

## **Ambassador Gavin at UCLA**

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The Honorable **John Gavin**, U.S. Ambassador to Mexico, visited UCLA on October 13 where he addressed the Latin American Center's private sector support group, the Associates. In an off-the-record discussion, Ambassador Gavin spoke about his experiences as the head of this country's largest diplomatic delegation. He also analyzed the current status of bilateral relations between the United States and Mexico in light of Mexico's current economic crisis and forthcoming change in government.



*Ambassador John Gavin*

Mr. Gavin pointed out the importance of the United States-Mexico borderlands region, indicating that when looking at the relations between the two neighbors, it is necessary to consider three entities: the United States; Mexico; and the border area. Not only is the border where the two countries interact and where problems develop, but it also is the region in which problems are continually dealt with and resolved. The border is of such importance that the United States Information Agency mission at the U.S. Embassy in Mexico City has a full-time specialist for border affairs, **Hugh Kottler**.

Latin American Center Executive Director, **Ludwig Lauerhass, Jr.**, briefed the Ambassador on the status of various Mexico and border projects, including the *United States-Mexico Borderlands Atlas*, the statistical abstract of the borderlands, and BorderLine, the computerized bibliography of the borderlands.

Ambassador Gavin also met with **James W. Wilkie**, Universitywide Coordinator of *UC MEXUS*, and with **Paul Ganster**, Editor of *UC MEXUS NEWS*, and was informed about the activities and programs of the consortium.

Following the address to the Associates, UCLA Vice Chancellor **Elwin V. Svenson** hosted a dinner for Ambassador and **Mrs. Gavin**. Guests included Provost **Raymond L. Orbach**, Chicano Studies Research Center Director **Juan Gómez-Quiñones**, Chair of the Council on International and Comparative Studies, **James S. Coleman**, and **Norris C. Hundley**, Chair of the UCLA Program on Mexico.