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March 14, 2013

The Honorable Mark Leno
Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
1020 N Street, Room 553
Sacramento, California 95814

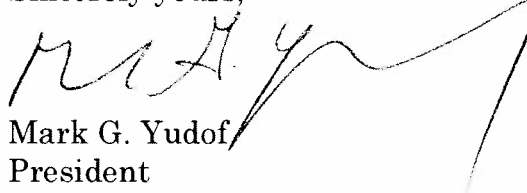
Dear Senator Leno:

Pursuant to Section 92830 of the Education Code, enclosed is the University of California's report to the Legislature on *2012 University of California-Mexico Facility Research and Academic Programs (Casa de California)*.

If you have any questions regarding this report, Associate Vice President Debora Obley would be pleased to speak with you. She can be reached by telephone at (510) 987-9112, or by email at Debora.Obley@ucop.edu.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,



Mark G. Yudof
President

Enclosure

cc: Ms. Peggy Collins, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Ms. Tina McGee, Legislative Analyst's Office
Ms. Amy Leach, Office of the Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Mr. Jim Lasky, Legislative Counsel Bureau
Mr. Gregory Schmidt, Secretary of the Senate
Mr. E. Dotson Wilson, Chief Clerk of the Assembly
Ms. Ana J. Matosantos, Director of Finance
Ms. Sara Swan, Department of Finance
Provost and Executive Vice President Aimée Dorr
Executive Vice President Nathan Brostrom
Chief Financial Officer Peter Taylor
Senior Vice President Dan Dooley
Vice President Patrick Lenz
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez
Associate Vice President Debora Obley
Executive Director Jenny Kao

2012 University of California-Mexico Facility Research and
Academic Programs (Casa de California)

March 2013
Legislative Report



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2012 University of California-Mexico Facility Research and Academic Programs (*Casa de California*)

Introduction

The following report is forwarded in compliance with Section 92830 of the Education Code, which states:

“On or before March 15 of each year, until 2013, the University of California is requested to report to the Legislature on the facility for University of California-Mexico research and academic programs in Mexico City. The report shall include all of the following:

- (a) The amount of state and nonstate funds spent to support the University of California-Mexico facility and the specific use of these funds.
- (b) The amount of state and nonstate funds spent to support University of California-Mexico research and academic programs.
- (c) A description of the different types of research conducted and the programs operated at the facility.”

This report provides information for the 2011-12 fiscal year for the facility in Mexico City and a description of activities and programs operated at the facility.

Background

The University of California-Mexico facility is called *La Casa de la Universidad de California en México*. Acquired in 2003, the facility was envisioned to be a center for collaborative research for the University of California and Mexican research institutions such as Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT, the Mexican equivalent of the NSF). This facility was to provide office and meeting facilities for research faculty and graduate students.

The 2000 Budget Act provided a \$5 million augmentation to the University budget for UC Mexico research for FY 2000-01. The augmentation was to be the first phase of a multi-year effort to expand State support for collaborative research on the critical issues of joint economic interest to California and our international trading partners. It gave the University the opportunity to begin to realize its goal of developing a new physical arrangement for its programs in Mexico, which had first been proposed to The Regents of the University of California in November 1998 and approved in July 2001. With the new augmentation, funds were specifically allocated to support the establishment of a physical presence in Mexico.

However, with the downturn in the State’s economy, funding was reduced over the next several fiscal years rather than increased over a multi-year period as originally planned. By FY 2005-06 with funding reductions the University of California received \$4.1 million for UC Mexico research. Of this amount, \$500,000 was specifically set aside to support a physical “hub” in Mexico City for UC programs at *La Casa de la Universidad de California en México*. This funding was carved out of an allocation made to the UC Institute for Mexico and the United States (UC MEXUS).

In the 2007 Budget Act, the Governor vetoed language that allowed UC to use operating funds to pay for debt service for the UC-Mexico facility and eliminated the \$500,000 in State support for operations and programs at the facility. Because of the importance of a site in Mexico to form an international center to foster educational and research relationships with Mexico, the University has continued to support *Casa*

de California from non-State, University sources. More recently, due to the University's dire economic situation and the very limited extent to which *Casa de California* served as the envisioned hub, *Casa* was tentatively slated to be closed and the property sold. However, because the real estate market in Mexico was not good at that time, as an interim measure the University began leasing space to non-university organizations to help cover the ongoing operating costs.

