

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

* 1. Type of Submission: <input type="radio"/> Preapplication <input checked="" type="radio"/> Application <input type="radio"/> Changed/Corrected Application	* 2. Type of Application: <input checked="" type="radio"/> New <input type="radio"/> Continuation <input type="radio"/> Revision	* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s): _____ * Other (Specify): _____
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* 3. Date Received: 04/17/2008	4. Applicant Identifier: _____
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5a. Federal Entity Identifier: _____	* 5b. Federal Award Identifier: _____
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State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State: _____	7. State Application Identifier: _____
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8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

* a. Legal Name: <u>Universidad Metropolitana</u>

* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN): 660201206	* c. Organizational DUNS: 053415613
--	--

d. Address:

* Street1: <u>PO Box 21150</u>
Street2: _____
* City: <u>San Juan</u>
County: _____
* State: <u>PR: Puerto Rico</u>
Province: _____
* Country: <u>USA: UNITED STATES</u>
* Zip / Postal Code: <u>00928-1150</u>

e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name: <u>School of Environmental Affair</u>	Division Name: _____
---	-------------------------

f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix: <u>Dr.</u>	* First Name: <u>Federico</u>
Middle Name: _____	
* Last Name: <u>Matheu</u>	
Suffix: _____	

Title: <u>Chancellor</u>

Organizational Affiliation: _____

* Telephone Number: <u>(787) 766-1717 Ext 6400</u>	Fax Number: <u>(787) 751-5540</u>
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* Email: <u>um_fmatheu@suagm.edu</u>

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9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

S: Hispanic-serving Institution

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

O: Private Institution of Higher Education

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

* Other (specify):

* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

U.S. Department of Education

11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

84.116

CFDA Title:

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education

* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

ED-GRANTS-020108-022

* Title:

Special Focus Competition: U.S.-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program CFDA 84.116M

13. Competition Identification Number:

84-116M2008-1

Title:

14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

San Juan and Carolina, Puerto Rico and Curitiba and Campos, Brazil

* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

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16. Congressional Districts Of:

* a. Applicant

* b. Program/Project

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

17. Proposed Project:

* a. Start Date:

* b. End Date:

18. Estimated Funding (\$):

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="219,723.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="219,723.00"/>

* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?

- a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on
- b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes", provide explanation.)

- Yes
- No

21. *By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications** and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances** and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)

** I AGREE

** The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

Authorized Representative:

Prefix: * First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Title:

* Telephone Number: Fax Number:

* Email:

* Signature of Authorized Representative: * Date Signed:

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Standard Form 424 (Revised 10/2005)
Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

Version 02

*** Applicant Federal Debt Delinquency Explanation**

The following field should contain an explanation if the Applicant organization is delinquent on any Federal Debt. Maximum number of characters that can be entered is 4,000. Try and avoid extra spaces and carriage returns to maximize the availability of space.

Attachments

AdditionalCongressionalDistricts

File Name

Mime Type

AdditionalProjectTitle

File Name

Mime Type

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

OMB Approval No. 4040-0007
Expiration Date 04/30/2008

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

NOTE: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee-3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §§3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

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Prescribed by OMB Circular A-102

Tracking Number: GRANT00453456

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327- 333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93- 205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.

* SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL Gladys Cora Cora	* TITLE Chancellor
* APPLICANT ORGANIZATION Universidad Metropolitana	* DATE SUBMITTED 04-17-2008

Standard Form 424B (Rev. 7-97) Back

DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352
(See reverse for public burden disclosure.)

Approved by OMB

0348-0046

1. * Type of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> a. contract <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. grant <input type="checkbox"/> c. cooperative agreement <input type="checkbox"/> d. loan <input type="checkbox"/> e. loan guarantee <input type="checkbox"/> f. loan insurance	2. * Status of Federal Action: <input type="checkbox"/> a. bid/offer/application <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> b. initial award <input type="checkbox"/> c. post-award	3. * Report Type: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> a. initial filing <input type="checkbox"/> b. material change For Material Change Only: year quarter date of last report
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Prime <input type="checkbox"/> SubAwardee Tier if known: * Name: n/a * Address: n/a n/a Congressional District, if known:		5. If Reporting Entity in No.4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime:
6. * Federal Department/Agency: n/a	7. * Federal Program Name/Description: Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education CFDA Number, if applicable: 84.116	
8. Federal Action Number, if known:	9. Award Amount, if known:	
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant (If Individual, complete name): * Name: n/a n/a * Address:	b. Individual Performing Services (including address if different from No. 10a): * Name: n/a n/a	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when the transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.		* Signature: Gladys Cora Cora * Name: Federico M Matheu Title: Chancellor Telephone No.: 7877661717 Date: 04-17-2008
Federal Use Only		Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form - LLL (Rev. 7-97)

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about a new provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law (P.L.) 103-382).

To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. **ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.**

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

What Does This Provision Require

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct

description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- (1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- (2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in braille for students who are blind.
- (3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1890-0007. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: Director, Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW (Room 3652, GSA Regional Office Building No. 3), Washington, DC 20202-4248.

Attachment Information

File Name

Mime Type

CERTIFICATION REGARDING LOBBYING

Certification for Contracts, Grants, Loans, and Cooperative Agreements

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of an agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subcontracts, subgrants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly. This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Statement for Loan Guarantees and Loan Insurance

The undersigned states, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

If any funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions. Submission of this statement is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by section 1352, title 31, U.S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required statement shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

* APPLICANT'S ORGANIZATION

Universidad Metropolitana

* PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE
--

Prefix: * First Name: Federico Middle Name: M
* Last Name: Matheu Suffix: * Title: Chancellor

* SIGNATURE: Gladys Cora Cora * DATE: 04/17/2008
--

U.S. Department of Education Budget Summary

*** 1. Program**

*** 2. Select One:** Lead (fiscal agent) Partner

*** 3. Name of the Institution/Organization:**

Project Costs Requested from FIPSE:

Budget Categories:	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Total (e)
4. Personnel (salary & wages)	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	8,000.00	32,000.00
5. Fringe Benefits (employee benefits)	1,760.00	1,760.00	1,760.00	1,760.00	7,040.00
6. Travel	10,500.00	9,000.00	10,500.00	9,000.00	39,000.00
7. Equipment (purchase)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8. Supplies (and materials)	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	1,500.00	6,000.00
9. Contractual (enter partner totals here)	6,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00	27,000.00
10. Other (equipment rental, printing, etc.)	0.00	5,000.00	0.00	5,000.00	10,000.00
11. Total Direct Costs (lines 4-10)	27,760.00	32,260.00	28,760.00	32,260.00	121,040.00
12. Indirect Costs* (8% of line 11)	2,221.00	2,581.00	2,300.00	2,581.00	9,683.00
13. Mobility Stipends	0.00	40,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	80,000.00
14. Language Stipends	0.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00	9,000.00
15. Subtotal of Stipends (lines 13 + 14)	0.00	43,000.00	23,000.00	23,000.00	89,000.00
16. Total Requested from FIPSE (lines 11 + 12 + 15) (These figures should appear on the Title Form)	29,981.00	77,841.00	54,060.00	57,841.00	219,723.00

Project Costs Not Requested from FIPSE:

17. Lead Partner Non-Federal Funds	(b)(4)				
18. Subcontractor(s) Partner Non-Federal Funds					

Funds Requested by Foreign Partners:

19a. Total Requested from Canada	(b)(4)				
19b. Total Requested from Mexico					
19c. Total Requested from Brazil					
19d. Total Requested from Europe					

*** Indirect Cost Information (To be completed by your Business Office):**

If you are requesting reimbursement for indirect costs on line 12, please answer the following questions:

(1) Do you have an Indirect Cost Rate Agreement approved by the Federal Government? Yes No

(2) If Yes, please provide the following information:

* Period covered by the Indirect Cost Rate Agreement: From: To:

* Approving Federal Agency: OED Other (please specify):

(3) For Restricted Rate Programs (select one) - - Are you using a restricted indirect cost rate that:

Is included in your approved Indirect Cost Rate Agreement? Or, Complies with 34 CFR 76.564(c)(2)?

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

* Program:
* Country:

Lead Partner:

* Name:
Prefix:
* First Name:
Middle Name:
* Last Name:
Suffix:

* Name of Institution/Organization: (60 Character Limit)

Department: (60 Character Limit)

* Complete Address:

* Street1:
Street2:
* City:
County:
* State:
State/Province:
* Country:
* Zip / Postal Code:

Phone Number: Fax Number:

Email:

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

Partner Two:

* Name:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Name of Institution/Organization: (60 Character Limit)

Department: (60 Character Limit)

* Complete Address:

* Street1:

Street2:

* City:

County:

* State:

State/Province:

* Country:

* Zip/Postal Code:

Phone Number: Fax Number:

Email:

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

Partner Three:

* Name:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Name of Institution/Organization: (60 Character Limit)

Department: (60 Character Limit)

* Complete Address:

* Street1:

Street2:

* City:

County:

* State:

State/Province:

* Country:

* Zip / Postal Code:

Phone Number: Fax Number:

Email:

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

Important: Please attach your Consortium Partners Identification Form Attachment file(s). Please remember that any files you attach must be a Pure Edge document.

1) Please attach Attachment 1

ED_FIPSEConsortiumPartnersIdentificationFormAttachment-V1.0.xfd

2) Please attach Attachment 2

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

* Program:

* Country:

Lead Partner:

* Name:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Name of Institution/Organization: (60 Character Limit)

Department: (60 Character Limit)

* Complete Address:

* Street1:

Street2:

* City:

County:

* State:

State/Province:

* Country:

* Zip / Postal Code:

Phone Number: Fax Number:

Email:

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

Partner Two:

* Name:

Prefix: Dr.

