

**JUSTICE STUDIES CENTER OF THE AMERICAS
FOURTH QUARTER REPORT
October to December 2003**

The following report offers a summary of the main activities carried out by the Justice Studies Center of the Americas for the period between October and December 2003.

ACTIVITIES AND RESULTS

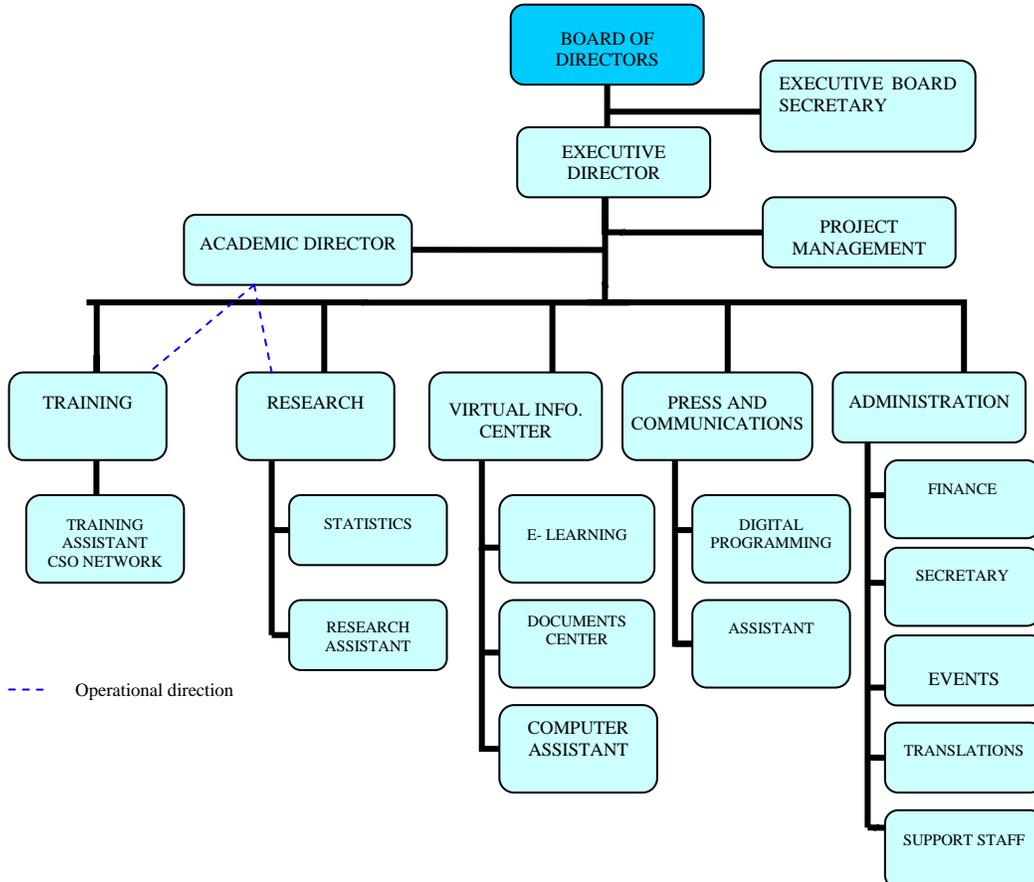
A. Institutional Development

a) Administration

1) Personnel Changes and JSCA's New Internal Structure

In accordance with Chilean labor legislation, permanent local personnel contracts were modified in October, with staff continuing to provide services for professional fees under permanent work contracts.

With the aim of streamlining the work carried out by JSCA, a new internal structure for the institution has been established. Changes can be seen in the following organizational chart. During the period in question a new office for project management was established and the Research and Training Areas came to depend on the Academic Director.



2) Procedures Manual

The first *Internal Procedures Manual* for the Institution was drawn up, a project that enjoyed the support of JSCA staff from each area of the organization. The purpose of this manual is to serve as an internal guide that will describe the minimum standards required for the development of different activities in relation to the institution's administrative procedures as clearly as possible.

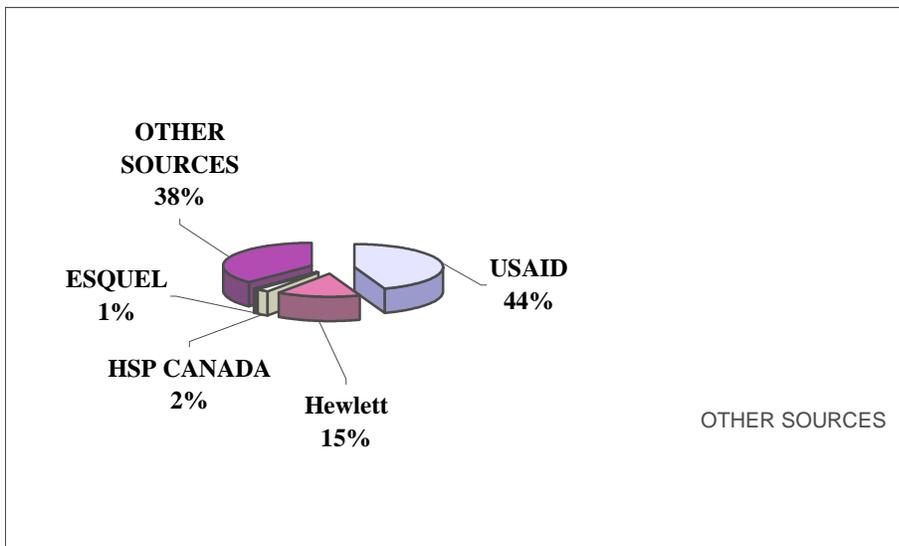
3) Funding and Expenditures

The following section details the use of funds supplied by the entities that provide support for JSCA's institutional development with the objective of financing activities carried out during the last quarter of 2003 (September to December).

The Center received funding from USAID for November and December 2003 and was reimbursed for expenditures for the period corresponding to April to August. Funds were also received from Fundación Esquel for a training course in Ecuador and from the Human Security Program in Canada for the Annual Report.

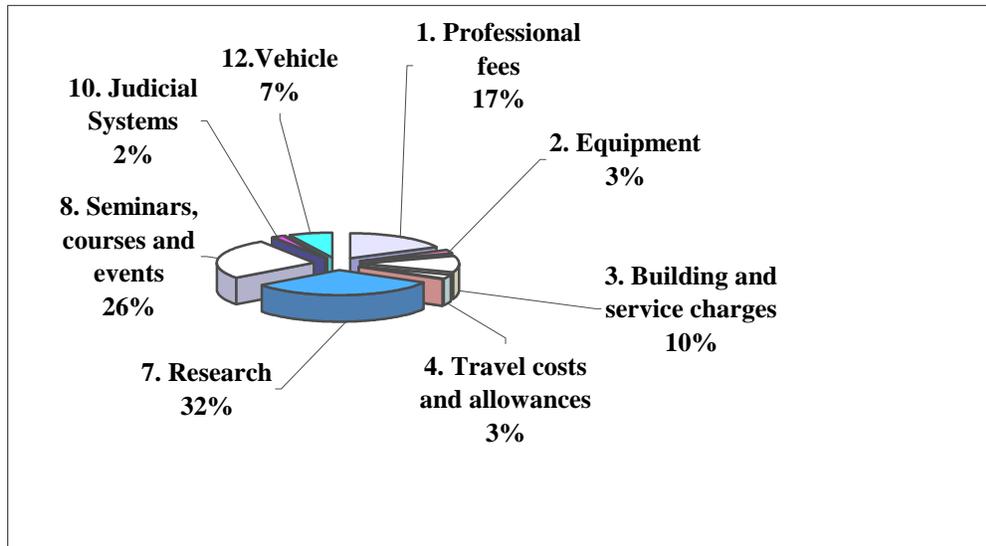
During this quarterly period accounts were also rendered for funds supplied by CIDA, GTZ and the Ford Foundation, and accounts are now under preparation for IDB and USAID.

PERCENTAGE OF FUNDS RECEIVED BY SOURCE OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2003



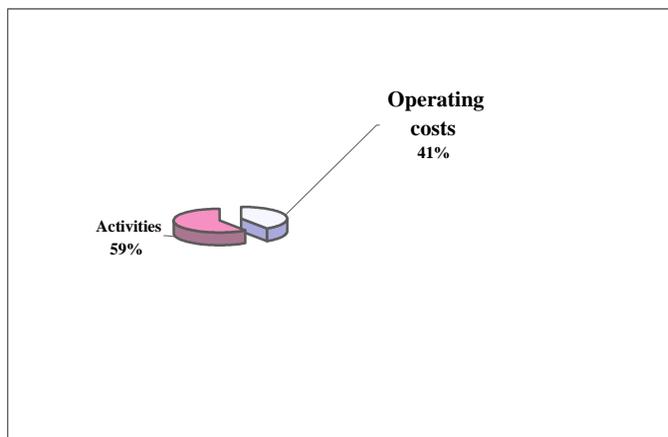
Funding received during this period corresponded mainly to USAID, Hewlett, and other sources.

DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATIONAL COSTS (PERCENTAGES)



Operational costs were mainly destined for the development of the research area, organizing seminars and events and paying professional fees.