Given the need for collaboration between California and Mexico on academic, scientific, economic, political, and cultural projects, then Interim Provost Lawrence Pitts from the Office of the President asked for a review of *Casa de California* to explore its future viability in concert with campus based programs and research centers. A systemwide group convened in February 2010 and a proposal was submitted for review. That proposal, which included alumni fundraising and the development of an academic degree program, was deemed infeasible given the lack of state funds to support program development efforts as well as lack of campus funds to invest in the development of new degree programs. Most recently, the University has engaged in a more thorough review of programs across the UC system to determine which UC activities in Mexico could be significantly enhanced by continued ownership of the property.

If the University is unable to develop a viable plan for the property, then it will be sold when the real estate market in Mexico improves.

Expenditures of State and Non-State Funds to Support UC-Mexico Facility

Since the elimination of funding for the UC-Mexico facility in the 2007 Budget Act, no State funds have been provided to support the UC-Mexico facility, operations and programs. Table 1 displays the 2011-2012 actual expenditures from non-State funds (a combination of University sources in addition to rental income) for the facility in Mexico City. In 2011-12 the annual operating budget supported the maintenance of the building and grounds, a local facilities manager who ensures that the property is properly maintained, and a part-time clerical worker (both are employees of *La Casa de la Universidad de California en México, A.C.*, or "Civil Association", the formal organization under which *Casa* operates).

La Casa de la Universidad de California en México does not have assigned faculty or a director. Leadership for the center had in prior years been provided by an Executive Director (50% FTE), who also directed the UC Education Abroad Study Center in Mexico (50% FTE). In 2010-11 the position was no longer funded due to the lack of an academic business plan for use of the facility. Campus and alumni activities outlined below are coordinated and paid for by the sponsors themselves, although local, campus, or Office of the President staff may provide administrative support for specific activities.

2011-12 Academic Programs and Activities

Education Abroad Study Center. *La Casa* houses the UC Education Abroad Program (UCEAP) Study Center in Mexico City. The Study Center is responsible for two academic programs: the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM) Program, and the Field Research Program (FRP). Aside from course work taken on site at the *Casa* facility, the Study Center also provides a venue for supporting activities such as orientation, student presentations, and social events for UC students and their Mexican counterparts.

Enrollments in the last three years have remained fairly stable for the UNAM and Field Research programs, at 35 to 40 total for all programs over the entire academic year (no more than about 15 per semester). These numbers are reduced from previous enrollments due primarily to the ongoing economic problems and concerns about safety in Mexico. UCEAP is working closely with new leadership in the International Office at UNAM to encourage more student engagement.

UNAM Program

The UNAM program takes place during the fall and spring for the duration of one semester. In order to prepare EAP students for the transition to the UNAM and to familiarize them with Mexico City, students take a four-week intensive language course as well as a Contemporary Mexico course at *Casa de California*. During this four-week period the Study Center schedules three one-day trips: two to archeological sites and one to the downtown district or “Centro Histórico”, and to the see National Folkloric Ballet. After completing the intensive four-week program students enroll in regular UNAM courses in close consultation with the UC Faculty Director.

The University of California has a longstanding student exchange agreement with UNAM that has benefited hundreds of students from both universities and has strengthened our relation with Mexico’s most prestigious institution of higher education.

EAP Field Research Program

The FRP is a UC-developed program offered during the fall semester. The program is unique in that it enables students to engage in field research on any subject throughout Mexico under the guidance of an academic mentor from a university in the region where they will be doing their work. Mentors are brought in from the various sites to *Casa de California* to meet and discuss research opportunities with FRP students shortly after they arrive in Mexico.

Students in the program take three preparatory courses at *Casa* upon arrival in Mexico: intensive language, contemporary Mexican history (both with UNAM program students), and a research methodology course. The latter prepares them to do fieldwork and provides them the academic tools for writing the type of long paper expected at a research institution in Mexico. After they complete the three four-week courses, they leave Mexico City to do their fieldwork at assigned research locations. Due to the Department of State Travel Warnings in Mexico, possible research sites have been reduced from a possible eight to only three: Oaxaca, Yucatan, and Chiapas. In the last year, one of our UC students won a national U.S. competition sponsored by the *Forum on Education Abroad* for excellence in research by undergraduates studying abroad.

Research. There are no research programs operated at the *Casa* facility. *Casa* does not receive any research funds, state or non-state, and has not received any funding from UC MEXUS (a UC multi-campus research center which provided funding for operational expenses rather than for research) since FY 2006-07. UCOP provides all of *Casa*’s funding, which is used solely for operational and maintenance costs; no money is assigned for academic programming or for research purposes.

