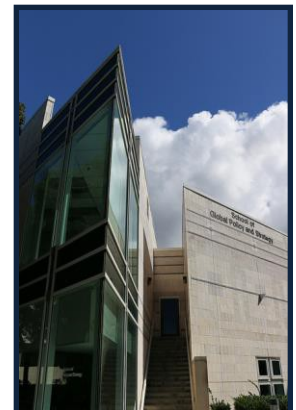


SCHOOL OVERVIEW



UC San Diego, founded in 1960 as a forward-thinking research institution for graduate and undergraduate study, encompasses six undergraduate residential colleges, five academic divisions, three graduate schools, a medical school, and a school of pharmacy. UC San Diego is ranked 2nd best public university for positive impact on social mobility, research productivity, and civic engagement by Washington Monthly; top 10 best public university in the nation for more than a decade by U.S. News & World Report; and 15th best university in the world by Academic Ranking of World Universities. Foreign Policy Magazine's 2015 rankings named UC San Diego's undergraduate international relations program and master's program for policy careers in international relations 13th best in the world.

As the University of California's only professional school of international affairs, the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS), addresses the crucial societal challenges of the 21st century. Its faculty, internationally recognized for their expertise, consists of leaders in international business and economics, public policy, global politics, international security, and environmental sustainability. GPS's Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies (USMEX) was founded in 1980 to study Mexico and the full range of issues affecting economic, social, and political relations between the U.S. and Mexico. USMEX leads the university's engagement with Mexico and is recognized for its rigorous academic research that can be applied to the creation, implementation, and evaluation of public policy.



U.S. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS PROGRAM: AUG. 6 - SEPT. 11, 2021

SCHOOL OVERVIEW

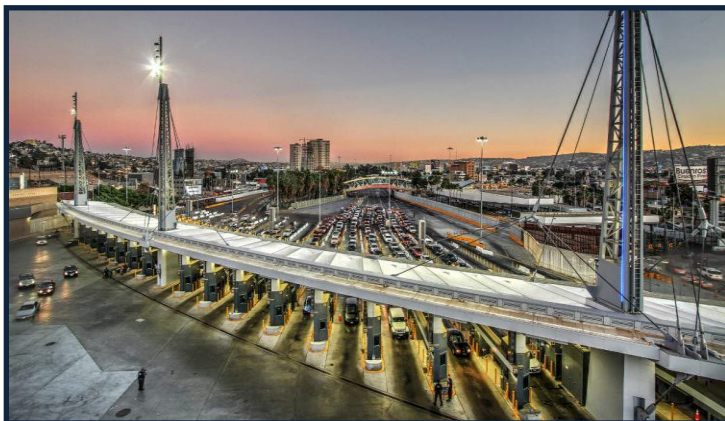
The U.S. Political Institutions and U.S.-Mexico Relations Program is led by GPS professor Dr. Rafael Fernández de Castro, director of USMEX and former foreign policy adviser to President Felipe Calderón. He is an expert on bilateral relations between Mexico and the U.S. and is currently working on a book on leadership and decision making in Mexican foreign policy, as well as participating as a lead researcher on projects related to violence and security.

U.S. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS PROGRAM—OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES



The six-week, online summer program is designed for early career Mexican policy makers, as well as young professionals from universities, the private sector, and civil society. The program focuses on the U.S. institutions and decision-making processes, the political system, border dynamics, and U.S.-Mexico relations. Over the course of 12 sessions, participants will gain a better understanding of U.S. domestic and foreign

policy, including the complexity of the policy-making process as it relates to the U.S. and its effects on Mexico.



Lectures will be given by internationally recognized professors and government experts. Classes will meet on Fridays for three and a half hours from 3:00 PM PST/5:00 PM CST to 6:30 PM PST/8:30 PM CST and on Saturdays for four and a half hours from 8:00 AM PST/10:00 AM CST to 12:30 PM PST/2:30 PM CST.

U.S. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS PROGRAM: AUG. 6 - SEPT. 11, 2021

PROGRAM (Subject to change)

Date	Start (CT)	End (CT)	Lecture	Instructor
Friday, August 6, 2021	16:30	17:45	Course Introduction and Inauguration	Rafael FernándezC, Roberto Velasco, Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath
Friday, August 6, 2021	17:45	18:30	Mexico and the US in the Global Environment	Angel Gurria
Friday, August 6, 2021	18:30	19:30	U.S.-Mexico Cooperation	Rafael Fernández de Castro
Friday, August 6, 2021	19:30	19:45	Break	
Friday, August 6, 2021	19:45	20:30	Discussion Session	Rafael Fernández de Castro
Saturday, August 7, 2021	10:00	11:00	Regional Cooperation: Calibaja	Marcela Celorio and William Ostick
Saturday, August 7, 2021	11:00	12:15	Current U.S.-Mexico Relations Challenges	Martha Bárcena
Saturday, August 7, 2021	12:15	12:30	Break	
Saturday, August 7, 2021	12:30	14:00	The Future of U.S.-Mexico Economic Integration	Gordon Hanson
Saturday, August 7, 2021	14:00	14:30	Weekly Closure and Feedback	Rafael Fernández de Castro
Wednesday, August 11, 2021	19:00	21:00	U.S.-Mexico Relations Conversation	Rafael Fernández de Castro
Friday, August 13, 2021	17:00	18:00	Parties, Elections, and Gridlock in Washington	Michael Layton
Friday, August 13, 2021	18:00	19:00	Census, redistricting, local elections	Sergio García-Rios
Friday, August 13, 2021	19:00	19:15	Break	
Friday, August 13, 2021	19:15	20:00	Migration and Discrimination	Mónica Bauer
Saturday, August 14, 2021	10:00	11:00	The Latino Vote	David Ayón
Saturday, August 14, 2021	11:00	11:45	The Evolution of the Presidency and Congress	Jeff Weldon
Saturday, August 14, 2021	11:45	12:00	Break	
Saturday, August 14, 2021	12:00	13:00	The Domestic and International Challenges of the Biden Administration	Martha Bárcena
Saturday, August 14, 2021	13:00	14:00	The Outlook for U.S.-Mexico Relations under the Biden Administration	Rafael Fernández de Castro, Jeff Davidow
Saturday, August 14, 2021	14:00	14:30	Discussion Session on U.S. Politics	Allert Brown-Gort
Wednesday, August 18, 2021	19:00	21:00	U.S. Elections and Politics Conversation	Rafael Fernández de Castro
Friday, August 20, 2021	17:00	19:00	The Supreme Court	Hazel Blackmore
Friday, August 20, 2021	19:00	19:15	Break	
Friday, August 20, 2021	19:15	20:00	The Supreme Court and Current Reform Debates	Hazel Blackmore
Friday, August 20, 2021	20:00	20:30	Discussion Session on the Supreme Court	Hazel Blackmore
Saturday, August 21, 2021	10:00	11:00	Mechanics of U.S. policymaking and the U.S. Congress	Rafael Fernández de Castro and Julio Portales
Saturday, August 21, 2021	11:00	11:15	Break	
Saturday, August 21, 2021	11:15	12:45	The Local Government: San Diego	Nora Vargas
Saturday, August 21, 2021	12:45	13:45	Impact of state and local politics on US.-MX Relations	Carlos González Gutiérrez
Saturday, August 21, 2021	13:45	14:30	Discussion Session on U.S. Policy Making	Hazel Blackmore
Wednesday, August 25, 2021	19:00	21:00	U.S. Policy Making Conversation	Hazel Blackmore

