



**INTER AMERICAN UNIVERSITY OF PUERTO RICO
SAN GERMÁN CAMPUS**

STUDENT LEADERSHIP ACHIEVEMENTS

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Abstract	iii
Introduction	iv
San Germán Campus Profile	1
Student Organizations by:	3
Gender distribution	3
Type: Academic, Non-academic	4
Community and Educational Services	4
Sports Achievements	5
Internships	6
Student International Trips / Competitions	6
Conclusion	7

LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table #1. Student Organizations	3
Table #2. Gender Distribution	3
Table #3. Student Organizations per Type	4
Table #4. Community and Educational Activities	4
Table #5. Internships	6
Table #6. International Student Trips	6

ABSTRACT

Student achievements make us feel proud at the San Germán Campus. They are the best evidence that as an institution, we are achieving the goals declared in our Mission. During the past five years, the students have conquered leadership achievements in a diversity of scenarios.

In the academic scenario in the past five years, approximately 1,247 students who excel academically participated in the Honor's Program. Likewise, undergraduate research conducted through the McNair Program and graduate doctoral dissertations reflect the academic excellence of the students. Undergraduate research projects (over 50) include areas such as Art, Natural Sciences, and Social Sciences, among others. Doctoral dissertations have contributed to the construction of knowledge in fields as Education, Entrepreneurial and Managerial Development and Psychology.

Social leadership is promoted among the students to develop empathy and love toward their neighbors. Student leaders are distributed among 35 student organizations that amount to 23% of all students on Campus. These organizations reflect differences in gender, social, cultural, and intellectual interests, ensuring that the respect for diversity, which characterizes the university, is maintained. These students, inspired by their counselors and faculty/administrative mentors, have won awards locally, nationally and internationally for their participation in competitions, conferences, and community service in Puerto Rico and abroad.

INTRODUCTION

The San Germán Campus, seeking to comply with its goals and Mission, promotes academic and leadership programs that foster students' holistic development. The brief student profile that follows will allow the reader to understand students' idiosyncrasies and the reason why we promote student athletic leadership on Campus.

A summary of the leadership achievements of the students for the past five years (2014-2019) is presented below. A student profile of honor students, members of student organizations, and researcher students is included. In addition, evidence of student awards received by students representing the university in Puerto Rico and abroad can also be found.

SAN GERMÁN CAMPUS PROFILE

The San Germán Campus of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico (IAUPR) is the original site of the Institution, founded in 1912, as the Polytechnic Institute of Puerto Rico by Reverend Dr. John Will Harris, a Presbyterian missionary from Texas. It is a unique Campus of the Institution that has served the community for over one hundred and seven years.

In 1944, it became the first institution outside of the continental United States to be accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA). In 1956, its name was changed to Inter American University of Puerto Rico (IAUPR), as it became the first postsecondary institution that made educational programs available to students in other geographical areas of the Island. The original Christian and Ethical Values still shape the Campus, its goals, and institutional life.

It is located in the southwestern region of Puerto Rico, on 282.5 acres of beautiful rolling hills and serves around 4,450 students. Two Student Residences inside the Campus enhance engagement opportunities and educational experiences and provide lodging to students from many municipalities of Puerto Rico, from the United States, Latin America, and other countries of the world.

The Campus' physical infrastructure consists of 67 buildings that support academic programs. All physical facilities are designed to improve the teaching - learning processes and student services, keeping in mind the protection of the environment.

The Campus offers a rich and diverse activities program, in line with its tradition of community service and engagement. These include concerts, art exhibitions, symposiums, seminars, sports, and ecumenical services to foster the continuous growth and development of the

community. Over the years, it has hosted an extraordinary number of activities to advance its Mission and Goals.

The San Germán Campus has continuously shown its commitment in identifying social issues and providing innovative solutions to some of them. The High School Dropout Project (CASA), exemplifies how the Campus supports underprivileged students. It aims at decreasing the rate of high school students drop outs in the region and helps them to successfully complete the requirements to obtain a high school diploma. The program has achieved a high retention and graduation rate of 98%.

The San Germán Campus enjoys a memorable history in the field of sports, being the headquarters for the entire IAUPR Tiger teams that participate in the Inter University Athletic League (LAI) and have won over 120 championships in different sports. Great athletes have initiated their careers at this Community.

All these accomplishments have enhanced the image of excellence that the Campus has in Puerto Rico and abroad, while it has remained responsive to the needs of its community and the demands of higher education in the 21st Century. It will continue to meet the challenges of the next decade with the commitment of providing access to quality education for the future leaders of society, reaffirming the Centennial theme (2012): *100 Years Creating New Paths*.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS 2013-2018

The San Germán Campus of the Inter American University of Puerto Rico promotes the formation of leaders and the development of student organizations that foster a holistic, well-rounded student development. During the past five years (2014-2019), the student organizations that are recognized on Campus have been able to include approximately 23% of the student population in about 35 different student organizations, which are culturally and gender inclusive in varied fields of interest. Table #1 show the number of organizations and members in the past five years 2014-15 to 2018-19.