* First Name: Carlos

Middle Name: Eduardo

* Last Name: Rezende

Suffix:

* Name of Institution/Organization: (60 Character Limit)

Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense

Department: (60 Character Limit)

Centro de Biotecnologia e Biotecnologia

* Complete Address:

* Street1: Ave. Alberto Lamengo, 2000

Street2:

* City: Campo dos Goytacazes

County:

* State:

State/Province: RJ

* Country: BRA: BRAZIL

* Zip/Postal Code: 28013-602

Phone Number: 55-22-2726-1470 Fax Number: 55-22-2726-1472

Email: crezonde@uenf.br

CONSORTIUM PARTNERS IDENTIFICATION FORM

Partner Three:

* Name:

Prefix:

* First Name:

Middle Name:

* Last Name:

Suffix:

* Name of Institution/Organization: (60 Character Limit)

Department: (60 Character Limit)

* Complete Address:

* Street1:

Street2:

* City:

County:

* State:

State/Province:

* Country:

* Zip/Postal Code:

Phone Number:

Fax Number:

Email:

FUND FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIA PROGRAM

Project Title Form

* Program:

Consortium Members - - U.S. Partners:

* Lead:

* Partner:

Partner:

Consortium Members - - Foreign Partners:

* Lead:

* Partner:

Partner:

Consortium Members - - Foreign Partners:

Lead:

Partner:

* Project Title:

*** Abstract of Proposal: (1000 Character Limit)**

This project builds upon a successful FIPSE grant and seeks to expand the educational activities to include broader opportunities for field research, the development of online courses and materials in environmental sciences focused on coastal ecosystems; enhanced language courses for participants, and the establishment of a long-term research agenda with a sustainability plan for all institutions. The six partners in this project will be Universidad Metropolitana in PR (US Lead); Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense in Brazil (Brazil Lead); Universidad del Turabo in PR; Universidade Federal do Parana in Brazil, the PR Wetland Fdn and Channel 40. The project will allow forty students (20/US-PR and 20/Brazil) to participate which will advance environmental studies curricula with a focus on coastal ecosystems and the enhancement of an established student and faculty exchange program between the US (PR) and Brazil.

*** Select project format:**

- Four-year consortia project
- Two-year consortia project

Federal Funds Requested (\$):

* Year 1:

* Year 2:

* Year 3:

* Year 4:

* Total:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION GRANTS

1. Project Director

* Name:

Dr.

Carlos

M

Padin

* Address:

PO Box 21150

San Juan

PR: Puerto Rico

00928-1150

USA: UNITED STATES

* Phone Number:

(787) 766-1717 Ext 6410

Fax Number:

Email:

cpadin@suagm.edu

2. Applicant Experience:

Yes No Not applicable to this program

3. Human Subjects Research

Are any research activities involving human subjects planned at any time during the proposed project Period?

Yes No

Are ALL the research activities proposed designated to be exempt from the regulations?

Yes Provide Exemption(s) #:

No Provide Assurance #, if available:

Please attach an explanation Narrative:

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Tracking Number: GRANT00453458

Project Narrative

Abstract Narrative

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Project Narrative

Project Narrative

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aInternationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum

PART III. PROPOSAL NARRATIVE

A. Overview of Project

This project builds upon the foundation established by the current successful FIPSE US-Brazil project (*Environmental Affairs and Globalization: Internationalizing the Environmental Studies Curriculum Proposal*) (Award P116MO40017). The project outcomes and evaluations exceeded initial expectations and are the backbone of the development of this project - the establishment of a long-term core collaborative research agenda with stronger initiatives for language and cultural skills development and enhanced web-based courses to further strengthen and broaden the academic and cultural exchanges.

The primary goal of this proposal is to expand and enhance the educational and research skills of the participating teams at the four (4) universities who are partners for this project: Universidad Metropolitana (UMET) & Universidad del Este (UNE), located in Puerto Rico and representing the United States, and Universidade Estadual Norte do Fluminense in Campos and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Fortaleza, Brazil. This exchange program will provide a unique educational and research experience, as well as a competitive edge, to the participating students in their interest to continue careers in STEM fields or in the job market. The broad objectives of this proposal are to:

1. implement an international cultural and educational exchange program between the US (Puerto Rico) and Brazil with mutual credit recognition and portability focused on coastal systems research;
2. develop and implement shared core key courses related to coastal ecosystems with an international focus on field research at international coastal ecosystems;

3. design web-based instructional materials and educational strategies on international coastal ecosystems research to share online with the US Brazil Consortium and other universities in the U.S., the Caribbean, and Latin America;
4. expand and enhance foreign language offerings through the development of an updated new course in Conversational Portuguese, to be offered as a prerequisite to all students participating in the Student Exchange Program between Puerto Rico and Brazil, and
5. strengthen the existing partnership between government agencies, the private sector, and institutions of higher education in Puerto Rico and Brazil to continue to promote student and faculty exchanges, enhancements to environmental curricula and strengthening of field research on coastal ecosystems.

The expected outcomes of the project are: (1) the enhancement and expansion of a successful cooperative cultural, linguistic, educational and research experience for undergraduates, graduate students and faculty in environmental sciences; (2) an updated curriculum with international research experiences incorporated into key coastal ecosystem courses; (3) a long-term core research agenda on coastal ecosystems for the university consortia; (4) an internationally-focused comparative research project; and (5) dissemination of the project's accomplishments among the scientific community through online courses and educational materials focused on international coastal ecosystems.

The proposed project will allow minority undergraduate and graduate students to be exposed to a unique experience that will stimulate them to further their careers in science or related fields and have a competitive edge in the job market. It will also strengthen the existing relationship with Brazilian universities and establish a long term research project. UMET and

UNE are leaders in the environmental field and recognize the importance of incorporating an international dimension into the educational experiences of our students. This vision has been incorporated into the mission of both universities, with each establishing an Office of the Vice Chancellor for Internationalization, and the development of a Center for the Study of Globalization at UMET, with the participation of UNE on its Advisory Board.

In this project, participating students and faculty will broaden their understanding of international research experience in science careers. Also, our program will produce environmental scientists with a competitive edge and research capability, which means that they will have more opportunities to be accepted into doctoral programs or higher paying jobs. The experience acquired by all participants will increase the level of the research currently performed, making UMET and UNE key contributors to the advancement of science in Puerto Rico. Finally, dissemination of the project's research and results will help UMET and UNE attract talented students, which will support the continued success of the STEM programs.

The two lead institutions will be Universidad Metropolitana in Puerto Rico and Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense in Brazil. The four (4) associate partners are: Universidad del Este, Puerto Rico Wetland Foundation, Channel 40 (PBS), and Universidade Federal do Ceará from Brazil. This Consortium will foster mutual recognition and portability of academic credits among the participating institutions in environmental studies, language acquisition (Spanish, English, and Portuguese), and cultural awareness.

B. Project Objectives and Strategies for Achieving Objectives:

In order to ensure successful project implementation, sustainability, and attainment of expected outcomes, the following strategies will be used:

Objective # 1: Implement an international cultural and educational exchange program between the US and Brazil with mutual credit recognition and portability focused on coastal ecosystems research

Strategies for Achieving Objective # 1:

1. Confirm revised and updated Memoranda of Understanding and agreements with partners upon notification of award, to include: a. Administrative Structure at each Lead Institution; b. Student Recruitment; c. Student Mobility, Numbers and Duration; d. Academic Credit Recognition; e. Student Fees; f. Faculty and Curricular Development; g. Student Support Services for Participating Students; h. Evaluation Plan of Stated Goals.
2. Develop and implement a promotional campaign of project goals, objectives and requirements throughout the consortium to foster student participation in the program.
3. Recruit students to participate in the Exchange Program during Spring 2009 to enable them to take Conversational Portuguese in the Spring. Only junior and senior undergraduates and graduate students will be considered for the program, recruited by the Selection Committee and approved by the host institution.
4. Begin Student Exchange Program in Project Year Two (Fall 2009) and recruit one (1) group each year thereafter. Each group will have five students, divided as follows:
 - Project Year Two: two (2) undergraduates and three (3) graduate students from UMET and two (2) undergraduates and three (3) graduate students from UNE
 - Project Year Three: one (1) undergraduate and two (2) graduate students from UMET and one (1) undergraduate and one (1) graduate student from UNE
 - Project Year Four: one (1) undergraduate and one (1) graduate student from UMET and one (1) undergraduate and two (2) graduate students from UNE.

These students will be sent to Brazil for one semester to take courses in the environmental field with emphasis on coastal ecosystems and field research.

5. Update the Institutionalization Plan produced for the first FIPSE US Brazil project for project activities beyond the funding period with institutional budget and private partner support.

Objective #2: Develop and implement shared core key courses related to coastal ecosystems with an international focus on field research at international coastal ecosystems.

Strategies for Achieving Objective #2

1. Conduct a joint curricular review of core key courses to introduce a strong international research dimension to the content and pedagogy to enhance student and faculty learning opportunities in coastal ecosystems in the following key environmental courses: Sustainable Development, Marine Resources, Integrated Management, and the two (2) research courses.
2. Obtain reauthorization from the Academic Council at UMET and UNE of the Credit Transfer System for credit portability and recognition.
3. Implement revised courses and conduct formative evaluation and assessment.
4. Expand online resources on environmental field to include specifically coastal ecosystems materials.