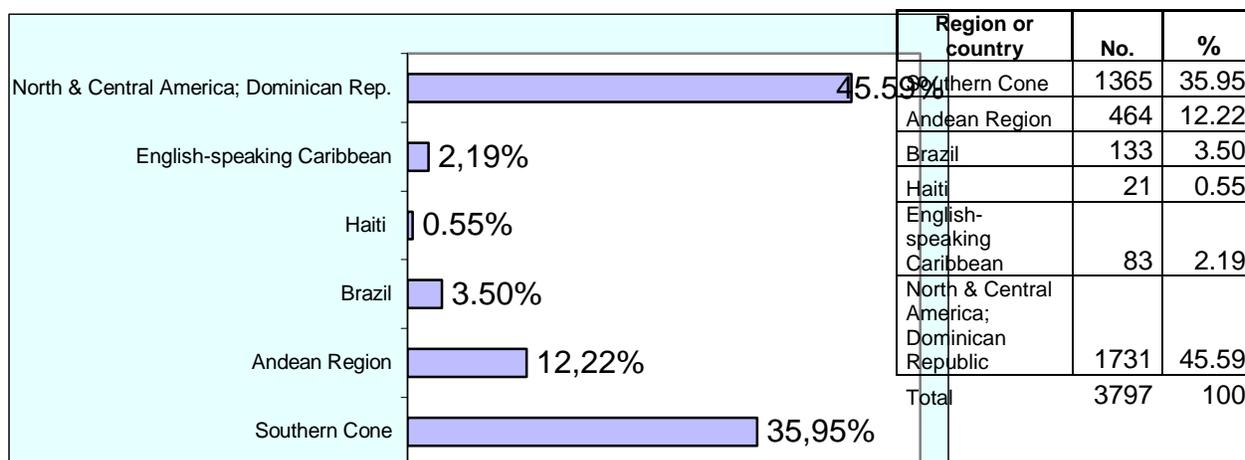
DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATING COSTS (PERCENTAGES)



As can be observed in the above graph, 59% of quarterly costs were dedicated to activities and 41% to operating and management costs.

4) Database of Institutional Contacts.

Since it started operations, JSCA has built up a database totaling 4,544 contacts. A total of 253 new contacts were added during the last quarter of 2003. The following graph presents the total number of contacts in the Americas as of 30 December.



B. ACTIVITIES AIMED AT MEETING JSCA'S INSTITUTIONAL OBJECTIVES

JSCA is currently developing activities aimed at meeting its institutional objectives in countries throughout the Americas. The following is a list of the countries in which we are executing our most important projects. Details about the projects and activities are presented later in this report.

Countries in which JSCA is Carrying Out Research or Training Activities this Quarter:

Country	STUDY
Argentina	Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform, Judicial Statistics, Access to Information, CSO Network, Jurisprudence on the Rights of the Child
Barbados	Research on Criminal Procedure Reform
Belize	Judicial Statistics
Bolivia	Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform, CSO Network
Brazil	Racial Discrimination and Judicial Administration, CSO Network, Jurisprudence on the Rights of the Child, Seminar on Court Management
Eastern Caribbean	Judicial Statistics, Research on Criminal Procedure Reform
Colombia	Racial Discrimination and Judicial Administration, Judicial Statistics, CSO Network
Costa Rica	Judicial Statistics
Chile	Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform, Gender and Criminal Procedure Reform, Judicial Statistics, Jurisprudence on the Rights of the Child, Access to Information, CSO

	Network
Ecuador	Gender and Criminal Procedure Reform, Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform, Training for Judicial Operators, CSO Network
El Salvador	Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform, Judicial Statistics, CSO Network
United States	CSO Network, Jurisprudence on the Rights of the Child
Guatemala	Gender and Criminal Procedure Reform, Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform, Judicial Statistics, CSO Network
Haiti	CSO Network
Honduras	Gender and Criminal Procedure Reform, Follow-up Study on Criminal Procedure Reform
Jamaica	Research on Criminal Procedure Reform
México	Training for Judicial Operators, CSO Network, Support for Criminal Procedure Reform
Panama	CSO Network
Paraguay	CSO Network
Peru	Training for Judicial Operators, Access to Information, CSO Network, Support for Criminal Procedure Reform
Dominican Republic	Racial discrimination and Judicial Administration, CSO Network
Trinidad & Tobago	Research on Criminal Procedure Reform
Uruguay	Jurisprudence on the Rights of the Child
Venezuela	CSO Network

1. To generate and distribute instruments that improve available information on justice in the Americas.

1.1 Virtual Information Center (VIC)

Work for this quarter was mainly divided between discussion and analysis of the future of the VIC, the construction of new support tools for other areas of JSCA, updating information and an important planning process for restructuring the center, and defining tasks to be fulfilled in 2004.

a) Website

During this quarter major support was given to the Training Area and the organization of events, especially the InterAmerican Seminar of Gender and Justice, which was carried out during November. This quarter also saw the conclusion of the development of a Website for the publication of large format documents that are easy to read and search for content.

In the case of the **Training Area**, the content of its Website was restructured and modified; two virtual discussions (or chats) were carried out; and pages were constructed for the *Inter-American Program for Educating Training Personnel for Criminal procedure reform 2004* and the *Base Course* of the same program. Construction of the E-program Platform will continue, and we are currently completing work on the basic model and documentation and starting work on the graphic design and actual programming stages.

As regards the **Inter-American Seminar on Gender and Justice**, it is important to point out that this event established the strategy for the support that the VIC will provide for future seminars.

Prior to the seminar a CD-Rom of event contents was created so that participants could have access to them. The CD contains a considerable amount of information that can be used to support the content of the event itself, along with detailed data regarding participants. Once the event came to an end, new sections containing the final list of participants, conclusions, results and agreements, etc. were added to the seminar Website. A gallery of images will also be uploaded onto the page during the first semester of 2004.

Another important accomplishment for the website was the development of the **Model Web Page for Documents** (studies, books and reports, among others). This permits material to be incorporated in a structured and organized format (chapter, sections, etc.), which will be seen within a sub-website containing user-friendly menus.

The search engine incorporated into the page is also of primary importance. This tool will enable users to search and locate corresponding content. The first document to be available through this structure will be the **Report on the State of Justice in the Americas 2002-2003**.

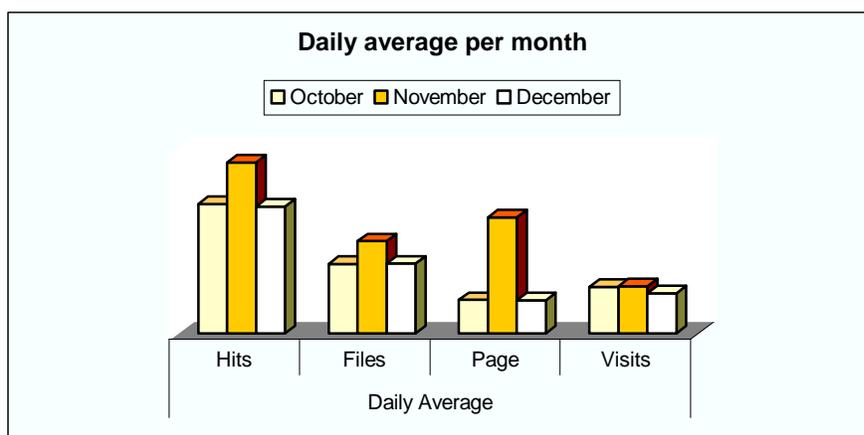
Flow of Visitors

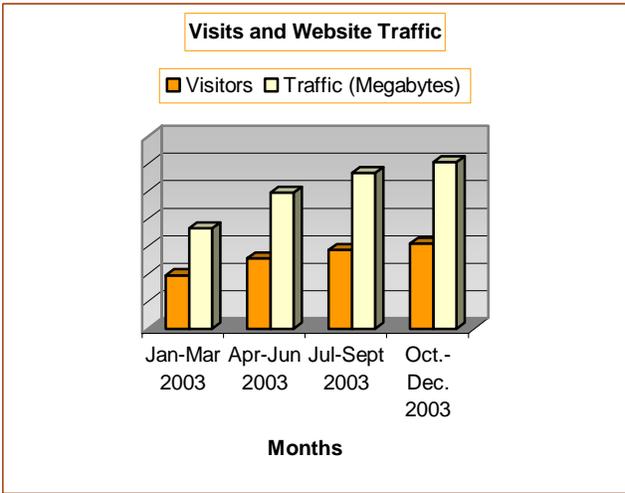
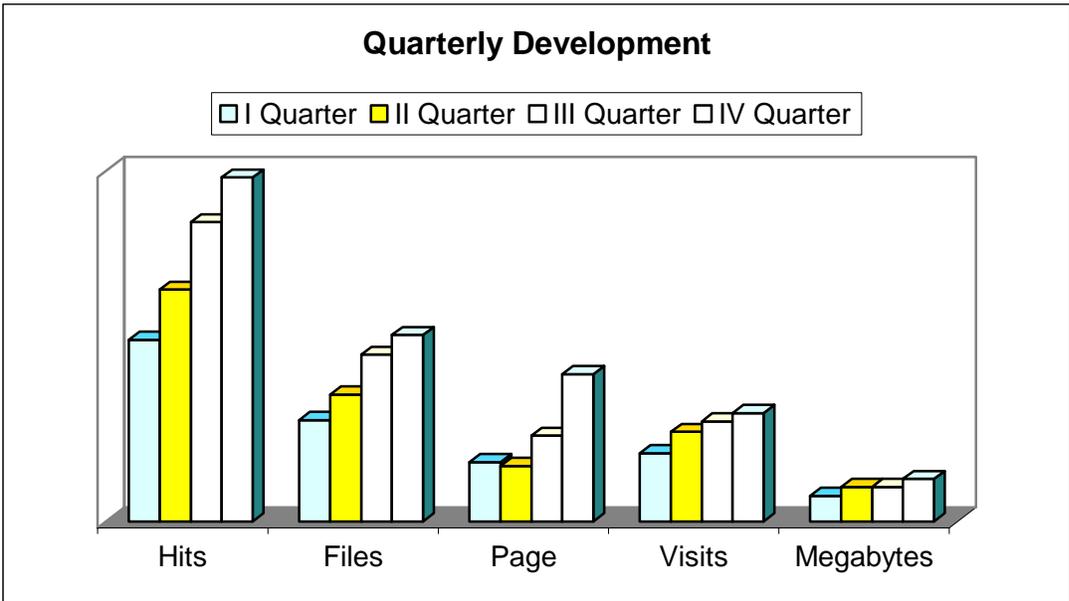
During the last quarter of 2003 there was a sustained increase in visitors to the Website, although the flow was lower than the previous month's, which had been one of the highest of the year.

