

# Tec rector speaks at Rice University about key issues for Mexico-USA



***“Strengthening the bilateral relationship between Mexico and the United States will help both countries create world-class cities,”*** said David Garza, Rector and Executive President of [Tecnológico de Monterrey](#).

He shared this opinion at [Mexico Country Outlook 2024](#), an event organized by the [Center for the U.S. and Mexico](#) at [Rice University](#), which aims to help **entrepreneurs, investors, policymakers, opinion leaders, and academics** to understand the economic, political, and business environment of Mexico.

Opening the event, Garza spoke about the opportunities for **binational collaboration** from a higher education perspective.

***“Tec de Monterrey is an example of successful collaboration and influence from the United States.***

***“Our founder ([Eugenio Garza Sada](#)) studied at MIT and was inspired by his time there: he returned to Mexico and proposed how to influence its development through high-impact education,”*** Garza emphasized.

During his talk, the rector and executive president of the Tec provided an overview of the institution, sharing that it has a **presence in 32 cities in 20 Mexican states**.

[https://www.instagram.com/p/C0nXSd5gDol/?img\\_index=1](https://www.instagram.com/p/C0nXSd5gDol/?img_index=1)

He also addressed how universities can respond to global **trends** and challenges, such as **artificial intelligence, Web3, the Metaverse, migration, climate change**, and the **transition to a green economy**, to name but a few.

When discussing **binational opportunities and challenges**, Garza delved into topics such as:

- *Increasing student mobility in both countries.*
- *Providing solutions to climate change, and jointly working to resolve problems such as water scarcity.*
- *Supporting and understanding the needs of the Hispanic population in the United States.*
- *Jointly developing innovation ecosystems.*
- *Leveraging AI to power jobs of the future.*



**Tec de Monterrey-Rice University collaboration**

Carlos Lugo, international relations manager, highlighted that ***“universities function as bridges to build bilateral relationships and address future challenges by generating talent.”***

The invitation from the [Center for the U.S. and Mexico](#) at [Rice University](#) is a response to that, Lugo said.

He emphasized that collaboration between **Tec de Monterrey** and **Rice University** has led to programs allowing students from both institutions to develop their professional skills. He listed some examples, such as:

1. Developing the joint [Doctorate in Nanotechnology](#).
2. Creating the joint [Master's Degree in Engineering Management](#).
3. Offering ([undergraduate](#)) research stays.
4. Delivering joint continuing education programs.
5. *The "Nearshoring Opportunities in the Semiconductor Industry in North America"* project.
6. The [Puentes Consortium](#), a program which promotes multidisciplinary research on topics of importance to the relationship between both countries.

### **About the Mexico Country Outlook event**

This is the fifth **Mexico Country Outlook** event, which is organized by the [Center for the U.S. and Mexico](#), which belongs to the [Baker Institute for Public Policy](#) at [Rice University](#).

During the day, **participants analyzed the challenges facing Mexico and their impact on binational relations between the United States and Mexico.**

In addition to David Garza, experts from both countries discussed **Mexico's political, economic, business, and public security landscapes.**

Each year, the audience includes **business leaders and investors, policymakers, academics, and students interested in public policy issues in Mexico and those affecting the binational relationship.**

Attendees are given early access to the **Mexico Country Outlook** report, the **flagship publication** of the Center for the U.S. and Mexico.

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