

University of California Office of the President



UC Expands Research Collaborations with Mexico

The University of California has within a span of a few years become the nation's premier academic institution for research on the US-Mexico relationship. These activities are increasingly conducted, thanks to support from the state and the Mexican government, at the large-scale organized research level. Recent institutional agreements have channeled resources to MRUs and campus centers that offer support to faculty and students across the system.

UC MEXUS

The UC Institute on the United States and Mexico (UC MEXUS), the Riverside-based MRU founded in 1980 and directed by Professor Juan-Vicente Palerm, has taken a leadership role in promoting research on Mexico and in developing ties to Mexican agencies and institutions of higher learning. UC MEXUS led UC in initiating an agreement between UC and Mexico's National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT) that now concurrently funds research and training exchanges for hundreds of UC and Mexican students and faculty.

The CONACYT agreement, first signed in 1997 and augmented several times since, has also resulted in a California/Mexico Commission on Education, Science and Technology, which was formally installed at a ceremony in Oakland in April, 2002 attended by UC President Richard C. Atkinson and CONACYT Director General Jaime Parada, as well as distinguished faculty from both countries. This new commission will identify ways that science and technology can serve the public interest in Mexico and the US, as well as facilitate the exchange of concepts, models and technology across borders. Areas of particular concern for the Commission will be agriculture, biotechnology, rural development, health and the human genome, information technology, manufacturing—and how all of the above can

serve to improve social justice and bring economic development.

Recognizing the importance of the California-Mexico relationship, the governor authorized, in 2000, a \$5 million annual appropriation to UC to support these enhanced activities. Although UC MEXUS administers the bulk of this funding, offering a number of research grant programs (see the unit's website at www.ucmexus.ucr.edu) other research programs have also expanded operations in order to meet this need.

Chicago and Houston to the role of co-nationals in learning among immigrant students, transborder health care for Mixtec Indian migrants, and building cross-border labor union support for regional immigration policies. The CCIS, founded in 1999, is also carrying out a major research project that compares the US experience with immigration from Mexico in light of immigration control efforts in 11 other industrialized nations. The Center for US Mexican Studies, now in its 22nd year, continues to engage in long term collaborative research. It recently launched a project on reforming the administration of justice in Mexico, and another on transborder aquifer research management (with a focus on the Salton Sea), in conjunction with Mexico's Centro de Investigaciones Superiores en Antropología Social.

The UC Humanities Research Institute, headquartered at Irvine, has begun to explore the human dimensions of this transnational relationship. A series of workshops at Irvine and Oaxaca in 2001 and 2002 on "Reshaping the Americas" is extending these inquiries into the fields of literature, religion, history, political theory and philosophy.

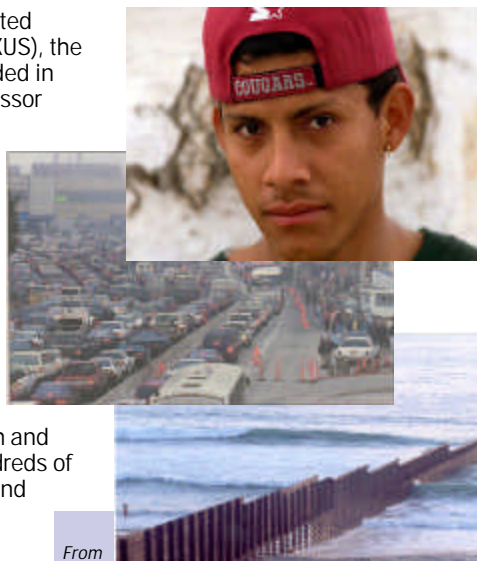
The California Policy Research Center, a systemwide research and public service program at UC, has formed a partnership with Mexico's National Institute for Public Health called the Binational Migrant Health Policy Initiative that seeks to identify policy options to expand health care access and improve the overall health status of Mexican migrants.

Dozens of other collaborative projects at UC San Diego, UC Santa Cruz, the Los Alamos National Lab and other UC centers are seeking solutions for other social and environmental challenges in the region. Governor Davis has placed a high priority on state relations with Mexico and continues to entrust UC with meeting the academic and research needs of this new relationship.

New Research Exchange Fellowships

UC MEXUS and Mexico's National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) have announced several new research exchange opportunities in the sciences, social sciences and humanities. These are the "Opportunities for Mexican and UC Faculty Visits" program, the "Post-doctoral Research Opportunities" program (for recent Mexican PhDs at UC campuses and recent UC PhDs at Mexican institutions) and the "Opportunities for Sabbatical Stays for Distinguished UC and Mexican Researchers" program. Established under the 1997 UC-CONACYT agreement, the primary objective of the programs is to advance academic exchange among emerging and established Mexican researchers and their counterparts at UC. Each program offers stipends for extended stays at UC and Mexican institutions, travel allowances and health insurance for the 2002-03 academic year. The deadline for application is July 1, 2002. For more information and application forms see ucmexus.ucr.edu/funding/.

Visit our website at:
www.ucop.edu/research/



From top: Young migrant (photo by Mark Harrison, Seattle Times.) Cars waiting to cross US border at Tijuana; barrier fence extending into the Pacific at US-Mexican border near San Ysidro. Photos courtesy of Wayne Cornelius.

