

## ACUERDOS BILATERALES

Clasificación: 61-2009

Fecha de Ingreso: 27 de julio de 2009

Nombre del Acuerdo: Agreement between the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States and the Athabasca University Governing Council for the OAS Human Development Programs

Materia: OAS Human Development Programs

Partes: SG/OEA & Athabasca University Governing Council

Referencia: Athabasca University

Fecha de Firma: June 26, 2009

Fecha de Inicio:

Fecha de Terminación:

Lugar de Firma:

Unidad Encargada: Department of Human Development

Persona Encargada: Maria Levens

Original:

Claves:

Cierre del proceso:

Notas adicionales:



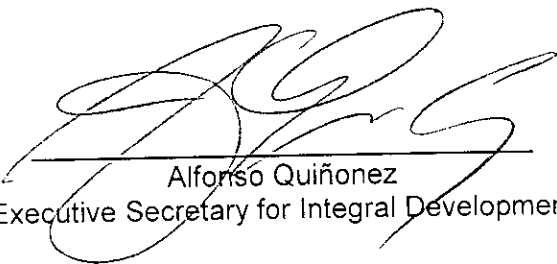
Organización de los Estados Americanos  
Organização dos Estados Americanos  
Organisation des Etats Américains  
Organization of American States

## DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES, THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT, AND ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY FOR THE OAS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

I, Alfonso Quiñonez, Executive Secretary for Integral Development of the Organization of American States ("OAS"), hereby authorize Ms. Maria Levens, Director of the Department of Human Development, to sign the above-referenced Agreement on behalf of the General Secretariat of the OAS.

This delegation of authority expires on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of June 2009.

  
Alfonso Quiñonez  
Executive Secretary for Integral Development

Place: Washington DC

Date: May 22, 2009

# Athabasca University

## Financial Services Contract Services Unit

### Via Courier

June 25, 2009

OAS Department of Human Development  
1889 F Street, N.W., 6<sup>th</sup> Floor (Office 611)  
Washington, D.C. 20006

**Attention: Jeanelle van GlaanenWeygel, Senior Specialist**

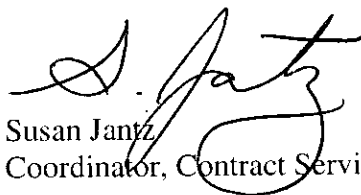
**Re: Agreement with Athabasca University**

As per your letter dated June 5, 2009, please find enclosed two fully executed copies of the above noted documents for your records.

I can confirm that Dr. Frits Pannekoek is Athabasca University's President, and that he has held this appointment since June 1, 2005.

Thank you for your attention in this regard. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (780) 675-6561.

Sincerely,



Susan Jantz  
Coordinator, Contract Services

cc: Tim Slaughter  
Director, Learning Services Collaborations

**AGREEMENT**  
**BETWEEN**  
**THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE**  
**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**  
**THROUGH**  
**THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN DEVELOPMENT,**  
**AND**  
**THE ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY GOVERNING COUNCIL**  
**FOR**  
**THE OAS HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS**

The Parties to this Agreement (the "Agreement"), the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States ("GS/OAS"), a public international organization, with headquarters at 1889 F Street N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006, United States, through its Department of Human Development (hereinafter referred to as "DHD"), represented by Maria Levens, Director of said Department, and Athabasca University (hereinafter sometimes referred to as "University"), represented by Dr. Frits Pannekoek, President, Athabasca University, who is authorized to sign this Agreement on behalf of the University,

Recognizing that the Heads of State and Government of the Americas, gathered at the Second Summit of the Americas (1998), in Santiago, decided to promote development in the region by expanding and strengthening educational opportunities;

Considering that GS/OAS is the central and permanent organ of the Organization of American States (hereinafter referred to as the "OAS") and has the authority to establish and promote relations of cooperation in accordance with Article 112.h of the OAS Charter and OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 57 (I-O/71);

Recognizing that the Secretary General of the OAS established the DHD as an entity for the promotion, coordination, administration, and facilitation of the planning and execution of Human Development Programs and activities under the Strategic Plan for Partnership for Integral Development of the Inter-American Council for Integral Development;

Considering that the OAS has established the OAS Academic Scholarship program (the "Program") to provide educational opportunities in the Americas, awarding scholarships each year for research and undergraduate and graduate studies, both attendance-based and distance education, and that the Program's coverage and impact are strengthened and augmented through alliances established through the conclusion of

agreements with internationally recognized universities that share costs, offer joint scholarships, reduce tuition costs, and wish to join the OAS consortium of universities;

