Recovery and Transformation: What lies ahead?

Progress and Challenges
The year 2020 brought with it great changes. The pandemic caused by SARS Covid-19 evidenced even more of the existing social and economic gaps.
The world has changed and the education sector is called on to transform itself.

The generation, transmission and dissemination of knowledge changed, not only in the theoretical sense but beginning with the practical way of making it a reality.
We find ourselves in a society that is reconfiguring itself both politically and economically.

Pandemic Effects:

• Internationally, school closures affected more than 91% of the student population (UNESCO 2020)

• In Latin America, 75% of universities invested heavily in educational technology (QS Symonds)
In the UAG our LMS was strengthened to create real virtual classrooms and laboratories.

In a short time, we managed to attend to 100% of our students at all academic levels through virtual spaces.
At the beginning of the pandemic in Mexico, 60% of the population lacked a computer or did not have access to quality internet service. (National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI), Results of the National Survey on the Availability and Use of Information Technologies in Households (ENDUTIH, 2020)

We need to rethink and rebuild systems that prioritize the sustainability of educational institutions in the long term with policies that reduce the digital divide.
Constant Challenges for Universities:

- Quality of educational programs
- Promoting learning
- Generating knowledge
- Social improvement

To continue on that path, we must turn our strategies to face the following

5 challenges...
Challenge 1  Attract and retain students

• Offer innovative programs adapted to new needs.

• Technology: Our main tool.

• Academic and administrative flexibility.

• Pedagogical micro-actions of everyday life inside and outside the classroom.
Response to the enormous social demand for higher education

- Society demands institutional policies and strategies that promote social equity.
- In teaching, building links and articulating demands, voices, values and ways of life that require reducing or eradicating social and economic inequalities.
Challenge 3

Contributing to the social, economic and cultural development of our nations

Rethinking the social function of universities, ensuring they not lose their meaning for the sake of power or money.

- Adopting an international approach and academic innovation.
- Adopting flexible and open learning structures.
- Social responsibility measuring the achievement of our graduate profile vs international standards.
• It is a priority that universities promote the generation of sustainable innovation in all areas of professional work.

• Artificial intelligence is a tool that is here to stay, though not leaving aside academic integrity by committing to defend at least the following values: honesty, trust, justice, respect and responsibility.
Challenge 5  Implementing effective management systems

• Efficiency in managing economic resources is essential for institutional sustainability and educational quality.

• It requires rebuilding systems that prioritize long-term sustainability, resilience and equity.

• University management should consider a transition to renewable energy sources.
It requires leaders like us who are bold and visionary thinkers, willing to open ourselves to new possibilities.

The progress of universities in the future is to remain faithful to our mission and vision.
“Change is mandatory, but improving is a deliberate choice.”

Thank you very much