

Tec and Harvard celebrate ten years of joint research



About three hundred students have held research internships and collaborated on projects.

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Three hundred students have been involved in **research projects** such as molecular biology, nanomedicine, artificial intelligence, and biomedical device design over the course of **the ten-year collaboration** between [Tec de Monterrey](#) and [Harvard](#) University.

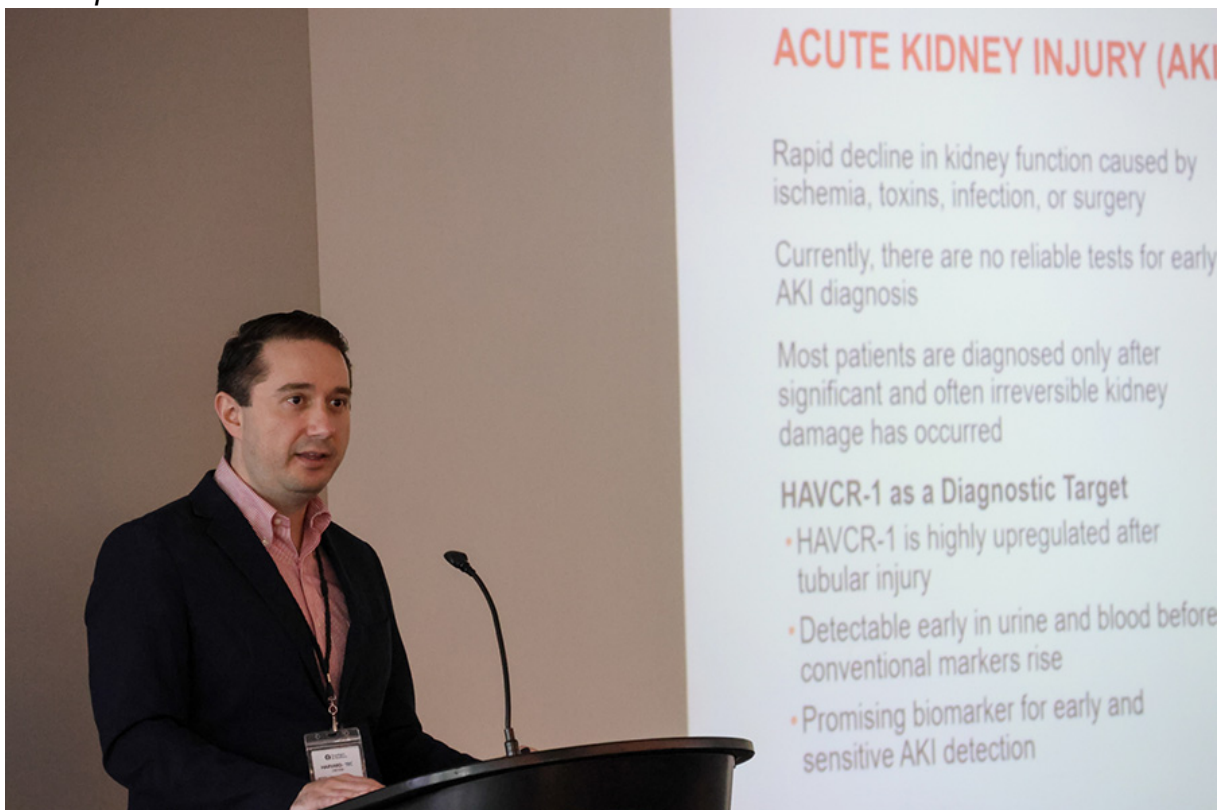
Tec de Monterrey's ***Research Internship Program in Collaboration with [Harvard Medical School](#)*** has enabled students to participate in one of the **twenty-two laboratories** offered by the program.

*“This year, we’re celebrating a **decade of synergy**, innovation, and outreach by two world-class institutions”, said **Elvia Castro**, Director of the Tec’s foreign academic programs.*

*“We are also **celebrating the success stories** of our alumni, who have progressed from being student interns to become leaders in their respective fields”, she added.*

On May 7 and 8, the Monterrey campus hosted *Harvard-Tec Lab Days 2026: Celebrating Ten Years of Research Internships*, during which Tec graduate and faculty members from both universities led lectures, panel discussions, and networking sessions.

Guillermo Ruiz-Esparza, a Tec alumnus and Harvard professor, gave the opening lecture entitled “Ten Years of Innovation, Academic Mobility, and Its Impact.”



A decade of student mobility

Harvard University is considered to be one of the world's leading institutions due to its **historical prestige, academic excellence, and global influence.**

Over the last decade, this program has featured students from **twenty undergraduate programs and ten graduate programs** in the fields of science, engineering, health, and computer science.

*"The **depth and impact** on the careers of researchers who took advantage of the opportunity to participate in these or some of the programs we offer has been truly exponential",* said **Ignacio de la Vega**, the Tec's Vice President for Global Affairs.

