

Transcending Borders: Strategic Engagement with Cultural Heritage Organizations in Mexico at San Diego State University

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**Presented at the 43rd International Association of
University Libraries (IATUL) Annual Conference,
United Arab Emirates**

13 March 2023

San Diego State University

San Diego State University (SDSU) is the research flagship of the 23 campus California State University system with (FY22):

- 35,000+ students
- 200+ degree programs (including 20+ doctoral degrees)
- \$164,000,000 (USD) in research funding
- \$136,000,000 (USD) in philanthropic support



The San Diego State University Library

The SDSU Library:

- provides service to the SDSU San Diego, Imperial Valley, Georgia, and Global campuses
- holds approximately 3,000,000 print & digital titles
- 82 FTE staff (35 professional)
- \$12,000,000 (USD) in total budget (\$3,600,000 in collections)
- 10,000+ reference and research transactions
- 300+ classes taught



<https://library.sdsu.edu/about-us/fast-facts>

The San Diego State University Library



[https://library.sdsu.edu/
find/digital-collections](https://library.sdsu.edu/find/digital-collections)

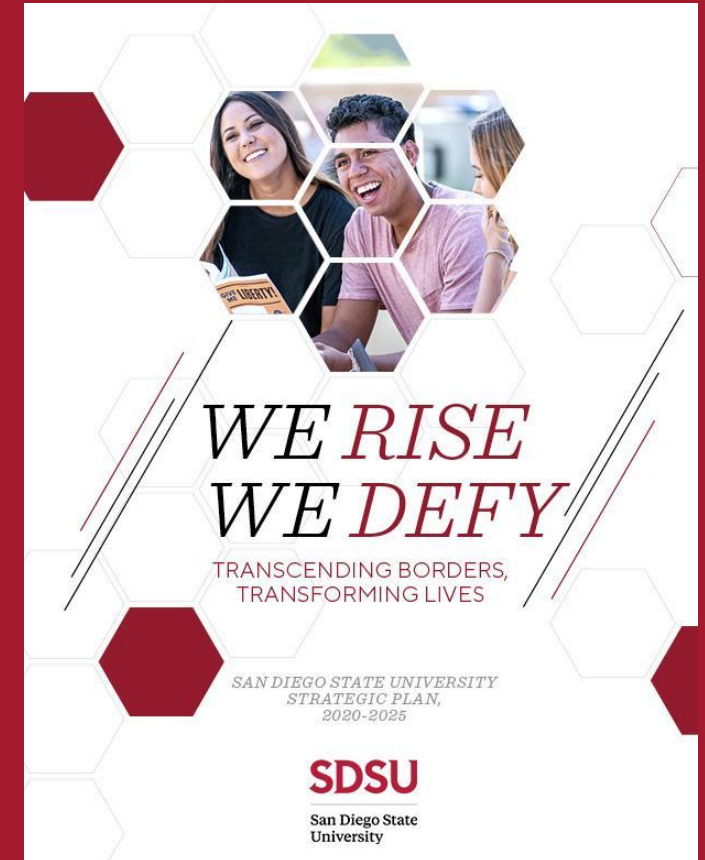
SDSU Library Digital Collections

- 175,000+ items held in institutional repository
- 800,000+ item views in FY22
- Special Collections and University Archives, including [distinctive collections](#) and [theses and dissertations](#)
- Campus Partners, including the [SAGE Project](#) and [Digital Humanities Initiative](#)
- Community Partners, including the [Lambda Archives](#) and [Prison Arts Collective](#)

Strategic Planning and International Engagement at SDSU

The Strategic Plan identifies SDSU as a “transnational public research university uniquely situated ... less than 30 minutes north of the US – Mexico border” with goals including:

- Establish new research partnerships with universities in Latin America
- Conduct faculty hires clustered around public-facing, border, or Indigenous scholarship
- Create a Global Strategy Action Plan