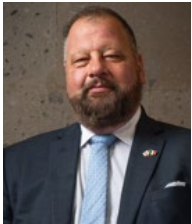
U.S. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS PROGRAM: AUG. 6 - SEPT. 11, 2021

Friday, August 27, 2021	17:00	18:30	U.S. Immigration Policy	Wayne Cornelius
Friday, August 27, 2021	18:30	18:45	Break	
Friday, August 27, 2021	18:45	19:45	U.S. Immigration Policy under the Obama and Biden Administrations	Theresa Brown
Friday, August 27, 2021	19:45	20:30	Discussion Session on the Immigration Policy	Theresa Brown, Allert Brown-Gort
Saturday, August 28, 2021	10:00	11:00	Mexico and Its Diaspora in the U.S.	Allert Brown-Gort
Saturday, August 28, 2021	11:00	12:00	Transit Migration	Rodolfo Casillas
Saturday, August 28, 2021	12:00	12:15	Break	
Saturday, August 28, 2021	12:15	13:45	Virtual Tour of the U.S.-Mexico Border: Tijuana, A Laboratory of Global Challenges	Norma Iglesias
Saturday, August 28, 2021	13:45	14:30	Discussion Session	Ana Saiz
Tuesday, August 31, 2021	19:00	21:00	Immigration Conversation	Allert Brown-Gort
Friday, September 3, 2021	17:00	18:00	The Mexican Economy: Current Challenges	Carlos Capistran
Friday, September 3, 2021	18:00	19:00	Remittances and their impact on Economic growth	Carlos Serrano
Friday, September 3, 2021	19:00	19:15	Break	
Friday, September 3, 2021	19:15	20:00	From NAFTA to USMCA	Alvaro Santos
Friday, September 3, 2021	20:00	20:45	U.S.-Mexico Border Economic Challenges	Jorge Carrillo Viveros
Saturday, September 4, 2021	10:00	11:00	Mexican Soft Power in the United States	Ignacio Duran
Saturday, September 4, 2021	11:00	11:45	Trade and Economics Discussion Session	José Antonio Meade
Saturday, September 4, 2021	11:45	12:00	Break	
Saturday, September 4, 2021	12:00	12:45	The USMCA: Labor Issues	Juan Carlos Baker
Saturday, September 4, 2021	12:45	13:45	U.S. National Security	Robert Thomas
Saturday, September 4, 2021	13:45	14:30	Analysis of Energy Systems and Global Trends	Al Sweedler
Tuesday, September 7, 2021	19:00	20:00	Economics Conversation	Juan Carlos Baker
Wednesday, September 8, 2021	19:00	20:00	Mexican Energy Sector: Issues and Trends	Veronica Irastorza
Friday, September 10, 2021	17:00	17:45	Analysis of Energy Systems and Global Trends Part 2	Al Sweedler
Friday, September 10, 2021	17:45	18:30	The Issues in U.S.-Mexican Relations	Angelica Ruiz
Friday, September 10, 2021	18:30	18:45	Break	
Friday, September 10, 2021	18:45	19:45	Energy Sustainability	Samantha Gross and Ma. Isabel Studer
Friday, September 10, 2021	19:45	20:30	Climate Change and Renewable Energy Efforts towards Glasgow	David Victor
Saturday, September 11, 2021	10:00	10:45	Discussion Session on Security and Public Health	Cecilia Farfan
Saturday, September 11, 2021	10:45	11:00	Break	
Saturday, September 11, 2021	11:00	12:00	Mexican Consular Diplomacy during the Biden Presidency	Reyna Torres, Rafael Laveaga, Carlos González Gutiérrez
Saturday, September 11, 2021	12:00	13:00	The Future of US Trade Policy	Caroline Freund
Saturday, September 11, 2021	13:00	13:45	Discussion and Feedback	RFC, Lilian de Valcourt-Ayala, Araceli Partearroyo, Catheryn Camacho
Saturday, September 11, 2021	13:45	14:15	Final Remarks	Rafael Fernández de Castro, William Ostick

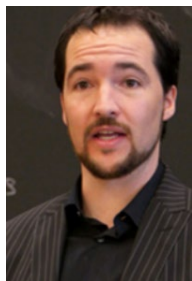
PROGRAM FACULTY and Guest Speakers



Alan Sweedler is Senior Fellow for Energy and Environment at USMEX where his expertise is in energy policy, technology and environmental impacts of energy use, especially climate change and the energy-water nexus. Sweedler was a Congressional Science Fellow and worked in the U.S. Senate on issues of energy, water and national security. He was also a Carnegie Foundation Science Fellow at Stanford's Center for International Security and Arms Control and was a visiting scholar at the University of California's Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation as well as Director of the California Energy Commission's Energy Innovation Small Grants Program. He has edited, co-edited and contributed chapters to books dealing with energy, air quality, security, climate change with a focus on the U.S.-Mexico border region. He recently retired from San Diego State University, where he was Associate Vice President in charge of the university's international programs, Director of the Center for Energy Studies and Professor of Physics. He currently holds a PIMSE Chair as a Distinguished Visiting Professor at CETYS University in Mexico and serves on the congressionally mandated Good Neighbor Environmental Board (GNEB).



