organization has some funds to partially finance travel expenses of those participants not able to obtain complete funding from their own sources. Additionally, two of the selected papers, authored by junior researchers, will benefit from detailed comments and follow up by a field expert (this is made possible by a research grant from the Global Development Network).

If you are interested in submitting a paper, please do so no later than March 3rd 2009. The selection process will be completed by April 14th, 2009. Full papers, in PDF format, should be sent to:

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