ACTIVITIES REPORT
1998 - 1999

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In Memory of Congressman George E. Brown Jr., Key Supporter of the U.S. - Mexico Foundation for Science

"I have asked scientists and engineers to become more involved with the needs of the broader society – in other words, to be more effective citizens. (We can begin to do this) by planning a series of collaborative agreements driven by common human goals rather than the national policies of any single goverment."

Congressman George E. Brown Jr.
1920 –1999

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Message from the President

We at the U.S. Mexico Foundation for Science take the above words, spoken by a man who was crucial in the establishment and consolidation of the Foundation, as a central motivation. Congressman Brown's words underly our guiding principle – that a sharing and cooperative spirit in areas of science and technology can, and will, help the international human effort to improve the quality of life for those in the United States and Mexico.

Since our founding in 1992, the Foundation has quietly worked to foster the relationships necessary to build broad cooperation in areas of science and technology. In the early stages of the Foundation, this was accomplished through the promotion and financing of research projects run by binational teams focused on binational issues. More recently we have focused our efforts on being a catalyst and networker, by initiating and supporting structured, collaborative exchange in areas of scientific and technological importance for both countries.

In the last two years, the period covered by this report, the Foundation has worked to accomplish two main objectives – one organizational and the other programmatic.

The formal establishment of the Foundation´s endowment is a major step forward to institutionalize the organization of the Foundation. Created with resources from the governments of both countries, the endowment was formally established in 1998, and reached $13.9 million (U.S. Dollars) in December 1999.

To us, this endowment represents a crucial step towards insuring the financial stability of the Foundation, as well as the continuity in operations and programming. We owe great thanks to Congressman George E. Brown Jr. – without his very strong and continuous support, we would not be able to report this great achievement to you today. We also owe thanks to the vision and leadership of Mexican scientists, in particular Dr. Guillermo Soberon who shared Congressman Brown's vision, and the leadership of CONACYT, including current Director Carlos Bazdresch.

Our achievement in the area of programs is the establishment of binational programs that respond to issues of mutual concern to the U.S. and Mexico. These include Water and Health in the U.S.-Mexico Border Region and the Air Quality in Large Cities programs. Whereas we once supported diverse, often disjointed areas of science and technology, these programs represent a fundamental integration of our strengths as an organization and well as a growing role for the Foundation that is well-supported by the two countries. In these programs, we have been involved in and have fostered binational collaboration in each critical stage – problem identification, strategic problem solving, recruitment of specialists and identification of resources, networking of specialists on both sides of the border, application of solutions, and broad outreach and education activities directed to implementors and stakeholders.

Again, this achievement represents an important step in the development of the Foundation. We see this level of involvement in fostering binational collaboration as a deep maturing of the organization. In addition, as the need to build shared, collaborative solutions grows, this work demonstrates that the role of the Foundation will become more critical in the coming years.

As are all the members of the Board of Governors, I am proud of the great strides that have been made by the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science. We hope you find our biannual report informative, and we look foward to sharing with you more about our work and organization in the following pages.

Susan Scrimshaw

President, Board of Governors

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A Word from the Executive Director

The writing of an annual report is a wonderful exercise in reflection. In the course of assembling the material used to put together this report, myself and the staff of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science were reminded of just how much we have grown in the past several years. The Foundation changed from a small, financially unstable organization focused on supporting binational projects in scientific research – a role that, at times, seemed to duplicate the work of specialized government agencies -- to a supporter of technological innovation and scientific capacity-building in an effort to identify shared solutions in areas that affect the lives of U.S. and Mexican residents.

Our work – described by such words as "binational", "collaborative" and "integrated" – has shown how binational cooperation in science and technology can benefit both countries. Today, opportunities hold even more promise if they are harnessed with the strong participation of local stakeholders, the academic community and governments of both nations. Through our work, we have demostrated the importance of a shared, comprehensive approach by initiating collaboration between groups that by and large have worked in isolation from each other and from their counterparts on the other side of the border. The result of these new approaches has been the generation of innovative ideas that are integrated into the needs of society, that are effectively applied, and that focus on solving the root causes of problems.