Allert Brown-Gort is a Senior Nonresident Fellow at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies at UC San Diego and a Visiting Professor of International Relations at the Autonomous Technological Institute of Mexico (ITAM). A citizen of both the United States and Mexico, he was a faculty member at the University of Notre Dame from 1999 to 2014, where he served at the Institute for Latino Studies and the Helen Kellogg Institute for International Studies. He has also worked at The University of Texas at Austin, the ITAM and Televisa in Mexico City, and at Columbia University. Dr. Brown-Gort's major research interests include immigration policy, particularly its political and economic implications, and the role of culture and identity in shaping values, institutions, and political systems. His latest project explores the links between the tenor of the immigration debate and the creation of ethnic political identities.



Alvaro Santos is the Co-Director of the Center for Transnational Legal Studies (CTLS) 2014-2015 and Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center. He teaches and writes in the areas of international trade, law and economic development, transnational labor law, and legal theory. His recent scholarship from him looks at how emerging countries may expand their regulatory policy space for development in the international trade regime. Professor Santos regularly teaches at Harvard's Institute for Global Law and Policy (IGLP) and Georgetown's WTO Academy. He has taught at the University of Texas, Tufts University, Melbourne Law School, and at the University of Turin-ILO Master's program. Professor Santos serves on the editorial boards of the American Journal of Comparative Law, the Law and Development Review, and the Latin American Journal of International Trade Law. He holds S.J.D. and LL.M. degrees from Harvard Law School, and a LL.B. from National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).



Ana Mercedes Saiz is the executive director of Sin Fronteras IAP. She has a law degree from the National Autonomous University of Mexico and a Master in Laws from University College, London, in the United Kingdom. She has worked in the National Council for Prevention of Discrimination (CONAPRED), where she was in charge of the legislation and Public Policy, and led the implementation of the National Survey of Discrimination 2010 (ENADIS 2010). She also has worked as an advisor at the National Electoral National Commission on topics of gender and political violence, and has collaborated with various civil society organizations on topics of human rights and anti-discrimination.



Angel Gurría is the OECD Former Secretary-General (2006-2021). Gurría firmly established the Organisation as a pillar of the global economic governance architecture including the G7, G20 and APEC, and as a reference point in the design and implementation of better policies for better lives. He broadened OECD's membership with the accession of Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Estonia, Israel, Latvia and Slovenia, and has made the Organisation more inclusive by strengthening its links with key emerging economies. Under his watch, the OECD led the effort to reform the international tax system, and to improve governance frameworks in anti-corruption and other fields. He also heralded a new growth narrative that promotes the well-being of people, including women, gender and youth, and scaled up the OECD contribution to the global agenda, including the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals. Mr. Gurría has participated in various international not-for-profit bodies, including the Population Council, based in New York, and the Center for Global Development based in Washington. Mr. Gurría holds a B.A. degree in Economics from UNAM (Mexico), and a M.A. degree in Economics from Leeds University (United Kingdom).



Angelica Ruiz has more than 18 years of experience in the energy sector. In 2018 she was appointed Head of Country for BP Mexico, a position which she holds in tandem with her current role as BP's Senior Vice President for Latin America. Prior to joining BP, she was Vice President for Latin America and Managing Director at Danish power company Vestas. Before her time at Vestas, she served as Finance Director and Commercial Strategies Director at UK-based Petrofac. Ruiz started her oil and gas career at Mexicana de Servicios Subacuáticos (MEXSSUB), an offshore pipeline repair company, as Strategy and Planning Manager. She later took over as General Manager, developing new services and providing tailor-made solutions for the offshore upstream market. Ruiz is an active board member of several organizations in Mexico. She is currently president of the Mexico Chapter of the World Energy Council. She is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Mexican Association of Hydrocarbon Companies (Amexhi), the Executive Council of Global Companies (CEEG), and the British Chamber of Commerce in Mexico. In addition, she is the Coordinator of the Mentoring and Gender Development Group at Mexico's Business Coordinating Council (CCE). Ruiz holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) and a MBA from Instituto Panamericano de Alta Dirección de Empresas (IPADE). She pursued advanced studies at both the London Business School and the University of Texas at Austin.



Carlos Capistrán is a managing director and head of Canada and Mexico economics at Bank of America Merrill Lynch. Capistrán often ranks highly in investor polls and forecast surveys. He has ranked #1 Research Team for Mexico in the Institutional Investor Research Poll four years in a row (2016-2019) and in 2016 ranked #1 in forecasting inflation in Mexico according to Bloomberg. Prior to joining the firm in 2011, Capistrán served as director for macroeconomic analysis at Banco de México, where he also worked as senior research economist, and as director for tax policy evaluation at Mexico's Ministry of Finance. Capistrán has published research papers on economics in professional journals and has co-authored chapters in the Oxford Handbook of Economic Forecasting and in the book *The Great Recession: Lessons for Central Bankers* published by the MIT press. Capistrán has a bachelor's degree in economics from Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) and a master's degree and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California, San Diego (UCSD).



Carlos González Gutiérrez is the Consul General of Mexico in San Diego, and as a career diplomat for over 30 years, Ambassador Gonzalez has specialized in Mexican communities in the U.S. since all his designations abroad have been in the U.S. He was the founding Executive Director of the Institute of Mexicans Abroad. He has been Consul for Community Affairs at the Consulate General of Mexico in Los Angeles, Counselor for Latino Affairs at the Mexican Embassy in Washington D.C., Head of Post as Consul General of Mexico in Sacramento, and six years later, he was appointed Consul General of Mexico in Austin. In 2011, he was promoted to the rank of Ambassador. He holds an M.A. in International Relations from the University of Southern California, and a B.A. in International Relations from *El Colegio de México*.



Carlos Serrano is Chief Economist at BBVA in Mexico. He oversees a team of economists conducting work on economics, financial markets and regulation. He is also member of the Asset and Liabilities and Regulatory Committees. He holds masters and PhD degrees from the University of California at Berkeley, where he specialized in macroeconomics, international finance, and industrial organization. He obtained a B.S. in economics from Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, ITAM. In 2000, he was awarded the national prize on economic research, awarded annually by Banco Nacional de México. Before joining BBVA, Carlos was executive vice president for regulatory policy at Mexico's Banking and Securities Commission where he was in charge of designing regulation for banks, securities and derivative markets, broker dealers, and mutual funds. He was Mexico's representative before the Basel and IOSCO committees. He also worked at the World Bank where he was, among other positions, Country Economist for Peru, Paraguay, and Bolivia.

