

STATS LACCEI 2026



The **24th LACCEI International Multiconference 2026**, held in Santiago, Chile, once again solidified LACCEI's position as the leading forum for education, research, and innovation in engineering in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The results reflect the sustained growth of the academic community and the commitment of universities, researchers, faculty, students, sponsors, and strategic partners to building a collaborative future for the region.

The conference brought together representatives from **35 countries** and **258 higher education institutions**, strengthening the international exchange of knowledge and fostering new partnerships. In the academic sphere, **2,710 scientific articles** were received, of which **1,279 full papers** were accepted for publication, in addition to **81 works in progress** and **53 student papers**, demonstrating the quality and diversity of the contributions presented.

Participation also reached record levels in attendance, with **603 in-person participants** and **886 virtual attendees**, for a total of **1,489 participants**, confirming the value of the hybrid format as a mechanism for expanding access and international collaboration.



These results reaffirm LACCEI's mission to promote excellence in engineering education, foster high-impact research, and strengthen academic cooperation among institutions in the Americas and around the world, consolidating an increasingly integrated, innovative community committed to sustainable development.

"The results achieved in Santiago, Chile, demonstrate the sustained growth of the LACCEI community and solidify the Multiconference as one of the most important engineering gatherings in the Americas, both for the quality of its scientific output and the scope of its international participation."



THANK YOU CONDEFI!!

The Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions (LACCEI) expresses its deep gratitude to the **Corporation of Engineering Faculties of Chile (CONDEFI)** for its outstanding contribution to the success of the **24th LACCEI International Multiconference 2026**, held in Santiago, Chile.



The commitment, leadership, and unwavering support of CONDEFI's authorities, directors, and teams were fundamental to the success of the academic and institutional activities that brought together representatives from universities and organizations across various countries, strengthening knowledge exchange and international cooperation.

LACCEI especially recognizes the hospitality, professionalism, and collaborative spirit demonstrated by CONDEFI and its member universities, whose efforts enabled a high-level experience for the entire participating community.

This alliance reaffirms that cooperation among higher education institutions is an essential pillar for promoting academic excellence, innovation, and the development of engineering in the Americas.

LACCEI thanks CONDEFI for its trust and valuable collaboration, confident that this joint effort will continue to generate new opportunities to strengthen engineering education and regional integration.



LACCEI ELECTIONS 2026

During the **24th LACCEI International Multiconference 2026**, the **General Assembly of Members** was held on Wednesday, July 15, with broad and active participation from representatives of the consortium's affiliated institutions.

As one of the central items on the agenda, the election process for the renewal of the **Board of Directors** positions for the **2027–2028** term took place.

The election was conducted smoothly, in an atmosphere of transparency, participation, and adherence to the LACCEI Statutes, reflecting the institution's commitment to the principles of good governance and democratic representation.

In accordance with the established procedures, the new members of the Board of Directors were officially elected to the positions of **President, Vice President of Finance, and Vice President of Membership**, thus strengthening the continuity of institutional leadership and the consortium's strategic vision.

This process reaffirms LACCEI's commitment to strong, participatory, and transparent governance, aimed at consolidating the organization's growth and continuing to promote excellence in engineering education, innovation, research, and international cooperation in the Americas.

The representatives elected for the **2027–2028** term were:

PRESIDENT 2027, Dr. JENNY BASANTES AVALOS



Jenny Lilian Basantes Ávalos, PhD, is a distinguished Ecuadorian academic with over three decades of experience in teaching, university administration, research, and community engagement. A graduate in Business Engineering from the Higher Polytechnic School of Chimborazo (ESPOCH), she has complemented her education with a solid postgraduate background, including a Master's degree in University Teaching, a Specialization in Informatics Applied to Education, a Master's degree in Business Administration, and a Doctorate in Administrative Sciences from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.