For this we owe great thanks to individuals like the late Congressman George E. Brown Jr. as well as to each of the members of our Board of Governors. These distinguished citizen are not only leaders in their own field of science and technology, but are deeply and directly involved in projects that foster effective binational collaboration.

Guillermo Fernández de la Garza

Executive Director

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Our Strengths

Binational Collaboration

Of utmost importance to our work is a sense of free exchange, in a climate of respect, on issues that are important to both the U.S. and Mexico. This collaboration can be initiated by or fostered between any player in either country. The goal of this work, however, must be an interest in building shared, equitable solutions that are based in scientific or technological advancement to real problems facing both nations.

Integration

Building projects or solutions that are integrated not only across geographic areas, but also across disciplines and institutions, helps make our work relevant, as well as self-sustaining. To support the integration of ideas, the Foundation functions within a network of individuals, organizations and exchanges – each of which bridges boundaries between disciplines and between interests.

Scientific Research

The Foundation feels strongly that only through systemic and rigorous research can strong, new ideas be applied to existing problems. Moreover, the verification and detailing of models allows us to understand how these solutions alleviate the issues we face on a day-to-day basis.

Technological Innovation

Identifying new science-based technology that generates added value is essential to building new, more efficient, more effective solutions to old problems. Both radical and incremental innovations have an important role in development, yet the key to adding value is the ability to apply these innovations to areas such as education, development, health or the environment. Our work champions innovation, but also seeks to diminish the technological disparity across nations that challenges our ablity to develop and apply innovative solutions to crucial problems.

Education

Education and training are essential elements of science and technology programs, as education aids in the understanding of scientific issues and prepares stakeholders for intelligent participation in the solution of important problems. Our work seeks to build human resources in science and technology at every educational level, as each type of training adds a different dimension to the future success of binational collaboration. From primary education to professional and postgraduate education, our goal is to support programs that instill a drive for continuous personal improvement, foster lifelong learning and prepare students for a globalized working environment where success is dependent on a continuous flow of scientific advances and technological innovations.

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Our Guiding Principles

Mission

Promote and support binational cooperation in science and technology.

Objectives

- To identify areas of importance to both nations and to initiate, encourage and secure resources for collaborative research and development in these areas.
- To develop human resources through the enhancement of training, fellowship and exchange programs in both countries.
- To create and/or strengthen the scientific and technological infrastructure and management needed to accomplish these objectives.

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Priorities

The Foundation has seen the growing need to resolve binational problems through strategies firmly rooted in science and technology as an opportunity to broaden and strengthen cooperation between the U.S. and Mexico.

In the area of sustainable development, for example, the Foundation has worked to broaden binational collaboration to identify comprehensive, scientific and technological strategies in air quality in large cities and in the areas of water resource management, sanitation, and the prevention of industrial pollution along the U.S.-Mexico border. In these key areas, the Foundation has launched important studies in which research, education and technical assistance needs, along with corresponding binational action plans, are identified and addressed.

The Foundation also helps strengthen binational collaboration in scientific research and higher education through programs of academic exchange and support to international research groups. The Foundation has worked to foster exchange between leading groups in both countries, in such areas as the design of scientific and technological strategies for regional sustainable development.

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1998-1999 Program Updates

During 1998 and 1999, the US-Mexico Foundation for Science witnessed a very important evolution of its work. Prior to this, the Foundation was focused primarily on financing binational research projects. This direction was driven by the initial priorities of the Foundation, as well as by the level of resources available for these research programs from both governments. In 1998, as the Foundation developed, there was an apparent need to establish a function that supported networking between groups and catalyzed projects.

The Board of Governor`s vision of this new role led us to seek an Endowment to support this fundamental shift in our work to permit a focus on facilitating and

promoting binational, collaborative programs in the areas of science and technology -- programs designed and implemented with the commitment of users, academic institutions and of government agencies, of both countries.

As a result, the Foundation has focused more energy on fostering technological and scientific collaboration over issues related to sustainable development. In doing so, the Foundation has been able to renew its commitment to projects that resolve the issues of environmental degradation that are so prevalent in large cities and fast growing regions like the U.S.-Mexico border zone. Key to many of these projects is increasing collaboration between universities, the private sector, the public sector and non-profit organizations.

