

*University of Puerto Rico
Mayagüez Campus
Deanship of Arts and Sciences*

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

Submitted by:

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Información General del Decanato y Unidades Adscritas

A. Mission and Vision

- a. Mission and Vision of the Deanship or CID
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Mission

The Department of English, which exists in an academic environment where English is a Second Language, addresses the needs of all students who enter the UPR-Mayagüez. It directs its efforts towards the development of educated, responsible, and cultured citizens and professionals in all areas with focus in fields related to English Studies, primarily those involved with the study of Linguistics, Literature, Writing and Communication, English Education, and English as a Second Language. Graduates of department programs will be qualified to contribute in an effective manner to the social, cultural, and economic development of Puerto Rico and the world at large.

Vision

The Department of English focuses its efforts and initiatives equally in three fundamental areas: instruction, research and creative work, and service to the university community.

B. Descripción y Funciones

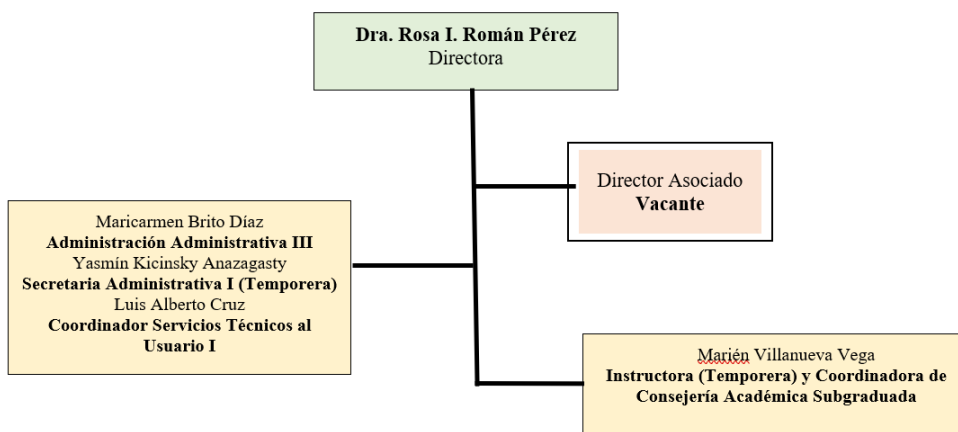
- a. Descripción y Funciones del Decanato o CID
- b. Descripción y Funciones de las unidades adscritas al Decanato, CID o Rectoría

The Department of English provides various courses of instruction for all students attending the Mayagüez Campus.

C. Estructura Organizacional

- a. Organigrama del Decanato o CID
- b. Organigramas de las unidades adscritas al Decanato, CID o Rectoría

ORGANIGRAMA DEPARTAMENTO DE INGLÉS



D. Profile of the Deanship and Departments

a. Academic Programs

- i. Bachelors degree with a concentration in Literature
- ii. Bachelors degree with a concentration in Linguistics
- iii. Master of Arts in English Education
- iv. Master of Arts in English Literatures
- v. Graduate Certificate in TESOL
- vi. Minor in Writing and Communication
- vii. Teacher Preparation for Secondary Teaching in English

b. Undergraduate and graduate registration numbers by academic program (F is Fall and S is Spring)

- i. Bachelors (0907) – F99, S85 (Avg = 92)
- ii. Masters (0454) – F37, S38
- iii. Masters (0965) - F0, S4
- iv. Film Certificate (3201) – F3, S5 (Avg = 4)
- v. Writing and Communication (4220) - F16, S26 (Avg 21)
- vi. TESOL Graduate Certificate (3454) – F15, S19 (Avg 17)
- vii. Teacher Preparation Program in English in Se21 with condary Schools (3401) – F12, S12

c. Degrees conferred by Academic Program (Commencement June 2023)