A total of **30,959** external visits to the Website were registered for this quarter, with an average of **366** sessions per day, representing a **7.5%** increase with respect to the previous quarter.

Beginning with the first quarterly report of 2004, the statistics provided for the Website will be broken down in greater detail, allowing for improved evaluation of the site leading to better-informed decisions.

Breakdown of Website visits



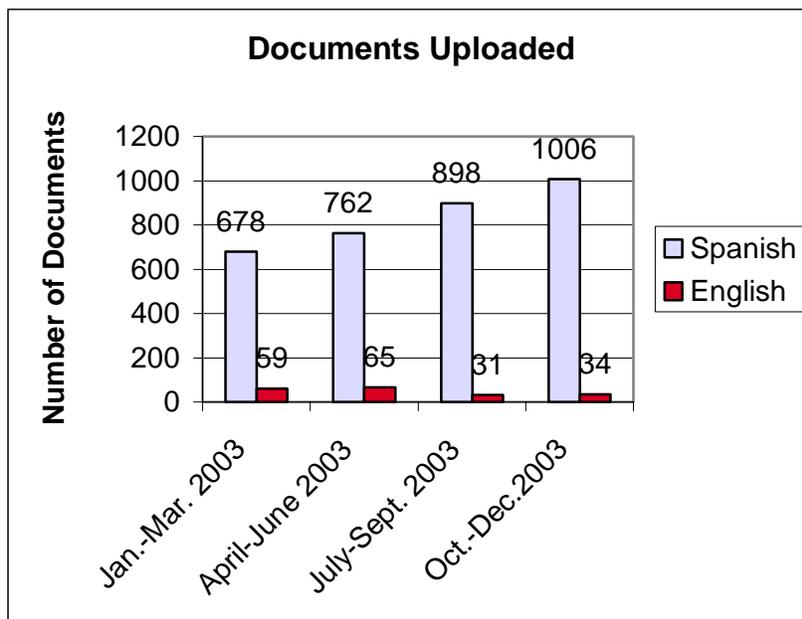


Addition of New Information on the Website

Virtual Library Impact Indicator	Result
A sustained increase in the number of people who rate JSCA virtual products and publications as useful or very useful.	In the online survey carried out in September 2003, 53% of users had consulted the Virtual Library; among these, 19% had done so looking for legislation, and 21% for documents. The Virtual Library is one of JSCA’s most visited sites.

Virtual Library: The collection includes online documents, legislation, reviews, and bibliographical references, along with a search engine for online searches of the texts contained in the database. At the end of the fourth quarter, the virtual library contained 680 research documents, articles, reports and papers, as well as 360 legislative documents and 220 book reviews.

A number of contributions to the library were made after the InterAmerican Seminar on Gender and Justice organized by JSCA at the end of November 2003. The library received a total of 56 bibliographic summaries connected with the seminar.



Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR): Questionnaires were sent to 370 JSCA contacts related to the area of ADR during the last quarter of 2003 in order to update and add new information to the JSCA Registry of ADR Centers. To date only 15 centers have responded to the questionnaire.

JSCA will follow up on the contacts that did not respond to the aforementioned request during the first quarter of 2004. The ADR Website contains 53 legislative documents on the laws that regulate ADR (organized by country); 122 studies of ADR; and 151 links to institutions that offer mediation and conciliation services in the region.

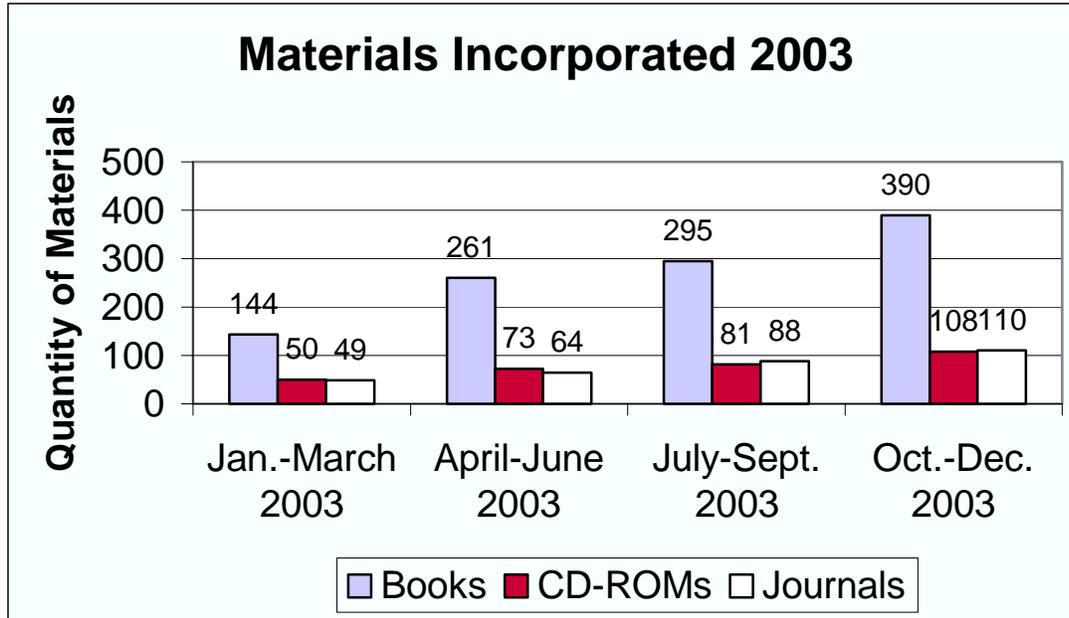
Other Activities:

JSCA Document Center (located at our headquarters): JSCA is about to install a bibliographic search engine for materials entered into the Document Center (CEDOC). The search engine is being tested in the JSCA development server. Apart from searching for materials, the application also includes lending and cataloguing modules.

At the end of December 2003, the document center contained 608 volumes of documents (390

books, 108 CD-ROMs, and 110 journals).

The following graph shows a breakdown of the materials that were added to the document center during 2003:



Contact network: During this quarter we worked to establish contacts with the **Libraries** of different Congresses and Parliaments in OAS member states in order to access to legislation documents. E-mails were sent to the Congresses of Argentina, Peru, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Brazil, and Bolivia. Similar requests were issued to work commissions, research operators, libraries and periodicals, among others.

Global Legal Information Network (GLIN): GLIN is an initiative that focuses on gathering legislation from original sources in different countries and making them available on the Internet for contributors and associated members. This initiative is coordinated by the U.S. Library of Congress (Law Library of Congress). In December, GLIN invited JSCA to join this initiative following the visit of a Washington-based documentation specialist who will help run a training program and sign the official agreement.

International Conference on Library Sciences: The *X International Conference of Library Sciences* took place October 29-31 in Santiago, Chile. During this event, JSCA librarian and documentation specialist Marco Castillo offered a presentation during a session that was attended by more than sixty participants entitled: "Internet Technology as an Interdisciplinary Tool: The Case of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas."

1.2 Press Coverage

JSCA Press is in contact with the local Chilean press and international press through specialized news correspondents working in sections of the media that focus on justice and the courts (the terms used may vary depending on the country concerned). Contact is made through press releases that are sent out before, during, and after each JSCA event. We also carry out an in-depth follow-up process that includes contacting each journalist and explaining the purpose of each activity.

In terms of its external audience, JSCA has a database of approximately 4,500 people who receive a constant flow of press releases on the events that take place in the organization, as well as the Nexus Newsletter, a monthly publication that is published via email.

Mention or Citation of JSCA Events

Information regarding JSCA products and events is reproduced, published, or featured as a link on various justice-sector Websites around the region. The institution has been also mentioned in various speeches and publications. Information published by JSCA can be found on the following sites: www.alertanet.org; www.inecip.org; www.redinter.org; www.projusticia.org.pe; www.reformajudicial.jus.gov.ar; <http://alc.gdln.org> (National Judiciary School, Dominican Republic), among others.