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Water

Water is a critical resource worldwide – it plays an important role in the well being of the population and moreover, it serves as a key resource for agriculture and industry. Water is a key factor in U.S.-Mexico binational relations as well as in the sustaintainable development of the U.S.-Mexico border region. Given this, the Foundation has initiated scientific and technological programs aimed at improving water availability, quality, conservation and reuse.

Water and Health along the US-Mexico Border

As a response to the shared concern about clean water and sanitation along the international boundary between the U.S. and Mexico, the Foundation sponsored in 1997 a workshop-conference, "Scientific and Technological Aspects in Relation to Water and Health on the Mexico-U.S. Border". In 1998, several working groups and a final team of experts produced a report based on the outcomes of this conference. The document established action steps toward resolving water and sanitation-related problems through binational collaboration and has becomed a key tool for the analysis of binational science and technology collaboration opportunities in this field.

Also in 1998, with the support of the Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA), and in close coordination with the Mexican National Water Commission (CNA), a comprehensive science and technology collaboration program related to water and sanitation in the Border was started. This program serves as an important science and technology component of the *Border XXI* program, the governmental program of binational cooperation focused on environmental improvements in the U.S. – Mexico border region.

Technological Innovation Support for Water Utilities

This program takes into consideration a number of factors that influence the level of technological innovation in water utilities, including:

- the needs and conditions of water utility facilities and the communities they serve,
- existing Mexican programs and support options,
- experiences of U.S. counterparts and opportunities for collaboration

- the role of research and education institutions
- the legal framework under which solutions would be implemented
- synergies derived from effective collaboration

Within this program, new research and education projects were initiated with the collaboration of various border and national organizations. Since the initiation of work, 15 universities from both the U.S. and Mexico have joined the effort, using these programs as a means to become more involved in the issues of water and sanitation.

Major Achievements:

- A research agenda was developed with the participation of scientists, policy makers and funders. This research agenda facilitaded networking among these groups.

- The system of training, certification and technical assistance to municipal water utilities is considered a model project by many Mexican border states. The project was implemented in Baja California, and efforts are now underway to apply the lessons in the state of Tamaulipas.

- The adaptation of U.S. comprehensive performance evaluation methodologies for drinking and wastewater treatment plants for application to Mexican water utilities.

- Extensive new educational materials were developed for technical personnel in water utilities by Mexican universities with support from Mexican and U.S. institutions.

- In addition to these direct results, the program was also successful in sharing information about technical evaluation methodologies and promoting collaboration between specialized water organizations and academic institutions.

Ongoing work in this area focuses on developing the scientific and technological capabilities of the new, more complex, border environmental infrastructure. Several factors make the promotion of binational scientific and technological collaboration in these areas very timely, including trends to improve existing technical capacity, increased management and community awareness of operating requirements, political and technical support, broader technical support programs, and a greater sense of motivation to collaborate in this important area.

Clean Water in Small Communities

Also in the area of water, and in relation to its EPA-sponsored work, the Foundation has been working with the Instituto Nacional de Salud Publica (Mexico, INSP), to evaluate the quality of drinking water in small communities along the U.S.-Mexico border. As a result of pilot evalutions of interventions performed by the Federal Health Secretary (SS) and the Mexican National Water Commission (CNA), improved methodologies to decrease water-borne disease have been implemented. While these pilots have focused on communities in the Mexican state of Chihuahua – Ojinaga and Mezquite – the evaluations will serve as the basis for a much broader program in small communities throughout the border region.

Also in support of its EPA-sponsored work, and to promote binational collaboration in the subject, the Foundation held a workshop to define research projects in public health and water along the U.S.-Mexico border. In this workshop, participants elaborated a research agenda with proposals that apply binational, scientific-technological capabilities and experiences, and leverages them via research projects in four thematic areas: health interventions related to water and sanitation; risk screening; water reuse/household interventions and disinfection, and; community involvement and sociocultural dimensions of water and health problems.

Major Achievements:

- In the process of developing the pilot programs, a methodology was established to evaluate these interventions, and a manual for rapid assessment procedures is under development to aid in decision making processes.