- i. BA English (0907) – December: 12; June 11 (Total 23)
- ii. MAEE (0454) – June: 4

d. Faculty and Staff

- i. Faculty – 23 in Fall and Spring 20 (2 are tenured-track, 2 requested retirement in December and one died in September)
- ii. Part Time Faculty – 8
- iii. Temporary Faculty – 2
- iv. Temporary Administrative Faculty – 1
- v. Permanent Staff – 2 (Administrative Assistant and Language Lab Coordinator)
- vi. Temporary Staff – 1 (Administrative Secretary I: Contract from July 1, 2022, until June 30, 2023)
- vii. Graduate Teaching Assistants - Fall 2022 = 28 and Spring 2023 = 23

Report on initiatives, activities, and accomplishments according to the Strategic Plan

A. Executive Summary

The English Department has been working on the improvement of the quality of services for students, faculty, administrative personnel, and the university community through different initiatives such as collaborative work with other departments and faculties, pilot projects to develop proposals to secure funds that could be used to continue improving the services and infrastructure of the department, including the website. As for the academic side, a second master's program was formally established in August 2022, graduate students continued to request the master's level certificate after it was amended, and the advanced placement tests were offered.

To improve the quality of student services, the classrooms have been given special attention. The Department has 14 classrooms of which 12 have been updated with new computers. These were acquired through technology proposals and other initiatives. Four additional Virtual classrooms were added: CH 221, 224, 318, and 319. Defective pilot virtual room equipment was replaced. The placement of bulletin boards to announce new courses and display discrimination and sexual assault laws, among others, is still pending since they were purchased. Arrangements will be made to have them up before classes begin in August. On December 2021, Health and Security Office condemned two computer labs (CH 325 and 326) due to the detachment of clay bricks in the ceiling. This project is stalled; no progress has been made. The offices for Graduate Teaching Assistants have not been renovated yet.

Incoming bachelor students were received on Friday morning, August 5, 2022, with a welcome activity that included an information packet, snacks, professors, and a dean speaking to them, and later their registrations were verified. On Saturday, June 10th students who completed their degrees celebrated a Breakfast for Champions before heading out to commencement. Honor students were also invited to this activity where they received their honor certificates.

Our Administrative Assistant, Miss Maricarmen Brito, who was hired on May 15th, 2021 returned on September 2022 after a family leave since February 2022. The Department did not have administrative personnel since December 2019. The time Miss Brito worked at the office allowed us to offer better support services regarding pending services, summer projects, enrollment, contracts, and federal projects, among others. April 1st, 2023, marked the one-year anniversary of the temporary contract for the Administrative Secretary I. This position had been vacant since August 2020. The contract ended on June 30, 2023. The next step is to request a probationary contract so as to attract and secure competitive and experienced administrative personnel.

The two tenured-track professors hired to cover the areas of ESL/Linguistics and Writing and Communications completed their second year and have successfully submitted their evaluations to the Personnel Committee for their first year. The number of professors as of June 30th, 2023, is 20. A Modern Poetry professor who was interviewed and hired to begin on July 1st. This position opened due to the death of one of our faculty. Of the 20, one faculty member has zero academic load due to administrative and management tasks in accreditation. The expectations for the number of professors for next year are a new job opening in Film Production that is being evaluated at UPR Central Offices (pending approval) and there is one retirement for December.

Renovations at the English Department Office have continued. Three office spaces remain pending to be fixed and painted. The seminar room was equipped with new blue plastic chairs and the old chairs were removed due to safety issues (mold and mildew). Five ergonomic chairs were ordered and received for administrative personnel and staff (director, undergraduate academic counselor, administrative assistant, administrative secretary, and language lab coordinator).

Collaboration with the Engineering Department for their R2DEEP program was offered in the first semester after 3:30 p.m. for high school students. Spaces were secured within the program so that the students could begin their university courses while in high school.

Collaborations between the Humanities and English departments and the Society of William Carlos Williams with Mark Long began for the biennial celebration which will be in February 2024. Drs. Linda Rodríguez, José Irizarry, Hugo Ríos, and Rosa Román are coordinating this effort alongside professors from the Humanities Department.

