



**National of Schools of Public Policy,
Affairs, and Administration**
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I N P A E

**Inter-American Network of Public
Administration Education**
Universidad de Guadalajara
Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico

**Memorandum of Understanding
Between NASPAA and INPAE
Regarding General Cooperation and Opportunities for NASPAA Accreditation
May 18, 2018**

INTRODUCTION

This document outlines a cooperative agreement between the National Association of Schools of Public Affairs and Administration (NASPAA) and La Red Inter-Americana de Educación en Administración Pública (Inter-American Network of Public Administration Education, or INPAE, for its initials in English) regarding the promotion of high quality public service education and the enhanced capacity and image of public service professionals through greater communication and collaboration between the two associations.

RATIONALE

NASPAA and INPAE share an interest in promoting high quality public service education, supporting the interests of their respective members, and ensuring that public service professionals possess the knowledge and skills to address complex social challenges. In an environment of scarce resources and increased global interdependencies, it is in the interests of both associations and their members to have association leaders communicate regularly about shared concerns and interests and to identify and pursue opportunities for collaborative efforts to address mutual interests. Collaboration between the two associations will simultaneously support NASPAA's efforts to enhance its capacity to evaluate programs in Latin American and the interests of INPAE members who would like to pursue NASPAA accreditation.

BACKGROUND

NASPAA initiated peer review of graduate degrees in public administration in 1977. NASPAA's accreditation process is based on a commitment to improving education for public service, valuing diversity, and mission-based accreditation; it is a high quality and formative review facilitated by trained volunteers conducting themselves with highest integrity.

INPAE was founded in 2003 with support from NASPAA, as part of NASPAA's commitment to improving public administration and public policy in the Americas, and to strengthening partnerships with North-South and South-South cooperation among its institutional members. Today, INPAE has among its members institutions from over ten countries.

The collaboration between NASPAA and INPAE hit a milestone in 2012, when executives of both organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding outlining their commitment to support each

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other's efforts to improve public service education in the Americas. As a result, the two organizations co-sponsored a one-day conference on the quality of education for public service in collaboration with the National Institute of Public Administration (INAP) in Mexico City. Additionally, a Strategic Planning Workshop for Academic Programs was organized by the two organizations for the XIV Red INPAE Annual Conference in Jalisco, Mexico. These events served to exemplify the dedication of the organizations to support schools in Latin America as they increasingly face pressures to secure external accreditation.

PROPOSED TERMS OF COOPERATION

In recognition of the benefits of general cooperation and the benefits of supporting NASPAA accreditation for INPAE member programs outside the United States, NASPAA and INPAE agree to the following for the term of this Memorandum of Understanding:

- General Collaboration

Both NASPAA and INPAE pledge that, as often as possible, at least one designee will attend the annual conferences of the other association; to create opportunities for the designated representative of the other association to participate formally; and to schedule time during the annual conference for association leaders to discuss prospects for additional collaboration and discuss progress of current initiatives. Complimentary conference registration to one designated leader of the other association will be provided on an annual basis.

Each association shall make recommendations to their counterparts in the other association regarding individuals who could serve on relevant committees in ways that would increase understanding and enhance opportunities for collaboration among the associations. The autonomy and established processes of the respective association leaders in making committee appointments is not affected by the aforementioned recommendations.

- Membership Support

INPAE leaders shall help identify programs interested in pursuing NASPAA membership and share that information with NASPAA's Executive Director. NASPAA and INPAE will promote among their respective members opportunities for and benefits of membership in the other association, including information regarding each other's annual conference and other activities.

NASPAA shall encourage all NASPAA members to join INPAE and agrees to cover the cost of one year of INPAE membership dues for applicant programs interested in joining both organizations. NASPAA will also permit INPAE and INPAE member programs to post exchange opportunities free of charge NASPAA's online Student and Faculty Exchange service.

- Accreditation Support


INPAE leaders shall help identify programs interested in pursuing NASPAA Accreditation and share that information with NASPAA's Chief Accreditation Officer; assist programs in better understanding the NASPAA accreditation processes and standards; and may conduct informal assessments of program readiness prior to the formal Eligibility Review that precedes Accreditation Review. INPAE shall help identify experienced public affairs faculty and public service practitioners from Latin American countries who can be trained as site visitors, shall provide names and contact information to NASPAA's Chief Accreditation Officer, and shall assist in encouraging their participation in site visitor training.


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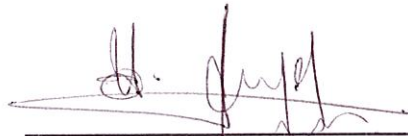
NASPAA shall identify individuals who have experience with NASPAA accreditation standards and processes who speak Spanish, or other appropriate languages, and share the information with INPAE as a resource for use by INPAE and INPAE member programs interested in accreditation.

This agreement does not alter the need for programs interested in NASPAA accreditation to meet all of the requirements of NASPAA membership and conformity with accreditation processes and standards as determined by COPRA. While training and informational materials may be provided in other languages, formal accreditation review by COPRA will continue to be in English.

This is an agreement between the two associations, and not between individuals or member schools or programs. This agreement is subject to review by the participating organizations and may be terminated at any time by either organization by notifying the other organization of their decision in writing. This agreement shall remain in effect for a period of five years from the date of signing below and may be renewed.



Palmira Ríos
Vice President of NASPAA



Hiram A. Ángel
President of INPAE

19/05/2018

Date

19/05/2018

Date