As a result of the fourth cycle of DePaul University's Academic Program Review Process (Cycle 4), the participants in the process enter into the following agreements. The participants understand that this document will be available to be made public once all the signatures are in place.

**Actions agreed upon for the coming academic year (2002-2003)**

1. **Clarify relationship of SAS to School of Education and DePaul University.** Currently, the School Achievement Structure (SAS) operates as an outreach program within the School of Education but generates all of its funding through contracts with the Chicago Public School partners, contributing 10% of the revenue it generates to the University. The SAS director will discuss with the dean and with Academic Affairs the envisioned relationship of SAS to the School and to the University.

2. **Refine system of evaluation and reporting.** SAS is currently evaluated internally by the dean (staff reviews and annual report) and externally by the Chicago Public Schools Board of Education/Office of Accountability (reports on partner schools’ students’ standardized test scores, comparisons to other schools and to national norms, etc.). The current evaluation system is complex and reporting channels are sometimes unclear. In order to clarify this system and assure quality in its programs, the SAS will do the following:
   a. provide to the dean on a regular basis a manageable summary of external reports from CPS (which are only provided yearly), including an analysis of external evaluations and documentation of the extent to which the center’s goals have been reached;
   b. receive assistance in these evaluation and reporting efforts from the newly-hired Assistant Dean for External Relations in the School of Education, who will track activities of all the School’s outreach programs on a quarterly basis.

3. **Maintain current level of activity.** Rather than expand into new types of activities, SAS will maintain its status as an external partner to the CPS. SAS may recruit a few more partner schools in the coming year.

**Issues on which there is joint commitment to continue working**

*Assistance with university-level offices.* SAS has found it challenging to work within the HR recruitment process to meet its special needs of hiring program coordinators, and SAS has also experienced delays in reimbursement, payroll, pro-card limitations, and other issues with the Controller’s office. These are issues that impact a number of Centers & Institutes and will be discussed in General MOA meeting with the Centers & Institutes Advisory Board and Academic Affairs (see university-issues section below).

**Issues for further conversation**

*Space stability.* SAS notes that it has had to move its offices several times within the past year and would like to have some stability with regard to office location in the coming year.
**University-level Issues and Commitments**

During Cycle 4, the Centers & Institutes’ individual self-studies raised several issues that have important implications for all Centers & Institutes, and which require action at the university level. These issues will be discussed in further detail at a meeting with the Centers & Institutes Advisory Board, the APRC Chair, the Associate Vice President and the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs. Commitments and actions arising from that meeting’s discussion will be documented in a General Memorandum of Agreement for all Centers & Institutes.

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A hard copy of this document was signed by:

SAS Director

Chair of APRC Subcommittee

Chair of APRC

Dean of the College

Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs

*The hard copy with signatures is on file in the Office of the Associate V.P. for Academic Affairs and is available upon request.*