

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA – MEXICO WORKSHOP
GUIDING PRINCIPLES
JANUARY 27-28, 2014

Hosted by the University of California Riverside, this workshop brings together scholars and leaders from the University of California and from distinguished sister institutions in Mexico to consider innovative ways to broaden and deepen our connections for the benefit of all.

- Given the proximity of California and Mexico, and the excellence of participating institutions, it is incumbent upon us to forge closer bonds, and search for new avenues for academic interaction, discovery and cooperation.
- In light of the commonalities between our countries -- including the family ties and shared experiences that link many Americans and Mexicans, and the complex issues that affect lives on both sides of the border -- it is crucial that we find ways to engage in more strategic educational and research partnerships.
- We are encouraged to think broadly and boldly about potential projects, exchanges and collaborations that could involve not only academia -- but foundations, corporations and government entities.
- Our meeting occurs at an auspicious time, soon after the appointment of a new UC President, one with longstanding ties to Mexico.
- It comes as the University of California enjoys a period of more stable funding than in recent years, and as the economies of the United States and Mexico emerge from recessions.
- It comes as the Presidents of both nations have pledged to encourage greater educational cooperation and more cultural exchanges between the U.S. and Mexico, as well as closer economic and commercial links.
- Given this timing, we must be both deliberate and expeditious as we build new partnerships, seeking to create meaningful engagement that will become part of the fabric of our institutions.
- This meeting is not a typical call to identify a set of academic activities. Instead, the goal is to advise on the best long-term strategy for ensuring a robust and continuing academic relationship; one that is defining for both California and Mexico, and is held as a model for other such collaborations.
- In completing this task, we must rely on our collective knowledge of the University of California and the United Mexican States, both from our disciplinary training and our experiences as citizens of one country and visitors to the other.
- Our goal is a sustained, strategic effort, with commitment by both sides and programs that are mutually beneficial.