



PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN NASADHH AND GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS CREATED

March 24, 2016

The National Association of State Agencies of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing's commitment to increasing opportunities to provide high-quality services to Deaf and Hard of Hearing people was on display Thursday, March 24, 2016 at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. In a formal ceremony, Steven Florio, President of NASADHH's Board of Directors, and Roberta "Bobbi" Cordano, President of Gallaudet University, signed an agreement to create a partnership between NASADHH and Gallaudet's Department of Government and Public Affairs.

NASADHH is a national organization comprised of administrators of state commissions, divisions and offices serving Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Deaf-Blind and Late-Deafened individuals. NASADHH's purpose is to function as the national voice of these state agencies and promote the implementation of best practices in the provision of services to these individuals.

To underscore the significance of the new partnership, in attendance for the ceremony were a number of high-level officials representing Gallaudet University as well as several representatives of NASADHH who travelled from surrounding states. Steven Florio noted, "This partnership represents a historic opportunity for Gallaudet University and State Agencies to exchange knowledge, expertise and resources vital to enhancing the lives of Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf-Blind people all across the nation." The partnership will provide opportunities for internships, employment and professional development.

The signed Memorandum of Understanding can be viewed at NASADHH's website:
www.nasadhh.org.

Following the signing ceremony, NASADHH representatives spoke for over an hour about their respective agencies and fielded questions from the approximately 25 undergraduate and graduate students from the Department of Government and Public Affairs.

Below are three photographs recording the signing ceremony....



Roberta “Bobbi” Cordano, President, Gallaudet University, and Steven Florio, President, NASADHH Board of Directors, and Executive Director, Rhode Island Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, sign the Memorandum of Agreement.



Front row: Jan Withers, Secretary, NASADHH Board of Directors, and Director, North Carolina Division of Services for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing; Roberta Cordano, President, Gallaudet University; Steven Florio.

Rear row: Ronald L. Lanier, Director, Virginia Department of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Ernest Covington III, Executive Director, West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Kelby Brick, Director, Maryland Governor’s Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.



Representing Gallaudet University's Administration and Department of Government and Public Affairs

Front row: Dr. Catherine O'Brien, Assistant Professor; Dr. Carol Erting, Provost; Roberta Cordano; Steven Florio; Dr. Isaac Agboola, Dean, School of Education, Business and Human Services;

Rear Row: Dr. Angela McCaskill, Associate Professor; Dr. Mark Myers, Assistant Professor; Dr. David Penna, Chair, Department of Government; Dr. Francis Duffy, Program Director, Master of Public Administration.