Program Development. As mentioned previously, in 2009 due to the fiscal crisis, *La Casa de la Universidad de California en México* was slated for closure and sale. Over the last year, the University assessed possibilities for developing a business plan(s) for programmatic activities that could make *Casa* financially sustainable over time. Campuses were provided an opportunity to make proposals for use of the facility that included programmatic activities that would make *Casa* financially sustainable, along with a commitment to take on management of the property. Unfortunately campuses determined that they were not in a position to take on the property. At this time the University is continuing to assess the situation in order to determine the best course of action.

2011-12 Events and Activities. Generally, *Casa* has between two and four scheduled activities each month. Typically, the UC Alumni group in Mexico has a monthly lecture, as well as a monthly film series. UC researchers, graduate students, research centers, etc. occasionally schedule seminars, meetings, conferences, or book presentations at *Casa*. Reduced fees are charged for such events involving UC and its affiliates.

Local university groups also request space at *Casa* to host events. In general, there are approximately 10-15 such events annually. Scheduling of non-UC events has increased in the last few years and we expect this trend to continue as word spreads about the facility being available for academic, cultural, and social activities. Rent is charged for such events.

Casa de California hosted a variety of events and activities during the 2011-12 academic year at the facility:

- **July 8, 2011 – Welcome for students of UC Education Abroad Program.** Organized by Verónica Tellez Esquivel, Program Coordinator, UCEAP Mexico Study Center.
- **July 11, 2011- August 8, 2011 – Intensive Language Program Courses for UNAM Program and Field Research Program.** Organized by Dr. Toby Miller, Director, and Verónica Tellez Esquivel, Program Coordinator, UCEAP Mexico Study Center.
- **July 13, 2011 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Las buenas hierbas. Organized by Laura Gorman, UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **July 29, 2011 – EAP Field Research Program Seminar Roundtable.** Organized by Dr. Toby Miller, Director, and Verónica Tellez Esquivel, Program Coordinator, UCEAP Mexico Study Center.
- **September 10, 2011 – UC Berkeley Haas School of Business MBA Information Session in Mexico.** Organized by Lee Forgue, Admissions Specialist, University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business.
- **September 14, 2011 – Panel discussion. California – Mexico: Present and Future. Lunch and discussion with California State Assembly Delegation to Mexico City.** Hosted by the University of California Office of the President and the University of Southern California. Organized by Patricia Osorio-O’Dea, UC Office of the President.
- **October 5, 2011 – Gender and Justice Film Cycle. Backyard. El Traspatio.** Organized by Laura Gorman, UC Alumni Association in Mexico.
- **October 13, 2011 – Book Presentation.** Sin Limite de Tiempo. Organized by Laura Gorman, UC Alumni Association in Mexico and La Societe des Ambianceurs et Personnes Elegantes.
- **October 20, 2011 – Casa de California Lecture Series.** El Papel de la Luz en Nuestras Vidas. Organized by UC Alumni Association in Mexico. Dr. Alica Barnaby, University of Bedfordshire.
- **October 29, 2011 –Presentation. UC Education Abroad Program, Field Research Program Students.** Organized by Dr. Toby Miller, Director, EAP Mexico Study Center.
- **November 10-11, 2011 – Conference.** La Gobernanza de la Salud en México. Organized by Dr. Alberto Díaz-Calleros, Director, Center for U.S.-Mexico Studies, UC San Diego.
- **November 14, 2011 – Lecture.** Seminario sobre Gobernanza Ambiental. Organized by Dr. Carlos Muñoz Piña, Instituto Nacional de Ecología – INE.
- **November 16, 2011 – Conference.** Dr. Ludger Pies, Ruhr University Bochum. Organized by Dr. Federico Besserer, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana.
- **November 24, 2011 – Thanksgiving Day Celebration for UCEAP.** Organized by Dr. Toby Miller, UCEAP Mexico Study Center.
- **December 1, 2011 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Entre vivas y alabados, fiesta grande Chiapa de Corzo. Organized by Laura Gorman - UC Alumni Association in Mexico, Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión and Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía.
- **December 7, 2011 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Conversation with Director Busi Cortes, Rina Lazo and García Bustos. Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni Association in Mexico, Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión and Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía.

