

# 30 Years of University Ombudsman in Mexico.

---



Patricia Begné  
Mexico

May 29, 2015

# UNIVERSITY OMBUDS OFFICES IN MEXICO

1985: UNAM

1995: UNIVERSITY OF GUANAJUATO

2004: REDDU.

Created in 2005 by initiative of UNAM

20 members and 3 more in progress

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND IN MEXICO

UNAM.-1985 the initial idea was:

“the respect for Human Rights within the Mexican Constitution legal framework including International Treaties regarding Human Rights, as well as protection for vulnerable groups, (women, indigenous, children)”

## GENERAL NATURE OF UNIVERSITY OMBUDSMAN:

---

- ✘ The ombudsman must report annually on his or her activities.
- ✘ The ombudsman must fulfill requirements that guarantee his or her absolute independence and integrity.
- ✘ The procedures for the defense of these rights must be simple, accesible, rapid, and expeditious.
- ✘ The office of the Ombudsmen issues only non-binding recommendations

---

## About public universities in Mexico.

It is important to understand that public higher education besides teaching or providing knowledge and skills to perform a profession, has the obligation to introduce the students to a national conception and reality of Mexico.

The private universities do not have such a duty

# UNIVERSITY OMBUDSOFFICES: WHAT DO WE HAVE IN COMMON?

- ✘ The ombuds person is appointed by the university governing board or council.
- ✘ The ombuds offices are not decision makers.
- ✘ The ombuds offices give meaning to university rights
- ✘ The ombuds offices improves and strenghtens the university rules
- ✘ The ombudspersons faces great challenges at universities

---

**In fact, a ‘world-class’ university is one that contributes to the sustainable development of the world through the provision, mentoring, and facilitation of personal development and inculcating the responsibilities of global citizenship in its students, faculty and communities.**