



INCAE, June 28, 2013. The first meeting of the Central American Healthcare Initiative (CAHI) was held on June 28th at the INCAE Business School's Walter Kissling Gam campus in Costa Rica. CAHI began in 2012 as an initiative of philanthropists Elizabeth and Robert Jeffe, who met with international and regional experts who were interested in improving healthcare in Central America

This initiative brings together academics from universities such as Stanford, New York University, and the INCAE Business School, as well as leaders from the region's public and private sectors. The objective of the 2013 CAHI Meeting is to share and discuss program proposals aimed at improving public healthcare for Central America's low-income population.



CAHI will work in three areas: support to local innovators from the health sector, training about managing health care services, and as an incubator for innovation in healthcare. Some 60 academics and representatives from local governments, the business sector and civil society took part in the meeting.

CAHI's official presentation was made by Dr. John Ickis, Dean of Faculty of the INCAE Business School, Robert Jeffe, president of the Jeffe Foundation, and Dr. Andrea Prado,

academic director of CAHI and INCAE professor.

Work sessions were also held with INCAE professor, Dr. Julio Sergio Ramírez, and CAHI project director, Chris Barry.

Work groups were organized in the afternoon, with the goal of developing a training proposal in the area of "Healthcare Service Management."

Robert Jeffe, president of CAHI, also took part in the meeting. Jeffe is co-president and co-founder of Hawkwood Energy, and a board member of Associated Banc-Corp. In addition, he is president of deTiandi, a consulting and oil engineering firm based in Beijing and Houston, and is a board member of the mother company.



Other participants included Dr. Alvaro Salas, director of CENDEISSS, former executive president of the Costa Rican Social Security Fund, and member of CAHI's board of directors; Dr. Rocío Sáenz, former Minister of Health of Costa Rica; and Dr. Román Macaya, who holds a PhD in Biochemistry from the University of California, and an MBA in Healthcare Management from the Wharton Business School.