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Caroline Freund is the Dean of the UC San Diego School of Global Policy and Strategy. Dean Freund is an expert in international trade and economic development. Prior to joining GPS, she served as global director of Trade, Investment and Competitiveness at the World Bank. Freund also served as a senior fellow at the Peterson Institute for International Economics. In addition, she has worked as chief economist for the Middle East and North Africa at the World Bank, after working for nearly a decade in the international trade unit of the research department. Freund began her career in the international finance division of the Federal Reserve Board and spent a year visiting the research department of the IMF. The author of “Rich People Poor Countries: The Rise of Emerging Market Tycoons and their Mega

Firms,” Freund was co-director of the World Bank’s flagship World Development Report 2020 on Global Value Chains. She has also published many articles on the effects of regional trade agreements and edited a volume on “The WTO and Reciprocal Preferential Trading Agreements.” Her work has appeared in academic journals, including: American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of International Economics and Journal of Development Economics. Freund was also a member of the EXIM Bank advisory committee from 2014-16, and the scientific committees of CEPIL (Institute for Research of the International Economy, Paris) and the Economic Research Forum (Cairo). She is a member of the Centre for Economic Policy Research and on the editorial board of the Economics and Politics journal.



Cecilia Farfán-Méndez is the Head of Security Research Programs at USMEX. She is an expert on organized crime and U.S.-Mexico security cooperation and co-chairs the U.S.-Mexico Security Cooperation Taskforce led by USMEX in partnership with the Justice in Mexico Program of the University of San Diego and the Mexico Security Initiative at the University of Texas. Farfán is a member of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime, the Urban Violence Research Network and sits in the board of directors of A New PATH [Parents for Addiction Treatment and Healing]. Farfán holds a bachelor’s degree in international

relations from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), a master’s degree in international affairs from Columbia University’s School of International and Public Affairs, and a Ph.D. in political science from UC Santa Barbara. She has been a recipient of several research fellowships including the Fulbright Program, the UC Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation and Mexico’s National Council on Science and Technology.



David R. Ayón is Senior Strategist and Advisor at Latino Decisions. He is also a Senior Fellow at the Center for the Study of Los Angeles at Loyola Marymount University. Previously, he was Senior Advisor to the Mexico Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Ayón is also a political analyst, writer and lecturer specializing in Latino Politics, U.S.-Mexico relations and politics in the United States and Mexico. His work has appeared in ten edited books and reference works; *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica*, which he also serves on its editorial board; *The American Prospect*; the op-ed and Sunday Opinion pages of the *Los Angeles Times*, and many additional outlets. He brings deep expertise

in mass media and campaign environments, where he has worked as analyst, consultant, and special producer for Spanish language television news over fifteen electoral cycles in the U.S. and in Mexico. Educated at Princeton, Stanford and El Colegio de México, Ayón has taught courses on politics, U.S.-Latin American relations and Latino Studies at six colleges and universities, including two campuses of the University of California, Stanford and USC, was Associate Director of the California-Mexico Project of the USC School of International Relations and a Visiting Research Fellow at the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies of UC San Diego. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and a director of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation.

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David Victor David Victor is a professor of international relations at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at UC San Diego. He is a director of the Laboratory on International Law and Regulation (ILAR) and is the Center for Global Transformation Endowed Chair in Innovation and Public Policy. Victor is also the Co-director of the campus-wide Deep Decarbonization Initiative, which focuses on real world strategies for bringing the world to nearly zero emissions of warming gases. Victor is also an adjunct professor in Climate, Atmospheric Science & Physical Oceanography at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography. Prior to joining the faculty at UC San Diego, Victor was a professor at Stanford Law School where he taught energy and environmental law. His research focuses on regulated industries and how regulation affects the operation of major energy markets. Much of his research is at the intersection of climate change science and policy. He was a convening lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), a United Nations-sanctioned international body with 195 country members that won the Nobel Peace Prize in 2007. In 2020, Victor was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Gordon Hanson holds the Pacific Economic Cooperation Chair in International Economic Relations at UC San Diego and has faculty positions in the Department of Economics and GPS, where he also is director of the Center on Global Transformation. He is a professor at the GPS and is a research associate at the National Bureau of Economic Research, a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and co-editor of the Journal of Economic Perspectives. He is a past co-editor of the Review of Economics and Statistics and the Journal of Development Economics. He specializes in the economics of international trade, international migration and foreign direct investment. He has published extensively in the top academic journals of the economics discipline, is widely cited for his research by

scholars from across the social sciences and is frequently quoted in major media outlets. His current research addresses how trade with China has affected the U.S. labor market, the consequences of skilled immigration for the U.S. economy and the long-run determinants of comparative advantage. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Hazel Blackmore is the Executive Director of the U.S.-Mexico Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange (COMEXUS). She holds a B.A. in International Relations from ITAM, an M.A. in Political Science from Boston College (for which she held a Fulbright-Garcia Robles grant) and is currently completing her doctoral studies in Law at UNAM in Mexico. Before arriving at COMEXUS, she was the Managing Editor of the journal Foreign Affairs for Latin America as well as Executive Director of the Center for Interamerican Programs and Studies (CEPI) at ITAM. Since 2001, Hazel has lectured on U.S. History and Politics, and on the International Energy System at ITAM. In 2008, she coordinated the book “¿Qué es Estados Unidos?”. She is also author of several articles and book chapters on U.S. Politics and Bilateral Relations between Mexico and the United States. Hazel writes, from time to time, editorials for the newspaper El Universal, she is frequently invited as a political analyst to different media outlets that include Cable TV, radio, and internet news.