Objective #3: Design web-based instructional materials and educational strategies on international coastal ecosystems research to share online with the US Brazil Consortium and other universities in the U.S., the Caribbean, and Latin America

Strategies for Achieving Objective #3:

1. Develop a set of web-based instructional and academic materials among partner institutions to

be widely shared within the consortium and with other universities in the US, Latin America and the Caribbean.

2. Form a joint cadre of academic leaders who will integrate internet technologies to develop web-based instructional modules throughout the grant and after grant expiration.
3. Work closely with the Ana G. Méndez PBS channel (Channel 40) to disseminate the project outcomes and develop strategies for mentoring and quality control of the web-based courses on coastal ecosystems and research.
4. Launch the project products (courses and materials on coastal ecosystems) on UMET's portal.

Objective # 4: Expand and enhance foreign language offerings through the development of an updated new course in Conversational Portuguese, to be offered as a prerequisite to all students participating in the Student Exchange Program between Puerto Rico and Brazil.

Strategies for Achieving Objective #4:

1. Update Conversational Portuguese course and incorporate it into the offerings of the new Institute for Languages and Global Culture at UMET.
2. Obtain the approval of the updated course by the Academic Council at Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este for the Conversational Portuguese course.
3. Begin offering selected students Conversational Portuguese in Fall 2008 – Project Year One.
4. Continue Conversational Portuguese course offerings and/or off campus intensive courses during the remaining three (3) years of project implementation and thereafter as institutionalization of project activities are implemented at new UMET Institute (ILGC).

Objective #5: Strengthen the existing partnership between government agencies, the private

sector, and institutions of higher education in Puerto Rico and Brazil to continue to promote student and faculty exchanges, enhancements to environmental curricula and strengthening of field research on coastal ecosystems.

Strategies for Objective #5:

1. Develop a joint field research agenda on coastal ecosystems with project partners – academic, public and private.
2. Promote faculty exchange program to strengthen academic and research ties through joint seminars and presentations to the partners and the general public.
3. Develop a sponsored research program to support these activities beyond the implementation period of the grant.

C. Expected Outcomes:

1. Twenty (20) students (10 undergraduate and 10 graduate) in environmental sciences or related fields will have approved a Conversational Portuguese course, their third language, as English and Spanish are required in higher education in Puerto Rico.
2. Twenty (20) students in environmental sciences or related fields from Brazil will have approved a Conversational Spanish and a Conversational English course.
3. Forty (40) undergraduate and graduate students, specializing in environmental sciences or related fields, will have taken environmental sciences courses focused on coastal ecosystems research at the host institution, gaining invaluable experience related to approaches to research and environmental problem-solving and transferable to their degree program.
4. Forty (40) undergraduate and graduate students, specializing in Environmental Studies, will have experienced an international semester, enhanced and broadened their linguistic skills,

and gained cultural awareness, appreciation and meaningful international interaction provided by the project consortia.

5. Consortium institutions will have a viable, sustainable Puerto Rico/Brazil Exchange Program in Environmental Studies..
6. All Consortium institutions will have environmental research courses that have been updated, modified and enhanced through the inter-institutional faculty and student participation in the exchange program.
7. Web-based instructional materials developed within the Consortium will be published through Channel 40 and UMET portal and available to the wider public.

D. Cooperative Projects

Potential Academic and Professional Impact of Project on Students from both Countries: The areas of academic collaboration among participating institutions have been chosen based on shared visions, interests, projections for future developments, curricula, and commitment to enhancing student university experience through international opportunities, not commonly available unless projects like these are developed. This project will have a lasting impact on all the participating students and faculty, as well as the administrators of the universities. A summary follows:

1. Students will get a broader cross-cultural understanding of environmental issues and how to approach them from diverse perspectives.
2. Students will be able to experience research methods and approaches in the environmental field implemented in another country, study the strategies used to solve them, learn from past

mistakes, and be in a better position to analyze different courses of action and options to deal with similar situations.

3. Students will be able to master a third language through participation in the program (Spanish/Portuguese/English).
4. Students will improve their employability options and opportunities in STEM fields.
5. Undergraduate students will increase their motivation to pursue graduate studies in the field with an open understanding of global issues and perspectives regarding the environment.
6. Graduate students will increase their motivation to pursue doctorates in the field with an open understanding of globalization and world improvement agendas regarding the environment.
7. Students will have the opportunity to help shape and re-shape the curriculum as participation in the program will foster student leadership skills and input regarding content, pedagogy, and globalization.
8. Students will have the great opportunity of influencing their peers by becoming role models within their respective fields of study.
9. Students will be able to develop new networks of friends, colleagues, and mentors to advance in the profession and as individuals.

Target Student Population: The primary target of the project in the Puerto Rican institutions are junior and senior undergraduates with a GPA of 3.00 and above on a scale of 4.00, and graduate students, both groups majoring in environmental studies and/or related fields upon the review of the Consortium Agreement. Students from Brazil will also be from environmental studies and other related fields, with particular requirements to be specified by the partner institutions in Brazil.

Value Added of the Project to our Environmental Studies Profession: The value added of this program is many-fold, but we are highlighting two strategic foreseen gains. First, value added regarding personal gains in the development of better environmental scientists and managers equipped not only with the knowledge acquired from texts, lectures, readings, research projects, and the like, but equipped with the experience of living and studying in another country, experimenting and approaching environmental problems from a different perspective, and learning from different mentors and role models. Second, the value added regarding the curricula enhancement and instructional materials in environmental sciences. Additional value will be added by the great opportunity of developing e-learning activities for all interested groups in the field. In the specific case of the Puerto Rico-Brazil Consortium, both countries stand to make unique gains. Brazil, from its position as the world's most important biodiversity repository, will offer Puerto Rican students and faculty the experience and perspective of a dynamic, progressive, and multi-national resource and biodiversity management infrastructure. Puerto Rico, on the other hand, as a small island with one of the world's highest population density and critical development pressures, will offer Brazilian students a unique perspective into the efforts of un-checked urban sprawl and critical habitat size.

E. Consortium Activities:

Development of Innovative Curricula, Teaching Materials and Modules The US-Brazil collaboration is mainly based on students taking advantage of completing courses abroad within a well established transfer credit model.

Curricular innovations regarding means and ways to foster student learning and overall professional development will be the focus of the proposed project targeting specific

environmental studies courses. Courses such as Sustainable Development, Marine Resources, Integrated Management, and the two (2) research courses will be revised within the Consortium institutions to integrate new instructional materials and test innovative teaching methodologies. Each member of the Consortium will foster curricular and methodological innovations within the group to ensure student academic achievement, cross-cultural awareness regarding complexity of environmental issues from a global perspective, and sharing of instructional materials and equipment proven successful in the past. The focus of the curricular revisions will be directed towards developing an interdisciplinary and internationally oriented environmental studies program that can integrate the United States, the Caribbean and the Brazilian perspective for the betterment of humankind.

Teaching materials will be developed and pilot tested within the Consortium for each of the targeted courses and published in the UMET portal to ensure wide and free access to other interested universities. A multilingual (Spanish/Portuguese/English) web site will be developed and maintained in the UMET portal, linked to each consortium member web site as a communication and dissemination tool.

Development of Organizational Frameworks for Student Mobility: The framework for student mobility is interdisciplinary, based on the very nature of the environmental studies programs, administrative flexibility, and the academic structure of the participating partners. Student mobility requirements and processes will be spelled out in the MOUs to be signed by appropriate university officials within the Consortium during the preparatory phase of the grant.

Development of Adequate Language Preparation and Assessment: Student language readiness from both countries will be strategically targeted by posting as a pre-requisite for participation the completion of at least one introductory language course at the home institution

prior to departure. Lead institutions will be responsible for certifying students' basic language command of the host country.

Many Brazilian students are proficient in the English language as they are highly exposed to the language; therefore, they can be in a good position to manage themselves effectively in Puerto Rico. In the case of their Spanish proficiency level, a similar strategy as the one posted for Puerto Rican students regarding the Portuguese language will be implemented by the Brazilian counterparts, as they must master basic Spanish to study in Puerto Rico. We will arrange a program of Portuguese and Spanish language instruction for all Consortium members during the preparatory phase of the grant. Language skills (Portuguese and Spanish) will be assessed through proficiency exams conducted at each partner institution. Results will be used as one of the selection criteria for the exchange program. UMET and UNE will provide Brazilian students with language instruction for Spanish, as well as English, as part of the institutional commitment to the project. In addition, they will also have access to the language labs, free of charge.

Certification, Licensure, and/or Accreditation: This is not an issue for the Consortium as all participating institutions are accredited through standard processes in the two countries.

Use of Web-based and Other Computer-based Technologies: Web-based technologies will be used during the duration of the project as communication and working tools. This will include the creation of the web-based infrastructure with the Project webpage in the UMET portal. It will also entail the identification of computerized applications to be integrated into the curriculum such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS) and other technological tools for teaching and learning. In addition, participating students, faculty and staff will be able to communicate and work through our Interactive Television System (ITS) and video-conferencing

system provided by our television station - Channel 40. Details of web-based services and projects will be developed and presented during the planning year of the project.

Development of the Evaluation Plan: Project assessment and evaluation will be based on expected outcomes set forth within the proposed project. This includes process as well as product evaluation. The evaluation process incorporates an internal and external assessment of project objectives throughout the duration of the funding period. At the conclusion of each academic term, stated objectives and timelines will also be evaluated to determine overall achievement of project objectives by key personnel on an on-going basis under the supervision of Dr. Carlos M. Padín, Project Director, and Dr. Zaida Vega-Lugo, Consortium Leader.