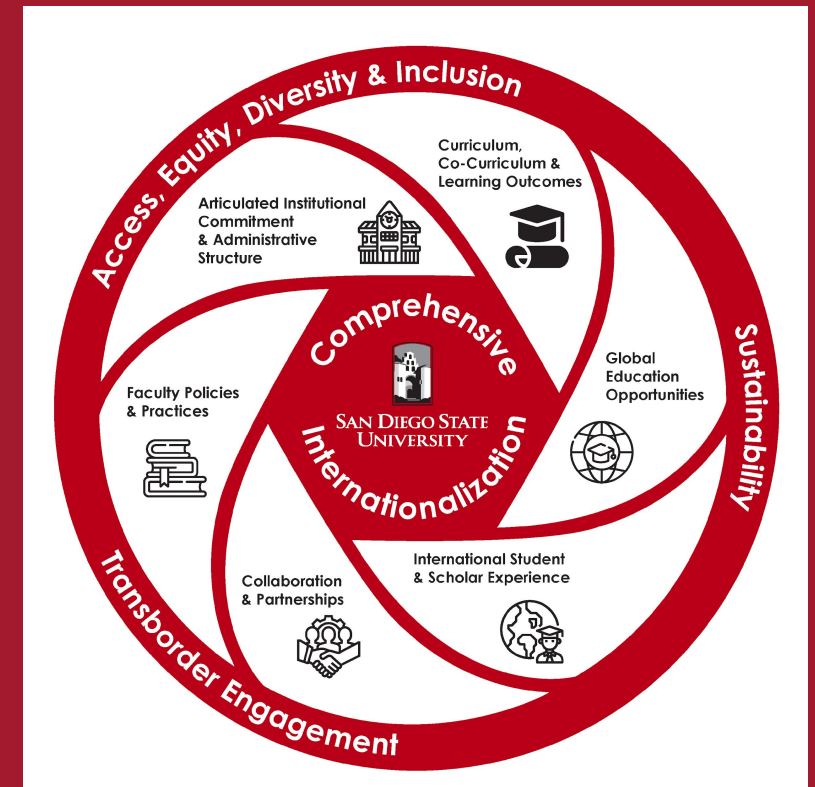
[https://www.sdsu.edu/
strategic-plan](https://www.sdsu.edu/strategic-plan)

SDSU

Strategic Planning and International Engagement at SDSU

The Global Strategy Action Plan identifies equity, transborder engagement, and sustainability as central values underpinning work in areas including:

- Collaborations and Partnerships
- Global Education Opportunities
- Curriculum, Co-Curriculum, and Learning Outcomes

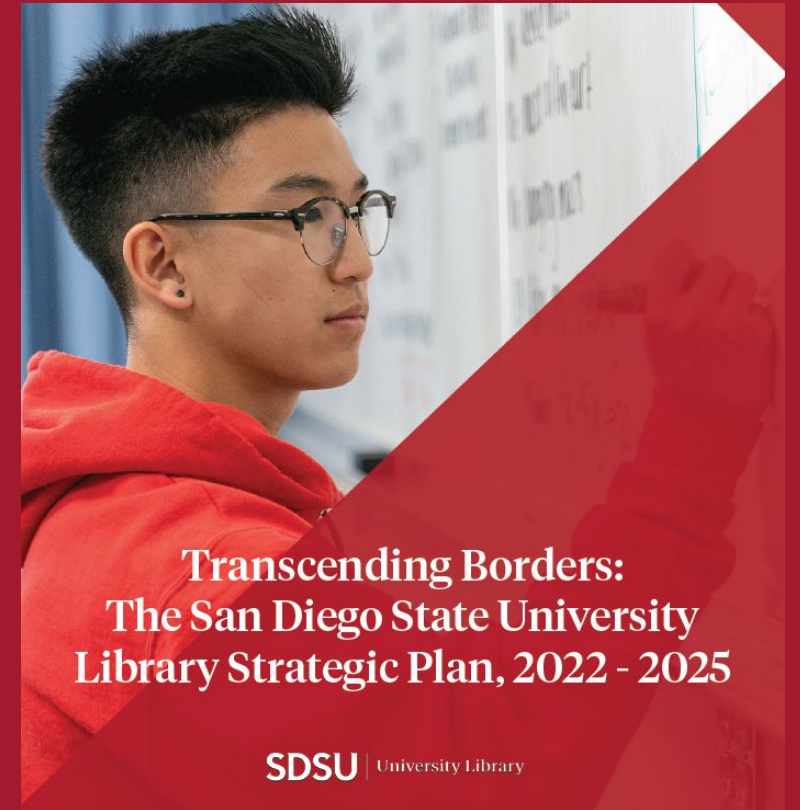


<https://www.sdsu.edu/internationalaffairs/global-strategy>

Library Strategic Planning

The Library Strategic Plan includes global strategy initiatives including:

