



Alcorn
State University



Faculty Exchange Program Agreement Between Marshall University and Alcorn State University

BACKGROUND

Institutions of higher education struggle to meet the challenges of diversifying both their student bodies and their faculties at a time when federal and state dollars committed to the support of higher education are declining. As a result, universities must be innovative in order to overcome such challenges. Exchange programs between colleges and research universities offer both promise and innovation at a time of limited resources.

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

This Partnership in Education Agreement (PEA) between Alcorn State University and Marshall University will establish a cooperative framework for a successful exchange of faculty between Marshall University and Alcorn University during one academic semester.

Specific objectives of the agreement:

1. To provide a seamless path for the exchange of faculty between Alcorn State University and Marshall University.
2. To create new opportunities for collaborative and independent research between faculties.
3. To develop opportunities for immersing students in cultures beyond their home institution's environment.
4. To expose faculty to a culture different from their home institution's culture.
5. To provide faculty with opportunities for renewed energy and vigor.

ARTICLE 2

GENERAL SCOPE OF THE PARTNERSHIP IN EDUCATION AGREEMENT

It is proposed that Alcorn State and Marshall develop a mutually-agreeable, seamless path that will foster an academic, creative and supportive environment by taking the following steps:

1. Developing a collaborative model that will facilitate a direct path for the exchange between Alcorn State University and Marshall University faculty for one academic semester.
2. Promoting activities to enhance communication between faculty and students.
3. Encouraging and enhancing research between Alcorn State and Marshall faculty in areas of mutual research interest.
4. Developing systems of support through mentors who will assist and support the exchange faculty members.

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5. Providing orientation mechanisms for the exchange faculty members to adjust to their new environments in both the academic departments and the universities.

ARTICLE 3 FACULTY EXCHANGE SPECIFICS

Commitments by each institution:

- The proposed start date is Fall 2011.
- Each faculty member will be in exchange for one semester.
- Faculty will have a teaching load consistent with the policy of the host departments and in consideration of the faculty member's request. Faculty members who engage in research will have release time consistent with the host university's policies.
- Office space and expenses such as telephone and computer use will be provided by the hosting department.
- The visiting faculty members will have full access to libraries at both Alcorn State and Marshall.
- Remuneration -- Faculty will continue to receive salary and benefits from their home institutions.
- Housing -- Marshall and Alcorn State will provide visiting faculty, at no cost, an on-campus, one-bedroom furnished apartment.
- Meal Plan – Alcorn State and Marshall will provide faculty, at no cost, a limited, on-campus meal plan.
- Marshall University and Alcorn State will provide visiting faculty, at no cost, an on-campus, parking pass.
- Visiting faculty are encouraged to engage in collaborative research projects.
- Visiting faculty are encouraged to engage students in research opportunities.
- Visiting faculty should actively participate in the campus life of the host institution, including participation in university and departmental meetings, student-life activities, and cultural and athletic events when appropriate.
- Visiting faculty at Marshall will meet with the Diversity Planning Committee to discuss exchange expectations upon arrival on campus. Visiting faculty at Alcorn State will meet with the partnership agreement manager to discuss exchange expectations upon arrival on campus.
- Alcorn State will provide its faculty round-trip (coach or economy) airfare. If another mode of transportation is chosen, Alcorn will pay travel costs up to the round-trip (coach or economy) airfare.
- Marshall University will provide its participating faculty with \$500 to cover transportation costs.

ARTICLE 4 IMPLEMENTATION

A Partnership Team at each university will monitor implementation of this Partnership in Education Agreement. Representatives from each team include the following university personnel:

Marshall University

Vice President, Multicultural Affairs

Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs

Diversity Planning Committee

Alcorn State University

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs

Director of the Office of Pre-Professional
and Honors Curriculum Programs

Partnership Agreement Managers for each
of the programs for which agreements are implemented

The Partnership Teams will meet periodically to review progress, address challenges and assess progress.

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**ARTICLE 5
EVALUATION**

The evaluation will be outcomes-driven. Alcorn State and Marshall will provide designated representatives who will be members of the Partnership Team. This Team will meet annually to review the progress of the collaborative activities between Alcorn State and Marshall, to assess the overall impact of the PEA, and to recommend modifications in its terms where appropriate.

**ARTICLE 6
POINT OF CONTACT**

Each institution will designate an individual to serve as a Point of Contact. This person will serve as a liaison between Alcorn State and Marshall to develop and coordinate the various activities agreed upon by the universities. Through these individuals, either university may initiate proposals for additional cooperation. Their names and contact information are listed below:

Marshall University
Name: Shari Clarke, Ph.D.
Title: Vice President
Division of Multicultural Affairs
Address: 111 Old Main
Marshall University
Huntington, WV 25755
Telephone: 304-696-4676
E-mail: clarkes@marshall.edu

Alcorn State University
Name: Thomas C. Sturgis, Ph.D.
Title: Director of the Office of Pre-Professional
and Honors Curriculum Programs
Address: 1000 ASU Drive, #629
Alcorn State University
Alcorn State, MS 39096-7500
Telephone: 601-877-6197
E-mail: tsturgis@alcorn.edu

**ARTICLE 7
DURATION, RENEWAL, AND TERMINATION**

The Partnership in Education Agreement will be effective on the date when the last signatory has signed it and shall remain in effect for two years. The PEA is renewable by mutual, written consent of both parties. However, the agreement may be terminated by either party upon ninety (90) days' written notice of termination.

IN WITNESS, the Parties have caused this Agreement to be executed by their duly authorized representatives as follows:

For Alcorn State University

For Marshall University

Signed _____
President, Alcorn State University

Signed _____
President, Marshall University

Date

Date