The Project Director, along with key project staff, will monitor stated objectives and activities as specified in the Planning Timetable of the proposal to ensure compliance. The Project Director, in coordination with other key personnel, will be responsible for preparing annual progress reports to the Department of Education. These reports will be made available to the Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor for Internationalization and Corporate Affairs, Academic Council, Administrative Council, and faculty in meetings conducted by appropriate academic officials at Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este. These reports will describe progress on Consortium processes and outcomes based on milestones set within the Planning Timetable, and on student and faculty feedback. Emphasis will be given to student exchange outcomes, development of instructional materials, web-based technologies applied to teaching, and curriculum revisions.

Dr. Ricardo Diez,, full professor at Inter American University of Puerto Rico, will be asked to serve as the project's external evaluator. Dr. Diez has ample experience in sponsored research project development and evaluation. He holds a Ph. D. in Spanish Literature from the

City University of New York and completed a post-doctoral N.E.H. Fellowship in Yale University from 1981-1982 in "The Narrative of America". Dr. Diez has served as the external evaluator of our current grant (P116MO40017) with great impact regarding the evaluation of processes and outcomes, as well as by making valuable recommendations to ensure implementation of grant objectives. Dr. Diez has expertise in the management of distance learning programs at the conceptual and operational level, key to this project.

Dr. Diez will have access to progress reports and evaluations from key personnel, students and faculty. He will also interview the Project Director, students, participating faculty, and other key personnel, as well as identify any deficiencies and recommend strategies for improving outcomes. Dr. Diez will report findings within three weeks of the evaluation visit to the Project Director, Project Co-Director, the Vice-Chancellor of Internationalization and Corporate Affairs at UMET and the Vice-Chancellor at Universidad del Este/International Studies Division. The Project Director will share the results of the evaluation with the program officer and with appropriate UMET/UNE personnel as stated above so that recommendations can be addressed and adjustments made throughout the duration of the project. A final evaluation report will be prepared and disseminated to interested parties.

F. Student Administrative Issues

Number of Students to be Sent to Brazil and to be Received from Brazil: The number of exchange students from Puerto Rico (US) and Brazil during Project Years 2 - 4 is shown below. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for International and Corporate Affairs will develop a plan to foster more student exchange programs. The Offices of Sponsored Research at each institution will work closely with the Project Team to develop a Sponsored Research plan.

US/Brazil Consortium - Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum												
Number of Exchange Students												
Partners	1st Year		2nd Year			3rd Year			4th Year			Total
US/Puerto Rico	U	G	U	G	Total	U	G	Total	U	G	Total	
UMET	0		2	3	5	1	2	3	1	1	2	10
UNE	0		5	0	5	2	0	2	3	0	3	10
<i>Sub-Total</i>			7	3	10	3	2	5	4	1	5	20
Brazil												
UFAM	0		1	2	3	1	2	3	2	2	4	10
UENF	0		1	2	3	1	2	3	2	2	4	10
<i>Sub-Total</i>			2	4	6	2	4	6	4	4	8	20
<i>Total</i>	0				16			11			13	40
	U=Undergraduates					G = Graduate Students						

Duration of Study Abroad: Study abroad will be one semester. The arrangements will be specifically described in the Memoranda of Understanding to be completed during the first year of preparatory phase.

Academic Credit Recognition Scheme: Academic credit recognition at the Puerto Rican Consortium member institutions will only require that it be specifically included in the Memoranda of Understanding that are forged in the first year of project implementation. At UMET, credit recognition is made through Resolution approved by the Academic Council. It requires an Equivalency Table developed by each School involved in exchange programs,

approved by the Dean of the School and registered in the Registrars' official records. The Project Director (UMET), Project Co-Director (UNE), Vice Chancellor for International and Corporate Affairs (UMET), and Vice Chancellor/International Studies Division (UNE) will be responsible at each institution to implement credit recognition for study abroad participants.

Visiting Student Fees at Host Institutions: The policy at the consortium institutions in Puerto Rico (US) is that students participating in exchange programs pay tuition at the home institution and attend their host institutions without additional tuition charges. This policy also applies to Brazilian institutions participating in the project. These inter-institutional arrangements will be presented in detail in the Consortium Agreement to be developed and signed in the first year preparatory phase.

Student Stipends: A stipend of \$4,000 is allotted in the budget for US (Puerto Rico) students studying abroad in Brazil. This amount will be used to cover the costs of language acquisition, travel, and room and board expenses at the host institution.

Student Services at the Home and at the Host Institutions in Both Countries: Brazilian students in Puerto Rico (US) will be received by a Hosting Committee integrated by project key personnel. The Hosting Committee will be chaired by the Project Director and will include the Vice-Chancellor for International and Corporate Affairs (Consortium Leader), the Project Co-Director, the Academic Advisor, and the Vice-Chancellor of International Studies Division at UNE. An orientation will be given to Brazilian students to ensure appropriate participation in all university life activities. Students will be under the supervision of the Project Director and Co-Director throughout the entire duration of the exchange program and under the guidance of the Academic Advisor and Consortium Leader. They will also be assigned a student mentor at the host institution to assist in the adjustment process from a peer perspective.

Brazilian students will be eligible to receive free medical services at the Student Health Centers of UMET and UNE, both of which have a physician under contract. Students will also be eligible to purchase health insurance against catastrophic illness or accidents. Visiting students will receive a wide range of support services provided by our Assistant Vice Chancellor for Quality of Life at both host universities (UMET & UNE). Language assistance will be offered to Brazilian students by providing free access to our English and Spanish language laboratories. Tuition waiver will be offered to Brazilian students to attend Spanish and English courses at UMET and UNE as part of our commitment to this important project.

Students from Puerto Rico (US) will be given pre-departure orientations at UMET and UNE to ensure their readiness to successfully participate in the exchange program. This will help ensure that the selection process is well articulated and implemented. Puerto Rican (US) students in Brazil will also have the same opportunities that are spelled out for Brazilian students in Puerto Rico. Returning students will be received by the Host Committee in an official ceremony where UMET and UNE Chancellors, as well as Vice-Chancellors, project key personnel, faculty and students will review with these their experiences and recognize their accomplishments. Returning students will become mentors to next departing group, as well as peer mentors to incoming students from Brazil.

G. Institutional Financial Commitment: Our institutional commitment to the Project is shown by the funds allocated by Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este to support implementation for the four years duration of the grant totaling \$44,192 in-kind contribution.

Financial Sustainability Beyond the Government Funding Period: By the end of the project, the partners in Puerto Rico (UMET & UNE) will have developed a Master Plan for

Student Exchange Programs. This five-year plan will be developed jointly with the Offices of the Vice Chancellors for Sponsored Programs and Research at both institutions in order to identify viable funding opportunities to support this initiative. The faculty and staff of the project will actively seek more partners, broaden the networking initiatives and establish proposal writing teams to enhance the present collaborative initiatives and work towards the sustainability of the US (Puerto Rico) – Brazil projects. UMET will continue supporting the Consortium Web Site and will promote chats and forums with all the participants of this exchange program.

H. Student Issues

Student Recruitment and Selection: Students will be recruited on the basis of individual merit. A Recruitment and Selection Committee will be constituted, integrating at least one representative from each partner institution. This Committee will be comprised of the faculty and staff listed as key personnel in this proposal and will meet every year to select the best qualified candidates to participate in the Exchange Program.

Student Language Preparation: Student language readiness from both countries will be strategically targeted by posting as a pre-requisite for participation the completion of at least one introductory language course at the home institution prior to departure. Lead institutions will be responsible for certifying students' basic command of the language of the host country. The previous project developed Portuguese classes that will be offered to all participants. The students will also participate in orientation seminars on cultural aspects of Brazil, as well as on FIPSE/CAPSE project's goals and objectives. Language skills (Portuguese and Spanish) will be assessed through proficiency exams conducted at each partner institution. Results will be used as one of the selection criteria for the exchange program.

Student Tuition and Fees: The policy of the Consortium members in Puerto Rico (US) is that students participating in exchange programs pay tuition at the home institution and attend their host institutions without additional tuition charges. This policy also applies to Brazilian institutions participating in the project. These inter-institutional arrangements will be presented in detail in the MOU to be updated in the first year phase.

Student Credit Transfer and/or Recognition: The organizational framework for student mobility will be based on the parameters set forth by leading educational exchange programs, such as the European countries initiative. Student mobility requirements and processes will be integrated into the Consortium Agreements, approved by member institutions within their respective academic policies, and implemented by the appropriate International Studies Divisions of each university. At UMET, this responsibility will be led by the Vice Chancellor of Internationalization and Corporate Affairs, Dr. Zaida Vega-Lugo. At UNE, Dr. Wilfredo Colon will be the leader and responsible person on this academic matter.

I. Faculty and Curriculum Issues

Faculty and Curricular Development: This US-Brazil collaboration project is based on curricular innovations to foster learning and professional development of students as well as of faculty in the field of environmental studies from an international perspective. As such, it entails the processes and methodologies needed to ensure proper student exchanges, curricular revisions, development and exchange of instructional materials, fostering mutual research interests among faculty and students, and the use of technology as an instructional and as a communication tool. Teaching materials will be tested within the Consortium in each of the courses identified and published in the UMET web portal. This Project will provide faculty

development options and activities to all participating faculty as they will play an important role in content area revisions and in the integration of technology into the curricula.

