

Colombia-Purdue Institute for Advanced Scientific Research

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Colombia-Purdue Institute for Advanced Scientific Research (CPIASR / CoIPICA)

- 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

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- Components of the partnership
 - MOUs with the Ministry of Education, Colsciencias, 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, ...