- For the communities along the border, a catalogue of technologies for water disinfection was assembled, and moreover, there is a strong interest in these communities and within the CNA to set up pilot projects using these technologies.

- In the 2-day workshop, 11 binational project proposals were outlined – proposals that were supported by 25 distinct organizations and agencies in the U.S. and Mexico. Each project focused on applications to public health problems, prompting the involvement of the Center for Disease Control (U.S., CDC) and the National Institute of Public Health (Mexico, INSP).

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Sustainable Industrial Development

Science, Technology and Industrial Sustainable Development along the U.S.-Mexico Border

Along with its partners in the U.S. and Mexico, the Foundation has spent these two years working to foster collaboration in the prevention of industrial pollution along the U.S.-Mexico border. The work undertaken by the Foundation to accomplish this follows two strategies. The first one is based on the idea that integration and consolidation of binational efforts across disciplines will have a significant effect on the application of research. The second strategy seeks to establish technological parity between localities and nations in an effort to enrich collaboration on the issue, and moreover, to support broad, yet sustainable, industrial development throughout the border region.

Given the need for private sector participation in this work, the Foundation has focused on linking public sector, academic research and nonprofit groups with business associations and specific manufacturers located along the border. To do this, the Foundation has been working with border universities to develop technological research and training programs that have direct application to work in this area. A

large proportion of this work has been in the area of industrial waste minimization and reuse.

Major Achievements:

- The Foundation is involved in a group that promotes exchange between the U.S. State of California and the Mexican State of Baja California. The objective of this work is to identify research, technical assistance, educational and training needs, a role for state government in providing support and orientation, and finally, the potential benefits of a cross-border program focused on innovation and collaboration.

- Also, the Foundation has partnered with Texas-based organizations to foster communication and collaboration between Texas and adjacent Mexican states on the topic of industrial waste minimization and reuse. To date, the group has performed a needs identification among industries along the border, and has worked on strengthening regional environmental laboratories and technical assistance capabilities.

- Studies done as a result of this broad collaboration between Texas and neighboring Mexican states call for increased accessibility to technical services for industry. In response, a proposal has been made to establish "Industrial Technological Service Centers" that, with the input of both businesses and academic institutions, raise the technical capabilities of professional staff in industrial plants.

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Sustainable Urban and Rural Development

Sustainable Urban Development along the US-Mexico Border

In late 1998, the Foundation began to explore ways to improve binational collaboration in the field of urban development by promoting the application of scientific/technological solutions to problems of urban growth in areas along the border. The nature of the subject has required the Foundation to establish ties not only with binational research groups, but also with state and local government in charge of managing urban and rural areas suffering from the effects of rapid growth, as well as with community groups that represent residents of distressed areas.

In this work, the Foundation has partnered with federal and state agencies of both the U.S. and Mexico, with specialized binational institutions and with municipal planning agencies for various border cities. A highly collaborative area, the Foundation supported and participated in several meetings held throughout 1999 – meetings focused on how partners could promote sustainable development in the areas of: population, housing and zoning; urban development; infrastructure and equipment; industry, transportation, air pollution, and; exploitation and usage of natural resources.

Major Achievements:

- Out of exploratory meetings held in San Diego, Mexicali, Tecate and Tijuana, a document outlining specific areas of scientific and technological collaboration was developed. An important focus outlined in this document was the training of specialists/technicians in the area of sustainable urban development.

- Under consideration by the Foundation for future support, discussions also lead to the articulation of a pilot project focused on creating a planning model for sustainable development tailored specifically to the border region.

Air Quality in Large Cities

Considering the importance of air quality in large cities around the world, and in particular in U.S. and Mexico urban areas, the Foundation supports the study of atmospheric pollution in Mexico City by a binational group, led in the U.S. by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and in Mexico by a consortium of 8 research groups. The objectives of these studies are to shed light on the economic, social and political causes and resulting public health consequences of atmospheric pollution in metropolitan areas, and to facilitate the design of innovative solutions.

