Saturday March 11th, 2006
Stanford University

The objective of this forum is to analyze the 2006 Mexican electoral process from three points of view: civil society, media, and political parties.

Program

8:30 Opening

8:45 Welcome

Larry Diamond, Professor of Political Science and Sociology, by courtesy; Senior Fellow at the Hoover Institution; Coordinator of the Democracy Program at CDDRL.

9:00 Keynote Address: Civic Initiatives towards the Presidential Elections of 2006

Enrique Krauze, Political Analyst, Historian, and Writer, Director of Letras Libres and Coordinator of Editorial Clio

10:15 Break

10:30 Panel: The Media in the 2006 Electoral Process

The media has been an important component to the democratization process in Mexico. In the last two decades it has shifted from spokesperson and protector of the ruling political regime, to supporter of different trends, opinions, and ideologies. Arguably, today’s success of the election process depends significantly on the quality, impartiality, and professionalism of the media. In light of this reality, it is essential to analyze upfront the 2006 process in terms of what has changed in the role of the media in the last elections, what are the insufficiencies that persist, and what are the upcoming challenges.

Panelists:
Roy Campos, President of Consulta Mitofsky
Javier Corral, PAN Senator, and Coordinator of the Special Commission for the Reform of the Electronic Media
Marco Gómez, IFE Advisor and President of the Commission of Prerogatives, Political Parties and Broadcasting
Leopoldo Gómez, Vice-president of Televisa News

Moderator:
Leo Zuckermann, professor at CIDE

12:00 Break and Special Lunch with Panelists and Sponsors

2:00 Panel: The Electoral Agenda of the Political Parties
The objective is to hear the position of the main political parties, their campaign strategies, and standing in regards of the most relevant issues in the national agenda. This round table will be possibly webcast, and also broadcast in Northern California.

*Panelists:*
Saúl Escobar, Foreign Policy Coordinator, PRD
Rosario Green, General Secretary, National Executive Committee, PRI
Héctor Larios, Senator, PAN

*Moderator:*
Alberto Diaz-Cayeros, Professor, Stanford University

3:30 End of the Event

**Format**

The event will be in Spanish, with simultaneous translation to English. The roundtables will have the following format. The moderator will make a five minute presentation about the subject and an introduction of all panelists. Each panelist will have five minutes to share their viewpoint based on their professional expertise. At the end of the initial presentations, the moderator will ask specific questions to the panelists for thirty minutes. Subsequently, the audience will have thirty minutes to ask questions. Lastly, the moderator will make closing remarks with a summary of the main points and identifying themes and subjects for future discussion.

**Organizers and Sponsors**

The co-organizers are: Mexicanos at Stanford, John S. Knight Fellowship for Professional Journalists, and Yost House. The co-sponsors are: The Charles F. Riddell Fund - Yost House, Center on Democracy, Development and the Rule of Law, Center for Latin American Studies, Bechtel International Center, El Guiding Concilio - El Centro Chicano, Camacho Fund, ASSU Speakers Bureau, and United Airlines.