Considering that the University is a public institution, founded in accordance with the provisions of the laws of Alberta, Canada, whose registered office is at 1 University Drive, Athabasca AB Canada T9S 3A3, and whose office with responsibility for this Agreement is the Office of the President at same;

Declaring that education is key to strengthening democratic institutions, promoting the development of human potential, equality, and mutual understanding among peoples, that it has positive impact on economic growth, education, and eradication of poverty, and that, to achieve such goals, it is essential to consolidate education of quality that is available to all;

Considering that the University is an internationally recognized academic institution that offers a variety of academic studies at the undergraduate and graduate level; that the University has great interest in serving an international student body through inclusion of foreign students of different nationalities; and that the University wishes to join the OAS Consortium of Universities;

Recognizing that the Parties share an interest in selecting and supporting outstanding individuals of the Americas to study at the University,

Hereby Agree as follows:

## **ARTICLE I OBJECTIVE AND SCOPE**

1.1 The purpose of this Agreement is to establish the terms and conditions for cooperation between the Parties in order to strengthen education and human development within the framework of the OAS Human Development Programs in the Americas through:

a. Co-sponsorship of scholarship recipients<sup>1</sup> selected through the OAS Scholarship and Training Programs (“Scholarship Recipients”) in select University programs, with an emphasis on graduate programs;

b. Distance learning and teaching techniques through the use of information technologies, especially for co-operative leaders and managers, low income groups, rural communities, and communities of low levels of development;

---

<sup>1</sup> “Scholarship recipient” is an Awardee who has accepted the OAS scholarship offer.

**ARTICLE II  
INFORMATION AND COOPERATION**

- 2.1 The University shall provide the Department of Human Development (“DHD”) with information and documents on their technical, academic, and professional development programs available for which the Programs shall consider applications from interested candidates in accordance with this Agreement. The programs must be consistent with OAS development priorities and mandates for human resource development in the OAS Member States. GS/OAS, through DHD, shall provide the University with detailed descriptions of the scholarship selection criteria and available benefits of the Program.
- 2.2 The Parties shall exchange relevant information on the University’s students who are OAS scholarship recipients and who complete studies at the University in order to maintain a database of former OAS scholarship recipients who have graduated from the University, for follow-up and evaluation purposes, among others.
- 2.3 The Parties shall regularly exchange information on the University students who are OAS scholarship recipients and regarding the Parties’ activities of mutual interest. The Parties shall maintain close collaboration in connection with matters of common interest.

**ARTICLE III  
SPECIAL RELATIONS OF COOPERATION**

- 3.1 The Parties shall consider developing special relations of cooperation and shall identify projects and activities of common interest. When the corresponding authorization and funds for the implementation of such projects and activities have been obtained, the Parties shall prepare a supplementary agreement or memorandum of understanding (“MOU”) containing the terms and conditions and financial obligations, if any, applicable to each project or activity. These documents shall be signed by a duly authorized representative of each Party and shall specify in detail the responsibilities and mutual obligations of the Parties, including, but not limited to, the nature and amount of the financial commitment assumed by each Party.
- 3.2 The rights and responsibilities of the Parties in publications arising from a specific joint project or activity shall be established as agreed by the Parties in the corresponding supplementary agreement or MOU signed by their duly authorized representatives.
- 3.3 The University will endeavor to use, to the advantage of OAS scholarship recipients, the linkages and ties that it has developed with other universities and educational institutions through its international activities.

## **ARTICLE IV PROGRAMS**

4.1 The Human Development Programs administered by DHD include the following:

- a) The OAS Academic Studies Scholarship Program: The following web-site provides detailed information on this program: <http://educoas.org/portal/en/oasbecas/about.aspx?culture=en&navid=44>
- b) Professional Development Scholarship Program: The following web-site provides detailed information on this program: <http://www.educoas.org/portal/en/oasbecas/aboutpd.aspx?culture=en&navid=282>
- c) The Educational Portal of the Americas:  
The Portal promotes human resource instruction and training in the Americas through the use of information and communication technologies. Training costs are greatly reduced through the use of such tools, which also make such instruction and training accessible to individuals in remote areas and/or of limited means. The following web-site provides detailed information on the Portal: [www.educoas.org](http://www.educoas.org)
- d) The Rowe Fund Loan Program: The following web-site provides detailed information on the Fund: <http://www.oas.org/rowe/>

4.2 The cooperation provided for under this Agreement applies, within the University's application and admissions procedures/deadlines, to the following academic degree programs: Master of Distance Education; Doctor of Education (Ed.D) in Distance Education; Master of Arts in Integrated Studies; Master of Science in Information Systems; and the certificate and diploma programs associated with these degrees.

