

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE MSUPRM CONSORTIUM

The University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez, herein represented by its chancellor, and Mississippi State University, herein represented by its president, are interested in a scientific enhancement initiative including both research collaboration as well as academic program development, for the purpose of and in accordance with the following understandings:

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1. The initiative, defined as the "MSUPRM Consortium", will receive the active cooperation of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez (UPRM) and Mississippi State University (MSU) in order to successfully implement the program objectives defined in the following section.
2. The major objectives of this program are:
  - 2.1 Identify areas in Computational Science and Engineering, and in particular in Computer Science, Mathematics, and Computer Engineering, in which the faculties and facilities of the two institutions complement each other, to make it feasible to conduct joint research projects that can be expected to produce results with potential benefits for both institutions.
  - 2.2 Share knowledge and expertise in the above areas through the interchange of faculty and participation in educational endeavors of mutual interest.
3. UPRM, through its departments of Mathematics and Electrical and Computer Engineering, will support the consortium in the following ways:
  - 3.1 Facilitate visiting professorships and sabbaticals at UPRM by MSU faculty.
  - 3.2 Enable UPRM faculty to conduct joint research of mutual interest by facilitating visits to the MSU campus of UPRM faculty as well as visits to the UPRM campus of MSU faculty, for the purpose of consultations, seminars, and workshops.
  - 3.3 Facilitate joint proposals for external funds to support educational and researcher endeavors that are deemed beneficial to both institutions.
  - 3.4 Encourage outstanding undergraduate students to participate in special programs at MSU such as the "Research Experience for Undergraduates" program.
  - 3.5 Facilitate arrangements for UPRM students to take courses for degree requirements at MSU, either by visits to the MSU campus or by "distance learning."
  - 3.6 Encourage UPRM graduates to enroll in MSU graduate degree programs, especially the Ph.D. programs in Computational Engineering and Computer Science.
  - 3.7 Facilitate appropriate MSU faculty to serve as advisors

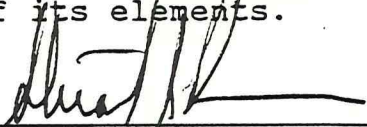


in the development of new degree programs at UPRM.

4. MSU, through its Engineering Research Center and associated academic departments, will support the consortium in the following ways:
  - 4.1 Facilitate visiting professorships and sabbaticals at MSU by UPRM faculty. Facilitate summer research for UPRM faculty at the Engineering Research Center.
  - 4.2 Enable MSU faculty to conduct joint research of mutual interest by facilitating visits to the MSU campus of UPRM faculty as well as visits to the UPRM campus of MSU faculty, for the purpose of consultations, seminars, and workshops.
  - 4.3 Facilitate joint proposals for external funds to support educational and researcher endeavors that are deemed beneficial to both institutions.
  - 4.4 Grant opportunities for talented UPRM undergraduates to participate in special programs at MSU such as the "Research Experience for Undergraduates" program.
  - 4.5 Facilitate arrangements for UPRM students to take courses for degree requirements at MSU, either by visits to the MSU campus or by "distance learning."
  - 4.6 Grant assistantships and fellowships for qualified UPRM graduates to study in MSU graduate programs leading to the Ph.D.
  - 4.7 Provide access for UPRM faculty and students to MSU research facilities as appropriate for mutually defined projects.
5. UPRM and MSU will sustain a continuous exchange of information of relevant projects and results.
6. General Dispositions:
  - 6.1 This memorandum of understanding will not be interpreted as creating either legal or financial relationships between the parties, but rather constitutes a declaration of intentions aiming to promote interactions in matters of collaborative research, and undergraduate and graduate education. Thus it is expected to enhance research endeavors of both institutions, as well as to provide more opportunities for UPRM students, but with recognition of each party having certain financial constraints.
  - 6.2 The agreement may be amended at any time after the written consent of both parties.
  - 6.3 This constitutes the entire understanding between the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez and Mississippi State University as sponsors of the MSUPRM Consortium. The understanding may be amended or terminated by mutual agreement of the sponsors.

In testimony of which the authorized representatives of the

University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez and Mississippi State  
University sign the memorandum of understanding accepting all  
of its elements.

  
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Chancellor  
University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

  
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President  
Mississippi State University

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