1.3 Report on the State of Justice in the Americas

First issued in CD-ROM format in September 2003, the first printed edition of this report was published in Spanish in November, followed by the preliminary edition in English, the *Report on the Judicial Systems in the Americas*.

During the last quarter of 2003, the *Report* was presented and distributed free of charge at the main regional forums and other local events on justice, which were carried out in Ecuador, Brazil, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Honduras, Chile, and Colombia. More than 400 copies of the report were distributed in both CD-ROM and print format. This process will continue and widen during the first quarter of 2004.

Work on a database that allows for the information contained in the *Report* to be uploaded onto the JSCA Website was completed in November. This has allowed users to have broader and more dynamic access to such data. The *Report's* 34 country reports and comparative chapter will complement information contained in other sections of the institution's Website.

Additionally, the English-language Website for the report was completed in December, and preparation of a bilingual CD-Rom, which will be distributed beginning in February 2004, is now underway.

The *Report* has had an impact on the press in various countries, including Brazil and Uruguay. On 12 October 2003 an article about the report appeared in the online Uruguayan publication "*El País Digital*" and an article on the report and its description of the local justice system appeared in the Brazilian newspaper "*Valor Económico*" on 25 November.

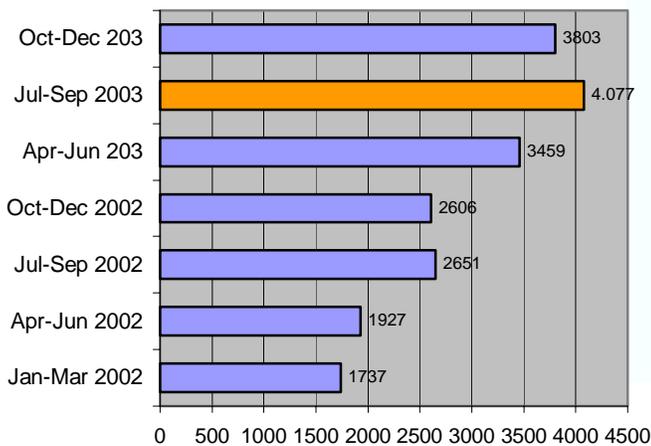
In response to requests from authorities and experts from the Puerto Rican justice sector, we will prepare a chapter for that country, a project that began in December 2003. The Puerto Rico chapter will be added to the present report during the first quarter of 2004.

1.4 Nexus Newsletter

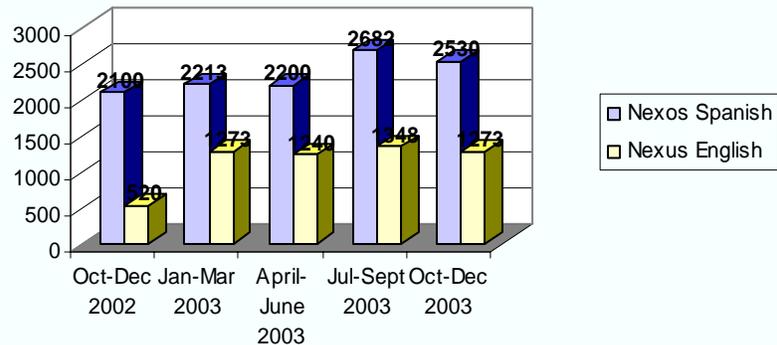
Numbers 28, 29 and 30 of the newsletter were published in English and Spanish for the months of October, November and December. The newsletter continues to incorporate visual resources in order to make its content more user-friendly and also includes short messages that publicize the latest activities organized by JSCA and important publications.

The newsletter currently has 3,803 subscribers, which represents a 5.9% drop compared to the previous quarter. After analyzing this data with IT experts, it was concluded that only 0.26% of this decrease actually corresponded to voluntary cancellations (a percentage equivalent to ten subscribers); the rest of the decrease corresponded to returned e-mails from full in-boxes, or because the mail had been identified and rejected as “Spam”.

Total number of subscribers to the Newsletter



E-mail subscriptions to Nexus



In order to counter this situation it has been proposed that JSCA set up an internal e-mail list for the Nexus Newsletter to be sent directly by JSCA rather than through the E lists system, which may be identified as “Spam” and blocked by users’ internet servers. Sending such mails through the internal system has other advantages, including:

- Automatic subscription to the database (and inscription to the Invitations list);
- Interesting statistical data, such as information regarding who reads the newsletter and what section they prefer. This is because online subscription processed by JSCA, allows the organization to survey people’s area of interest at the moment of registration; and
- Greater efficiency when processing subscriptions, which is somewhat complex for users at present (e-lists are subject to confirmation before someone can be subscribed).

It is important to point out that the lower number of subscribers to the newsletter is mainly the result of a monthly purging of the database, which consists of removing those people who have so requested through different formats (and not just via e-mail).

In relation to content, the Nexus Newsletter has carried on being frequently reproduced and cited in different electronic publications and the institutional websites of numerous countries.

Articles on the following topics were included in each Nexus publication during the last quarter of 2003.

- ✓ Justice as viewed by business
- ✓ Efficiency in Justice
- ✓ The University as a Participant in the Judicial Reform Process

▪ **Nexus Newsletter in Portuguese and French**

During the last quarter of 2003 a special edition of the Nexus Newsletter was published in both Portuguese and French. The publication was a compilation of the last six months of newsletters and included twelve current events articles, three special topics articles, three reviews, six links, and an events agenda for 2003-2004.

Both of these special newsletters can be found online. In the case of the Portuguese translation, 500 copies of a printed edition were published and distributed at important events Brazil.

1.5 Sistemas Judiciales

The sixth edition of the journal (the second to come out during the year) was published in December and focused on information systems and justice institutions. Among the articles there was a special chapter on the Report on Judicial Systems in the Americas (see below) with the results of public opinion surveys and other indicators regarding the external perception of judicial systems around the continent, accompanied by three critical opinions. Also included was the transcription of a debate held by three eminent regional experts in this area, who discussed the achievements, limitations, and possibilities for the use of this type of information in the context of judicial reforms. The edition also includes, among other articles, a work document containing analytical material on the implementation of information systems in judicial institutions around the region. There is also a guide to sources, bibliographical references, and judicial statistics databases.

Issue 6 was presented at the IX Meeting of the JSCA Board of Directors, which was held in Santiago on the 5 of January 2004.

Issue 5 was distributed in October and November 2003.

In October, a document was drafted that redefined the journal's editorial and publication policies in order to reach a wider audience. The new policy proposes to:

- a) Intensify distribution of the journal at the level of institutional networks (both public and private) within the justice sector, along with libraries, documentation centers, universities and other specific public institutions in key countries;
- b) Identify and contact local and regional distributors;
- c) Strengthen the contents of the electronic version through a special website and complementary distribution instruments.

At the beginning of November, the document was distributed among members of the journal's editorial board for approval. Various members expressed their support and offered to help put the proposed lines of action and strategies into practice. Thanks to the input and contacts of some members of the board, the following results were achieved:

- 1. At least three of the eight judicial branches that form the Central American system of Supreme Courts took out institutional subscriptions for up to 25 copies of each edition of the journal.
- 2. The journal was distributed together with a similar publication issued by the *Instituto de Investigaciones Jurídicas de la UNAM* (Judicial Research Institute of the National Autonomous University of Mexico); the journal was also included in the editorial circuit of said university.
- 3. The journal is to be presented and/or distributed in academic events and activities taking place in the judicial ambits of Colombia and Chile.

A significant increase was observed in the number of inquiries, comments and requests for subscription to the journal channeled through the contact page of the JSCA Website during this quarter.

1.6 Other Activities and Publications

a) Justice and Democratic Governance

In December the book *Justice and Democratic Governance* was issued with a print run of two thousand copies. Published by JSCA together with the Chilean Justice Ministry, this bilingual text (Spanish and English) offers presentations made during the seminar of the same name, organized by JSCA in June 2003 during the General Assembly of the Organization of American States, which took place that month in Santiago, Chile. The book is to be presented and distributed free of charge beginning in the first quarter of 2004.

b) Entre CEJA y CEJA

During the fourth quarter, twelve editions of the institution's internal newsletter –“*Entre Ceja y Ceja*”- (Between JSCA and JSCA), which first appeared during the third quarter of 2003, were published.

Staff members have responded positively to this internal communications channel, as it provides information related to work carried out by members of the team on a weekly basis.

This is a useful tool for keeping personnel informed of the activities carried out by the different areas, and has benefited the integration and exchange of experiences of all members of staff.

2. To strengthen regional cooperation and exchange among key parties in the justice sector.

2.1 Training

Impact Indicators	Result
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sustained increase in the number of people who apply for JSCA internships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacts have been established with Chilean universities (the Catholic University and the University of Chile) and US universities (Georgetown) to set up agreements allowing students to apply for Pro-bono internships. • Numerous inquiries have been received regarding the internship system, its structure, competition dates, possibilities of participation, and requests to carry out research tasks. • A request has been received for a senior internship to undertake tasks in mid-2004. • The quantity of pro-bono internships working in JSCA has been increased, as there were only four such persons working during the third quarter. • The area has been restructured in order to better organize the internship program.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sustained increase in the number of institutions and individuals interested in applying solutions developed by JSCA and who request that we provide training for this purpose. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There has been a significant increase in the demand for training courses and activities to take place during 2004. • Requests for training have not only been made by bodies and institutions that JSCA has already worked with (Public Prosecutor's Office in Ecuador, the World Bank Institute), but also from bodies who are aware of JSCA's experience and progress in this area (INECIP-Buenos Aires, Peru, Public Prosecutor's Office in the Province of Chubut – Argentina). • Some of the institutions that JSCA has worked with are now designing training activities based on the experience gained in such courses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sustained increase in the number of people who rate training activities carried out by JSCA as useful or very useful. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessments of the training activities implemented have been very positive with respect to materials, contents, and teaching standards.