## **ARTICLE V BASIC PROVISIONS GOVERNING OAS SCHOLARSHIPS**

5.1. In accordance with GS/OAS provisions in force, OAS scholarships may only be awarded for a maximum of two years. Candidates selected to receive an OAS scholarship shall be entitled to all of the benefits specified in the recipient's contract with GS/OAS. Such benefits are subject to satisfactory academic progress by the OAS scholarship recipient in his/her program of studies, the recipient's continuation as a full-time student, and the availability of OAS resources.

5.2. OAS Academic Scholarships provide funds to cover, in whole or in part, university tuition and mandatory fees, international travel to and from the place of study, health insurance, living expenses, the purchase of books or other study materials, and for a dissertation or for other work required for graduation, up to the maximum amount of

US\$30,000 per academic year. These benefits shall vary depending on the type of scholarship awarded.

## **ARTICLE VI RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES**

- 6.1 The GS/OAS through DHD shall seek to place qualified students in the graduate degree programs, taking into account the Program's budgetary allocation, the regulations adopted by the political organs of the Organization, academic demand in the scholarship cycle, the admissions procedures and deadlines of the University program(s) in question, and the University's ability to offer places to students selected by the OAS.
- 6.2 The GS/OAS, through DHD shall promote the University in its outreach efforts in OAS member states.
- 6.3 The GS/OAS, through DHD shall notify each OAS scholarship recipient at the University that he/she is subject to and is expected to comply with the University's policies, provisions, and general practices.
- 6.4 The University shall provide students with support in their academic studies with the University.
- 6.5 The University shall reduce its international tuition fee differential by 50% for each OAS scholarship recipient. Those same discounts shall apply to any OAS scholarship recipients already enrolled at the University prior to receiving an OAS scholarship, unless the scholarship recipients have already been admitted under a more favorable arrangement.
- 6.6 The University and the DHD will stress the importance of regular communication between students and tutors/instructors. It is particularly important that when everyday means of communication – e.g., email – fail, it is the responsibility of the student to find other means to communicate with the University as per the requirements of his/her coursework. Connectivity, server or computer problems are not accepted as valid reasons for non-communication from students, and other means must be sought.
- 6.7 The University shall be responsible for immediately notifying the DHD in the event that any of the following situations occur with regard to the scholarship recipients: The Recipient: (i) terminates his/her studies at the University for any reason; (ii) does not participate in scheduled meetings, online conferences or other scheduled interactions with the regularity expected by the University; (iii) is not meeting the University's academic requirements, or the requirements of any particular course; (iv) has violated University rules and/or regulations; (v) is suffering from a prolonged illness of any kind; (vi) has been disciplined and/or placed on probation by the University; (viii) has been expelled by the University; (ix) has died; (x) has failed to communicate with the



designated academic or administrative representatives of the University to commence or carry out his/her studies with the University; or (xi) for any other reason, is no longer enrolled at the University.

- 6.8 At the end of each academic cycle, the University shall inform the DHD of each OAS scholarship recipient's academic progress. The University shall also review the progress of each OAS scholarship recipient after one year in the program and shall promptly inform the DHD in writing regarding the scholarship recipient's eligibility to remain in the program.
- 6.9 The University shall promote and disseminate information on the OAS Human Development Programs.
- 6.10 Access to the Library holdings and databases of the University will be provided to OAS scholarship recipients who are students at the University.
- 6.11 The University shall accept the documents required by GS/OAS in the scholarship application process (the scholarship application form, curriculum vitae, transcripts, copy of last degree, letters of recommendation and essay on objectives) to evaluate and admit the Awardees<sup>2</sup> to the University as long as they are originals or certified as true and accurate copies of the originals.

