



PRESS RELEASE

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University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez Named PACE Institution, Opens Two New Laboratories

San Juan, PR - Today, the prestigious organization Partners for the Advancement of Collaborative Engineering Education (PACE) selected the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez (UPRM) as a participating university.

PACE is an initiative among GM, Autodesk, HP, Oracle and Siemens PLM Software, to support strategically selected academic institutions through the contribution of computer-based engineering tools. Its goal is to provide students practical skills in professional careers such as mechanical design, engineering, analysis, and manufacturing processes.

“At GM everything starts and ends with great products and we need talented designers and engineers to continue to lead the way,” said John Calabrese, GM Vice President Global Vehicle Engineering. “With the addition of the University of Puerto Rico at Mayagüez as a PACE institution, talented students, capable instructors using state of the art technology and great global employers, all come together.”

“Siemens PLM Software in Mesoamérica is pleased to add UPRM as a new PACE Partner. By using the same software in their classrooms that is being used by some of the world's leading manufacturers – including nearly all of the top automakers – UPRM is helping prepare their students to become the engineers of tomorrow,” said Alfredo Treviño, vice president, Mesoamérica Operations, Siemens PLM Software.

“On behalf of HP, I would like to extend my congratulations to the University of Puerto Rico as they join the PACE family of universities. By integrating the PACE tools and processes into its engineering curriculum, the University of Puerto Rico is upgrading its ability to train a new generation of engineers who are well-versed in today's technology and ready to hit the ground running when they join the workforce,” said Todd R. Taylor, VP, GM Account, HP Enterprise Services.

UPRM is the first institution in Puerto Rico to be accepted to become part of this strategically selected group that includes 57 universities worldwide.

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“At the University of Puerto Rico we are very thankful for the opportunity provided by PACE to join this exclusive cohort of educational institutions. This collaboration is a model of how the industry and the University can make alliances in order to add value to the educational process and pursuit a well-rounded professional,” said Dr. Miguel A. Muñoz, UPR President.

The UPRM Faculty of Engineering has benefited, since 2007, from programs and applications provided by PACE Partners. The estimated value of in-kind contributions total just over \$500 million.

“One of the most important benefits of being part of PACE is the ability to enhance the curriculum through applications that participating companies provide at very low costs. This enables students to learn programs and applications used in industry. Once in the labor market, these young professional will have unique skills that will provide them with better opportunities,” said UPRM Chancellor, Dr. Jorge Rivera Santos.

This affiliation also allows students to participate in intercollegiate competitions and network with other participating universities.

Thanks to the PACE support, UPRM will open today a Manufacturing Processes Laboratory, located in the Mechanical Engineering Department (INME); and a Computer Center, specialized in Engineering applications, located in the Research and Development Center. These laboratories will be led by Dr. Lourdes Rosario and Dr. David Serrano, respectively, both professors of INME.

For more information on PACE, its programs and member institutions, visit www.pacepartners.org.

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