New Agreement Strengthens Ties between Spain and Indiana University

For each of the next five years, five outstanding Spanish graduate students will have the opportunity to pursue Ph.D. degrees at IU, and three postdoctoral fellows to conduct research at IU. IU is among just a handful of U.S. institutions chosen by the ministry to be partners in this special exchange program.

Prospective doctoral and postdoctoral candidates, from any institution of higher education in Spain, apply directly to the ministry for an initial screening. The top candidates are then nominated by the ministry and their applications forwarded to IUB for further consideration by individual schools and departments. The areas of focus for the program’s participants will be the arts and sciences, education, law, and music. Nominees who are accepted into graduate programs at IU will receive full living and travel stipends from the Spanish ministry in addition to full tuition remission from IU. In addition to travel and living stipends, postdoctoral fellows will also receive research allowances from the ministry. The first program nominations are expected in the fall of 2002.

—Charles Bankart
Program Associate, OIP

Over the years, Indiana University has been building substantial connections to Spain through the large number of study abroad programs offered there, specific affiliation agreements for faculty and student exchanges with individual Spanish institutions, the "la Caixa" Fellowship Program, and the establishment of a government-funded Spanish Resource Center with offices now located on two IU campuses.

These links were further strengthened this February when a delegation from the Spanish Ministry of Education, Culture, and Sports visited IU Bloomington to sign a new formal agreement. General Director of Public Universities Ismael Crespo, Director of Scholarships for Public Universities María Luz PeñaCoboa, and Counselor of Education Jesús Cruz from the Embassy of Spain in Washington, D.C., met with top administrators to initiate the agreement.