Drs. Linda Rodríguez, José Irizarry, and Rosa Román participated in the 2023 Summer Program of the Faculty Resource Network in New York University during the first week of June 2023.

Regarding research, there are at least eight professors working or collaborating in Grants either as PI, Co-PI, Director, Senior Advisor, Co-leads, or consultants.

B. Mission

C. Institutionalize a culture of strategic planning and assessment:

- a. The Department Strategic Committee was constituted but no work was reported.
- b. All processes were completed by June 30, 2023, for a new hire in Modern Poetry due to Dr. Chotts' demise in September. Dr. María Del C. Quintero signed to begin on July 1, 2023.

- D. To lead higher education throughout Puerto Rico while guaranteeing the best education for our students.
- a. Curricular reviews (pending)
 - b. New academic program:
 - i. Master of Arts in English Literatures (MAEL) was approved to begin in Fall 2022.
 - c. Recognition of teaching staff:
 - i. Dr. Hugo Ríos
 - 1. Awarded “Becas Boricuas Sponsored by Fundación Flamboyán and Mellon Foundation”.
 - ii. Dr. Ricia Chansky
 - 1. Assembling Voices Fellow – Interdisciplinary Center for Innovative Theory and Empirics (INCITE) at Columbia University, 2022-2023
 - 2. Senior Climate Justice Fellow, Humanities Action Lab “Climates of Inequality” funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, 2022-2025
 - iii. Prof. Raisa Bonnet
 - 1. Received recognition for her outstanding efforts to bring Puerto Rican films and filmmaking to the forefront. The Puerto Rican House of Representatives has instituted the celebration of Puerto Rican Cinema Day (Día del Cine Puertorriqueño).
 - d. Initiatives to strengthen teaching:
 - i. Development of Teaching Methodologies: University Teaching Development (INGL 6996) continues to work with Graduate Teaching Assistants to guide and assess their teaching of first year courses.
 - ii. Use of technology in the classroom.
 - 1. CH 123, virtual pilot classroom. Defective components were reported and replaced.
 - 2. CH 221, 224, 318, and 319 were converted to Virtual Classrooms during May and June 2023.
 - iii. Teacher training activities
 - e. Collaboration agreements (purpose, validity, and agency name)
 - f. Student participation in academic competitions and activities:
 - i. Reconnecting English Researchers Conference 2023 on April 28, 2023, from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m. CH 121. Professors, 22 former students and current graduate students participated and 3 professors.

- ii. Placement Exam was offered in UPRM
 - g. Strengthening of facilities for academic use
 - i. Improvement to facilities:
 - 1. Several severely damaged wooden doors to offices and classrooms were replaced with aluminum doors (CH 005, 123, 124, 125, 224, 222, 308, 323, and 323G).
 - 2. An inventory of white boards in the classrooms shows that only 10 boards have been replaced, however, 14 are pending purchase and replacement.
 - 3. Follow up on pending department project:
 - a. Open office concept for Graduate Teaching Assistants (CH 008 - 013)
 - b. Condemned language laboratories and offices in CH 325 y CH 326.
 - ii. Acquisition of specialized equipment.
 - 1. *Oral Histories Laboratory housed in the General Library acquired equipment through grants and transfer.*
 - h. Academic Offerings: The Chronogram must be updated and reworked to include all the new courses approved, especially at the master's level.
 - i. Dissemination of academic achievements (students and faculty)
 - i. Week at a Glance is issued every Friday and it highlights important dates and events. It also includes accomplishments by students and faculty.
 - ii. Department webpage needs to be updated (in progress).
<https://www.uprm.edu/english/>
- E. To increase and diversify the institution's sources of revenue. Laboratories for Basic English I and II were created in house and generate income. These monies are used to pay the professor's extra compensation, "jornales" for graduate and undergraduate students, travel expenses, chairs for administrative personnel, materials for incoming students, summer camp, and graduating candidates, promotional materials and others.
- a. Grants approved:
 - i. Dr. Hugo Ríos Cordero - Media Studies Power and Presentation Curricular Sequence (NEH) - \$149,178
 - ii. Dr. Ricia Chansky (Oral History Lab)
 - 1. "Speaking into Silences: Building Community Archives across the Puerto Rican Archipelago" funded by an