- Promoting access to global information resources through local and consortial efforts
- Establishing collection development plans for materials representing the Indigenous languages of California, Mexico, and Latin America
- Collaborating with campus partners to provide stronger support for global education initiatives and international research partnerships



<https://library.sdsu.edu/about-us/strategic-plan>

Campus Partners in Transborder Learning and Scholarship



Center for Latin American Studies
<https://latam.sdsu.edu/>



Re:Border Binational Conference
<https://re-border.sdsu.edu/>



The Sage Project
<https://crs.sdsu.edu/programs/sage>



Aztec Identity Initiative
<https://president.sdsu.edu/aztec-identity>

The SDSU Center for Mesoamerican Studies



Global Health
Internship >

Mixtec
Language >

Zapotec
Language >

Ethnographic
Field School >

<https://www.sdsu.edu/international-affairs/faculty/stakeholders-and-partners/sdsu-oaxaca>



Library Engagement: Global Education

STUDY
ABROAD

**Global
Education
Reimagined**

<https://www.sdsu.edu/internationalaffairs/global-education>

Study Abroad | Global Learning Outcomes | Collaborative Online International Learning

Library Engagement: Faculty Scholarship and Partnerships



Attendees at May 2022 SDSU Oaxaca research conference: “The Bonds of Oaxacalifornia: Creating Binational Collaborations”

SDSU sponsors conference focused on identifying transborder collaborative opportunities in areas including:

- Physical Sciences
- Health Sciences
- Social Sciences
- Library & Information Science

Library Engagement: Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Organizations



Biblioteca de
Investigación Juan de
Córdova (Oaxaca de
Juárez, Oaxaca, Mexico)
<https://fahho.mx/filiales-fahho/biblioteca-juan-de-cordova/>



Instituto Municipal de Arte y
Cultural (Tijuana, Baja
California, Mexico)
<https://imac.tijuana.gob.mx/>



Archivo General del
Estado de Oaxaca (Santa
María Ixcotel, Oaxaca,
Mexico)
<https://www.oaxaca.gob.mx/ageo/>



Leadership Support for Strategic Engagement

- Support for new library faculty positions:
 - Latin American Languages and Cultures Librarian
 - Latin American and Indigenous Communities Archivist
- Support for new library staff positions:
 - Digital Services Specialist
- Support for strategic collaboration at multiple levels
 - Aztec Identity Initiative (Office of the President)
 - International Affairs (Office of the Provost)
 - Sage Project (College of Arts and Letters)

Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Organizations

Biblioteca de Investigación Juan de Córdova



- Cartillas - literacy primers
- Nearly 2,000 titles
- Cover a wide variety of indigenous languages, especially Oaxacan regional languages

Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Organizations

Archivo General del Estado de Oaxaca



Discussion Groups:

- Cataloging
- Archives
- Digitization

Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Organizations Instituto Municipal de Arte y Cultura de Tijuana Archivo Histórico de Tijuana