- **December 16, 2011 – End of Year Celebration.** Encontrak. Organized by Rebeca Quintanilla.
- **December 17, 2011 – Conference.** Iyari Kuatikuerie. Cultural Festival for the Preservation of the Wirikuta. Organized by UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Frente en Defensa de Wirikuta a través de su arte y cultura.
- **January 18, 2012 -- Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **February 2, 2012 – Book presentation and panel discussion.** El Cine Mexicano “se impone”. Dr. Robert McKee, UC Davis, Dr. Francisco Peredo Castro, UNAM, Maricruz Castro Ricalde and Cathy Block, Cineteca Nacional.
- **February 8, 2012 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Cada cosa tiene su historia. Discussion with filmmaker Carolina Kerlow. Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **February 25, 2012 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Nosotros los pobres. Discussion with filmmaker Patricia Arriaga. Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **March 8, 2012 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Cueca sola. Discussion with filmmaker Marilu Mallet. Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **March 21, 2012 – Reception.** Directors of Universidad Pedagógica Nacional. Organized by Dr. Silvia Ortega Salazar, Chancellor, Universidad Pedagógica Nacional.
- **April 13, 2012 – Meeting.** Dr. Marcelo Bergman and Dr. Gustavo Fondevila and Directors from Centro de Investigación y Docencia Económicas (CIDE). Organized by Dr. Gustavo Fondevila, CIDE.
- **April 22, 2012 – Book Presentation. Memoria Social y Género. Ataduras y Reflexiones.** Participants: Dr. Luz Maceira Ochoa, Ariadna Acevedo, Maria Belausteguigoitia and Hilda Hiparraguirre.
- **May 18, 2012 – Reception.** Universidad Pedagógica Nacional. Organized by Dr. Silvia Ortega, Chancellor, UPN.
- **May 28, 2012 – June 28, 2012. Academic Course.** UC Berkeley Summer Sessions. Organized by Dr. Carlos Muñoz, UC Berkeley.
- **May 25, 2012 – Dinner Event.** Dinner for UC Education Abroad Program participants. Organized by Verónica Tellez Esquivel, Program Coordinator, UCEAP Mexico Study Center.
- **June 6, 2012 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Lecciones para una Guerra. Discussion with filmmaker Juan Manuel Sepulveda. Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **June 9, 2012 – Reception.** UC Education Abroad Program. Organized by Verónica Tellez Esquivel, Program Coordinator, UCEAP Mexico Study Center.
- **June 27, 2012 – Series Film and Discussion with UC Alumni in Mexico.** Africa Shafted – Under One Roof. Discussion with filmmaker Ingrid Martens. Organized by Laura Gorman – UC Alumni Association in Mexico and Mujeres en el Cine y la Televisión.
- **June 29-30, 2012 – Seminar.** California-Mexico Policy Issues. Organized by Dr. Armando Vazquez, California-Mexico Study Center.

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University of California - Mexico Facility Research and Academic Programs (Casa de California)

2011-12 Expenditures of Non-State Funds*	Actual 2011-12	Estimated 2012-13
Other Academic (Director stipend, summer salary)	\$ -	\$ -
Staff salaries and benefits		
Employee (of Civil Association)	72,709	70,905
Contract employee	3,627	2,857
Travel		
Program activities	33	-
Equipment purchase	538	-
Equipment maintenance	1,236	1,000
Supplies and expenses	1,805	2,917
Routine Building and Maintenance expenses (includes subcontracts for operation and maintenance of center buildings and grounds)	171,759	113,584
Accounting, CPA, Legal, other consultants and related fees	36,974	32,310
Property taxes	27,761	27,563
Other (memberships, training, marketing, library, etc)	793	2,500
Interest and Debt Service Expense for Building	89,575	95,507
Total Operating**	\$ 406,810	\$ 349,143
TOTAL	\$ 406,810	\$ 349,143
Source of Funds		
General Funds	\$ -	\$ -
UC Non-State	\$ 61,106	\$ 138,504
Income from lease of property*	\$ 307,403	\$ 210,639
Income from event reimbursements (campus-hosted)	\$ 38,301	-

* 2010-11 Expenditures are of Non-State funds. State funding to support the UC-Mexico facility was eliminated in 2007.

** Estimated total operating budget for 2012-13 has been reduced based on a review of facilities operations and reassessment of operating needs.

Source: UCOP VP Budget Office.

Contact information:

UCOP Budget and Capital Resources
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 Oakland, CA 94607-5220

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Report website: <http://ucop.edu/operating-budget/budgets-and-reports/legislative-reports/index.html>