Colombia-Purdue Institute for Advanced Scientific Research

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❖ Strategic plan-inspired, faculty- and staff-led, alumni-enabled partnership between Colombia and Purdue that has grown organically over the past 18 months

❖ Why Colombia?

  • Alignment of visions: building a technology-based economy, with emphasis on nanotechnology, biotechnology, biodiversity – Colombia’s “Vision 2025”
  • “CIVETS”
  • Exemplifies Purdue’s learning, discovery, and engagement missions
  • A focus on education at all levels
  • The opportunity to redefine the PhD: “a relevant PhD” for future community/national leaders in economic development and education
Components of the partnership

- MOUs with the Ministry of Education, Colisciencias, Colfutura around PhD fellowships
- Interactions with 18 universities
- Technical focus on nanotechnology, biotechnology, biodiversity, and earthquake engineering
- October 2011 collaboration workshop at Purdue to seed collaborations in nanotechnology; 2012 biodiversity workshop in Medellin being planned
- Faculty and student exchanges
- EPICS student design projects in water and power
- First mirror-site for nanoHUB.org; high-performance computing cluster installed at EAFIT in Medellin
- Collaborations with industry: EPM, Colombia’s largest public services company; Kimberly-Clark Latin America, ...
- Hundreds of people visits over the past 18 months
- Purdue team members from Engineering, Agriculture, Science, Birck Nanotechnology Center, Burton Morgan Center for Entrepreneurship, Global Policy Research Institute, Vice-President for IT, NSF Network for Earthquake Engineering Simulation (NEES), EPICS, ...