Students join **active research teams** and contribute directly to experimental work, data collection, and innovation processes that lead to **publications, patents, and startups.**

*"Currently, these internships are held at hospitals such as **Brigham and Women's Hospital, Beth Israel Medical Center, and Boston Children's Hospital**".*

*"Some students have even had the opportunity to study at other institutions like **MIT**, with whom we have a very close relationship",* said **Guillermo Ruiz-Esparza**, a Tec graduate, pioneer of the program, and Harvard professor.

Students have done **research** in areas such as:

- *Nanomedicine and targeted drug delivery*
- *Tissue engineering and regenerative medicine*
- *Organ-on-a-chip technologies and biofabrication*
- *Artificial intelligence applied to biology and medicine*
- *Clinical and translational research*

*"The most rewarding thing is seeing students who have worked with us grow, **fulfill their dreams**, and watch as many of them lay the groundwork for becoming future leaders in the fields of technology and science",* he added.

For his part, **Dr. Luis Alonso Herrera**, National Dean of the **School of Medicine and Health Sciences**, said that students from Monterrey, Mexico City, and Guadalajara have been able to apply their talents in world-class research settings thanks to this program.

*“This partnership between Harvard and Tec de Monterrey is not just an academic exchange; it’s a transformational platform. **We’ve been training scientific leaders** capable of tackling the most complex challenges of our time for ten years”.*



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Program outcomes

The results achieved over these ten years of collaboration include **hundreds of contributions to peer-reviewed publications, articles in high-impact journals, contributions to patents, prototypes, and technologies.**

Additionally, certain graduates have published between ten and thirty **scientific papers** each.

The **Harvard-Tec Lab Days 2026** event, at which Tec alumni shared their experiences from these research stays, was held as part of the celebration of ten years of collaboration.

“This year, we’re celebrating a decade of synergy, innovation, and outreach by two world-class institutions”.- Elvia Castro, Director of the Tec’s foreign academic programs.

Tec graduates at Harvard

During **Harvard-Tec Lab Days 2026**, several graduates of [Tecnológico de Monterrey](#) shared their experiences with students on **research internships**.

[CONECTA](#) shares some details about **Tec graduate** collaborations below.

-Andrés Fuentes, M.D.

A pediatric resident at **Michigan Children's Hospital**, Andrés is about to begin a subspecialty in pediatric cardiology in Austin, Texas.

*"My Tec education helped me thrive in **Harvard's labs** by teaching me early on how to seize opportunities, look beyond the obvious, and think outside the box".*

-Santiago Mille, B.S. in Robotics Engineering

Santiago is currently doing a doctorate in engineering at **Stanford University**.

*"It was an experience that changed my outlook and opened the door to other opportunities as I **continued to make progress in my professional life**".*

Tec graduate Lorena Sánchez shared her experience as a research intern at Harvard.



-Mildred Jiménez, B.S. in Biotechnology Engineering

Mildred currently works as an **Investment-Readiness Consultant** at Village Capital.

*"My experience at **Harvard** was key to the career shift I made; what inspires us is making an impact in our community."*

-Isabel Goldaracena, B.S. in Biotechnology Engineering

She is doing a Ph.D. in bioengineering at **Stanford University**.

*"You realize the **potential we have** as Mexicans and as Tec alumni; when they tell you that you can go and do research at a university like that, you realize the level you've reached at the Tec."*

-Lorena Sánchez, B.S. in Biotechnology Engineering

Lorena is a specialist in medical information and scientific communication at **Roche Mexico**.

*"This experience marked a major turning point in my **scientific and professional career**; it gave me the tools I needed to continue growing."*

The Tec's research fellowship program at Harvard is celebrating its 10th anniversary.



-Diana García, B.S. in Computer Science and Technology

Diana works as a **computational biologist** at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute

*"The group I belong to has joined the **Harvard program** offered by Tec de Monterrey, and we're about to welcome our first student."*

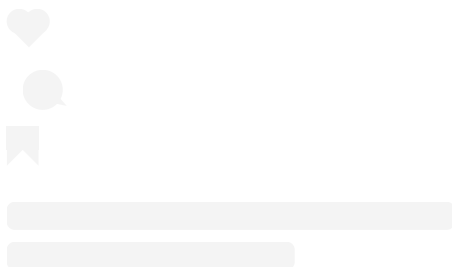
-Carlos Mijares, B.S. in Mechatronics Engineering

Carlos is the **co-founder and current CEO of Criocore**, a spin-off company from Harvard and the **Zhang Lab** that is developing an automated biofabrication platform for human-relevant *in-vitro* models for preclinical drug development.