2.1.1 Institutional Strengthening for Criminal Procedure Reform Project

During this quarter the program, contents and teaching staff were chosen to take part in the CIDA training program entitled the *Inter-American Program for Educating Training Personnel for Criminal Procedure Reform*. The program is divided into four stages, and progress was made in the design of each of them.

In addition, at the beginning of December efforts to disseminate the Program and the Basic Course entitled *Instruments for the Implementation of an Oral Adversarial System* (first stage of the same and open, in turn, to other participants) began using the following channels: publication in the Nexus Newsletter and *Sistemas judiciales* journal; distribution of posters (2000 were printed in total); e-mails sent to institutional mailing lists; two web pages that can be accessed via different options available on the JSCA Website. A meeting was also held in which a list of people and institutions in various countries was drawn up in order to selectively disseminate the course (via personal phone calls or personalized e-mails).

At the same time registration lists were opened for both activities, and various interested parties registered for the programs.

Final preparations are still pending for the basic course and the intermediate e-learning course in terms of the materials to be used in each one, as well as confirmation of guests invited to take part in the base course.

Adjacent to the above, and forming part of the activities that form the CIDA project, Mauricio Duce and Andrés Baytelman took part in the “*Frailties in the Criminal Justice Process*” course run by the National Judicial Institute of Canada (NJI) in the city of Banff during the first week of December. In addition to taking part in the course, the JSCA specialists participated in a workshop designed to highlight the experience of NJI in judicial training in the aforementioned country.

In regard to technical material, progress has been made in the design and implementation of the e-learning platform that will serve as a base for the intermediate course. Two experts from NJI visited JSCA between the 19 and 23 of January 2004 in order to facilitate this process.

2.1.2 Completed Training Activities

A. Implementation of the “Training Program for Judges and Other Staff Members from the Ecuadorian Criminal Justice System to Develop the Specific Skills Necessary for Implementing the New Criminal Procedure Code in Ecuador,” modules 6 - 10.

During this period work continued on the implementation of the aforementioned program in Ecuador, in which more than 500 prosecutors, judges and attorneys from all over the country have taken part. Modules 6 through 10 were implemented during the period in question. The average number of participants for each module was 500 persons, distributed in thirteen work centers distributed throughout 10 cities around the country. Each module consisted of 14 hours work which included video conferencing, practical exercises and discussion workshops. The contents of and date that each module was implemented is as follows:

- Module 6: Orality during the investigation stage; 3 and 4 of October; course offered via videoconference from Chile by Mauricio Duce.
 - Module 7: Intermediate stage and selection of evidence; 10 and 11 of November; course offered via videoconference from Chile by Andrés Baytelman.
 - Module 8: resources and shortened procedures; 17 and 18 of October; offered in Ecuador by Alberto Gras.
 - Module 9: Role and organization of players in the adversarial system; 29 and 30 of October; course offered via videoconference from Chile by Rodrigo de la Barra.
 - Module 10; Final simulation; 7 and 8 November; offered in Ecuador by Mauricio Duce.
- To coincide with the end of the course, an article appeared on the Global Development Learning Network website: http://lac.gdln.org/news/judicial-ecuador_eng.htm

Evaluation instruments for the program were also received during this period. All items indicated that the program had a strong impact on the participants. Tables 1 and 2 (below) present information on essential aspects of the program in an ascending scale from 1 to 5

Table 1
Evaluation of modules 1 to 5

Essential Aspects	1	2	3	4	5
Course content	0.7%	1.5%	6.4%	27.6%	63.8%
Relevance of course to national circumstances	2.7%	6.4%	21%	33.2%	36.7%
Usefulness of course for participant's work	1.4%	4.7%	8.6%	25.3%	60%
Usefulness of course for understanding adversarial system	1%	1.5%	6.2%	21.2%	70.1%

Table 2
Evaluation of modules 6 to 10

Essential Aspects	1	2	3	4	5
Course content	1%	1.1%	4.8%	23.9%	69.2%
Relevance of course to national circumstances			16.7%	33.8%	41.9%
Usefulness of course for participant's work		2%	9.3%	21.1%	65.9%
Usefulness of course for understanding adversarial system			3.2%	21.1%	73.9%

As can be appreciated, 80 and 90% of the participants expressed great satisfaction with the program (when adding numbers 4 and 5) in each area.

Similar figures are observed regarding evaluation of teaching staff. Table 3 contains evaluations for modules 1 to 5, and Table 4 for modules 6 to 10.

Table 3 A – Instructor Evaluation
Andrés Baytelman: Modules 1 to 5

Organization of presentations	1.1%	0.7%	9.1%	32.5%	56.6%	100%
Clarity of information	1.1%	1.5%	11.2%	36.1%	50.1%	100%
Relationship with group	1.5%	0.4%	9.3%	32.6%	56.2%	100%

Table 3 B - Instructor Evaluation

Mauricio Duce: Modules 1 to 5

Organization of presentations	1.1%	1.3%	7.3%	32.8%	57.5%	100%
Clarity of information	1.1%	2.6%	9.3%	33.9%	53.1%	100%
Relationship with group	0.9%	2.6%	8.9%	30.7%	57.6%	100%

Table 3 C – Instructor Evaluation

Leonardo Moreno: Modules 1 to 5

Organization of presentations	0.7%	1.7%	5.9%	26.6%	65.1%	100%
Clarity of information	0.4%	2.2%	7.7%	27.9%	61.8%	100%
Relationship with group	0.7%	2.7%	7.2%	24.3%	65.1%	100%

Table 3 D – Instructor Evaluation

Rodrigo de la Barra: Modules 1 to 5

Organization of presentations	1.1%	3.1%	15.9%	40.0%	40.0%	100%
Clarity of information	0.9%	3.9%	18.5%	40.1%	36.6%	100%
Relationship with group	1.3%	3.4%	14.5%	38.7%	42.1%	100%

Table 4

Instructor Evaluation: Modules 6 to 10

Evaluation of tasks carried out by instructors							
Instructor Andrés Baytelman			1	2	3	4	5
	Organization of presentations		0.8%	1.5%	5.6%	34.7%	57.4%
	Clarity of information		0.8%	1.5%	9.2%	36%	52.5%
	Relationship with group		1.3%	1.5%	7.20%	26%	64%
Instructor Mauricio Duce			1	2	3	4	5
	Organization of presentations		1%	1%	6%	28%	64%
	Clarity of information		1.5%	1%	8.5%	35%	54%
	Relationship with group		1.5%	0.8%	5.5%	28.7%	63.5%
Instructor Rodrigo de la Barra			1	2	3	4	5
	Organization of presentations		0.8%	1.3%	9.6%	36.6%	51.7%
	Clarity of information		1.4%	0.9%	12.3%	38%	47.4%
	Relationship with group		1.3%	1%	8.7%	34%	55%
Instructor Alberto Gras			1	2	3	4	5
	Organization of presentations		1.7%	3.8%	16.4%	32.6%	45.5%
	Clarity of information		2.1%	4.6%	16%	32.8%	44.5%
	Relationship with group		2.2%	3.1%	12.7%	31%	51%

B. Participation of the *I Latin American Workshop-Convention on Criminal Procedural Law: “Criminal Justice Reform in Peru”* and *“Conferences in the High Court of the Department of Freedom,”* held November 20-21 in Trujillo, Peru.

In November, the coordinator of the training area, Mauricio Duce, took part in an activity held in the city of Trujillo, Peru. Approximately 90 people participated in the event, the objective of which was to present the “Huanchaco Project,” a Criminal Procedural Code proposal drafted by civil society organizations in the aforementioned country. The goal of the project is to promote criminal procedure reform in Peru. The visit was also used to organize meetings with magistrates in Trujillo in the High Court, where a seminar entitled “The Criminal procedure reform Process in Chile: State of a Reform in Progress” was presented.

During the Convention Mr. Duce participated in a panel during the seminar entitled “Presentation of the Huanchaco Project.” He also took part in the panel “The Public Prosecutor’s Office and Criminal Procedure Reform: Latin American Experiences” with a presentation on: “The PPO in Criminal Procedure Reform: Problems and Perspectives.”

Finally, on the morning of the 21 of November, Mr. Duce took part in a forum in Trujillo with judges, prosecutors, and approximately 60 participants.

C. Participation in the “VII National Conference on Judicial Training and First Meeting of Supreme Court Representatives from the Southern Cone responsible for the Area of Judicial Training.” JSCA sponsored this activity, which included the participation of Inés Marensi.

The event was carried out October 15-17 2003 in San Salvador de Jujuy, Argentina, and included conferences, panel discussions, and round-table discussions. These last dealt with the following issues: I) Problems and Needs of the Judicial Branch; II) Human Resources; III) Evaluation of Results – Training in the Justice Service; and IV) Integration and Communication between Training Schools.