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UNIVERSIDAD DEL ESTE
Vicerrectoría de Asuntos Estudiantiles

April 15, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

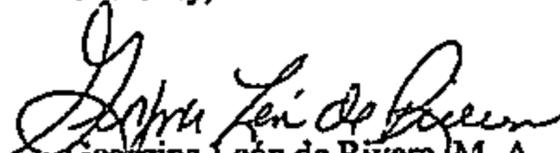
This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum".

As Vice Chancellor of Students Affairs at Universidad del Este (UNE), I fully endorse the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners as a unique opportunity to expand the international exposure of our students majoring in environmental studies and related fields. I commit my efforts to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the student support service components needed to ensure visiting students adjustment and well being while studying at UNE.

Our commitment to the success of this international project is reaffirmed by the institutional funds allocated to support the project during the four years duration of the grant approved by our Chancellor, Alberto Maldonado, Esq.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners.

Cordially,


Georgina León de Rivera, M. A.
Vice Chancellor Students Affairs

zvl



Universidad del Este

Oficina del Rector

Tel. 787 257-7373

Ext. 2000, 2002

Fax. 787 776-1220

PO Box 2010

Carolina, PR 00984-2010

www.usqm.edu/une

April 15, 2008

**US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725**

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum" to be submitted by Universidad Metropolitana (UMET) in which Universidad del Este (UNE) will be partner.

Universidad del Este (UNE) is a private non-sectarian Hispanic Serving Institution, and part of the Ana G. Méndez University System (AGMUS). UNE is committed to strengthening and internationalizing its academic programs based on AGMUS policy statement entitled Declaración de Portugal (2002), in which the System identified global opportunities to advance the University curriculum as the basis to widen the educational scope of students and faculty beyond the United States frontiers.

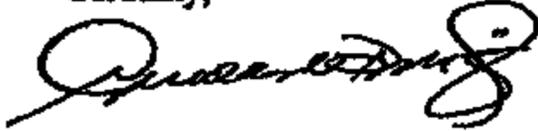
Our School of Science and Technology has established international links in Europe with Huelva University in Spain and in Central America with EARTH University in Costa Rica. Both of these relationships have involved faculty and student exchange and collaborative research activities. The School of Science and Technology seeks to further its interaction with other renowned institutions such as the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil, both with strong and well recognized environmental sciences programs. This project would be an excellent opportunity to expand the international experiences of our students and faculty of UNE through environmental studies from a cross-cultural and multidisciplinary perspective. Developing the proposed Student Exchange Program supported by a strong credit portability scheme, curriculum enhancement through instructional materials design and sharing, and the exposure to another culture will be a valuable experience worth investing on.

As part of our commitment to this project, UNE with UMET, as the lead institution, will sign agreements on credit transfer and tuition fee waivers with the partner institutions consistent with our academic and administrative policies and procedures. These agreements will allow exchange students from Brazil to enroll in UNE courses as "Visiting Students" and receive credit for these courses at Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, Puerto Rican (US) students from UNE participating in the

Exchange Program will be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners. It is my pleasure to endorse this proposal on behalf of Universidad del Este-SUAGM.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alberto Maldonado Ruiz', written in a cursive style.

Alberto Maldonado Ruiz, Esq.
Chancellor



Universidad Metropolitana
Office of the Chancellor

Tel. 787 766-1717
Ext. 6400, 6402
Fax. 787 759-7663

PO Box 21150
San Juan, PR 00928-1150

www.uapm.edu/umet

April 9, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum".

Universidad Metropolitana is a private non-sectarian HSI, established in 1980 as part of the Ana G. Méndez University System. UMET is committed to provide its students with an educational experience conducive to learning, persistence and academic success. In planning for its future, we have identified internationalization as one of the top priorities in our academic agenda. In its policy statement entitled Declaración de Portugal (2002), the System identified global opportunities to advance the University curriculum as the basis to widen the educational scope of students and faculty beyond the United States frontiers. Likewise, our Strategic Plan 2005-2010, states that it is urgent that the university engage into producing graduates with international knowledge, expertise, and sensitivity.

Our School of Environmental Affairs (SEA) is committed to being a leader in the Caribbean in preparing a cadre of professionals that are experts in environmental issues with the training and the exposure needed to address every aspect of the environment. SEA's graduate programs in Environmental Planning, Conservation and Management of Natural Resources and Environmental Management have an applied research approach that satisfies the demand for non traditional students within the environmental sciences and from employers that need personnel with multidisciplinary knowledge of environmental issues. The SEA's first undergraduate program, a Bachelor degree in Environmental Health Sciences is the first program in Puerto Rico offering formal training in environmental health, environmental toxicology, epidemiology, water, soil and air chemistry, community involvement, environmental policy and regulations integrated in a unique interdisciplinary curriculum.

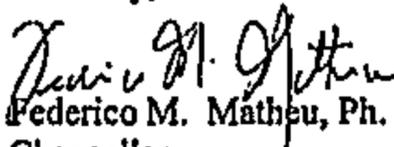
The proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil, both with strong and well recognized environmental sciences programs, is an opportunity to expand the opportunities of our students and faculty of Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este in environmental studies from a cross-cultural and multidisciplinary perspective. Developing the proposed Student Exchange Program

supported by a strong credit portability scheme, curriculum enhancement through instructional materials design and sharing, and the exposure to another culture will be a valuable experience worth investing on.

As part of our commitment to this project, Universidad Metropolitana will sign agreements on credit transfer and tuition fee waivers with the partner institutions consistent with our academic and administrative policies and procedures. These agreements will allow exchange students from Brazil to enroll in Universidad Metropolitana courses as "Visiting Students" and receive credit for these courses at Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, Puerto Rican (US) students participating in the Exchange Program will be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners. It is my pleasure to endorse this proposal on behalf of Universidad Metropolitana-SUAGM.

Cordially,


Federico M. Matheu, Ph. D.
Chancellor



Sistema Universitario Ana G. Méndez
Vicepresidencia de Asuntos Financieros

Tel. 787 751-0178
Ext. 7266
Fax. 787 250-8976

UNIVERSIDAD DEL ESTE
UNIVERSIDAD DEL TURABO
UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
CETED / YAJT-TV CANAL 40

PO Box 21345
San Juan, PR 00928-1345

www.suagm.edu

April 8, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum", in which Universidad Metropolitana (UMET) is the lead institution and Universidad del Este (UNE) and our TV Station-Channel 40 the partner institutions in Puerto Rico.

Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este are private non-sectarian HIS's, established as part of the Ana G. Méndez University System (AGMUS). As members of the AGMUS, we have identified internationalization of the curriculum as one of the top priorities in our strategic agenda. In its policy statement entitled Declaración de Portugal (2002), the University System identified global opportunities to advance the University curriculum as the basis to widen the educational scope of students and faculty beyond the United States frontiers. Based on this commitment to internationalizing our curriculum, I am pleased to endorse this project and the partnership among our institutions and Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil.

As part of our commitment to this project, Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este will sign agreements on credit transfer and tuition fee waivers with the partner institutions in Brazil that are consistent with our academic and administrative policies and procedures. These agreements will allow exchange students from Brazil to enroll in courses as "Exchange Students" and receive credit for these courses at Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, students from Universidad Metropolitana and Universidad del Este, participating in the Exchange Program will be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein by our AGMUS institutions and the Brazilian partners. We endorse this proposal on behalf of the Ana G. Mendez University System.

Cordially,


Antonio A. Figueroa, CPA
Vice President for Financial Affairs



CENTRO DE
TELECOMUNICACIONES
Y EDUCACIÓN A DISTANCIA



www.szagm.edu

April 10, 2008

Dr. Federico Matheu
Chancellor
Universidad Metropolitana
P. O. Box 21150
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00928-1150

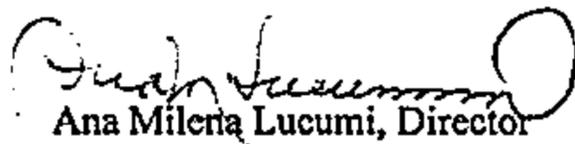
Dear Dr. Matheu:

Thank you so much for inviting us to participate in the *Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum* proposal that will be submitted to the FIPSE Program of the US Department of Education. The project was very ably presented to us on your behalf by Dr. Carlos M. Padín, the designated Principal Director from Universidad Metropolitana.

We are very pleased to inform you that the Distance Learning Division of Channel 40 enthusiastically supports your project and its goals of providing challenging educational and research experiences to graduate and undergraduate students in environmental fields. In this regard, the Channel 40 commits to assist in the development of the on-line courses and materials developed in the project.

We look forward to working in this project and establish a distance learning collaboration model.

Sincerely,


Ana Milena Lucumi, Director
Distance Education



UNIVERSIDAD DEL ESTE
Vicerrectoría

April 15, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum" to be submitted by Universidad Metropolitana, School of Environmental Affairs in which Universidad del Este (UNE) will be partner.

As Vice Chancellor at Universidad del Este (UNE), I fully commit to the implementation of the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners. This is a unique opportunity to broaden our students international exposure majoring in environmental studies and related fields. I commit my efforts to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the credit portability scheme designed in the context of our academic policies and procedures. These agreements will allow visiting students from Brazil to enroll in Universidad del Este (UNE) courses as "Exchange Students" and receive credit for these courses at Universidade Federal do Ceará and Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, Puerto Rican (US) students participating in the Exchange Program will be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications. As partner institution of the proposed Consortium we will be seeking additional money from different government and private sources to ensure proper institutionalization.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners.

