

## LACCEI IN NAFSA

The **2024 NAFSA** Annual Conference and Exposition takes place in New Orleans, Louisiana, May 28–31. It is the most diverse, comprehensive, and exciting international education conference and exhibition.

The **Association of International Educators**, or NAFSA, is the world's largest nonprofit association dedicated to education and international exchange.

NAFSA serves the needs of more than 10,000 members and international educators worldwide at more than 4,300 institutions in more than 170 countries.

NAFSA leads the way in promoting a better world through international education. NAFSA serves international educators and their profession, promotes international education in higher education institutions, and promotes global education and the policies that support it in the public sphere.

LACCEI, the **Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions**, is proud to announce its participation in the NAFSA International Education Conference and Exhibition with a representative staff. This prestigious event, recognized as one of the most important events in international education, provides a unique platform to share knowledge, establish connections, and explore innovations in global education.



From left to right, Dr. Luis Fernando Martínez, Dr. José Texier, Dr. Ileana Ruiz and Dr. Laura Romero.

## NEW DIRECTOR OF CIPEI



**Dr Luis Carlos Arraut Camargo** is the new Director of **CIPEI**, the International Entrepreneurship Committee of LACCEI, and an Industrial Engineer at the Technological University of Bolívar. Ph.D. in Business Management from the University of Mondragón (Spain, 2009). Director and Founder of the “El Patio” Innovation Laboratory of the Technological University of Bolívar.

Undergraduate and postgraduate professors in innovation, entrepreneurship, and creativity management. In addition, publications, and participation in national and international events on innovation and business creation. Evaluator of COLCIENCIAS, SENACYT (Panama), FONDECYT (Peru), and MINCIENCIAS (Colombia) in projects and articles on entrepreneurship and innovation topics. He has led entrepreneurship programs such as Apps.co, where more than 480 ICT entrepreneurs were supported. Coordinator for the UTB of the ELANET consortium. Cartagena's innovative city project.

## VIRTUAL HACKATHON WINNERS

Under the coordination of Dr Catalina Aranzazu-Suescun, professor at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Arizona, USA, LACCEI launched its **first virtual HACKATHON** this year.

The hackathon aimed to allow undergraduate students from LACCEI member institutions and non-member institutions to advance in research, improve their critical thinking, and apply their knowledge to develop an innovative solution to an issue in the fields of medicine or the environment using the Internet of Things (IoT) systems.

The problem was contextualized in the location where the students coexist (university, house, community, etc). Our partner, **MathWorks**, gave the students resources to develop their implementations, such as databases and exclusive MatLab resources.

This year, 16 groups from Ecuador, Mexico, Honduras, Costa Rica, Colombia, Peru, and India, competed during the Hackathon and 8 of them advanced to the final phase. After a round of presentations in front of a recognized jury, the 3 winners of the first LACCEI Virtual Hackathon were:

**1st Place: Avengers**, from Ecuador, with their project “Implementation of a monitoring system for electrical parameters such as DC voltage and UPS battery charge percentage to prevent possible interruptions in electrical service using IoT and ThingSpeak”

**2nd Place: SASIM+** from Mexico, with their project “Solid waste monitoring through IoT technologies and Matlab”

**3rd Place: ElectroGallos** from Honduras, with their project “Measurement of water quality of the Lake Yojoa”

We would like to congratulate our winners of the first LACCEI Virtual Hackathon and, encourage students to participate in future LACCEI Hackathons.