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Ignacio Duran, an acclaimed filmmaker, was the Mexican Embassy's Cultural Attaché responsible for promoting Mexican arts and culture in the UK. Minister Durán received a BA in Law at the National Autonomous University in Mexico and worked for several years as a lawyer specializing in labor law. In the early 1970s, he received a Master's degree in Cinematography from the London Film School and worked for the BBC and ITV. He returned to Mexico in 1975 where he worked in the film industry as a director and producer of feature films, documentaries and television programs. He has co-produced several films such as the highly acclaimed *Como agua para chocolate*. A year later, he became Deputy Director of the National Institute of Fine Arts and was later appointed Head of the Education and Cultural Production Unit at the Ministry for Education. He has served as Director General of the Mexican Film Institute and as Vice President for Production at TV Azteca, one of the largest television networks in Mexico. Before coming to the UK, he also served as General Director of the Mexican Culture Institute in Washington DC. He has lectured extensively on Mexican Cinema at the Universidad Anahuac and given seminars about the history and evolution of the Mexican Cinema.



Isabel Studer has a unique career in government, academia and civil society. She was Director for Strategic Partnerships in Latin America and Executive Director for Mexico and Central America at The Nature Conservancy. Isabel founded the Global Institute for Sustainability and was Leader of Energy and Corporate Sustainability at EGADE Business School at Tecnológico de Monterrey. In the Mexican government, she held high-level positions at the Agency for International Cooperation for Development and the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and for Environment and Natural Resources. She was also Director of Research for the Commission for Labor Cooperation (CLC) in Washington, DC. Senior Fellow at the Arsht Rockefeller Resilience Center of The Atlantic Council, she is currently

President of the Board of the Mexican Climate Initiative and member of the Board of Directors of the World Environment Center (WEC), the Dow Chemical Company's Sustainability Experts' Advisory Board (SEAC), and Chair of the Climate Committee in Mexico's Advisory Council on Water. A Fulbright and Ford Scholar, Isabel has been recognized with the Johns Hopkins University's Distinguished Alumna Award in 2020 and twice by Forbes Magazine as one of the "100 Most Powerful Women in Mexico." She earned her PhD and a M.A. at the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University and a BA degree in international relations from El Colegio de México.



Jeffrey Davidow is recognized as one of the most senior and well-respected diplomats over the course of 34 years in the U.S. Foreign Service with extensive experience in both Latin America and Africa, having served as U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, Venezuela, and Zambia. He also headed the State Department's efforts in Latin America, serving as Assistant Secretary of State for Western Hemisphere Affairs. He retired in 2003 from the U.S. State Department with the rank of Career Ambassador, the highest position in the Foreign Service, which can be held by no more than five individuals at one time. He has published articles in Foreign Policy and Foreign Affairs and authored two books, one on international negotiations and the other, *The U.S. and Mexico: The Bear and the Porcupine*, a

bestseller in Mexico and a prominent textbook at American universities. He speaks frequently on hemispheric policy and on Mexican developments for organizations such as the North American Forum, the Trilateral Commission, the Woodrow Wilson Center, and the InterAmerican Development Bank. He also served as an adviser to President Obama for the 2009 Summit of the Americas. He holds an M.A. in American Studies from the University of Minnesota.

U.S. POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS AND U.S.-MEXICO RELATIONS PROGRAM: AUG. 6 - SEPT. 11, 2021



Jeffrey Weldon is a full-time professor in the Department of Political Science at ITAM. He holds a BA in Political Science, University of Washington, and a MA in Political Science from UCSD, where he is a Ph.D. Candidate in Political Science, as well. He has written extensively on the Executive and Legislative Relations, as well as the Mexican Congress. He has focused his research on legislative procedures, reelection and party alignment in the Mexican Congress. His main areas of interest are Federal Elections, Congressional Behavior, and Local Elections in Mexico.



Jorge Carrillo Viveros is a cofounder and researcher from El Colegio de la Frontera Norte, widely acknowledged for his expertise on the maquiladora industry, as well as the automotive, electronics, and aerospace industries, multinationals and SMEs, and labor and technology quality. He has authored 14 books and 209 chapters and scientific articles in Spanish, English, German, Portuguese, Italian, French, Japanese, and Chinese. In 2015, he was awarded the *Premio Estatal de Ciencia y Tecnología de Baja California*. His current research focuses on the impacts on labor of digitalization, robotization and outsourcing. He holds a PhD in Sociology from El Colegio de México.



José Antonio Meade acts as Independent non-executive Director at HSBC, where he is member of the Nomination & Corporate Governance Committee Group, Risk Committee Group, and Remuneration Committee since 2019. He has extensive experience in public administration, banking and financial policy. Dr. Meade is currently a Commissioner of the Global Commission on Adaptation which seeks to enhance political visibility of climate resilience, a non-executive Director of ALFA General Board, a petrochemical company listed on the Mexican Stock Exchange, and performs consulting, project finance and academic activities. Between 2011 and 2017, he served as a Cabinet Minister under Presidents Felipe Calderon and Enrique Peña Nieto in Mexico such as Secretary of Finance and Public Credit, Secretary of Social Development, Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Secretary of Energy. Prior to his appointment to the Cabinet, he served as Undersecretary and as Chief of Staff in the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit. Following his time as Director General of Banking and Savings at the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit, Dr. Meade served as Chief Executive Officer of the National Bank for Rural Credit, where he led the financial restructuring and its transition to a new institution, Financiera Rural. He is also a member of the International Commission on Harnessing Enlightened Self-Interest to Advance Climate Action by All Nations. He studied economics and law from the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México and Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, before receiving a PhD in Economics from Yale University.



Julio Portales is an experienced multinational executive with public and private sector background, and well recognized Mexican and international networks. His main interest is based on designing corporate or political strategy with social sustainability. He is the current Counselor Vice-Presidente for Constellation Brands. He has previously worked as the President for Grupo ICB, Managing Director for Edelman México, Vice-President of Corporate Affairs and Institutional Access for Novartis México, and Director of Corporate Affairs and Government Access for Eli Lilly Mexico and Washington, among others. He holds an MPhil in Economic Sociology from the University of Essex.

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Juan Carlos Baker serves as Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade in Mexico. He has been working for the Federal government in Mexico on macroeconomic and trade issues for more than twenty years. Juan has had the opportunity to be a negotiator in all the international trade processes that Mexico has undergone during this time with North America, Europe, Asia, and Latin America. He is also a member of the Mexican Council of Foreign Affairs (COMEXI). Baker holds a B.A. in International Trade from ITESM in Mexico City, and an M.A. in Political Economy from Warwick University in England.



