

## **THE MINERVA PROGRAM: PARTICIPANT SELECTION PROCESS**

Participants in the Minerva Program, a sixteen-week specialized training program in market economics for Latin American officials, are chosen through a rigorous screening process. The program draws participants from all levels of government and industry.

Candidates must possess a Bachelor's degree, at least five years of professional experience, command of oral and written English, and potential for superior performance in their chosen career paths. The typical candidate is between 30 and 40 years of age.

Interested candidates should contact Kevin Kellbach, Administrative Director at the Center for Latin American Issues ([ibi@gwu.edu](mailto:ibi@gwu.edu); tel. 202-994-5205), to initiate the application process. Candidates are also urged to contact the human resource department of their employers, as some organizations have special arrangements for nominating candidates for the Minerva Program.

Applicants are then carefully screened in an interview with Mr. Kellbach to determine their suitability for the demands of the program. Candidates for the Fall Semester (late August – early December) should apply by March 31; candidates for the Spring Semester (mid-January – late April) should apply by August 31.

The success of the Minerva Program has been evident in the career advancement of the participants. Competitive standards in the admissions process have led to highly qualified program participants, who then return to their home countries with an improved understanding of the roles of both the public- and private-sectors, and with an awareness of the policy measures necessary to promote economic development.