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Office of International Programs  
SDSU  
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**Report on Funded Travel to Mexico/ visit with three Mexican universities,  
December, 1999  
Prof. Lawrence A. Herzog**

I am pleased to offer this report on my trip to Mexico from December 10-15, 1999 in which I visited three Mexican universities with the intention of establishing programmatic connections with our campus. Here is a summary of my activities:

1) **Instituto Tecnologico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM), Queretaro campus.** On December 11-12, I visited the ITESM campus in Queretaro, Mexico. ITESM is the "MIT" of Mexico. After Monterrey, the Queretaro campus is one of the largest in Mexico, and has a number of excellent professional schools. I met with **Arq. Ernesto Philibert Petite**, Dean, School of Architecture, and **Prof. Jorge Ozorno**, professor of architecture. Both were extremely encouraging about establishing a relationship with our campus, and especially with my department, the School of Public Administration and Urban Studies. This relationship could have a number of components: a) coordinated research efforts with city planning and other faculty; b) exchanges of faculty/students. We agreed to keep our channels of communication open, and meet again this spring.

*Comment:* I believe the Queretaro campus of ITESM is an excellent site for faculty research. The city of almost 1 million population is large enough to accommodate visiting faculty, and only 2 hours from Mexico City. For students and scholars interested in urbanization, regional development, art, architecture, industrialization and the environment, the Queretaro region offers a wealth of research possibilities, as it is both one of the fastest growing cities in Mexico, and also an important site of colonial architecture. ITESM is a well funded university system, and wants to establish more international connections with the United States. This is a very good liason for SDSU.

2) **Universidad Autonoma de Mexico (UAM), Azcapotzalco.** On December 10, I met with Dr. Sergio Tamayo, Chair, Faculty of Sciences and Design Arts from the UAM. The UAM is the large public university system in the Mexico City region that runs parallel to

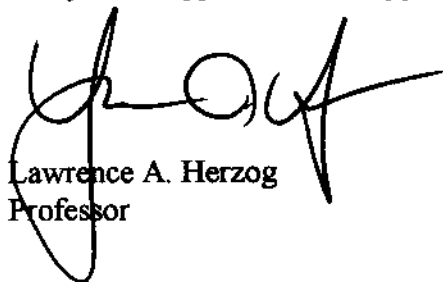
the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM). The UAM has four or five campuses in the Mexico City basin; one of the largest is the Azcapotzalco campus to the north. The campus has a very strong teaching faculty, and a few excellent research centers-- one of which lies within the Faculty of Sciences and Design Arts-- and is oriented around Development and Urban Studies. I visited with Dr. Sergio Tamayo to explore linkages for faculty and graduate students. The program publishes an excellent quarterly journal called *Anuario de Estudios Urbanos* (Annals of Urban Studies), which I think would be a very good outlet for some SDSU faculty working on Mexico. I think this could also be a useful place for graduate students coming to Mexico to do research in its capital city-- and these students could come from any of the social sciences, humanities, or professional schools. Dr. Tamayo's department would be pleased to receive visitors, and assist researchers. We agreed to pursue this connection further. I will visit UAM in early June 2000 to attend a conference on Globalization and Mexico City.

*Comment:* One mild drawback with the UAM Azcapotzalco is that it lies in a less accessible location for visitors; it is not proximate to a metro line, and is a long taxi ride from the downtown. However, the enthusiasm and friendliness of the faculty in the School of Sciences and Design Arts more than compensates for this inconvenience. The campus itself is not as attractive as the Queretaro campus, and might not be my first choice for undergraduate students abroad, although the wide variety of courses and good teachers could offset this.

3) **Instituto Mora, Mexico City.** The Instituto Mora is a small, elite graduate research campus centrally located in an older part of the city just south of downtown (about a 15 minute taxi ride from the Paseo de la Reforma). The Instituto is a small, garden like campus, a quiet refuge from the high density of activities in central Mexico City. The campus has three graduate programs: History, Sociology and Regional Studies. On December 13, I gave a lecture in the Regional Studies program to about 20 students and faculty, and then met with several faculty to discuss exchange possibilities. The Director of Regional Studies, Dr. Estela Martinez, expressed interest in setting up an informal exchange with SDSU, and with my department.

*Comment:* Given its orientation toward research and graduate students, this campus would be a good target for SDSU faculty in social sciences, public administration, Latin American Studies, international relations. They are interested in the U.S.-Mexico border, and might be a good place for our border studies faculty to connect with.

I very much appreciate the support of the International Programs office.



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Professor

