

PRACTICING THE PRINCIPLES OF TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF QUINTANA ROO

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Between 2002 and 2005, the University of Quintana Roo (UQRoo) embraced the principles of transparency and accountability as a central axis for the administration and management of both academia and administration. The following information was made public: hiring of faculty and staff; admission of students; loans; job descriptions; administrative procedures; fees and quotas; external audit reports; and other relevant information related to admissions, finance administration and decision-making. To seek legal support for their adopted principles of transparency and accountability, UQRoo headed up efforts that, in 2004, led Quintana Roo's Congress to pass a State Transparency and Access to Public Information Law. The University also drew up guidelines to make the processes of hiring and promoting administrative staff more transparent. Consensus was reached on these guidelines, and they were later signed by the state's Human Rights Commission.

These actions proved crucial in the administration of the UQRoo achieving 100% ISO 9001:2000 certification, as well as the fact that 98% of the student body is enrolled in accredited programs.

As with all attempts at fighting corruption, these achievements were not, nor are, exempt from problems. Nevertheless, the extent of local and national attention given to this case could imply that if the UQRoo continues to follow its principles, it could achieve even greater levels of quality in these areas.