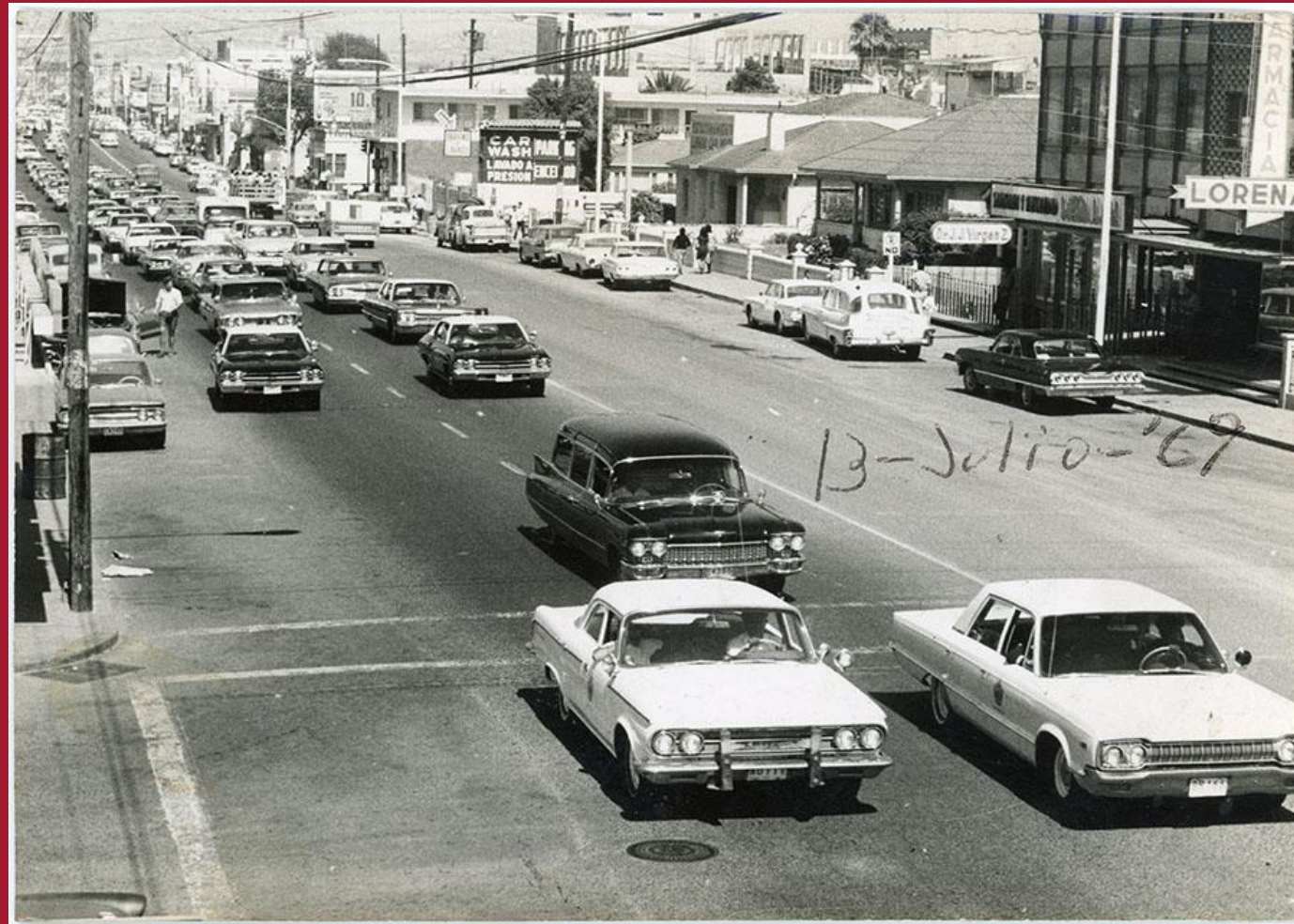
Collaboration with Cultural Heritage Organizations