Cordially,


Mildred Huertas, Ed. D.
Vice Chancellor



April 10, 2008

Dr. Federico Matheu
Chancellor
Universidad Metropolitana
P. O. Box 21150
San Juan, Puerto Rico 00928-1150

Dear Dr. Matheu:

Thank you so much for inviting us to participate in the *Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum* proposal that will be submitted to the FIPSE Program of the US Department of Education. The project was very ably presented to us on your behalf by Dr. Carlos M. Padín, the designated Principal Director from Universidad Metropolitana.

We are very pleased to inform you that the Puerto Rico Wetlands Foundation enthusiastically supports your project and its goals of providing challenging educational and research experiences to graduate and undergraduate students in environmental fields. In this regard, the Foundation commits to providing volunteer guides to accompany the students during their scheduled visits to the coastal ecosystems, particularly to "Las Cucharillas Marsh," as well as to serve as a resource for the delivery of "talks" on the subject of Puerto Rico wetlands to students.

We look forward to working diligently in this project with the undergraduate and graduate students, as well as the faculty that will comprise the teaching teams, as we strive jointly to make this a highly successful endeavor with the ultimate objective of eventually developing a model for excellence in environmental sciences teaching which can be replicated throughout Puerto Rico and the United States.

Sincerely,


Carlos R. Morales Agranzoni, MSEP
Executive Director



UNIVERSIDAD DEL ESTE
Oficina de Registraduría

April 15, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum".

As Registrar of Universidad del Este, I fully commit to the implementation of the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil with our Puerto Rican partners. I commit my effort to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange and Visiting Program to implement the credit portability scheme designed in the context of our academic policies and procedures.

The Office of the Registrar will ensure that these agreements will allow exchange students from Brazil to enroll in our undergraduate program courses at Universidad del Este (UNE) as "Visiting Students" to allow transfer of these credits to Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará, their home institutions in Brazil. Also, the office will follow-up on the processes established to ensure that Puerto Rican (US) students participating in the Student Exchange Visiting Program be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications.

We look forward to contributing to the development of the University Consortia Program proposed herein by Universidad del Este.

Cordially,

Eigna I. De Jesús Molinari
Registrar



UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
Vicerrectoría de Asuntos Estudiantiles

April 15, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum".

As Vice Chancellor of Students Affairs at Universidad de Metropolitana (UMET), I fully endorse the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners as a unique opportunity to expand the international exposure of our students majoring in environmental studies and related fields. I commit my efforts to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the student support service components needed to ensure visiting students adjustment and well being while studying at UMET.

Our commitment to the success of this international project is reaffirmed by the institutional funds allocated to support the project during the four years duration of the grant approved by our Chancellor, Dr. Federico M. Matheu.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners.

Cordially,


Carmen Rosado, M. A.
Vice Chancellor Students Affairs

zvl

Oficina de Mercadeo y Reclutamiento • Oficina de Admisiones y Asistencia Económica • Oficina de Registraduría
Oficina de Tesorería • Desarrollo y Retención • Calidad de Vida y Bienestar Estudiantil • Servicios Integrados de Matrícula
Programa de Servicios Educativos Complementarios • Oficina de Deportes • Programa Talent Search • Servicios de Salud

PO BOX 21150 SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00928-1150 TEL (787)766-1717 EXT 6521 FAX EXT 6429



UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
Vicerrectoría de Asuntos Estudiantiles

April 15, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

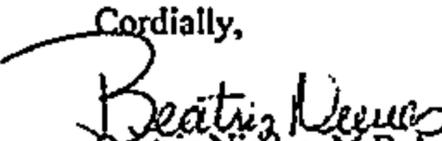
This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum".

As the Registrar at Universidad Metropolitana, I fully commit to the implementation of the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners. I commit my effort to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the credit portability scheme designed in the context of our academic policies and procedures.

My office will ensure that these agreements will allow exchange students from Brazil to enroll in our Universidad Metropolitana (UMET) courses as "Visiting Students" to allow for transferring these credits to Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Ceará, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, I will follow-up on the processes established to ensure that Puerto Rican (US) students participating in the Exchange Program be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications.

We look forward to contributing to the development of the University Consortia Program proposed herein by the UMET School Environmental Affairs.

Cordially,


Beatriz Nieves, M.B.A.
Registrar

Oficina de Mercadeo y Reclutamiento • Oficina de Admisiones y Asistencia Económica • Oficina de Registraduría
Oficina de Tesorería • Desarrollo y Retención • Calidad de Vida y Bienestar Estudiantil • Servicios Integrados de Matrícula
Programa de Servicios Educativos Complementarios • Oficina de Deportes • Programa Talent Search • Servicios de Salud

PO BOX 21150 SAN JUAN, PUERTO RICO 00928-1150 TEL (787)766-1717 EXT 6521 FAX EXT 6429



UENF

Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense Darcy Ribeiro

**GOVERNO DO ESTADO
DO RIO DE JANEIRO**

**Diretoria
CBB**



April 14, 2008.

To Whom It May Concern

The Director and the Coordinator of Biological Sciences Course of the Center of Biosciences and Biotechnology at Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense will offer all the necessary academic and administrative support required to guarantee the successful implementation of the project entitled *"Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum"*.

The project's exchange agenda will focus on the future role of participant undergraduates and graduates students as agents of environmental awareness, especially regarding the coastal ecosystems. To achieve such goal the project anticipates the use of a wide array of innovative pedagogical tools aimed at strengthening the academic treatment of challenging aspects of our times such as the environmental degradation and the loss of ecosystem services.

Therefore, we anticipate that the interdisciplinary design of curricula included in the project involving courses developed by the participating faculty in all the four member institutions (i.e. the Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense (Brazil Lead institution), the Universidade Federal do Ceará (Brazil Partner institution), the Universidad Metropolitana (US Lead institution), and the Universidad del Este (US Partner institution), will compel students to take an important leadership role in the development of very exciting conservation strategies and innovations.

Finally, we strongly believe that this project will benefit students and faculty

Av. Alberto Lamego, 2000 - Parque Califórnia - Campos dos Goytacazes/ RJ - CEP: 28 013 - 602
Tel.: (22) 2726-1618/27261521 Fax:27261520



UNIVERSIDADE PÚBLICA DE QUALIDADE - DIREITO DO CIDADÃO, DEVER DO ESTADO



UENF

Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense

**GOVERNO DO ESTADO
DO RIO DE JANEIRO**

**Diretoria
CBB**



from the participating institutions in the United States and Brazil and will ultimately contribute to interdisciplinary academic development.

**Dr. Arnaldo Rocha Facanha
Director**

**Center of Biosciences and Biotechnology
Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense**

**Dr. Cristina Maria Magalhães de Souza
Coordinator of Biological Sciences Course
Center of Biosciences and Biotechnology
Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense**



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Project Narrative

Other Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: 7483-Mandatory_Planning_Timetable_for_Each_Year.doc

Attachment 2:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: 2786-Carta_de_endoso_Beatriz_Nieves-_Propuesta_FIPSE_abril_08.pdf

Attachment 3:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: 1464-Carta_de_endoso_Carmen_Rosado-_Propuesta_FIPSE_abril_08.pdf

Attachment 4:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: 2047-Carta_de_endoso_Dr__Omar_Ponce-_Propuesta_FIPSE_abril_08.pdf

Planning Timetable for Each Year

The following timetable summarizes major project goals and expected outcomes for each of the four funding periods of the grant:

Timetable for a Four-Year Project

Year 1: August 2008-July 2009

	Aug-Sept	Oct-Nov-	Dec-Jan.	Feb-March	April-May	June-July
<p>1. Update a Consortia Partnership of Higher Education Institutions and non-government organization between Puerto Rico and Brazil integrated by Universidad Metropolitana (Puerto Rico) and Universidade Estadual Norte Fluminense (Brazil) as the two (2) leading universities and by two (2) associate partners, Universidad del Este, and the Puerto Rico Wetland Foundation from the Puerto Rico (US) side and Universidade Federal do Ceara (Brazil) to foster mutual recognition and portability of academic credits among participating institutions in the area of environmental studies, the acquisition of the languages – Spanish, English and Portuguese - and the exposure to the cultures of Puerto Rico (US) and Brazil.</p>	✓	✓	✓	✓		
<p>a. Develop Consortia Agreements within the first year of project implementation which will include:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Structure on each Leading</p>	✓	✓				

Institution; <input type="checkbox"/> Student Recruitment; <input type="checkbox"/> Student Mobility, Numbers and Duration; <input type="checkbox"/> Academic Credit Recognition; <input type="checkbox"/> Students Fees; <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty and Curricular Development; <input type="checkbox"/> Student Support Services for Participating Students; <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation Plan of Stated Goals			✓	✓		
b. Participation of All Consortium Members in the Annual Director's Meeting to be held in the US	TBA					
c. Development of a research agenda between partners institutions.				✓	✓	✓
d. Development and implementation of a promotional campaign of project goals, objectives and requirements throughout the UMET & UNE to foster students' participation in the program.			✓	✓	✓	✓
e. Selection Committee begin the pre-selection process to recruiting students to participate in the Exchange Program for the Spring semester of 2nd year (2009) of project implementation as they must begin taking Conversational Portuguese in the Fall of second year (2009). Only junior and senior undergraduate students and graduate students will be			✓	✓	✓	✓

considered for the program.						
f. Perform External Evaluation #1 to measure First Year Implementation Phase Outcomes.					✓	
g. Discuss External Evaluation results with constituencies and make necessary adjustments.					✓	✓
h. Submit Performance Report to FIPSE						✓
2. Expand and enhance foreign language offerings through the development of a revised course in Conversational Portuguese to be offered as a prerequisite to all students participating in the Student Exchange Program between Puerto Rico and Brazil.						
a. Update the new course in Conversational Portuguese during the first year of project implementation.	✓	✓	✓			
b. Updated Portuguese course approved by Academic Council at UMET and UNE.				✓		
c. Updated Portuguese course approved by Administrative Council at UMET and UNE.					✓	
3. Expand and enhance the Environmental Studies curriculum through the exchange of instructional materials, educational strategies, faculty expertise, and program revisions within the Consortium.						
a. Identify and approve the strategies to conduct the curriculum revision of selected courses and exchange of instructional materials among Consortium members.			✓	✓		
b. Begin course content review among Consortium faculty in preparation to 2 nd year Student				✓	✓	✓

