



**Conference on Becoming Mexican-American:  
Assessing Mexican-origin Assimilation  
in the United States**

**San Diego, California  
May 16, 2008**

**Deutz Conference Room  
Institute of the Americas Complex  
University of California San Diego**

**Conference Sponsored by:  
Center for US-Mexican Studies  
Department of Sociology  
Center for Comparative Immigration Studies**

## **Becoming Mexican-American: Assessing Mexican-Origin Assimilation in the United States**

The Mexican-origin population is like no other in the United States. Its history includes colonization, protracted periods of immigration, and mass deportations. Individuals in this population range from those crossing the border today to individuals whose families were in the southwestern territory when it was still Mexico. Its uniqueness has sown confusion about how to understand where ethnic Mexicans fit in America's racial and ethnic landscape.

- Are they following a path of assimilation forged by earlier waves of immigrants?
- Are they group destined to be an under-class?
- Or, are they forging a new, uncharted path of assimilation?

### **Program**

**Friday, May 16**

**8:00– 9:00am Registration and continental breakfast**

**9:00am– Welcoming Remarks**

### **Section I: Economic Dimensions of Assimilation:**

**9:15– 11:00am**

**Frank Bean**, Chancellor's Professor and director of Center for Research on Immigration, Population and Public Policy UC Irvine

**Enrico Marcelli**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, SDSU

**Gordon Hanson**, Director of the Center on Pacific Economies and Professor of Economics, UCSD (discussant)

**11:00– 11:15am Break**

### **Section II: Political Dimensions of Assimilation:**

**11:15– 1:00pm**

**Marisa Abrajano**, Assistant Professor of Political Science, UCSD

**Lisa García Bedolla**, Associate Professor of Political Science and Chicano/ Latino Studies, UCI

**Wayne Cornelius**, Professor of Political Science and director of CCIS, UCSD (discussant)

**1:00– 2:00pm Lunch  
Deutz Conference Room**

### **Section III: Social Dimensions of Assimilation:**

**2:00– 3:45pm**

**Tomás Jiménez**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, UCSD

**Edward Telles**, Professor of Sociology, UCLA

**David Fitzgerald**, Assistant Professor of Sociology, UCSD (discussant)

**4:00– 5:30pm Reception  
Arango Foyer, Institute of the  
Americas Complex**

See: <http://usmex.ucsd.edu> for more details

Event is free and open to the public

### **Information and RSVP:**

Center for US-Mexican Studies at UCSD: [usmex@ucsd.edu](mailto:usmex@ucsd.edu) / 858.534.4503 (T)