PROFMEX, The Wilson Center, and the Overseas Development Council (ODC) held a Joint Congressional Workshop entitled "Contemporary Mexico and Issues in U.S.-Mexican Relations," February 11-13, at Washington, D.C. Organized by the Latin American Program of The Wilson Center and the U.S.-Mexico Project of the Overseas Development Council and funded by PROFMEX, the workshop was designed to brief congressional staff members about Mexico and U.S.-Mexican relations. A number of key staffers from both houses of Congress braved the "blizzard of '83" to attend the sessions.

The sessions concentrated on the following topics: "The Mexican Crisis; Present and Past," "Migration: Regulating an Open Border," "Mexico; Oil Power, Regional Power," and "Challenges to the New Administration from Within and Without."

Opening the conference for PROFMEX was James W. Wilkie (UCLA). John Sewell (ODC) and Abraham Lowenthal (The Wilson Center) chaired events of the 12th and 13th, respectively. Featured speakers included Lorenzo Meyer (El Colegio de México), Clark Reynolds (Stanford), Gerardo Bueno (El Colegio de México), Margaret Daly Hayes (U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee), Jon Rosenbaum (Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for the Americas), and Steven Lande (Manchester Associates).

According to Clint E. Smith, PROFMEX Coordinator, "The workshop was a great success and has established high standards for future PROFMEX events to emulate." Ricardo Nuccio, Barbara Friday, and Betsy Krystynak made local arrangements on behalf of The Wilson Center and ODC.