

## WINGSPREAD STATEMENT (EXTRACTS)

Statement of the Conference on North American  
Higher Education Cooperation:  
Identifying the Agenda  
Wingspread Conference Center, Racine, Wisconsin,  
September 12-15, 1992

Participants from Canada, Mexico and the United States of America at the Wingspread Conference agree that:

- Internationalization of higher education is key to the quality of education and research, the standard of living of the citizens and the overall quality of life of our countries, as well as to a better understanding of our respective distinctive cultures and identities.
- Better understanding and acceptance of our distinctive realities are essential components of stronger partnerships, greater access to the vast North American potential and effective development of our countries' growing relationships.
- Enhanced trilateral collaboration in higher education builds upon existing relationships and benefits our three countries. This statement is made with full recognition of and respect for the national sovereignty of our respective countries, the responsibilities of our different jurisdictions, and the autonomy of our higher education institutions.
- Enhanced collaboration provides additional impetus to greater cooperation within our respective countries and supports bilateral relations with third countries and relevant multilateral organizations.

In stating the aforementioned agreements, we take note of the North American Free Trade Agreement negotiated by our respective governments and we affirm that enhanced trilateral cooperation has merit in its own right.

We commend this conference statement, at this defining moment in our history, to the urgent consideration of our respective authorities as a constructive trilateral contribution to the development and implementation of appropriate public policies that support and promote the internationalization of higher education.