Exchange Program implementation.						
c. Identify instructional support materials and resources in government agencies and private organizations that promote environmental awareness, education, and regulations to be integrated into the Consortium network.			✓	✓	✓	✓
c. Design and development of Consortium Web Site with active participation of members and students to be host at UMET's portal..			✓	✓	✓	✓

Year 2: August 2009-July 2010

	Aug-Sept	Oct Nov-	Dec-Jan.	Feb-March	April-May	June-July
1. Continue Higher Education Consortium implementation as described in the Partnership Agreements signed in the 1st year preparation phase.						
a. Promotional campaign of program requirements and expected outcomes continues among the participating institutions	✓	✓				
b. Pre-Selection of students continues in the Fall of 2 nd year	✓	✓				
c. Selection of first group of students to participate in the Exchange Program is completed and approved by Consortium members.			✓ Dec.			

d. International Studies Seminar will be offered to all students interested in applying to the Consortium Exchange Program. This is a requisite for selection, but it does not guarantee it as there are other requirements established, including language.			✓	✓		
e. Pre-Departure orientation to students at home institutions is completed by Hosting Committee.			✓ Jan			
f. Student Exchange begins with 16 students from Brazil and Puerto Rico (US) going to hosting institutions of the Consortium: UENF: 5 – 1U/2G UFP: 5 – 1U/2G UMET: 3 – 2U/3G UNE: 3 – 5U			✓ Jan to May		✓ Alter- native option: Mid May to mid Aug.	
g. Hosting Committee at participating institutions conduct reception meeting with visiting students to ensure appropriate academic and personal adjustment and success.			✓		✓ Mid May- mid Aug. group	
h. Hosting Committee at participating institutions conduct reception meeting with re-entry students to ensure appropriate academic and personal adjustment as returning participants studying abroad.					✓	
i. Participation of All Consortium Members in the 2 nd Annual Director's Meeting to be held in Brazil.	TBA					

j. Re-entry orientation and guidance will be provided to returning students at home institutions.					✓ May	
k. Perform External Evaluation #2 to measure 2 nd year of grant implementation and expected outcomes .						✓
l. Discuss External Evaluation results with constituencies and make necessary adjustments.						✓
m. Submit Performance Report to FIPSE						✓
2. Expand and enhance foreign language offerings through Conversational Portuguese, Spanish and English courses at participating institutions.						
a. Interested students begin taking Conversational Portuguese at home institution in Puerto Rico (US) or attending off-campus intensive instruction in Portuguese.	✓	✓	✓ Dec.			
b. Portuguese proficiency evaluation			✓			
c. Conversational Portuguese proficiency certified by leading institution.			✓			
d. Exchange students begin taking basic language courses at host institutions as approved in the MOU's signed in the 1 st year preparation phase. <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican students begin taking one basic Portuguese course at host institution with access to Language labs for practice. <input type="checkbox"/> Brazilian students begin taking one Spanish and			✓		✓	

English course at host institution with access to labs for practice.						
3. Expand and enhance the Environmental Studies curriculum through the exchange of instructional materials, educational strategies, faculty expertise, and program revisions within the Consortium.						
a. Continue the exchange of instructional materials among Consortium members and the revision of content of environmental studies courses selected by participating institutions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
b. Continue the identification of instructional support materials and resources in government agencies and private organizations that promote environmental awareness, education, and regulations to be integrated into the Consortium network to enhance the curriculum.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
c. Begin populating the Consortium Web Site developed in the 1 st year of project implementation with active participation of all Consortium members and students. It will include: <input type="checkbox"/> Consortium Members List, Description of Goals, Objectives and Expected Outcomes <input type="checkbox"/> Requirements for participation <input type="checkbox"/> Fund raising strategies for the institutionalization of the Exchange Program <input type="checkbox"/> Links to FIPSE Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Course syllabus	✓					

<input type="checkbox"/> Instructional materials <input type="checkbox"/> Access to technology tools and applications <input type="checkbox"/> Other features to be determined by Consortium Members						
d. Conduct two Video Conferences or similar approach among participating faculty and staff of Consortium member institutions to follow-up on curriculum enhancement and instructional materials development projects and on issues associated with grant implementation.			✓		✓	

Year 3: August 2010-July 2011

	Aug-Sept	Oct-Nov-	Dec-Jan.	Feb-March	April-May	June-July
1. Continue Higher Education Consortium implementation as described in the Partnership Agreements signed in the 1st year preparation phase.						
a. Promotional campaign of program requirements and expected outcomes continues among the participating institutions	✓	✓				
b. Pre-Selection of students continues in the Fall of 3 rd year	✓	✓				
c. Selection of second group of students to participate in the Exchange Program is completed and approved by Consortium members.			✓ Dec.			

d. International Studies Seminar will be offered to all students interested in applying to the Consortium Exchange Program. This is a requisite for selection, but it does not guarantee it as there are other requirements established, including language.	✓	✓				
e. Pre-Departure orientation to second group of students at home institutions is completed by Hosting Committee.			✓ Jan			
f. Student Exchange continues with 11 students from Brazil and Puerto Rico (US) going to hosting institutions of the Consortium: UFAM: 3 – 1U/2G UENF: 2 – 1U/2G UMET: 3 – 1U/2G UNE : 3 – 2U			✓ Jan to May		✓ Alter- native option: Mid May to mid Aug.	
g. Hosting Committee at participating institutions conduct reception meeting with second group of visiting students to ensure appropriate academic and personal adjustment and success.			✓		✓ Mid May- mid Aug. group	
h. Hosting Committee at participating institutions conduct reception meeting with re-entry students of second group to ensure appropriate academic and personal adjustment as returning participants studying abroad.					✓	
i. Participation of All Consortium Members in the 3 rd Annual Director's Meeting to be held in the US.	TBA					

j. Re-entry orientation and guidance provided to second group of returning students by their home institutions.					✓ May	
k. Perform External Evaluation #3 to measure 3 rd year grant implementation and expected outcomes .						✓
l. Discuss External Evaluation results with constituencies and make necessary adjustments.						✓
m. Submit Performance Report to FIPSE						✓
2. Expand and enhance foreign language offerings through Conversational Portuguese, Spanish and English courses at participating institutions.						
a. Interested students begin taking Conversational Portuguese at home institution in Puerto Rico (US).	✓	✓	✓ Dec.			
b. Portuguese proficiency evaluation.			✓			
c. Conversational Portuguese proficiency certified by leading institution.			✓			
d. Second group exchange students begin taking basic language courses at host institutions as approved in the MOU's signed in the 1 st year preparation phase. <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican students begin taking one basic Portuguese course at host institution with access to Language labs for practice. <input type="checkbox"/> Brazilian students begin taking one Spanish and English course at host			✓		✓	

institution with access to labs for practice.						
3. Expand and enhance the Environmental Studies curriculum through the exchange of instructional materials, educational strategies, faculty expertise, and program revisions within the Consortium.						
a. Continue the exchange of instructional materials among Consortium members and the revision of content of environmental studies courses selected by participating institutions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
b. Continue the identification of instructional support materials and resources in government agencies and private organizations that promote environmental awareness, education, and regulations to be integrated into the Consortium network to enhance the curriculum.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
c. New instructional materials developed by Consortium members are tested within the participating institutions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
d. Continue populating and maintaining the Consortium Web Site developed in the 1 st year of project implementation with active participation of all Consortium members and students. It will include: <input type="checkbox"/> New instructional materials developed <input type="checkbox"/> Revised course syllabus <input type="checkbox"/> Students testimonies about their international experience <input type="checkbox"/> Other related materials	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

e. Conduct a Video Conferences among participating faculty and staff of Consortium member institutions to follow-up on curriculum enhancement, instructional materials, students achievements and on specific projects of faculty interest, as well as on issues associated with grant implementation.			✓		✓	
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Year 4: August 2011-July 2012

	Aug-Sept	Oct Nov-	Dec-Jan.	Feb-March	April-May	June-July
	Aug-Sept	Oct Nov-	Dec-Jan.	Feb-March	April-May	June-July
1. Continue Higher Education Consortium implementation as described in the Partnership Agreements signed in the 1st year preparation phase.						
a. Promotional campaign of program requirements and expected outcomes continues among the participating institutions	✓	✓				
b. Pre-Selection of students continues in the Fall of 4 th year	✓	✓				
c. Selection of third group of students to participate in the Exchange Program is completed and approved by Consortium members.			✓ Dec.			