Other Initiatives

The UC San Diego-based Center for US-Mexican Studies and Center for Comparative Immigration Studies—both directed by Wayne Cornelius—have joined forces to support a new generation of interdisciplinary research on migration to the US. In 2002-03, the two Centers will jointly host 14 predoctoral and recent postdoctoral research fellows from five UC campuses, as well as other US and Mexican universities, who are conducting innovative research on Mexico-to-US immigration. Their topics range from the political mobilization of Mexican immigrants in

Office of Research Multicampus Research Units



UC Office of the President
1111 Franklin St., 11th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607
fax: 510/987-9456

Carol McClain
Director, Multicampus Research
telephone: 510/987-9473

Dante Noto
Coordinator, Humanities, Arts and Social Science Research
510/987-9446; dante.noto@ucop.edu

Cathie Magowan
Coordinator, Science and Technology Research
510/987-0377; cathie.magowan@ucop.edu

Martin Backstrom
Coordinator, MRU Relations & Pacific Rim Research Program
510/987-0658; martin.backstrom@ucop.edu

Ann Gilbert
Grants Administrator
510/987-9472; ann.gilbert@ucop.edu

Florence Mou
Program Officer, Pacific Rim Research Program
510/987-9910; florence.mou@ucop.edu

Karina Robinson
Program Officer, MRUs and MRPs
510/987-0493; karina.robinson@ucop.edu

Sally Olsen
Administrative Assistant
510/987-0076; sally.olsen@ucop.edu

Staff profile: Karina Robinson, MRU Program Officer

Karina Robinson, program officer for multicampus research units and programs, provides organizational support for such activities as 15-year reviews, conferences, meetings and other research-related special events. She organizes the undergraduate research component of UC Day in Sacramento, and works closely on a wide range of issues with the coordinators of science & technology, and humanities, arts & social science research. Karina came to the Office of Research in 2001, having worked for several years at the UC Berkeley Retirement Center where, among other responsibilities, she taught computer classes for retired UCB and UCOP faculty and staff.

Upcoming Events *meetings and conferences*

California's Undocumented Immigrants and the Driver's License as a Legislative and Labor Struggle. Seminar by Haley Seif, Ph.D. candidate in anthropology, UC Davis. May 29, Center for US-Mexican Studies, UC San Diego.

Women in Contemporary Mexican Politics. Victoria Rodriguez, Vice Provost of Institutional Affairs, University of Texas at Austin. June 5, Center for US-Mexican Studies, UC San Diego

Summer Seminar in U.S. Studies. June 23-August 1. Intensive 6-week training program for graduate students based throughout Mexico and Latin America, sponsored by the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies, UC San Diego.

Chicano Theater Festival 2002: Revisiting the Classics. June 25-30, UCLA. Organized by a consortium of UC theater professors and funded by the UC Institute for Research in the Arts, the festival will present productions and lectures highlighting the Chicano theater since 1965.

**NOW ONLINE! THE UPDATED
GUIDE TO UC MULTICAMPUS RESEARCH UNITS AT:
[HTTP://WWW.UCOP.EDU/RESEARCH/MRU.PDF](http://www.ucop.edu/research/mru.pdf)**

Multicampus Research Unit News and Announcements

ARTS GRANTS ON CALIFORNIA-MEXICAN CULTURAL INTERACTIONS
The Institute for Research in the Arts, a UCLA-based MRU, recently funded a number of innovative arts projects that explore aspects of California-Mexico traditions. Rita Gonzalez's "Teatro Millón" video project will present a history of Los Angeles's Million Dollar Theater, the longstanding downtown venue for Mexican variety shows, or *variedades*, that began back in the 1950s. It will focus on the Latino/a audience's reception of the shows presented there, and will collect testimonials of Angelenos who experienced the historical theater first-hand. John Caldwell's film "Rancho California (por favor)" will document migrant camps of indigenous Mixteco workers that coexist with nearby gated designer home enclaves in Carlsbad, Del Mar and elsewhere. It will show a carefully cultivated racial identity on the landscape of California's new "plantation culture."

LATINO POLICY INSTITUTE'S MEXICAN/MEXICAN AMERICAN DIALOGUE
The UC Latino Policy Institute (LPI) serves as clearinghouse and sponsor of UC-based policy research on leading issues related to California's Latino population. Housed at the California Policy Research Center and funded by the systemwide UC Committee on Latino Research, it will publish, in 2002, a special volume on "California's Latinos: Assets at Risk." The book examines issues of demographics, education, economic participation, health care, criminal justice and civic participation in the state's Latino population. LPI is also convening the "Mexican/Mexican American Dialogue," a bilateral group of university research and policy analysts who are examining issues of concern to the Mexican and Mexican-American communities in the US. The effort is

co-sponsored by the University of Texas, Arlington, and the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México.

CASA DE CALIFORNIA UPDATE
Despite the downturn in the state budget, plans are proceeding to establish the Casa de California in Mexico City. Negotiations are underway, led by UC MEXUS, to purchase a facility to serve the expanding academic, research and public service mission of the university in Mexico. Casa de California, like its counterpart in London, California House, will house an Education Abroad Center, research facilities and a University Relations office for the development of a UC Alumni Association in Mexico. It will also establish links of communication and interaction with the California Technology, Trade and Commerce Agency (CTCA) office in Mexico City.

INTERNET2 CONNECTS UC WITH MEXICO INSTITUTIONS
Students, researchers and faculty at UC and other major universities throughout the US and Mexico are now linked via a high-speed Internet2 interconnection between the California Research and Education Network-2 (CalREN-2) and the advanced Internet in Mexico deployed by Mexico's Corporación Universitaria para el Desarrollo de Internet (CUDI). This connection will allow universities to share powerful instruments and supercomputers, enrich learning through real-time interactions, share medical research, and reach into each others' libraries. UC and CONACYT have agreed to issue a special call for proposals for collaborative research and teaching, using Internet2 technology. For more information on this important binational project, visit the CalREN-2 website at <http://www.cenic.org/CR2.html>.