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HISTORICALLY, strong universities are the principal source of scholarship, research, and trained leaders; they must be reckoned a force without which progress on a national scale is not possible. Today in many new and revitalized countries, sound social and economic development depends to a critical degree on the structuring of educational systems that culminate in universities able to perform two broad tasks. First, they must be able to train men and women to carry out the functions of government, to staff the professions, and to manage commerce. Second, they must possess research resources and personnel capable of contributing to the theoretical and practical bases on which a viable society can be built.

Grants for overall institutional development and for especially promising projects have been from the beginning an essential tool to assist the universities to achieve their goals, But perhaps the Foundation's greatest contribution now lies in making available the services of outstanding teacher-administrators to assist the development of key university departments while filling important academic posts.

Gaps exist in our knowledge of developing economies, concerning such subjects as the structure of agriculture, the beginnings of manufacturing, and terms of trade. Research on economic and political history is vital to the understanding of developing social systems; and

investigations in economic theory and problems of constitutionalism are needed to deepen the wellsprings of knowledge in these fields.

The Foundation is therefore encouraging outstanding scholars to turn their attention to the developing countries. As research proceeds, the results can be channeled quickly into the preparation of teaching material and the organization of teaching relevant to particular coun-

tries and areas.

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Of great importance in Latin America was a move by local leadership to revitalize centers of higher education. What was needed was a university, vigorous and young, that was prepared to break with tradition to meet the realities of the total educational structure of a Latin country, a university willing and able to demonstrate that higher education equivalent to the best of North America and Western Europe could be achieved.