

# Tec de Monterrey and UNAM join forces to create research consortium



[Tecnológico de Monterrey](#) and the National Autonomous University of Mexico ([UNAM](#)), which are the two highest ranked universities in Mexico, have signed a collaboration agreement to boost the country's scientific and **technological ecosystem**.

[David Garza](#), rector and executive president of Tec de Monterrey, and [Enrique Graue](#), rector of UNAM, presided over the **launch** ceremony for the **UNAM-TEC Consortium for Research, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship**.

Each educational institution made a commitment to contribute a seed fund of 10 million pesos to promote **initial projects**. **Private enterprise** will also participate in the Consortium.

The ceremony took place on August 18 in the **Tec's Mexico City Campus Library**. Directors from both universities participated alongside representatives from [FEMSA](#) and [CEMEX](#), who will be the first beneficiaries of the agreement.

Convenio UNAM Tec width="900" loading="lazy"> **Renewing their commitment to science, innovation, and technology**

The objective of the Consortium is to **strengthen collaboration** by bringing together different experiences and capacities to develop projects, initiatives, programs, or high-value research that boost **educational, social, and economic development** in Mexico.

It was also agreed to strengthen the links between both institutions to **create new and better work schemes**.

The agreement encourages research teams and students from the two universities to **work together** and create **synergies** for the development of **technological projects**.

As a result, students will develop **skills** that they can use in professional settings. The links they will develop with companies through these projects could also lead to **future job opportunities**.

This agreement means that the universities will also be able to create **synergies with companies** for developing technologies that find innovative solutions to the needs of different industries.

## Refrendo de la firma de colaboración UNAM-Tec- width="900" loading="lazy"> **Tec and UNAM collaborate on Mexican development**

David Garza, rector and president of Tec, emphasized the **service to society** provided by both **higher education institutions** as a result of their lengthy **collaboration**.

*“The launch of this Consortium for Research, Technology Transfer, and Entrepreneurship is, without a doubt, a step forward in putting our creativity and talent at the **service of society**,”* Garza said.

*“It’s our duty to **join forces in all areas**, and to bring in other stakeholders from research, education, economy, and government, to begin a positive evolution towards the **knowledge economy in Mexico**,”* he added.

**Enrique Graue**, rector of UNAM, recognized the efforts made by both universities in innovating and in working together with private enterprise to **improve social and economic development** in Mexico.

*“Today, an **unprecedented milestone** brings us together: the meeting and **fusion of interests** with Mexican companies. We’re aware that we need to innovate and **increase the value of products produced in Mexico**,”* said the rector of UNAM.

*“The launch of this Consortium (...) is, without a doubt, a step forward in putting our creativity and talent at the service of society.” - David Garza, rector and president of the Tec.*

## **Opening the door to innovation with companies**

At the signing of the collaboration agreement, **FEMSA** and **CEMEX** also signed **memoranda of understanding** to join the consortium.

These will be the first private enterprises to pose challenges to the **Tec and UNAM research teams**.

*“This agreement is a fundamental part of bringing academia and private enterprise together to address the **important challenges** that we’re working on,”* said Ricardo Naya, president of CEMEX.

*“It’s a unique synergy between CEMEX, UNAM, and the Tec, bringing together **the best research and development talent** from the three institutions,”* he added.

*“In collaborating with **UNAM and Tecnológico de Monterrey**, we’re opening the door to a flow of challenges, needs, new knowledge, and opportunities that will allow us to live in a **truly innovative community**,”* said Víctor Treviño, Director of Energy and Sustainability at FEMSA.

Rectores con representantes de IP. width="900" loading="lazy">

[Juan Pablo Murra](#), rector of undergraduate and graduate studies at the Tec, emphasized that the agreement has facilitated **collaboration between the universities** for several years in areas such as health, additive manufacturing, and entrepreneurship.

*“From the scientific collaboration of our researchers on more than **500 joint publications**, to the creation of the **RIE 360 Educational Innovation Network**, where universities promote learning through educational innovation,”* he said.

The launch of the Consortium also meant the **renewal of the Collaboration Framework Agreement**, originally signed by both institutions in 2016 and which was **valid for 5 years**.

The event also included **Jorge Vázquez Ramos**, Coordinator of Outreach and Technology Transfer at UNAM, and **Hugo Garza Medina**, vice president of Strategic Projects at Tec de Monterrey.

## **Tec-UNAM collaboration projects**

In May 2016, **Salvador Alva**, then president of Tecnológico de Monterrey, and **Enrique Graue**, rector of UNAM, made the commitment to collaborate on developing science, innovation, and technology to have a positive **impact on Mexico**.

Here are some of the collaborative projects:

### **- Educational Innovation Network (RIE 360)**

This network, which 12 Mexican public and private universities participate in, aims to improve education and make it more accessible.

### **- Decision-making center for the hydrocarbon sector**

This is an analytical platform using data science to generate scenarios that allow better decision-making to take place.

**- The National Additive Manufacturing, 3D Digitization, and Computed Tomography Laboratory (MADIT)**

This studies the properties and relationship between materials, processes, and geometry, and focuses on areas such as the health industry.

**- The Together for Health initiative**

Both institutions participated in the initiative and jointly supported the health sector during the pandemic.

Both institutions are the two highest-ranked universities in Mexico: **UNAM** ranks **105th** and the **Tec** **161st** in the **QS World University Rankings 2022**; the **Times Higher Education Latin American Rankings** names the Tec as the fourth best university.

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