

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING  
ON HIGHER EDUCATION EXCHANGES**

**BETWEEN**

**THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**AND**

**THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL EDUCATION OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF COLOMBIA**

The United States Department of Education and The Ministry of National Education of the Republic of Colombia (hereinafter called the "Participants"),

Considering the United States-Colombia Action Plan on Racial and Ethnic Equality (CAPREE) signed in Monteria, Colombia, on January 12, 2010, which recognizes the multiethnic and multiracial nature of United States and Colombian societies, and seeks to promote equality of opportunity and to eliminate racial and ethnic discrimination;

Noting that CAPREE focuses on sharing best practices and working together to promote cooperation and understanding, including sharing common cultural heritage and emphasizing access to quality education and employment opportunities for under-represented racial and ethnic minorities;

Recognizing that CAPREE promotes, *inter alia*, engagement in the higher education sector, including in the areas of academic research, internships, and exchange agreements among schools and universities;

Acknowledging that, under CAPREE, activities have included implementing programs to address the social barriers that affect individuals from under-represented racial and ethnic minority communities in the United States and Colombia; and

Taking into account the Participants' shared interest in promoting dialogue and increasing the diversity and level of engagement in the field of higher education between the United States and Colombia;

This Memorandum of Understanding ("Memorandum") provides a framework for cooperation in the field of higher education as described below:

1. The purpose of this Memorandum is to promote cultural and educational exchange opportunities among Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) located in the United States, and education institutions identified by the Government of Colombia as serving students of African descent in Colombia.

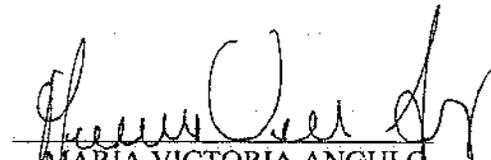
2. In addition to promoting engagement and dialogue pertaining to the exchange of students among HBCUs in the United States and analogous institutions in Colombia, this Memorandum also seeks to encourage other related cooperation, which may include, but is not limited to the exchange of faculty, internships, and the development of joint instructional programs among education institutions in the United States and Colombia.
3. In the Republic of Colombia, the executive agency under this Memorandum is the Ministry of National Education. In the United States of America, the executive agency is the United States Department of Education (ED), in consultation with the White House Initiative on Historically Black Colleges and Universities.
4. The Participants also encourage, as appropriate, cooperation among other entities in both countries – including government agencies, private sector establishments, academia and civic organizations – in ways that can contribute to achieving the purpose of this Memorandum.
5. All activities mentioned in this Memorandum are to be carried out in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations, and policies of each Participant. This Memorandum does not give rise to a legally cognizable partnership or joint venture. This Memorandum does not itself obligate or authorize the expenditure of any funds by either Participant. Each Participant to this Memorandum commits to bear its own costs related to its activities under the Memorandum. Nothing in this Memorandum obligates the Participants to enter into any contract or other obligation.
6. Activities under this Memorandum are intended to begin on the date of the last signature by the Participants and continue until discontinued by either Participant. The Memorandum may be modified by mutual decision of the Participants, or unilaterally discontinued by either Participant, at any time. To discontinue this Memorandum, the discontinuing Participant is expected to provide written notice of its intent to discontinue to the other Participant.

Signed in Bogotá, on October 22, 2019, in duplicate, in the Spanish and English languages.

FOR THE UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION:

  
DIANE A. JONES  
Department of Education

FOR THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL  
EDUCATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF  
COLOMBIA:

  
MARÍA VICTORIA ANGULO  
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