



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
Between the
U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 7
and
DONNELLY COLLEGE



INTRODUCTION

Since its inception, the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) mission has been focused on the protection of human health and the environment. EPA Region 7 ("EPA R7") recognizes that participation from all citizens is essential to support effective environmental policies, problem solving and sustainable practices. Additionally, there is an ever-increasing need for well-trained, qualified scientists, engineers and other professionals to meet the technological needs of the future. In an effort to encourage student interest in such fields, a partnership has been established, in the form of this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between EPA R7 and Donnelly College ("Donnelly College" or "Donnelly").

The purpose of this MOA is to formalize and strengthen the relationship between EPA R7 and Donnelly College to enhance educational programs and activities and increase the institutional awareness of grant opportunities through training. Implementation of the program activities in this MOA is also consistent with the Minority Academic Institution (MAI) Program, which promotes mutually beneficial relationships between EPA and minority academic institutions.

Through this MOA, EPA R7 and Donnelly College express their intent to build an effective and cooperative working relationship in areas of mutual interest over the next five years. This MOA provides a framework for the development of a comprehensive program which will be of mutual benefit to Donnelly College and EPA R7.

BACKGROUND

This MOA is in accordance with the Presidential Executive Order on Educational Excellence for Hispanics 13555, which states that in working to fulfill its mission and objectives this initiative shall "encourage and develop partnerships with public, private, philanthropic and nonprofit stakeholders to improve Hispanics' readiness for school, college and career, as well as their college persistence and completion" and "develop a national network of individuals, organizations and communities to share and implement best practices related to the education of Hispanics."

Hispanic Serving Institutions are both integral and essential to their communities. They fulfill a vital role in maintaining and preserving irreplaceable languages and cultural traditions, while offering a high-quality college education to students. They also provide

job training and other career-building programs to adults and senior citizens. As such an institution, Donnelly College offers a rich resource in providing the institutional framework to address the challenge of Hispanic Americans under-representation in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and other specialty fields.

Donnelly College is an independent, coeducational, Catholic institution founded by the Benedictine Sisters of Mount St. Scholastica and sponsored by the Archdiocese of Kansas City, Kansas. Donnelly was established in 1949 to make college accessible to urban immigrants and the working class. Today, it continues its traditions by offering affordable access to higher education. Students represent a racially and ethnically diverse population in an exceptionally supportive environment of staff and faculty. Donnelly College provides a strong general educational curriculum integrated with career-oriented majors resulting in bachelor and associate degrees in addition to certificates.

PROGRAM

Jointly, we recognize the unique resources offered by Donnelly College and the potential for expanding interest in areas such as math, science and technology programs. This MOA is being initiated to encourage joint program activities that will assist Donnelly College in enhancing its educational capabilities, while simultaneously supporting EPA R7 in achieving its mission. EPA R7 wants to increase Donnelly's awareness of federal opportunities while helping it create an environmentally conscious campus through faculty and student-led green initiatives. Of key importance, is the fact that both entities share a common goal of preparing students for future careers in science, technology, math and engineering-related fields.

The areas of cooperation covered by this MOA include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Joint Research Projects** - Donnelly and EPA R7 will coordinate on a regular basis to identify mutually beneficial research priorities. This may include Donnelly College's participation in research sponsored by EPA R7 through the submission of proposals for grants and/or cooperative agreements directly to EPA's Office of Research and Development or through collaboration with other EPA R7 components.
- 2. Faculty Research Participation** – EPA R7 and Donnelly will encourage and facilitate visits of faculty, staff, scientists, and students to each other's facilities for consultations, meetings, workshops, short courses, tours, and research participation. Temporary faculty appointments may be offered, when appropriate in conjunction with classes or research. Such appointments will be subject to approval by both the President of Donnelly College and EPA R7's Regional Administrator.