*“This **experience changed my life**; the Tec not only helped me develop my technical skills, it also enhanced my acumen, which enabled me to see solutions in new ways and to be creative.”*



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Tecnológico de Monterrey Researcher Profiles

The program's success is supported by a network of leading researchers, clinicians, and innovators affiliated with Tecnológico de Monterrey and Harvard Medical School.

Bioengineering, Nanotechnology, and Translational Science

- **Mario Moisés Álvarez**

A leader in bioprocess engineering and nanobiotechnology, he has made contributions to translational biomedical systems and scalable health technologies.

- **Grissel Trujillo de Santiago**

An expert in biofabrication, microfluidics, and 3D bioprinting, she is driving research in tissue engineering and biomaterials.

Clinical Research and Medicine

- **Luis Adrián Soto**

A physician and researcher specializing in metabolism, clinical research, and evidence-based medical care.

- **Carlos Alberto Aguilar**

Internationally recognized for his research on metabolic diseases, diabetes, and lipid disorders.

- **José Andrés García**

A researcher in clinical and translational medicine focused on improving patient-centered outcomes.

- **Carlos Gerardo Cantú**

A leading expert in neurology and cerebrovascular disorder research in Latin America.

- **Augusto Rojas**

A specialist in molecular medicine and genetics with expertise in precision medicine.

Global Health, Public Policy, and Health Systems

- **Felicia Marie Knaul**

A renowned leader in global health focused on health systems, equity in cancer care, and public policy innovation.

- **Pablo Antonio Kuri Morales**

A leader in public health policy and epidemiology who has contributed to national and global health strategies.

- **Guillermo Torre Amione**

A leading academic in health innovation and cardiovascular medicine.

Engineering, Data Science, and Innovation

- **Sujay Paul**

A researcher in interdisciplinary studies at the intersection of engineering and biomedical sciences.

- **Joaquín Alejandro Zúñiga**

Dedicated to applied biomedical innovation and technological development.

- **Michel Fernando Martínez**

Works in biomedical and translational research settings.

- **Fany Muchembled**

Collaborates on interdisciplinary projects focused on science and innovation.

- **Patricio José Rodríguez**

Specializes in applied research and technological development.

Institutional Leadership and Academic Impact

- **José Carlos Crispín**

Makes contributions to academic development and research initiatives.

- **Víctor Manuel Silva**

Collaborates on scientific and institutional research programs.

- **Rocío Ortiz**

Involved in academic development and interdisciplinary research.

- **Héctor Carrasco**

Promotes research and innovation initiatives in academic settings.

- **Paola Ricaurte**

Recognized for her work in digital culture, data, and the social impact of technology.

(Left to right): Dr. Y. Shrike Zhang, Dr. Kiho Im, and Dr. Guillermo Ruiz-Esparza.



Would you like to do a research internship?

Tec de Monterrey's international programs offer students the opportunity to participate in high-level research labs.

The goal is **to foster more productive professional student development** and to provide an intensive, full-time research experience.

*“Tec de Monterrey is offering this so that you can gain **experience at top-notch laboratories** and further your professional development”,* said Delia Flores of the Tec’s International Programs.

“The most rewarding aspect of this is seeing the students who have participated with us grow”, Guillermo Ruiz-Esparza, a Tec alumnus and Harvard professor.

[**CONECTA**](#) shares the requirements for **international programs** below so you can apply for a research internship:

- **Earned Credits:** *Minimum of 90 credits (equivalent to the 6th semester). Applications may be submitted a semester in advance.*
- **Average grade:** *Minimum of 90 (cumulative average grade for the degree program).*
- **English proficiency:** *A competitive level evidenced by an institutional TOEFL, TOEFL iBT, or IELTS score. The certificate must be valid for two years and cover the program’s start date.*
- **Specific Requirements for Medicine/Life Sciences:** *the applicant must be in the final year of the degree program or the final year of the concentration/specialization.*
- **Additional Preparation (not required but highly recommended):**
 - Previous research experience (which doesn’t have to be formal; it could be at a local lab).

- Strong letters of recommendation from professors or researchers, preferably from those with ties to the laboratories in question.
- An updated résumé, including extracurricular activities.

It should be noted that the application period opens each semester (in February or August) one week before the start of the semester and closes in week 5.

Tours were conducted of the Expedition FEMSA building on Monterrey campus during the event.



Harvard-Tec Lab Days 2026

The event was attended by Dr. Y. Shrike Zhang, an associate professor in the Department of Medicine at Harvard Medical School and a bioengineer in the Division of Medical Engineering at Brigham and Women's Hospital.

Also in attendance was Dr. Kiho Im, associate professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School and research scientist in the Division of Neonatal Medicine at Boston Children's Hospital.

Representing the Tec at the event was Dr. Joel Huegel, Director of the Tec de Monterrey Boston office, who connected Mexican faculty and students with opportunities at Boston universities like Harvard and MIT.

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