

US-Mexico CEO Dialogue Update

July 2017

The US-Mexico CEO Dialogue is a collaborative effort created by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and its Mexican counterpart, the Consejo Coordinador Empresarial (CCE) to strengthen economic ties between the U.S. and Mexico. In June 2014 the University of California signed an MOU with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce for collaboration in areas of common interest, including workforce development, energy, health, and border transformation.



Governor Terry McAuliffe of Virginia, who chairs the National Governors' Association, and Governor Claudia Pavlovich of Sonora, who chairs the International Affairs Committee of the National Governors' Conference, participate in a discussion about transforming the border region.

Chancellor Kim Wilcox and Director Cindy Giorgio attended the CEO Dialogue's June meeting in Washington DC on behalf of the UC-Mexico Initiative. The primary topic of conversation was the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), and the need to

modernize the agreement to better suit the realities of modern economies in the U.S. and Mexico. The CEO Dialogue announced the launch of the US-Mexico Economic Council (USMXECO), which will serve as the premier business advocacy organization dedicated to strengthening the economic and commercial relationship between the two countries. USMXECO will work with both governments to set policy priorities and share best practices that strengthen US-Mexico commercial engagement and enhance competitiveness in the global market place.

The UC is also involved in the CEO Dialogue's Cross Border Connected Cities (SMART Border) project, which was led by the Deloitte Group in the Arizona-Sonora border region. Deloitte is now working with UCSD, UCR, and LBNL on behalf of the CEO Dialogue to expand this framework to the California-Baja border by working with the already established coalition between San Diego and Tijuana. The goal is for the respective local governments to collaborate on pilot projects to improve local conditions and foster binational relationships.

Upcoming Events:

Following President Napolitano's March 2017 trip to Mexico, the UC-Mexico Initiative is also focusing on NAFTA. With the Center for the US-Mexican Studies at UCSD and representatives from UCOP and UCDC, plans are being developed for a NAFTA forum, to be held on September 21 at the UCDC Center.