

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
AND RUTGERS UNIVERSITY 1995

Introduction

The University of Puerto Rico and Rutgers University have had formal and informal agreements since the 1940,s. These agreements have included student and faculty exchanges, collaborative credit courses taught at both universities, training programs, collaborative institutional building programs in Jamaica, the Dominican Republic and Costa Rica, collaborative research activities on cocoa, asparagus, potatoes and other vegetable crops, graduate thesis research on both campuses, plus other public service activities such as serving on Middle States accreditation and U.S.D.A. teams. These activities have continued for 50 years and the intention of this agreement is to continue mutually beneficial cooperative efforts into the next century.

Puerto Rico is the natural bridge between the U.S. and the Caribbean and Latin American countries. The University of Puerto Rico is the flagship research and educational unit of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. It has programs which foster improvements in the quality of life through education and research in the Americas - North, Central and South. For many years Puerto Rico has been recognized as the logical "North-South Center" location. The world is changing rapidly. GATT and NAFTA trade agreements will increase the rates of change.

A formal agreement to continue collaborative activities between the UPR and RU recognizes that mutually beneficial effects will continue and will expand as we prepare our students for the future and for the improvement in the lives of all our citizens.

Therefore the two universities agree:

1. To exchange faculty in disciplines needed to enhance or enrich the teaching and research programs of the partner institution.
2. To utilize the faculty members exchanged to enrich the academic growth and development of particular program activities especially those with a Puerto Rican or Caribbean component.
3. To provide field study opportunities in those disciplines in which internships are a part of the curriculum requirement or in those departments in which field projects would enrich a student's professional or liberal arts education.
4. To provide field study for dissertation research in appropriate disciplines. Priority will be given to students whose thesis proposals focus on the Puerto Rican population in the United States, on Commonwealth issues, or on matters involving Puerto Rican/Caribbean/United States relationships.

5. To seek, periodically, in consultation with the disciplines involved, faculty members who, through release time, can share information and present cultural/educational activities that will enhance and appreciate understanding and knowledge of Puerto Rican culture with the University and the New Jersey communities.
6. To seek advice and assistance from the appropriate departments in either institution for planning cultural or artistic activities/educational programs.
7. To develop an on-going program that insures continuity and duration of the exchange program.

I. Exchange of Faculty Members

1. Faculty will be nominated by the sending institution in disciplines or in academic specialties desired by the receiving institution. Upon approval by the receiving institution, these scholars will normally visit and present seminars or lectures for either an academic semester or a full academic year. The nature and the number of courses to be taught will be negotiated prior to the faculty members arrival. Each institution agrees to make every effort to give preferential treatment in matters of exchange to the other.

2. An attempt will be made to exchange faculty members on a one to one basis, not to exceed five annually. Should this not be feasible given the needs of either institution during a particular academic year, an effort will be made to achieve parity each three-year period.
3. The faculty members exchanged must have a sufficient knowledge of Spanish or English to present the lecture or seminars agreed to unless those course are to be given in the faculty's native language.
4. Each institution will pay the salary of its own faculty members.
5. Rutgers University and the University of Puerto Rico agree to provide assistance for faculty exchanges for particular adjustment problems as appropriate and as requested. Within the limits of the resource available at Rutgers University, in cases where undue financial hardship results to exchangees due to their stay in New Jersey, a salary supplement may be provided.
6. Expenses for family members of an exchangee are the responsibility of that individual.
7. Office space will be provided by the host institution for faculty exchangees. For those scholars doing research in addition to their teaching duties, the use of equipment

and library materials by exchangees will be facilitated in accordance with negotiations with the appropriate department chairperson or University administrator.

8. Each of the parties shall be responsible to provide comprehensive health insurance coverage for their respective faculty, that will extend to provide health benefits while in the visiting venue.

II. Exchange of Undergraduate and Graduate Students

1. Applications from undergraduate and graduate students will be forwarded by the sending institution to the receiving institution and will be evaluated and approved by the receiving institution. Factors such as the student's academic record, reasons for participating in the exchange, and concentration in the academic disciplines expressly covered by this agreement, should be given considerable weight in evaluating student exchangees. Over a three-year period an effort will be made to achieve parity on the number of exchanges between the two partner institutions
2. Each institution will give every consideration to exchanging students, principally undergraduates, who desire to pursue academic programs either not offered by the home institution or in disciplines in which experience

at the partner institution would enhance appreciably their professional or liberal arts education.

3. Applications from graduate students to pursue dissertation research for doctoral degrees must have their research projects approved by the receiving institution. In every case, the approval of research programs shall be subject to the availability of appropriate facilities of faculty for carrying through particular projects at the University.
4. The students exchanged must have a sufficient knowledge of Spanish or English to comprehend lectures and seminars or to do research in their fields. Exceptions would be made for those students specifically enrolled in the partner institution to improve their language skills.
5. Students will be exchanged for either an academic semester or for a full academic year.
6. Each institution agrees to appoint an academic advisor from the department of college in question to assist exchanges in arranging and implementing an appropriate scholarly program.
7. All costs for each exchangee will be borne by the student involved. Students will pay the tuition for their home institution to that institution. Those eligible for

financial aid would apply through their sending institution which would adjust the financial aid package to the respective geographical area.

8. Each institution will assist the student exchangees with locating on campus housing. Payment for this housing is the responsibility of the individual student.

III. Other Areas

Each institution agrees to advise the other, if requested, in planning cultural or artistic activities or educational programs that require expertise not readily available in the home institution. If such consultation necessitates visits to the partner institution, the costs involved will be borne by the institution seeking such advice.

IV. Duration and Evaluation of Agreement

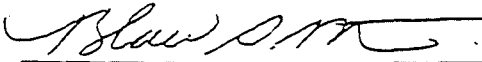
1. Each institution will establish its own Committee composed of faculty, administrators and other community members, as appropriate, to review the credentials of the faculty and students who apply for the exchange program and to advise the chief academic officer (the Provost at Rutgers University; the President at the University of Puerto Rico) or their designees on the selection of these individuals. Should either Exchange Committee feel that additional information about the academic background or

qualifications of a potentials student of faculty exchange is needed to evaluate an applicant, the committee has the right to request such information. Should extraordinary circumstances prevail, each institution reserves the right to interview the final applicants of the other institution at its own expense. In advising the Provost or the President, each Exchange Committee will adhere to the priorities of each institution as outlined in this Agreement. The individuals exchanged must be approved by the chief academic officer or their designees of both institutions. Further, to improve the quality of this exchange, each Committee will be responsible for an annual evaluation of their respective portion of this program; this assessment must include information from academic advisors, appropriate chairpersons, individual exchangees, and any other sources, as appropriate.

2. Six months prior to the completion date of this Agreement, the quality of the exchange program and the terms of the Agreement will be evaluated by the two respective institutions. Every effort will be made to accomplish this evaluation through the exchangees of university delegations comprised of three individuals who will spend three for five days on each campus. Upon mutual written


Agreement, this Exchange Agreement will be renewed for another three year period.

3. The term of agreement is 5 years, starting from the signatures of both parties herein mentioned.
4. If either of the contracting parties wishes to terminate this Agreement, in whole or in part, four months notification must be given. In case of partial or complete cancellation of this Agreement, the contracting parties shall enable all exchanges who have arrived at the respective institution to complete the agreed upon teaching assignments or academic/research programs.



Blanca G. Silvestrini
Acting President
University of Puerto Rico

April 26, 1995
Date



Francis L. Lawrence
President
Rutgers, The State
University of New Jersey

May 31, 1995
Date