Her career has been marked by a constant commitment to academic excellence and innovation in higher education. Since 1993, she has served as a professor in the Faculty of Business Administration at ESPOCH, teaching courses in key areas such as auditing, quality, human talent management, and strategic planning.

She has also held important leadership roles, such as President of the Teachers' Pension Fund, Director of Outreach, Dean of Faculty and currently as Academic Vice-Rector of ESPOCH.

VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE, Dr. LUIS FERNANDO MARTÍNEZ.



Luis Fernando Martínez Arconada, a linguist by training, has dedicated over 20 years to teaching in the field of engineering. His research and areas of interest include, firstly, the current international landscape through the development of framework agreements for cooperation in teaching and research, and dual degree programs within the Bologna Process and in Latin America.

Secondly, he focuses on optimizing communication: having applied his linguistic knowledge to engineering to develop the teaching of Ergonomics and Human-Machine Interface, fundamental in today's Industry 4.0. Former president of the Cartagena Network and former director of International Relations at ENIT, he has participated in diverse missions such as promoting collaborations with Latin America through TEC programs, participating in accreditation by the French CTI, and creating the 1st LAC-TC Tribology Conference within LACCEI.

He currently holds the positions of teacher, tutor for internships and Final Degree Projects and member of the Scientific Council of the National School of Engineers of Tarbes (INP-ENIT, University of Toulouse) in France.

VICE PRESIDENT OF MEMBERSHIPS, Dr. SANDRO PAZ COLLADO.



Sandro Alberto Paz Collado holds a Master of Science in Industrial Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico and a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of South Florida. He has experience as a consultant in quality management, foresight, statistical process control, data mining, simulation, and optimization. He is an evaluator for the National Quality Award.

He has served as Director of Evaluation and Accreditation of Higher Education at SINEACE (National System for Evaluation, Accreditation, and Certification of Educational Quality). Currently, he is the Director of Academic Outreach for the Department of Engineering, Director of the Industrial Engineering Program, and a full professor at PUCP (Pontifical Catholic University of Peru).

He is also the General Coordinator of Accreditation and Continuous Improvement for the Faculty of Sciences and Engineering, overseeing the accreditation of its programs with CEAB (Canada), ABET (USA), and ICACIT (Peru).

PhD. in Sciences and Engineering and specialist in educational quality in engineering programs.

General Coordinator of Accreditation for the Faculty of Sciences and Engineering at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru (PUCP).

His leadership and experience make him a key voice in consolidating educational quality in Latin America.

LACCEI MEDAL FOR ACADEMIC MERIT 2026



Each year, the Latin American and Caribbean Consortium of Engineering Institutions (LACCEI) honors those who have made a lasting impact on engineering education and research with the “Medal of Academic Merit.”

This distinction represents the highest institutional recognition awarded to leaders whose careers have made exceptional contributions to strengthening academia, innovation, leadership, and international cooperation in the field of engineering.



In its 2026 edition, LACCEI had the honor of awarding the distinguished **Dr. Jaime Bonilla Ríos**, currently a retired professor from Tecnológico de Monterrey, Senior Advisor to the National Dean of the School of Engineering and Sciences, and a researcher affiliated with the Nanotechnology and Sensors research group. He is also a member of the Mexican National System of Researchers, Level II (SNII II).

Prior to his retirement, he served as Associate National Dean of the School of Engineering and Sciences at Tecnológico de Monterrey, with responsibilities for continuing education, consulting, and international affairs. He was also a Full Professor of Chemical and Mechanical Engineering, a member of the Faculty of the Doctoral Program in Nanotechnology, and an adjunct professor in the Department of Materials Science and NanoEngineering at Rice University.

He earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey Campus; his Master of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Rice University; and his Doctorate in Interdisciplinary Engineering, with an emphasis on Polymers, from Texas A&M University.

This recognition celebrates not only their individual achievements, but their collective legacy in support of quality higher education in Latin America, the Caribbean and the world.



More information at: <https://laccei.org/laccei-academic-merit-medalist-2026/>