

University of Puerto Rico at Cayey
Declaration of Mission and Goals

DECLARATION OF MISSION, GOALS AND GENERAL OBJECTIVES

Preamble

The University of Puerto Rico at Cayey is an autonomous unit of the University of Puerto Rico. Founded in 1967 as a regional college nestled in a former military camp, becomes University College in 1969 and acquired autonomy in April 2, 1982 by the Council of Higher Education resolution. The Mission of the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey establishes commitment to the fundamental values of the University and from the mission of the University of Puerto Rico as a public institution of higher education.

The variety of its faculty academic backgrounds provides affluence and diversity to the educational experience; the natural beauty of its surroundings and its location, both near and far from the major metropolitan areas, enables academic friendliness, an ambience that invites to study, reflection and personal development. Our institution is one based on human values and quality. We care about quality rather than quantity.

Mission

The University of Puerto Rico at Cayey is committed to the comprehensive education of excellence through undergraduate programs for teacher, Natural and Social Sciences preparation and disciplines, Humanities and Business Administration. We understand the overall education and the professional specialization as complementary experiences of the formation of the human being. We offer an interdisciplinary and innovative education that integrates subjects and experiences from various fields of knowledge, research and the community service as part of the process of teaching and learning, keeping in perspective the value of the specialization. We educate with global perspective recognizing the location of the human being in its community within a historical and potential outlook.

We are committed to the development of comprehensive individuals, autonomous, critically sensitive, that create excellence as a standard of life, and that is prepared to be creatively placed in society and in the world of work. This individual will be someone to discover within themselves the resource and stimulus for learning, which has learned to seek and to develop the knowledge to a full life and to maintain a commitment for life with learning.

We work towards a university community integrated between its components, based on the commitment that we share with the education as a way of life. We recognize that all members are, in essential sense, students and we can all be teachers.

We believe, as we learned from *Hostos*, that the good living is intimately linked to the good we do. We affirm that the University is responsible for having our words become deeds. The academic project of the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey requires a University alert to the issues of our time, such as the improvement of the natural and social environment and the promotion of peace, and committed to reason overcoming prejudice and respect for dissent. We educate for life.

General Goals and Objectives

1. Provide an undergraduate education of excellence

- Maintain diverse and up-to-date programs involving Natural and Social Sciences, the Humanities, the Education and Business Administration.
- Offer a diverse, innovative curriculum within optimum technological advances of social relevance, international and interdisciplinary perspective, which gives the students a solid foundation of knowledge, skills and attitudes from which to expand their training in any field of knowledge and professional performance.
- Develop programs, activities and co-curricular experiences of study, research, exchange, creation, training, professional practice and service that are relevant and innovative.

- Encourage the synthesis and continuity in the organization of knowledge, as well as on the experiences of learning.
- Provide students a vision of the interrelation between general education, the knowledge of the specialty and its environment.
- Contribute to the formation of people with a wide cultural vision, inclusive, dynamic and innovative knowledge of humans and the process of teaching and learning.
- Empower students to engage in a multicultural, international and interdependent world.
- Strengthen the development of complex thinking, enabling independent learning, discerning criticism, the generation of new knowledge and a creative attitude.
- Develop in students the strengthening and full appreciation of their native language.
- Expand the student's ability to communicate effectively and appropriately.
- Train the student in the usage of various information sources and research.
- Relate to students the use of effective, appropriate and creative technologies as tools in their academic formation.
- Educate students to various forms of artistic and body expression through training and participatory experiences inside and outside the classroom.
- Cultivate student self-esteem and confidence in whether same, initiative and leadership, the independence of judgment and caution in decision-making, capacity to make ethical judgments, anticipate problems, perceive opportunities and promote constructive changes favoring integral and balanced development of the person.

2. Cultivate in all sectors of the University community a commitment to performance excellence, consistent with the academic project that leads to the unity of institutional purpose.

