

# Higher Education Facilities: Issues and Trends

International conference to be held in  
Zacatecas, Zacatecas, México, 29-30 May 2006

## *Organisers*

The Mexican Secretariat of Public Education (SEP)  
The Administrative Board of the Federal School Construction Programme (CAPFCE, Mexico)  
The OECD Programme on Educational Building (PEB)  
The OECD Programme on Institutional Management in Higher Education (IMHE)  
The National Association of Universities and Higher Education Institutions (ANUIES, Mexico)

## *Host*

State Government of Zacatecas

## *Co-hosts*

Autonomous University of Zacatecas  
Zacatecas Technological Institute

## *Partner organisations*

International Association of Universities (IAU)  
Consortium for North American Higher Education Collaboration (CONAHEC)

## *Who should attend?*

Facility planners, designers and managers  
Institutional planners  
Policy makers  
Architects and builders  
Institutional leaders

## *Venue*

The conference will be held at the Don Miguel Hotel in the mining city of Zacatecas, which is located in the central part of Mexico. Zacatecas, classified by UNESCO as a World Heritage site in 1994, is a very well preserved colonial city in Mexico which is part of the Colonial Treasures of Mexico and has an impressive cultural heritage. Founded as a mining town more than 450 years ago, the city is a gateway to colonial Mexico.

The meeting will take place before the CAPFCE V International Congress on the Development of Physical Infrastructure, which will be held from 1 to 3 May 2006. The conference will take place at the Hotel Don Miguel.

### ***Objectives***

As higher education becomes a dynamic, global business, the strategic management of higher education facilities is becoming increasingly complex. A greater number of students with higher expectations and changing needs has a major impact on how facilities should be planned, designed and managed. Furthermore, in a context of increasing financial restrictions and accountability, higher education facilities management professionals are facing new challenges in terms of learning environment.

In order to discuss these challenges and to identify and examine important trends that could influence the planning, design and management of higher education facilities, share best practices, and learn about new approaches, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in collaboration with the Mexican Ministry of Education (SEP), the Administrative Board of the Federal School Construction Programme (CAPFCE) and the Mexican Association of Universities (ANUIES), is inviting institutional leaders, higher education facilities professionals and representatives of interested government agencies, to attend the international conference on “Higher Education Facilities: Issues and Trends”, to be hosted by the State Government of Zacatecas, in the colonial city of Zacatecas.

### ***Issues for discussion***

The main questions which the conference will address are the following:

- Identifying current challenges and opportunities in the field of higher education facilities.
- Sharing best practices.
- Comparing experiences in planning, designing and managing higher education facilities for the future, in different regions and countries.
- Promoting the certification of skills in the professional and technical fields of higher education facilities.
- Fostering active participation of institutions, governments and the business sector in the field of higher education facilities.

Concurrent sessions will showcase strategies and best practices at institutional level in areas such as:

- Designing or re-designing campus architecture to meet 21<sup>st</sup> century challenges.
- Transforming traditional universities into global institutions.
- Integrating emerging technologies to the new campus.
- Managing higher education facilities.
- Space planning and administration.
- Financing new construction and maintaining building quality.

## *Conference highlights*

Participants will have an opportunity to:

- Attend overviews by experts from higher education, governmental and business organisations on major issues and trends in higher education facilities planning and management.
- Participate in working group sessions.
- Participate in networking exercises.
- Attend the 5<sup>th</sup> CAPFCE International Congress on Educational Infrastructure.

## *Papers*

The organising committee will accept a limited number of proposals for papers discussing relevant experiences and case studies. Abstracts should be received by **31 March 2006**. Potential presenters will be notified whether their proposal has been accepted by **15 April 2006**. Full papers should be received by **28 April 2006**.

*Please note that travel and accommodation costs as well as registration fees will be presenters' responsibility.*

## *Working languages*

The working languages for the conference are Spanish and English.

## *Documentation*

Background documents and practical information will be sent to registered participants approximately one month prior to the event.

## *Accommodation and travel arrangements*

Travel and accommodation arrangements, including organisation of visas for entry into Mexico, will be the responsibility of each participant.

## *Registration fee*

For participants coming from OECD and PEB member countries as well as for participants who represent IMHE member institutions or Mexican institutions, a registration fee of 100 EUR will apply.

A fee of 200 EUR will be charged to all other participants.

*A detailed programme including a registration form will be available soon.  
As there will be a limited number of participants, if you wish to pre-register, please send an e-mail to the PEB Secretariat: [peb@OECD.org](mailto:peb@OECD.org)*