

The Westmont's Foundation President's Breakfast with Vicente Fox

By JEANETTE CASILLAS / CASA

FORMER PRESIDENT OF MEXICO, Vicente Fox, was invited to speak at the fifth annual Westmont President's Breakfast at Fess Parker's Doubletree Resort last month. The sold out event gathered more than 700 people waiting to listen to Fox reflect on issues like Immigration, Globalization, and Free Trade.

"President Fox was very gracious and charming," shared Gerd Jordano, Event Chair. "He enlightened us on his perspective and what he sees needs to happen."

Fox touched on some controversial issues that the country is facing, one of them, immigration and the border between the U.S. and Mexico. "His belief is that instead of putting up walls we should be building bridges," shared Jordano, who noted it is easier said than done.

The Westmont Foundation and area businesses sponsor the President's Breakfast to promote discussion and consideration of current issues among local community leaders. This year was no different than past years, as tickets sold out in 48 hours.

"President Fox was our first international personality," shared Jordano. "We like to invite people who are current,



Pam Beebe; President **Vicente Fox**; **Marta Sahagún de Fox**, Former First Lady; **Gayle D. Beebe**, Westmont College President.

that will be of interest to the audience, and have a perspective."



Gerd Jordano, Event Chair and **John Davies**, Westmont Foundation Chair

Following the President's Breakfast, Fox spoke in convocation in Westmont's Murchison Gym. At the convocation he answered questions from a student panel that included John Evancoe '10 (Economics & Business), Hannah Cochran '11 (Political Science), Manuel Hernandez '10 (Sociology), and Andrea Owen '10 (Spanish).

"This was an exciting and stimulating opportunity for the students," noted Jordano. "Something I didn't have at my college."

For more information visit www.westmont.edu.



Sharol Siemens; **Val Montgomery**; **Bob Montgomery**; President **Vicente Fox**; **Marta Sahagún de Fox**; **Wayne Siemens**; and **Paul Orfalea**

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