



MINISTÈRE DE L'ÉDUCATION NATIONALE, DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPERIFUR LT DL LA RECHURCHE



EDUCATIONAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

between

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

(United States of America)

and

THE ACADEMY OF RENNES

(France)

I - PREAMBULE

Taking into account the cultural and historical links between France and the United States of America and the desire for co-operation between the two countries;

Considering the will of the State of Louisiana and the Académie de Rennes to establish lasting links, to initiate collaboration between their structures and to establish exchanges and partnerships;

Recognizing the importance of the English and French languages as a means of communication between individuals and countries and of the valuable role they play in the exchange of ideas in the fields of education, training and research;

Wishing to develop the links already established and to create new partnerships so that students, professors and other educational staff can benefit from them;

And driven by the same will to both strengthen the links between citizens of their respective territories and to cooperate in order to design an educational model for the future, whose intercultural understanding will be an essential component;

With the conviction of the possibilities that close collaboration can offer in the field of education, culture and vocational training;

The State of Louisiana, represented by the Lt. Governor, and the Academy of Rennes, represented by the Rector, Chancellor of the Universities, agree to renew the educational cooperation agreement established between them in Baton Rouge on 19 March 2007 and renewed a first time on 19 October 2012.

II - GOALS

The objective of this agreement is to establish educational cooperation at all levels of education and training in order to:

- promote international openness;
- promote mutual knowledge of the language, culture and education system of each partner;
- develop exchanges of practices between institutions and between educational and pedagogical teams;
- enhance staff training;
- develop communication, intercultural exchanges and joint school activities;
- provide students with learning opportunities in a school, institution or partner company.

These objectives can be broken down as follows:

- Direct exchanges, at a distance or in the presence of the students, between themselves, classes and school sections of partners on pedagogical projects defined within the framework of school or school partnerships;
- The involvement of staff, at a distance or in the presence of them, in exchanges, projects and various activities leading to the enrichment of knowledge and expertise;
- Mobility of students and staff;
- Learning, work experience or periods of training for students and students in mobility.

III - IMPLEMENTATION

The modalities and timetable for implementation are defined each year by annexes signed by both parties and added to this Agreement.

Digital technologies are an essential tool for the implementation of objectives.

The staff appointed by the State of Louisiana and the Academic Delegate for European and International Relations and Cooperation (DAREIC) of the Académie de Rennes will accompany the promotion and application of this Agreement.

IV - EVALUATION

A joint annual review will be carried out. It will focus on the development of the terms of the agreement and the implementation of cooperation actions.

V - DURATION OF THE AGREEMENT

This agreement is exercised in compliance with the legal and regulatory provisions of the State of Louisiana and the French Ministry of National Education, Higher Education and Research. It is concluded for a period of four years from the date of signature. When this period expires, it shall be renewable by mutual written agreement.

At the request of either party, the agreement may be terminated by mail at least six months before its expiration. However, the actions taken cannot be interrupted during the school year.

This Agreement is drawn up in four original copies, two in English and two in French, each language version being equally authentic.

(One original copy for each signatory)

Signed in Baton Rauge Date: 12/04/2016

For the Academy of Rennes,

Thierry Terret

The Rector of the Academy, Chancellor of the University, Academic Director of

Education Services

For the State of Louisiana,

William H. Nungesser Lieutenant Governor

For CODOFIL (Office of

Francophone Affairs)

William Arceneaux, Ph.D.

President

For the State Department of Education,

The Superintendent, John White

Brin Bendily,

Assistant Superintendent

For the CODOFIL Consortium of Louisiana Colleges and Universities

Dolliann Margaret Hurtig, Ph.D.

President





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Annex 1

Scope of the agreement

This appendix to the Educational Partnership Agreement, signed between the State of Louisiana and the Académie de Rennes on December 2, 2016, sets out the fields of application or common interest of the agreement. It applies for a period of one year, renewable by tacit renewal until the end of the partnership agreement or amendable by an endorsement signed by both parties. Thus, the fields of application may be reviewed and corrected as a result of each annual review provided for in the agreement.

Staff appointed by the State of Louisiana and the Academic Delegate for European and International Relations and Cooperation (DAREIC) of the Academy of Rennes will ensure the development and respect of common areas of application or interest in this first appendix.

The State of Louisiana may appear in the articles of this appendix under the simple designation "Louisiana"; similarly, the Académie de Rennes may appear under the simple designation of "Brittany".

1/ School exchanges and partnerships-

The State of Louisiana and the Academy of Rennes will promote exchanges and partnerships between their schools and schools around specific educational projects, the sharing of resources and research, the creation of teaching materials or any other transversal activity, <u>in</u> school or out-of-school. Schools and schools concerned will be responsible for implementation and projects.

In order to identify and relate candidates to exchanges and partnerships, a call will be sent out each year to schools and schools of both parties. The identified candidates will be contacted as soon as possible.

A matching or partnership agreement will be concluded between schools and establishments engaging in exchanges. Digital tools will constitute privileged and regular means of exchange.

The organization and financial arrangement of periodic mobility, as part of the exchanges carried out, will be processed by the schools and institutions concerned, accompanied and supported by the educational authorities or local authorities within the available means.

