

Project Report
Office of International Programs
Negotiations for a Research Scholar Exchange
between SDSU and Shahid Beheshti University
Rogelio Reyes
San Diego State University-Imperial Valley Campus
November 1, 2000

Preface

I would like to express my personal gratitude to Chancellor Hadi Nadimi, Prof. Abolghassem Fatemi, and the personnel of Shahid Beheshti University (SBU) for their kindness and generosity during my visit there. I am equally grateful to the Office of International Programs, San Diego State University, for funding my project. I look forward to the successful completion of a cooperative exchange between our two Universities.

Project Objectives and Current Status

As stated in my funding proposal, the purpose of my visit to Shahid Beheshti University in June 2000 was to develop a research scholar exchange between our two institutions. During my visit I had three meetings with SBU representatives:

- 1) with Prof. Abolghassem Fatemi, Humanities, who made all the preliminary arrangements for my visit at SBU and oriented me to its academic programs and system of governance;
- 2) with the Dean of the School of Humanities, who assisted me in arranging a meeting with, Dr. Hadi Nadimi, Chancellor of SBU;
- 3) with Chancellor Nadimi, and the other two SBU representatives named above, who expressed an interest to me not merely in the type of exchange I was proposing but in a more general-type exchange including:
 - (1) an active cultural-scientific collaboration between the two universities;
 - (2) an exchange of scientific and cultural sources such as books, periodicals, catalogs, etc.;
 - (3) an exchange of research scholars (professors and graduate students);
 - (4) joint research projects leading to a degree granted jointly by the two universities;
 - (5) coverage of visiting research scholars' living expenses by the host institution;
 - (6) Active intervention of the host university in facilitating the travel arrangements of visiting research scholars;
 - (7) A proactive recruitment program by both universities to involve their faculty in the proposed research scholar exchange;
 - (8) Exemption from legal responsibility on either party with regard to the agreement, but pledging a bona fide commitment by both parties to comply.

During our meeting I made it clear to the BSU representatives that my mission was merely exploratory, that I personally had no power to commit SDSU to any agreement but that I would gladly forward their desires as expressed in their Memorandum of Understanding (attached to the faxed copy of this report). I also explained to them that, in my opinion, the best way to proceed was to have Chancellor Hadimi and President Weber agree to a generic Cooperative Agreement by filling in the blanks on the attached form. Once this Cooperative Agreement is signed, we may proceed to work on the specifics of SBU's Memorandum of Understanding.

Conclusion

Thus it was agreed, and I pledged to follow up with this matter as I am now so doing. I shall be grateful to President Stephen Weber for signing the attached Cooperative Agreement, if approved, and forwarding it to:

Chancellor Hadi Nadimi
Shahid Beheshti University
Shahid Chamran Ave., Evin
Tehran, Iran
Fax: (9821) 240 2086