



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between the
Florida Institute of Technology
and the
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SPORTS
of Aruba

The Participants to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are Florida Institute of Technology for and on behalf of Florida Institute of Technology Board of Trustees, a public body corporate, hereafter referred to as (Florida Tech) and the Ministry of Education and Sports of Aruba (MinES) hereby agree to implement an exchange program between the two institutions for the following purposes deemed to be mutually beneficial to both Participants.

This MOU sets forth the entire decision of the Participants and supersedes all previous agreements, prior negotiations, discussions and proposals.

I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Participants believe that it is in their best interests to encourage direct contact and cooperation between their leadership, faculty members, departments, institutes and other centers in order to foster the development of possible collaborative programs in educational areas to be agreed upon. This will be subject to availability of funding and the development of specific binding agreements. The Participants have entered into this MOU for the purpose of setting forth their mutual understanding and decision, with respect to such direct contact and the development of potentially sustainable collaborative programs.

Florida Institute of Technology is a leading comprehensive, accredited, private university situated in Melbourne, Florida, USA, and has a long and distinguished history in producing engineers, scientists, and business professionals with a full array of specialties. Florida Tech is well known for its attraction to international students and its proximity to the Indian River Lagoon, NASA Kennedy Space Center, and local high-tech industry

Aruba's unique social-economic resources, a diverse multilingual population, and its commitment to invest in developing her human capital, provides valuable learning and opportunities for collaborative programming with Florida Institute of Technology. The current population of Aruba is about 110,000, together representing more than 90 nationalities. The economy of Aruba is mainly based on tourism, and almost all products are imported. Aruba is undergoing a transition period balancing the economic growth with a human centered approach. With its people's first approach Aruba is committed to the implementation of the sustainable development goals and has included nine accelerators in its National Strategic Plan. Current interesting developments on the island are: opening of a STEM facility at the

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University of Aruba, opening of a bio-marine park for the protection of the ocean and water management, introduction of an e-government program, large investments in renewable energy and agriculture. Aruba can provide research, exchange programs and collaboration opportunities in a safe and beautiful environment.

DISCUSSION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POSSIBLE COLLABORATION

Within the fields of teaching, student mobility, and research opportunities to be mutually designated, both Participants agree to discuss and explore the development of any of the following general forms of cooperation, but are not limited to:

1. encourage and develop cooperation and exchanges in the fields of applied technology, teacher education, STEM, sustainability programs, research, and other collaborative opportunities that may arise.
2. collaborate on the development of program articulations for seamless transfer of students with a HAVO, VWO, MBO, GED Diploma by providing the information necessary to successfully develop, promote, and maintain the collaboration.
3. encourage and facilitate closer relationships between Florida Institute of Technology the Country of Aruba; University of Aruba (UA); Ministry of Education and Sports; secondary and other post-secondary institutions; appropriate educational organizations; economic organizations; and the private sector establishments involved in education and/or research.
4. exchange of information in fields of interest to both Participants.
5. academic exchanges of student and faculty
6. curriculum/program development and exchange
7. tuition discounts and scholarships for Aruban students

The Participants anticipate that specific collaborative projects or activities that the Participants wish to implement will, as appropriate, be undertaken pursuant to future agreements entered into according to applicable laws and rules of each Participant. Themes of joint activity and the conditions for utilizing the results achieved and arrangements for all forms of cooperation including visits and exchanges will be negotiated for each specific case. Both institutions understand that all financial arrangements will be negotiated and identified in an agreement prior to the commencement of the associated activities listed above.

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II. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Term and Termination of MOU. It is understood that this Memorandum of Understanding is not binding and the implementation will commence on the date of later signature, and will continue thereafter for five years, subject from time to time to revision or modification by mutual decision. Representatives from both institutions will discuss the terms of a renewal at least six months prior to the natural termination of the current Memorandum of Understanding. Any student enrolled at Florida Institute of Technology at the moment of termination and meeting all renewal academic requirements, will be able to complete the program under the same conditions.
2. Amendment of MOU. This MOU may be amended at any time by the written decision of both Participants. Any amendments to this MOU will be in writing and approved in the same manner as was used to approve this MOU.
3. The two institutions will undertake, individually and jointly, to identify external sources of support for joint projects.
4. The designated representatives of the Participants for the purposes of monitoring and oversight of this Memorandum of Understanding are: the Director of the Department of Education, Anne Marie Proveyer-Groot, (Aruba); and Provost, Dr. Hamid Rassoul, (Florida Institute of Technology).

Signed in duplicate, the Participants have hereunto set their hands and seals as of the day and year below.

Florida Institute of Technology

By:

Dr. John Nicklow, President
Florida Institute of Technology

Date: July 1, 2023

Ministry of Education and Sports of Aruba

By:

Mr. Endy Croes,
Minister of Education and Sports

Date: July 1, 2023