2/ Teaching of respective languages and cultures

Aware of the importance of the English and French languages as a factor of cultural identity and means of communication between their fellow citizens and the valuable role they play in exchanging ideas or how they contribute to history and contemporary debates, the State of Louisiana and the Academy of Rennes want to support and develop the teaching, learning and understanding of their respective languages and cultures.

Exchanges in English and French between students, teachers and other educational personnel will be promoted in order to enrich and develop the experiences and skills.

The digital sharing of practices or resources will be a privileged part of these exchanges.

3/ Training of students employed as language assistants (Escadrille Louisiane program)

American students who intend to teach French may apply for a job as an English-speaking assistant in France. Successful candidates are assigned for seven months - from October to April - to French schools and educational establishments. As part of the "Escadrille Louisiane" program, which is the subject of a specific appendix, Louisiana candidates selected for a job as an English assistant at the Rennes Academy follow an initiation to the proposed research in the first year of the Master's Degree in teaching, Education and Training (MEEF), with distinction in the teaching profession. This program combines practical training in Rennes schools or educational establishments with theoretical training at the Higher School of Teaching and Education (ESPE).

The parishes of the State of Louisiana are responsible for diffusing information about this program to the students of Louisiana.

In a spirit of reciprocity, the State of Louisiana and the Académie de Rennes will study the possibilities and modalities of implementing an equivalent arrangement in Louisiana.

4/ Teacher exchanges

The State of Louisiana and the Académie de Rennes will develop teacher exchanges through specific mobility programs.

Teachers from Louisiana may be sent for a period of between two months and one academic year in a school or educational establishment of the Académie de Rennes to teach English language or American culture, history, geography and any other subject, in English or French, or to carry out training or cooperation missions.

Similarly, teachers from Brittany may be sent for the same period and in the same period in Louisiana to teach the French language, culture, history, geography and any other subject in French or English, or to undertake training or cooperation missions.

The duration, periods, role and tasks of teachers, practical arrangements (accommodation, transport, organization of working time and conditions) and the financing of this exchange program will have to be agreed upon between the parties for each mobility.

5/ Vocational, linguistic and cultural training for pupils and students

The State of Louisiana and the Academy of Rennes will facilitate the individual and collective mobility of pupils and students from their respective schools and educational establishments with a view to vocational, linguistic and cultural training.

The forms of mobility can be:

- Individual stays of varying duration from two weeks to a school year which can take the form of exchanges, pupils and students, under the dual administrative and pedagogical responsibility of the sending school or establishment or host institution for the duration of the stay or exchange;
- Internships in companies located in Louisiana or Brittany for students in technical and vocational training.

Each stay or internship will be the subject of a contractual agreement between the sending school or establishment, and on the other hand, the receiving school or, establishment or host firm.

The first objective of these stays and internships will be to enable a better acquisition of skills, especially language skills, and to gain experience and intercultural know-how in order to acquire a better understanding of the world around us.

The signatories of this Annex will seek, in a spirit of reciprocity, the means of extending their offer of hosting internships or training courses in trades or sectors which constitute important economic hubs on their territories and justify the development of teaching of French and teaching in French in Louisiana as well as the teaching of English and teaching in English in Brittany. The following areas of training and activity will naturally be favored: tourism, hotel and restaurant industry, film industry, digital technologies, business and maritime occupations.

The establishment of exchanges and partnerships between schools and technical and vocational schools will allow the sharing of information on internship opportunities in the two countries as well as the connection with business and higher education.

6/ In-service training of educational staff

In order to improve the quality of education and encourage the exchange of information, knowledge and expertise in the field of education, in the common interest of both parties and for the benefit of all, the State of Louisiana and the Academy of Rennes agree to:

- develop programs for educational staff teachers, future teachers, management and inspection staff, etc. carrying out study visits, classroom observations, etc., aiming at a mutual understanding of the respective educational systems;
- enable educational staff teachers, inspectors, heads of institutions, administrative staff, etc. the two partner authorities to participate in colloquiums on pedagogy, methodology or other fields of interest by means of digital tools or with personnel who will travel between the territories of the two partner authorities with the aim of disseminating to a large number of people information on observed practices and systems;
- promote reflection on topics chosen jointly by study groups, meeting once or twice a year in each region with an exchange of results or research.

The State of Louisiana and the Academy of Rennes will endeavor to offer during the summer, through the specific structures of their respective territories, professional training in the form of seminars of two to three weeks intended for French educators in Louisiana and Louisiana education staff in Brittany. These seminars could focus on the cultural, linguistic and pedagogical aspects of each partner.

Each operation for the staff - colloquium, meeting, seminar, study visit, etc. - shall be the subject of a written proposal from one of the parties and, where appropriate, of an agreement between the two parties defining the organizational and financing arrangements.

In general, digital technologies - Internet exchanges, videoconferences, etc. - will be used as much as possible in order to reduce the costs of the proposed activities and reach the greatest number of people.

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Signed in Balton Rouge

date: 12 / 02 / 2016

For the Academy of Rennes,

Thierry Terret

The Rector of the Academy, Chancellor of the University, Academic Director of **Education Services**

For the State of Louisiana,

William H. Nungesse Lieutenant Governor

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