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Center for Latin American Studies (CLAS) Stanford Libraries Grant Report

My research on Brazilian corporate governance and ownership structures was advanced tremendously in the Summer of 2019 through the Stanford Center for Latin American Studies Library Access Grant for Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). My research interests in studying Brazilian firms' shareholder agreements, *acordo de acionistas*, usually means that I have to travel to Brazil and search for this data within government regulatory agency libraries of the securities and exchange commission (Comissão de Valores Mobiliários) in Rio de Janeiro or the BOVESPA stock exchange in Sao Paulo. For me, coming to the Stanford Libraries was a game changer in how I conduct my research. Thanks to the generosity of this Stanford Library Access Grant, I did not have to make the international research trip to Brazil.

During my visit in the month of July 2019, I was able to gain access to the extensive library collection of books, articles and databases sourced from Brazil on firms' corporate governance, regulations, laws and ownership practices throughout Latin America. The [Latin American & Iberian collections](#) is the largest collection of books from Brazil that I have ever seen and am aware of in North America. I spent most of my time in the Green and Hoover libraries. I used many sources including Handbook of Latin American Studies catalog, Hispanic American Periodicals Index (HAPI), Informe académico, and Gale's World Scholar for Latin America & the Caribbean and XSearch for Latin America. I also spent time at the Law School Robert Crown Library and gained access to the corporate governance collection which had a plethora of sources on comparative law and shareholder agreements. Here I learned about the [Stanford Rock Center for Corporate Governance](#), which I still follow their Business Scholarship Podcast series today. During the remainder of the summer, I also had access to the online library resources at Stanford Business Schools.

Part of the highlight of my visit was having great opportunities to challenge my lusophone language skills. I was delighted to find many of the books, literature, and periodicals were in Portuguese that I only knew to be available in Brazil (and did not have access to from my library access at the University of Illinois at Chicago). This was the most expansive research library on Brazil that I have experienced outside of that country. One book that was most insightful to my Brazilian corporate governance research was *Empresas Brasileiras Centenárias: a História de Sucesso de Empresas Familiares* (Bernhoeft & Martinez, 2015). I have since presented my research at a global corporate governance conference since last summer.

I am particularly grateful to Adan Griego, Molly Aufdermauer, and Elizabeth Saenz-Ackermann for their generosity, continual support, and ensuring that my visit was a successful one. Adan's expertise in the Latin American Library Sciences also has helped me get connected with local Latin American Studies libraries here in Chicago at Northwestern University and the University of Illinois – Urbana Champaign campus.

Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not mention that one final highlight of the visit before I returned to the University of Illinois – Chicago was spending time in the [Ramsey Historical Map Collection](#) within the Green Library. I use the Luna Viewer in my classroom teaching as we explore geopolitical events in my Global Strategy MBA course.