Major Achievements:

- The Foundation has been awarded funds by the MIT Mexico City Project, matched by resources from the National Council on Science and Technology (Mexico, CONACYT), to consolidate this multidisciplinary, binational network, to support research in this area, and to organize periodic meetings to promote collaboration and discussion on the topic.

- The Foundation has helped to raise funds for 11 distinct research projects being implemented by research groups in and around Mexico City, and has supported two major workshops on the theme.

Exploratory Activities in Agriculture and Rural Sustainable Development

In consultation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (DOA), the Mexican Secretary of Agriculture (SAGAR) and its research institute (INIFAP), in 1998 the Foundation began to consider its involvement in several areas where there is a growing role for binational collaboration in science and technology.

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Enhancement of Human Resources in Science and Technology

Since its establishment, the Foundation has prioritized human resource development as a key strategy to improve the quality of collaboration and exchange between the U.S. and Mexico. The level of training of scientists, as well as the technological parity between nations, influences the ideas, the quality of collaboration and the success of many projects undertaken by the Foundation. In addition, the exchange inherent in strengthening human resources has played a key role in building the relationships that affect later work efforts.

Visiting Senior Scientist Program

The Foundation, together with the Mexican Academy of Sciences, supports visits of distinguished guest scientists, whereby researchers from the U.S. offer courses, seminars and specialized conferences in Mexico. In visits during 1998 and 1999, researchers came from universities, research institutions and government agencies to lecture on a broad array of topics in science and technology. These topics were in areas such as memory neurobiology, astrophysics, marine biology, immunology, mathematics and demographics.

In 1998-99, the Foundation sponsored 33 visiting scientists, granting a total of $30,000 (U.S. dollars) to cover expenses, as they shared their work with universities and government agencies throughout Mexico. After their visit, each scientist reported on their activities, highlighting collaborative projects and ongoing relationships that stemmed from their trip.

Major Achievements:

- In 1998, 17 guest lecturers were supported through the program. These lecturers covered 12 different topic areas and initiated plans for 7 collaborative projects with their hosting institutions.

- In 1999, 16 guest lecturers in 12 distinct topic areas were sponsored. The time these lecturers spent in Mexico totaled more than 100 days.

- Looking forward to the next year, the Foundation has approved 18 guest scientist visits in 2000.

Summer Fellowship Program for Young Scientists

Also in collaboration with the Mexican Academy of Sciences, the summer fellowship program is designed to support established young Mexican researchers while they work for 3-month periods in the United States. Fellowships are focused on supporting research in one of four areas: astronomy, physics, chemistry and biochemistry.

Major Achievements:

- In the 1998-99 period, the Foundation granted a total of $81,000 (U.S. dollars) to support the work of 18 scientists.

- In this same time period, hosting institutions in the U.S. included 14 leading universities (Harvard, Princeton and Yale, among others) and 4 research laboratories.

- In 2000, the Foundation will grant 10 fellowships for researchers from across Mexico to work in both pure and applied science – including such areas as computer, material and environmental sciences.

Training of Specialists in Science and Technology Policy and Strategy

Given the critical role of science and technology in economic growth and sustainable development, in 1998 the Foundation began to foster discussions over how to promote the development of programs that trained specialists in the design of science and technology policy and strategies for regional and business development.

Out of these discussions emerged several strategies for developing expertise in areas that link science and technology with sustainable development, economic policy and business management. With the financial backing of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Foundation has supported collaboration between U.S. and Mexican universities as they developed post-graduate academic programs focused on building these skills. Scholarships have been offered to Mexican students to pursue studies in these areas at U.S. and Mexican universities, and two workshops have been held to discuss how Mexican universities can be encouraged and supported as they develop these types of academic programs.

Major Achievements:

- In July of 1998, the Foundation initiated discussions on the topic by hosting a workshop out of which financial support was granted to the Instituto Tecnológico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM) to work with the Innovation, Creativity and Capital Institute (IC2) of the University of Texas at Austin to create a graduate program in technology management and commercialization.

- Nine fellowships have been granted to students to work in this new program, focused on the integration of technology in economic development strategies, at ITESM, and the university is searching for ways to increase accessibility to the program through its virtual, internet-based university.

- Seven fellowships have been granted to Mexican students for postgraduate studies at U.S. universities in the areas of technology management and science and technology policy.

