

Corporate Engagement Task Force – The University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez (UPRM)

Location: Mayaguez (and surrounding municipalities), Puerto Rico

Status of County: Distressed

Project Timeframe: March 2018 – December 2018

Type of Assistance: Technical Assistance



Source: <https://www.uprm.edu/>



Source: Wikipedia

The University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez (UPRM) and the GT EDA UC have been working together for 8 years. A task force was commissioned in March 2018 by Acting Chancellor Wilma L. Santiago Gabrielini and Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Innovation Ubaldo M. Córdova-Figueroa to make recommendations on how to enhance corporate partnerships as part of efforts to expand research and innovation at the University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez (UPRM).

The task force consisted of alumni, entrepreneurs and professionals engaged in various industrial sectors in Puerto Rico, the continental US and the rest of the world, with vast knowledge in research & development (R&D) activities, to help UPRM develop stronger and sustainable relationships between their R&D enterprise and the R&D operations of industry. The six month task force effort resulted in a series of near-term and long-term recommendations, the most prominent of which was to “develop a forward facing, proactive Industry Liaison Office (ILO) that will bring

value to the university and to the companies engaged.”

In response to the recommendation, Dr. Rodolfo Romañach, a professor in the Department of Chemistry and a strong advocate of academia-industry collaborations, was appointed as the first ILO in October 2018. The other findings of the task force are being used by Rodolfo as a roadmap as he ramps up the ILO efforts to form broader and deeper corporate engagements for UPRM.

