

Microsoft® Research

Faculty Summit 2010

Guarujá, Brasil | May 12 – 14 | In collaboration with FAPESP

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Science, Technology and Innovation Collaboration
in Latin America and the Caribbean: Specific
Actions.

Dr. Rodrigo Santos
CLEI President

What is CLEI?

- CLEI stands for Centro Latinoamericano de Estudios en Informática – Latin American Center of Studies in Informatics.
- It groups over 100 Universities and Computer Societies in Latin America, Caribbean, United States and Spain.
- Since 1974 organizes the main Computer Conference in the region.
- Since 1998 publishes an electronic journal, CLEI EJ. In process of indexation at Scielo.
- www.clei.org

What CLEI does?

- Conferencia Latinoamericana de Informática.
- Congreso Iberoamericano de Enseñanza Superior de Computación.
- Concurso Latinoamericano de Tesis de Maestría.
- Latin American Networking Conference (junto a IFIP y ACM).
- Congreso de la Mujer Latinoamericana en Computación.
- Simposio de Historia de Informática en América Latina y el Caribe.
- Next event [18th-22nd October 2010, Paraguay](#)

What CLEI does?

- Around 100 papers in the main conference with an acceptance ratio below 30%.
- Around 500 people during the event, most of them undergraduate students and graduate students.
- Depending on the country and economical situation good relationship with sponsors offering tutorials and courses on the main technologies (CISCO, Microsoft, Intel, Motorola, IBM, Oracle, etc.)
- **Meeting Point** for researchers.

Projects and lines of action

- CLEI provides an interesting University network to start up collaboration projects.
 - CYTED.
 - LACCIR.
 - Graduate courses.
 - Financial support for local activities.
 - Latin American Computer Challenges (promoted by SBC).
 - Meeting of Latin American Computer Societies.
 - Others.

Collaboration in LA, what is going on?

- It is possible and there is a big potential behind it.
- CYTED is one of the main sponsors for these projects.
 - ALICE has produced a very important impact and has shown that collaboration in a big scale is possible.
- Bilateral programs between the LA Countries.
- **Cons**
 - Asymmetries
 - No regional organization that provides economical support and academic orientation.
 - Important mobility costs.
- **Pros**
 - Two languages closely related.

Why Europe or US and not LA?

- We impose to ourselves a double standard.
- Travelling costs are equivalent.
- Political instability prevent long term projects from taking place.
- Asymmetries in academic development.
- Twenty years ago two projects have shown the potential of collaboration:
 - Escuela Brasileño-Argentina de Informática.
 - Escuela Superior de Estudios en Informática

Collaboration in LA in interdisciplinary areas?

- The ALICE project have shown the potential. Peru, Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, Costa Rica, etc.
- Great opportunity if properly funded, instrumented and guided.
- **Energy**
 - Big continent with many alternative energy sources not yet developed.
- **Environment**
 - Global climate change and the expansion of human activities impact on the environment. Lots of research area to mitigate the adverse effects.
- **Health**
 - Still with an important part of the population outside the health care system.

Which are the instruments to do this?

- A regional enforcement for a common base in computer science and engineering. (Still same name means completely different things along the region).
- Common standards for scientific expected results.
- A regional scientific agency independent of the political changes in the countries and with long term policies.
- Clear definition of the rules to apply for financial support.
- Incentives for projects involving groups in different countries.
- Incentives for projects involving industrial partners.