

Notes for comments at

***Research Without (Southern) Borders:
The Changing Canadian Research Landscape***

**Ottawa
May 22-23, 2003**

**Maureen O'Neil, President
International Development Research Centre (Canada)**

PART 1: Welcome to participants (6:30 p.m.)

(THIS WELCOME TO BE GIVEN AT THE END OF THE DRINKS PERIOD AND JUST BEFORE PEOPLE GO TO THE BUFFET.)

Ladies and Gentlemen, I am delighted to greet you this evening on behalf of AUCC and IDRC. Mesdames et Messieurs. Je suis ravie de vous saluer ce soir, au nom de l'AUCC et du CRDI. Thank you for adding this event to your busy schedules. I bring you greetings from Robert Giroux, President of AUCC, who cannot join us this evening because he is away on business. But we are pleased to have Vice President John Coleman with us this evening. And we'll have Vice President Robert Best tomorrow.

I am always pleased when IDRC can work in partnership with Canadian organizations that share a vision of making the world a better place through the creation and application of knowledge. Over the years IDRC and AUCC have formed a close working partnership around the involvement of Canadian universities in international development. This meeting is one of the benefits of the AUCC-IDRC partnership.

Another product of the AUCC-IDRC partnership is the book *A New World of Knowledge: Canadian Universities and Globalization*, which celebrates the pioneering role of the universities in international development through their early and continuing efforts to connect Canada with the world and to prepare Canadians for the world through research and teaching. The book also reminds us that we live in a world where we are more aware than ever that knowledge drives change and that the creation and application of knowledge will determine winners and losers—I mean this, not in the competitive sense of the market place, but, much more challenging, in the sense of solving the problems that offer current and future threats to the full range of human endeavour.

Le partenariat avec l'AUCC reconnaît le rôle central que les chercheurs universitaires tiennent en leur qualité de créateurs et passeurs de savoir. Il permet, dans le même temps, au CRDI de faire sien le souci que notre société cultive pour un monde qui doit tendre à devenir meilleur aussi bien pour les Canadiens que pour les populations vivant dans les régions les moins favorisées du globe.

So, welcome and thank you again for fitting this event into your busy schedules.

Je vous invite maintenant à vous rendre au buffet et à prendre place à vos tables. I invite you now to visit the buffet and settle yourselves at the tables.

(BREAK FOR PEOPLE TO VISIT THE BUFFET AND GET SEATED)

PART 2: Introduction of Francisco Sagasti (7:30 p.m. - 8 p.m., when all are seated with their dessert.)

Hello again. Re-bonsoir.

You will know from your work that the research landscape in Canada is undergoing ‘tectonic’ shifts—in the past few years, we have seen increased resources and new structures put in place to improve Canada’s ranking among nations who invest in R&D. Also, we are increasingly sensitive to the international dimension of research—and the challenges and opportunities it presents. That is the theme of tomorrow’s program.

This evening, we are going to hear from Dr. Francisco Sagasti—who has travelled from Peru to be with us—and it is my great pleasure to introduce him to you this evening.

Francisco deserves a fulsome introduction ... Scholar, teacher, researcher (both theoretical and applied), practitioner, public administrator, and citizen are described on the cover page of your agenda. I know Francisco through his work and also have the pleasure of working with him as a member of the IDRC’s Board of Governors. Without a doubt, Francisco is well qualified to share with us his learning and his insights on why it makes increasingly good sense in our global world system to breach the borders and barriers that separate Canada from less favoured parts of the world when seeking to do research that really matters—for Canadians, for Peruvians, for human kind everywhere.

Bien que Francisco s'adresse à nous en anglais, ses transparents sont accessibles en français.

Francisco, thank you for agreeing to be with us this evening.