Archivo Histórico de Tijuana



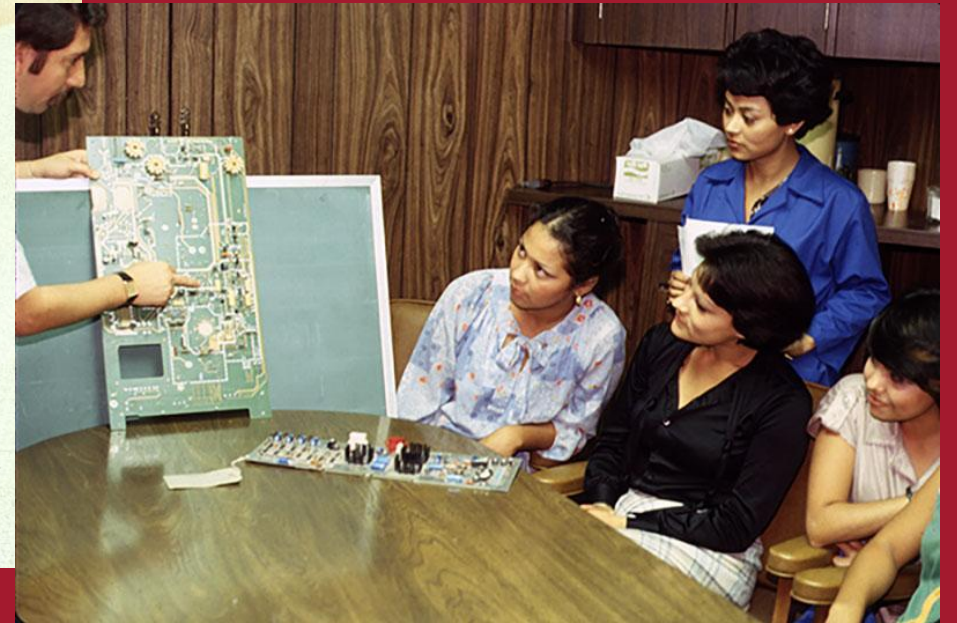
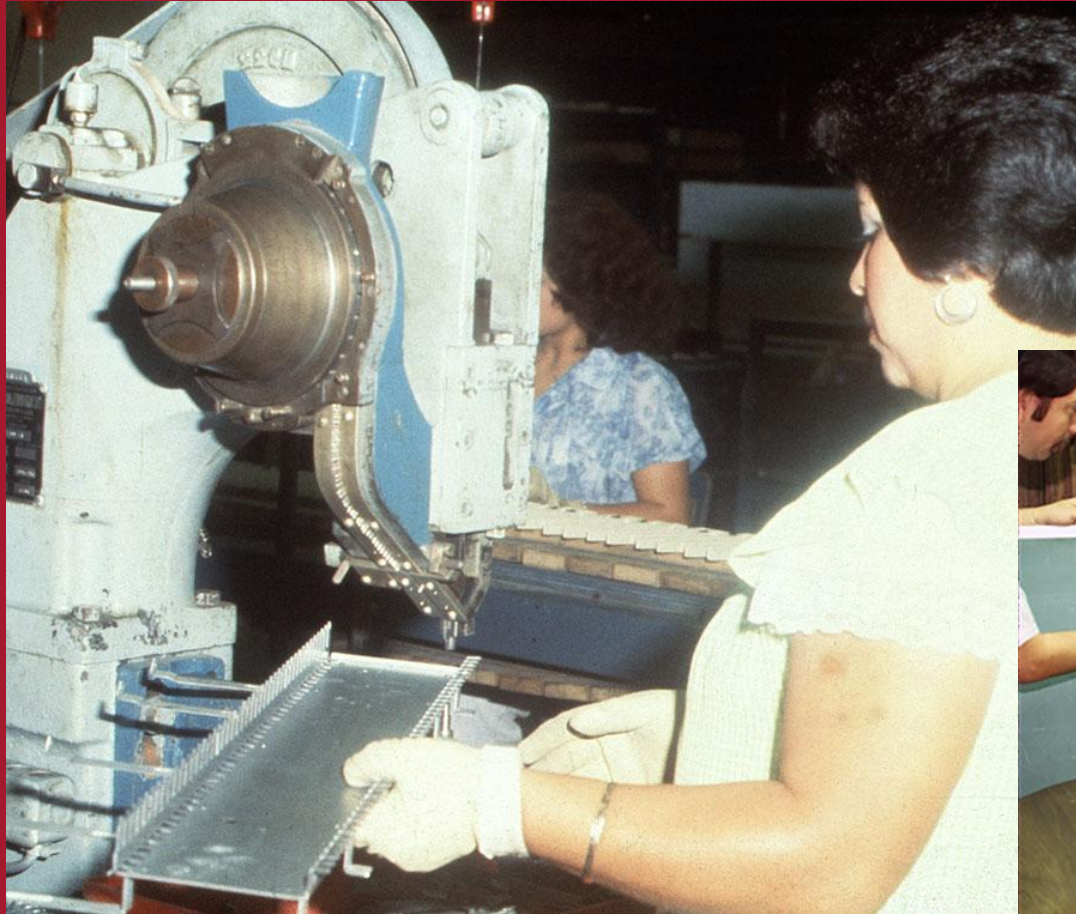
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Next Steps

- Continue seeking **grant funding** for all projects
- Identify and prioritize opportunities for **new partnerships** employing established model
- Establish **sustainable relationships** and program proposals at the AGEO in Oaxaca
- Promote SDSU participation in **consortial approaches** to building Latin American and Indigenous collections
- **Expand awareness and use** of online and physical collections to the SDSU community and beyond



Acknowledgements

- Initial phases of the San Diego State Library planning for international engagement and transborder partnerships were facilitated by **James Simon**, Assistant Director for Collections and Discovery at the Davidson College Library (Davidson, N.C., USA), through support provided by the SDSU Aztec Identity Initiative
- Ongoing support for library engagement with cultural heritage organizations in Mexico is being provided by SDSU faculty, including Professor **Ramona Perez** (Anthropology) and Professor **Jessica Barlow** (Geography)

Questions and Discussion



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San Diego State University Latinx
Resource Center
(Malcolm A. Love Library)
<https://sacd.sdsu.edu/latinx-resource>