U.S. company leaders seek collaboration with Tec de Monterrey



A group of **15 leaders** of businesses, startups, associations, and companies from **Texas**, **Washington**, and **California**, plus members of the <u>U.S.-Mexico Foundation</u>, have visited <u>Tec de</u> **Monterrey** to explore collaborations in various areas.

Topics discussed at the meeting, held on May 12 at the **Monterrey campus**, included urban improvement and educational innovation projects, corporate partnerships, and student exchanges with the **United States**.

"We're really happy that you're here. We look forward to listening to your **opinions** and **ideas**, as well as your critiques, since we learn a lot when we're asked or challenged about what we're doing," said **David Garza**, the Tec's rector and executive president.

"It seems to me that there are many ways to collaborate through universities, companies, and through many civil society institutions," said **Enrique Perret**, Director of the U.S.-Mexico Foundation and Tec de Monterrey **graduate**.

Otro de los puntos que abordaron en la reunión entre directivos del Tec y la delegación de la U.S-Mexico width="900" loading="lazy">

Another issue addressed at the meeting between Tec directors and the delegation from **U.S.-Mexico Foundation** was that of **internationalization**, which the participants said was an area of opportunity.

"The number of **students** from the **United States** at Tec de Monterrey has decreased, and I think we should do something to promote relations between the two countries," said Mario Adrián Flores, Vice President of the Tec's Monterrey Region.

"We need to further **connect** U.S. **universities** with Mexican universities, and connect governments in this bilateral relationship," said Perret.

"We look forward to listening to your opinions and ideas, as well as your critiques, since we learn a lot when we're asked or challenged about what we're doing." - David Garza

Enrique Perret es director US-México Foundation y egresado del Tec de Monterrey width="900" loading="lazy">

Learning about Tec de Monterrey projects

During the meeting, directors from **Tecnológico de Monterrey** shared some of the institution's educational and social projects and initiatives.

For example, **José Antonio Torre**, Director of Urban Planning, Sustainability, and Material Assets at the Tec, explained **DistritoTec**, the urban improvement initiative for the neighborhoods surrounding the Monterrey campus.

"People were leaving the area, but **we started a conversation** and sat down to listen to the community, their needs, and ideas for the spaces in the future.

"We expected a change in the **trend**, but we didn't imagine the **accelerated changes** we've had, and now we're moving from being a district of regeneration to one of innovation," said Torre.

For his part, Flores pointed out that they're already working on transforming **DistritoTec into an innovation district** by creating areas to concentrate talent, institutions, and companies in the same place.

Ignacio de la Vega compartió el modelo educativo de la institución llamado Tec21 width="900" loading="lazy"> Looking for opportunities to collaborate on the Tec21 Model

Similarly, **Ignacio de la Vega**, Executive Vice-Rector for Academic Affairs, Faculty, and Internationalization at the Tec, shared the institution's educational model, known as **Tec21**.

This model is based on **learning** through solving **real-world challenges**, in partnership with institutions, governments, companies, and civil associations, as well as having a **flexible structure**

as to how, when, and where learning takes place.

What's more, it aims for students to have a **memorable university experience** and **inspiring professors**, some of whom come from other institutions around the world and who work in partnership with universities such as **MIT** and **Harvard**.

De la Vega pointed out that this **model** has **drawn the attention** of both foreign universities and organizations, and **invited** their visitors to collaborate through their respective companies and organizations.

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About the U.S.-Mexico Foundation

The U.S.-Mexico Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting bilateral relations between the United States and Mexico.

Their visit to Mexico and Tec de Monterrey is part of a program known as "U.S.-Mexico 360," which consists of bringing leaders from Washington D.C., Texas, and California to Mexico, including executives from Oracle, Cargill, Breakthrough Energy, and Corn Refiners Association, among others.

"I'm very **impressed** with how the Tec connects with businesses and companies and I think they're doing even better than technology centers in the United States.

"It's encouraging to hear how they're doing here at the Tec," said Karyl Fowler, CEO of Transmute Industries.

The visit intends to address issues such as education, entrepreneurship, security, migration, climate change, and supply chains.

Mario Adrian Flore indicó que se trabaja ya en la transformación de Distrito Tec en un distrito de innovación width="900" loading="lazy">

"With these types of visits, we promote **bilateral cooperation** and **understanding** between the United States and Mexico. In the same way, it helps us generate long-term synergies with leading organizations and companies.

"So, we contribute by providing **cutting-edge knowledge** to solve current problems in the bilateral relationship," explains **Carlos Lugo**, manager of International Relations at the Tec.

The U.S. delegation was in Monterrey from May 9 to 13 , where they also met with state and municipal officials, companies, and civil associations.
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