Marcela Celorio is the current Consul General of Mexico in Los Angeles. She is an Attorney from the Escuela Libre de Derecho, with a Master's Degree on Diplomatic Studies from the Matías Romero Institute and a Master's Degree on Security and Defense from the National Defense College in Mexico. She has served as Director of Nationality and Naturalization at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a position from which she helped to craft the constitutional reform of 1997 which made legal dual or multiple nationalities for Mexicans. In 1999, she joined the Mexican Foreign Service and has since been appointed Director of Protection Policies, Director for the United States of America at the Foreign Affairs Ministry, and Deputy General Director for the North American region to the Ministry of Interior. Abroad, she has been assigned as Chief of Staff to the Embassy of Mexico in the U.S., Deputy Chief of

Mission in Israel and Counselor for Economic, Commercial and Cooperation Affairs, Counselor for Political Affairs at the Mexican Mission to the European Union, Deputy Consul General at the Consulate General of Mexico in New York, and served as Consul General of Mexico in San Diego from 2016 to 2019. She has done research and written about issues related to dual nationality and citizenship, and national security and integration of North America. She was promoted to the Rank of Ambassador of Mexico in 2017.



Martha Bárcena Coqui is a member of the Advisory Council of the Atlantic Council's Adrienne Arsht Latin America Center and former ambassador of Mexico to the United States. During her tenure from December 2018 to February 2021, she assisted with negotiations that set out the foundations for the US-Mexico-Canada Agreement and dealt with the vast array of issues on one of the most complex bilateral relationships. Bárcena previously served as Mexico's permanent representative to the United Nations agencies based in Rome as well as to the Governing Council

of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law from April 2017 to December 2018. She was also the Mexican ambassador to Turkey concurrent with Georgia, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, and Turkmenistan from 2013 to 2017; ambassador to Denmark concurrent with Norway and Iceland from 2004 to 2013. Bárcena graduated with honors from the Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico, where she received a BA in communication sciences. In addition, she has a BA in philosophy from the Pontifical Gregorian University and a Master in International Relations degree from the Diplomatic School of Spain. She has also attained a Master in Philosophy degree from the Universidad Iberoamericana. She participated in postgraduate studies at Delaware University through the Fulbright Scholarship Program, at the University of Hong Kong, and at the Lester B. Pearson Canadian International Peacekeeping Training Centre.

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Michael Davidson is an assistant professor at the School of Global Policy and Strategy and the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department of the Jacobs School of Engineering. His research focuses on the engineering implications and institutional conflicts inherent in deploying renewable energy at scale. He is particularly interested in systems within emerging electricity markets, including China and India, as well as the western U.S. Davidson was previously the U.S.-China Climate Policy Coordinator for the environmental nonprofit Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC). He is also a former Fulbright Scholar and has received fellowships from the MIT Energy Initiative and Martin Family Society of Fellows for Sustainability. Prior to joining UC San Diego, Davidson was a postdoctoral research fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School Belfer Center's Environment and Natural Resources Program. He received his Ph.D. in engineering systems at the MIT Institute for Data, Systems, and Society, where he was a researcher with the MIT Joint Program on the Science and Policy of Global Change and a member of the Tsinghua-MIT China Energy and Climate Project. He is also a fellow with the Initiative for Sustainable Energy Policy, hosted at Johns Hopkins SAIS. He also holds an S.M. in Technology and Policy from MIT.



Michael Layton is the W.K. Kellogg Community Philanthropy Chair, the nation's first endowed chair focused on community philanthropy at the Johnson Center. Michael brings a wealth of experience to this role, including his work as a researcher, teacher, director, advocate, and consultant. He has worked closely with a mix of community philanthropy organizations throughout the Americas, and brings to his position a nuanced understanding of the unique challenges and capacities of community philanthropy to act as a catalyst in promoting community-led development and in strengthening the local context for philanthropy. Michael began his career as the founder and director of the New Kensington Community Development Corporation, in the Philadelphia neighborhood where he was born and raised. He pursued his doctorate to understand the history and core values of democracy in America. After teaching at Wesleyan and Yale Universities, he founded and directed the Philanthropy and Civil Society Project at the Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM) in Mexico City, where he developed a groundbreaking research and advocacy program to understand and strengthen philanthropy and civil society. Michael earned a master's degree and a doctorate in political science from Duke University, holds a bachelor's degree in philosophy from Haverford College.



Monica Bauer is an Associate Regional Director/Coordinator of Latino Community Relations at Anti-Defamation League, where she has worked for over eleven years on Hispanic Affairs and Community and Latino Community Relations. Monica was also the Computer and Systems Director at *Colegio Hebreo Maguen David* at Mexico City. She holds a M.A. in History and a B.A. in Computer Sciences from *Universidad Iberoamericana* in Mexico City.

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Nora Vargas is a Supervisor at the First Supervisorial District in San Diego County. Nora was elected to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, representing District 1. Her priorities include mitigating the impacts of the pandemic and focusing on economic recovery, while ensuring equity and inclusivity. Prior to her election to the San Diego County Board of Supervisors, Vargas was as an elected member and President of the Southwestern College Governing Board, the only public institution of higher education within San Diego's South County. Supervisor Vargas served on the Board of Southwestern since her appointment in 2013 and was elected twice to the position. In 2015, Governor Jerry Brown appointed her to serve on the 12-member California State Teachers Retirement System (CalSTRS) making her the first Latina to be appointed in the board's history. For the last 25 years, Supervisor Vargas has worked to drive positive change and serve her community through public service.



Norma Iglesias Prieto is a transborder scholar with an interdisciplinary education (B.A. in social anthropology, M.A. in communications, and Ph.D. in sociology). She is co-founder of El Colegio de la Frontera Norte (Tijuana; 1982) and she became a faculty member of CCS in 2000. She has 37 years of academic experience in cultural studies on the U.S.-Mexico border, with emphases on identity, gender, art, and mass media (particularly cinema). Dr. Iglesias Prieto's recent scholarship draws on the creativity potential as a mechanism to resist oppression and express human dignity, as well as on the role of the arts in the reconfiguration of the social fabric. She developed the concept of *borderism* to understand the different meanings of border experiences and practices. She is the author of five books, among them *Beautiful Flowers of the Maquiladoras* (1985/1997) and *Emergencias: Las artes visuales en Tijuana* (2008), 14 articles in academic journals, 25 chapters in refereed books, 10 chapters in art catalogues, and 25 articles in cultural journals. She also co-edited two books. Her publications are in English, Spanish, French, German, and Italian. She also has experience as a media producer and art curator.