- In July of 1999, in collaboration with the Science and Technology Commission of the House of Deputies of the Mexican Congress, the Foundation sponsored a conference in Puebla, Mexico to foster binational collaboration between universities to develop programs of science and technology policy in Mexico. This work resulted in the initiation of proposals that use the Internet to create binational education projects.

Workshops on Advanced Research Techniques

Also with the support of the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, the Foundation has, since 1997, sponsored workshops to help in the diffusion of new research techniques. These workshops are held throughout Mexico, lead by U.S. and Mexican researchers, with representatives from research institutes, government agencies and universities in attendance. Topic areas cover biotechnology, genetics, advanced computing, cellular physiology and anthropological research, among others.

Major Achievements:

- Since its inception in 1997, 8 multiple-day workshops have been held at locations throughout Mexico.

- Nearly 100 researchers from over 15 institutions of higher education in Mexico have participated in these workshops through the years.

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Bi-national Research Projects

As one of the first programs the Foundation undertook after its establishment, binational research projects were supported in an effort to link the work of researchers in Mexico with those in the United States. First in 1993, and then again in 1994, multiple-year grants totaling nearly $983,000 and $722,000, respectively, were granted to a total of 24 research teams. Each project was reviewed by evaluators in both Mexico and the U.S. -- the last of these evaluations was completed in the 1998-99 time frame.

As was expected, each project strengthened binational collaboration by fostering productive relationships between U.S. and Mexican researchers. Moreover, each project obtained important results related to science and technology, in areas such as marine organisms, geological structures, pathogens, and on a social level, the potential of maquiladora managers to serve as agents for business development.

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Financial Information

Program Funding, 1998-1999

	1998	1999
Water	$ 274,941	$ 707,978
Sustainable Industrial Development	$30,378	$49,243
Sustainable Urban and Rural Development	$1,594	$18,805
Enhancement of Human Resources in Science and Technology	$163,999	$166,236
Binational Research Projects	$154,164	$0
TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING	**$625,076**	**$942,262**

Balance Sheet as of 12/31

	1998*	1999**
ASSETS		
Petty Cash	530	643
Bank Deposits in Pesos	11,593	27,618
Bank Deposits in Dollars and Current Investments	245,299	125,708
Cash and Banks	**257,422**	**153,969**
Sundry Debtors	5,774	10,093
Total Current Assets	**263,196**	**164,062**
Equipment	56,426	65,326
Depreciation	(19,826)	(30,531)
Net Fixed Assets	**36,600**	**34,795**
Deferred Charges	7,545	8,651
TOTAL ASSETS	**307,341**	**207,508**
LIABILITIES AND SURPLUS		
Sundry Creditors and Suppliers	6,260	1,166
Taxes Payable	13,170	14,276
Total Current Liabilities	**19,430**	**15,442**
Net Capital 12/31/97 and 12/31/98	579,956	299,970
Surplus (Deficit) for Current Period plus	(292,045)	(107,904)
Exchange Rate Effect		
Net Worth as of 12/31/98 and 12/31/99	**287,911**	**192,066**
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET WORTH	**307,341**	**207,508**

***** 1998 figures are in U.S. dollars calculated with an exchange rate of $9.8963 pesos/dollar.

** 1999 figures are in U.S. dollars calculated with an exchange rate of $9.4986 pesos/dollar.

Note: In 1998 and 1999, U.S. and Mexican government agencies made contributions to the Endowment Fund of the Foundation in the total amount of $13.9 million USD. This quantity corresponds to memoranda accounts upon which the Foundation only relies on the interest generated by those investments. The US resources came from NSF, USDA, EPA and NASA and the Mexican resources came through CONACYT.

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Board of Governors

The Board of Governors which directs the activities of the Foundation is composed of seven members from each country who donate their time and energy to the leadership and projects of the organization. These distinguished volunteers represent government, private industry and the academic community, and are considered leaders in their respective fields. They are individuals who actively participate in the scientific-technological life of both countries, and who facilitate communication and cooperation within the communities they represent.