- 3. Student Internships and Employment** - EPA will share information as appropriate regarding programs which are designed for student employment, participation, and training. Currently, the Pathways Program for Students and Recent Graduates allows opportunities for undergraduate and graduating students to gain valuable experience and training during the academic year and/or the summer. Additionally, throughout the year, EPA may make paid and unpaid volunteer internship projects available. Donnelly will work to facilitate the participation of students and staff in EPA internship outreach opportunities (such as inviting EPA to speak to classes, facilitating USAJobs computer workshops, and inviting EPA to relevant job fairs and career fairs).
- 4. Technical Assistance** - EPA R7 and Donnelly will work together to partner on consultations, meetings, workshops, and seminars. EPA R7 may assist Donnelly with development of syllabi for on campus course work as requested and as EPA R7 resources are available. EPA R7 will endeavor to make key training tools available as Donnelly seeks opportunities to acquire federal funding. EPA R7 will be available to consult and assist as appropriate regarding environmental issues on campus, including but not limited to assisting with recycling planning efforts, assisting with environmental impact analyses or issues of environmental concern on campus, such as Brownfields, environmental impact surveys, speaking with student groups, assisting with environmental-related class projects, and needs assessments in conjunction with Donnelly, the State of Kansas, and other appropriate partners. Donnelly will serve as a community partner and resource to EPA by ensuring that the unique cultural and educational resources of its staff and student body are accessible and made available to EPA for seminars, special events, and for consultations.
- 5. Mini-Courses/Lectures/Seminar Speakers** - EPA R7 and Donnelly will inform each other about technical training support which may be offered including mini-courses, inspections/certification courses, lectures, and seminars covering biology, chemistry, engineering, physical science, environmental science, waste disposal, diversity and inclusion, and other subjects based on the unique internal expertise of each party, school requirements, and interests.
- 6. Equipment** - EPA R7 may provide excess and surplus research, scientific equipment, publications, periodicals, and office furniture to Donnelly that meet the needs of current and planned education, or research/training programs, to the extent it is consistent with all requirements of Federal property regulations.
- 7. Outreach Program** - EPA R7 staff will make best efforts to attend college-sponsored career fairs and other outreach events, as appropriate. Donnelly will work to ensure that EPA staff are made aware of relevant outreach activities. EPA R7 will encourage Donnelly students to apply for paid and unpaid internship opportunities. These outreach efforts are designed to enhance academic skills, career awareness, and workplace exposure to students and staff who have an interest in protecting human health and the environment.

- 8. Grant Opportunities** - EPA R7 may provide grant application assistance to Donnelly in accordance with applicable grant regulations, Donnelly's respective mission and purpose, and the resource capacity of EPA R7. EPA R7 may participate in grant writing workshops sponsored by Donnelly and provide training and assistance where needed. EPA R7 may make grant writing workshops available. Donnelly will be provided information about how to access grant opportunities (via email). Donnelly will work to help facilitate such training opportunities for staff and work to help arrange the technical aspects of such a training.
- 9. Environmental Student Initiatives** - EPA R7 will support Donnelly in its quest for environmental awareness on campus via student-driven activities such as helping Donnelly educate students on environmental sustainability and providing presentations on topics that support sustainability and the environment.

POINTS OF CONTACTS

EPA Region 7

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Donnelly College

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GENERAL PROVISIONS

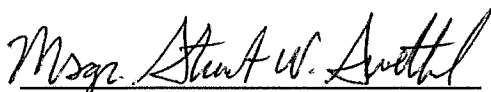
Commencement and Duration - This MOA is to take effect upon the signature of the parties and remain in effect for a period of five years. This MOA may be extended or modified at any time by mutual written consent of the parties. Either organization may terminate this MOA by providing written notice at least 30 days in advance of the termination date.

No Private Right of Action – This MOA does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, in persons who are not party to this agreement against Donnelly or EPA R7.


No Obligation of Funds – This MOA does not obligate any appropriated funds nor does it make any legally binding commitment to expend any EPA resources. Any transactions involving reimbursement or contribution of funds between the parties to this MOA will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations and procedures under separate written agreements.

SIGNATURE AND EFFECTIVE DATE

The undersigned agree, on this *21st Day of September, two thousand twenty* to the cooperative relationship outlined in this Memorandum of Agreement.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Stuart W. Swetland".

Msgr. Stuart Swetland
President
Donnelly College

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "James B. Gulliford".

James B. Gulliford
Regional Administrator
EPA Region 7



EPA Region 7 and Donnelly College

Memorandum of Agreement

Signing Ceremony

September 21, 2020

3:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Donnelly College Campus foyer

608 N. 18th Street, Kansas City, KS 66102



Program of Activities

Opening Remarks:	Lisa Stoothoff, VP of Academic and Student Affairs
Welcome and Prayer:	Msgr. Stuart Swetland, President of Donnelly
EPA Remarks:	Regional Administrator James Gulliford
Student Remarks:	Yazmin Bruno-Valdez, Environmental Club
Document Signing:	Monsignor Swetland and James Gulliford
Closing Remarks:	Donnelly College
Questions/Photo Op:	Local Media or Audience