

# ARIZONA AND THE FUTURE OF NORTH AMERICAN TRADE

Health Sciences Innovation Building Forum, The University of Arizona | 30 October 2019

## Wednesday, 30 October 2019

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11:30 - 12:00 **Registration**

12:00 - 12:15 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Dr. Robert C. Robbins, President, The University of Arizona

12:15 - 13:15 **Presentation – Luncheon**

*A Primer on the Significance of Arizona's Trade with Mexico and Canada: A Look at the Numbers.*

Presenter: Dr. Alisha Kim, Research Economist, Economic and Business Research Center, Eller College of Management

13:15 - 14:15 **Expert Panel 1**

*USMCA and Industry.*

Moderator, Dr. Jeffrey Kucik, Associate Professor, School of Government and Public Policy

1. Glenn Williamson, CEO, Canada Arizona Business Council
2. Glenn Hamer, President and CEO, Arizona Chamber of Commerce and Industry
3. Juan Cardenas, Vice President of Sales and Applications Engineering, CAID Industries

14:15 - 15:00 **Keynote Panel**

*Arizona and The Future of North America as a Region: A Conversation with Dr. Jesús Seade Kuri, Undersecretary for North America, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores and Arizona Governor, The Honorable Douglas A. Ducey.*

Moderator: Dr. Robert C. Robbins, President, The University of Arizona

1. Dr. Jesús Seade Kuri, Undersecretary for North America, Secretaría de Relaciones Exteriores
2. The Honorable Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of Arizona

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15:00 – 15:20 **Coffee Break**

15:20 – 16:20 **Expert Panel 2**

*The USMCA and Agriculture.*

Moderator: Dr. Dan Scheitrum, Assistant Professor, Agricultural and Resource Economics

1. Lance Jungmeyer, President, Fresh Produce Association of the Americas
2. Erik Lee, Executive Director, North American Research Partnership
3. Sabrina Hallman, President and CEO, Sierra Seed Company

16:20 – 17:20 **Expert Panel 3**

*The Future of Free Trade and North America: The Perspective from Academia*

Moderator: Amber Smith, President and CEO, Tucson Metro Chamber

1. Dr. Sergio Puig, Associate Professor, James E. Rogers College of Law and Director, International Trade Law Program
2. Mr. David Gantz, Emeritus Professor, James E. Rogers College of Law and Former Director, International Trade Law Program
3. Dr. Roberto Zepeda, Researcher, Center for Research on North America (CISAN), National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM)

17:20 – 17:30: **Closing Remarks**

17:30 – 19:00 **Reception @ Health Sciences Innovation Building Patio**



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As a border state with significant trade with both Mexico and Canada, Arizona understands the importance of free trade for North America. In fact, Arizona's top two export markets are Mexico and Canada respectively, and more than 228,000 Arizona jobs depend on trade and investment from our neighbors, and in 2019, Mexico surpassed China to become the United States number one trading partner. How could the ratification of the USMCA change the nature of North American trade, and specifically, how will it impact Arizona?

At present, ratification of the updated United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) hangs in the balance, held captive by partisan interests and the politics of the upcoming election cycle in the U.S. House of Representatives, while the new agreement was ratified by the Mexican Senate in June and still awaits a vote in the Canadian Parliament. A product of two years of negotiations, the USMCA, or T-MEC or CUSMA, may take the relationship of the globe's most competitive trading block into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with provisions for e-commerce, intellectual property protections, advanced rules of origin for the manufacturing sector, and expanded access for agriculture.

Arizona's economy stands to benefit from the new agreement, just as it expanded significantly over the 25 years under the North American Free Trade Agreement, which will remain in place unless further action is taken. The path forward remains to be defined, and there are many scenarios that could play out. It is at this moment of uncertainty and opportunity that the University of Arizona convenes a renowned group of experts to address the issues that face our state and to present an informed analysis of the potential impacts of the USMCA on the North American region.

We invite you to join us on October 30 to participate in this important forum on the future of North American trade, and to hear from experts and practitioners from the U.S., Mexico and Canada on how the North American region will evolve with or without ratification of the USMCA, and what the ramifications of those possibilities are for Arizona.

The University of Arizona, through Tech Parks Arizona, the James E. Rogers College of Law, the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, the Eller College of Management, and UA Global are pleased to bring you this timely forum, which could not have been done without the support from our valued partner, the Tucson Metro Chamber.



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