

Summary of visit by Emory University delegation to Brazil

Goal: To document opportunities in teaching, research, and service that advance Emory’s strategic themes as well as those of Brazilian partners. A potential 5-10 year goal for a Brazil-Emory partnership would be to identify 2-3 strategic institutions where there are:

1. Two-way faculty and staff exchanges, joint scholarly projects and funding;
2. Vibrant two-way student exchanges (including medical training); and
3. Support for existing Emory alumni in Brazil.

Delegation: **Drs. Earl Lewis, Jr.** (Leader, Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs), **John L. Ford** (Senior Vice President and Dean of Campus Life), **Uriel Kitron** (Professor and Chair, Environmental Studies), **Dabney Evans** (Executive Director, Institute of Human Rights, Assistant Professor, Hubert Department of Global Health), **Juan Leon** (Assistant Professor, Hubert Department of Global Health), **Amy Aidman** (Instructor, Film & Media Studies), **Mr. Evan Goldberg** (International Relations and Events Manager).



Provost Lewis and Dean Ford meeting with Emory Alumni in Rio de Janeiro.

Visited University (hyperlink to website)	Category*	Location
Faculdade da Saúde e Ecologia Humana (FASEH)	Private	Belo Horizonte, Minas Gerais
Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (FIOCRUZ)	Research Center	Salvador, Bahia
Universidade Federal de Bahia	Public	Salvador, Bahia
Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (FIOCRUZ)	Research Center and Health Channel	Rio de Janeiro (headquarters)
Pontifícia Universidade Católica (PUC-Rio)	Private	Rio de Janeiro
Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (Communication School)	Public	Rio de Janeiro
Universidade do Estado do Rio de Janeiro	Public	Rio de Janeiro
Universidade Federal Fluminense (Department of Film and Video)	Public	Rio de Janeiro

*Brazil’s post-secondary learning can be divided into:

- **Public universities** which receive the best and brightest students and faculty, the majority of public funding, are free for students, and are very large and bureaucratically challenging);
- **Private universities** which may further be divided as either Catholic privates or secular start-ups which are more bureaucratically flexible; and
- **Large research centers** which exclusively provide graduate level training and high quality research. An example is the Fundação Oswaldo Cruz (FIOCRUZ) which is an autonomous public foundation that may be likened to a combination of the US National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and schools of public health.

Overview of Brazil: Brazil is the largest country in Latin America and one of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) countries. A Goldman Sachs report suggested that by 2050 the combined BRICS economies could eclipse the combined economies of the current richest countries of the world. Brazil is investing substantial resources in academic biomedical and public health research and in academic faculty and student (undergraduate and graduate) exchanges. For example, the Brazilian government began the “Science Without Borders” program that aims to fund travel scholarships for “100 thousand Brazilian students and researchers in top universities worldwide until 2014” (<http://www.cienciasemfronteiras.gov.br/web/csf-eng/home>) and has funds for American scientists to lecture and research in Brazil. This opens enormous opportunities for collaborations including “sandwich” studies which are short term research exchanges funded entirely by the Brazilian government.¹



Learning about Capoeira, a Brazilian martial art created by African slaves.

Emory has 4 existing MOUS with Brazilian partners based in the Candler School of Theology, Emory College, the School of Medicine and the Rollins School of Public Health. Emory’s Global Health Institute (GHI) has a strong association with FIOCRUZ. Compared to other benchmark US institutions, Emory is average in Brazilian partnerships.

Emory’s Strategic Themes and Framing Principles relevant to Brazil partnerships:

Relevant Theme or Principle	Example or Rationale
Strengthening Faculty Distinction	Provide new opportunities with Brazil for funded research and scholarly exchanges
Ensuring Highest Student Quality and Enhancing the Student Experience: <i>Engaged Scholars/Curriculum and Pedagogy</i>	Student learning, research, and service exchanges with Brazilian counterparts
Creating Community, Engaging Society Cultural, Professional and Leadership Development	Shared learning, research, and service around common themes affecting Atlanta/US and Brazil such as migration, poverty, health
Confronting the Human Condition and Human Experience: <i>Religion and the Human Spirit, Global Health, Race and Difference</i>	Afro-Brazilian religions, vaccines and drug discovery, medical training in neglected diseases, laws affecting race and difference
Societal Impact, Internationalization, Creativity: Art and Innovation, Strategic Collaboration	Brazil’s health impact and commitment to funded academic exchanges
Principles to Encourage and Guide Emory’s International Engagement	This partnership fosters all the principles outlined in this document

Possible Challenges to Partnerships:

- Tuition differential between Emory and Brazilian Universities. *Potential solution:* Brazilian exchange scholarships may decrease, not eliminate, disparity. Tuition through CAPES scholarships (e.g. Science without Borders) is negotiable between Brazilian and US institutions.

¹ Immediately following our visit to Universidade Federal da Bahia, Professor Uriel Kitron was contacted regarding a sandwich semester for a research student in Biology. As a result the student will spend a sandwich semester with Dr. Bruce Levin in the next annual year.

- Course credit is not offered for Emory courses which Brazilians take as non-degree students.
- English language for Brazilians and Portuguese language for Emory community. *Partial solution:* Partner with strong English-speaking Brazilian institutions; provide Portuguese language resources for Emory community and ESL support for Brazilians.



Meeting the Mayor, Secretariat of Health, President and Board of Trustees of FASEH University that serves Brazil's public health system in Vespasiano, Minas Gerais.

- Limited interest in and awareness of Brazil in Emory community. *Potential solution:* Identify and generate excitement with existing Brazilian resources at Emory. Think more broadly of Emory themes and disciplines that overlap with Brazil (e.g. History, Anthropology, Sociology, African studies and others as relates to Afro-Brazilian culture). Build up on existing collaborations and research (Jeff Lesser, Tom Rogers, Jeff Koplan, Juan Leon, Dabney Evans, Uriel Kitron), and the opportunities from the delegation's visit.

Potential Opportunities from Partnerships:

- FIOCRUZ, public and some of its private universities provide many and diverse opportunities for teaching and research collaborations in a large range of subjects that span the natural sciences, social sciences and the humanities
- Public Health and Biomedical Research are advanced in Brazil. Brazil is the only country in Latin America that builds Public Health capacity across Latin American countries and Africa. Can work on drug discovery, vaccines, and novel biomedical devices with Brazilian partners and investors.
- Brazil is in a unique position with substantial investments in biomedical and public health research and faculty/student exchanges. Brazilian faculty and students are likely to be equal partners with Emory faculty and students (research, publications, and grants).
- Brazil could be an interdisciplinary theme to bring excited faculty from across Emory. For example, faculty from Sociology, African studies, Public Health and Economics could study the effect of Brazilian migration to Atlanta
- Atlanta organizations have ongoing relationships with Brazil: CDC, Care Brazil, Carter Center, Brazilian American Chamber of Commerce, Brazilian Consulate, Atlanta Sister Cities Committee (Atlanta is a Sister City to Rio de Janeiro)
- Businesses in Atlanta that serve on Emory's Board of Trustees have vested interests in Brazil: Coca Cola, GE, UPS, CNN, etc. It would be useful to synergize these public-private partnerships with Emory's Strategic Vision.
- Shared experiences including, as Olympic host cities and as the home of major international and regional financial and communication centers, guarantees a cross section of shared thematic interests across disciplines and subjects.