American Council of Learned Societies Digital Justice Grant
- \$100,000

2. Listening to Puerto Rico: The Promise of Oral History On-Campus and Beyond (NEH) - \$500,000
3. Climates of Inequality & the COVID Crisis: Building Leadership at Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs). Agency: Rutgers University – Newark - \$32,776

F. To implement efficient and expedient administrative procedures

Due to the constant turnover of temporary administrative personnel, the documentation process has been impacted. Having well-trained permanent staff will allow us to streamline the different documentation processes in the office in an effective and accountable manner.

- a. Automation of processes:
 - a. Working with improving Sign Request.
- b. Evaluation of administrative processes:
 - a. Feedback on Sign Request and received training on June 28, 2023.
1. Prepare sheets with accumulated data for part-time and temporary faculty showing workload per semester.
2. Provide access to MAEE and MAEL folders with information from each program to the graduate coordinators. Sheet with accumulated data in the folder.
3. Provide undergraduate students access (view only) to their evaluation forms and curricular documents as well as to their advising professors.

G. To strengthen research and competitive creative endeavors

The Research and Development Center should summarize the external funds received by the agency type and faculty. Academic departments should provide the total number of ongoing projects, new projects, submitted and approved proposals, publications, and presentations. Regarding project narratives and dissemination, they should focus on active research areas and a general description of the most impactful projects. **This objective mainly applies to the four faculties, the Dean's Office of Academic Affairs, and the Research and Development Center.** Some points to consider:

- a. Quantity of external funds received, by source, for research and creative work.
- b. Total number of proposals submitted and approved by department.

- c. Number of new research and creative work projects.
 - i. Dr. Hugo Ríos Cordero
 - 1. Clase de Poesía. Dra. García. UPR Ponce – August 2022
 - 2. Clase de Poesía. Dra. Villegas. UPR Mayagüez, Letras Boricuas: Retiro. El Conquistador. Fajardo and Podcast: Lenguaje y medioambiente - April 2023
 - 3. Clase de Poesía. Dra. García. Sagrado Corazón and Entrevista APPRUM Contigo.Radio - June 2023
- d. Number of ongoing research and creative work projects.
- e. Brief description of new and ongoing projects with significant impact:
 - 1. Oral Histories Laboratory at the General Library. Interdisciplinary initiative.
- a. Impact outcomes of research and creative work projects (e.g., patents, discoveries).
- f. Initiatives to involve students in research and creative work projects.
 - i. *Oral Histories Laboratory with Dr. Ricia Chansky*
 - ii. *Sábanas Bilingual Literary Mazagine, Vol. X (Dr. José Irizarry)*
- g. Number of research collaboration agreements and brief description (purpose, validity period, and agency name).
- h. Most relevant publications and presentations.
 - i. Font-Santiago, Cristopher, Mirva Johnson, & Joseph Salmons. Reallocation: How new forms arise from contact. In Rebecca Roeder & Gabriela Alfaraz (Eds.), *Language and Linguistics Compass* 16(8). Hoboken: Wiley-Blackwell. (Invited, Peer Reviewed). DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1111/lnc3.12470>
 - ii. Stephens, Gregory, "Postcolonialism as Leftist Firing Squad and Procrustean Bed: A Communicative Take." *Journal for Cultural Research* (Spring 2023).
 - iii. Uwakweh, Stephania. *Omekam: Poems*, ISBN- 978-1-970166-60-6, CePa, 2023
 - iv. Chansky, Ricia, Co-Editor, *The Divided States: Unraveling National Identity in the Twenty-first Century* – University of Wisconsin Press – January 2023
 - v. Soto-Santiago, S. L. (2023). You have to learn the language of where you are: Language ideologies and the educational experiences of Puerto Rican transnational youth. *Special Issue on Languages in Modern Day Puerto Rico*. (Manuscript submitted for publication).