Rafael Fernández de Castro is a professor at GPS and director of its Center for U.S.- Mexican Studies (USMEX). A former foreign policy advisor to President Felipe Calderón, he is an expert on bilateral relations between Mexico and the U.S. Fernández de Castro is founder and former chair of the Department of International Studies at Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México in Mexico City. He has published numerous academic articles and written several books, including "Contemporary U.S. - Latin American Relations: Cooperation or Conflict in the 21st Century?" and "The United States and Mexico: Between Partnership and Conflict" with Jorge Domínguez. He also worked as the Project Director of the UNDP's Human Development Report for Latin America 2013-14, "Citizen Security with a Human Face: Evidence and Proposals for Latin America." He is the founder and editor of Foreign Affairs Latin America and contributes to Mexican media outlets such as El Financiero and Televisa. His current research includes a book on leadership and decision-making in Mexican foreign policy. He holds a B.A. in Social Sciences from Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, an M.P. Aff. in Public Policy from the University of Texas at Austin, and a Ph.D. in Political Science from Georgetown University.

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Rafael Laveaga Rendón is the current Consul at the Embassy of Mexico in the U.S. He has worked at the Mexican Federal Government for 30 years, in positions regarding foreign policy, national security, and social communications, in Mexico and abroad. He has been a member of the Mexican Foreign Service since 2001 and speaks Spanish, English, and French.



Reyna Torres is the Consul General of Mexico in Chicago. A member of the Mexican Foreign Service since 1992, she holds a Master's in International Relations from the London School of Economics and Political Science, and a Bachelor's in International Relations from UNAM. She was an associate researcher for the Weatherhead Center for International Affairs at Harvard University and represented the Mexican Ministry of Foreign Affairs at the Inter-American Defense College in Washington D.C. In June 2008, she received the Community Voice Award from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce in San Antonio for her efforts in the assistance and empowerment of the Mexican community.



Robert Thomas is a Vice Admiral U.S. Navy retired, a professor at the School of Global Policy and Strategy (GPS) at UC San Diego. He graduated from the University of California with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He holds a Master of Science in National Security Studies from the National War College. As a career submarine officer, Thomas has served on fast-attack submarines operating in both U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Central Command theaters of operation. Thomas served as commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet Representative West Coast; commander, Submarine Squadron 11 and commander, Task Force 74/54 in Yokosuka, Japan. In his last operational assignment, Thomas commanded the U.S. 7th Fleet from July 2013 to September 2015. He then assumed duties as the Director of the Navy Staff and retired in January 2017. Thomas served as flag aide to the deputy chief of naval operations (OP-07); program analyst in the Secretary of the Navy's Office of Program Appraisal; director of Operational Support (CNO N23); assistant deputy director for Politico-Military Affairs, Western Hemisphere, J5, on the Joint Staff; director, Plans and Policy (N5) for Naval Special Warfare Command; director, Strategy and Policy Division (OPNAV N51); vice director of operations, J3, on the Joint Staff; and chief of staff, J5, on the Joint Staff.



Roberto Velasco-Alvarez holds a master of public policy degree from the University of Chicago, where he was the Chicago Policy Review's editor-in-chief, and a bachelor of laws degree from the Ibero-American University at Mexico City. He has over a decade of experience in the Mexican federal, state and local public sector. Most recently, he served as a Strategy and Policy Coordinator to ProMexico's NAFTA Regional Direction in Washington, D.C. After July's presidential election, Roberto was invited by the designate-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Marcelo Ebrard, to support the transition process. He serves as the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs' Director-General for Public Affairs and now he serves as Head of the Unit for North America at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

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Rodolfo Casillas is a Professor and Researcher at the Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales (Flacso) in Mexico, since 1991. He was Academic Secretary of the same Faculty from October 1, 2002 to August 15, 2004. He was a researcher at El Colegio de México; Advisor to El Colegio de la Frontera Norte for the sociographic study of religious preferences in the north of the country. Consultant for different international agencies; among them, UNFPA, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to carry out diagnoses on Trafficking in Persons in the cities of Tapachula, Chiapas, and Mexico, DF, in 2004 and 2005, respectively, as well as one for the study on the trafficking of Central American migrants in Mexico and organized crime in 2011 and responsible for the empirical work for the National Diagnosis on human trafficking in 2012. His most recent book on human trafficking is titled *Social and Cultural Aspects of Human Trafficking in Mexico*, published by the National Institute of Criminal Sciences (INACIPE) in June 2013. Recent publications on Central American migration: “International migration and climate change: Connections and disconnections between Mexico and Central America”, in *Urbio* magazine, Quito, Ecuador, (2020); “Between two migratory poles: the moment to reposition Mexico in the world”, in José Luis Calva et al. (Coords), Fifth section.



Samantha Gross is a fellow and director of the Energy Security and Climate Initiative. Her work is focused on the intersection of energy, environment, and policy, including climate policy and international cooperation, energy efficiency, unconventional oil and gas development, regional and global natural gas trade, and the energy-water nexus. Gross has more than 20 years of experience in energy and environmental affairs. She has been a visiting fellow at the King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center, where she authored work on clean energy cooperation and on post-Paris climate policy. She was director of the Office of International Climate and Clean Energy at the U.S. Department of Energy. In that role, she directed U.S. activities under the Clean Energy Ministerial, including the secretariat and initiatives focusing on clean energy implementation and access and energy efficiency. Prior to her time at the Department of Energy, Gross was director of integrated research at IHS CERA. She managed the IHS CERA Climate Change and Clean Energy forum and the IHS relationship with the World Economic Forum. She also authored numerous papers on energy and environment topics and was a frequent speaker on these topics. She has also worked at the Government Accountability Office on the Natural Resources and Environment team and as an engineer directing environmental assessment and remediation projects. Gross holds a Bachelor of Science in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois, a Master of Science in environmental engineering from Stanford, and a Master of Business Administration from the University of California at Berkeley.

