

Featuring alumni news, student spotlights, upcoming events and volunteer opportunities.

UCEAP™ UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA EDUCATION ABROAD PROGRAM | ALUMNI & FRIENDS

DECEMBER 2018



(UCEAP Alumni in front of the UNAM Library)

UC Alumni Celebrate 50 Years of Exchange!

UCEAP traveled to Mexico City in September to celebrate our 50th anniversary of student exchange with our partners in Mexico. Alumni, faculty, staff, and friends joined us for four days of events in commemoration of our partnerships. Our photo album is available [here](#).

We started our celebration with a welcome reception at the Hotel Krystal Grand Insurgentes Sur, followed by a dinner at the Restaurante San Angel. The following day, the festivities continued with a guided walking tour of the UNAM campus, which gave alumni information on the historical context of the creation of the famous murals on the sides of campus buildings. A small group then participated in a cooking class and lunch at La Casa de la Universidad de California en México.

The budding chefs made *chiles en nogada* in celebration of Mexican Independence Day. That afternoon we headed to the National Museum of Anthropology for a tour of the Mexica room.



(UCEAP Alumni in front of the Pyramid of the Moon at Teotihuacán)

Day Trip to Teotihuacán

On the third day, we took a trip outside of Mexico City to Teotihuacán, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Commonly referred to as the City of the Gods, this pre-Columbian Mesoamerican city is known for its well-preserved murals, vast Avenue of the Dead, and the impressive pyramids that mark its landscape. After a guided tour and the chance to climb the Pyramids of the Sun and Moon, the group convened at La Gruta Restaurant for lunch. The restaurant is located in a spacious cavity of volcanic origin, and provided a beautiful and other-worldly atmosphere.



(UCEAP Students & Alumni at the Gala Reception at the Casa de la Universidad de California en México)

50th Anniversary Gala Reception

Our final day included a morning trip to la Casa Azul (the Blue House), which houses the Frida Kahlo Museum, in Coyoacán. The museum preserves the personal objects that reveal the private universe of Latin America's most celebrated woman artist. The Blue House also contains some of the painter's most important works: *Long Live Life* (1954), *Frida and the Caesarian Operation* (1931), and *Portrait of My Father Wilhelm Kahlo* (1952), among others.

The events culminated in a gala reception at La Casa de la Universidad de California en México. The event was hosted by Vivian-Lee Nyitray, Associate Vice Provost and Executive Director of UCEAP, and included remarks by Gloria Ornelas, Director of Exchange and Student Mobility at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), as well as Allert Brown-Gort, Executive Director of the Casa de California. UCEAP alumnus Diego Zarazoga Tejas (UCLA, UNAM 1999) and Brenda de Jesus Acosta (UCSC, UNAM 2018) spoke about their experiences studying in Mexico City through UCEAP. Karen Mead, Program Director of UCEAP Programs in Latin America, was the emcee. UCEAP also honored Verónica Tellez for her 25 years of service at the UCEAP Study Center in Mexico City.

We look forward to another 50 years with our partners in Mexico!

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Looking for ways to get involved? Sign up to be a Volunteer Scholarship Reader and review applications for our UCEAP Promise Awards. The next review cycle is in March. [Learn more](#).

UCEAP has a powerful and expanding network of 100,000 alumni in every field and every corner of the world. Whether you want to take the next step in your career or simply catch up with old friends, you'll find many ways to reach out, link up, and join the conversation. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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