JSCA and representatives from the Southern Cone High and Superior Courts took part in the panel discussion on Training and the Judicial Career entitled: “*Justice Systems in South America and Judicial Training Models implemented in the Region.*”

Copies of the presentations made at this event are available at: <http://www.justiciajujuy.gov.ar/escuela1.htm>

2.1.3 Requests for Training

I.- Improving Practices in Trujillo:

Work groups which took part in the elaboration of the Huanchaco Project are interested in receiving technical assistance from JSCA in the area of litigation in oral trials in order to improve practices in the system and introduce oral adversarial trials (even before reform is made to their legal code). The groups are preparing a project so that the Higher Court of the Department of Freedom can formally request JSCA’s technical assistance. A formal proposal has yet to be received.

II.- INECIP – CHUBUT

The Institute for Comparative Studies in the Criminal and Social Sciences (INECIP) in Buenos Aires and prosecutors in Chubut have requested that JSCA carry out a training course in litigation skills for oral trials. JSCA has proposed a course with the objective of providing the necessary tools for successfully implementing the adversarial system proposed by criminal procedure reform. Participants will be provided with the tools they will need to develop a litigation methodology for hearings in an adversarial system and to better understand the logic of such a system. The program will run from March 3 to March 6 2004. Each session will last nine hours (three hours on the Saturday), for a total of 30 hours of work; the Saturday session will be cancelled if course objectives are met during the week. The course will have 30 participants who will be called to take part by INECIP and the *Ministerio Público* (Public Prosecutor's Office) of the Province of Chubut.

The make-up of the student body will be as follows:

- 10 persons from the "central command" of INECIP;
- 10 persons from the *Ministerio Público* of the Province of Chubut;
- 10 persons from other provinces who will be invited by INECIP.

III.- Ecuador, *Ministerio Público*

As a result of the success of the training program in Ecuador during 2003, the *Ministerio Público* has requested that JSCA carry out a program using materials already developed that will allow 150 prosecutors who could not take part in the 2003 program to receive training.

A proposal is being drafted and will be discussed with the Ecuadorian *Ministerio Público*.

2.1.4 *Virtual Forum*

During the week of the 24 to 28 of November, two discussions were held via a virtual "chat" chaired by Juan Enrique Vargas (Tuesday 25 from 3-5 p.m.) and Alberto Binder (Friday 28 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.). The content of both discussions can be accessed via the JSCA Website by clicking on "Training" and "Forum."

The forums were based on the document "*Information at the Service of the Judicial Branch: Information Systems and Judicial Institutions in the Context of Judicial Reform*," written by Alberto Binder, Cristián Riego and Juan Enrique Vargas. The full text of the document is available on the institution's website at <http://www.cejamericas.org/documentos/ceja-jueces-informacion.pdf>.

Publicity for this event included a banner and an article on the JSCA website; invitations sent out to the institutional mailing list; and an ad in the November 2003 Nexus Newsletter.

Of the twenty participants who subscribed to the discussion, fifteen people actually took part from the following countries: Argentina, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Peru. Participants belonged to different organizations, including the judicial branch, NGOs, Ministries of Justice, Public Defender's Offices, the Magistrate's Academy, Public Prosecutor's Offices and universities.

When evaluating the activities carried out, it was observed that very few countries had actually taken part, which led to the conclusion that there is a need to improve dissemination mechanisms in order to attract participants from other countries. Also, technological problems with the “chats” need to be resolved so as to obtain more fluid dialogue.

The following proposals were outlined:

- a. Three monthly synchronized forums will be organized around specific questions followed by a “chat” session based on the questions that arise. This format will promote interaction between participants and enrich the overall debate.
- b. Four virtual forums will be carried out during 2004 in the months of March, June, September and December.
- c. We will use the platform provided by the *Sistemas judiciales* journal to advertise the forums and prolong discussions of key issues.

2.1.5 Design of WBI Training Courses in Six Latin American countries

JSCA and the World Bank Institute (acting as partners) will implement the “Judicial Reform for Improving Governance in Latin America Distance Learning Courses.” The forerunner for these courses took place last year and was entitled “*Legal and Judicial Reform and Control of Corruption in Latin America and the Caribbean.*”

The purpose of the courses will be to contribute to reform process throughout the region and place special emphasis on the problem of corruption. The courses will be undertaken simultaneously in six countries and will be feature two stages. The first will take place between mid-April and June 2004; the second stage will take place in June.

The beneficiary countries are: Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela.

Implementation of the course will require hiring various professionals including a facilitator for each country; eight experts who will present cases studies, and eight experts who will draw up and present the conceptual framework of each module.

JSCA and WBI will produce and publish theoretical and teaching material folders to each country so that the facilitators can distribute them to course participants, which will allow them to make an in-depth study of the issues to be discussed.

The course methodology is as follows: each country will have a facilitator who will be involved with the registration and attendance of 20 - 35 participants and will carry out control tasks to this effect. This professional will also be in charge of implementing the six modules, coordinating videoconferences, and drafting a report on each session for JSCA. The facilitator will also distribute teaching materials to the participants.

Classes will be taught simultaneously via videoconference, and there will be one session per module..

Each module and the theoretical class taught by the expert will focus on an issue to be presented via case studies that will be explained by experts brought in for this purpose. Each module will be taught on the basis of a conceptual framework, which will be provided by an instructor hired for this purpose.

The course is aimed at middle- and high- ranking members of government organizations, as well as civil society organizations that work on projects linked to governance and the fight against corruption.

The eight modules will deal with the following topics:

- i. Improving governance in Latin America through the justice sector.
- ii. Creating an independent judicial branch: Basic elements and ensuring accountability
- iii. Has criminal procedure reform led to greater respect for human rights? Lessons learned and their meaning for civil organizations
- iv. Approaches to preventing members of society's elite from dominating the judicial career
- v. Promoting more equitable and effective access to justice
- vi. The judicial system's role in controlling corruption?
- vii. Preparation of plans of action and program outlines
- viii. Summary of the course and presentation of Action Plan.

JSCA will recruit professionals who will be able to carry out the tasks associated with the positions of facilitator, case study expert, and instructor; each hire will, however, be subject to WBI approval.

A timetable has been set for tasks to be carried out. JSCA began contacting facilitators in December 2003 in order to present candidates to WBI for approval in mid-January.

2.1.6 Internships

Evaluation instruments to be completed both by the interns and those in charge of the program were designed in order to improve the internship program.

Various meetings were held during which it was decided that interns who work at JSCA for less than three months will submit a mid-term evaluation. A questionnaire will be issued to the intern during his or her sixth week or work, which will be completed and submitted to the Training Area Coordinator. The coordinator will compile the information gathered (in virtual and material format) and meet with the heads of each area on the evaluation results in order to resolve any problems associated with the intern's work and ensure that each internship is a highly useful and satisfying experience for both the intern and JSCA

Final evaluations will continue to be submitted by all interns when they finish their programs. It should be noted that different forms are provided to paid and pro-bono interns.

All evaluation instruments have been translated into English and both versions are available in the "Internship Program" folder (located in the "shared" folder of the "Cejaserver" which is accessed via the Internet).

The folder contains guidelines for department heads that have interns working under them that clearly establish the responsibilities of the person in charge of the intern and the training area coordinator.

Model letters were also created for area heads so that they may leave a record of work carried out by the intern.

Monthly meetings between the Training Area Coordinator and the different heads of department were established in order to supervise the interns and prepare a list of the tasks that they will carry out while they are working at JSCA.

A set of guidelines for area heads has also been created so that staff will know what is expected of them when they are asked to supervise an intern.

Lastly, contacts were set up with the University of Chile and the Catholic University in order to set up an agreement by which foreign students who are temporarily staying in Chile can hold Pro-Bono Internships at JSCA.

Michael Hardin, Luciana Molinari, Kathryn Tucker, and Siria Oliva submitted mid-term evaluations in November.

Training area staff stated that they believe that this instrument allows them to modify certain aspects of work carried out by interns and for the person in question to be more satisfied.

During this quarter, three Pro-bono interns completed their work at JSCA; they are: María Mercedes Barrios, Lee Douglas and Mike Hardin.

JSCA also received an offer from Georgetown University and selected five candidates from a pool of fifteen finalists who will have the opportunity to hold an internship at the Center.

2.1.7 Virtual Contacts

Two important achievements have been made in promoting contacts made by people who want to know more about activities carried out in this area. First, a reply form was created for inquiries about the internship program. A directory is being created so that staff can contact possible participants about activities in this area or the rest of the Center.

Second, an e-mail address was created (capacitacion@cejamericas.org) so that the coordinator and area assistant can be directly contacted by those seeking help or advice.

2.1.8 Network Activities

a) Network of Civil Society Organizations (CSO Network)

During this trimester we have continued to gather information about network members in order to create a “Tool Box,” a product that the members agreed to create during the annual meeting held in April in Rio de Janeiro. We are also preparing the Third Annual Meeting of the Network to be held in Mexico City in May 2004. The topics to be discussed include: “*Citizens’ Control and Participation in Favor of Justice System Transparency*” and “*Justice System Reform in Mexico.*”

InfoRed Newsletter

During the last quarter of 2003, the bimonthly October-November (7) and December-January (8) issues of the newsletter were produced. Subscribers are limited to representatives of the 31 civil society organizations that make up the network.