- Foster continuous retraining of all members of the University community, students, teachers and staff support.
- Provide students support services to facilitate their integration to college life.
- Support faculty in the enrichment of a wide cultural formation, updating their specialty knowledge and teaching skills improvement.

- Develop knowledge of the university's work and their values in staff support and to build their professional and personal development.
- Recognize the merit in the university's performance.
- Adapt the budget distribution to the work plan which recognizes institutional priorities.
- Integrate the assessment as a way to enrich the teaching and learning process.
- Promote the assessment, evaluation and revision of academic and administrative schemes, and processes that respond so agile and flexible academic project that gives meaning to our existence.

3. Make the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey one of the main centers of academic and cultural activities of Puerto Rico.

- Promote a climate of encounter and exchange between scholars, researchers and creators of the country and the world, as well as dialogue between academic disciplines and between the various sectors of the community.
- Offer continuing education to people who aspire to progress professionally, change career or enrich their quality of life.
- Strengthen links with academic and cultural institutions inside and outside Puerto Rico.
- Maintain a comprehensive program of artistic, scientific, professional activities that complement the academic programs and serves the community.
- Broaden in the community, developments in the various branches of knowledge.
- Enhance and disseminate the values of Puerto Rican culture .

4. Promote the development of a sense of social responsibility based on respect for human beings and their natural environment.

- Empower students with the knowledge and skills to understand social, cultural, economic, political and environmental phenomena in Puerto Rico and the world.
- Promote attitudes which bring respect, diversity and the defeat of prejudices that infringe upon human dignity.

- Foster the commitment to justice, honesty and the search for solutions to common problems.
- Promote the preservation and improvement of the environment.
- Maintain an environment on campus that ensures respect for dissenting opinions and the rights of others.
- Affirm the university's autonomy.

Objectives of the University of Puerto Rico (Included in Article 2 of the University

Law of January 20, 1966, 18 L. P. R.A. § 601)

- a) The University, as a body of higher education, for its obligation of service to the people of Puerto Rico and its proper fidelity to a society with integrally democratic ideals, its essential mission is to achieve the following objectives, which are inherent to freedom of educational content and scientific research:
 - 1) Transmit and increase knowledge through science and the arts, serving the community through the action of its professors, researchers, students and graduates.
 - 2) Contribute to the cultivation and enjoyment of the ethical and esthetical values of the culture.
- b) In loyal compliance with its mission, the university should:
 - 1) Cultivate the love of knowledge as a trail of freedom through search and discussion of the truth, in attitude of respect towards the dialog creator;
 - 2) Conserve, enrich and spread the cultural values of the Puerto Rican people and strengthen the awareness of its unity in the common company to freely settle their problems.
 - 3) Ensure the full training of the student, in view of its responsibility as a server in the community;
 - 4) Fully develop in our people the latent, intellectual and spiritual wealth, so that intelligence and values of the spirit of the exceptional personalities that emerge

- from all their constituencies, especially those with disadvantages in economic resources, can be put at the service of Puerto Rican society;
- 5) Collaborate with other agencies within the areas of action within themselves, in the study of problems of Puerto Rico;
 - 6) (6) Bear in mind that towards its character of University and its identification with the ideals of life in Puerto Rico, it is essentially linked to values and interests of all of the democratic community.

*The *Statement of mission, goals, general objectives* of the University of Puerto Rico at Cayey, requested with the most comprehensive competition of all sectors of the community academic, crystallizes the feeling of the academic community on what is and must be the University of Puerto Rico in Cayey. Approved unanimously by the Academic Board on March 5, 1993, endorsed by the Council of Higher Education, through the Certification number 94-002, repealed the last emitted mission before granting autonomy to Cayey and collected in Certificate number 57 series 79-80. On February 23, 1994 it was unanimously approved and supported by the University Board. It was updated on May 4, 2006, through Certification number 89 series 2005-06 of the Academic Senate.

English revision by Prof. Gladys Ramos García
February 25th, 2011