TABLE #1. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS		
Year	Number of student organizations	Number of members
2014-15	34	1,114
2015-16	35	1,179
2016-17	38	1,080
2017-18	36	1,158
2018-19	35	1,039

Source: Student Organizations Report 2013-2018

The annual gender distribution reflects a higher percentage of female students, fluctuating between 60% to 64% in the past five years; whereas, male students fluctuate between 36% to 40%.

Table #2 summarize the gender distribution of the past five years.

TABLE #2. GENDER DISTRIBUTION					
Year	Female	Female	Male	Male	Total
2014-15	691	62%	423	38%	1,114
2015-16	755	64%	424	36%	1,179
2016-17	644	60%	436	40%	1,080
2017-18	742	64%	416	36%	1,158
2018-19	623	60%	416	40%	1,039

Source: Student Organizations Report 2014-2019

Academic student organizations mostly represent all the academic departments with a 57%, while the non-academic organizations encompass a 43%. Table #3 summarizes the past five years.

TABLE #3. STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS PER TYPE			
Year	Academic	Non-academic	Total
2014-15	17	17	34
2015-16	19	16	35
2016-17	21	17	38
2017-18	23	13	36
2018-19	21	14	35
Total	101	77	178
	57%	43%	100%

Source: Student Organizations Report 2013-2018

Student leadership receives support from their counselors and mentors, who have the responsibility of attending meetings and supervising student participation. Faculty members account for 61% and collaborators from the administration account for 39% of student organization counselors. These associations are well known for the community and educational service they offer, totally based on voluntary service. This community service fosters the holistic development of its participants. Approximately 517 community service activities took place in the past five years and about 1,039 activities geared toward academic/educational endeavors took place as well. Table #4 summarizes the community and educational activities.

TABLE #4. COMMUNITY AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES		
Year	Educational	Community
2014-15	208	107
2015-16	193	122
2016-17	234	104
2017-18	147	90
2018-19	257	94
Total	1,039	517

Source: Student Organizations Report 2014-2019

Student leadership success has transcended nationally and internationally. Student participation in conferences, clinics, conventions, presentations, and competitions among others, has contributed to having the student organizations recognized in important scenarios such as: National Leadership Conference of Business Professionals of America, Alpha Phi Omega National Convention, Urban Dance & Educational Foundation (UDEF), District Convention of the TriBeta Honor Society of Biology and in the American Chemistry and Environmental Technology Conference.

SPORTS ACHIEVEMENT

We closed another historically outstanding year in college sports achieving awards in different sports feats.

We participated in 29 sports in the Inter University Athletic League (LAI, for its Spanish acronym) and achieved nine championships, 7 sub-championships and seven third places. In the Global LAI Cup, the female and male category resulted sub-champions.



INTERNSHIPS

Ten students from our Campus participated in job or research related internships in the United States. This year several students were offered internships as participants in research projects in six universities. Table #5 illustrates the type of 2019 Internships.

TABLE #5. INTERSHIPS	
DESCRIPTION	UNIVERSITY
Summer Undergraduate Research Experience in the Biomedical Sciences	Indiana University
Summer Undergraduate Research Experience in the Biomedical Sciences	Indiana University
National Cancer Institute	Maryland
Penn State Applied Research Lab	University Park, Pennsylvania
McNair Sampling Advanced Mathematics for Minority Students	Ohio State University
University of Virginia's Summer Research Internship Program (SRIP)	University of Virginia
Resident Mentor University of Alaska-Fairbanks	Fairbanks, Alaska
Summer Student - QO position Córdova y Fernós	Vega Baja Pfizer
Disney	Disney College Internship Program
HACU Internship	

Another area where students exceeded was in international student travel. Table #6 presents some of the places where the students have traveled to participate in a diversity of activities this year.

TABLE #6. INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRIPS
American Chemical Society
National Leadership Conference in Orlando, Florida
HACU Congress
Annual Conference, Business Professionals of America
Global Leadership Showcase, Women Leadership Council Meet Up Connect for Good in Washington, DC
Diversity Preview Weekend 2019 in Cornell University in Ithaca New York
27 th Annual International Center for Academic Integrity Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana

Source: Annual Report 2018-19

CONCLUSION

The past five years (2014-2018) have offered many challenges, but also great satisfaction for the San Germán Campus. The students have carried out hundreds of activities putting into practice the skills and abilities acquired outside the classroom; moreover, they have practiced community leadership with the goal of serving others.

The students have won many personal and professional awards through participation in workshops, conferences and competitions in Puerto Rico and abroad. They have put great effort into achieving their academic goals and objectives; furthermore, many have received scholarships and participated in significant research projects. The students have succeeded in forming a solid student leadership that works hand in hand with the university and with the country hoping to construct a better Puerto Rico for future generations. Worthy of mentioning is the success that we have achieved in sports having won multiple championships in all kinds of sports.

Approximately 4,300 graduates from the past five years that graduated from all areas of knowledge make us feel very proud. Our graduates are active members of the working force of the country contributing to improve the economy with their knowledge, skills, and expertise. Others have continued graduate studies in the island or abroad. Some of our graduates are currently studying in law schools and medical schools. The students truly represent the successful outcome of the efforts of the entire college community in the development of student leadership and values.