

UDLP: Universities of North Carolina and Pennsylvania and Pontificia Universidad Javeriana

Annual Activity Report  
October 1, 1992 - September 30, 1993

1. Activities and Progress

Objective 1: Training

Colombian candidates for long term training were selected (C. Gomez - Clinical Epidemiology, PENN '93) [Activity #2]

Colombian and US trainee and faculty candidates participated in exchange visits and mini-sabbaticals. (Claudia Granados, Javeriana -> UNC, post-graduate; Alberto Rodriguez, Javeriana -> UNC, post-graduate; Juan G. Ruiz, Javeriana -> UNC, faculty; Donna McCarragher, UNC -> Javeriana, post-graduate; Shrikant Bangdiwala, UNC -> Javeriana, faculty; Kris Weigle, UNC -> Javeriana, faculty, Maria Sharpless, UNC -> Javeriana, post-graduate). [Activities #3-4]

Objective 2: Collaborative Research

Javeriana's Research Committee continues to develop. The Committee is reviewing and collating the research conducted in every Department in the School of Medicine. An interim report was distributed during the September visit to UNC and PENN. The Linkage proposal selected for funding has been rejected by Javeriana's Research Committee for ethical reasons (Kleven's proposal on "The Impact of Violence on Children and Adolescents in Bogota"). The prospects of modifying this first proposal on violence such that the Javeriana Research committee would approve this proposal is unlikely.

During the trainee exchange visits of Drs. C. Granados and A. Rodriguez (Javeriana -> UNC) two collaborative research proposals were completed and submitted to the Linkage program. They are currently under review.

Visits to promote collaborative research included: R. DeVellis, UNC -> Javeriana to work with J. Klevens on joint project "Promoting Psychosocial Health: Validation of a Measurement (June); J. Navas and A. Ruiz, Javeriana -> UNC and PENN to meet with various potential collaborators (September).

Objective 3: Monitoring, Evaluation and Administration

Trainee exchanges have been evaluated and candidates' performances were judged to be excellent. Sra. Maria Rodriguez successfully completed a Master's degree in Biostatistics at UNC. Activities of the three institutional Linkage offices include: identification and selection of candidates for exchange - including the coordination and evaluation of the exchanges, review of collaborative research project applications, frequent communications between all three institutions, and management of the budget.

2. Problems/Barriers:

The US travel ban continues to be an obstacle to the progress of the Linkage. The implementation of Linkage activities at Javeriana is slow due to the necessary "sensitization" of the entire School of Medicine, as well as the underestimation of time commitment for the faculty coordinators. Due to

unrelated circumstances, one of the Javeriana Co-coordinators has resigned (Dr. J. Ruiz) A non-clinician replacement to manage the paperwork was proposed in September (awaiting final approval).

### 3. Sustainability:

The active involvement of the School of Medicine Research Committee at Javeriana in the implementation of the local Linkage program encourages sustainability, as the Clinical Epidemiology focus will be on beginning a master's training program in Clinical Epidemiology.

### 4. Outputs

#### Training:

- 2 longterm trainees at UNC and PENN (Obj. 1 Act. 2)
- 2 Colombian trainees to UNC for exchange visit (Obj. 1 Act 4)
- 1 Colombian trainee to UNC for mini-sabbatical (Obj. 1 Act. 3)
- 2 UNC trainees to Javeriana (Obj. 1 Act. 4)
- 1 UNC faculty to Javeriana for minisabbatical (Obj 1 Act. 3)

#### Collaborative Research:

- 2 proposals under review (Topics: Treatment for children with diarrhea and Common GI cancers)

#### Monitoring, Evaluation and Administration:

The UNC Linkage Director visited Javeriana, and mid-year the Linkage Directors from UNC and PENN met with the Co-coordinators to discuss the implementation of the Linkage and select candidates for exchange. In addition, these personnel communicates via periodic conference calls.

### 5. Linkage Impact:

**Internationalization of US Institutions:** During exchange visits, Javeriana visitors actively participated in Schools of Medicine, Public Health and Nursing activities, interacting primarily with US faculty and post-graduates (i.e., conferences, clinical settings, classes, individual meetings). Dr. Granados also provided consultation to the Behavioral Pediatrics program at UNC for children with learning disabilities.

**Capacity Building in DC Institutions:** Sra. Rodriguez returned to Javeriana with skills in Biostatistics necessary to the success of a new master's program planned at Javeriana to begin in early 1994. Dr. C. Gomez is in training at PENN to add to the teaching manpower of this new masters training program. Additionally, the recent return of short term trainees Drs. Rodriguez and Granados is expected to be beneficial in promoting and expanding collaborative relationships between UNC and Javeriana.

During Dr. Bangdiwala's mini-sabbatical to Colombia, he was a co-organizer of a Workshop on Injury Surveillance held at Instituto Nacional de Salud (INAS). The workshop was attended by representatives from the Ministry of Health (Drs. Pedro Tinjaca and Nodier Martin) and investigators from Manizales, Barranquilla, Medellin, Cali and Bogota. The group agreed to participate with the Trauma Surveillance system proposed by Drs. Gomez and Bangdiwala.

### 6. Statement on Use of Funds:

Funds for this Linkage have only been used for the activities described in the cooperative agreement.

# UNIVERSITY DEVELOPMENT LINKAGES PROGRAM



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October 29, 1993

Dr. Ruth Frischer, Director  
Agency Center for University Cooperation in Development  
Bureau for Research and Development  
Agency for International Development  
Washington, D.C. 20523

Dear Dr. Frischer:

Please find enclosed five (5) copies of our Annual Activity Report, five (5) copies of our Semiannual Expenditure Report, and one diskette copy of the latter. As requested, an additional two (2) copies are being mailed to AID/POL/CDIE/DI also.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am looking forward to seeing and working with you in Texas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sara H. Salama".

Sara H. Salama  
Linkage Coordinator

Enclosures

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