d. International Studies Seminar will be offered to all students interested in applying to the Consortium Exchange Program. This is a requisite for selection, but it does not guarantee it as there are other requirements established, including language.	✓	✓				
e. Pre-Departure orientation to third group of students at home institutions is completed by Hosting Committee.			✓ Jan			
f. Student Exchange continues with 13 students from Brazil and Puerto Rico (US) going to hosting institutions of the Consortium: UFAM: 4 – 2U/2G UENF: 4 – 2U/2G UMET: 2 – 1U/1G UNE : 3 – 3U			✓ Jan to May		✓ Alter- native option: Mid May to mid Aug.	
g. Hosting Committee at participating institutions conduct reception meeting with third group of visiting students to ensure appropriate academic and personal adjustment and success.			✓		✓ Mid May- mid Aug. group	
h. Hosting Committee at participating institutions conduct reception meeting with re-entry students of third group to ensure appropriate academic and personal adjustment as returning participants studying abroad.					✓	
i. Participation of All Consortium Members in the 4 th Annual Director's Meeting to be held in Brazil.	TBA					

j. Re-entry orientation and guidance provided to third group of returning students by their home institutions.					✓ May	
k. Perform External Evaluation # 4 to measure 4 th year grant implementation and expected outcomes.						✓
l. Discuss External Evaluation results with constituencies and make necessary adjustments.						✓
m. Submit Performance Report to FIPSE – Final Report						✓
2. Expand and enhance foreign language offerings through Conversational Portuguese, Spanish and English courses at participating institutions.						
a. Interested students begin taking Conversational Portuguese at home institution in Puerto Rico (US) or attending off-campus intensive instruction in Portuguese.	✓	✓	✓ Dec.			
b. Portuguese proficiency evaluation			✓			
c. Conversational Portuguese proficiency certified by leading institution.			✓			
d. Third group exchange students begin taking basic language courses at host institutions as approved in the MOU's signed in the 1 st year preparation phase. <input type="checkbox"/> Puerto Rican students begin taking one basic Portuguese course at host institution with access to Language labs for practice. <input type="checkbox"/> Brazilian students begin			✓		✓	

taking one Spanish or English course at host institution with access to labs for practice.						
3. Expand and enhance the Environmental Studies curriculum through the exchange of instructional materials, educational strategies, faculty expertise, and program revisions within the Consortium.						
a. Continue the exchange of instructional materials among Consortium members and the revision of content of environmental studies courses selected by participating institutions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
b. Continue the identification of instructional support materials and resources in government agencies and private organizations that promote environmental awareness, education, and regulations to be integrated into the Consortium network to enhance the curriculum.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
c. New instructional materials developed by Consortium members are tested within the participating institutions.	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
d. Continue populating and maintenance of Consortium Web Site developed in the 1 st year of project implementation with active participation of all Consortium members and students. It will include: <input type="checkbox"/> New instructional materials developed <input type="checkbox"/> Revised course syllabus <input type="checkbox"/> Students testimonies about their international	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

<p>experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Environmental Studies Revised Curriculum <input type="checkbox"/> Other related materials 						
<p>e. Conduct a Video Conferences among participating faculty and staff of Consortium member institutions to follow-up on curriculum enhancement, instructional materials, students achievements and on specific projects of faculty interest, as well as on issues associated with grant implementation and project institutionalization.</p>			✓		✓	



UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
Vicerrectoría de Asuntos Estudiantiles

April 9, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum".

As the Registrar at Universidad Metropolitana, I fully commit to the implementation of the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Paraná in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners. I commit my effort to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the credit portability scheme designed in the context of our academic policies and procedures.

My office will ensure that these agreements will allow exchange students from Brazil to enroll in our Universidad Metropolitana courses as "Visiting Students" to allow for transferring these credits to Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Paraná, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, I will follow-up on the processes established to ensure that Puerto Rican (US) students participating in the Exchange Program be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications.

We look forward to contributing to the development of the University Consortia Program proposed herein by our UMET School of Environmental Affairs.

Cordially,


Beatriz Nieves, M.B.A.
Registrar



UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
Vicerrectoría de Asuntos Estudiantiles

April 8, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

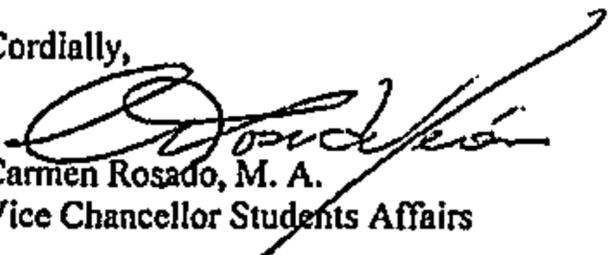
This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Costal Ecosystems Curriculum".

As Vice Chancellor of Students Affairs at Universidad Metropolitana, I fully endorse the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Paraná in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners as a unique opportunity to expand the international exposure of our students majoring in environmental studies and related fields. I commit my efforts to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the student support service components needed to ensure visiting students adjustment and well being while studying at UMET.

Our commitment to the success of this international project is reaffirmed by the institutional funds allocated to support the project during the four years duration of the grant approved by our Chancellor, Dr. Federico M. Matheu.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners.

Cordially,


Carmen Rosado, M. A.
Vice Chancellor Students Affairs

zvl



UNIVERSIDAD METROPOLITANA
Vicerrectoría

April 9, 2008

US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program
US Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th and D Streets, SW, Room 3633
General Service Administration Building
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Dear Sir or Madam:

This is a letter in support of the FIPSE proposal "Internationalizing the Coastal Ecosystems Curriculum" to be submitted by Universidad Metropolitana, School of Environmental Affairs.

As Vice Chancellor at Universidad Metropolitana, I fully commit to the implementation of the proposed partnership with Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense and Universidade Federal do Paraná in Brazil and with our Puerto Rican partners. This is a unique opportunity to broaden our students international exposure majoring in environmental studies and related fields. I commit my efforts to support the development of the proposed Student Exchange Program and implement the credit portability scheme designed in the context of our academic policies and procedures. These agreements will allow visiting students from Brazil to enroll in Universidad Metropolitana courses as "Exchange Students" and receive credit for these courses at Universidade Federal do Paraná and Universidade Estadual do Norte Fluminense, their home institutions in Brazil. Likewise, Puerto Rican (US) students participating in the Exchange Program will be given credit for the courses they will take at the Brazilian partner institutions following course requirement specifications. As the lead institution of the proposed Consortium we will be seeking additional money from different government and private sources to ensure proper institutionalization.

We look forward to developing and maintaining the University Consortia Program proposed herein with our US and Brazilian partners.

Cordially,

Omar Ponce, Ph. D.
Vice Chancellor

Budget Narrative

Budget Narrative

Attachment 1:

Title: Pages: Uploaded File: 1834-Mandatory_Budget_Narrative_by_Year_Final%5B1%5D.doc

**Budget Narrative by Year
2008-2009 to 2011-2012
FIPSE/CAPSE US/Brazil Consortia Program
US Department of Education Funds**

Summary:

Year 1: \$29,981.00
Year 2 \$77,841.00
Year 3 \$54,060.00
Year 4 \$57,841.00

Total Project Cost: \$219,723.00

2008-2009 Project Year 1

Budget Categories:

Personnel:

The budget item totals \$9,760.00 including fringe benefits for Project Director (\$300 x 10 mo.); Co-Director (UNE) (\$250 x 10 mo.) and Academic Advisor (\$250 x 10 mo.). Fringe benefits are calculated at 22%.

Travel:

This budget item totals \$10,500 for four (4) Consortium Partners to attend the Annual Director Meeting to be held in Brazil the first year of the implementation (\$2,620.00 x 4). Includes airfare (\$1,525.00 per ticket), Hotel (\$200 per night x 4 nights), and Per diem (\$75.00 per day x 4 days).

Materials and Supplies:

This budget items totals \$1,500 to purchase office supplies.

Consultants/Contractual:

This budget item totals \$6,000.00 to pay for the External Evaluator and for a web page designer. The designer will be responsible to maintain an updated web page and user friendly for the participants.

Mobility Stipends:

No mobility stipends are requested in the first year of grant implementation.

The Direct Costs for year one is \$27,760.00. Indirect Costs are \$2,221.00 calculated at 8%. Total amount requested from FIPSE for year one of grant implementation is \$29,981.00.

2009-2010 Project Year 2

Budget Categories:

Personnel:

The budget item totals \$9,760.00 including fringe benefits for Project Director (\$300 x 10 mo.); Co-Director (UNE) (\$250 x 10 mo.) and Academic Advisor (\$250 x 10 mo.). Fringe benefits are calculated at 22%.

Travel:

This budget item totals \$9,000 for four (4) Consortium Partners to attend the Annual Director Meeting to be held in US the second year of the implementation (\$2,250 x 4). Includes airfare (\$750 per ticket), Hotel (\$300 per night x 4 nights), and Per diem (\$75.00 per day x 4 days).

Materials and Supplies:

This budget items totals \$1,500 to purchase office supplies.

Consultants/Contractual:

This budget item totals \$7,000.00 to pay for the External Evaluator and for a web page designer. The designer will be responsible to maintain an updated web page and user friendly for the participants.

Other:

An amount of \$5,000.00 is allocated for the Consortium partner's fee meeting.

Mobility Stipends:

This budget items total \$40,000.00. Ten students (5 from UMET and 5 from UNE) will participate in the second year. A stipend of \$4,000.00 allocated for each student to cover travel, room, board, and health insurance for a period of one semester.

Language Stipends:

This budget item totals \$3,000 to cover the costs of the Portuguese course to be offered at UMET.

The Direct Costs for year one is \$32,260.00. Indirect Costs are \$2,581.00 calculated at 8%. Total amount requested from FIPSE for year one of grant implementation is \$77,841.00.