

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between the Dominica Academy of Arts & Sciences And The Dominica State College

The Dominica State College, “DSC” is a publicly funded institution established under the Dominica State College Act (2002) to provide tertiary level training and programs in agriculture, arts and sciences, health and environmental science, teacher education, technical and technological training, tourism and hospitality, business, ecological and marine studies, and adult and continuing education. As a national institution, benefiting from public funding, the College is dedicated to expanding and enriching educational opportunities for all citizens to enhance the overall development of the nation. The College programs of study lead to certificates, associate degrees and baccalaureate degrees. The Dominica State College’s authorities and responsibilities are contained in the Dominica State College Act (2002), the College’s By-Laws and its Operation Manual.

The Dominica Academy of Arts & Sciences, referred to as “DAAS”, is headquartered in the State of Maryland, U.S.A., with a Local Chapter in Dominica. DAAS may have other Chapter offices as the Board of Directors may from time to time determine. DAAS operates as a non-profit organization for charitable, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code and is incorporated in Dominica under the Companies Act.

The Mission of the College is to be Dominica’s premier post secondary institution. It uses sound nationally and internationally developed educational principles, practices and well-trained personnel to provide leadership in the delivery of high –quality post secondary education and training to all Dominicans in an environment conducive to lifelong learning. Its goal is to provide leadership by catering to the personal and national development needs of Dominica and providing a superior level of service and programs using innovative strategies and technologies.

The Mission of the Dominica Academy of Arts & Sciences is to contribute to the enhancement of the socio-economic conditions for all Dominicans. To that end we seek to work with our fellow nationals in Dominica and around the world to build institutional capacity and competence in arts and sciences where we currently lack such. In particular, we seek to work with our fellow nationals in Dominica and around the world toward the advancement of education and for the preservation of Dominica’s culture, history, natural resources and wildlife.

Whereas, the **Dominica Academy of Arts & Sciences** and the **Dominica State College** (hereinafter, DSC) are desirous of working together, on the basis of mutual respect and a convergence of interest to pursue the missions of both institutions through collaboration and partnership to develop higher education in Dominica that will include a high achieving, internationally competitive and recognized institution of tertiary and graduate education committed to the best in arts education, agriculture and applied science at the service of national development.

Whereas, the DAAS and DSC are desirous for the development of indigenously designed sustainable technology for the island's independence, and that compliments Dominica's image as the Nature Island of the World; and

Whereas, the DAAS and DSC both recognize that the success of this new institution of higher learning (i.e. the DSC) requires the involvement of Dominican human resources and competence at home and in the Diaspora, at every stage of the teaching, research, planning and execution of curricula, and project design; and

Whereas, it is desirous that the DSC fulfills its mission of building a new unity among our skilled citizens, in an environment of trust, dignity, patriotic endeavor and respect for the equitable national development needs of the Commonwealth of Dominica; and

Whereas, the DAAS exists as a Dominican-owned, managed and directed Directory and Research & Development Institution made up of Dominican nationals at home and abroad who have dedicated themselves to education of our people and the sustainable development of the country in all spheres;

Whereas, the DAAS desires to establish with DSC a Center of Research and Development aimed at investigating and addressing issues relevant to the social, economic, cultural and other uplifts of the Dominican people; it is hereby

Resolved and agreed as follows:

1. **INSITUATIONALIZATION:** To ensure continuity of the DAAS' mission of recouping our dispersed human resources and channeling it to the maximum benefit of the national development cause, that relations between the DAAS and DSC be formalized and institutionalized through an agreed Biennial Work Plan that would be regarded as an integral aspect of the DAAS/DSC Cooperative Framework.

2. **DIRECTORY:** That both parties agree to promote the DAAS Directory of local and Diaspora skilled and professional personnel as a platform for the gathering and listing of our human resource base for the purpose of channeling such resources toward the objective of national development in all spheres; further that the DSC shall use such a data base in its search for faculty or competence as needed and contribute, within its means, to the perpetuation of said Directory, while encouraging DSC students and staff to become part of the DAAS Directory and so interact and network with their compatriots on all endeavors related to the development of arts and sciences and to national issues for the benefit of the government and people of the Commonwealth of Dominica;

3. **VISITING SCHOLAR PROGRAM:** That the DAAS/DSC do all things reasonable and necessary to design a visiting scholars program whereby Dominican scholars and associates overseas and locally can lend their skill sets to a regular system of lectures and instruction to DSC students during their visits to Dominica;

4. MATERIAL ASSISTANCE: That the DAAS/DSC commit to provide material assistance to the other, where possible. And that such a complimentary burden sharing is done in a manner, which encourages self-reliance among our people and diminishes dependence on others;

5. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER, RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT: That the DAAS/DSC shall work in concert to spur technology transfer to Dominica and link the DSC to other institutions of higher learning worldwide. In that process the DAAS and DSC agree to collaborate to organize and maintain a coherent Research and Development unit on-island, in close contact with the DAAS membership, to propel research, development and production facilities in Arts, Business Enterprise and Sciences.

6. MARKETING THE DAAS/DSC TO THE DIASPORA & OTHERS: That the DAAS/DSC shall do all things reasonable and necessary to promote the mission of the other in a manner which enhances the fraternal relations between Dominicans at home and abroad, while building academic tourism and other links with activists, intellectuals and students in the global community who are interested in collaborating with us in our quest to preserve Dominica's cultural heritage, conserve its natural environment, promote equitable sustainable development and the enhancing of those virtues of our unique African, Carib and multi-ethnic society.

7. The Parties agree that this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) constitutes a statement of principles governing the proposed relationship between the DSC and DAAS, and does not commit either party to any financial or resource obligations other than what may be agreed to within the framework of specific projects as endorsed by their respective institutions.

The foregoing considered, it is this 6th day of September 2007, SO AGREED.

Mr. Hubert J. Charles
President
Dominica State College

Dr. Clayton Shillingford
President
Dominica Academy of Arts and Science.