Dr. Susan Scrimshaw, President

Dean of the School of Public Health, University of Illinois in Chicago; Member of the U.S. Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences; Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science; Recipient of the Margaret Mead Award from the Society for Applied Anthropology and the American Anthropological Society.

Dr. Pablo Rudomín, Vice President

General Coordinator of the Science Advisory Council of the President of the Mexican Republic; Recipient of the Prince of Asturias of Spain award and of the Luis Elizondo Prize in Medical and Biological Sciences; Former member of the International Selection Committee for the Bower Award and Prize in Science of the Franklin Institute; Member of El Colegio Nacional.

Lic. Carlos Bazdresch Parada

General Director of the National Council of Science and Technology (CONACYT, Mexico); Former Director of Economic and Social Programming for the Ministry of the Presidency; Served as advisor to the Sub-Director of Finance and Public Credit and to the General Director of the Bank of Mexico.

Ing. Benito Bucay

Director of Grupo Industrial BRE; Trustee of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); Former Adjunct Director of Grupo DESC; Recipient, Andrés Manuel del Río Award from the Chemical Society of Mexico and the Ernesto Ríos del Castillo Award from the National College of Chemists and Chemical Engineers.

Dr. Ernest Eliel

Professor Emeritus in Chemistry at the University of North Carolina; Former President of the American Chemical Society and of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science; Member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and of the Mexican Academy of Sciences; Awarded the Priestley Medal, its highest distinction, as well as the George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education by the American Chemical Society (ACS).

Dr. Mauricio Fortes

Coordinator of International Affairs and Former President of the Mexican Academy of Sciences; Professor at the Physics Institute and Former General Coordinator of Graduate Studies at the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); Former President of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science.

Dr. Ismael Herrera Revilla

Director and Professor Emeritus of the Institute on Informatics, Applied Mathematics and Systems at National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM); President of the National Academy of Engineering (Mexico).

Dr. Adolfo Martínez Palomo

Director of the Center for Research and Advanced Studies (CINVESTAV); Member of El Colegio Nacional, and of the National System of Researchers; Member of the Board of Governors of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM).

Dr. Mario Molina

Professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT); Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, 1995.

Dr. Diana Natalicio

President of the University of Texas, El Paso; Member of the National Science Board (U.S.); Award in Education in 1999; Awarded the Harold McGraw Prize in Education; Member of the Texas Women's Hall of Fame.

The Honorable Jaime Oaxaca

Vice President of Coronado Communications, Corp; Former member of the National Science Board (U.S.); Former Vice President of the Northrup Corporation.

Dr. Raúl Gerardo Quintero Flores

General Director of the Technology Division of HYLSAMEX Steel Group; Former President of the Mexican Association of Research Directors; Former President of the Mexican Association of Executives of Applied Research and Technological Development.

Dr. Beryl Simpson

C.L. Lundell Professor of Plant Systematics, Section of Integrative Biology, University of Texas; Former President of the Society to Study Evolution and of the Botanical Society of America; President of the Society of Economy Botany; Member of the Smithsonian Council.

Dr. Clint Smith

Senior Research Associate at the Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, Stanford University; Retired senior U.S. diplomat; Author of several books and articles on Mexico, U.S.-Mexico and North American issues.

Dr. Craig Black =

Director, Museum of Natural History of Los Angeles (Retired); Past President of the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology and of the Paleontological Society; Former Director of the Natural History Foundation, the Carnegie Museum of Natural History, and the Museum of Texas Tech University; Former Professor of Biology at the University of Kansas; Filled the role of Vice President of the Board of Governors for the U.S.-Mexico Foundation for Science from May of 1997 until his death on December 5, 1998. The Foundation thanks him for his great contribution to the development and consolidation of its programs and organization.

Executive Director, The Mexico-United States Foundation for Science

Ing. Guillermo Fernández de la Garza

Advisory Council Member for the University of California UC-MEXUS Program, the Cross Border Institute for Regional Development (CBIRD) and the U.S. National Science Resources Center; Former Adjunct Director of the National Council for Science and Technology; Past Executive Director of the Institute for Electrical Research (IIE, Mexico); Former Member of the Advisory Boards of UNESCO, UNIDO and the IAEA.

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