## **ARTICLE VII COORDINATION AND NOTIFICATIONS**

- 7.1 The GS/OAS area with responsibility for coordinating GS/OAS activities under this Agreement is the Department of Human Development, and the Coordinator is Jeanelle van GlaanenWeygel, Senior Specialist. Notifications and communications shall be forwarded to the Coordinator at the following address, fax number, and e-mail address:

OAS General Secretariat  
Department of Human Development  
1889 F Street, N.W.  
Office 611  
Washington, D.C. 20006  
United States of America  
Tel.: (1-202) 458-3890  
Fax: (1-202) 458-3897  
E-mail: [jvanglaanenweygel@oas.org](mailto:jvanglaanenweygel@oas.org)

- 7.2 The University area with responsibility for coordinating cooperation activities under this Agreement is the Faculty of Graduate Studies, and the Coordinator is Ms. Pamela Hawranik, Dean of Graduate Studies. Notifications and communications shall be forwarded to the Coordinator at the following address, fax number, and e-mail address:

---

<sup>2</sup> "Awardee" is a selected candidate who has been offered an OAS scholarship.

Athabasca University  
Faculty of Graduate Studies  
1 University Drive  
Athabasca AB Canada, T9S 3A3  
Tel.: 1(780) 675-6550  
Fax: 1(780) 675-6431  
Email: [phawranik@athabascau.ca](mailto:phawranik@athabascau.ca)

- 7.3 All communications and notifications arising from this Agreement shall be valid only if forwarded by post, fax, or e-mail, and addressed to the appropriate Coordinator at the address indicated for the Coordinator, above. When communications and notifications are forwarded by e-mail, they shall only be valid if sent directly from the e-mail address of the Coordinator of one of the Parties to the e-mail address of the Coordinator of the other Party.
- 7.4 Each Party may change the area of responsibility, designated Coordinator, address, telephone number, fax number, and/or e-mail address indicated herein, by notifying the other Party in writing.

#### **ARTICLE VIII DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 8.1 The Parties shall first seek to resolve through discussions between them disputes arising between the Parties under this Agreement and any supplementary agreements pursuant hereto. Should that prove unsuccessful, then either Party may submit the dispute to final and binding arbitration in accordance with the Arbitration Rules of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law ("UNCITRAL"). The applicable law is the law of the District of Columbia; however, the arbitrators may decide as *amiable compositeur* or *ex aequo et bono*. The site of arbitration shall be Washington, D.C. Arbitration proceedings shall be conducted in English.
- 8.2 Nothing in this Agreement constitutes an express or implied waiver of the privileges and immunities of the Parties and their personnel.

#### **ARTICLE IX GENERAL PROVISIONS**

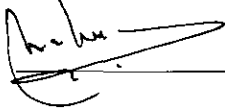
- 9.1 The Parties shall maintain the highest standards of ethics and administrative transparency in all actions and activities carried out in connection with this Agreement. In addition, GS/OAS, to the extent applicable, and without prejudice to its privileges and immunities, mentioned in Article 8.2, above, and the University shall comply with the provisions of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and the applicable provisions of the country where the programs, projects, and/or activities are implemented, in accordance with Article 3.1. Failure to comply with the instant

provision shall constitute sufficient grounds for early termination of this Agreement, in accordance with the provisions of Article 9.5, below.

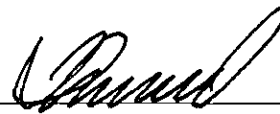
- 9.2 This Agreement may only be amended by prior written agreement between the duly authorized representatives of the Parties. The instruments of amendment shall be signed and dated by the Parties, and annexed hereto.
- 9.3 This Agreement shall enter into force as of the date of signature by the authorized representatives of the Parties and shall remain in force in accordance with the provisions of Article 9.5.
- 9.4 This Agreement shall not be construed or applied in any way so as to restrict the authority of GS/OAS to modify its Human Development Programs. Should there be any change in those Programs with implications for this Agreement, the Agreement shall be amended or terminated.
- 9.5 This Agreement may be terminated by mutual agreement or may be terminated by either Party without cause upon no less than 30 days' prior written notice to the other Party. Such termination shall have no adverse effect upon OAS scholarship recipients who were admitted to the University under the terms of this Agreement prior to its termination, and the University shall allow those OAS scholarship recipients to complete their program of study under the terms of this Agreement. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect any supplementary agreements as the Parties may have signed for the implementation of programs, projects and/or activities under the provisions of Article 3.1 of this Agreement for which financing has been duly provided. Those agreements shall remain in force for the full term as specified therein, unless terminated by the Parties as permitted under those agreements.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the duly authorized representatives of the Parties have executed this Agreement on the dates and at the locations set forth below.

**FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARIAT OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES**      **FOR ATHABASCA UNIVERSITY**



Maria Levens  
Director  
Department of Human Development  
Organization of American States



Dr. Frits Pannekoek  
President  
Athabasca University

Date: 06/08/09

Date: June 24/09