



# Fostering Mexican–U.S. Academic Collaboration Through **Proyectora 100K**

## What is Proyectora 100K?



In November 2014, the American English Institute (AEI) hosted thirty-six students and teachers from fourteen Mexican universities for four weeks of ESL studies. These participants were a part of the first cohort of **Proyectora 100K**, the Mexican government’s ambitious initiative to send 100,00 university students and teachers to the United States to study ESL by 2018. All student receive a full scholarship for study, living, and travel. The U.S. government, in turn, pledges to send 100,000 American students to Latin American universities in order to promote academic collaboration between the two nations.

In addition to studying ESL full-time at AEI, the Proyectora students presented during International Education Week, were interviewed by a local radio station, were guests on a segment on the local Univision channel, and went to Fresno State games. They went on trips with AEI students and participated in AEI activities. They even found time to travel, shop, and enjoy in California.

## Challenges

- Housing
- Staffing
- Curriculum
- Classroom Space

## Triumphs

- Collaboration with Fresno State faculty from Chicano/Latino Studies and English
- Outstanding efforts by all AEI staff
- Energy and enthusiasm from Proyectora 100K students to the AEI program
- Interest from Proyectora 100K students in returning to Fresno State

Cheryl Chan, Director  
cherylc@csufresno.edu



## Lessons Learned

- More comfortable housing needed
- Integration into regular AEI program rather than a separate program desired
- More extensive orientation to US classroom expectations needed

## Moving Forward

Fifty Proyectora 100K students are expected to study at AEI in June 2015.

Anita Hernandez, Student Services  
anita@mail.fresnostate.edu

