

## PROTOCOL AGREEMENT

between the

### **EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR SUBJECT-SPECIFIC AND PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE (EASPA)**

and the

### **ASSOCIATION OF SPECIALIZED AND PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITORS (ASPA)**

In the spirit of cooperation and in recognition of our organizations' analogous mandates, which are: to promote and foster excellence in the higher education of professionals; to facilitate collaboration among programs, institutions, and accreditation organizations; and to provide a forum for discussion, analysis and a mechanism for common action for those concerned with specialized and professional accreditation, we, the undersigned, endorse this protocol agreement between the European Alliance for Subject-Specific and Professional Accreditation and Quality Assurance (EASPA) and the Association of Specialized and Professional Accreditors (ASPA) in the USA.

EASPA and ASPA recognize their common interests in working towards the goals of:

- **advancing** good practices and knowledge in the field of disciplinary quality assurance, and communicating the value of accreditation as a means of enhancing educational and professional quality;
- **developing** a network of key leaders to foster academic accreditation and collaboration across the Atlantic Ocean, thus securing and improving the quality of higher education in the USA and the European Higher Education Area and benefiting from discussion and analysis of issues relating to higher education accreditation; and
- **improving** communication and the sharing of information on issues of mutual benefit or concern.


Accordingly, EASPA and ASPA agree:

- to communicate regularly and share information regarding higher education accreditation issues and initiatives;
- to exchange invitations to observe association/consortium meetings and special events, with registration offered at the members rate for meetings, workshops and special events; and

- to open discussion with the other association/consortium where an opportunity exists to further enhance relations or where joint initiatives may be beneficial.

This agreement shall be reviewed at any time or when either party makes substantial changes to its mandate or objectives.

***Signed on the Thirty-first day of July, Two Thousand and Thirteen***



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President,  
European Alliance for Subject-Specific and  
Professional Accreditation and Quality  
Assurance



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Executive Director,  
Association of Specialized and Professional  
Accreditors (USA)