In order to increase readership, we have begun to publicize the publication in the Nexus Newsletter and will create a permanent link to the organization on the front page of the JSCA website. In turn, and in relation to the content of this publication, topic-based editions were focused on “*Gender, Justice and the Participation of Organizations from Civil Society in Summits and Meetings*” and other topics.

A news section including briefs submitted by the government or copied from the JSCA Website has been added to OSC page.

b) Network of Public Defender’s Offices

JSCA is one of the institutions currently working on organizing conferences for the creation of the “*Inter-American Association of Public Defender’s Offices.*” The Second Inter-American Conference of Public Defender’s Offices was held on October 15-17 2003 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. JSCA participated, and Executive Director Juan Enrique Vargas offered a presentation. One of JSCA’s objectives in this event was to facilitate the participation of representatives of public defenders and legal aid offices from countries in the English-speaking Caribbean.

An Association of Public Defenders that brings together institutions and defense associations at country level was established during the event and a directorial committee chaired by Uruguay with Chile acting as secretary was formed. It was also agreed that the next meeting will be held in Uruguay.

c) Ibero American Association of Public Ministries

A Special General Assembly of the Ibero American Public Ministries was organized in Quito, Ecuador. The Executive Director of JSCA, Juan Enrique Vargas, took part in this event and presented the results of the follow-up project.

d) Judicial Branches

The *XIII Summit of Supreme Court Chief Justices from Central America, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Mexico* was held November 26-28.

JSCA took part in this event as co-sponsor and observer, and Executive Director Juan Enrique Vargas presented the results of the follow-up project. JSCA was thanked for the support it has given to the institution during the Resolutions that were read at the end of the event. For example, Resolution 1 states: *“I would like to thank the Justice Studies Center of the Americas (JSCA) for the support it has given during the whole judicial reform process to Judicial Systems throughout the region, especially as regards processes for criminal reform procedures, the promotion of offices and the setting up of a reliable and updated judicial statistics system. To accept JSCA’s offer to organize and direct a regional program, aiming to complete a type of statistical system that would allow players to take decisions, in an endeavor to make available the structural reforms of judicial systems so as to achieve efficiency and effectiveness of actions, taking into account the conclusions reached in the First Inter-American Statistics Workshop, which took place in Tegucigalpa from the 17 to 19 of November 2003.”*

Apart from Resolution 1, JSCA was asked to set up a research project. The official Resolutions state that *“JSCA has been asked to carry out a study of the reach of the principle of gratuity in justice in order to strengthen proposals and improve services without endangering access to justice.”*

Also as a result of this activity, on the 3 of December attorney Daniel González Davila, Head of the National and International Public Relations Unit of the Federation Judicial Branch, belonging to Mexico’s Supreme Court of Justice, sent a letter of thanks to JSCA for the institution’s active participation in the organization of the aforementioned event. Mr. González Davila also underscored the importance of JSCA’s presentation in terms of the conclusions of the Follow-up Report on Criminal Procedure Reform.

2.2. Events Organized, Sponsored, or Attended by JSCA.

a) Events Organized by JSCA.

- The Inter-American Seminar on Gender and Justice, which was organized by JSCA and GTZ, was held November 12-13 in Viña del Mar, Chile. The seminar dealt with two issues: the impetus of judicial reform in the region’s countries, and the inclusion of gender perspectives in the design and implementation of public policies in this area. Participants identified a need to find ways of incorporating the issue of gender into the important efforts being made by to improve our countries’ justice systems.

Other topics discussed at the event included: Women’s Participation in Justice Systems; Women’s Access to Justice; Gender and Criminal Justice; Civil Society, Gender and Justice; and Women’s Rights Tribunals.

150 participants from 24 countries around the region attended the event, including representatives from non-governmental organizations, justice institutions, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), the United Nations Latin American Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (ILANUD), and international

cooperation agencies, all of whom contributed to a significant discussion based on the information presented.

A special web page was created for the event (<http://www.cejamericas.org/eventos/evento.phtml?idioma=espanol&evento=14>), which offers information on the issues discussed during the seminar, as well as the presentations offered and final conclusions.

The inauguration of the event, which was held in the Chilean National Congress, received some coverage by the press. It was filmed and broadcast on the Senate's cable TV channel and included on the Congress website. The seminar itself, which took place in the Conference Town Hotel in the neighboring resort of Reñaca, attracted the attention of regional television, the Valparaíso *El Mercurio* newspaper, which interviewed some delegates, and the National TV Network Channel 7, which also conducted interviews.

It is also worth noting that the Minister of Public Prosecution of Ecuador's Public Ministry, Dr. Mariana Yépez de Velasco, sent a letter of congratulations to JSCA for the organization and implementation of the Inter-American Seminar on Gender and Justice on December 9. She also expressed her satisfaction and gratitude for having been invited to participate in the seminar as a panelist. Lastly, and in view of the importance of the issue throughout the region, the Minister expressed her hopes that the activity would be repeated in the future.

b) Events Sponsored by JSCA

- The XV Latin-American, VII Ibero-American, and XI National Conferences on Criminal Law and Criminology were held October 1-4 2003 in Cordoba, Argentina. The events were organized by the National University of Cordoba and the Institute for Comparative Studies in the Criminal and Social Sciences (INECIP Cordoba), and sponsored by JSCA. During the event, the Executive Director of JSCA, Juan Enrique Vargas, gave a presentation.
- The II National Meeting on Judicial Administration was held November 20-21 in Brasilia, Brazil and featured JSCA's participation through Luis Paulino Mora, who gave a talk on judicial independence, and Juan Enrique Vargas, who gave a talk on judicial reform in the Americas. The event, which was organized jointly by JSCA and the Federal Supreme Court of Brazil, attracted quite a lot of media attention. An interview with JSCA's executive director was published on November 24.

c) Events in which JSCA Participated.

- The International Conference on Judicial Ethics was held October 2 in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The event was organized by the Federal Board of Provincial Supreme Courts, an organizing commission that included the President and Secretary of the Board, the President of the Association of Judges and Staff of the National Judiciary, the President of the Argentine Magistrates Federation, the President of the Public College of Attorneys of the Federal Capital, the President of the Argentine Federation of Attorneys Colleges, and

the Dean of the University of Buenos Aires Law Faculty. Juan Enrique Vargas took part in the event as a panelist.

- An international forum on transparency in justice was held November 9-10 in Mexico City. Juan Enrique Vargas took part in the event and presented a paper on how public justice affects confidence in the judicial branch, economic development, and the rule of law.

An interview with Mr. Vargas was published in *Reforma de México* shortly after the event.

- The Second Biannual Meeting of Judicial Educators was held November 30 to December 5 in the city of Castries, Santa Lucia. The focus of the event was the need for judicial education from a Caribbean perspective; judicial education to support judicial reform, and the needs of judicial education from an Asian perspective. The academic director of JSCA, Cristián Riego, and consultant Andrés Baytelman, took part in this event.

3. To conduct in-depth studies of the region's justice systems and promote innovative contributions to discussions of judicial reform.

3.1 Follow-up on and Support for Criminal Procedure Reforms.

Impact indicator	Result
That a broad regional and local debate produced as a result of the studies we have carried out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Results of follow-up studies have been presented in different events throughout 2003.
That these studies motivate initiatives to be implemented in countries throughout the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chile: a new law is being studied that proposes changes to the current criminal procedural system. Also, at the end of 2003 a Committee of Experts was set up to analyze the progress of the implementation of criminal procedure reform in the country. • Ecuador: A consultancy was sought from JSCA to analyze eventual legal reforms, the setting up of an Inter-institutional coordination Commission, and a plan bid for reform implementation. • Costa Rica: the Supreme Court of Justice, following JSCA advice, will analyze the possibility of introducing reforms so as to make the investigation stage oral. • Based on the follow-up study, work began to implement a study on gender and reforms to criminal procedural justice, attempting to establish the impact of reforms in the area of gender.
That local financial resources are contributed to carry out these studies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funds supplied by the Brazilian government are helping to develop a project on racial discrimination and justice administration. • Discussions related to study results carried out in Cordoba have been locally financed.

Third Stage of the Project:

This stage of the study is being implemented in Bolivia (with the Center for Justice Studies, CEJIP, a Bolivian organization that forms part of the CSO Network); Honduras (with FESPAD/CEPES, a Salvadoran organization and member of the CSO Network that implemented the second stage of the study in El Salvador), and in the Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina (with the Center for Legal and Social Studies, CELS, also a CSO Network member). In October Nicaragua was incorporated (together with the Central American University, UCA), and a preliminary study was begun on the operation of the criminal justice system in Barbados, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the Jurisdiction of the Eastern Caribbean.

Once observation of trials concluded, visits were made to supervise local teams in Buenos Aires and Bolivia.

The comparative results of the third stage will be presented in each country in March 2004 and at the Inter-American Seminar to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in April 2004.

