



AMERICAN  
PSYCHOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

May 17, 2010

Brenda Massanet-Rosario, Ph.D.  
President  
Puerto Rico Psychology Association  
P.O. Box 363435  
San Juan, PR 00936-3435

Dear Dr. Massanet-Rosario:

We were very saddened to learn from Drs. Irma Serrano and Guillermo Bernal of the situation facing thousands of students, faculty, and administrators at the University of Puerto Rico, along with their many affected family members and friends.

Our public educational system is confronting difficult economic times, necessitating difficult funding decisions. We sincerely hope that university and government leaders are able to respond to these challenges in a collaborative way with thoughtful and open deliberation involving the affected parties, thereby avoiding hostility and conflict. We appreciate the strong call in your letter to the leaders of the University of Puerto Rico in support of efforts to facilitate such a dialogue among stakeholders.

Above all, it is paramount to safeguard the health, well being, and safety of all concerned. As we know from psychological research, this can best be accomplished through peaceful means of negotiation, in this instance to determine how best to preserve the educational mission of the university with severely limited funds, while addressing the needs of its students and faculty.

We are writing on behalf of the American Psychological Association to let you know that our thoughts are with you and our fellow Puerto Rican psychologists at this very difficult time.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Goodheart, Ed.D.  
President

Norman B. Anderson, Ph.D.  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Guillermo Bernal, Ph.D.  
Irma Serrano, Ph.D.

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