

**SPECIFIC AGREEMENT FOR STUDENT EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE
UNIVERSIDAD DE OVIEDO (OVIEDO, SPAIN) AND THE
INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE
(QUÉBEC, CANADA)**

Juan A. Vázquez García, Rector of the *Universidad de Oviedo*, acting in the name and on behalf of said institution, whose Institutional address is San Francisco Street, number 3; 33003-Oviedo, Asturias (Spain),

and

Pierre Lapointe, Director General of the *Institut national de la recherche scientifique*, acting in the name and on behalf of said institution, whose Institutional address is 490, rue de la Couronne, Québec, Québec (Canada) G1K 9A9,

AS SIGNATORIES OF THIS AGREEMENT

And in accordance with the positions they occupy, as representatives of their respective institutions, recognise their mutual capacity to sign contracts and assume obligations within the terms of this Agreement, and hence

DECLARE

1. That both Institutions signed an Agreement of academic, scientific and cultural collaboration to promote a reciprocal cooperation in the fields of teaching, scientific research and general cultural activity.

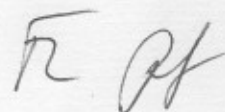
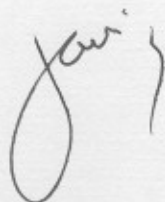
2. That both parties are interested in exchanging post graduate students from the *Applied Economics Department of the University of Oviedo* and the *Spatial Analysis and Regional Economics Laboratory (SAREL) of the INRS-UCS* in the terms that are proposed in this specific agreement.

CLAUSES

FIRST: Objectives of the student exchanges

The main objective of the student exchanges is:

- to collaborate in the development of research abilities of post graduate students from the *Applied Economics Department* and *INRS-UCS*;
- to support joint research projects between both institutions.



Each institution would offer the students it trains the possibility of participating in a student exchanges which would be in line with their research interests.

SECOND: Coordinators of the student exchanges

Each party will designate a Coordinator who will be responsible for the coordination and administration of the student exchanges, including the selection and counselling of the participants in the exchange.

At the University of Oviedo Dr. Fernando Rubiera, Profesor of the *Applied Economics Department* will be the Coordinator of the exchange. At INRS-UCS, this post will be occupied by the Dr. Mario Polese, Professor of the INRS-UCS.

THIRD: Duration of the student exchanges.

The duration of the stay for the students at the host institution shall normally be for a period of less than six months.

FORTH: Number of students that may participate in the student exchanges.

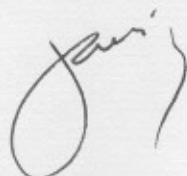
Each institution may accept under this programme no more than three students each academic year.

FIFTH: Academic situation

Students will be registered as regular university students at their home institution. Each institution shall normally accept incoming exchange students as non-regular students (that is students who do not aim at obtaining a degree or other formal qualification from the host university). Exchange students will have the rights and be subject to the same regulations at the host institution as the students of the host institution.

SIXTH: Students selection

The student exchanges Coordinator at each institution, in consultation with the appropriate academic unit, will be responsible for the selection of suitable students for the exchanges. It is understood that the Coordinator will identify students who qualify for a stay abroad and that academic transcripts as well as references will be provided to the host institution.



The *University of Oviedo* offers foreign students specific courses in Spanish that do not belong to the syllabi of any official degree. Incoming students can enrol in any of these courses, paying the corresponding fees established for international exchange students at the *University of Oviedo*.

SEVENTH: Fees for students participating in this program

Each student will pay his or her tuition and fees at the home institution and will receive these benefits in turn from the host institution.

The individual student will be responsible for his or her own housing and meal arrangements during the exchange. Each receiving institution agrees to provide reasonable assistance to exchange students in finding appropriate living accommodation in residence halls or out of the campus, according to circumstances. All travelling expenses will be the responsibility of the individual student. All the charges originated at the host institution (like courses with special expenses, fieldwork courses, deposits of keys, books, etc....) will be responsibility of the students.

The University of Oviedo will introduce this specific program in the Bancaja grants program to give a financial support to the *University of Oviedo* students who participates in the student exchanges.

INRS students who participate in the student exchanges will be eligible to apply for grants under the "Programme de bourses pour courts séjours à l'étranger" or any institutional, government or other grant programs.

EIGHTH: Insurance

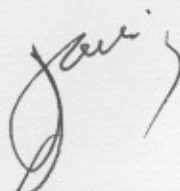
Each student must purchase a fully comprehensive health insurance adequate to host country and host university.

NINETH: Requirements to obtain the visa

Exchange students will be responsible for visa costs and must meet all requirements of the host country as regards immigration, including where appropriate, arrangements for their families and dependents.

TENTH: Date of validity and end of the agreement

This Agreement will be in force after its signing and for a period of three years from that date. Subject to both parties agreeing this Agreement is meeting its objectives and subject to the support of relevant Government agencies, this Agreement

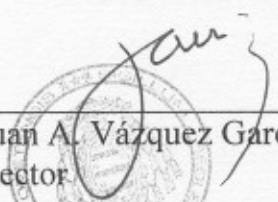


may be renewed for periods of the same duration by mutual consent of the parties before its original date of expiration. Either party may terminate this Agreement by giving prior six months' notice in writing to the other party. If terminated by either institution, students participating in or already approved to participate in the exchange under the provisions of this agreement shall be permitted to complete their respective courses of study. The end of the agreement will come into effect six months after the date of the written announcement. At the end of the agreement, each institution will exchange a brief report on exchange activities.

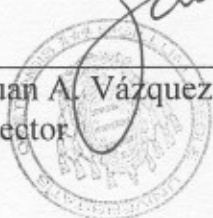
ELEVENTH: Agreement

Acknowledging the terms expressed above and the implications thereof, the signatories of the Specific Agreement hereby established, declare, as representatives of the two institutions involved, their willingness to accept all the obligations devolving thereon. As proof of their conformity therewith, and in order that it may be put into effect, this Agreement has been signed in duplicate, in the places and on the dates indicated below:

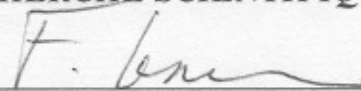
UNIVERSIDAD DE OVIEDO



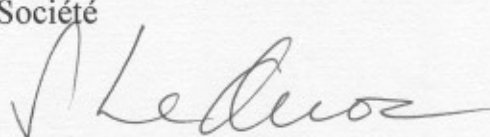
Juan Al. Vázquez García
Rector



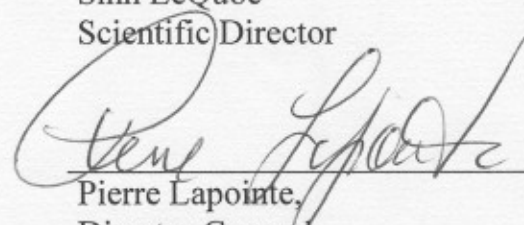
INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE SCIENTIFIQUE



Johanne Charbonneau
pour: Director, INRS-Urbanisation, Culture
et Société



Sinh LeQuoc
Scientific Director



Pierre Lapointe,
Director General

At Oviedo, 31st March 2008.

At Quebec,