The New Mexico Consortium for Latin American Studies, which coordinates programs between UNIV and NMSU held its Fifth Annual Meeting in Las Cruces, March 25-26,1983 The theme of the conference was "Mexico: The Critical Years, 1982-1988"

Participants in the meeting, hosted by Louis R. Sadler, were grouped into several sessions:
"The Literary View," chaired by Gustavo Sáinz (UNM), included from UNIV Sergio Elizondo, Susan Haddaway, Maria Kelley, and Dick C. Gerdes; and from NMSU Thomas Hoeksema.

"Economic Predictions," chaired by Kenneth Nowotny (NMSU), included from UNM Peter Gregory and Roger Norton and from NMSU Lee Hageman.

"The Interdisciplinary View," chaired by Sadler, included from NMSU Charles H. Harris and Guadalupe Valdés and from UNM Fred Harris and Gilbert W. Merkx.

The principal speaker was James W. Wilkie, (UCLA), who presented the banquet address on "The Causes Since 1970 of Mexico's Current Crisis."