General Impact of the Project

- In Mexico, JSCA was awarded a contract by the European Union and the Federal Government of Mexico in November for a project presented together with the German Technical Cooperation organization (GTZ), Garrigues and Estratel. The project involves implementing a variety of activities related to justice reform in the aforementioned country.
- In Costa Rica, the Supreme Court of Justice is analyzing the possibility of introducing oral reforms at the investigation stage, as proposed by JSCA.
- JSCA took part in the Latin American Workshop on Criminal Procedure Law: Reform to Criminal Justice in Peru, which was held November 20-21, and in the Seminar on the New Criminal Procedure Code December 3-5. The conclusions of the follow-up study were presented at both events.
- A Committee of Experts was formed in Chile to analyze the progress made by criminal procedure reform implementation.
- Additionally, JSCA presented the results of the study at the following events:
 - XIII Summit of Supreme Court Chief Justices from Central America, Panama, the Dominican Republic and Mexico, which took place in Santo Domingo between the November 26-28, and to which JSCA was officially invited as observer.
 - JSCA’s Executive Director took part in a presentation during the Extraordinary General Assembly of the Association of Public Ministries, in Quito, Ecuador on December 4-5.
 - JSCA took part in the seminar “Towards a New Criminal Procedure Code,” which was organized by the local Ministry of Justice and GTZ and held in Lima, Peru on December 3-5.

3.2 Gender and Criminal Procedure Reform:

Impact Indicator	Result
That a broad regional and local debate is generated on the basis the studies we have carried out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The results of the follow-up study have led to an intensification of evaluations carried out on reform processes, leading to a debate in respect of sensitive issues such as sexual abuse and the treatment these systems offer in terms of gender. • The dissemination of preliminary results of the study in Chile, which have already been presented in at least three events where JSCA took part.

That initiatives motivated by these studies are implemented in the region's countries.

- As a result of the follow-up study, a study on gender and reforms to the criminal procedure system began to be implemented, aiming to establish the impact of reforms in the area of gender.

The investigative stage of this project, which received financial support from the Flora and William Hewlett Foundation and the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), has concluded in Chile and a final version of the report is due in January 2004.

The study coordinator and international evaluator perfected the information gathering guidelines in October. The guidelines were discussed with local teams so that modifications could be made in each country.

Local teams in Guatemala, Honduras and Ecuador began gathering normative and statistical information and analyzing jurisprudence in October. The teams are currently processing of the information, which has been delivered to JSCA on an ongoing basis. The interview stage and drafting of local reports began in late December.

The results obtained of the Chilean study were presented at a seminar organized by the National Women's Service (SERNAM) and held in Santiago on October 22. The event featured a discussion of the impact of criminal procedure reforms on women's rights. The study was also presented in the Inter-American Seminar on Gender and Justice that organized by JSCA and GTZ and held in Viña del Mar on November 12 and 13.

The event was attended by local experts and the coordinator and academic advisor used the opportunity to bring the entire team together in order to clear up any doubts and verify the progress made in each country.

3.3. Women's Rights Tribunals.

Indicator	Result
That a broad regional and local debate is generated, founded on the studies we have carried out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the Seminar held in Viña del Mar, more than 150 people from 24 countries around the region took part, with an extensive debate taking place regarding the products presented by JSCA • In the workshop carried out on said occasion, more than 40 NGOs, from 20 countries around the region, discussed the presented Guide as a useful tool for recognizing women's rights.
That local finance is contributed so as to carry out such studies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GTZ is studying the possibility of repeating the seminar, so as to continue discussion of those points left pending at Viña.

JSCA is developing a project with financing from GTZ that is aimed at assessing the legal and judicial effects of Women's Rights Tribunals women's human rights, especially in the Chilean context.

The products associated with this project are an evaluation of the Chilean experience, a Guide to Women's Tribunals (both of which were produced by Lidia Casas, from UDP/JSCA, and Natacha Molina), and a regional workshop aimed at disseminating and discussing the guide organized by JSCA and GTZ.

Both the evaluation and the Guide were published in print and electronic format in November 2003 in Spanish and English and are available on the institution's Website (www.cejamericas.org). The workshop, which featured the participation of representatives from

more than forty organizations from 20 countries around the region, was organized in the context of the Inter-American Seminar on Gender and Justice in Viña del Mar.

As a result of this workshop, GTZ evaluated the possibility of carrying out a regional Women's Rights Tribunal and implementing research projects on gender and justice in the region that would be run by JSCA and aimed at conducting in-depth research on some of the issues that were introduced during the seminar and the workshop.

More information on both events can be found on the JSCA website.

3.4. Judicial Statistics

Indicators:	Results:
That justice sector institutions in countries throughout the region adopt instruments that we have developed so as to improve their information systems	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Those responsible for Judicial Statistics in four Central American countries and one from North America, have agreed to generate information for 14 indicators included and defined in the Code and Decode Manual drafted by JSCA. 2. The manual is being used as a reference guide for establishing an information system in the Dominican Republic.
That information we provide on the performance of the justice sector is used to carry out extensive research or to take decisions within said sector	The process of information systematization is being concluded, so as to be disseminated according to academic presentation standards and procedures.

Three main activities took place in the area of judicial statistics during the last quarter of 2003: an implementation team was formed and the second part of the Judicial Indicators and Statistics Project began. The first step of this stage is launching the systematization process for statistical information on judicial systems in the 34 member countries of the OAS. It will lead to the dissemination of instruments designed by JSCA to improve information in justice systems around the region.

I. Formation of Project Implementation Team

A team that will be charged with the task of implementing the Second Phase of the Generation of Judicial Indicators and Statistics Project was formed during this quarter. The two countries that gathered information in 2002 (Argentina and the Dominican Republic) are now joined by Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, and soon Belize. The experts who will be charged with compiling information for the first five countries were selected, and Mr. Santos Pastor Prieto joined the project team as International Expert.

II. Systematization of Statistical Information

The process of systematizing the statistical information generated by justice systems around the region began in October 2003. This information was gathered through a variety of JSCA projects that were implemented in 2003. At present the process of systematizing publicly available information is concluding, and the goal is to provide complete statistical information for 2000.

Once the information systematization process has finished (estimated for the end of the first week in January 2004) the statistics will be published on the JSCA website.

III. Dissemination of Instruments

During the last quarter of 2003 two events took place that gave JSCA an opportunity to disseminate the instruments it had designed for improving statistical information systems of judicial branches in the region. The first was the Ibero-American Workshop on Judicial Statistics, which was held November 19-21 in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. The workshop was organized the Pro Tempore Secretary of the IV Ibero-American Meeting of Judicial Councils and the VII Ibero-American Summit of Supreme Court Presidents and Higher Justice Tribunals. Individuals responsible for judicial statistics in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama took part in the event, the main objectives of which were:

- To draft an analysis of the situation of judicial statistics at Ibero-American level.
- To give impetus to Statistical Technical Unites.
- To draft a document containing the minimum and appropriate support and structural materials for the correct operation of a statistical system.
- To draft a proposal for establishing a statistical system at Ibero-American level that enables the implementation and strengthening of national statistical systems, and encourages the exchange of information.

In relation to the instruments designed by JSCA, the prospect of obtaining information from indicators in the Coding and Decoding Manual was analyzed. Participants agreed to generate data for 14 indicators, but only after receiving approval for the agreement from the Chief Justices of the Supreme Courts in question.

The second event was a Workshop and Roundtable discussion entitled “Information at the Service of Judicial Governance,” which took place in Buenos Aires on the 11 and 12 of December. Individuals responsible for gathering judicial statistics in each of the country’s 23 provinces took part in this event, which were co organized by JSCA, Argentina Justicia (ARGENJUS) and the Federal Board of Courts and Supreme Tribunals of the Argentine Provinces (JUFEJUS). The general objectives of the workshop were:

- To evaluate the operation of the Agreement on Information Systems for the Argentinean Judiciary, which was signed by the country’s judicial branches on September 10 2001 and to guarantee its proper and progressive operation.
- To hold a debate on the “Coding and Decoding” Manual in order to generate, gather, disseminate, and coordinate judicial statistics and indicators produced by JSCA and decide on their possible application to justice systems throughout Argentina.

In relation to instruments designed by JSCA, during the workshop the feasibility of collecting information for the indicators that is contained in the Coding and Decoding Manual, the availability of information for these indicators in sources that are different to those of judicial

systems, and the design of our own instruments for a Judicial Statistics Information System based on the products outlined in the manual, were all discussed.

3.5. Access to Judicial Information

The Ford Foundation Southern Cone Office’s Program on Citizenship and Human Rights for the approved a project on “Access to Judicial Information” in June of 2003. JSCA and the Office for the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Expression of the Inter-American Human Rights Commission have developed the project in Argentina, Chile and Peru. Teams in Peru and Argentina have already gathered the information that they need for information gathering guidelines that refer to analysis of the normative system and will begin to work on information related to day-to-day practices related to access judicial information in each of the countries concerned.

Supervisory visits were made to each country in December. In Chile, the responsibility for this study falls to the JSCA Research Area.

3.6. Research on Racial Discrimination in the Administration of Justice.

Impact indicator	Result
That local financial sources are located to carry out this research	A project on racial discrimination and justice administration is being developed using funds provided by the Brazilian government..

JSCA has been working on a study of institutionalized racial discrimination within the justice system, with funds provided by the Brazilian government since September 2003. Similar studies are taking place in Brazil, Colombia, Peru and the Dominican Republic.

During the last quarter of 2003, observation visits were made to the aforementioned countries. Brazil and Colombia were visited in October and Peru and the Dominican Republic in November and December respectively.

Once the information gathering stage has been completed, work will begin on a report that is expected to be finalized in March 2004. From then on JSCA will concentrate on disseminating the report, mainly through its publications and website.