- i. Graduate assistantships for research and teaching (quantity and amount awarded).
 - i. Fall 2022-23: There were 23 (43% of the teaching faculty) graduate teaching assistants teaching 6 (9%) of the different courses in 51 sections (31%) that impacted 1301 students (35%) of the population served. (51 sections x \$500 = \$25,500)
 - ii. Spring 2022-23: There were 23 (42% of the teaching faculty) graduate teaching assistants teaching 7 (12%) of the different courses in 47 sections (31%) impacting 1266 students (39%) of the population served. (47 sections x \$500 = \$23,500)

<i>Fall 2022-23</i>		Amount	Courses	Sections	Students
1	<i>Professors</i>	21	45	90	1739
2	<i>Temp</i>	3	5	10	289
3	<i>Part Time</i>	7	9	15	378
4	<i>GTA</i>	23	6	51	1301
TOTAL:		54	65	166	3707
<i>Spring 2022-23</i>		Amount	Courses	Sections	Students
1	<i>Professors</i>	20	38	80	1417
2	<i>Temp</i>	2	3	6	165
3	<i>Part Time</i>	10	12	18	381
4	<i>GTA</i>	23	7	47	1266
TOTAL:		55	60	151	3229

- j. Origin of graduate students (OPIMI).
 - i. Phillipines: 1
 - ii. Colombia: 1
 - iii. United States: 1
 - iv. Puerto Rico: 20
- a. INTD 3995: Internado: SÁBANAS
- b. INTD 3995: Internado: English Department Website
- c. Dr. Ricia Chansky - "Listening to Puerto Rico: The Promise of Oral History On-Campus and Beyond" por el National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Mellon Foundation Projects, "Archivo de Respuestas Emergencias de Puerto" led by Michigan State University and in collaboration with

UPRRP and the Digital Library of the Caribbean (2020-2023) and "Climates of Emergency and the COVID Crisis: Building Leadership at Minority Serving Institutions" led by the Humanities Action Lab at Rutgers University (2021-2023).

- d. Dr. Jocelyn Géliga - "Cerrando brechas: aprovechamiento, creación y documentación educativas en el CUA-UPRM. The Proposal Center for Radio Sciences and Engineering (RaiSE)"
- e. Dr. Sandra Soto - "Cerrando brechas: aprovechamiento, creación y documentación educativas en el CUA-UPRM. The Proposal Center for Radio Sciences and Engineering (RaiSE)."
- f. Dr. Eric Lamore – Release Time: Editing the Ancestors: Descendants of Pre-1800 Black Orators/Writers and Posthumous Editions of Early Black Atlantic Books
- g. Prof. Marci Denesiuk - "Listening to Puerto Rico: The Promise of Oral History On-Campus and Beyond" por el National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).
- h. Prof. Raisa Bonnet - "Listening to Puerto Rico: The Promise of Oral History On-Campus and Beyond" por el National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).
- i. Prof. Guillermo Gómez - "Listening to Puerto Rico: The Promise of Oral History On-Campus and Beyond" por el National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH).