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Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath is a career member of the Senior Foreign Service. Stephanie Syptak-Ramnath arrived July 20, 2021 for her third assignment in Mexico. She most recently served as Deputy Executive Secretary in the Office of the Secretary of State, where she was responsible for internal coordination of the work of the Department, serving as the liaison between six geographic and functional bureaus and the offices of the Secretary, Deputy Secretary, and Under Secretaries. She led the Department's 24-hour Operations Center that monitors global events, briefs the Secretary and other Department principals, facilitates communication between the Department and the rest of the world, and coordinates the Department's response to crises. Stephanie served as Chargé d'Affaires, a.i. at U.S. Embassy Singapore from January 2017 to July 2019, directing 19 U.S. government sections and agencies in the advancement of bilateral security, military, economic, and people-to-people cooperation. During that time, she led Embassy efforts in support of the historic June 2018 Singapore Summit between President Trump and Chairman Kim. She previously served as Minister Counselor for Public Diplomacy at U.S. Embassy Mexico City, Deputy Chief of Mission in Bamako, Mali, and Senior Deputy Director in the Office of Public Diplomacy in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs. Other assignments include Tunis, Tunisia, the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, and Monterrey, Mexico. In November 2015, Stephanie was awarded the Department of State's Edward R. Murrow Award for Excellence in Public Diplomacy. Prior to joining the Foreign Service, Stephanie was an officer in the U.S. Navy. She was a member of the International Women's Forum Leadership Foundation 2011-2012 Fellows Class, for which she completed executive programs at Harvard Business School and INSEAD. She is a graduate of Georgetown University's School of the Foreign Service and is married to Gautam Ramnath. They have two daughters studying at Northwestern University and Pepperdine University.

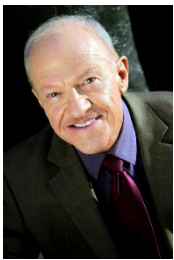


Theresa Cardinal Brown is the Bipartisan Policy Center's (BPC) managing director of immigration and cross-border policy. She came to BPC from her own consulting firm, Cardinal North Strategies, LLC. Brown was director of immigration and border policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce; associate director of business immigration advocacy at the American Immigration Lawyers Association; and worked in the immigration practices of large Washington, D.C.-based law firms. She also served as a director and of counsel at The Sentinel HS Group, LLC. She was a policy advisor in the office of the commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and was on Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff's Second Stage Review of USCIS. In 2005 and 2006, she became a member and later director of the Immigration Legislation Task Force in the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Policy. She then served as the first DHS director of Canadian affairs, and subsequently as the first DHS attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Ottawa. Brown does extensive media outreach in her role at BPC, including appearances on Fox News, NPR Morning Edition, PBS NewsHour, CNN International, and BBC World and she has been quoted in major print publications including Time Magazine, The Washington Post, The New York Times, USA Today, the Wall St. Journal, Newsweek and others.

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Veronica Irastorza is the Principal in the Global Antitrust & Competition at The Brattle Group. Ms. Irastorza brings deep expertise in antitrust, contract disputes, and damages to a broad range of matters in the energy industry, including regulation, planning, market design, and forecasting. Veronica has a unique and versatile background combining competition and energy. She is a former Undersecretary of Energy Planning and Transition in Mexico, she has worked on all aspects of the electric power sector, including generation, transmission, ancillary services, distribution, and retailing. In natural gas, Ms. Irastorza has in-house experience and has advised companies on the effects of new policies and regulations, due diligence, mergers, acquisitions, and efficiency. In addition to her energy expertise, Ms. Irastorza has worked on competition matters related to the transportation, finance, and food sectors. Her practice has spanned numerous jurisdictions around the globe, including Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Ireland, Mexico, and the US.



Wayne A. Cornelius is an expert on comparative immigration policy and the mass politics of immigration, focusing on the U.S., Spain, and Japan, as well as Mexican politics and development. He is the author, co-author, or editor of nearly 300 publications dealing with these subjects, including 15 books on Mexican migration. His most recent book is *The New Face of Mexican Migration* (2016). A frequent contributor to national news media, he has written most recently on immigration for *The Los Angeles Times*. A summa cum laude graduate of The College of Wooster (Ohio), he earned his Ph.D. in political science at Stanford University. He has taught at Harvard, MIT, Princeton, Oxford University's Nuffield and St. Antony's colleges, the University of California-San Diego, the University of Portland, and Dickinson College. He is the founding director of two internationally respected, interdisciplinary research centers based at UC San Diego: the Center for U.S.-Mexican Studies and the Center for Comparative Immigration Studies. He is an emeritus professor in the UCSD School of Medicine's Division of Global Public Health, where he specialized in immigrant health. He is also Distinguished Professor of Political Science, Emeritus, and the Theodore Gildred Professor of U.S.-Mexican Relations, Emeritus, at UCSD. He is the former President of the Latin American Studies Association, the world's largest, cross-disciplinary organization of scholars specializing in Latin America. In 2012 President Felipe Calderón awarded him the Order of the Aztec Eagle, Mexico's highest decoration for foreign citizens, in recognition of lifetime contributions to immigration research and improvement of U.S.-Mexican relations. In 2015 the University of California awarded him the Dickson Prize for distinguished post-retirement contributions to student training, research, and national and community service. He lives in Portland, Oregon.

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William Ostick currently serves as the Public Affairs Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico. Prior to his current assignment, he serves as U.S. Consul General in Tijuana. Will Ostick is a career Foreign Service officer at the U.S. Department of State. Before coming to Mexico, he served as the Director for the Office of Brazilian and Southern Cone Affairs for the Bureau of Western Hemisphere Affairs. He previously served as spokesperson and press advisor for the bureau. In June 2011, he graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) with a master's degree in national resource strategy. From 2007 to 2010, he served as information officer at the U.S. Embassy in Madrid. Previously, he served as public affairs officer and information officer in Panama. Other

Foreign Service assignments include country desk officer for Argentina; desk officer for public diplomacy for Brazil and the Southern Cone; public affairs officer in Niamey, Niger; cultural affairs officer in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; and, assistant information officer in Buenos Aires, Argentina. He joined the U.S. Information Agency in 1989, which merged with the State Department in 1999. He graduated from the University of Georgia in Athens with a BA in journalism and holds a master's degree in international commerce and policy from George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. He speaks Spanish and French.