

semiconductors, photovoltaic systems, energy and mass transfer, etc.;

- The Institute of Applied Mathematical and System Research dates back to 1955 and, with over 100 members, conducts research in computer theory, image processing, office automation, networks, oceanography instruments, digital signal processing, mathematical applications to biology, optimal control, functional analysis, numeric optimization, statistical models and time series, among others;

- The UNAM also has several research centers and institutes not located in Mexico City's university city but in regional centers, including the Research City located in Cuernavaca, Morelos, which includes the Institute of Biotechnology, the Research Center on Nitrogen Fixation, the laboratory of the Institute of Physics and installations of the Institute for Applied Mathematics and Systems, the laboratory of the Physics Institute located in Ensenada, Baja California Norte, several observatories, biological and marine research centers, and monitoring stations related to several Institutes.

- The Instituto Politécnico Nacional (IPN) is the largest technical university in Mexico. It also conducts research activities for several government agencies. The most advanced research center in the IPN is called Advanced Research and Studies Center (Centro de Investigación y de Estudios Avanzados - CINESTAV) created in 1961. At present, it develops research programs in the following areas: chemistry, physics, biochemistry, celular biology, pharmacology and toxicology, biophysic physiology and neuro-sciences, genetics and molecular biology, electrical engineering, bio-electronics, bio-tchnology and bio-engineering, computer sciences, communications, automatic control, metrology, solid state electronics, mathematics and experimental pathology, in addition to non ferrous metals, applied genetics and sciences of the sea in regional centers.

- The Scientific Research and Graduate Education Center (Centro de Investigación Científica y de Educación Superior de Ensenada (CICESE) also conducts research in areas related to oceanography, geo-physics, computer sciences, optics, ecology, to name the more significant ones;

- The Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana (UAM) also has a broad based student population and conducts research activities.

The local industry is also a major buyer of instruments and equipment and many firms are now also installing laboratories at their facilities in order to improve their production processes and the quality of their final product. Most of the very large, usually multinational, firms already had such laboratories, but now medium to large firms have also identified the need to do so in order to be able to be competitive internationally.

- Mexico is the eleventh pharmaceutical industry in the world in terms of the size of its chemical/pharmaceutical market. Two