H. To impact our Puerto Rican society

- a. 5-year project "Cerrando brechas: aprovechamiento, creación y documentación educativas en el CUA-UPRM. Dr. Jocelyn Géliga and Dr. Sandra Soto
- b. Proyecto Mi Maria: Surviving the Storm, Voices from Puerto Rico (Haymarket Books), The Untied States: Unraveling National Identity in the Twenty-first Century (Wisconsin UP), "dLOC as Practice: Decolonial Approaches to Listening and Remembering" archipelagos: a journal of Caribbean digital praxis, "A Necessary Tension: Editors, Editing, and Oral History for Social Justice" Oral History Review, and "What's the Use of Crying? Emotion in Critical Disaster Studies" ASAP/Journal

Provide a general summary of the projects and initiatives developed that include the different sectors of society that benefited and indicate the sector of the university community involved. **This objective mainly applies to the four faculties, Rectorate,**

Student Affairs Dean's Office, and Academic Affairs Dean's Office. Some points to consider:

- a. Participation in community initiatives:
 - i. The English Department (Administrative personnel, Academic Counselor, MAEE recent graduate: Derrick Ferrer, and Cinematheque Student Association) participated in the 2023 Summer Camp of Arts and Sciences with a 30 min. presentation, table of information, and donation of 100 lanyards for participants.
- b. Projects developed to address community needs
- c. Initiatives to promote an entrepreneurial mindset and leadership among students
- d. Initiatives to promote the values of ethics, justice, and honesty
- e. Activities aimed at students and young people of school age
- f. Dissemination of the institution's achievements and initiatives that benefit the community.

I. To strengthen school spirit, pride, and identity

Provide a narrative summarizing activities, projects, and initiatives developed by their respective units that strengthen the sense of belonging and collegiate pride. This objective applies to the four faculties, the Rectorate, and the three service deaneries. Some points to consider:

- a. Improvement in services offered to students
- b. Activities of student organizations
- c. Activities to promote links with alumni
- d. Donations received from alumni
- e. Collaboration agreements with government agencies, the private sector, and various entities (purpose, validity, and name of the agency)
- f. Activities aimed at the community in general
- g. Activities aimed at the university community
- h.** Improvements to infrastructure and buildings.
 - i. Department Office:
 - 1. Maintain a clean and inspiring receiving area with plants, music, and appropriate decorations.
 - ii. Ordered and received five ergonomic chairs for administrative personnel and staff.
- b. Classrooms:
 - i. New computers except CH 005.

- c. Campamento de Verano de Artes y Ciencias
 - i. Participación de Egresados: Alexander Soto, Zuleika Carrero, Derrick Ferrer.
 - ii. Participación de Asociaciones Estudiantiles: Cinematheque
 - iii. Donación del Departamento (100 landyards).
- d. Panel de Egresados del Grado Menor de Escritura y Comunicación para los estudiantes del Recinto (interdisciplinario)

J. International Activity

Provide a summary of activities and initiatives with an international component:

- a. Number of international students in the department/faculty
 - i. Two: Colombia and Phillipines
- b. Number of international faculty in department/faculty: none
- c. Publications with international co-authors
- d. Projects and initiatives with international collaboration
- e. Collaborations resulting in internships or exchanges in other countries
- f. Participation in international conferences, symposiums, forums, or seminars:
 - 1. *Graduate Student: Paola Marie Rodriguez Garcia. April 24-29, 2023. Alexandria, VA. Presented at the NSF Spectrum Week to present research done under the CARSE project.*
 - 2. Graduate Student: Sopuruchi Uwakweh. (June 25 to July 5, 2023) International Conference at Pisco, Chiclayo y Ferreñafe, Perú.
 - i. Main speaker at a youth conference, focused on trauma, abuse y abandonment (65+ adolescents).
 - ii. Moderator of a panel at a ministers' conference; 50+ pastors and ministers from different regions attended.
 - iii. Presenter at leadership conferences at local churches; approximately 30 leaders were impacted.
 - iv. Presented as the female Mad Scientist (role play) at a Children's Festival; 100+ children were impacted.
 - v. Volunteered at a local church's kitchen, dedicated to serving free lunches to approximately 150 children and youth on a daily basis.

- vi. Documented the construction of local pastors' house through video, photography, and interviews. Currently preparing a documentary to present on Sunday, July 9, 2023.
- vii. Main speaker at a prayer service and singer at a dominical service.

2. Study trips to other countries organized by the department/faculty: none